

A Glimpse Behind the Walls by the Rev. Marcia C. King August 12, 2010

As we look around the church each Sunday morning, occasionally we may be tempted to think "What flood?" After all, thanks to the untiring hard work of our superb Altar Guild, the "holy hardware" and linens used for communion gleam. Thanks to the efforts of our wonderful Flower Guild, beautiful blooms grace our worship space. Thanks to the literally thousands of hours from volunteers, the pews glisten with furniture polish and the floor sparkles. Thanks to the direction from our facilities management staff, the damage is being repaired during the week so that our attention can be focused on worshipping God each Sunday. There are many organizations and people who contribute to an unmatched worship experience each and every week.

Much progress has been made since the flood. This past week, the 5:00pm Evening Prayer and Holy Eucharist service returned to the Chapel. So did the daily 7:00am Eucharist and Wednesday 10:00am Eucharist and healing services. On Sunday mornings the healing prayer ministry during communion has moved out of the storage closet and back into the Chapel as well.

Each of these transitions represents significant steps toward normalcy. The participants are delighted to be back in their "usual space." (And, there is room for many more, especially at the daily 7:00 am service! Try it! You'll like it!) In addition, the office staff has moved back to the first floor, our "littlest angels" can return to the St. George's nursery on August 15th and the Kindergarten is on target to reopen on time. For all of this and much more, we praise God and are very thankful.

As the pictures which accompany this email reveal, however, quite a bit remains to be done. Beyond the wooden walls in the main hallways are Hampton and Johnson Halls, the library, the gathering space and bookstore. These are construction zones; hard hats are required. Our insurance prohibits admittance of anyone other than authorized personnel. All of these areas were overcome by the flood waters. Remodeling has begun but it will be months before many of these rooms are available.





Although the Great Flood of 2010 has been challenging, to say the least, it has also given us the chance to re-envision about how we can best maximize our space. The renovated areas still under construction will provide more room and enhance our opportunity for fellowship. There will be much more information to come regarding the re-imagining of these areas.

We are continuing to pray, ponder and remember that "We know that all things work together for good for those who love God, who are called according to his purpose." (Romans 8:28) Memorize this verse. There are many exciting opportunities and possibilities which still lie before us. Please pray for St. George's as we continue to restore, build and seek God's will in the coming months. We are far more than a building. We are a family and the Body of Christ.