

The Gregorian Chant

St. Gregory the Great Episcopal Church, Athens, GA

March 2011

Dear Sisters and Brothers in Christ,

The Vestry had a very enjoyable and productive retreat two weeks ago and it seems good to share some of the results with you. The first night we told our experience of St. Gregory's in the order we arrived here, from one of the founding members, Peter Rice, to the most recent, Vicky Tavernier. We had so many positive things to say about the parish that the next day we each tried to identify something that we thought needed work or attention. After listing many things, each one cast 3 votes with post-it notes on the areas that seemed most important. The three far and away top priorities that the Vestry wants to work on this year are the following:

1. **Stewardship and the budget** – becoming self_supporting through our own contributions so that fundraising events would be optional and for special projects rather than necessary for meeting operating expenses. Sometimes the budget determines our ministry instead of our spiritual values determining the budget and spurring us to ask clearly for what we need for the work to which we have been called.
2. **Communication (internal among parishioners and external public relations)**. Sometimes St. Gregory's Church and what we do here is "the greatest story never told!" Even the physical appearance of our buildings seems to hide the fact that we are a church!
3. **Outreach** – bringing our financial commitment to local outreach back up to 10% of the operating budget as it was 3 years ago. Just as we encourage one another to tithe our income (giving 10%), so we want to tithe as an institution. In these tough economic times our neighbors need our help more than ever. The good work of giving beyond ourselves to the community seems to be another one of our better kept secrets.

Each Vestry member was invited to commit to doing ONE thing toward one of these three goals which we shared with the group. Even the Rector made a commitment! I am going to see that my sermon texts are available on the website as many of you have been requesting. I expect to have the last two available by the end of the week.

We closed with the Eucharist, bringing all of you into our prayers and thanksgivings. We are very grateful to Jeff and Shelby Welch who shared their home with us for this event. Listed below are the Vestry liaisons to the parish committees.

Blessings and peace,

Beth

Vestry Liaisons

Stewardship – Steve Philips

Buildings (and Green) – Gene Carr

Grounds – Ross Perry

Worship – Bill Hale

Finance – Roger Swagler

Communication – Carl Hoveland

Parish Life – Shelby Welch

Inreach – Peter Rice

Outreach – Katie Hein

Christian Education – Maggie Reinberger

Spiritual Formation – Sarah Gordon

Welcoming – Vicky Tavernier

Celebrate Life

with Tamara and Glenn Tillman and big brother Cory on the birth of Annalea Grace on February 21.

In sympathy

Our condolences

to Elizabeth Edmonston and her family on the death of her husband Paul on February 6;

And to Susan Bush and her family on the death of her husband Jack on February 15.

May their souls and the souls of all the departed, through the mercy of God, rest in peace.

Children's Sunday School

The *Miracle of the Loaves and Fishes* is our current topic for children's Sunday School. Our workshop rotations include making fish prints, Godly Play stories, fishing and hunger awareness games, and great movies to help us think.

Safeguarding God's Children

Catherine Drewry will conduct a session of *Safeguarding God's Children*, the sexual abuse prevention program of the Episcopal Church, on Sunday, March 6, from 12:15 to 3 p.m. A free vegetarian lunch will be provided.

The program is required for vestry members, people working with children and youth, employees, and people in leadership positions, but anyone interested may attend. It is a valuable training to learn to recognize the signs of sexual abuse, and how to prevent sexual abuse of children from occurring. For more information, please call Catherine Drewry at 706-743-3592..

Grounds

Sunday, March 6, 2011: Bring Your Rake Day! Following coffee hour we will break into 6-8 small groups to work on assigned areas that need our TLC for Spring! Stay as long as you can and we can order lunch or have a potluck! Those of you that signed up/pledged to help with grounds, if I could designate you be the group leaders for this day, it would insure success! I will have a list of assignments ready for the areas. Please bring rakes, gloves, weeders, loppers, handheld clippers, electric hedgers and wheelbarrows if you have them to help! If you have plants or garden items to donate, bring them too – we will find a place for them! If you have ideas or a "grounds talent", such as ponds or trees, please send me an email to share this. See everyone then! Franchesca Lane, 706.461.0359

Pancakes!

Shrove Tuesday ("Mardi Gras")

is next week, March 8, from 6 p.m. to 7:30 p.m. in the parish hall. Once again, as every year, the Brotherhood of St. Andrew Chapter at St. Gregory's invite you and your friends to the traditional Pancake Supper.

One last fling before the disciplined season of Lent, the supper

is a great occasion to gather with friends and family. The members of the Brotherhood prepare delicious pancakes, turkey sausage (and vegetarian alternatives), and fruit.

As always, the meal is complimentary, but donations are encouraged. A contributions are used to buy prayer books and Bibles to give to those newly baptized, confirmed and received into the faith community of

St. Gregory's Episcopal Church.

Ash Wednesday

We will celebrate Holy Eucharist and the imposition of ashes to begin our observance of Lent at 12 noon and 6 p.m. on Wednesday, March 9.

Wednesday nights in Lent

Beginning on Wednesday, March 16, after the 6 p.m. Healing Service and Eucharist, we will have a simple vegetarian soup and bread supper and an opportunity for further study and reflection. This year we will listen to two of the speakers from the Trinity Institute, Walter Brueggemann and Gerald West, who were especially interesting and provocative in their approach to the Bible. If you require childcare in order to participate, please notify Beth, rector@stgregoryathens.org or Hortense, office@stgregoryathens.org. Beth will provide soup on March 16. Let us know if you would be willing to help with soup on an subsequent Wednesday evening.

Ministry Fair

March 12 at St. Philips Cathedral in Atlanta.

This is an event for all adults in the church. This year, the focus is on health, and will feature keynote speaker Peter K, of Peter K Fitness, addressing Secrets of a Fit Lifestyle; How to revolutionize your health to compliment your spiritual life.

After the keynote address, you can choose from over 50 different classes focusing on welcoming, mission, health, finance, choir, teaching, youth, communications, vestry, etc. Contact Catherine Drewry if you'd like to find out more or carpool. 706_743_3592 drewrys@hm_e.net

Potluck Breakfast

We will have a Loaves and Fishes Potluck Breakfast instead of Sunday School (for all ages) on Sunday, March 13, between the 8 am and 10:30 am services in the Parish Hall. Bring breakfast foods to share, visit with your friends, and learn more about Heifer International.

"Come to the Well"

Join us on Saturday, March 19, for a teacher training event filled with a variety of resource workshops. The day-long meeting is sponsored by the Province IV Christian Formation Committee. This year's theme is "Come to the Well."

Come be refreshed, fed, and equipped with resources for meaningful ministries. **This day of learning for all teachers will be held at St. Gregory's on Saturday, March 19, from 9 a.m. until 3:30 p.m.** You will be able to choose three of twelve different classes, led by professional Christian education leaders from all over Province IV (Southeastern US).

All teachers of adults, youth, and children, children's church leaders, and those who think they might want to someday teach or lead, are asked to set aside time to attend this event. Teachers and leaders from other churches

are also invited. The registration fee is \$15, and includes lunch. (Fee will be waived if a hardship.) Child care will be available if parents request it. Look for fliers in the church and on our website www.stgregoryathens.org or contact Catherine Drewry for more information.

Heifer International

The children in Sunday School are collecting through Lent for Heifer International. We have two clear cylinders to fill with quarters _ when full, each will have enough money to buy a goat, sheep, or pig! (The kids will be happy to put your quarters in for you!) We also have *Fill the Ark* calendars and banks for families and individuals, that have daily entries to help us better understand Heifer and its mission. Pick up a set in the Christian Ed building downstairs. And, you may also make donations in any amount _ write checks to St. Gregory's, and mark "for Heifer International", and put in with the collection plate or give to one of the children to add to their Fill the Ark banks. Together we can make a difference!

Valentine's Dinner

Thank you to all in the parish, and your friends, for supporting the youth's Valentine dinner fundraiser. We cleared \$2000 profit in one night! That money will be used for the 2012 youth pilgrimage. Special thanks to professional magician Rick Francescini for keeping us entertained with his amazing illusions!

Children's Church

Pre_K and elementary aged children, and all others young_at_heart, are invited to Children's Church in the All Saints Chapel during the Liturgy of the Word portion of the 10:30 service. While there, children read and discuss the scripture, offer prayers and thanksgivings, and sing. Children return to "big church" to sit with their parents at the Peace.

Fitness Ministry

Franchesca Lane's fitness group meets every Wednesday, February 9, at 11:45 a.m. in the parish hall. Come and bring your yoga mat and your exercise ball (if you have one). If you would like more information please contact Franchesca directly, at 706-461-0359

or franchescalane@live.com There is no charge for participating!

Inquirers' Class

The Inquirers' class with the Rector continues on Sundays at 4 p.m. Watch for updates in the weekly bulletin as to the current topic. You are always welcome to drop in for subjects of interest. Childcare is provided.

Altar flowers

The flower sign-up chart and the flower donation forms are in the Christian Education building on the wall right next to the kitchen reach through window. Mark your date on the calendar, fill out the form to indicate your preferences and the dedication you want to appear in the bulletin, and drop the form off at the office.

The usual donation to the flower guild for making a flower arrangement to celebrate or memorialize an important person or event in your life is \$35.

Jan Groover

You may remember Jan, our enthusiastic former fellow parishioner.

Her mother wrote about Jan:

"She is still living in Hartwell, but has changed to a handicap apartment. Her new address is: Jan Groover 97 Wood Lake Dr., Apt. 117 Hartwell, GA 30643 She gets very lonesome and would like to be able to write to those she remembers fondly, and to hear from them if possible. Thank you very much, Melanie Groover"

Phone List

It is time (maybe past due . . .)

to print out a new listing of phone numbers, addresses, and, if available, email addresses.

Please let the office know if your information has changed, or just to double check that the contact information we have for you is correct.

Call the church office at 706-546-7553 or leave a note or email office@stgregoryathens.org.

Telephone lists are rather labor-intensive and time-consuming, but we hope to have the new listing available by the end of the month.

Painting Class

Margaret Agner will teach a painting class at the Lyndon House on Thursdays, 6:30 to 8:30 p.m., beginning on March 17 and lasting 8 weeks. Instruction of art principles will be supplemented by individual help with the students' projects. To register please call the Lyndon House Arts Center at 706-613-3623.

CALENDAR – MARCH 2011

Tuesday, March 1, 2011

David, Bishop of Menevia, Wales, c. 544

9:30 a.m. AMC

5:30 p.m. Yoga (parish hall)

6:00 p.m. Evening Prayer

Wednesday, March 2, 2011

Chad, Bishop of Lichfield, 672

9:00 a.m. Library closed

9:00 a.m. Dream Group (All Saints Chapel)

11:45 a.m. Fitness Group (parish hall)

5:30 p.m. Discussion Group (upstairs)

6:00 p.m. Holy Eucharist and Healing Service

7:00 p.m. AA (Christian Ed. Bldg.)

7:00 p.m. Choir

Thursday, March 3, 2011

John and Charles Wesley, Priests, 1791, 1788

6:00 p.m. Tai Chi (parish hall)

7:00 p.m. OA (upstairs)

Friday, March 4, 2011

9:30 a.m. AMC

5:00 p.m. Wedding Rehearsal (church)

6:00 p.m. Al-Anon (library)

6:00 p.m. Evening Prayer

Saturday, March 5, 2011

noon Private function (church)

6:00 p.m. Evening Prayer

Sunday, March 6, 2011

The Last Sunday after the Epiphany

8:00 a.m. Holy Eucharist

9:15 a.m. Christian Education for all ages

10:30 a.m. Holy Eucharist

12:15 p.m. "Bring Your Rake Day"

12:15 p.m. "Safeguarding God's Children" (parish hall)

4:00 p.m. Inquirers' Class

6:00 p.m. Holy Eucharist

Monday, March 7, 2011

Perpetua and her Companions, Martyrs at Carthage, 202

6:00 p.m. Evening Prayer

7:00 p.m. AA (upstairs)

7:00 p.m. EfM (library)

7:00 p.m. Private function (parish hall)

Tuesday, March 8, 2011

Shrove Tuesday

9:30 a.m. AMC

No Yoga

6:00 p.m. Pancake Supper (parish hall)

6:00 p.m. Evening Prayer

Wednesday, March 9, 2011

Ash Wednesday

9:00 a.m. Library closed

9:00 a.m. Dream Group (All Saints Chapel)

11:45 a.m. Fitness Group (parish hall)

noon Ash Wednesday Service

5:30 p.m. Discussion Group (upstairs)

6:00 p.m. Ash Wednesday Service

7:00 p.m. AA (Christian Ed. Bldg.)

7:00 p.m. Choir

Thursday, March 10, 2011

6:00 p.m. Evening Prayer

6:00 p.m. Tai Chi (parish hall)

7:00 p.m. OA (upstairs)

Friday, March 11, 2011

9:30 a.m. AMC

5:00 p.m. Private Function (church)

6:00 p.m. Al-Anon (library)

6:00 p.m. Evening Prayer

Saturday, March 12, 2011

Gregory the Great, Bishop of Rome, 604

Ministry Fair at the Cathedral of St. Philip

6:00 p.m. Evening Prayer

Sunday, March 13, 2011

The First Sunday in Lent

8:00 a.m. Holy Eucharist

9:15 a.m. Potluck Breakfast – no Sunday School

10:30 a.m. Holy Eucharist

4:00 p.m. Inquirers' Class

6:00 p.m. Holy Eucharist

Monday, March 14, 2011

6:00 p.m. Evening Prayer

6:30 p.m. MD Group (small meeting room)

7:00 p.m. AA (upstairs)

7:00 p.m. EfM (library)

7:00 p.m. Private Function (parish hall)

Tuesday, March 15, 2011

9:30 a.m. AMC

5:30 p.m. Yoga (parish hall)

6:00 p.m. Evening Prayer

6:30 p.m. Vestry Meeting

Wednesday, March 16, 2011

9:00 a.m. Library closed

9:00 a.m. Dream Group (All Saints Chapel)

11:45 a.m. Fitness Group (parish hall)

5:30 p.m. Discussion Group (upstairs)

6:00 p.m. Holy Eucharist and Healing Service

6:45 p.m. Supper and Lenten Program

7:00 p.m. AA (Christian Ed. Bldg.)

7:00 p.m. Choir

Thursday, March 17, 2011

Patrick, Bishop and Missionary of Ireland, 461

noon Good Women's Brown Bag Lunch (parish hall)

6:00 p.m. Evening Prayer

6:00 p.m. Tai Chi (parish hall)

7:00 p.m. OA (upstairs)

Friday, March 18, 2011

Cyril, Bishop of Jerusalem, 386

9:30 a.m. AMC

6:00 p.m. Al-Anon (library)

6:00 p.m. Evening Prayer

Saturday, March 19, 2011

Saint Joseph

9:00 a.m. "Come to the Well" – Province IV teachers' meeting

6:00 p.m. Evening Prayer

Sunday, March 20, 2011

The Second Sunday in Lent

8:00 a.m. Holy Eucharist

9:15 a.m. Christian Education for all ages

10:30 a.m. Holy Eucharist

4:00 p.m. Inquirers' Class

6:00 p.m. Holy Eucharist

Monday, March 21, 2011

Thomas Ken, Bishop of Bath and Wells, 1711

6:00 p.m. Evening Prayer

7:00 p.m. AA (upstairs)

7:00 p.m. EfM (library)

7:00 p.m. Private Function (parish hall)

Tuesday, March 22, 2011

James DeKoven, Priest, 1879

9:30 a.m. AMC

5:30 p.m. Yoga (parish hall)

6:00 p.m. Evening Prayer

Wednesday, March 23, 2011

Gregory the Illuminator, Bishop and Missionary of Armenia, c.332

9:00 a.m. Library closed
9:00 a.m. Dream Group (All Saints Chapel)
11:45 a.m. Fitness Group (parish hall)
5:30 p.m. Discussion Group (upstairs)
6:00 p.m. Holy Eucharist and Healing Service
6:45 p.m. Supper and Lenten Program
7:00 p.m. AA (Christian Ed. Bldg.)
7:00 p.m. Choir

Thursday, March 24, 2011

Oscar Romero, Archbishop of San Salvador and the Martyrs of El Salvador, 1980

6:00 p.m. Evening Prayer
6:00 p.m. Tai Chi (parish hall)
7:00 p.m. OA (upstairs)

Friday, March 25, 2011

The Annunciation of Our Lord Jesus Christ to the Blessed Virgin Mary

9:30 a.m. AMC
6:00 p.m. Al-Anon (library)
6:00 p.m. Evening Prayer

Saturday, March 26, 2011

6:00 p.m. Evening Prayer

Sunday, March 27, 2011

The Third Sunday in Lent

8:00 a.m. Holy Eucharist
9:15 a.m. Christian Education for all ages
10:30 a.m. Holy Eucharist
4:00 p.m. Inquirers' Class

6:00 p.m. Holy Eucharist

Monday, March 28, 2011

6:00 p.m. Evening Prayer

6:30 p.m. MD Group (small meeting room)

7:00 p.m. AA (upstairs)

7:00 p.m. EfM (library)

7:00 p.m. Private function (parish hall)

Tuesday, March 29, 2011

John Keble, Priest, 1866

9:30 a.m. AMC

5:30 p.m. Yoga (parish hall)

6:00 p.m. Evening Prayer

Wednesday, March 30, 2011

9:00 a.m. Library closed

9:00 a.m. Dream Group (All Saints Chapel)

11:45 a.m. Fitness Group (parish hall)

5:30 p.m. Discussion Group (upstairs)

6:00 p.m. Holy Eucharist and Healing Service

6:45 p.m. Supper and Lenten Program

7:00 p.m. AA (Christian Ed. Bldg.)

7:00 p.m. Choir

Thursday, March 31, 2011

John Donne, Priest, 1631

6:00 p.m. Evening Prayer

6:00 p.m. Tai Chi (parish hall)

7:00 p.m. OA (upstairs)

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Servers – Sunday, March 6, 2011

The Last Sunday after the Epiphany

8:00 a.m. service:

OT Reading – Dolores Holt

NT Reading – Robert Ethier

Intercessor – Robert Ethier

EM – Dolores Holt

10:30 a.m. service:

EM – Karen Hankins

EM – Barbara Kuhn

OT Reading – Cecil Hudson

NT Reading – Katie Hein

Intercessor – Carl Hoveland

1st Server – TBA

Torch – TBA

Torch – TBA

2nd Server – TBA

Usher – David Lowe

Usher – Roger Swagler

Usher – Robert or Henry Scott

Usher – McGowan Drewry

Counter – Mark Hein

Counter – Bill Alworth

Altar Guild – Reba Jones, Barbara Kuhn, Ellen Gibson

Flower Guild – Karen Radde

Coffee Hosts – Julia Marlowe and Roger Swagler

6:00 p.m. service:

EM – Stephen Morris

Servers – Sunday, March 13, 2011

The First Sunday in Lent

8:00 a.m. service:

OT Reading – Ken Taylor

NT Reading – Evan Powell

Intercessor – Evan Powell

EM – Ken Taylor

10:30 a.m. service:

EM – June Ball

EM – Cecil Hudson

OT Reading – Barbara Kuhn

NT Reading – Steve Phillips

Intercessor – Alice Mohor

1st Server – TBA

Torch – TBA

Torch – TBA

2nd Server – TBA

Usher – Sam Preston

Usher – Kathy Hale

Usher – Bill Hale

Usher – Jenifer Borg

Counter – Roger Swagler

Counter – Mark Reinberger

Altar Guild – Reba Jones, Barbara Kuhn, Ellen Gibson

Flower Guild – no flowers

Coffee Hosts – Shelby and Jeff Welch

6:00 p.m. service:

EM – Jim Jones

Servers – Sunday, March 20, 2011

The Second Sunday in Lent

8:00 a.m. service:

OT Reading – Dolores Holt

NT Reading – Sue Alford

Intercessor – Sue Alford

EM – Dolores Holt

10:30 a.m. service:

EM – Katie Hein

EM – Jeremy Hankins

OT Reading – Carol Jones

NT Reading – Peter Rice

Intercessor – Laura Ruffin

1st Server – TBA

Torch – TBA

Torch – TBA

2nd Server – TBA

Usher – Joshua King

Usher – Robert Wyatt

Usher – Ann Stoneburner

Usher – Mark Hein

Counter – Carol Hill

Counter – Lois Alworth

Altar Guild – Reba Jones, Barbara Kuhn, Ellen Gibson

Flower Guild – no flowers

Coffee Hosts – TBA

6:00 p.m. service:

EM – Stephen Morris

Servers – Sunday, March 27, 2011

The Third Sunday in Lent

8:00 a.m. service:

OT Reading – Ken Taylor

NT Reading – Sarah Gordon

Intercessor – Sarah Gordon

EM – Ken Taylor

10:30 a.m. service:

EM – June Ball

EM – Brad Hankins

OT Reading – David Lowe

NT Reading – Ken Taylor

Intercessor – JaneT Patterson

1st Server – TBA

Torch – TBA

Torch – TBA

2nd Server – TBA

Usher – Carol Jones

Usher – Jerrin Jose

Usher – John Wooten

Usher – Jon Vail

Counter – Ken Taylor

Counter – Katie Ulrich

Altar Guild – Reba Jones, Barbara Kuhn, Ellen Gibson

Flower Guild – no flowers

Coffee Host – The Wickwire Family with Marilyn Walsh

6:00 p.m. service:

EM – Jim Jones