

The Eagle and Child

The Monthly Publication of St. John's Episcopal Church in Frostburg
May 2007



Inspired by God's
Word,
We deepen and
share
Our faith in Jesus
And love for all
God's children
By Worship, study,
prayer, giving and
Addressing the
needs of the wider
community.

Taken from the Episcopal Public Policy Network

SOWING JUSTICE FOR FAMILY FARMERS

The 2007 Farm Bill

Farm Bill reform should include measures on:

- **Commodity reform:** to reduce funding for commodity subsidies that distort trade.
 - **Evenhandedness:** to eliminate loopholes and accounting games that allow some people to reap huge payments from the taxpayers.
 - **Conservation:** to increase funding for conservation and encourage better stewardship.
 - **Diversification:** to shift from a system that emphasizes overproduction of a few program crops to one that encourages production of a variety of food crops.
 - **Equity:** to spread the benefits of economic growth to new groups and constituencies, especially disadvantaged and minority farmers who have been left out by the current programs.
 - **Global Leadership:** to set our farm policies in a direction that will ensure resource-poor farmers everywhere a fair price for their crops—one that allows them to make a dignified living. This could also improve international cooperation with other countries that think current U.S. farm subsidies are unfair to their farmers.
 - **Rural development:** to shift misused subsidy funding to programs that support sustainable agriculture, rural development and nutrition programs.
- We call on our representatives to reform the Farm Bill. It is time to reshape U.S. farm policy to authentically address the issue of low crop prices rather than perpetuate a system of dependence and overproduction. Support policy changes that will help family farmers in the U.S. and around the world to save their farms, feed their families, and educate their children.**

Farmers here and around the world need support. The U.S. farm subsidy system should serve the needs of U.S. farmers and not harm small-scale farmers in developing countries.

The challenges facing the U.S. have changed over the decades; so, too, must the government's support of the rural economy. God's economy demands right relationships—so that all might have life and have it in abundance (John 10:10). The 2007 Farm Bill presents an opportunity for change. It is possible to shift resources toward rural development in the U.S. without distorting markets and hurting resource-poor farmers abroad.

Based on "Fairness in the Fields: A vision for the 2007 Farm Bill," © 2006 by Oxfam America, and is reproduced with permission from Oxfam America. Church World Service is working with Oxfam America and others to promote dialog and action on the farm bill.
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Inspired by the Word of God . . .

By
Father Rick Morley

[This is the third part of a series of meditations on our new vision statement.]

Inspired by God's Word *we deepen and share* our faith in Jesus. . .

My toddler is pretty smart. (Wonder where she got that from? . . .) In fact at one of the typical 'well-visits' to the doctor, where they check on the development of children, the doctor said that she was about a year more advanced than he would have expected her to be.

Well, I think that's pretty good. She's smart. She's 'advanced.' She's developmentally above average.

And yet, she still regularly goes to the bathroom in her pants. And she picks her nose. And if you let her alone for enough time with a bowl full of yogurt, she'll smear you a nice little piece of art on the table top.

So, she's advanced - but she's got a little ways to go! I'm so proud of her, but if she just gave up on the developmental growth, cashed in her 'advanced' chips, and went home, we'd have a little problem. My hope is that she'll continue to grow and maybe go beyond picking her nose and smearing yogurt.

Spiritually, we too are asked to grow. We are to grow deeper into God – deeper in the knowledge of His love for us – and deeper into our love for Him and our neighbor. Unfortunately we have a disease in the Church which somehow compels us to think that if we come to church once in a while and say a prayer at bedtime then we're doing ok. And that is ok – but it's ok only as a starting point. If we just remain there in our relationship with God, we're remaining at the spiritual equivalent of nose picking.

At St. John's, we seek to *deepen* our faith.

Deepening our faith is what we call discipleship. It's being a disciple of Jesus – always growing closer to what matters most.

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But, just deepening our own faith only goes so far. Only deepening our own faith at some point becomes selfish. Narcissistic. Fruitless.

Part of growing ever deeper into the love of God in Christ is sharing that love with others. It's sharing the ways that God is working in our lives, how God has worked in the world, and how God's love extends to all.

It's what Peter did in the 2nd chapter of Acts – he shared his faith with thousands, and thousands responded. It doesn't need to be a scary thing. It shouldn't be a confrontative thing. It's a sharing of what's going on deep in our lives, and deep in our souls, and that which causes us deep joy.

At St. John's *we deepen and share* our faith in Jesus.

Let's do it.

May 2007

Senior Warden's Message

St. John's Gentle Giant

Ernest "Red" Ogden was born at Morgantown, WV. On September 29th, 1925. He never finished high school

because he refused to turn in a book report. He joined the Marines at seventeen and turned eighteen in boot camp at Paris Island, S. C. The Solomon Islands was his deployment during World War Two, serving at Pelelia where he turned nineteen. He celebrated birthday number twenty in Okinawa, on Guadalcanal. A chaplain met Red, gave him a ride and an invitation to a church service where Red and others were baptized. I've asked Red to tell the story of where and when he was baptized at several nursing homes where we played music. It is a wonderful testament to Red's faith and commitment to God as a young soldier. The story touches my heart each time I hear it.

He was discharged in December, 1945 and finished his education on the G.I. Bill. Ruth and Red met at Confluence, Pa. where Ruth was teaching English. I'll bet he turned his book reports in when they were due. They were married in 1949 as Red attended WVU where he graduated in 1952 with a B.S. in Forestry.

His first job was with the state of Maryland battling rattlesnakes as he surveyed a large part of Dan's mountain. He retired from Westvaco after a career of thirty two years.

Red and Ruth are pillars of the community and St. John's. They have supported the church and their Lord greatly. If I'm correct, Ruth played the organ at St. John's for forty five years. Their children were raised at St. John's and on Christmas Eve their offspring fills several pews. We all know and love their wonderful daughter Karen who is studying to become a priest.

Red is a great banjo player. He anchored the "Skillet Licker Band" and coached numerous "would be pickers" for many years. Red's driving rhythm and chord progression is awesome, and after almost four decades I enjoy having him along side of me as we belt out the old Dixieland tunes. Thanks for the memories.

Semper Fi Red. Thank you and thousands of others for our freedom to worship our Lord and enjoy life as it should be.

Tom



Fr. Rick and "Red" Ogden enjoy Coffee Hour.



There is room at God's Table for all—large or small

Podcast

Have you ever tried to remember just what that great message was in the Sunday sermon? Well now it is easy to hear again. Go to the Church Website: <http://www.frostburg.ang-md.org/> In the lower right corner are links to the podcasts. You can listen to St. John's with i-Tunes right on your computer. There are sermons from both St. Peter's and St. John's. Try it!

Our Seminary Student

When a church has a student in seminary they traditionally support that person as she or he studies for the priesthood.

You may or may not be aware that St. John's has such a student: our own Karen Crosby. Karen is currently finishing up her first semester and preparing for the next. She is making weekly trips to Gettysburg.

Even small donations can help Karen with books or gasoline for the drive. Make checks payable to St. John's and put for Karen Crosby in the memo line. Karen is working hard to prepare to better serve God and her community.

New Choir

Rehearsal Time

The St. John's Choir will be practicing on **Sunday evenings at 7:00 PM**. This will accommodate those who were not able to attend the Wednesday evening rehearsal. Come, join us and help make a joyful noise to Our Lord.

Step Up to Ministry

The church is a body with many parts—some easily seen and some less obvious. There is an ongoing need for Ushers, Lectors, Acolytes, and Adult Formation Leaders. Please see Ruth Ogden to be put on the schedule. See John Calvin or Don Goldbloom for information about Adult Christian Formation

FOR YOUR GARDEN OF DAILY LIVING

Thinking of planting your garden? You might want to use Harriet Williams' well used gardening plan. Her husband, Jim shared the following with me which I would like to share with you.

PLANT THREE ROWS OF PEAS

1. Peace of Mind.
2. Peace of Heart.
3. Peace of Soul.

PLANT FOUR ROWS OF SQUASH

1. Squash Gossip.
2. Squash Indifference.
3. Squash Grumbling.
4. Squash Selfishness.

PLANT FOUR ROWS OF LETTUCE

1. Lettuce be Faithful.
2. Lettuce be Kind.
3. Lettuce be Patient
4. Lettuce really

Love one another.

NO GARDEN SHOULD BE WITHOUT TURNIPS

1. Turnip for Meetings.
2. Turnip for Service.
3. Turnip to help others

TO CONCLUDE OUR GARDEN, WE MUST HAVE THYME

1. Thyme for each other.
2. Thyme for Family
3. Thyme for Friends.

WATER FREELY WITH PATIENCE AND CULTIVATE WITH LOVE.

THERE IS MUCH FRUIT IN YOUR GARDEN BECAUSE YOU

**REAP
WHAT
YOU SOW**

Peace and
Love,
"St.
Francis"



Sunday Worship Schedule

May 2007

Date	Time	Celebrant/ Officiant	Preacher	Sub Deacon		Lector	Usher	Acolyte	Crucifer
May 6	8:00 AM	R. Morley	R. Morley			J. Dunkle	B. Plummer		
	11:15 AM	K. Crosby	R. Morley			1 st R. Forsythe 2 nd N. Forsythe.	R. Dale	M. Myers	
May 13	8:00 AM	R. Goldbloom	R. Goldbloom			J. Winn	B. Plummer		
	11:15 AM	R. Goldbloom	R. Goldbloom			1 st L. Perkins 2 nd J. McHugh	D. Parker	J. Green	
May 20	8:00 AM	R. Morley	R. Morley			T. Skidmore	B. Plummer		
	11:15 AM	J. Williams	R. Morley			1 st S. Pack 2 nd R. Dale	L. Pack	M. Myers	
May 27	8:00 AM	K. Crosby	K. Crosby			J. Dunkle	B. Plummer		
	11:15 AM	K. Green	K. Crosby			1 st D. Gooding 2 nd R. Ogden	E. Ogden	J. Green	