

P.O. Box 461
Oriental, NC 28571

February 12

Bishop Marray's
Episcopal Visit

One worship service
at 10:30 am

Contents

Lenten Study	1
Without a Doubt.....	2
Senior warden's report	3
The Parables of Jesus.	4
Pastoral Care	5
Irene Five Months Later	5
Lenten Retreat	6
Episcopal Church Women News.....	6
Confirmation	7
Lenten Soup Suppers.....	7
Lent & Holy Week Schedule	8
Calendars.....	9
Lector & Chalice Schedule	10
Prayer List.....	10
Shrove Tuesday Pancake Supper	11
2012 Pamlico County Relay For Life	12
Games and Things	12
Choir Notes	14
Altar Guild.....	14
Reconciliation of a Penitent	15
Special Days of Our Lenten Observance.....	16

LENTEEN STUDY

The Names of God

Naming the infinite

February 29 אֲדֹנָי, ḏadonāy, Lord

March 7 יְהוָה, yhwah, The Name

14 אֲהִיָּה אֲשֶׁר אֲהִיָּה, I Am who I Am

21 The God of Abraham, Isaac and Jacob

28 ἄββα ὁ πατήρ, Abba Father

Soup at 6:15 PM

Program at 7:00 PM

Please join us for one or both.

They will ask, 'What
is His name?'
God said to Moses,



February 2012

WITHOUT A DOUBT



DON'T PICK IT. IT WON'T HEAL!

Dear brothers and sisters in Christ,

We are about to enter Lent. (*Low groan from the parish.*)

It would seem that the above admonition is contrary to the generally conceived notion of lent. That is 40 days of examination, confession, fasting (severe deprivation for those who give up chocolate or popcorn), study and prayer. In other words, picking at our scabs. I'm not sure that is quite right. Lent is not necessarily about opening old wounds. But it is about seeking remedy for wounds that won't heal.

I hope that your time of preparation for the coming celebration of The Resurrection includes at least two phases. One is reconciliation and healing between you and your neighbor, family or brother or sister in Christ. The other is between you and God. Either one of these areas can be rather complex. Who is at fault is often at the top of our list. But resistance to approaching the problem is the hurdle at the beginning of the process.

Now it's likely that as you begin to read this, that a particular individual comes to mind. It may also be true that you consider the breach between you to be water over the dam and they aren't in your life any more and you see no need to waste any time and emotion on them. They don't matter in your life today. Then why were you just thinking about them? Especially if they're dead.

I don't imagine that God came to mind. But the Church might have. Or a particular someone in the church. Are you still angry about having your knuckles rapped in parochial school, or the priest that failed you in some way many years and several churches ago? You signed up to drive and were never asked. They changed the "rules" and you liked it the old way. Some committee chair didn't do it your way or failed to thank you.

Maybe it is God with whom you're angry or disappointed. Your will and God's action or inaction didn't match up?

Cont'd on pg. 13

THE MOORINGS

St. Thomas Episcopal Church

The Rev. Jeremiah C. Day
Rector

402 Freemason St.
P.O. Box 461
Oriental, NC 28571

Church Office - 249-0256
Green House - 249-0953

E-mail:

stthomas@stthomas-oriental.net

Website:

www.stthomas-oriental.net

The Moorings

Published the last Sunday
of the month

Editor Beth Grimm
Helpers: All welcomed

Contribution articles
welcome. Please submit to
church office.

Phone Numbers

Rector	249-3375
Sr. Warden	249-1719
Jr. Warden	249-1576

SENIOR WARDEN'S REPORT

Hello St Thomas!

In lieu of a report, I will introduce myself to those who don't know me and say a word or two to everyone about the process that brought me here. I am Caroline Bliss, pronounced "Carolyn". I take no responsibility for the confusion, but because of it I want to assure everyone that I am not the least bit offended by being called the "wrong" one, so put that worry aside! I am an RN and currently working full-time at Carolina East Medical Center, in Critical Care Nursing Resources and with the PICC Team. I want to say that – should any of you or your loved ones be hospitalized – I am happy to stop by for a visit or a prayer, but because of the HIPPA regulations, I may very well not know you are even there if I am not alerted. Jeremiah suffers from the same restrictions, so please ask!

I have served on the vestry for two years, and this is my first time around. I have participated in many activities at St Thomas over the last 24 years, from nursery volunteer to Youth Fellowship Leader, from Parish-Priest Search committee to Lector. I have served for the last two years as the Vestry Liason to the Outreach Committee. All of these experiences have shown me in so many ways, what a wonderful, talented, kind, generous, caring group of individuals make up St Thomas Episcopal Church of Oriental! I raised two fine sons here, I am proud to call you my church, my friends, my family.

When Jeremiah asked me to serve as Senior Warden I reacted on many levels. First, I did not believe I was qualified. Next, I wasn't sure the parish would believe I was qualified - you have had such strong leaders in the past. Last, I was concerned about how I could do this while working a full-time job. I prayed...a lot. My answer is that I will simply have to do my best, take advantage of spare moments, ask a lot of questions, accept suggestions/advice/prayer from those who have abundant experience – YOU! I will also continue to pray...a

lot.

During the next few weeks, we will all be wrapping up the parish visits, if you are wondering where we are! This weekend, the Vestry will gather for our annual retreat at Trinity Center where we will spend many hours discussing how we might better serve the needs of St Thomas, and your input during these visits and on other occasions, will be brought to the table. We've been trying hard to listen!

Caroline

THE PARABLES OF JESUS.

Adult Christian Formation

The parables of Jesus can be found in all the Canonical gospels as well as in some of the non-canonical gospels but are located mainly within the three synoptic gospels. They represent a key part of the teachings of Jesus, forming approximately one third of his recorded teachings. Christians place high emphasis on these parables, since they are the words of Jesus, they are believed to be what the Father has taught.

Although they are seemingly simple and memorable stories, the messages they convey are deep and central to the Word of God.

Christian Formation-Adult Sunday school is exploring these stories as they relate to the Kingdom of Heaven, loss and prevention, love and forgiveness, and prayer.

Please join us and find out how Jesus' words influence and develop your spirituality and personal life.

Classes start at 9:15 AM SHARP

February 5, 2012 Parable of the Tares. Mathew 13:24-53

February 12, 2012 **Bp Santosh** will meet with the class.

February 19, 2012 The Parable of the Growing Seed. Mark 04:26-34

February 26, 2012 The Parables of the Hidden Treasure, the Pearl, and Drawing in the Net Matthew 13:44-53

God Bless,
Ray Orndorff and Rolayne Schwendy

PASTORAL CARE

When bad things happen, what do we do?

Presenters: Penny Gahan, Conis Cutler & Pat Webster

How can we offer ourselves in better ways for help and comfort in times of crisis, large or small? Using the framework of two very different medical events we hope to offer insight, encouragement and understanding of our own reluctance and talents toward helping our relatives, friends and neighbors. What are our expectations and those of the ones we care for?

Please join us. Your stories and questions will help complete our understanding of how to do better what we do in love already.

February 19, 2012

3-5 PM

Refreshments following



IRENE FIVE MONTHS LATER

A COMMUNITY RE-GATHERING

Five months after Hurricane Irene, many of us are in different phases of our response and recovery. Some of us are still reeling from the impact, seemingly never-ending. Some of us are still negotiating with insurance companies. Some of us are at last figuratively getting our heads above water, and life has become a bit more normal. One common thread for all of us is that our lives were changed, with some loss, and perhaps some new strengths.

In this second community gathering, Father Jeremiah Day and Dr. Pat Webster will once again facilitate a de-briefing, for the purpose of sustained community support in your journey and/or some closure. Those who attended before are welcome to return, as well as newcomers.

Monday, February 13, 4-6 p.m.,

St. Thomas Episcopal Church.

The de-briefing will begin promptly and all who wish to participate should come by 4 p.m.. Latecomers will be free to observe.



Our ECW held their January organizational meeting and all the chairmanships are filled except UTO and planning the Advent suppers, next December. Nancy Inger is our Sunshine person but would like some help with that. If you feel led to contribute your talents, let Nancy, Rolayne, Judy, Carol, or Joan know.

Our year was given a great start with an informative program presented by Earscell Dixon and Linda Pence from Hospice of Pamlico County. Many facts were noteworthy:

- Our county Hospice is non-profit so there is no cost. Not all of them are.
- Other Hospices can work in Pamlico Co. but are not our own unit
- They do NOT take you off medications nor force them on a client or family
- They have a wealth of items that can be borrowed for patient and family use including walkers, assorted chairs, and beds to name a few
- They are in communication with the clients doctors so they can work as a team.
- There is no limit as to the amount of time they may work with a family, the 6 month time line is just an estimate

- They can work with a family up to a year after the death of a client
- They are available to a family 24/7

We are truly blessed to have this service available to our folks!

Shrove Tuesday Pancake Supper will be on Feb. 21 with Judy Wickersham learning the ropes from Sue Williams and Charlotte Schenck. We will be offering the pancakes and sausages everyone enjoys.

Our meeting minutes and chairmanship list are posted on our bulletin board in the Fellowship Hall.



LENTEN RETREAT

The ECW has scheduled our Lenten Retreat and Luncheon for Wednesday, Feb. 29th, from 10-3. Bettye Goodman Green from New Bern will be our guest speaker. Ms. Green is an active evangelist, motivational speaker, spouse, and grandmother. I first met her this fall and read her book

SHIFT INTO YOUR SEASON:
It's Your Time

To raise your interest, two of her quotes

Cont'd on pg. 7

Cont'd from pg. 5

are “You may feel like it’s too late to accomplish your goals....as if God can’t use you now. Think again!” and “You may have been delayed but not denied.” It’s not too late to shift into your season!”

There will be morning and afternoon sessions with a catered lunch provided for a minimal cost. Watch the bulletin for more details and look for a sign up sheet in the Fellowship Hall.



On Wednesday evenings during Lent we have meatless soup suppers and then prepare for Lent with a special program. Please plan to join us and if you would **share your kitchen talents by preparing a soup**, please contact Jean AhKao as she is scheduling these special meals.

Confirmation

With **Bishop Marray**'s visit we will have the opportunity for:

Baptism of new believers

Confirmation or Reception of new members of the Episcopal Church

Reaffirmation of Faith and Christian Service

Please see Fr. Jeremiah+ if you wish to participate in any of the Episcopal Services



Shrove Tuesday Feb 21 12:00 p Private Confession
 4:00 p Private Confession
 5:30-7:00 p Pancake Supper

Ash Wednesday Feb 22 12:00 p Imposition of Ashes & Holy Eucharist
 7:00 p Imposition of Ashes & Holy Eucharist

Wednesdays
 Feb 29-Mar 28 6:15 p Soup & Bread
 7:00 p Lenten Program

Fridays
 Feb 24-Mar 30 12:00 p Stations of the Cross

Palm Sunday 1 Apr The Sunday of the Passion

Holy Mon-Thurs 2-5 Apr 12:00 p Holy Eucharist

Wednesday 4 Apr 8:00 p Tenebrae: Service of Darkness & Light

Maundy Thursday 5 Apr 6:00 p Seder (by reservation)
 8:00 p Maundy Thursday Liturgy

Good Friday 6 Apr 12:00 p Good Friday Liturgy & Reserved
 Sacrament
 7:00 p Stations of the Cross

Resurrection Saturday 7 Apr 8:00 p The Great Vigil of Easter: Sung Mass
Sunday 8 Apr 6:30 a Community Worship: Lou Mac Park
 8:00 a Holy Eucharist
 10:30 a Holy Eucharist

OUR LIVES TOGETHER EVERY WEEK

RED - CHURCH
BLUE - PARISH HALL
GREEN - GREEN HOUSE
BLACK - OTHER LOCATION

	Holy Eucharist	Sunday	8:00a
Christian Formation	Youth & Adult	Sunday	9:15a
	Holy Eucharist	Sunday	10:30a
	AA Group	Sunday	8:00p
	Bible Study	Monday	1:30p
	Rector & Warden's Meeting	Wednesday	10:00p
	Cursillo Reunion Group	Monday	5:30p
Cursillo Reunion @ Perry Griffin House		Tuesday	8:00a
	Men's Bible Study	Tuesday	9:00a
	Alanon	Tuesday	8:00p
	Healing & Holy Eucharist	Wednesday	Noon
	Greenhouse Bible Study	Wednesday	1:30p
<u>See Lenten Study schedule Wednesday in Lent p. 7</u>			
	Pot Luck Supper	1 st Wednesday	6:15p
	Praise & Worship	1 st Wednesday	7:00p
	Praise, Prayer & Bible Study	Wednesday	7:00p
	Choir Practice	Thursday	7:00p



February

Greeters Jackie Wall & Connie Hickman
Ushers Rolayne Schwendy & Dodge Hickman

Fri-Sat 3-4		Diocesan Convention
Sunday 5	8:00a	The Fifth Sunday after the Epiphany
	10:30a	M. Dales
	Hostesses	(L) K. Bates, (C) E. Creel & D. Dunford
Wednesday 8	10:00a	Jane Bliss, Caroline Bliss
	1:30p	Outreach Committee Meeting
Thursday 9	1:00p	Worship & Music Committee Meeting
Sunday 12		Game Day Fellowship
One Service at 10:30 a		The Sixth Sunday after the Epiphany
	10:30a	Bp. Marray's Visitation
	Hostesses	(L) J. Berry, (C) E. Finta & J. Bond
Monday 13	4:00p	Christine Braswell, Molly Grubb (Bp Reception)
Tuesday 14	7:00p	Irene Recovery Group
Wednesday 15	10:30a	Vestry Meeting
		Pastoral Care Committee Meeting

Friday 17		MOORINGS ARTICLES DUE: MARCH
Saturday 18	8:00a	Men's Breakfast
Sunday 19		The Last Sunday after the Epiphany
	8:00a	W. Seward
	10:30a	(L) C. Bliss (C) G. Robinson & D. Dunford
	Hostesses	Jack Bond, (Needs partner)
Monday 20		Presidents' Day: Office Closed
Tuesday 21		Shrove Tuesday
	2:00p	Christian Formation Committee Meeting
	5:30p	Pancake Supper
Wednesday 22		Ash Wednesday
	12:00p	Imposition of Ashes & Holy Eucharist
	4:00p	ECW Board Meeting
	7:00p	Imposition of Ashes & Holy Eucharist
Sunday 26		The First Sunday in Lent
	8:00a	G. Evans
	10:30a	(L) C. McAdoo, (C) E. Creel & E. Finta
	Hostesses	None signed up
Tuesday 28	7:00p	Evangelism Committee Meeting
Wednesday 29	4:00p	ECW Lenten Retreat

LECTOR & CHALICE SCHEDULE

March 2012

4th	8 a.m.	M. Dales	10:30	(L) K. Bates, (C) J. Bond & E. Creel
11th	8 a.m.	G. Evans	10:30	(L) J. Berry, (C) D. Dunford & E. Finta
18th	8 a.m.	W. Seward	10:30	(L) C. Bliss, (C) G. Robinson & J. Bond
25th	8 a.m.	M. Dales	10:30	(L) C. McAdoo, (C) E. Creel & D. Dunford

PLEASE NOTE: IF YOU ARE UNABLE TO SERVE ON THESE DATES, PLEASE CALL SOMEONE TO FILL-IN FOR YOU AND NOTIFY THE OFFICE (249-0256).

Christopher Grayson	Nancy Inger	Lorraine Weeks
Christopher Day	Fred Mahlstedt	David White
Shirley Traynor	Ross Kingsley	
Linda Knowles	Larry Traynor	



Please remember to fill in a "Prayer Request Form" and leave it in Church Office. Thank you.

SHROVE TUESDAY PANCAKE SUPPER

February 21, 2012

Parish Hall

St. Thomas Episcopal Church
Oriental, NC

First seating 5:30 PM with
Continuous seating every half-
hour

Hosted by the Episcopal Church
Women



Donations
Accepted

2012 PAMLICO COUNTY RELAY FOR LIFE

Hurricane Irene delivered a devastating blow to Pamlico County in August 2011. Members of the Pamlico County Relay For Life Steering Committee were personally and professionally affected by storm damage as well. As a result, the 2012 Relay For Life celebration will be a smaller simpler version of past events. A small group of volunteers have been meeting to decide how best to HONOR and REMEMBER those affected by CANCER. The group meets again February 2 to finalize plans. Stay tuned.

The St. Thomas Relay For Life team

“The Saints Marching In For A Cure”
invite the congregation to their



Fourth Annual Spaghetti Dinner

Saturday – February 11
seatings at 5:00 and 6:30 PM

tickets \$7.50/person – take-out will be available.

See Kathy Bates (617-7761) or Carol McAdoo (745-7762).

Less Cancer - More Birthdays!

GAMES AND THINGS

St. Thomas and The Methodist Church, **Prime Time Program**, is offering a social get-together at 300 High St. in the Recreation Room of the Perry Griffin Apartments the second Thursday of the month. The time is 1:00 - 3:00 pm. We have a variety of topics/games and it is a chance to associate with friends, make some new ones and share an afternoon with light refreshments. It is limited to 12 people so please call Kim, 249-0213 to sign up and also if you need transportation.

Thanks, Ginnie



WAD con't from pg 2 I suggest that the first thing that is needed and what Lent provides is an occasion for intentional allocation of TIME.

I despise making up the bed when I'm in a hurry in the morning. It always lies there calling in its dishevelment waiting to make me later than I am. I just can't give it the time it needs. It takes FOREVER to walk back and forth around the bed for sham and spread and pillows and straight lines and I've got to go. Turns out that it takes less time than standing around waiting for the water to get hot in the shower. Lent gives us that time.

It doesn't take as long as we think. God will honor the time you dedicate to overcoming resistance.

Perhaps it is an act of omission. Something you could have done and didn't. A kindness, a letter, or a call. It's too late, been too long, doesn't matter. Except it still returns to your mind. Let this Lenten time be your time to act. Maybe there is something to, "better late than never."

I believe that part of what makes us "made in God's image" is our willingness to forgive. We in fact long for intimacy, spiritual friendship. Being out of relationship with those who should be in our lives is like being in the shadow lands. We are surviving but it's not fullness of life. This applies whether we are talking human relationships or spiritual ones with our Lord.

Would it not be much better to give the attention and time this Lent offers, to God's healing that goes deep beyond the bandage and scab or scar? Better to ask God's forgiveness or an answer to our "why." Better to go in God's grace and supported by the power of Holy Spirit to find healing of our human disappointments and grievances. I heard someone say just today, "He took the anger to his grave." How sad.

If the hurt is confessed, healed, and given to God, the scab's itch is gone, the scar fades from memory. The resurrection is the promise of our complete healing, earthly and heavenly. Give it the time it needs. Be strengthened by prayer, fasting, and study. Then act.

Don't pick it.Pick what?

God's Peace,
Fr. Jeremiah[†]

Matt. 5:23 Therefore if you bring your gift to the altar, and there remember that your brother has something against you, 24 leave your gift there before the altar, and go your way. First be reconciled to your brother, and then come and offer your gift.



The Christmas Eve service was truly a special event. The choir presented a thirty-minute prelude that highlighted many of our individual talents. Special thanks to Joe Bliss for joining us during the prelude. The congregation was treated to a solo during Communion by Jessica Arraya, whose son was baptized during the service.

The choir welcomed alto, Kay Whitfield, at the end of 2011 and Fonrose Rice joined the sopranos in January.

We are happy to have Dave Wickersham

back with us after major surgery last fall. Our prayers are with Connie Schmidt after her recent surgery. She appears to be on the mend and we are anxious for her return.

We will begin rehearsing music for Holy Week soon. Choir practice continues to be on Thursday evenings at 7:00 p.m.

Peace—
Dee Sage



We have celebrated Christmas and Epiphany and LENT is rapidly approaching! Ash Wednesday is February 22nd!



Janet Adkins and Wendy Seward will prepare God's Altar for worship during February. Beginning on Ash Wednesday we will celebrate Rite I and Fr. Day will again face the Christus Rex.

Seems like time is passing very quickly....We thank all who worked so diligently during Advent! 2012 will be a grand year at St. Thomas!

Altar
Guild

God's peace,
Marian and Mary Beth

RECONCILIATION OF A PENITENT

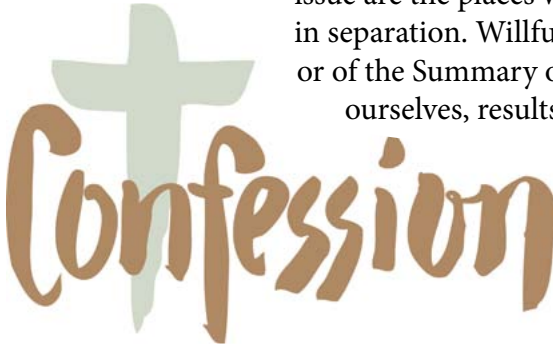
(Private Confession)

As always pertains to confession in the Episcopal Church:

All may,—Some should,—None must.

It is always appropriate that we confess directly to God those things wherein we sin against God and our neighbor. What sins do we confess? First, card playing. Then drinking, dancing, chewing. Of course I jest, unless..... Any of these things may be confessed if they fall into the broader context of things that separate us from the love of and relationship with God, or harm our neighbor or our relations with them.

Then there is the sin of the Garden of Eden when Eve and Adam wanted to be God. At issue are the places where we have brought brokenness or persisted in separation. Willful disobedience of the Ten Commandments or of the Summary of the Law: To love God and our neighbor as ourselves, results in brokenness and separation.



God is in the business of healing and reconciliation. It is God's intent as evidenced by the work of the Cross that we be reconciled with him, with one another, and healed of the spiritual and physical infirmities that are the evidence of our sin.

Though going directly to God as a penitent is the first choice, it is also comforting that the words of absolution and forgiveness sound in our human ears. We are called by Scripture to "confess to one another." When we find we are unable to share our burden with another sister or brother, the Church has provided that the priest may hear confession under a seal of confidentiality.

Fr. Jeremiah will hear confessions in the church on Shrove Tuesday (21 February) to assist you with your preparations for Lent.

12:00 - 1:00 PM—4:30 - 5:00 PM

Booklets are in the back of the church. Please take a booklet and enter quietly.

Sit in the back and take time to prepare yourself. Choose which form you wish to use and come to the front when you are ready.

You may kneel at the confessional or at the rail and the priest will join you.

You may remain in the church after your confession for a time of prayer and thanksgiving for God's grace toward us sinners.

The content of your confession is under the seal of confidentiality and the priests vocation.

SPECIAL DAYS OF OUR LENTEN OBSERVANCE

The day immediately preceding Ash Wednesday, so named from the “shriving”, i.e. confession and absolution, of the faithful on that day. Now observed as the last day of festivals and celebrations before Lent. Often marked by parties such as Mardi Gras. Our Pancake Supper is traditional from the cleaning of the kitchen in preparation for the fasting of Lent.



The first day of Lent. At one time public penitents at Rome were ceremonially admitted to begin their penance on this day; and when this discipline into disuse, between the 8th and 10th centuries, the general penance of the whole congregation took its place. This was symbolized by the imposition of ashes, in token of mourning and penitence, upon the heads of clergy and people, a rite still ordered for Ash Wednesday.

Six and a half weeks of penitential preparation by prayer, discipline, and fasting before Easter. There are 40 week days of the fast. Sundays are not included since all Sundays are feasts of our Lord. The first practice is recorded in the Canons of Nicaea, A.D. 325. The custom may have originated in the prescribed fast of candidates for baptism, and the number forty was evidently suggested by the forty days' fasts of Moses, Elijah, and especially Jesus. In the early centuries the observance of the fast was very strict. Only one meal a day, taken towards evening, was allowed, and flesh-meat and fish, and in most places also eggs were absolutely forbidden. The restrictions have been relaxed such that now only Ash Wednesday and Good Friday in the Roman Catholic church are required. In the Anglican churches the fast is similar combined with personally chosen discipline which includes fasting. Lent is generally observed as a time of penance by abstaining from festivities, by almsgiving, and by devoting more than the usual time to religious exercises. Of recent in the Western Church more emphasis has been placed on these aspects than on physical fasting.

