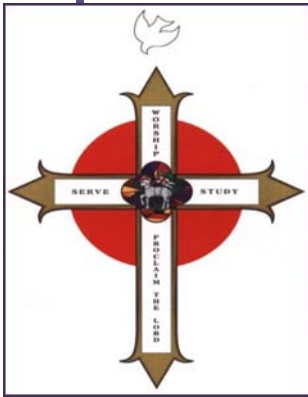


# Cross Ties

June 2010



*Walking in the Way of the Cross  
United and Empowered by the Holy Spirit*



## *From the Rector's Desk*

About this time each year, I hear some people beginning to talk about their summer reading lists. For a lot of folks summertime means more time off, and, with that extra time, they mean to catch up with their reading. For some this is just what they would call recreational reading, novels featuring characters in situations in which we would never want to be, but that we find fascinating nonetheless. These stories take us into a different world than the one in which we live, offering refreshment along the way.



Other more task-oriented people I know want to “get something done” with their summer reading. They want to learn things they didn’t know, they want to better understand famous people, or master a topic so as to perhaps impress their friends at the next cocktail party! These are the “serious” readers.

What I would like to suggest to you is a combination of the two approaches above. Maybe this summer you could devote yourself to reading spiritual books of the Christian variety. There is so much great written material out there that can literally take you “out of this world” as you deepen your knowledge of the God we serve through His Son. You will find yourself refreshed in the best possible way while, at the same time, learning many things

you might not have known before. I am not sure whether what you will learn will impress anyone at a cocktail party, but I doubt that’s a major priority for too many of us anyway!

There is the possibility, however, that something you say about your spiritual reading might encourage someone else to try it as well.

I always think it is wrong to encourage people to read and then not give them any specific suggestions. These are only three titles of hundreds of which I could think, but maybe one or more of them might tickle your interest. Please speak to me if you would like more ideas.

### **What’s So Great About Christianity?** by

D’Nesh D’Souza

**Blue Like Jazz** by Donald Miller

**The Irrational Season** by Madeleine L’Engle

One other book I can always recommend, which many Christians have never read. It’s a book that will teach, fascinate, and help you to know Jesus in a way that perhaps has eluded you thus far. It’s called the Bible, and it also would be a fine addition to anyone’s summer reading list!

Father Craig Lister

## *A Prayer for June*

The following is the prayer for the month of June. The prayer is taken for the Book of Common Prayer. Let us all pray this prayer each day during the month of a June.

Grant O God, that your holy and life-giving Sprit may so move every human heart (and especially the hearts of the people of this land), that barriers which divide us may crumble, suspicions disappear, and hatreds cease; that our divisions being healed, we may live in justice and peace; through Jesus Christ our Lord.

Amen



## *Senior Warden Report*

The vestry donated funds raised during Lent from the Soup Pot to a local non-profit organization in need. The Boys & Girls Club of Sanford / Lee County was chosen because of the good work and positive results occurring in Sanford. The obvious financial need, as reported in the newspaper, sealed the decision. Below is the letter received from Bo Hedrick, Executive Director thanking all of us for our kindness and generosity. Thank you.

Oliver Crawley

**Boys & Girls Clubs  
Of Sanford / Lee County, Inc.**



May 13, 2010

Dear St. Thomas' Members,

It is with an encouraged heart that I write to say thank you again. I appreciate the gift that you made to the club from proceeds from the Lenten Soup Pot effort.

Although we have had our toughest financial year ever, we have been able to protect our children from this fact because of the support of people like you. They remain free to learn, grow, and have fun in an environment that is positive and encouraging for them.

My invitation to all is that you come by to meet our kids and tour the club. My prayer for your church is that you will be blessed for you are truly doing "God's work".

Sincerely,  
Bo Hedrick, Executive Director

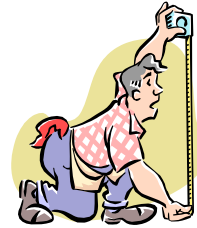
**CONGRATULATIONS!**

Congratulations to our 2010 graduates: **Mollie Schrull**, daughter of John and Elizabeth Schrull and **William Puckett**, son of Beth and David Puckett. Mollie will be attending Meredith College in the fall. She has been awarded a volleyball scholarship. William is entering the armed forces. Our best wishes to both these fine young people. We will keep them in our prayers as they enter this next phase of their lives.

## Junior Warden Report

1. The Bell Tower Roof has been repaired. I'll wait for several more downpours before we clean and seal the brick on the inside.
2. Office renovations are on schedule. The cabinets for the Secretaries office are in. Painting is proceeding and we should move in the first week in June. Next is the storage room and all that is needed there is painting. It should be finished by June 6th or 7th. We will then start on Father Lister's office and I expect that will take about two weeks.
3. The Vestry has asked that I look in to installing three or four outdoor Security Cameras. I will have more on this latter and will include this in the July Crossties

Dave Zeph



## Women of the Church May Minutes

The final Women of the Church meeting of the year was held on Monday, May 3, at 11 a.m. in the Lower Parish Hall. The meeting was called to order by President Mari Hann. Devotions Chair, Peggy Nelson, shared thoughts she titled "Contemporary Proverbs." They were enthusiastically received by members and are shared here:

Don't let your worries get the best of you; Remember, Moses started out as a basket case.

Some people are kind, polite, and sweet-spirited; Until you try to sit in their pews.

Many folks want to serve God; But only as advisers.

When you get to your wit's end, you'll find God lives there.

Opportunity may knock once; But temptation bangs on the front door forever.

Peace starts with a smile.

Coincidence is when God chooses to remain anonymous.

Don't put a question mark where God puts a period.

God doesn't call the qualified; He qualifies the called.

God promises a safe landing, not a calm passage.

If God is your co-pilot, swap seats!

Prayer: Don't give God instructions; just report for duty!

The task ahead of us is never as great as the Power behind us.

Life isn't about waiting for the storm to pass. It's about learning to dance in the rain.

You can tell how big a person is by what it takes to discourage (him or) her.



Reviewed projects of the year included:

- The annual November Food Fair
- Yearly Scholarship to the Boys and Girls Club
- Annual contribution to the J. Glenn Edwards Children's Choir
- Monthly delivery of food to ill parishioners (In April, Frances Granger and Mary Quinn visited and delivered food to Alice Anne Ford, Rusty Hodges, and Bill Mawyer.)
- Donation of one-half of yearly funds raised to the St. Thomas' Building Fund

Remaining in the WOC account after these distributions is a total of \$6,619.80.

(continued on page 4)

**“Cross Ties”**

(continued from page 3)

is published monthly by

**The Holy Wonders** were elected for the 2010-2011 year:

Co-presidents: Pat Clark and Frances Granger

Secretary: Jo Ann Bowman

Treasurer: Charlotte Hohenstein

Deviotions Chairs: Peggy Nelson

Monthly programs will be secured on a member-rotational basis.

Email: [stsncc@windstream.net](mailto:stsncc@windstream.net)

Website:  
[www.stthomasassaford.org/index.html](http://www.stthomasassaford.org/index.html)  
 Greeting cards were signed and mailed to Kathy Stancar, Missy Venrick Holder,  
 and Marsha Koury.

**Office Hours**

Frances Granger read a poem she had written about retiring President Mari Hann,  
 entitled “Toast to a Friend.” After reading the poem Frances presented a cross  
 embedded with a mustard seed, to Mari. The rector, paying a short visit to the  
 club, blessed the cross.

Rector

The club was dismissed with prayer and all members present then enjoyed a  
 delicious “sand luncheon” and cake dessert, all provided by WOC members.

Dr. Jo Ann Bowman, *Choir Director*

Sophie Johnson, *Organist*  
 Jo Ann Bowman  
 Kathy Stancar, *Secretary*

Marci Warren, *Nursery Care****Vacation Bible School - 2010***

Ready for a voyage of a lifetime? At High Seas Expedition, kids explore the  
 mighty love of God on a journey that will change them forever! High Seas  
 Expedition is filled with incredible Bible learning experiences kids see, hear,  
 touch and even taste. Bible Point crafts, team-building games, cool Bible songs  
 and tasty treats are just a few of the High Seas Expedition activities that help  
 faith flow into real life. Since everything is hands on, kids might get a little  
 messy. Be sure to send them in play clothes and safe shoes.

We will help kids discover how to see evidence of God in everyday life,  
 something we call God Sightings. Get ready to hear that phrase a lot.

Your kids will participate in a hands on mission project called Operation Kid-to-  
 Kid that will let the kids in our community blanket the world with God's love.

Parents, grandparents and friends are invited to join us each day at the end of our  
 program because that is when we will be having The Floating Finale, a daily  
 celebration of God's love you won't want to miss.

So mark these dates on your calendar: June 21st - June 25th. The fun starts at  
 9am and will end at 11:30ish. Call 774-8089 to register your children for this  
 life changing adventure.

Pam Kerley





# Registration Form

Permission to photocopy this page from Group's High Seas Expedition Clip Art & Resources CD granted for local church use.

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## R

Child's name: \_\_\_\_\_  
 Child's age: \_\_\_\_\_ Date of birth: \_\_\_\_\_ Last school grade completed: \_\_\_\_\_  
 Name of parent(s): \_\_\_\_\_  
 Street address: \_\_\_\_\_  
 City: \_\_\_\_\_ State: \_\_\_\_\_ ZIP: \_\_\_\_\_  
 Home telephone: (\_\_\_\_\_) \_\_\_\_\_  
 Parent/caregiver's cell phone: \_\_\_\_\_  
 Home e-mail address: \_\_\_\_\_  
 In case of emergency, contact: \_\_\_\_\_  
 Relationship to child: \_\_\_\_\_  
 Allergies or other medical conditions: \_\_\_\_\_  
 Home church: \_\_\_\_\_  
 Crew number or name (for church use only): \_\_\_\_\_



*Treasurer’s Report by Bob Nelson*

**General Fund Activities**

April revenues were \$28,396 while expenditures totaled \$31,743. Same month revenues for 2009 were \$13,749. Actual revenues are ahead of budgeted revenues by 4%, Don’t recall ever saying that before at this time of the year. Be nice if it holds through the lean summer months.

The following presents the 2010 budget and the four months ended April 30, 2010, with comparative 2009 amounts:

	<b>2010 Budget</b>	<b>4/30/2010</b>	<b>4/30/2009</b>	<b>Percent of Budget</b>
<b>Revenues, Fund Transfers &amp; Fund Balance Appropriated</b>	\$ 338,642	\$ 125,538	\$ 68,259	37%
<b>Caring for our Clergy</b>	158,000	54,977	27,004	35%
<b>Caring for Our Facilities</b>	45,577	21,359	8,579	47%
<b>Making it All Work</b>	35,694	10,816	9,415	30%
<b>Making a Celebration</b>	33,723	11,284	8,960	33%
<b>Making a Difference in the World</b>	19,800	3,434	1,200	17%
<b>Making Disciples</b>	11,218	4,602	3,197	41%
<b>Caring for the Larger Church</b>	28,000	8,000	7,436	29%
<b>Caring for Each Other</b>	6,630	1,766	1,523	27%
<b>Totals</b>	<b>338,642</b>	<b>116,238</b>	<b>67,314</b>	
<b>Cash over (less than) expenditures</b>	\$ -	\$ 9,300	\$ 945	

At its April meeting, the vestry focused on repair and renovation issues such as the leaking bell tower, street appeal items and improvements to the church office. The budget was amended to cover such costs from the Von Canon and General Building funds. Other noteworthy items for your attention;

- April revenues include 2 gifts of stock totaling \$4,886
- Lenten Soup Bowl proceeds of \$1,021 were donated to Boys & Girls Club.

From time to time I’m asked about how we’re doing. I’m pleased to report the tangible evidence above but Colossians 3:12-17 might tell more about what’s happening at St. Thomas than any numbers.

*12 Therefore, as God's chosen people, holy and dearly loved, clothe yourselves with compassion, kindness, humility, gentleness and patience. 13 Bear with each other and forgive whatever grievances you may have against one another. Forgive as the Lord forgave you. 14 And over all these virtues put on love, which binds them all together in perfect unity.*

*15 Let the peace of Christ rule in your hearts, since as members of one body you were called to peace. And be thankful. 16 Let the word of Christ dwell in you richly as you teach and admonish one another with all wisdom, and as you sing psalms, hymns and spiritual songs with gratitude in your hearts to God. 17 And whatever you do, whether in word or deed, do it all in the name of the Lord Jesus, giving thanks to God the Father through him.*

Can you feel it too.....

## Bible Study Quiz from the Ministry Fair

The Bible Study booth at the Ministry Fair had a Bible Quiz with a prize of a \$15 gift certificate at The Carpenter's Shop. Only one person got all 10 questions correct, Gordy Reese. I have to say that two people tied for second place with 9 correct. They were Pam Kerley and Katie Kerley. (Pam did not help Katie- her "other" grandmother did.) Congratulations to the winner and thanks to all who participated. Why don't you try to answer the questions? The answers are below.

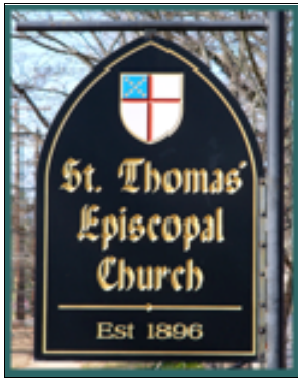
Peggy Nelson



- 1) Which of the following is *not* mentioned in Psalm 139 as something God knows?
  - a. when I sit down or stand up
  - b. my every thought
  - c. the sin hidden deep in my heart
  - d. what I am going to say even before I say it
- 2) During the rebuilding of Jerusalem's wall, builders worked with one hand while they did what with the other?
  - a. helped one another
  - b. held a weapon
  - c. steadied themselves
  - d. applauded
- 3) Jacob's sons eventually became the tribes of Israel. How many sons did he have?
  - a. two
  - b. ten
  - c. twelve
  - d. five and a half, if you count Sheldon
- 4) How did Absalom die?
  - a. He got his long hair caught in a tree and was found by enemy soldiers
  - b. He shot himself with his own bow and arrow
  - c. He tripped while mounting his horse and was trampled
  - d. Old age
- 5) Gideon was sheepish about asking God twice to verify his instructions. What did he want God to do?
  - a. send fire from heaven to consume his sacrifice
  - b. make a lamb's fleece wet with dew but the ground dry
  - c. speak to him in a dream
  - d. e-mail him
- 6) One of the churches of the book of Revelation shares a name with a major U.S. city. Which one?
  - a. Providence
  - b. Philadelphia
  - c. Utica
  - d. Wheaton
- 7) Who appeared with Jesus on the Mount of Transfiguration?
  - a. Andrew, James and John
  - b. John the Baptist
  - c. Moses and Elijah
  - d. No one
- 8) A rich young man asked Jesus how to have eternal life. What did Jesus ultimately suggest?
  - a. ask the Pharisees
  - b. go and sell all you have
  - c. study my words and teach them to others
  - d. floss daily
- 9) Who's preaching put Eutychus to sleep?
  - a. the magistrate of Ephesus
  - b. Apollos
  - c. Paul
  - d. Timothy
- 10) What did John the Baptist say would happen to every tree that did not produce good fruit?
  - a. it would be thrown into the fire
  - b. it would shrivel from the inside
  - c. it would be left alone until Judgment Day
  - d. it would be made into mangers

Answers:

- |     |      |     |     |
|-----|------|-----|-----|
| 1—c | 2—b  | 3—c | 4—a |
| 5—b | 6—b  | 7—c | 8—b |
| 9—c | 10—a |     |     |



## The Great Commission

“Jesus came and said to the disciples, ‘All authority in heaven and on earth has been given to me. Go therefore and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, and teaching them to obey everything that I have commanded you. And remember, I am with you always, to the end of the age.’”

*Matthew 28:18-20*

**It is a joy for all Christians to answer God’s call to share their faith, and bring others to know and love the Lord Jesus Christ within the fellowship of the Church. Invite someone to attend a worship service with you this Sunday.**

*Our Mission...*

*“To grow in the knowledge and love of God  
through our worship of Him, our service to Him, and our study of His Word;  
and to bring others to know Jesus Christ as Lord and Savior  
within the fellowship of the Church.”*

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Sanford, North Carolina 27331-0759

RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED

