

**Check out Creator online  
[www.creatorfamily.net](http://www.creatorfamily.net)**

The newsletter submission deadline is the 25th of every month. Please submit your item(s) by email to: [creatornews@comcast.net](mailto:creatornews@comcast.net) or by handwritten or typed format and leave it with the Parish secretary.

**Newsletter Team**

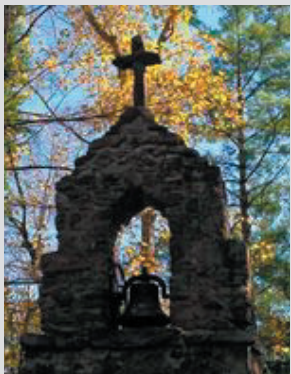
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**Praise and Adoration!**

Praise and adoration! That is the call of life in Christ! We are celebrating the Easter season once again, the resurrection of our Lord and the promise of new life fulfilled in His holy sacrifice, but isn't it so that our days are all too often afflicted with worry and depression? Isn't it so that our responsibilities weigh heavy upon us as we struggle to persevere through a time of hardship with apparently no end in sight? How can we raise ourselves up to praise and adoration amidst the pressures of these lives we live?

Can we not hear the voice of Jesus, calm and assured, speaking gently to us?

*28"Come to me, all you who are weary and burdened, and I will give you rest. 29Take my yoke upon you and learn from me, for I am gentle and humble in heart, and you will find rest for your souls. 30For my yoke is easy and my burden is light."*  
Matthew 11:28-29

At first it seems counterintuitive, "take my yoke upon you" He says, "take my yoke," but we are already carrying so much, that is part of the problem—how much we having to carry! And still He says "take my yoke," could it be that bearing this new burden we will be somehow liberated from the old?

We must understand that Jesus was not just speaking about the *yoke of the Law* by which the people were afflicted; He was speaking about the yoke of solitude, of pride, of self sufficiency. You will notice that Jesus does not say, "I will throw off your yoke and set you free," for we would not be free, remember that a *care-free life is not a life free from care.*

Our generation knows that all too well, we pride ourselves on our independence and yet we are not free of spirit, or emotion, or even of mind. We are not going to raise ourselves up to praise and adoration, we can't, if we could we would have done so already. Jesus tells us to take *His* yoke, to bear *His* life in relationship and service, to do so does not mean we abdicate our responsibilities or are suddenly free from our chosen path of work and family—it does mean that as we fulfill those same responsibilities we are doing so by relying on Christ and His love. It means that His sacrifice and call to us to follow Him are more than just words once spoken, they are the actions of our lives that we depend upon and He is the Savior that provides and transforms our burdens.

In Him we find perfect service and peace and that peace covers all of our goings and comings, our efforts are sanctified because we are striving in Him and it is His love that covers us and make our burdens light and easy to bear. He promises us that His love will bring new light into the gloom of our responsibilities and free our spirits to soar with His energy as we joyfully overcome that which was insurmountable before.

**Praise and Adoration!**

That is the call of life in Christ because when we are deep in the service of our Lord we are liberated to be more fully who we are meant to be, God's free daughters and sons.

**Praise and Adoration!**



**Praise and Adoration!**

*Peace  
3/17*

# ANNOUNCEMENTS

## **CREATOR FAMILY WEEKEND AT SHRINE MONT, JUNE 12 – 14, 2009**

Our weekend at Shrine Mont is a time for fun, relaxation, reflection, and camaraderie. It is a special place and a special time to share with family and friends. If you have never experienced Shrine Mont or if it has been a long time since you went, please join us. Imagine going to summer camp for families!

April 30th is the deadline for registration.

Please mail your registration form with a deposit of one half of your total cost to:

Church of the Creator  
7159 Mechanicsville Turnpike  
Mechanicsville, VA 23111

(Make checks payable to Church of the Creator).

Note: The second half of your total will be due by May 21st.

Please call Patti Jackson at 730-1921 or 350-2639 if you have any questions.



### **ALTAR FLOWERS**

In the upcoming year, you will have the opportunity to make a contribution toward altar flowers in honor of or in memory of a friend or loved one, to commemorate a special occasion, or simply to the glory of God. There is a flower chart in the narthex on which you can sign up. Please choose a date on the chart and write your name and dedication next to it. Your dedication will be noted in the bulletin on that date. Suggested contribution amount is \$25, which will go toward Creator's flower fund. Checks may be placed in the offering plate or mailed to the church. Please note "Altar Flowers" on the memo line.

### **MARK YOUR CALENDARS NOW! ARTS-IN-THE-PARK - MAY 2-3**

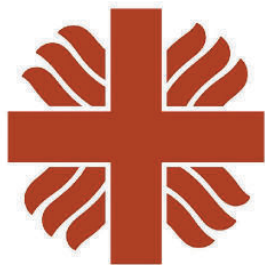
For the past 10+ years, Creator has been supplying the manpower for parking cars at Arts in the Park. We have accepted the responsibility again this year. In return the sponsor (Carillon Civic association) donates \$3500 - \$4000 to the church. Soon there will be a sign up sheet in the narthex for all those 14 yrs and older to volunteer on May 2 & 3!!!



### **USHER MINISTRY MAKE UP TRAINING - SUNDAY, MAY 10**

There will be a make up Usher Ministry training session for ALL ushers who were unable to attend the session on April 5. Training will be 1:30-2:30 p.m. Please make every effort to attend this session. If you cannot attend, please contact the Church Office or Chuck Stevens @559-8138 or creatornews@comcast.net. Father Bill will lead the session.

# ANNOUNCEMENTS



## **CARITAS MEANS CARING! JUNE 7, 2009.**

Creator has the opportunity to reach out once again and help in our community. We have signed up to support the efforts of St. James the Less in Ashland as they host a group of homeless from Richmond's CARITAS program. Our support will consist of providing dinner on Sunday night (6/7), breakfast early Monday morning (6/8), and bag lunches for them to take away on the bus. Members of our choir will entertain on Sunday evening, as well. Our plan for dinner is to imitate the Shrinemont Saturday meal of meat loaf, mac 'n cheese, and train wreck. The breakfast plan is to imitate our usual Sunday morning fare. We need cooks to cook, drivers to drive, servers to serve, cleaners to clean, singers to sing, and planners to plan. Everyone can lend a hand. We will have sign-up sheets posted in the narthex during May, so please help out however you can. See Nolan Heiter for details/questions.

## **MUSIC NOTES from Judy Brown**

On Sunday, May 10th, the Children's Choir will sing for the last time this season. This has been a good year for this choir with thirteen children finishing the season. The choir members include children in grades 1 through 7. Their anthem will be "Now Paul, He Was a Servant". The text tells some of the events in Paul's life with the message "When I am weak, God is strong". In addition to this anthem, the Children's Choir will join the Adult Choir to sing "A Repeating Alleluia" by Calvin Hampton. This will be the first time the two choirs are singing an anthem together. Come, join us for this special Sunday.



## **CREATOR ANNUAL YARD SALE - START SAVING YOUR STUFF!**

We will be holding our annual yard sale some time in August (the actual date is still TBD). If you have any stuff that you can't use, or if saleable stuff that you don't want anymore turns up during spring cleaning, don't give it away (yet). Save it for the Creator yard sale. If storage is a problem, contact either Jenny Burk or Steve Stuckey and we'll see what we can do. We will begin collecting your items in June.

# MEETINGS & EVENTS

## **BOOK CLUB**

The Women's Book Group will meet on Wednesday, May 20 at 7 p.m. at the Target coffee shop on Bell Creek Road. This month's selection is *Sundays at Tiffany's* by James Paterson.

## **LADIES NIGHT OUT**

Wednesday, May 13 - Chen's in Mechanicsville @ 6:30 p.m.. Call Jaye Body at 746-1567 or Karen Morris at 769-3899 for more information. Please join us!

## **MEN'S NIGHT OUT**

Contact Charlie Woods for information @ 746-1068.

## **RECURRING MEETINGS IN THE PARRISH HALL**

**Lectio Divina** - First Tuesday of each month (7 - 8 p.m.)

**Boy Scouts** - Tuesdays @ 7 p.m.

**Eucharist & Healing Service** - Wednesdays @ 6:15 p.m. & 6:45 p.m.

**Alcoholics Anonymous** - Saturdays @ 8 p.m.

**Families Anonymous** - Mondays @ 7 p.m.

**Vestry Meeting** - Second Thursday of each month @ 7 p.m.

**Mechanicsville Bereaved Parents** - Third Monday of each month from 3 - 6 p.m.

**Kairos Prison Ministry** - Saturdays (Check with Bill Burk)

**Drama Kids** - Thursdays @ 4:30 p.m. (Sept. - June)

# MINISTRY



## **RECYCLE MINISTRY**

“...Give us wisdom and reverence so to use the resources of nature, that no one may suffer from our abuse of them, and that generations yet to come may continue to praise you for your bounty...” BCP 827

### **Ink Cartridges**

Please use the recycle drop box located outside the Office door for your used printer ink cartridges. The recycler will pay the Church up to \$4 per cartridge. So toss in your used ink cartridges to help the environment and the Church!



### ***GOLF TOURNAMENT TO BENEFIT MCEF - MAY 16***

Hobbs Hole Golf Club in Tappahonock, VA is hosting a golf tournament to benefit MCEF. The tournament is scheduled for May 16 and set to begin at 8 a.m. Costs for the tournament is \$220 per foursome. Lunch is included. Sponsorships are available for businesses or individuals - \$100 per hole. ALL proceeds go to MCEF. For information and registration, contact Mike Duke, organizer of the event, @ 305-2399 or Russ Edwards, head of MCEF, @ 921-0902. Volunteers are needed to assist with the tournament. Contact Carolee Stuckey if you can volunteer at 559-3200 or [cwstuckey@comcast.net](mailto:cwstuckey@comcast.net).

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# MINISTRY LEADERS

Acolytes, Lay Readers, & Chalice Bearers -  
Sally Montgomery and Father Bill Burk

Altar Guild - Barbara Jennings

Boy Scouts of America (Troop 535) - Paul T. Marter

Children's Ministry - Christy Campos

Children's Church - Katherine Earls

Choir (Adults & Children's) - Judith Brown

Women's Book Group - Kathy Barclay

Finance Committee - Rick Benson

Hospitality - Nolan Heiter

Lay Eucharistic Ministry - Sally Montgomery

MCEF Food Closet - Carolee Stuckey

Meals for Parishioners - Elizabeth Lafoon

Men's Group - Charlie Woods

Nursery - Elaine Tuttle

Ushers - Chuck Stevens

Women's Group - Jaye Body and Karen Morris

Women's Retreat - Irene Hollins and  
Sally Montgomery

Youth Group - Christine Messere

# CHRISTIAN PARENTING SERIES

*Come away by yourselves to a secluded place and rest a while. Mark 6:31*

Have you ‘unplugged’ lately? My life is so busy that I rarely have a chance. I often fill up what free time I do have with unnecessary work or internet surfing. Between kids, work, bills, the house and yard, church activities and volunteer work, my life tends to speed by in a blur. Even family vacations are often squeezed into long weekends, with a stressed-out week of chores and travel preparation before, and a stressed out week of catching up after. We find strength in the Holy Spirit and power in the grace of God, but do we ever stop to recharge our batteries?

I want to be the best parent I can be, and much of that is addressed through actions - getting the kids up and dressed and fed and to school; working hard to earn my wage; feeding and bathing and reading to them, and putting them to bed. Some is accomplished through example – praying, taking them to church and participating in parish life; giving to and working for worthy causes; showing love and care and respect for our friends and neighbors; helping those in need.

But in all this work can the goal be lost? How busy can I let myself become? If the Lord commanded the apostles to go and spend some quiet time to rest and refresh, then doesn't he want the same for me?

As I write this, I am preparing to ‘unplug’ for a few days. Our choice of destination is Shrinemont, where I will spend a long weekend in communion with my wife and children, our friends, and our Lord. We hope to think as little as possible about our usual cares and worries. We hope to disconnect from the electronic world. I am more relaxed already than I usually am before a family trip. If this weekend comes close to the advance billing it has received from those I've talked to about it, I should return to the world about as limber as Gumby. And hopefully, the bonds of love holding my family together will be strengthened by the experience. And I will return to the world refreshed, ready to take on all the challenges God has put before me.

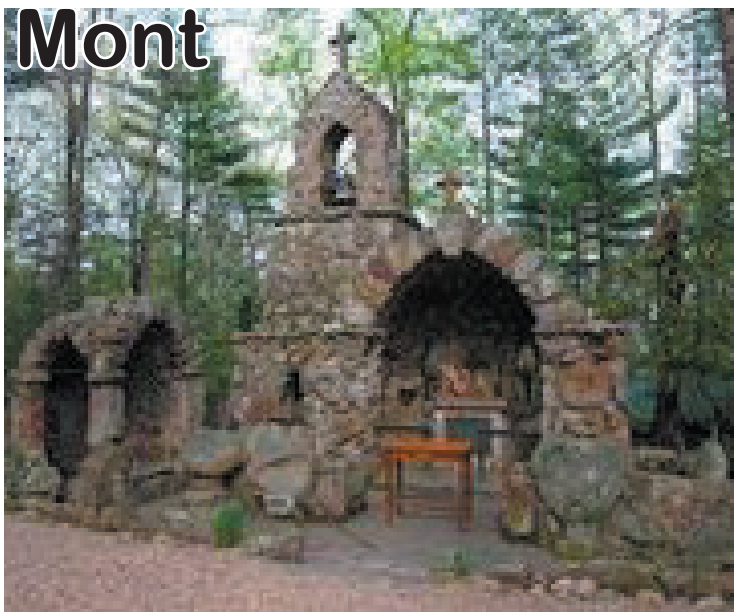
If you cannot or choose not to go to Shrinemont, I encourage you to find another way, another time soon to ‘unplug’. Go into a secluded place and rest a while. And let me know how you feel afterward.

Nolan Heiter

Nolan Heiter

*Reprinted from a series written in 2006*

## Shrine Mont June 12-14



Registration form  
available online  
[creatorfamily.net](http://creatorfamily.net)



The Episcopal Church of the Creator  
 7159 Mechanicsville Turnpike  
 Mechanicsville, VA 23111  
 804.746.8765 tel/fax

Sunday Worship Service  
 8 a.m. and 10:30 a.m.

NON-PROFIT ORG.  
 U.S. POSTAGE PAID  
 MECHANICSVILLE, VA  
 23111  
 PERMIT NO. 18

Rector  
 The Rev. William H. Burk  
 Office Hours: 9 a.m. - Noon, Monday - Thursday

Secretary  
 Davina Winn  
 Office Hours: 9 a.m. - Noon, Monday - Friday

## BIRTHDAYS

4	Lauren Michaux, Madelyn Knopf	19	Dorothy Suess
6	Patti Jackson	21	Danny Finck, Christian Greene
8	Anna Jennings, Jaye Body Carey Shell	22	Lynne Read
9	Anne White, Michael Read Nolan Heiter	23	Mary Jane English
15	Phillip and Robert Stuckey	27	Jamie Thorn
18	James Bragg	30	Rita Shell, Sam Saedan
		31	Deborah Miller



Watch over they children, O Lord, as their days increase;  
 bless and guide them wherever they may be.  
 Strengthen them when they stand;  
 comfort them when discouraged or sorrowful;  
 raise them up if they fall; and in their hearts  
 may they peace which passeth understanding  
 abide all the days of their lives;  
 through Jesus Christ our Lord, Amen. BCP 830