

# Koinonia

(Coin-a-knee-ya: Fellowship, Community)

Episcopal Diocese of West Virginia

July / August 2003

Volume 1, Issue 1

## News Around the Diocese

### Change is in the air...

#### New Look for Chapel and Newsletter

Welcome to the first issue of *Koinonia*, our Diocesan newsletter. We will use this tool to keep you informed of upcoming events sponsored by our Diocese, as well as other information we feel may be of interest to you.

*Koinonia* will be published six times a year. This is your newsletter, and you are invited to submit information for future issues.

Our newsletter isn't the only thing that has a new look and a new name. Recently there was some remodeling done at Diocesan House. With Diocesan Council consent, the Chapel has been renamed *Chapel of the Resurrection*. It now seats about 20 people, and is open weekdays for Morning Prayer, with Eucharist on Wednesday mornings. The next time you're in Charleston, stop by and see our *Chapel of the Resurrection*.



**Bishop Mike in the remodeled Diocesan House *Chapel of the Resurrection***

#### Inserts with this Issue

- ? Diocesan Calendar
- ? Diocesan Email Directory
- ? Disciples.net Letter
- ? Domestic Violence Flyer
- ? Family Life Task Force Letter
- ? United Theological Seminary Info  
(for Clergy only)

# Newsmakers and Events

**The Rev. Dorothy Brown** of St. Thomas a Becket has been elected rector of St. Matthias Church in Toccoa, Georgia. Her new address will be: 115 Woodlawn Drive, Toccoa, GA 30577. We pray for God's blessing upon her new ministry.

**The Rev. Ed Tracey** has been elected rector of St. John's Congaree in Hopkins, South Carolina. Effective July 1, his address will be: 1100 Elm Savannah Road, Hopkins, SC. We pray for God's blessing for Ed and Sandy.

**The Rev. Frank Brookhart** has been elected Bishop of Montana. The Consecration has been scheduled for Helena, Montana, on September 27. More information will be available soon. Those wishing to contribute for a new cope and mitre for Frank are encouraged to send checks to Diocesan House, earmarked "Brookhart Gft."

**The Rev. Gary Hawkins**, rector of Christ Church in Fairmont, has announced his resignation, effective the end of July. He is presently exploring Interim Ministries. Please keep Gary in your prayers.

St. Matthew's Church in Charleston has just called **The Rev. William Thomas** to be their new rector. Father Thomas comes to our Diocese, having served in Tuscaloosa, Alabama. He will begin his new assignment in early September. Please keep Bill, Edna and their family in your prayers.

Because of Father Brookhart's election in Montana, there was a vacancy in the Standing Committee. Diocesan Canons state that in the event of a vacancy, the remaining members of the Standing Committee are to elect someone to fill the vacancy, until the following Diocesan Convention. The Standing Committee has elected **The Rev. Jim Conyers**, rector of St. James' Church in Lewisburg, to fill the term. We welcome Father Conyers to the Standing Committee!

It was Standing Room Only on Saturday, June 7, at St. Thomas A Becket in Morgantown, for the ordinations of **Eric Miller, Elizabeth Hoster, Marie Mulford** and **Laureen Moyer** to the Sacred Order of Priesthood. Eric will be serving at St. John's, Huntington; Elizabeth will be at St. John's, Charleston; Marie will be assisting in the River Bend Cluster; and Laurie will be assisting in the Nelson Cluster. God bless each of you in your ministries.

A big **THANK YOU** goes to **Fran Rollins** of St. Matthew's in Charleston. Fran stepped in over the past few months to help arrange Convention, and to make sure everything went smoothly. Her efforts are much appreciated. We also thank the **Rev. Deborah Rankin** and all the members of St. Paul's in Weston for hosting our Convention. People around the Diocese have given thanks and praise for their good work.



Hold the date! The Diocesan Council has agreed to set the date of December 5, 2003, for **The Bishop's Ball**. This will be a diocesan-wide dinner dance held at the Days Inn in Flatwoods. Tom Miller has agreed to coordinate the event, with help from many others in the Diocese. Tickets will be on sale in the near future, and more information will be available soon.

## March and June Council Highlights

- ? **Supply Clergy Compensation:** Supply Clergy will receive \$100 per service, plus travel; \$125 for two services. If a clergy person travels over 100 miles one way, or in adverse weather conditions, the congregation will provide overnight accommodations and meals.
- ? **\$9500 was granted in Mini Grants:** Programs approved for Diocesan Mini Grants include aid for children at risk, upcoming mission trips, and assisted living programs.
- ? **Review of 15 second Media Clips:** These clips promote the Episcopal Church, and if passed at General Convention, will air nationally.
- ? **Trustees Authorized to Acquire Bridge Loan:** The loan is not to exceed \$100,000, and will be used to cover any shortfall in acquired pledges, and monies not yet received, for payment of completed construction of the new cabins at Peterkin.
- ? **Dedication of Cabins at Peterkin:** Each summer camp will dedicate the cabins at the beginning of camp, but the more formal dedication will take place on Saturday, September 6, immediately following the adjournment of Diocesan Council. Everyone is invited to the dedication ceremony.

### *Catechesis of the Good Shepherd*

**For Parents, Catechists, and friends of Children**

**July 29 through August 2, 2003  
St. James in Lewisburg**

**Tuition for 10 Sessions: \$450  
Group Rates & Scholarships Available**

**For more information, contact Emma  
Humrickhouse, 304-645-4474**

## Aid for Altar Guilds

Hollie Mitchell, a member of St. James in Charleston, is starting a wonderful project to help our churches. She requests that the altar guilds of each church submit to her a list of their excess items. She will compile a master list of these items, and they will be used to aid churches that have been hit by flooding or other problems, as well as to help new churches. She does **not** want the actual items to be sent to her at this time. Churches will be called to donate the items when the need arises. Hollie can be reached by mail at 5119 Brookside Drive, Cross Lanes, WV 25313; by phone at 304-776-8315; and by email at [wmitch8315@aol.com](mailto:wmitch8315@aol.com). Your support of this worthwhile endeavor is appreciated.

## Bishop's Brew



Now you can indulge your craving for *java* and help others at the same time! In June 2003 the Episcopal Relief and Development Fund launched ***Bishop's Blend***, a premium line of certified Fair Trade, dark roasted coffee from Central America and Indonesia. Through the sale of ***Bishop's Blend***, they will be able to further their mission of responding to the needs of the poor, hungry, homeless, and sick worldwide. The product line includes three blends:

***Bishop's Blend Regular***, ***Bishop's Blend Decaf***, and ***Bishop's Cinnamon Spice***.

Individuals, dioceses, parishes, and other organizations can order Bishop's Blend on a regular basis or purchase the coffee at wholesale prices for church fundraisers. To learn more about ordering, visit [www.er-d.org](http://www.er-d.org) or call 877-469-1431. Shipping is free on your first order.

## Money, Honey

Please help us make sure your checks are deposited in the appropriate accounts by noting on each check the exact purpose of the check (apportionment, insurance, EAF loan, youth event, etc.). Thank you!

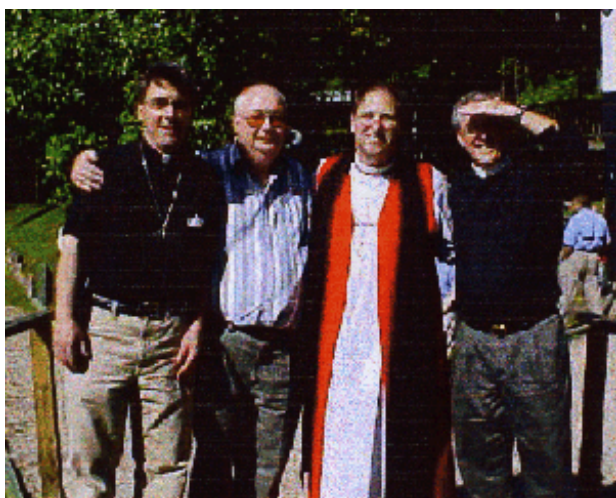
## Blessing of the Boats

### New River Episcopal Ministries Hosts First Boat Blessing

Boats large and small — pleasure crafts, commercial, and children's toys — were blessed by Bishop Mike at the first 'Blessing of the Boats' on the New River. The Bishop, members of the New River Episcopal Ministries' five churches, *Paddles & Parachutes* Outreach Program workers, boat owners and guests gathered on May 11 for the event at Hawks Nest State Park near Ansted.

Boat blessings are held annually in fishing communities in various parts of the world. The Rev. Roy Gene Crist, Missioner of the New River Episcopal Ministries, hopes it will become an annual event here too. "We just need to convince more of the commercial whitewater rafting company owners of the importance of having blessed boats in their fleets," said Father Crist.

Bishop Mike, Marsha, and the other guests had a wonderful time, and they look forward to next year's event.



The Rev. Stan Holmes, Wayne Campbell, Bishop Mike Klusmeyer and The Rev. Roy Gene Crist, face the sun and the camera at the first *Blessing of the Boats*. (Photo by Melanie Dragan)

Mason Daniel and his sister Madison proudly display their boats that were blessed by Bishop Mike. (Photo by Steve Keenan)

