



ST. CHRISTOPHER'S CHRONICLES

RENEWING FOR MISSION: THE RENOVATION BEGINS



Above: The Choir area is removed.



Above: All the pews are removed and stored thanks to NAAMCO arranging for storage.



Left: The altar is removed in preparation for abatement and demolition.

Below: Our temporary altar in Latham Hall.



RENEWING FOR *Mission*

Capital Campaign Goal
\$450,000.00

Pledges Received	72
Pledged Amount	\$376,662
Average Pledge	\$5321
Amount Outstanding	\$73,338

Thank you St. Christopher's for your faithful giving.

St. Christopher's Episcopal Church
 1656 Blalock Road
 Houston, TX 77080
 www.stchrishouston.org

The Rt. Rev. C. Andrew Doyle
 Bishop of Texas
The Rev. Robert P. Goolsby
 Rector

Sunday Services
 8:00 AM Rite I Eucharist
 9:15 AM Christian Education
 10:15 AM Rite II Eucharist
 Children's Chapel

Parish Office

Phone: 713.465.6015
 Fax: 713.465.2086
 Email: information@stchrishouston.org
 Website: www.stchrishouston.org

Hours

Monday—Thursday 9:00 AM - 4:30 PM
 Friday 9:00 AM - 3:00 PM

Staff

Rector Father Bob Goolsby
 fatherbob@stchrishouston.org
 Parish Administrator Gladys Pace
 gladys@stchrishouston.org
 Sexton Ralph Talley
 ralph@stchrishouston.org
 Director of Music Ministries Henry Washington
 sing2livefree@yahoo.com
 Director of Children's Ministries Jill Center
 jill@stchrishouston.org

St. Christopher's Day School

Day School Director Marchelle Cipra
 cipra3@aol.com
 Phone: 713.465.6035
 Fax: 713.465.2086

Day School Hours

Full Care 7:00 AM - 6:00 PM
 Mother's Day Out/Preschool 9:00 AM - 2:00 PM
 Pre Kindergarten 9:00 AM - 3:00 PM
 After School Program 2:00 PM - 6:00 PM

Thrift Shop

Manager Claudia Langerud
 information@stchrishouston.org
 Phone: 713.467.7743
 Fax: 713.465.2086

Hours

Tuesday - Saturday 10:00 AM - 3:00 PM

St. Christopher's Chronicles is published monthly by St. Christopher's Episcopal Church, Houston, Texas.

SUBMISSIONS

Submissions deadline is the 10th of each month. Submissions may be emailed to the editor at jill@stchrishouston.org or hand-delivered to the church office. All submissions are subject to space availability and editing. Submissions in ALL CAPS will not be accepted.

PHOTO POLICY

The Chronicles and St. Christopher's Church occasionally use photos of individuals or groups in publications, including our website. Anyone objecting to the use of their photos or those of minor children please notify the church office at 713.465.6015.

MAILING LIST

To be added or removed, please contact the Parish Administrator.

READ THE CHRONICLES ONLINE

The Chronicles is available online in PDF form at www.stchrishouston.org or can be emailed to you. Please email your request to jill@stchrishouston.org.

PRAYER REQUEST

If you or someone you know needs prayer, the Daughters of the King maintain a prayer list. Cards are available in the Sanctuary. The prayer will remain on this list for one month unless noted. For the Prayers of the People, please contact Parish Administrator. Unless otherwise noted, the prayer will only be added for one week.

PASTORAL CARE

If you or someone you know needs a home or hospital visit or Holy Communion, our Pastoral Care Team is available. Lay Eucharistic Visitors are available to offer communion. Please call the office to be added to the visitation list. In case of Pastoral Emergency, please call 281.636.7224.

ALTAR FLOWERS

Altar Flowers are available for dedication to special occasions. If you would like to order Altar Flowers, contact the Parish Administrator. Dedications are \$50.00.

BUILDING SPACE RESERVATION

To reserve any space on the parish property for a personal or organizational event, a building reservation or meeting request form must be filled out and approved at least five business days prior to the event. Reservation forms are available in the office or can be emailed to you.

FUNDRAISER OR OUTREACH CAMPAIGN

If you or your organization have a fundraiser or outreach campaign you wish to offer to the congregation, you must have approval from the church office. Please contact Gladys at 713.465.6015 or gladys@stchrishouston.org for more information.

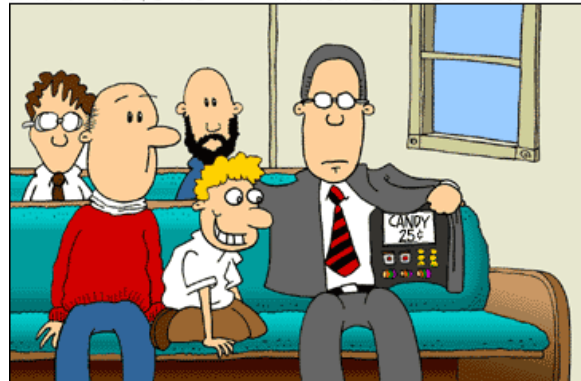
ANNOUNCEMENTS

If you wish to add an announcement to the weekly bulletin please submit it in writing by the Tuesday before you wish it published. Submitted announcements are subject to approval. Please bring it to the church office or email jill@stchrishouston.org.

NAME TAG/CONTACT INFORMATION CHANGE

Submit name tag request or contact information changes in writing to the parish office.

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Thanks to Debbie Zabawa 01-24-2001

RONNIE FOUND A LUCRATIVE WAY TO PAY OFF HIS BUILDING FUND PLEDGE

...in order that we may share his holiness. *Hebrews 12:10*



I recently read a posting about "Elevator Speeches". An elevator speech comes from the idea that if you got on an elevator with a prospective

customer, employer, or date, and they said, "Tell me about yourself," what would you say in the time it takes to ascend twenty floors? It's the "summary of you," your message in concise words. No time for easing into it. No time for "Well, I think..." You either know your pitch or you don't.

I've often thought about what my elevator speech would be if someone asked me about my faith. These are waters that Episcopalians don't venture into very often. We may have gotten into the habit of "privatizing" our faith, making it a personal matter, rather than a public one. So, there may be some value of having an elevator speech ready for that moment when someone may ask, "What do you believe as an Episcopalian and as a Christian?"

One thing I do know about us Episcopalians, is that we love our church. Much of this comes from the beauty of our liturgy and worship style, and much comes from our theology and awareness of God's love in our lives and in the lives of others. Our faith tradition holds Christian education and formation at a very high level, and as Episcopalians, we know that we

don't have all the answers, but we know that God is in the questions, and that all are invited and encouraged to explore their faith in many ways. I hope as you read this note, you too will ponder what your elevator speech might be should someone ask you, "What do you believe?"

If you take advantage, and I hope as many people as possible do, of the **Sharing Faith** dinner that our Bishop, Andy Doyle is encouraging each of us to participate in, I think we will be inspired further to share our faith stories with each other, and

**WE KNOW WE DON'T
HAVE ALL THE
ANSWERS, BUT WE
KNOW GOD IS IN THE
QUESTIONS**

then after our skills are sharpened, with others.

On Thursday, April 26, three of

our parish members will join other households across our great diocese by opening their homes to host a **Sharing Faith** dinner for Episcopalians from neighboring churches. This is a great opportunity to share our personal journeys as well as hear those of others. I think our Bishop is on to something here that will inspire every person that participates.

I, with Bishop Doyle, am asking YOU to participate. All you have to do is submit your name to the church office and the Diocese will let us know whose home you will visit. You may register yourself at www.epicenter.org/sharingfaith and to find out more. Each dinner will be attended by a moderator who will ask some questions to get the conversation going. There's no reason to be apprehensive!

Let's support Bishop Doyle, deepen

our faith, be inspired, and enjoy good food and great company together!

May you be strengthened with all power, according to his glorious might, for all endurance and patience, while joyfully giving thanks to the Father, who has enabled you to share in the inheritance of the saints in light. –Colossians 1:11-12

In Christ's love,

For more information about Sharing Faith Dinners, see page 11, go to the Diocese website (www.epicenter.org), or contact Becky Hubert, our parish Coordinator at 713-465-1112 or rebecca.hubert@att.net.



Father Bob on Christmas Eve 2011 during one of the last services before Renovation began.

PROFILES
OF DUTY AND HONOR
FOR GOD AND COUNTRY

Staff Sgt. Ralph Talley
USAF



Ralph enlisted in the Air Force in September 1966 at the age of twenty one. He completed basic and tech training at Amarillo AFB. His first assignment was to Barksdale AFB, Headquarters of The 2nd Air Force Wing. His duties there were as maintenance crew chief on T39 Saberliners and T33 Fighter Trainers. These aircraft were used primarily by General and Command Grade Officers to maintain their flying status.

A year later he received orders to Takhli AFB in Central Thailand as crew chief on B-66 bombers that had been converted to duty as electronic aircraft used as cover for B-52 bombers, KC-135 refueling tanker planes and other tactical aircraft.

**JUST AN ORDINARY
GUY WITH A SENSE OF
DUTY**

At the onset of the Vietnamese War, US aircraft had to contend with traditional Anti Aircraft Artillery. As the war progressed so did the North Vietnamese air defense system, utilizing Chinese and Russian radar controlled surface to air missiles, SAMs. The air space over North Vietnamese targets became the most highly defended since Berlin in WWII.



B-66 Bomber

Neutralizing these sophisticated guided missile launching sites with electronically jamming techniques was the primary task of the B-66s. These aircraft depended on reliable maintenance to carry out these assignments and to maintain their air

- worthiness. The lives of their crews and those of countless others depended on it. They relied on the expertise and integrity of their ground crews. This was the job that

Ralph and other crew chiefs carried out so well. They left nothing to chance and the aircraft

crews knew this.

After one year in Thailand, Ralph was rotated back to the States and resumed his duties as a crew chief at Randolph AFB in San Antonio. T-37 and T-38s trainers were now his charges. He remained at Randolph until his discharge in July of 1970 having attained the rank of Staff Sgt. An unsung hero to say the least.

Ralph and his wife, Gaye Lynn returned to Houston, they had been married two days prior to his orders to Thailand. There were no ticker tape parades, TV interviews or galas to honor his four years of service to his country. Just an ordinary guy with a sense of duty coming home.

They joined St Christopher's in 1986. Ralph became our Sexton in 2000. What would we at St. Christopher's have done without him this past decade ?

Fellowship
Dinner



An evening of fellowship open to all adult members, prospects and friends of St. Christopher's. All who are attending bring a dish to share.

Lee and Dana Thackeray are hosting the next Fellowship Dinner on Saturday, February 25th at 6:30 PM.

If you plan to attend it is important to call either Vonnie Barth (713.462.8189) or Dolores McLeod (281.913.2136) to RSVP and let them know what you plan to bring. This helps the hosts know how many to prepare for and how much of the main dish to provide.

FEBRUARY EVENTS

<p>WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 1 10 AM Prayer Shawl Ministry 12:05 PM Healing Service with Eucharist 1-3 PM Recovery for Mission 7 PM Choir</p> <p>THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 2 6:30 Recovery for Mission</p> <p>SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 4 9AM-Noon Safeguarding God's Children Training</p> <p>SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 5 FIFTH SUNDAY AFTER THE EPIPHANY FIRST FRUITS SUNDAY 8 AM Rite I 9:15AM Sunday School 10:15 AM Rite II with Choir 11:30 AM Daughters of the King 2 PM Episcopal Youth Field Trip: Ensemble Theatre</p> <p>TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 7 9:30 AM Staff Meeting 9:45AM Senior Exercise 11 AM Bible Study</p> <p>WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 8 10 AM Prayer Shawl Ministry 12:05 PM Healing Service with Eucharist 1-3 PM Recovery for Mission 7 PM Choir</p> <p>THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 9 6:30 Recover for Mission</p> <p>SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 11 6-9 PM Family Movie Night/ Kid's Night In: Lady & The Tramp</p>	<p>SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 12 SIXTH SUNDAY AFTER THE EPIPHANY RECTOR'S DISCRETIONARY OFFERTARY 8 AM Rite I 9:15AM Sunday School 10:15 AM Rite II with Choir 11:30 AM Episcopal Youth</p> <p>MONDAY, FEBRUARY 13 6:30 PM Day School Board</p> <p>TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 14 VALENTINE'S DAY 9:30 AM Staff Meeting 9:45AM Senior Exercise 11 AM Bible Study 7 PM Labyrinth</p> <p>WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 15 10 AM Prayer Shawl Ministry 10 AM Day School Chapel 12:05 PM Healing Service with Eucharist 1-3 PM Recovery for Mission 6 PM Finance Committee 7 PM Choir</p> <p>THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 16 6:30 Recovery for Mission</p> <p>SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 18 9AM-Noon Safeguarding God's People Training</p> <p>SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 19 LAST SUNDAY AFTER THE EPIPHANY LORD OF THE STREETS OUTREACH 8 AM Rite I 9:15AM Sunday School 10:15 AM Rite II with Choir 11:30 AM Episcopal Youth 11:30 AM Episcopal Church Women</p> <p>MONDAY, FEBRUARY 20 PRESIDENT'S DAY</p>	<p>TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 21 9:30 AM Staff Meeting 9:45AM Senior Exercise 11 AM Bible Study Pancake Supper</p> <p>WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 22 ASH WEDNESDAY 7 AM Ash Wednesday Service 10 AM Prayer Shawl Ministry 10 AM Day School Chapel 12:05 PM Healing Service with Eucharist 1-3 PM Recovery for Mission 7 PM Ash Wednesday Service 7 PM Choir</p> <p>THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 23 6:30 PM Recovery for Mission</p> <p>SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 25 6:30 PM FELLOWSHIP DINNER</p> <p>SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 26 FIRST SUNDAY IN LENT 8 AM Rite I 9:15AM Sunday School 10:15 AM Rite II with Choir 11:30 AM Episcopal Youth 11:30 AM Episcopal Church Women</p> <p>TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 28 9:30 AM Staff Meeting 9:45AM Senior Exercise 11 AM Bible Study</p> <p>WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 29 10 AM Prayer Shawl Ministry 10 AM Day School Chapel 12:05 PM Healing Service with Eucharist 12:30 PM Clericus 1-3 PM Recovery for Mission 6:15 PM Simple Supper & Lenten Program 7 PM Choir</p>
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Birthdays

Feb. 1	Ryan
Feb. 4	Abby
Feb. 8	Ocean
Feb. 9	Alessandro
Feb. 18	Carl
Feb. 19	Carleigh
Feb. 20	Conner Ms. Melanie
Feb. 21	Andrea

Teacher Anniversaries

Melanie Clifford	18yrs
Tina Loflin	2 yrs
Mary Luna	5 yrs

Welcome to Our New Families

Seyda Zeron & her daughter, Jessica, to the Bumblebee classroom.
 Sam & Sarah Austin & their daughter, Alison, to the Little Lambs.
 Jaime & Myrna Espinoza & their son, Logan, to the Little Lambs.
 Mark & Terri Hammond & their son, Aidan, to the Butterfly classroom.
 Jorge & Denise Sanchez & their daughter, Mia, to the Butterfly classroom.



**Happy
Smiling
Babies**

The babies of Little Lambs:

*Abigail, Jenna, Alison, Logan,
Jacob and Roman.*



**Three
Pretty
Butterflies**

Left: Tess, Sofia and Kameron



St. Christopher's Children's Ministries invites
YOU
to Youth Room for Kid's Night In!
Free Admission
Saturday, February 11th
6 PM - 9 PM

We will be watching Disney's "Lady and the Tramp"



We will have Valentine-themed crafts and games.
Snacks and dinner included.

Kids 3 and up are welcome to attend Kid's Night In.
Parents are welcome to tag-along
or enjoy a night out while the kids have fun, too.
Bring the Kids. Bring some Friends. Bring Yourself.

Questions?

Contact Jill Center at 713-465-6015 xt. 225 or
jill@stchrishouston.org



LENTEN SCHEDULE

SHROVE TUESDAY PANCAKE SUPPER

Served by St. Christopher's Vestry

Tuesday, February 21st at 6 PM

\$5/individual or \$10/family

All you can eat pancakes and the trimmings.



DAILY LENTEN MEDITATIONS are available online on The Diocese of Texas website: www.epicenter.org.

Search under Formation for Lenten Resources.

WHAT IS SHROVE TUESDAY?

Shrove Tuesday is a religious holiday preceding Lent. It is a day for feasting, before the 40 day fast of Lent begins. The name "Shrove Tuesday" comes from the custom of people making their confession or "shriving", doing penance, and thus being "shriven" or absolved.

WHY DO WE EAT PANCAKES?

The tradition of eating pancakes comes from the English custom in which all foods forbidden during Lent, such as milk, butter and eggs, had to be used up so they wouldn't spoil. Thus these ingredients, along with a little flour, were made into cakes, and the day became one of

feasting and merrymaking. In the UK, this day is simply known as Pancake Day.

France calls this day Mardi Gras, which literally means "Fat Tuesday". Mardi Gras is another form of the Shrove Tuesday holiday which proceeds Ash Wednesday.



Wednesdays During Lent

Simple Suppers will be offered at 6:15 PM in Latham Hall

Followed by a Special Lenten Bible Study
February 29 and March 7, 14, 21 and 28

Groups Needed to Sponsor Evenings

Babysitting Available

Contact Gladys Pace to Volunteer or

For More Information

713.465.6015 xt. 221 or
gladys@stchristouston.org

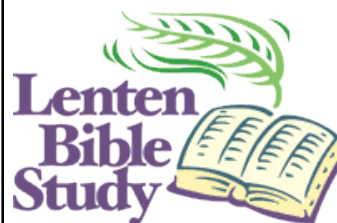
ASH WEDNESDAY SERVICES

February 22, 2012

7 AM Manger Chapel

Noon Manger Chapel with Healing Service

7 PM Latham Hall



RENEWAL FOR MISSION LENTEN STUDY

A special Lenten Study will occur each Wednesday in Lent following a Simple Supper provided by one of the ministries of St. Christopher's.

This year's program will focus on the idea of renewal through a group study and an examination of the 12 steps of recovery, created originally by the founders of Alcoholics Anonymous under the spiritual guidance of Sam Shoemaker, Episcopal priest.

All are invited to attend. Childcare is available.

STEWARDSHIP

For all things come of thee, and of thine own have we given thee.
1 Chronicles 29:14b, KJV

**All that we do,
 with all that we have,
 all of the time.**

Stewardship should be a foundational part of a Christian's relationship with God's Creation. Both individuals and communities have been entrusted with time, talent and treasure. These are not gifts given freely, but rather ones which we are to be held accountable. Stewardship is therefore about "intentionally committing yourself consistently in all parts of your life".

As Christians, we know we can only give because we have received. We say that in our prayers and we read it in Scripture. Giving time and money to advance the work of God in the world should be an intentional choice made I response

**START WITH A
 MINDSET OF
 ABUNDANCE**

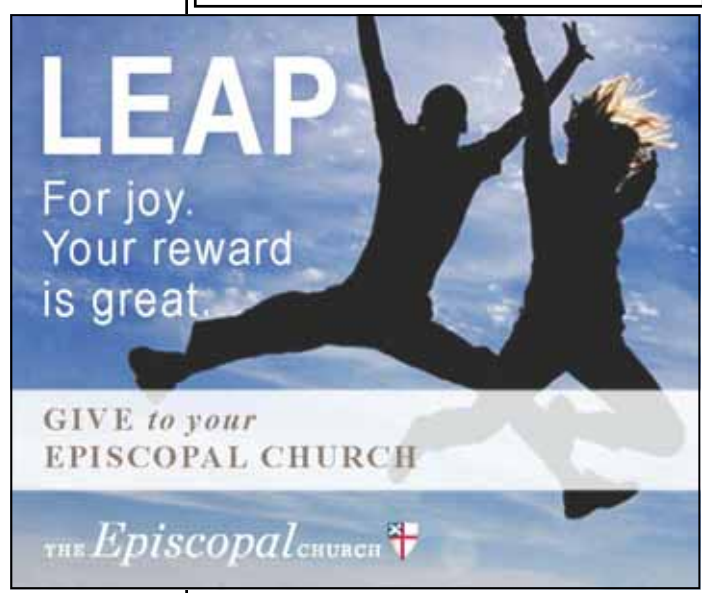
to God. This is how we can tell God we are grateful for the gifts He so generously bestows upon us.

Give in celebration of what you have received, whether that be a fortune or something closer to the widow's mite. Always remember to start with a mindset of abundance and know that in giving to God you honor Him. For what you give is not "given away" but is raising up the congregation, the Church, as we gather to do God's work.

The above thoughts are taken from Chapter V, Stewardship in The Vestry Resource Guide, published by The Episcopal Church Foundation

**Blessed are you,
 God of the universe,
 for the abundance you have showered on each of us.
 It is enough,
 and more than enough.
 Make our hearts glad,
 open our hands,
 and let us see
 through eyes of blessing.**

*The Most Rev. Katharine Jefferts Schori,
 Presiding Bishop of The Episcopal Church*



**Feasting on Gratitude
 2012 Stewardship Campaign**

**St. Christopher's Episcopal Church
 Estimated 2012 Operating Budget
 \$431,000**

	Minimum Required 2012	Pledged As of 1/19/12	Yet to be Pledged
Pledged Income	\$413,000	\$179,864	\$233,136
Pledging Units	110	66	
Average Pledge	\$3,755	\$2,725	

SENIOR BUS TRIP

The next Senior Bus Trip will be to the Houston Baptist University Campus on Monday February 27th, where we will tour The Dunham Bible Museum, The Museum of American Architecture and Decorative Arts, and The Museum of Southern History. Luncheon at the HBU cafeteria.

We will leave the Church at approx 9:15 AM and be back by 4:00 pm. For the cost of \$12 per person you are guaranteed an enlightening day and lunch.



Just think, a short bus ride, no icy winds on the water or boat boarding to contend with. Looking for a full bus load so sign up early.

For more information, contact Carl Squires 713-467-2552.



**ABUNDANT LIVING
9TH ANNUAL CONFERENCE
FEBRUARY 27-29, 2012**

This conference is for Seniors, their family members, health care providers, residential care providers, social workers, and leaders of all faith communities. Take the opportunity to gain fresh insights into the spiritual aspects of aging. This three day, two night seminar is programmed by the University of Texas Medical Branch, Sealy Center on Aging. Conference pricing including meals, lodging, socials, and speakers.



RATES

\$200 - Double Occupancy
Early Bird Rate: \$185 (valid thru 2/13/12)

\$245 - Single Occupancy
Early Bird Rate: \$225 (valid thru 2/13/12)

CAMP ALLEN
CONFERENCE AND RETREAT CENTER
18800 FM 362, NAVASOTA, TX 77868
TEL: 936.825.7175
FAX: 936.825.8495
CAMPALLEN.ORG

SENIORS IN MOTION

What are the benefits of exercise?
New information continues to emerge proving that people of all ages and physical conditions benefit from exercise and physical activity.

Afraid to Exercise?
Exercise is safe for people of all age groups. Older adults hurt their health far more by not exercising than by exercising.

Is it too late?
Even if you have had an inactive lifestyle, there is good news. It's never too late to improve your health.

You are invited to join
Seniors in Motion.....
Tuesdays @ 10am in the Guild Room
First Class Free
Cost: \$6 / class or \$20 / month

For more information, please call Janet @ 832-435-5177


A Special
THANK YOU


Dear St. Christopher Friends,

Thank you to all for your prayers, cards and kind words of sympathy on the recent loss of our son and brother, John.

Your support has been very comforting and continues to be.

Nevada and Julie Farris

MAKING OUR WORLD A SAFER PLACE FOR ALL

SAFEGUARDING GOD'S CHILDREN

Saturday, February 4th
9 AM-Noon

A required 3 hour training for all who volunteer or work with children.

Refreshments and Childcare available.

SAFEGUARDING GOD'S PEOPLE

Saturday, February 18th
9 AM-Noon

A 3 hour training for all who are in leadership positions in ministry. This includes Vestry, ministry leaders and staff.

Refreshments and Childcare available.

Contact Jill Center for more information at 713-465-6015 or jill@stchrishouston.org.

THURSDAY
APRIL 26, 2012



SHARING 
FAITH

SAVE THE DATE!

Groups of people across the Diocese will gather to share their faith stories one evening and have a simple meal together.

For more information, see your Church's Dinner Coordinator,

or go to www.epicenter.org/sharingfaith.

LOST AND FOUND

MISSING!!! One 13" x 10" cream colored serving tray (no handles).

The tray was last used at the Farris funeral reception in Latham Hall in November 2011. It is one of a unique nested set, wood grained artificial laminate, and somewhat of an heirloom. Whoever borrowed it and forgot where it came from please return the tray to Latham Hall or the Guild room kitchen. Thank you.



**St. Christopher's
Episcopal Church**

1656 Blalock Road
Houston, TX 77080

Office: 713.465.6015

Fax: 713.465.2086

Day School: 713.465.6035

Thrift Shop: 713.467.7743

E-mail:

information@stchrishouston.org

Visit our website!
stchrishouston.org

*Our mission is to serve God through word and deed,
inviting all people to find renewal in Christ.*



BIRTHDAYS AND ANNIVERSARIES

ANNIVERSARIES

		Carl Meyertons	02/21
Ralph & Gaye Lynn Talley	02/24	Carolyn Leskin	02/22
		Sly Montalbano	02/26

BIRTHDAYS

		Rob Turpin	02/26
Stephanie Albright	02/01		
Rosemary Tade	02/01		
Pam Guedry	02/05		
Christine Lucas	02/08		
Ruby Bradford	02/09		
Susan Holloway	02/09		
Jay Barth	02/11		
Sean Denson	02/19		

