

The Cross & Crown



PRINCE GEORGE WINYAH EPISCOPAL CHURCH

301 Screven Street ♦ Georgetown, South Carolina 29440 ♦ 843-546-4358 or 546-4375

MARCH 2008

From the Youth Minister

PERSEVERANCE

I can remember the moment as if it was yesterday. Sam was only a few days old. It was 2:30am and I was awake trying to change the diaper. As I sat on the floor of the living room changing this diaper I realized that this process - of changing Sam's diaper - would happen again in 3 hours time, and then again in another three hours, and another 3 hours. I was told in the hospital that a new born baby uses 10 diapers a day – that's 70 diapers a week! In fact, this process of diaper changing would continue for another 3 years. I instantly became depressed!! Not because of Sam - but at that moment - 2:30 in the morning and already suffering from severe sleep deprivation, I saw no end to this process!! And that was depressing.

Sam is now 4 years old and those are distant memories - well, until 12 months ago when we had our second child, Jacob. Of course, Diaper changing was not such a challenge second time round, but even then, I remember thinking to myself that once Jacob reaches 4, I would have had 8 constant years of diaper changing.

Is there a point? Yes. As much as the prospect of changing diapers at 2:30 a.m. depressed me, we had to do it. Sam (and now Jacob) needed to have his bottom cleaned and changed. Quite simply, you have to persevere. And this is the same in life and in the Christian walk. There are things in life in which we need to learn to persevere in - we need to persevere in our education to get our High School diploma, or college degree. We need to persevere in our relationships, in the jobs which we will do. Some of us may have to persevere, where the option of giving up is not really an option, such as in illnesses or hard times, emotionally or physically. The same is true with faith. Hebrews 12:1 says: *Therefore, since we are surrounded by such a great cloud of witnesses, let us throw off everything that hinders and the sin that so easily entangles. And let us run with perseverance the race marked out for us....*

Part of being a Christian, of being part of the body of Christ, of being part of a fellowship is to persevere - to persevere in reading our Bible, in putting Christ first in our lives, in prayer and in worship. It can be hard, it can be a struggle, but we are to persevere and not give up! That's why Hebrews 10:25 is important in helping our perseverance; *Let us not give up meeting together, as some are in the habit of doing, but let us encourage one another—and all the more as you see the Day approaching.* Meeting together is to help each other persevere in our walk with God. So let us not give meeting together, but instead, encourage each other to persevere, each day.

Birthdays

March 1	Bill Buck	March 18	Betsey Geer
March 1	Dixie Hemingway	March 19	Clark Hight
March 3	Scott Marlowe	March 21	Tyler Brabson
March 5	Fitz Allison	March 21	Terry Doar
March 5	Emily Aspel	March 21	Ashley Marlowe
March 5	Frances Palmer	March 23	Arthur Doyle
March 6	Candy Gallup	March 23	Ingell Doyle
March 6	Susan Welch	March 23	James Doyle
March 7	Rhodes Miller	March 23	John Rogers
March 8	Jacob Morgan	March 24	Mary Grimes
March 9	Bill Doar	March 26	Bill Brabson
March 10	Ellen Stalvey	March 27	Chappell Miller
March 11	Jim Gorman	March 28	Stuart Bellune
March 11	Tory Mackey	March 28	Pate Ford
March 13	Will Ness	March 29	Joyce Bourne
March 13	Caroline Summer	March 29	James Hazzard
March 14	Jase Felts	March 29	Walter McElveen
March 15	David Dean	March 30	Kaitlin Bellune
March 15	Renee Dean	March 30	Becky Fuener
March 16	Tara Hammett	March 31	Paul Fuener
March 16	Richard Kopcho		

Cursillo! Cursillo! Cursillo!

In the dark about *Cursillo*? Wondered what it's all about? *Cursillo* is a great weekend held at Camp St. Christopher four times a year. Those who have been (about 30 of us here at Prince George) will tell you it was one of the most important weekends in their Christian life. The weekend is great fun, good food and fellowship, and most of all, a time of experiencing God's love for you in a powerful way. Wherever you are in your Christian walk, *Cursillo* is an opportunity not to be missed. To go, you must be a member of Prince George and have a sponsor (anyone who has been before). *Cursillo* is popular in this Diocese, thus you need to get your name on the list to go, and then wait for an opening. For more information, and names of people who have attended, contact Paul Fuener at the church, 546-4358 or Sandy Gresham, 546-4985.

Transfers In

Transfers in: Sandra Dunphy, Brett Baker, Carolyn Baker, Taylor and Lauren Baker

Parents-2-B

Please continue to pray for our expectant families and their babies, for healthy pregnancies and safe deliveries, for God's peace and rest, for protection from flu and colds; and for all God's blessings during this special time. Parents-2-B at this time are Jase and Katey Felts, Joe and Maria Celeste, Arthur and Alison Geer. If you know other expecting Prince George families, please let us know so we can add them to our prayers.

Save the Dates!

"God the Builder"

VBS is scheduled for June 23-27 and we need volunteers!

Please call Tracy at 545-5406 or email her at Tracy@pgp.com if you can help.

Upcoming Events – Important Dates

Men's BYOS (bring your own steak)	Mar 12	6:30 p.m. at the Parish Hall
Palm Sunday	Mar 16	All Services
Andy's Ordination	Mar 16	4:30 p.m.
Holy Week Services	Mar 17-21	Prince George Church
Easter Services	Mar 23	7:30, 9, 11; Easter Egg Hunt 10:10 a.m.
Plantation Tours	April 4-6	Parish Hall & County
Visionary Parenting	April 11	Bourne Building 5 p.m.
VBS	June 23-27	

ADULT EDUCATION

Islam and The Middle East

March 9 & 16 - 10:10 a.m. in the PARISH HALL.

Led by Matt Walter. Matt and his wife have spent the last 8 years living and working in Amman, Jordan as missionaries. Matt will speak on life in Jordan, Islam and Christianity, Arab culture and language, and reaching the Muslim heart.

SPECIAL SPEAKER: TOMMY GRAHAM

MARCH 30, 2008 - 10:10 in the Parish Hall

Tommy Graham has been our "restoration contractor" here at Prince George for several major projects over the last few years (church roof and parapets; bell tower interior and exterior; church windows and doors - exteriors only). Several years ago Tommy found an old choir loft encased in the current choir loft, which represents a part of our heritage we did not know we had. During the conservation of the windows and doors, he found another part of the church's past that nobody knew existed. Tommy will speak on Sunday, March 30 at 10:10 in the Parish Hall auditorium about what he has learned about our church building and will restore to us a recently discovered part of our past.

Becoming All You Were Meant To Be

April 6, 13, 20, 27, May 4, 11 & 18.

Led by Matt Walter and Andy Morgan. Many of us don't always see much connection between church, God and the rest of our lives. We give God a place, of course, but we choose our professions, arrange our schedules, enjoy our friendships, often without much regard for Him. We often fail to realize that God really cares about the things that matter to us, He wants to be involved in all of our decisions, and He has a destiny, a plan, for us. Truth is, every part of our life belongs to Him and He longs for us to become all we were meant to be, fulfilling the purposes for which He created us. If your desire is to become more like Jesus, to grow more confident in God's guidance, more sure of His presence in life's difficulties, and more certain of the destiny He has for you...then Join us on seven Sundays at 10:10 a.m. in the PARISH HALL.

ECW Spring Bible Studies

Tuesday evenings - April 8- May 13

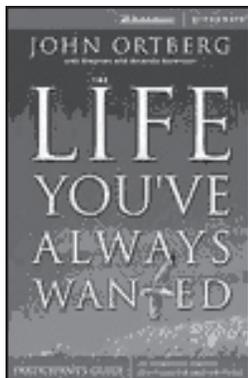
6:30- 8 p.m. - Parish Hall

\$15.00

The Life You've Always Wanted

By: John Ortberg

Spiritual disciplines for ordinary people.



We will have a morning of silence on May 31st from 9 to 1:30 at Estherville Plantation with lunch. Anyone is welcome. For more information call Lauren at the church office or Sally at 520-1906.

Wednesday Mornings - April 9 - May 21

10 - 11:30 a.m. in the Parish Hall (childcare available)

He Speaks to Me: Preparing to Hear the Voice of God By: Priscilla Shirer



"When we approach God humbly and bow down before Him, we put ourselves in a position to hear from Him."

Do you want to develop a more intimate prayer life? Even more, do you want to hear from God in practical ways? Let Priscilla Shirer prepare you by giving you a deeper understanding of the Holy Spirit. Based on the life of Samuel, who

first heard God's voice while still a small boy, and packed with practical examples from Priscilla's own life. He Speaks to Me speaks directly to the need to develop a richer prayer life and deeper, more intimate relationship with God, and to learn how to comfortably share their experience of God with others. Very well timed, given the trends.

Contact Laura Meyer or Lee Ann Tiller to sign up, books are \$15.

DEVOTIONAL READING

Rabbi, it is good for us to be here. Let us put up three shelters one for you, one for Moses and one for Elijah. Mark 9:5

Discipleship involves a journey; it is not simply a spiritual experience. Discipleship is responding to Jesus' call throughout our whole life. From the vigor and enthusiasm of youth to the maturity of old age, the disciple of Jesus makes obedience to the Master's call the central priority.

This means that every spiritual experience is only one step on the road of commitment; it is not where the road ends. This is so no matter how great our experience may have been.

The thrill of conversion, power from an infilling of the Holy Spirit, the rapture of a vision, the impact of a prophecy and the return of wholeness through healing can all constitute significant spiritual experiences for us. So can the experience of solitude, the joy of contemplation and the power of the Eucharist.

All of these and other spiritual experiences are not terminal points however. They are not holy ground where we build a shrine. They are certainly not the bases on which we can claim that we have arrived.

Every spiritual experience is simply food for the journey. It is hope for the struggle; fire for the cold winds of disappointment; power for the fight. It is never an end in itself.

The disciples wanted to pitch a tent at the transfiguration of Jesus. They were happy to call a halt at this amazing phenomenon. After all, what more could they ask?

It is appropriate to long for the mountain of transfiguration where our vision is renewed and our hope rekindled. However, such mountains need to be descended: we need to go back to the world; we must share with others the healing power and love of Jesus (Mark 9:14-29).

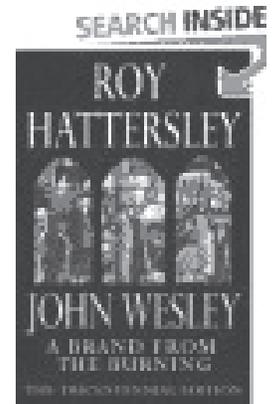
Prayer: Lord, thank you for every experience and blessing you have given me. Help me not to be satisfied with what I have of you, but grant me the grace to press on to love you more and serve you more faithfully. Amen.

(Taken from Life In Full Stride By Charles Ringma)

Book Review

John Wesley: A Brand From The Burning
by Roy Hattersley

There have been many biographies of John Wesley. And no wonder. Wesley was one of the most important men in terms of English Christianity. Of course, Wesley himself would never have thought so, but his life and his actions have influenced people's faith ever since.



What is remarkable about a man who exercised such discipline in his personal and spiritual life, even before he was 'truly' converted, was that his relationships were so often a mess. His flirtatious habit with women, his disastrous marriage and his disagreements with his brother Charles and fellow minister George Whitefield, are all in the shadow of an intense drive to serve God. Hattersley captures Wesley well. He does not paper over the cracks and chips and he is brutally honest about Wesley's failings; but then he is also just as honest about Wesley's immense gifts, abilities and achievements.

Hattersley is very thorough and his writing engaging. One thing which you cannot gauge (and I think this is a good thing) is whether Hattersley is in sympathy with Wesley or not.

This book gives you a whole picture of Wesley. Not just the heroic, or the failures, but the two, intertwined into the person he was. A man of God who in his drive to serve him left almost everything else behind.

Reviewed By Andy Morgan

EYC SKI TRIP 2008

It was meant to be just another EYC Ski Trip to Sugar Mountain North Carolina. But this year's trip became much, much more than that.

This year, we had decided to do our ski trip not on a holiday weekend, but from a Thursday to a Sunday, in order to avoid the crowded slopes. So, Tom and Lauren Winslow and Jason Hamshaw set off with our students on Thursday afternoon. I, (Andy) was at a meeting in Camp St Christopher and so I was planning to drive up on Friday morning to join the group.



That evening my cell phone went off. Lauren called with one of the worst pieces of news a youth minister can hear – there has been an accident. The bus, caught in a severe ice storm, had slide off the road. Everyone was fine, but Tom and Jason were with the bus, while the students had been ferried to our rental lodge.

Over the next 24 hours I was told an amazing story. Once the bus had slid off the road, the leaders got everyone off the bus. It was still raining with freezing rain and it was cold. The students automatically began to pray, without ANY prompting, not in a panicked way, but asking God to help them (which was AMAZING). About thirty minutes later a large truck stops. Inside were three men. Christians. They ferried the students to the lodge (which was about 30 minutes away.)

They came back and waited as the bus was towed back onto the road. The tow truck driver suggested that Tom not drive any further, but one of the men said not to worry – he knew how to drive in this weather and he drove the bus back to the lodge. As they were driving back, one of the men, Keith, gave his testimony. About 11 years previously he had been a drug smuggler – for Columbians! At one point he was arrested for smuggling 57 tons of drugs! He served time in three prisons. A turning point in his life was when, smuggling drugs, his boat sank between Cuba and Florida and he spent 22 hours in open water, with Sharks swimming near by. At this point he cried out to God and said that if he survived he would follow God. And eventually that is exactly what happened. And for the past ten years he has been giving his testimony.

So on the last night we invited him, a friend and his Pastor to come and give his testimony to the students, as well as giving the students another chance to say ‘thank you’.

It was at this point, when Keith was leaving that he told us that if the bus had skidded off the road ten feet further on, or ten feet further back it would have rolled onto its roof. The bus had skidded off at the perfect point.

This event really did have a big impact on our students. They called Keith and friends ‘angels’ and they spoke openly about how God helps us when we need him. God really did show up and do something remarkable over this ski trip. Of course, if I had arranged for the bus to skid off the road to create a good teaching point, it would have been totally irresponsible. But God can cause good to come from what seems to be a bad situation.

I want to say a HUGE thank you to the leaders, Lauren, Tom and Jason. They were magnificent – as were the students who went on to ski both Friday and Saturday!

This was a ski trip that they will not forget in a hurry.

Visionary Parenting

Coming to Prince George
For ALL Parents

APRIL 11 – MAY 30
5-6:30 p.m.

Visionary Parenting will challenge you from scripture, to catch a vision for God's purpose for parenting, and equip you with tools to bridge the gap between where your family is today and where God is calling you to go.

Join us for this EXCELLENT course.
Food & Child care provided.

For more information contact Andy Morgan, 546-4358 or andy@pgwinyah.org

Easter Egg Hunt

March 23 at 10:10 a.m.

All children are welcome to attend. We need individually wrapped candy to fill the Easter eggs! Please drop-off your candy in the church office. Thank you for your help.



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The Cross and Crown is produced monthly by Prince George Winyah Episcopal Church. If you have information for an upcoming issue, please email or submit your ideas or articles in writing to the church office to the Publications Committee before **March 10**.

COOKBOOK NEWS

After three years of work, our cookbook, *Plantation Tours and Tastes*, was published and became a marketing success!

In October of 2007 the cookbook committee submitted our book to the Tabasco Company to be considered for their annual community cookbook awards. "Established in 1989, the Tabasco Community Cookbook Awards were created 'to honor a unique American book form' and applaud the devoted volunteers who used these books to benefit charitable causes."

To be considered for a Tabasco Award, a cookbook must be original (not a reprint), developed and published within the last 2 years by a nonprofit organization, with proceeds benefiting a charitable cause. The publication must be in cookbook form, with recipes comprising no less than 50 percent of the pages. The books are judged on title and theme, contribution to the recording of American region culinary traditions, artwork and design, recipes and the publisher's use of proceeds.

We are pleased and proud to say our cookbook placed 3rd in the Nation! What an honor and accomplishment! We will be receiving a commemorative plaque and a \$750 prize. They will also provide us with gold medal labels to affix to the books and free advertisement in our regional newspapers.

Thank you isn't nearly enough to say to all of you who made this possible. To those of you who so generously gave your prized recipes, to our typists, proof readers, artists and photographers, thank you. To those of you who compiled the recipes and tested them and to those who compiled the art, thank you. To the women who worked with our publisher, who set up our financial system, those who record our sales and to the many men and women who have delivered these heavy boxes to our customers, thank you. It is our fervent hope that this cookbook will continue through the ages to be used to the glory of God and the upkeep and operation of our historic church facilities. Again, thank you and God Bless you for all you've done to help make the cookbook a success.

EASTER Church Services

March 16 Palm Sunday
The Blessing of the Palms
All Services
Andy's Ordination 4:30 p.m.

Holy Week

March 17	Monday – Holy Eucharist	7:30 a.m.
March 18	Tuesday – Holy Eucharist	7:30 a.m.
March 19	Wednes. – Holy Eucharist	7:30 a.m.
March 20	Maundy Thursday – Holy Eucharist	10:00 a.m.
	Holy Eucharist & Stripping the Altar	7:00 p.m.
March 21	Good Friday Liturgy	12 noon
March 23	Easter Day – Festival:	
	Holy Eucharist I	7:30 a.m.
	Holy Eucharist II	9:00 a.m.
	Easter Egg Hunt	
	Church Yard	10:10 a.m.
	Holy Eucharist II	11:00 a.m.

Do YOU Need Healing?

The fact is, *every one* of us needs healing – physical, spiritual, emotional, or otherwise. And so each Thursday at 10 a.m. we conduct in the church a Communion service with prayer for healing. The service is just like a Sunday morning Rite II service, except in place of the *Prayers of the People*, we use a *Litany of Healing* from the Book of Occasional Services, and then those who wish to receive prayer for healing come forward to the rail, where the priest says a brief prayer for them as they may request. We pray for physical ailments, but also for guidance, the mending of relationships, alleviating emotional distress, and any other problem or concern. The service lasts less than 40 minutes. Please consider making this service a regular part of your week. God has blessed us with His presence, and with miracles of healing at our rail. It is a privilege to avail ourselves of this gift.