



Augustine Parish

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February 2015

A Point of Focus

I am the way, the truth, and the life.

I had gotten out of practice, so this morning I took the tennis balls out of the drawer where I keep them. I am by no means an accomplished juggler. I can, however, keep three balls in the air. One of the first things I learned is that you cannot look at an individual ball. If you do, the others go crashing to the ground. The trick is to stare straight ahead, watching all the balls with your peripheral vision. The point of focus is in the middle of the action.

Lots of us are very busy these days, juggling many commitments and activities. It is hard to keep them all in balance. We need a point of focus. Jesus can be that point for us. To focus on the one who gives us life may be a good way of keeping all of life in perspective. Your brothers and sisters in Christ will be gathering in worship on Sunday mornings and Wednesdays each week in Lent. Please join us. That hour in prayer can be the one that keeps the other hours of the week in balance.

I better get back to practice. I lose my concentration too easily. The balls go flying. Juggling is like that. So is life. Are things flying all over the place these days? Maybe you need a focus point to get them back in order.

God's peace,

Pastor Jim Wolford

PS: If I haven't had the chance to visit with you and get acquainted, please let me know that you would like to do that, and we can arrange a time to get together.

Senior Warden Report

Augustine Parish held its 2014 Annual Meeting on Sunday, January 18, 2015, in Good Shepherd Church. The 2015 budget for our parish was presented by Richard Bogan and approved by the congregation. Vestry nominations were Jack Horner, January Vaughan, and Ramona Eller. They were elected by the congregation. Thanks to Richard Bogan, Robin Spurdle, and Jennifer Cusato for completing their vestry terms. Delegates elected for the 2015 Diocese of Easton Convention were Jennifer Cusato and Carole Tinklepaugh. Alternates elected were Derrick Lowe and Ramona Eller. The Convention will be held in Cambridge at the Hyatt on Friday and Saturday, February 27 and 28. Please keep the Convention and your representatives in your prayers during this time as they come together to plan for our Diocese in the coming year.

Last year was a time of change for our Parish and Diocese.

The Rev. Charlotte Moore had hip replacement surgery on March 4th. During her recovery she decided that it was time for her to step down. She officially resigned from the Parish on March 31. A farewell party was held for Charlotte on April 29 in Good Shepherd hall with both Bishop Shand and The Rev. Cannon Cook attending.

Thank God for The Rev. Bob Smith for being our supply priest from March 5 through June 1. Rev. Bob covered Ash Wednesday and Easter week services, and we had a Baptism on Easter Day in addition to regular Sunday morning services.

The Revs. David and Connie Robinson filled in most of June with The Rev. Carl Beasley filling in one Sunday for our Parish. The Rev. Jack Little officiated at a wedding in April. The Rev. Jack officiated at a graveside service on Friday, May 16, and a memorial service on Saturday, May 17, for Gary Horner, Jack and Bunny Horner's son.

I don't know if any of you have had to find supply priests for a parish, but let me tell you it does not usually go that smoothly. I can only say that God's hand was on our need. And He continued to guide us as we interviewed The Rev. Jim Wolford. Rev. Jim conducted the Eucharist on May 11 and met the parish.

In June the Vestry voted to call Pastor Jim to be Augustine Parish part-time priest, and Pastor Jim accepted our offer.

On July 1, Pastor Jim Wolford became our Priest. And I have been thanking the Lord ever since.

In July at a Special Convention, the 2014 delegates elected Bishop Henry Nutt Parsley to be the Provisional Bishop of the Diocese of Easton.

There is a detailed year-end report available in the back of the church, or you can contact me at 302-834-3074 if you would like this report. If there is anything you wish to discuss with me or any of the vestry we are always available.

The vestry meetings are open to any one that wishes to attend.

The next vestry meeting will be Monday, February 23, at 7:00 pm in Good Shepherd hall.

The Shrove Tuesday Pancake Supper in memory of Father Edwin Pippin will be held in St. Rose of Lima's parish hall on February 17, from 5:00-7:00 pm. Volunteers will be needed to help with serving, cooking, set-up, and clean-up. Contact Nancy Bogan or Ramona Eller to offer your help.

Ash Wednesday service will be in Good Shepherd Church at 7:00 pm on February 18.

St. Monica's Guild will meet on Wednesday, February 11, at noon in Nino's in Elkton, MD.

Thanks to everyone that helped with this transition this past year and for all you do for our parish.

The Lord has blessed us with a great group of people here in Augustine Parish.

See you in Church!

Love & Peace,

Ramona

2015 Lenten Service Schedule

<i>Date</i>	<i>Time</i>	<i>Location</i>	<i>Speaker</i>
Wednesday February 18	6:30 pm 7:30 pm	Ebenezer AME Church Route 310, Woodstock Farm Lane Rev. Cynthia Laurie Soup & Bread Lenten Service	Rev. Cynthia Laurie Ebenezer AME
Wednesday February 25	6:30 pm 7:30 pm	United Methodist Church (Trinity) 3rd and Bohemia Street Rev. Mark Avens Soup & Bread Lenten Service	Rev. Dana Ashton Bethel AME Church
Wednesday March 4	6:30 pm 7:30 pm	St. Rose of Lima Catholic Church 301 Lock Street Rev. David Kelley Soup & Bread Lenten Service	Rev. Volodymyr Klanichka St. Basil Ukrainian Catholic Church
Wednesday March 11	6:30 pm 7:30 pm	1st Presbyterian Church 351 Biddle Street Pastor Richard Watters Soup & Bread Lenten Service	Rev. Mark Avens United Methodist Charge
Wednesday March 18	6:30 pm 7:30 pm	Bethel AME Church 201 Second Street Rev. Dana Ashton Soup & Sandwich @ Trinity Church Lenten Service	Pastor Richard Watters 1st Presbyterian Church
Wednesday March 25	6:30 pm 7:30 pm	St. Basil Ukrainian Catholic 231 Basil Avenue Rev. Volodymyr Klanichka Soup & Bread Lenten Service	Deacon Tim Enright St. Joseph Parish
Good Friday Service April 3	12:00 noon	St. Augustine Episcopal Church Route 310 & Mitton Road	Rev. James Wolford St. Augustine Parish
Easter Sunday April 5	Sunrise 6:30 am	Pell Gardens Chesapeake City	Rev. Marion Nester Retired
Easter Sunday April 5	Sunrise 6:30 am	Town Point United Methodist Church 61 Port Herman Rd.	Rev. Jack Shitama Director Camp & Retreat Ministries United Methodist Church



BITS FROM THE BASKET

CCEA FOOD PANTRY NEWS

Is winter over yet? This is a question many of us have been asking. Believe it or not, Lent is almost here, with Shrove Tuesday on February 17 and Ash Wednesday on the 18. Where has the time gone!

Since our last newsletter, the Food Pantry has had an exciting two months. We had a wonderful response to our turkey drive with enough turkeys collected for Thanksgiving and sufficient funds to purchase hams and turkeys for Christmas. Then, we hit a giant snag. The demand was so great during December, culminating in the week of December 16, 2014, that we depleted the stock in the Food Pantry! We had to put a sign on the door on December 17 that the supplies were depleted and requested that people come back the following week. We had 31 patrons in the week of the 16. That is more than our average monthly patronage.

We put out a request to all the churches, organizations, and citizens of Chesapeake City for food. By the following week over 1100 pounds of food and hundreds of dollars had been collected to enable the purchase of more. The response was truly humbling.

The Food Pantry distributes approximately 40 lbs of food to each patron each visit. We maintain an average of 800 lbs of food in the Pantry. When 31 people come for food, it means we have distributed approximately 1200 lbs of food that week.

The need is continuing, and the numbers of those requesting food assistance grows each month. Please continue to donate to the stocks of the Food Pantry. We never know how many may come to us for help. It could be 2 people one week and 30 people the next week. Canned meats, hot and cold cereals, snacks, canned vegetables, Ramen Noodles, and any other shelf stable item is welcomed. One can added to your grocery list can help.

In January, 2015, illness and injuries took its toll on the Food Pantry volunteers. We closed on January 6, for snow and had to close again on January 7, because no volunteers were available to staff the Pantry. If you have a few hours to give, the Pantry can use your help. Help is also needed for the delivery day of federal "THE EMERGENCY FOOD ASSISTANCE PROGRAM (TEFAP)". Case lots of food are delivered to the HELP Center in Elkton and need to be picked up by CCEA/Food Pantry volunteers. We particularly need some strong men to help with loading and unloading the cases. This delivery is generally the 3rd Thursday, after the 1st Monday of the month, although it is subject to change.

As winter progresses, our schedule will continue to be: open on Tuesdays and Wednesdays, 9:00 am—12:00 noon. We will be closed for inclement weather if the schools are closed.

In this coming Lenten season, remember what was given for you. Honor that gift by following the path that was laid for you.

Proverbs 22:9 - He who is generous will be blessed, for he gives some of his food to the poor.

Thank you for your continuing generosity.

Blessings.....Diane Newton, Food Pantry Manager



Ash Wednesday Worship

February 18, 7:00 pm

Join your brothers and sisters of Augustine Parish as we begin our Lenten journey. It begins with a solemn call to fasting and repentance as we begin our journey to the baptismal waters of Easter. As we hear in the Ash Wednesday readings, now is the acceptable time to return to the Lord. During Lent the people of God will reflect on the meaning of their baptism into Christ's death and resurrection. The sign of ashes suggests our human mortality and frailty. What seems like an ending is really an invitation to make each day a new beginning, in which we are washed in God's mercy and forgiveness. With the cross on our brow, we long for the spiritual renewal that flows from the springtime Easter feast to come.

Date	Lector	Ushers	Acolyte	Lem
February 8	Ron Cullis	Ron & Liz Cullis	Sydney Spence	Jennifer Cusato
February 15	Jean Major	January, Jacob & Brody Vaughan	Webster Lowe	Derrick Lowe
Ash Wednesday February 18 7:00 pm	Rob Spurdle	Rob & Robin Spurdle	Mariela Spurdle	Richard Bogan
February 22	Ron Cullis	Ron & Liz Cullis	Sydney Spence	Jennifer Cusato

March Newsletter

Please submit all articles and information for the March newsletter by Monday, February 23. Contributions from parishioners are welcome.



Updating our directory....

We are updating our directory. Please send us your email address if you have not been receiving our newsletters.



HAVE A PRAYERFUL LENT

