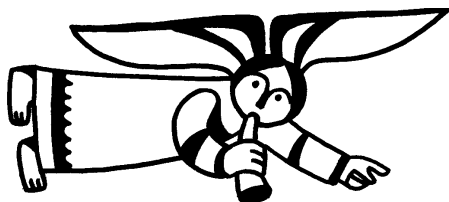


THE ST. MARY Messenger

November - December 2009

Vol. 8 No. 6



Special Events

All Saints Day Services
Sunday, Nov. 1

All Saints Sunday Picnic
Sun., Nov. 1, after 10:30 Service

Thanksgiving Worship
Wednesday, Nov. 25, 10:30am

Parish Christmas Party at Nunez's
Sun., December 13, 6-8pm

Children's Christmas Pageant
Sun., Dec. 20, at 10:30 Service

Christmas Eve Service
Thurs., Dec. 24, 8pm

Christmas Day Service
Friday, Dec. 25, 10am

Regular Meetings

Youth Group
After the 10:30am service
2nd & 4th Sunday of the month

Evening Potluck and Healing Service
2nd Sunday of month 5pm and 6pm

Daughters of the King
Third Monday of the month, 10:30am

Brotherhood of St. Andrew
Third Monday of the month at 7pm

Bible Study/Healing /Lunch Bunch
Every Wed. beginning at 9:30am

Choir Practice
Every Thursday at 7pm

† From Father Tim's desk:

☐ Giving Thanks

I give thanks to my God always for you because of the grace of God that has been given you in Christ Jesus, for in every way you have been enriched in him, in speech and knowledge of every kind— just as the testimony of Christ has been strengthened among you— so that you are not lacking in any spiritual gift as you wait for the revealing of our Lord Jesus Christ. He will also strengthen you to the end, so that you may be blameless on the day of our Lord Jesus Christ. God is faithful; by him you were called into the fellowship of his Son, Jesus Christ our Lord. (1 Cor. 1:4-9)

Paul wrote these famous words to the church at Corinth at the beginning of what we call his first letter to the Corinthians. As that letter unfolds, we realize that Paul is preparing them to hear some very stern but loving lessons on how to live together as the Body of Christ.

Corinth is a town perched on a narrow isthmus that joins the Peloponnesian peninsula to the rest of Greece.

On a smaller scale, it is like the way Panama joins North and South America. It was



(and is) a long and treacherous journey to go around South America, so they dug a canal. Now cargo ships and tourists can quickly sail from the Atlantic to the Pacific or vice versa, saving thousands of miles.

In Paul's time, they saved a long and treacherous sail around the southern tip of Greece by unloading cargo on one side of the isthmus, carrying it overland through Corinth, then loading it on a different ship on the other side. Corinth was a sort of inland seaport and as such was a pretty rough town with people from all over the Mediterranean.

Their church, newly formed by the preaching of the first apostles including Paul himself, was apparently in rough shape. People were already in bitter dispute about the Gospel, how they should worship and

✠ Fr. Tim, *continued on page 2*

Visit St. Mary's Web site at www.stmarysbelleview.org

how Christians should live together. In this first letter he addresses numerous controversies, which lead him to share foundational teachings about spiritual gifts in chapter 12, love in chapter 13, and the resurrection in chapter 15.

We should give thanks for Paul's trials and tribulations because they yielded the treasure of his letters. Yet I find it ironic that I wish to greet you with those very same words. Yes, St. Mary's is filled with people from all over the place, coming with different backgrounds and expectations. But we do not find bitter factions, false doctrines or wrong practices here. We find a Christian community committed to the Lord and excited by his active presence and movement among us.

I believe the Lord established a "sweet, sweet spirit in this place" from the beginning through the faithfulness of our founders. The most important issue in preparing to build our new sanctuary was that we didn't ever want to lose it. That spirit is alive and well among us. Newcomers routinely reference it. It is most evident in the vibrant and growing ministries among us.

If Paul's troubles yielded such good fruit, what will our blessing yield? As good as things are and have been, we cannot rest on our past or simply preserve our present. Our Lord continually calls us to move ahead. I believe it

is God's will for his church to grow. We will always grow in two ways, as individuals and as a community. Established ministries continue - and I highlight some recent developments.

As individuals, we pray and work diligently at helping each member grow in the knowledge and love of Christ. Through teaching, preaching and pastoral ministry I hope that anyone who spends significant time here will experience such growth. This comes into sharp focus in times of illness and crisis, which remind us that the Lord's blessings today are part of his salvation for all time. New ministries in this area include our initial "Growth Group" which is about to launch, and early next year we will establish our first Crown Ministries Bible study group

As a community, we are actively developing new ways to increase our fellowship as we grow in numbers. You are bringing friends and new acquaintances to visit because you are excited about your church. We have a new Greeters committee to welcome them home. TLCC actively shares Christ's healing love with our widows, sick and shut-ins. Our new Order of St. Luke chapter administers healing prayer to those suffering in body, mind and spirit.

There are significant challenges. We're learning to shoulder the responsibilities of our new sanctuary, including the mortgage,

insurance, utilities and maintenance - despite the difficulties and uncertainties of our economy. We suffer all manner of illness, injury and death. We face our challenges secure in the Lord's love and provision for us.

Let me close with Paul's closing to those rowdy Corinthians, even though you are not so rowdy...

But thanks be to God, who gives us the victory through our Lord Jesus Christ. Therefore, my beloved, be steadfast, immovable, always excelling in the work of the Lord, because you know that in the Lord your labor is not in vain. (1 Cor. 15:57-58) The grace of the Lord Jesus be with you. My love be with all of you in Christ Jesus. (1 Cor. 16:23-24)

Fr. Tim+

Thank You!

Meg and I thank you for the gracious outpouring of love and encouragement you gave us on "Pastor Appreciation Sunday" (and for sharing your thanks directly with Meg when she was able to return from her illness.) We deeply appreciate your prayers, kind notes and gifts. Being "PKs" could be difficult, but your care for our children has helped them be faithful, happy and well adjusted. We are blessed to share this joyful time and ministry with you and look forward to helping fulfill Our Lord's will here!

Come and see

St. Mary's parish hall is a busy place the second Sunday of each month. The good part about Sunday late afternoon is that you can pick and choose of what you want to be a part. There is time between each of the activities for people to come and go. Join us for one, two, or all three! Questions? Call Carolyn Quinnell at 288-0240.

At 4:00 p.m. we begin with an ultreya. The word "ultreya" is a Spanish term which roughly translates to "onward and upward." Typically used by people who have attended a cursillo weekend, it can be better described as: an intentional meeting of Christian friends



who desire to encourage each other in their faith walks.

Please note: this is open to anyone who wishes to attend.

5:00: Pot-luck dinner. Good food + good friends = enjoyable time together.

6:00: Healing service with communion and praise music.

If you've been wondering where our singing group, the Beattitudes, have gone, here is your answer. Have something that's weighing on you? This is the place for you. Not able to make the Sunday morning service? This is the place for you. Ever want to know what happens at a healing service, but can't make the Wednesday morning service? This is the place for you.

Reminders:

2010 Annual Meeting

The annual parish meeting of St. Mary's is scheduled for Sunday, January 10, 2010 at 9:15 a.m. This is an important informative event for all members of the church. We will review 2009 and learn of all the exciting things in store for 2010. Three new vestry members will be elected and we will thank the outgoing members.

Let us keep in touch:

Please notify the church office of any additions, deletions or changes to your address, phone number or e-mail address.

Please Note:

There will be no Prayer Shawl Meetings in November or December.

Daylight Savings Time

ends on Sunday, November 1! Set your clocks back one hour the night before.

Celebrate Life!

November Birthdays

- 2 Lou Millson
- 3 Beth Bourassa, Deb Gladney
- 5 Charles Adams
- 6 Zoe Ruotolo, Bob Abbott
- 7 Denton Williams
- 8 Bill Slocum
- 9 Dannielle Sullivan
- 10 Robert Nunez
- 12 Doug MacAlpine
- 14 Mary Jo White
- 16 John Kelsay
- 17 Craig Carpenter
- 19 Eileen Kent
- 21 Arlin Bartholomew, Alberto Comonte
- 22 Al Nisbett, Phyllis Nisbett, TJ Earnest

- 23 ...Ellen DeRibas, Alyssa Sweeting
- 24 Becky Hughes
- 26 Bill Snyder
- 27 Carol Bosh

November Anniversaries

- 3 Steve & Mary Jo White
- 9 Bud and Helen Bushnell
- 17 Boyd & Theresa Brown
- 24 Leila & Lee Gordon
- 29 Dean & Osa Tilman

December Birthdays

- 2 Rebecca Kelsay
- 7 Father Tim's ordination, Mary Drudge, Dean Tilman
- 8 Nikki Moody
- 9 Tana Thurgaland, Eddie James, Kayla Miller

- 10 Madge Johnson
- 11 Kenadi Moody
- 12 Beth Davis, Krystal Williams, Victoria Gordon

- 13 Phil Stegall
- 14 Phyllis Love
- 18 Fred Hartman
- 20 Dalton Goolsby
- 21 Tom & Joan Golden
- 22 Jon Moody
- 24 Lynn Pfeiffer, Jeanette Carter
- 29 Charles Porter, Marilyn Pyne
- 31 Fr. Al Durrance ordination, Roxanna Rodney, Jeffrey Craig

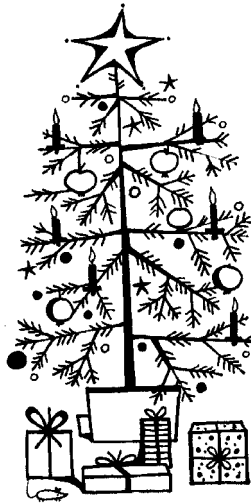
December Anniversaries

- 10 Jim & Phyllis Love
- 16 Ronde & Nicole Baquie

Annual Angel Tree Ministry info

The Christmas Angel program will collect gift cards from various stores (Wal-Mart, K-mart, Publix, Winn Dixie, Sears, etc.) and distribute them locally to needy families with children. Father Tim will distribute the cards the week before Christmas.

During this time of year Father Tim gets lots of requests for



help from area residents and this is a wonderful way for parents to buy gifts for their children and to cook their own Christmas dinner. A collection box will be available during late November and December. Let's all be Christmas Angels and help spread joy during this blessed time of year!

Daughters of the King food collection

The Daughters of the King will again coordinate this special Thanksgiving season ministry. A large collection box will be provided at the back of the church to receive donations of Thanksgiving dinner items for needy

families in the area. We will give all the fixin's for a complete Thanksgiving dinner to 25 local families,



including a gift certificate for a turkey.

The DOK is asking for donations of the following food items. Please give generously to help provide some special holiday cheer for a family in need.

Non-perishable items needed:

- Large package of instant mashed potatoes
- Large package of stuffing mix
- Canned or jarred turkey gravy
- Canned whole or jellied cranberries
- Canned milk (12 oz)
- Coffee
- 2 liter bottles of soda
- Pickles, olives, onions, etc.
- Canned vegetables: green beans, corn or peas

Dear St. Mary's,

Thank you so much for all the cards, calls, visits, concern and prayers during my recent surgery and recovery. It has been overwhelming to receive so much love from all of you. St. Mary's truly is a beacon of Christ's Healing Love in this sometimes harsh world. Thank you again.

*Faithfully,
Leslie Gilbert*

FINANCIAL REPORT END OF SEPTEMBER 2009

	Operating Income	Operating Expenses	Building Fund Income	Building Fund Expenditures
Month to date	16,766	23,696	2,826	4,642
Year to date	169,512	175,895	28,864	41,778

Vestry Highlights

The vestry has hired Advantage Green to care for lawn treatment and fertilizer.

The vestry discussed further Church Life Groups with Howard Ball.

The vestry approved the Crown Ministry Program for St. Mary's.

2010 Vestry election

At the October meeting of the

vestry, the nominating committee (consisting of outgoing vestry members) reviewed their duties. Elections to the 2010 vestry will be held at the parish annual meeting in January. Nominees to the vestry must be at least 18 years of age and an adult confirmed communicant in good standing. If you would like to nominate someone, please speak to that person first to see if they which to serve.

St. Mary's Schedule for November & December

Intergenerational All Saints Sunday School

Slips of paper were available in October for you to write the names of those loved ones you would like to remember at a special All Saints Sunday services the first week in November. On Sunday, October 25th the names were assigned to special crosses and decorated for a poignant presentation concluding on All Saints Sunday!

The second All Saints Sunday Service of Remembrance and Picnic



We will celebrate All Saints Day on Sunday, November 1st with a special service to honor all those saints who

have gone before us. In preparation for that day we will gather the names of all those you would like to remember: dearly departed loved ones, parents, mentors and other Christ bearers in your life.

All Saints Sunday picnic

Following the 10:30 service on November 1st we will top the day off with a Fall picnic complete with food and fun activities! So make plans now to be a part of this special service of remembrance and to attend the picnic. Meat and drinks will be provided for the picnic. Please bring a picnic side dish to share.

Thanksgiving worship

A Thanksgiving service with Holy Eucharist will be celebrated on Wednesday, November 25 at 10:30 a.m. This will replace the regular Wednesday Healing service.

You are cordially invited to a Christmas Chili Party
At the home of
Father Tim and Meg Nunez
and Children

Sunday, December 13th
6:00 – 8:00 pm.

10481 Southeast 68th Court
Bellevue, Florida

Help us decorate our
Christmas Tree
(ornaments provided)
Let's celebrate the
joy of Christmas!

Children's Christmas Pageant

You will have the opportunity to experience our annual Children's Christmas Pageant on Sunday, December 20 at the 10:30 a.m. service. Rehearsal times will be from 9:30 until 10:10 on Sunday, December 6, 13 and 20. Characters will be chosen and costumes arranged accordingly. All children are encouraged to participate!

Christmas Eve service schedule

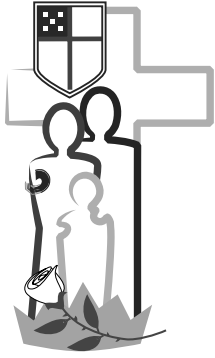
We will celebrate the birth of our Lord Jesus Christ on Christmas Eve in one service at 8 p.m. This unique celebration helps release us from worldly holiday stress and set our hearts on the glory of Christ's birth, the Incarnation and the true meaning of Christmas. The service includes Holy Eucharist, candlelight and full choir. The nursery will be available for the children under the age of four.

Christmas Day worship service

A Christmas Day service with Holy Eucharist will be celebrated on Friday, December 25th at 10:00 a.m.

St. Mary's Episcopal Church
1/2 mile west of Hwy 441 on Babb Rd.
P.O. Box 2373, Belleview, FL 34421-2373
Phone: 352.347.6422 email: church@stmarysbelleview.org

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Or Current Resident

FYI

Regular Worship Times

Sunday

8am Holy Eucharist - Rite I
9:30am Sunday School
10:30am Holy Eucharist - Rite II w/music
(Children's Chapel & Nursery)

Wednesday

9:30am Bible Study
10:30am Eucharist/Healing
12Noon Lunch Bunch

Office Hours

Tues thru Fri 8am-1:30pm
Phone: 352.347.6422
Email: church@stmarysbelleview.org
Website: www.stmarysbelleview.org

Staff

The Rt. Rev. John W. Howe, Bishop
Hugo Pina Lopez, Asst. Bishop
The Very Rev. Timothy C. Nunez, Rector
The Rev. Al Durrance, Retired Assoc.
The Rev. Bill Komstedt, Retired Assoc.
The Rev. Bill Rodgers, Retired Assoc.
Leslie A. Gilbert, Parish Coordinator
Lynn Pfeiffer, Music Directory/Organist
Meg Ruotolo, Church School
Darlene Collings, Youth Group
Bob Quinnell, Treasurer

Vestry

Bob Abbott (senior Warden), Charles
Adams (Junior Warden), Ken Browne,
Trish Bunch, Mary Drudge, Tom Golden,
Michael Hughes, Audrey Johnson and
Ruth Wallace.

Help decorate with poinsettias for Christmas

Every Christmas we decorate the church with this beautiful flower of the season. You can help by purchasing a poinsettia plant. Please return the form below to the church office or drop it in the alms basin.

I would like to provide a poinsettia for Christmas

My Name _____

In Memory of _____

In Thanksgiving for _____

Enclosed is my (circle one): Check Cash for \$8.00 to purchase a Christmas Poinsettia plant.