

# ST. STEPHEN'S WITNESS

ST. STEPHEN'S ANGLICAN CHURCH

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## *In this issue:*

Jeffrey's Journal;  
*Page 2*

Heathsville Farmers Market  
Kairos  
*Page 3*

Senior Warden Report;  
Todd Lewis' Book  
*Page 4*

Women's Ministry News  
*Page 5*

Statements of Thankfulness  
*Page 6*

How Will It Work at  
Our New Church?

Floor Plan of New Space

In the Lord's Service  
*Page 7*



## Holy Week Schedule

*Palm Sunday Breakfast 8:00 (sign up), Joint gathering and Palm Liturgy with FBC 9:00*

*Passion Eucharist at 10:00,  
Coffee Hour following.*

*Maundy Thursday Worship at 2:00 PM in  
Brinkley Hall (Note change in time)*

*Good Friday Worship at 7:00 PM  
in Brinkley Hall*

*Easter Worship at 10:00, special  
Coffee Hour to follow*

*Good Friday First Baptist Church is having a "7 Last Words" service at noon in their sanctuary, with 7 different preachers, including Jeffrey. They will have a fish supper after. We are invited. So that is an option in addition to our 7PM Good Friday worship.*



## *Jeffrey's Journal*

We are right in the midst of our move away from our historic church property to our new temporary home at First Baptist Church, 3585 Courthouse Rd., Heathsville. It is a very busy time, as we start up the new Thrift Shop, pack and move the offices, parish hall, rectory and church, and prepare for Holy Week and Easter, our busiest liturgical week of the year. Whew!

I thought it might be helpful if I summarized our plans and the current status.

The Near Term: During the week of March 25, we will be moving into our space at First Baptist Church ("FBC"). Our worship space will be in the large fellowship hall, known as O.A.. Brinkley Hall, which can seat about 400 people. It also has the kitchen at the back end, which is ours to use. Brinkley Hall will be ours to use on Sunday, and whenever we schedule some special event in coordination with our hosts at FBC. Our altar, pulpit, choir and organ will be on the stage. We will set up the auditorium with 150 chairs, with aisles down the middle and up both sides. The downstairs space which we are leasing for our offices, classrooms, choir room, meeting and storage space, is also surprisingly large and comfortable. The term of our agreement is for two years, which will give us time to pursue our long-term solutions.

On our first Sunday at FBC, we are invited to breakfast at 8:00 AM (\$5.00 charge), and our two congregations will meet together in Brinkley Hall at 9:00 for a welcome and words from their pastor, Dr. John Fontaine and me. We will also pray and observe the blessing of the palms and the palm liturgy. Following that, we will divide into our separate congregations, and we will have our traditional Palm Sunday Passion Eucharist. The Passion Gospel will be read by the members of our White Stone home group. Coffee hour will follow.

This process began in March 2011, and the vestry carefully evaluated the various possible options brought forth by our "Contingency Planning" Committee. We considered kind offers from four other congregations as well as other possible options. I hope you are as excited as I am about the possibilities this gives us for working together with the people of FBC for the glory of God. God has been preparing this partnership for 9 years, since the 2003 "Save the Community Crusade," when a number of our members sang in the mass choir.

The Long Term: A year ago, the Contingency Planning Committee began to consider possibilities for land purchase. The vestry had determined and announced that our plan for the long term would be to buy land within a couple miles of Heathsville in either direction, with the expectation of building a church. Of course, until the final court order, we were not able to act on any of those possibilities. In January 2012, when the court decision came out, we began to negotiate with potential sellers. Several good options fell through, including the one on which we made a counteroffer earlier this month. We had also looked at church properties for sale, but declined to go further with them, because they did not meet our location criteria. We now are searching out new possibilities, and have some interesting leads on property near Heathsville. Once we have purchased the land, we will be ready to move quickly. Our fundraising committee is already established, under Ward Le Hardy's leadership, and Harrison Williams has agreed to be our construction supervisor, to work with architects and contractor.

I am aware that this is all unsettling to many of you. We tend to be a bit emotionally charged at transitional times such as these. I hope you can rest in your trust of God. He challenges us because He loves us and has marvelous plans for us that far exceed the plans we make for ourselves. Please pray for your elected leaders, that we may discern God's purposes for us and make decisions that glorify Him. Our unity and our mutual love are important as we face these challenges. I am very thankful to God for what He is doing, and the new directions in which He is taking us.

Yours in Christ,  
Jeffrey O. Cerar



## *Heathsville Farmers Market*

St. Stephens Anglican Church has reserved a table at the Heathsville Farmers Market for Saturday, May 19th and Saturday, June 16th. This a joint effort between our "China Crafts," which Dixie Goertemiller and Constance McDearmon work mightily to support AND our "Church Cookbook," which the Women of St. Stephen's are selling.

You've all probably seen the beautiful "China Crafts" at church and our festivals. But did you know how important this ministry is? These unique bags are hand-embroidered by the women of the Miao people, with whom our missionaries work in China. The embroidery provides income for the women, which often makes the difference in whether they can pay school fees and medical expenses. Then the embroidered pieces are brought to a missionary's home, where a few sewing machines are set up. An additional group of women are paid a good income, in good working conditions, to sew the bags . As an aside, this business also allows our missionaries go about their ministry of spreading the Gospel to this unreached people group.

Also in our booth at the Farmers' Market will be our church cookbooks. The Women of SSA will now be presenting our cookbooks in a different way. (Corinne Anthony has shown us a clever idea to sell the cookbooks as a gift package with handmade oyster tea-lights – a little more on that coming soon.) But if you are willing to help with making the oyster tea-lights, please contact Marie Carstensen or Corinne Anthony for more information.

Last, but not least, we have in mind to use this

opportunity to provide updated information to the community about St. Stephen's Anglican Church's recent move, including our new location, hours of worship services, related church activities, and all about our new Thrift Shop in Lottsburg. Since we are not having our annual Strawberry Festival this year, this will be a good way to continue to make our presence known in the community

Submitted by Marie Carstenson



The Kairos spring week begins April 18 at Buckingham Correctional Center!

The Kairos cookie kits will appear soon! We will need many dozens of cookies delivered to our new church home or a team member on or before Sunday, April 15!

**John Powers, Walt TeStrake, Mary Swann and Suzy Norman** will be a part of this Kairos team so we are in need of 400 dozen cookies! We need your help! Many thanks to the youth and adults who have already baked over 40 dozen cookies! Praise God!



## SENIOR WARDEN REPORT



It is Sunday afternoon following one of Jeff's best-ever sermons in advance of the NPR interview. Jeff delivered the story of Jesus feeding 5,000 with 5 loaves and 2

fish, a story that God wanted our congregation to hear. God wants us to know He is charge. He will provide what we need to carry forth His Good News and keep St. Stephen's Anglican Church on track. Thank you, Lord, for providing Jeff the words for his powerful sermon.

We are reaching the end of our stay in the Heathsville church building, and getting ready to continue the wonderful work we are doing for God in the new building He has arranged for us. Our mission, "To know Christ and to make Him known to others" will continue unabated from Brinkley Hall. The great memories, love and feelings we have experienced in our current building will go with us as we move down Courthouse Road. Those memories will always be fresh in our minds and hearts because the church people who helped each other form those fond memories are all moving together.

The First Baptist folks are working hard to have Brinkley Hall ready for us soon. The costs of building repairs in time, talent, hard work and treasury are coming from their pockets. A huge thanks to our new hosts! As I said recently in a newspaper report, "When you invite 143 people to worship in your property, you need a lot of love; the Baptists are showing that love."

Many of our folks have spent lots of labor hours getting our new thrift shop ready for the grand opening. Under the leadership of the Church Women and Linda Krisman, thrift shop manager, the big blue building has been transformed into the best thrift shop in Virginia.

We are most grateful to those who are applying their talents to design and make items we need in our services. As these beautiful items are placed in service we will express our appreciation to our generous artisans.

Corinne Anthony's "What's in your Attic" email is generating many items we can use in the offices and meeting rooms without buying new furniture, thus saving our money for other missions and needs.

The Vestry recently attended a workshop on stewardship hosted by Bishop Guernsey. Our Bishop is a nationally renowned teacher on church stewardship and he certainly presented a great workshop. The Vestry members are in agreement that we must practice good stewardship always, but especially so during this transitional period.

An early "Happy Easter" to you and may we find a little red purse with 57 cents in it to help us finish our transitional trek.

In Christ,  
George



**Todd Lewis's** new book "The Revelation Mandate: The Foundations of the Priesthood of Every Believer" is now available. The book explains the covenant meaning of Revelation so that we might see clearly the design of God's redeeming, reconciling purpose. The book was also written so that we might be informed and strongly encouraged with regard to the whole scope of the work of our priestly calling and, in particular, the importance of prayer in advancing God's kingdom. The book is available at Amazon, Barnes and Noble, Kindle, and a host of other e-book providers, but you can also get your signed copy directly from your hometown author.



## Women of St. Stephen's

Easter Greetings, Dear Ladies,

May we go forth rejoicing as we celebrate the resurrection of our Lord Jesus Christ! The Lord has brought us to a new place and given us a new beginning and we have so much for which to be thankful!

God has especially blessed us as the women of St. Stephen's Anglican Church as we spent the month of March dedicated to moving the Thrift Shop to Lottsburg. We cancelled our monthly meeting and instead enlisted many of you as volunteers to accomplish this task along with your husbands and other men in the congregation. The response was overwhelming and what has been accomplished is truly phenomenal. All have graciously given of their time and talent in getting the blue building ready for a grand opening in April. Seeing so many of you working together in harmony cleaning, removing trash and debris, making trips to the dump, scrubbing floors, power washing the outside of the building, doing some painting and countless other tasks has indeed been a joy, and our brand new Thrift Shop is up and ready for business. Once the decision was made to continue operating our shop in a new location, the Lord has opened so many doors that everything moved along much faster than anticipated.

We have a Christian landlord, David Paul, who has been easy to work with and is only charging us \$500.00 a month for rent plus the same utilities and expenses we have always paid at the old shop. His daughter and her friend even worked to help at the old Thrift Shop a couple of weeks ago, and they plan to return to offer their assistance at the new shop during the first week of April. The whole family attended St. Stephen's recently, and I believe many of you had the opportunity to meet them. Perhaps we will become their church family when they are staying in their Northern Neck home away from home in Leesburg.

We owe an enormous debt of gratitude to Linda Krisman who has been the driving force in keeping us on task with everything that needed to be accomplished. Her husband, Mike, has also been a steady worker and saved us the expense of hiring an electrician to handle the lighting needs in the blue building. Linda has devoted countless hours including her days off to support this effort, and she deserves a huge round of applause. Leslie, too, has wholeheartedly kept things moving along and we thank both of these ladies for their loyalty and devotion.

Our next women's event was to be a tea on Saturday, April 28, but it seems premature to plan such an occasion since we are not familiar with our new set-up at First Baptist Church and the workings of their facilities. Therefore, we will keep the date for that Saturday and plan to have a regular women's meeting, continuing our study on prayer followed by lunch. We will send more details of place and time after Easter. I hope that having a Saturday meeting will bring out some of our working women to join us in fellowship. As far as rescheduling a special event as the tea, the leadership team will meet in April and plan for the months ahead. If you have ideas or suggestions, please do not hesitate to send them our way.

So we do have much to be thankful for, ladies! At this lovely time of the year, it is easy to see God's presence in our world as nature comes alive with new growth and beauty, and may we see His presence come alive in each of us as we celebrate Easter in our new setting. May His presence shine in your life and live in your heart each and every day of this new beginning!

Blessings and love,  
Donna



## *Statements of Thankfulness From the Tuesday Morning Prayer Breakfast And the Tuesday Evening Bible Study*

I praise God for my brothers and sisters in Christ.

I am thankful for our congregation!

I am thankful for Bible study and time for fellowship in the Lord.

I am thankful for the Tuesday morning prayer breakfast and Bible lesson. *Bill Henson*

I am thankful for the congregation of St. Stephen's Anglican Church. I am sure God has great things in store for us. *Shirley Smith.*

I am thankful for neighbors who lend things, flowers on my window sill, cats on my bed, pretty much everything I do and is done at St. Stephen's, fingers to type, ideas to do things, and late-night hours in which to do them (some of them). And I am thankful for my home and family. And my mother. And my faith. I thank God for all the good gifts He has given me including zeal for His house. And I am thankful for the people with whom I study the Bible and worship and pray and teach. *Margaret Radcliffe*

I am thankful God loves and cares about each and every one of His children and answers prayers all day long, every day. I am thankful He created our beautiful world, even though our human sinfulness has damaged and corrupted it. It's still beautiful. I am thankful unbelieving souls search for Him, find Him, and turn to Him. It's not too late.! I am thankful He is coming back and look forward to that day.

### My Thankfulness Statement Susan Brooks Thomas

Perhaps it is the free-flowing worship focused on the Living God  
and the gift of His table, in Spirit and in Truth;

Or maybe it's the awesome privilege to stand shoulder-to-shoulder  
at the foot of the Cross with those I will walk with through eternity.

Perhaps it's the tender smiles, honest generosity and steadfast compassion  
nurtured by my brothers and sisters in Christ;

Or maybe it's the willingness of many to still stand "in harm's way" for the least,  
and a day to honor our Veteran warriors;

Perhaps it's the really good hugs, oceans of sliced strawberries, wealth of Bible Studies and  
luncheons disguised as Sunday coffee hours.

Or maybe it is spontaneous laughter, campfire songs, Valentines,  
hot chocolate and lessons shared with the Youth of all ages.

Perhaps it is the selfless, gentle strength and love between Lynne and Jeff  
that bathes us all in wisdom, healing and forgiveness;

Or maybe it is hayrides at Thanksgiving, lambs at Easter, Kids on Monday  
and Communion on Thursday.

Oh yes, it is truly all these quiet perspectives and thousands more memories of my St. Stephen's  
Anglican Church family that I will cherish forever and am deeply thankful for.

And it is the living Christ; the Risen Lord Jesus Who fills my horizon and causes me to bow in awe  
and gratitude for all of my tomorrows.

Thank you, ABBA.

# *How Will It Work in Our New Church Home?*

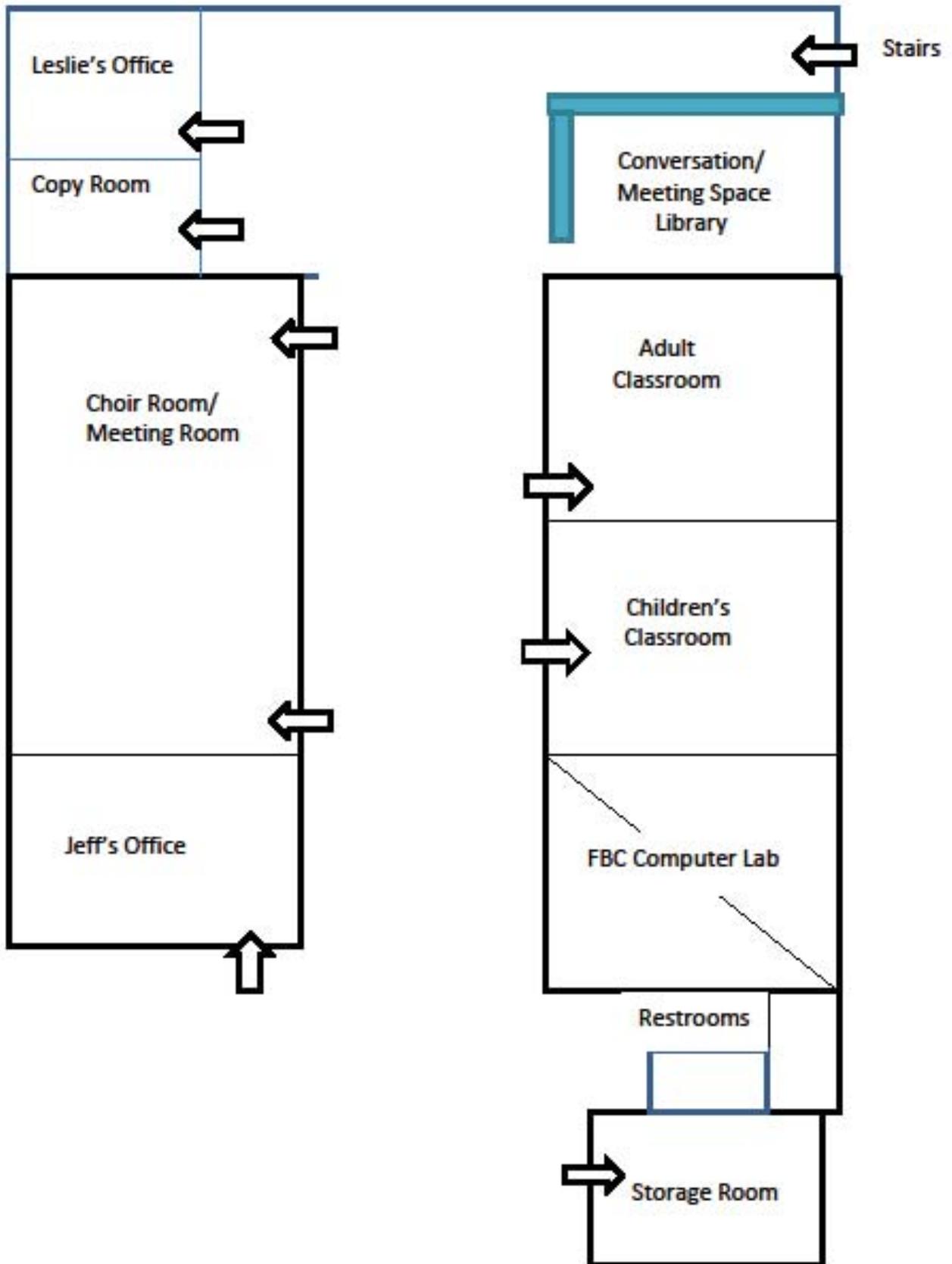
## **Sundays**

Bible Study will be in Brinkley Hall at 9:00, and worship will be at 10:00, also in Brinkley Hall.

- The **choir** will warm up in the choir room downstairs.
- The **lay reader** will come to the lectern to read. The person doing **prayers of the people** will stand in place at his or her seat to lead the prayers
- **Communion** will be received standing at the head of the center aisle. The celebrant will distribute the bread, and we will have two people to serve the chalices. After receiving the bread, you will turn to the Eucharistic Minister on your side of the aisle for the wine, and return to your row down the outside aisle.
- **Home Communion** Sets will be given to the home Eucharistic Ministers just before the Post-Communion prayer.
- **Sunday School** will take place at the same time as always. The children's classroom is downstairs beneath Brinkley Hall.
- The **nursery** is also downstairs under the main sanctuary at FBC. Our nursery attendant, Ashley Lee, will share the nursery space with FBC when they have children in the nursery.
- **Coffee hour** will be after worship as always, in the rear of Brinkley hall where the serving area is.
- Our center area of 150 seats (more on Easter Sunday) will remain set up unless the hall is being used during the week by FBC or us for an event.
- **Sound** will be handled by our members who are trained to use the FBC equipment.
- There are **restrooms** at the rear of the Hall, near the serving area and kitchen.
- We will have a **parking lot** at the outside entrance to Brinkley hall, just off Knights Run Rd.
- **Handicap access** will be available through the church entrance off the main FBC parking lot, which is on the same level as Brinkley Hall.

## **Downstairs space**

- Please see the diagram on the next page.
- The adult classroom and children's classroom will be set up with tables and chairs.
- The Choir Room will double as a meeting room when we need a large space.
- The large vestibule will be partitioned to provide a comfortable space for library, informal meeting or relaxation. It will be set up with sofas and easy chairs.
- The youth group will use this large space as well for meeting and recreation. If they need tables for their activity, they will use the adult classroom.
- It will require some tutoring to locate the **handicap access** to our downstairs area. The vestry or rector will be happy to show you the way.
- There are restrooms downstairs in the space we are leasing.



Layout of Downstairs leased Space at FBC

## IN THE LORD'S SERVICE

### Ushers

April 1	Margaret Radcliffe, Howard York
April 8	Elaine Price, Tony Blackstone
April 15	Charlaine and Bill Andrulot
April 22	Sandra and Ben Ward
April 29	Constance McDearmon and Doug Smoot
May 6	Bobby Edmonds, Steve Proctor

### Deacon

April 1	The Rev. Daniel Mochamps
April 8	The Rev. Mary Swann
April 15	The Rev. Mary Swann
April 22	The Rev. Daniel Mochamps
April 29	The Rev. Mary Swann

### Acolytes

April 1	Caitlyn Cralle
April 5	Tim Lewis (Maundy Thurs. 2 PM)
April 8	Sarah Saunders (Easter Sunday)
April 15	Emma Saunders
April 22	Chris Cralle
April 29	Marley Kimmitt

### Lesson Readers

April 1	Margaret Radcliffe (L) Brooke Read (P)
April 5	Phyllis TeStrake (L) ( Thurs. 2 PM) Bill Tracey (P)
April 6	Tony Blackstone (L) (Fri. 7 PM) Priscilla Williams (P)
April 8	Charlaine Andrulot (L) Howard York (P)
April 15	Bill Bloom (L) Tony Blackstone (P)
April 22	Marie Carstensen (L) Jim Conley (P)
April 29	Lyn Conley (L) Betty Dillingham (P)

### Lay Eucharistic Ministers

April 1	Charlie Franck
April 5	Ward LeHardy (2 PM)
April 6	Frank McCarthy (7 PM)
April 8	Constance McDearmon
April 15	Elaine Price
April 22	Phyllis TeStrake
April 29	Priscilla Williams
May 6	Suzu Norman

## Altar Guild

April	Ellie Knight, Elaine Price, Bobbie Townshend
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### Greeters

April	Lynn and Howard York
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### Coffee Hour

April 1	Pauline and Bobbie Edmonds and Joyce and Lewis Smith
April 8	Hospitality Team
April 15	Jan and George Beckett
April 22	Denise and Frank McCarthy
April 29	_____?
May 6	Hospitality Team (Bishop's Visit)



Apr. 3	Eleanor Semerjian
Apr. 6	William Ressler
Apr. 7	Allen Joslyn
Apr. 9	Bobby Edmonds
Apr. 11	Shirley Smith, Bob Dalzell
Apr. 12	Roy Hillman
Apr. 19	Sally Custer
Apr. 22	Dave Brashears, Agnes Burke
Apr. 28	Edward Ulfig
Apr. 29	Nathaniel Joslyn



Apr. 1	Charlaine and Bill Andrulot
Apr. 15	Dixie and Dick Goertemiller

*O God, grant that the wills of this man and this woman may be so knit together in your will, and their spirits in your Spirit, that they grow in love and peace with you and one another all the days of their lives. Amen.*



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