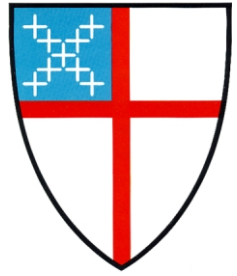




# Tidings

St. Thomas  
Episcopal Church



315 Lindsey Street

Reidsville, NC 27320

336-349-3511

February 2012

## Planning Ahead...

Tuesday  
February 21  
Pancake  
Supper  
5:30 - 7:30 PM

Wednesday  
February 22  
Ash Wednesday  
services at  
Noon & 7 PM

Wednesday  
February 29  
Lenten Suppers  
& Programs  
"The Gospel  
According to  
The Simpsons"  
6:00 PM

*"All Are Welcome"*

## Going to Galilee

196th Annual Convention of the Diocese of North Carolina

We had a **great** convention! Every morning we were brought together by the inspirational preaching of our Bishop, Michael Curry. And at other points in each day we were blessed with the teaching of our Presiding Bishop, Katherine Jefferts-Schori. Bishop Katherine even held a town-hall meeting at one point where she took live questions about the issues, hopes, and concerns of our current times.



The great theme of this year's convention was an even deeper vision of what it was last year: a call to go to Galilee. Galilee, Bishop Curry explained, is where the church must go if it is to make the changes it needs to make to be Christ's living and dynamic body in our new and changing world. Our Bishop, Michael Curry calls this the Galilee Initiative.

As he pointed out, Galilee 2000 years ago looked a lot like our world today: unpredictable, polarized, rapidly changing, unstable, and religiously pluralistic. It was where the revolutions took place. It was home to the then equivalents of the Occupy Movement, and the Tea Party all at once. The great stone and mortar Temple was in Jerusalem, but the people were in Galilee. That is where Jesus started his ministry, and that is where He chose to go

*Continued on page 3*

# 196th Diocesan Convention in W-S

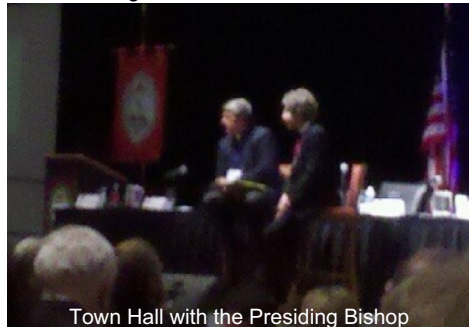


Our friend Reid Joyner, Episcopal Relief & Development Coordinator in the ER-D booth

Photos courtesy of Elisabeth Pugh



Bishop Curry delivers his Pastoral Address



Town Hall with the Presiding Bishop

# Going to Galilee

*Continued from page 1*

FIRST when he rose from the dead. He called his disciples to follow him there. He calls us to meet him there in mission and ministry today.

So what does a church look like when it follows Jesus into Galilee? Bishop Curry said that it does five things. The Church in Galilee:

- ministers to people who have never heard of Jesus; something that is becoming increasingly easy due to the ever greater secularization of our society and the world.

- communicates to that world using current and ever-changing technology; we need to be live-streaming our services.

- goes out to the soccer fields, campuses and cafes to take the gospel to where people are; Our Bishop makes a point of spending time every week in his local Starbucks just to engage folks in conversation about faith and life. He goes where the people are. That's what we are called to do; go and engage folks where they are out there; not just wait for them to maybe find us in here.

- is not bound to bricks and mortar, we might have bricks and mortar, but this isn't the only place we do church. Someone asked why we are supporting college campus ministries. We give a lot of money on campus chaplains and outreach programs on several of our University campuses. They suggested that those students could just go to the

nearby churches. The answer is that those campus ministries are full-blown missions; they are the church where the students are, not where they are not.

- engages and welcomes the diversity of the culture around it. We need to speak the language of our cultures. Our Bishop called this speaking with a Galilean accent. When Peter was accused of being a follower of Jesus, the bystanders said, "Certainly you are also one of them, for your accent betrays you." When people spend a lot of time with Jesus the Galilean, their very speech, their very lives will reveal they are his disciples.

Bishop Curry quoted to us this old Scottish poem to underscore that moment in Scripture:

*"O that it might be said of me,  
Surely thy speech betrayeth thee,  
Thou wast with Jesus of Galilee"*

We heard amazing reports of groups and people in our Diocese who are speaking with Galilean accents. Did you know that we sponsor a camp here in North Carolina where Jewish, Christian, and Muslim kids are brought together to play and sing and just learn what makes for peace? It has included Israeli and Palestinian and Carolinian kids all at once. The camp program is called Kids for Peace. Another report was of the life-transforming work of our churches on our University campuses, where collegians witnessed to us of how Jesus had met them there and their campus

*Continued on page 4*

# Going to Galilee

*Continued from page 3*

congregations had changed their lives. Have you ever heard an amazing financial report? We did! Our Diocese, despite the economy, and all the needed mission demands upon it, met those demands and has finished this year in the black. Yes, we as a Diocese also decided to do some new things, and passed action items and resolutions too. Some of these were about social justice; you know, doing the right thing, the Christ-like thing, for everyone. We are going to work on increasing accessibility in all our facilities, removing physical barriers that keep people from full involvement. We are going to work on decreasing our environmental footprint and so be better stewards of this good earth the Lord has placed us upon.

And yes, we stuck our necks out again in the cause of justice by supporting litigation to separate religious institutions and the State in matters of marriage; by supporting the Dream Act that the innocent children of aliens might have a fair path to citizenship; and by opposing Constitutional Amendments that prohibit same-sex civil marriages or unions.

We worked on, and worked through, even more than this. These are just some of the many highlights. Of course, there were those moments when someone tried to move an amendment to an amendment. Or debates broke out about whether a comma should be a colon or a semi-

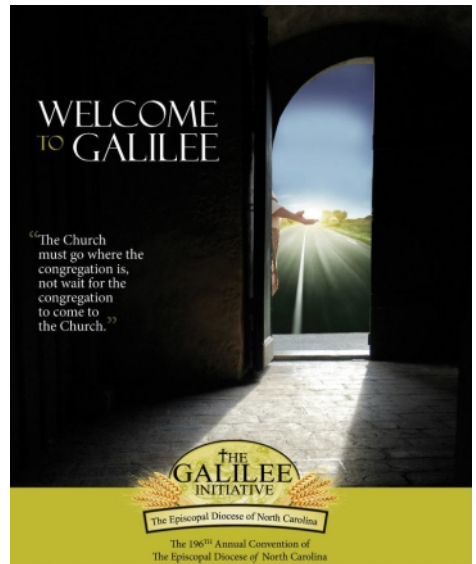
colon. It was a business meeting after all.

One particularly special event happened for us. St. Thomas was singled out for meeting its goal for Nets for Life, and was awarded a Golden Nets Certificate of Appreciation, along with our sister congregations who also met their goals. It was a proud moment.

Bishop Curry summed it up this way. We are Episcopalians; Christ's people. We believe in doing right by, and for, everyone. This is our call: Come, let us go to Galilee. Jesus is already there, ahead of us...

*"O may it be said of you and me  
Surely thy accent betrayeth thee  
Thou wast with Jesus of Galilee"*

*Fr. Rick*



# Special Worship Liturgy in Lent

A special Lenten tradition, here at St. Thomas, has been the observance of Rite I at both the 8:30 a.m. and 11:00 a.m. services throughout the season. This year we are returning to this custom with some special additions. Beginning Sunday, February 26th, we will observe Rite I at both services, complete with the penitential rite. At the 11:00 a.m. service, the old Rite I chant will also be sung. (It may get sung at the 8:30 a.m. service as well, depending upon the vocal quality of the celebrant at that hour!) This observance will also take place on Sunday March 11th and the 25th. On the other two Sundays of Lent, March 4th and 18th, Rite II will be observed, though it will include key elements of Rite I, including: the penitential rite, the “comfortable words”, and the words of “Humble access” (“We are not worthy to come to this thy table...”, otherwise fondly remembered as the “crumb prayer”) and the *Angus Dei* (“O lamb of God...”) The purpose behind using Rite II on these two Sundays is to allow for the use of Form D for the Eucharist. Form D contains a unique and very ancient chant, the Mozarabic (c.640 A.D.) that predates the medieval simplification of chant that, due to its difficulty, is rarely heard in the Church today. Its solemn melody reconnects us to the Lenten practice of the ancient Christians, and rejoins us with them in our observance.



## Ash Wednesday Services



12:00 Noon  
& 7:00 pm

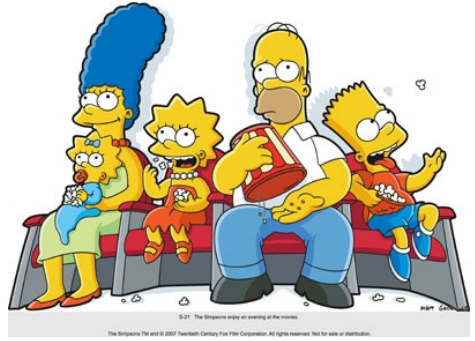
Wednesday February 22

# “The Simpsons” join St. Thomas for supper in Lent!

Photo courtesy of Twentieth Century Fox and <http://entertainment.howstuffworks.com/simpsons.htm>

You read that right! “The Simpsons,” known as America’s “most animated and dysfunctional family,” will be joining us for our Lenten supper/study program this year. Starting Wednesday, February 29th at 6:00 p.m., our Lenten supper/studies, will engage in a fun and serious look at the Church and our personal practice of faith for five consecutive Wednesday evenings, as we consider “The Gospel According to The Simpsons”. This is a chance to grow in our faith, and have a good time while doing it. Spread the word! This event is open to all, and all ages!

If anyone can help provide a dinner they should contact **Elisabeth Pugh**.



## Episcopal Day School

We’re having a great winter in preschool. The children are doing great with their numbers, colors, shapes and letters. We are practicing hard to learn to count to 100 by the end of the school year and the children amaze us at how well they are doing. The weather has been mild enough that we’ve not missed any school so far due to inclement weather and we’ve still been able to enjoy the playground.

We will soon begin practicing for our annual spring program that will be held on April 19th at 6:00 p.m.. The two year olds will sing songs and the 3/4 class will put on a play for parents and guests. We will conclude the night with a catered dinner. Everyone is invited to attend. More information on meal ticket prices will be available closer to

the date. Please see a teacher if you have any questions.

Thank you to all the parents and members of St. Thomas’ who are saving the General Mills BOXTOPS. This school year, we have turned in enough BOXTOPS to receive \$118 toward supplies and other school expenses. Keep saving! Just leave them in the EDS mailbox in the church office or in the preschool area in the Parish House. Thanks!

Registration is underway for the school year beginning in September 2012. Spaces are filling fast! Please see a teacher if you need a registration packet.

HAPPY VALENTINE’S DAY TO ALL OUR FRIENDS AT ST. THOMAS.

# Thank You from Episcopal Relief & Development



## Episcopal Relief & Development

Healing a hurting world

Dear Friends:

Thank you for St. Thomas Episcopal Church's generous contribution of \$521.00 to Episcopal Relief & Development. Your gift was designated for the NetsforLife Inspiration Fund, a sweeping national effort within The Episcopal Church to help eliminate malaria.

Launched in 2010, this multi-year campaign is working to provide education, increase awareness and raise \$5 million by uniting the Church - engaging dioceses, parishes, seminaries, schools and individuals at the grassroots level. In these difficult and uncertain economic times, your support means a great deal to all of us at Episcopal Relief & Development and those we seek to serve.

Currently our NetsforLife program partnership is working in 17 countries in sub-Saharan Africa to help eliminate malaria through community mobilization, education and mosquito net distribution. The success of the program is a result of the NetsforLife partnerships and a network of faith-based organizations working on the ground in Africa, particularly the Anglican Church. In collaboration with active and trusted members of local communities, the program has reached 5.5 million people through direct malaria messaging, distributed over 2.6 million nets and trained nearly 30,000 malaria control agents. The next goal is to continue to mobilize volunteers and distribute 7 million nets by 2013. This bold and transformative goal cannot be achieved without your help and the support of many others.

Thank you for your compassion and generosity. Please visit [www.er-d.org](http://www.er-d.org) or [www.netsforlifeafrica.org](http://www.netsforlifeafrica.org) to learn more about our programs. To find out how you can become a monthly giver, please call us at 855.312.HEAL or visit the Ways to Give section of our website.

Faithfully,

*Robert W. Radtke*  
President



# Support Circles to Address Homelessness

On Saturday, January 21 about 75 people from Reidsville and Rockingham County met at the First Baptist Church to learn about the success of a program in Wake County called Support Circles. Roberta Macauley of Catholic Charities in Wake County addressed the group and spoke about how this idea got its start and the successes they have had in enabling families to move from shelters into apartments or homes. Support Circles is a way that a church or group of churches can partner with homeless individuals or families to help them settle into a permanent housing situation and become contributing members of the community.

Basically, a Support Circle is made up of six to ten people from a church or group of churches that wish to collaborate in this endeavor. The plan calls for spending up to \$7,500 to help a homeless person or family become placed in housing for a year. However, the commitment goes beyond the monetary investment. Support Circle members serve as mentors to insure that the move to a permanent dwelling is sustainable. This may mean assisting the family with budgeting, furnishings, job searches, occasional transportation, or to link them with whatever services they may need. As of this time there are around 200 people in Rockingham County who are classified as being homeless.

The actual details of this initiative have yet to be finalized. **Melodie Watt**

of the Reidsville Area Foundation is the person who researched this project and is helping to see it become a reality. Hopefully this is a cause in which St. Thomas would want to participate.

*Tom Balsley*

## Fill the Tub



Please help us reach out to others in our community by donating non-perishable items for the Reidsville Outreach Center. Items needed for

February are:

**peanut butter, potatoes, pork & beans, cereal, Boost, coffee, sugar and soap**

The blue tub is located in the narthex of the church. *Thank you for your help with this vital ministry!*

# Relay for Life



St. Thomas will sponsor a team in the 2012 American Cancer Society Relay for Life. Nationally, the Relay brings together more than 3.5 million people to celebrate the lives of people who have battled cancer, remember loved ones lost, and fight back against the disease.

The Rockingham County Relay event will be at Lake Reidsville May 18 and 19. At each Relay special recognition is given to everyone who has faced a cancer diagnosis or helped someone with cancer.

St. Thomas and the Outreach Commission's goal is to have ten "official" team members, who agree to participate in the fund raising and walk during the event the evening of Friday, May 18. In addition, we are asking for help with fund raising from each of you to assist the team in soliciting donations, setting up a campsite at the Relay (including campsite decorations), and giving us ideas for fund raising. All members of St. Thomas are invited to

view the Survivors' Walk and the Luminaria Ceremony on May 18.

The money raised by Relay for Life enables the American Cancer Society to save lives, by helping people get well and stay well, finding cures, and by fighting back.

ACS helps people stay well with prevention campaigns, development of guidelines for recommended cancer screenings, nutrition and physical activity. It provides tips, tools, and resources to help people set goals and stay motivated, to eat healthy, and maintain an active lifestyle.

Did you know that approximately 1 in 3 women in the U.S. will develop cancer in her lifetime? Did you know that almost half of men in the U.S. will have some form of the disease?

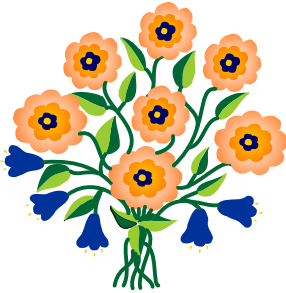
Cancer is the second leading cause of death in the U.S., exceeded only by heart disease. Some cancers can be caused by lifestyle choices and can be prevented completely.

Anyone wanting more information, or willing to become a team member, should contact **Jeanne Horsley** at 342 - 2 8 6 9 or by e-mail at [susyandbill@bellsouth.net](mailto:susyandbill@bellsouth.net).

## Altar Guild

The Altar Guild could use a few “good” women or men. Please contact **Suzanne Howard** or **Patricia Bobbitt** if you would like to become a part of this **Very Important**, but behind the scenes ministry.

## 2012 Flower Calendar



The 2012 Flower Calendar is now posted in the office. Please stop by to sign up for your preferred dates. Note that at press time most February Sundays are still open.

## Stewardship Committee

The Stewardship Committee will meet in the Vestry Room at 7 p.m. Tuesday, February 7, to discuss plans for Stewardship activities the rest of the year.

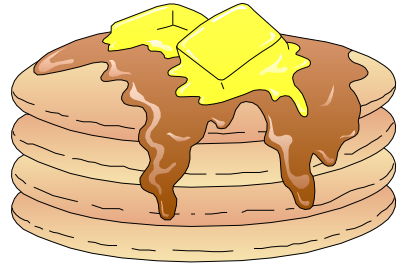
The vestry has determined that Stewardship at St. Thomas’s must be a year-round effort, focusing not only on raising money but also on contributions of time and talents.

Anyone interested in serving on the Stewardship Committee is encouraged to attend.

## Lex Mathews Scholarship

This is a scholarship available for women 23 and older who are upgrading their skills or advancing career opportunities. The applicant should be seeking a specialized training in vocational or technical skills, seeking a degree or certification below a masters level, or continuing education courses for upgrading job skills. The recipient will be awarded \$500 or up to \$2000 for one academic year. The deadline is March 15, 2012. If you know someone who meets these qualifications, please let **Anne Montaigne** know (349-9441 or [amontaigne@yahoo.com](mailto:amontaigne@yahoo.com)).

## Pancake Supper Planning



An organizational meeting to discuss the upcoming pancake dinner will be held after church on Sunday 2/5. Please come and help us plan the 2012 pancake dinner. If you can’t make the meeting but are able to help, please call the church office and leave your name and phone number and someone will get back with you.

# A New Year for ECW Morning Chapter

The ladies of the ECW Morning Chapter met Tuesday morning, January 11th to choose a new course of study for 2012. Having just completed T. J. Wray's book, "Good Girls, Bad Girls", The Enduring Lessons Of Twelve Women of The Old Testament, the ladies were ready for new material. Father Rick Miles attended the meeting to discuss new ideas and other books that might appeal to the group. After thoughtful sharing of ideas, the ladies decided to order the book "Take This Bread" by Sara Miles. This is a nonfiction book extolling the merits of outreach, in particular, feeding the hungry.

In previous years, as a book or course of study was chosen, individuals were named to lead each meeting. Many times, only the leader would have studied the material, so she would feel as though she was teaching. Choosing a new method for 2012, the group decided to review the Sara Miles writing in "Book Club Style". To be specific, everyone will read the book, and at each meeting, a member will lead the discussion, beginning with Chapter I. The books are here for those interested and the cost is \$10.20. The February meeting of the Morning Chapter of the ECW will be on Tuesday, February 14th in the Vestry Room. Everyone is invited to attend.

The ECW Morning Chapter meets the second Tuesday each month in the Vestry Room, October through May.



## Meeting Information

The following things were discussed at the ECW General meeting held on 1/22/12. The morning chapter will read and discuss Bread of Life. The discussion will follow a book club format. Everyone will read the book and selected chapters will be discussed each month. It was decided that rather than having a local retreat, we will participate with a church in Winston. This will be held in May. **Laura Felts** is familiar with this annual retreat and she recommends it as a worthwhile way to spend a Saturday in May. More information will follow. The altar committee could use more volunteers. St. Thomas will host a regional youth retreat June 22-25. **Jeanne Horsley** is soliciting Relay For Life team members.

## ECW Handbooks

2012 Handbooks are in the Narthex. Please take yours and any you could deliver. This will save on postage. If they have not been picked up by the middle of February, they will be mailed.

# Thoughts on Stewardship

I have just finished Barbara Brown Taylor's delightful book, *An Altar in the World*, and came away with a renewed appreciation of the many ways God is at work in our everyday lives. However, we must make that conscious decision to be in the present moment. Taylor, an Episcopal priest turned writer and teacher, finds that most people, whether church-goers or not, want to have a relationship with God. I suppose a good question to all of us might be "Where are we able to find God in ordinary and mundane circumstances?"

Many of us grow up believing that the church is the primary place where we get a glimpse of the Holy. The author, however, takes us into the most unremarkable occurrences in life – a trip to the grocery store, caring for animals, taking a walk, preparing dinner for guests, being sick and dependent on your spouse, and other situations where we are vulnerable and have to rely on the goodness of strangers.

Following my reading about Taylor's encounters with God beyond the walls of a church, I heard a short segment on NPR with a Presbyterian minister, Marcy Bain, from Dayton, Ohio. Bain conveys that some of her favorite spiritual music – sometimes played on a jukebox in a tavern on a Saturday night – are songs such as *All My Favorite People* by the Ohio-based band, Over the Rhine, or a familiar hymn that takes you to church like Nashville's Patti Griffin's *All Creatures of Our God and King*. Bain says that such melodies

bring her into a sacred space and sustain her as she proceeds on her faith journey.

Recently I heard a friend say that after the death of a family member certain segments of the movie *Lonesome Dove* brought him the consolation and affirmation he genuinely needed. I am sure that all of us have similar experiences where we are able to find God in the most out-of-the-way people, locations, and conditions. A wonderful example is "Moses and the burning bush." When Moses saw this bright light out of the corner of his eye, he could have kept right on going with his sheep or decided to come back another day. But instead, he put everything on hold to take another look. "Here I am," Moses said to God after taking the time to decide to be in God's presence. Sometimes, however, when we are not mindful, that fire moves on in search of someone else who will stop and honor God in the midst of whatever else is happening.

Tom Balsley

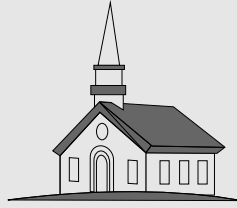
## Ash Wednesday Services



12:00 Noon  
& 7:00 pm

Wednesday February 22

# Attendance



| DATE  | SERVICE ATTENDANCE      |          |
|---|-------------------------|----------|
| <b>January 1</b><br><i>The Holy Name</i>              | 10:00 a.m.              | 62       |
| <b>January 8</b><br><i>Sunday after The Epiphany</i>  | 8:30 a.m.<br>11:00 a.m. | 18<br>79 |
| <b>January 15</b><br><i>2nd Sunday after Epiphany</i> | 8:30 a.m.<br>11:00 a.m. | 13<br>74 |
| <b>January 22</b><br><i>3rd Sunday after Epiphany</i> | 8:30 a.m.<br>11:00 a.m. | 13<br>80 |
| <b>January 29</b><br><i>4th Sunday after Epiphany</i> | 8:30 a.m.<br>11:00 a.m. | 21<br>54 |

## "Tidings" While-U-Wait

Many thanks to the following businesses that have agreed to make our newsletter available in their waiting rooms:

**Dynamic Fitness**  
156 N. Scales St.

Chris Trent  
**Freeway Automotive**

Dean Brown  
**Shear Performance**

*If you would like to participate, please contact the church office 349-3511 or our newsletter email: [news@stthomasreidsville.org](mailto:news@stthomasreidsville.org)*



## Pledge Report

|                           | December 2011 | Year To Date  |
|---------------------------|---------------|---------------|
| Total Revenue             | \$ 24,248.68  | \$ 154,779.98 |
| Total Operations Expenses | \$ 15,206.01  | \$ 158,551.75 |
| Difference                | \$ 9,042.67   | - \$ 3,771.77 |



*A Stephen Minister can be there for someone who's in the midst of a life challenge so they don't have to walk through the valley alone.*

*When you're ready to talk, a Stephen Minister is ready to listen.*

# Who's Who

## CHURCH STAFF:

- Rector  
The Rev. Dr. Richard "Rick" Miles  
349-3511, Ext. 102  
rector@stthomasreidsville.org
- Organist & Choir Director  
Ed Spencer  
349-3511, Ext. 104  
music@stthomasreidsville.org
- Office Manager & Rector's Secretary  
Jenny Wilkins  
349-3511, Ext. 101  
office@stthomasreidsville.org
- Nursery Coordinator  
Anne Rogers 342-0284
- Sextons  
Carol Pruitt 349-3511  
Diane Allen 349-3511
- Episcopal Day School Administrator  
Jennifer Kimbro (2010-2011)

## LAY WORKERS:

- Youth Leader  
Elisabeth Pugh 656-4664  
eyc@stthomasreidsville.org
- Altar Guild  
Suzanne Howard 349-7046
- Layreader & Chalice Bearer Coordinator  
Tom Ham 932-2212  
tjhamiii@nuvox.net
- Usher & Greeters Coordinator  
Steve Worth 349-7538
- Librarian  
Susan Bullock 616-1029  
susanhbullock@gmail.com
- Sunday School Superintendent  
Jim McCloskey 349-3354  
jim\_mccloskey@me.com
- ECW  
Anne Montaigne 349-9441  
amontaigne@yahoo.com  
Dot Shelton 342-2433  
irishbr@aol.com
- Men's Club
- Treasurer  
John Pugh 656-4664
- Pledge Treasurer  
Steve Worth 349-7538
- Webmaster  
John Bullock 616-1029  
john@mygraphicdetails.com

# Vestry

### **Parker Graham**

Senior Warden  
349-1882  
pgraham1@triad.rr.com

### **Chris Hicks**

634-0314  
christopher.m.hicks@gmail.com

### **Elisabeth Pugh**

656-4664  
framepros@aol.com

### **Jim McCloskey**

Junior Warden  
349-3354  
jim\_mccloskey@me.com

### **Alex Melchert**

634-0912  
amelchert1@aol.com

### **Todd Walker**

342-9632  
ToddJon5@triad.rr.com

### **Laura Felts**

349-4554  
minnielaura@bellsouth.net

### **Starr McHugh**

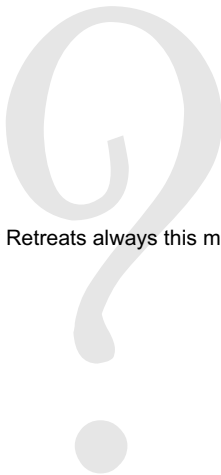
342-3210  
starrmchugh@yahoo.com

### **Melodie Watt**

394-4247  
mwatt1@bellsouth.net

# St. Thomas' Road Crew

Photos courtesy of Parker Graham



Are Vestry Retreats always this much fun?

# St. Thomas Episcopal Church

315 Lindsey Street  
Reidsville, NC 27320

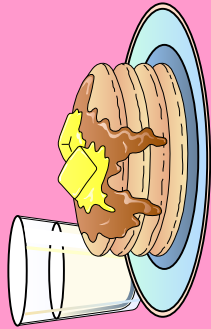
Non-Profit Organization  
US Postage  
**PAID**  
Permit #19  
Reidsville, NC

**Return Service Requested**

February 2012

## Shrove Tuesday Pancake Supper

Tuesday, Feb. 21st  
5:30 - 7:30



\$7 adults,  
\$5 children 12 and under