



# THE CANTERBURY CROSS

St. Thomas à Becket Episcopal Church, Morgantown, WV

July 2015

## ***Love Alone Won't Save Us***

*by Florita Stubbs Montgomery*

If you're standing on the riverbank while your children are drowning, your children need you to do more than love them. They need you to put that love into action: Jump in. Swim to them. Pull them from the river.

Oh, you don't know how to swim? Well, your love alone won't save them.

That's my worry about the well-meaning well-wishers in Charleston, South Carolina, and throughout America. Immediately after the nine worshipers were murdered in Emanuel African Methodist Episcopal Church, we witnessed heart-warming declarations of love not only for the victims' families and friends but also for all people of color.

"Hate won't win," they said. "Love will win. Love conquers hate."

How can "love" do that? Can "love" jump in and save the drowning children? No. Similarly, "love" alone won't save our country from hatred's deadly waters. We need more than *intangible feelings* of love to conquer *tangible demonstrations* of hate.

In more than one verse, scripture reminds us that God expects us to have good works. For Christians, "love" is an action verb.

**So, ". . . let us love, not in word or speech, but in truth and action." (1 John 3:18)**

Let's put love into action by learning how to pull people from hate's deadly waters. Know and act in truth. Let's walk the path of truth -- continually increasing our awareness, knowledge, and skills.

Where to begin? Increase awareness. Get some facts. First, read about slave owners' justifications for slavery. Discover more about how the stereotypes African Americans labor under today were concocted centuries ago to justify slavery and, later, to justify Jim Crow laws.

Slavery was abolished. Jim Crow laws (generally) have been repealed. The legacy of slavery, however, lives. African Americans daily face stereotypes that stem from slave owners' insistence that slaves were inferior in intelligence, morals, trustworthiness, and -- the list goes on. These stereotypes are buried deep into the American psyche (via media, schools, families, etc.). Love won't unearth them. Truth eventually will.

As we acquire awareness and knowledge, we can begin to act. Hear something? See something? Say something! Speak up and counter "uninformed" comments and practices -- at

home, at school, and at church. You will be surprised at how many people defend their actions by saying they didn't "intend" to hurt anyone. Intentionality does not mitigate harm. Let's stop the spread of lies.

Let's build our awareness, knowledge, and skill. Pick a source and begin.

### **Check the web, for example:**

Teaching Tolerance at [www.Teachingtolerance.org](http://www.Teachingtolerance.org) (Check the lesson plans and magazines!!)

Tim Wise at [www.timwise.org](http://www.timwise.org)

"Africans in America: America's Journey Through Slavery" at [www.pbs.org/wgbh/aia/home.html](http://www.pbs.org/wgbh/aia/home.html)

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## ***Letter Writing to End Child Hunger***

As St. Thomas members know very well, child hunger is a serious problem. We have supported Empty Bowls Monongalia from the early days with our energies, our talents, and our money. We have made a difference.

We have another opportunity to combat child hunger which will cost us only a few minutes. The Outreach committee invites all members to join us in a letter writing campaign to ask your legislators -- your senators and representatives -- to vote to continue funding the National School Lunch Program, the School Breakfast Program, the Summer Food Service Program, and the WIC Program.

Bread for the World is a "collective Christian voice urging our nation's decision-makers to end hunger at home and abroad." We will be writing letters as part of the Bread for the World initiative. Specifically, we will ask Congress to "continue strong investment in child nutrition programs that are not paid for by cuts to other vital safety-net programs".

Starting Sunday, July 19, and continuing through much of August, we will have letter writing stations set up in the Narthex and the Parlor. The stations will be stocked with stationary, stamps, pens, envelopes, addresses labels, and sample letters.

We ask each member of St. Thomas à Becket to take a few minutes before, between, or after the services to write three short letters to our senators and representatives urging them to vote for child nutrition programs serving 29 million low income children each year.



*Note from Mother Julie: Jesus said to Peter "Feed my lambs." (Jn 21:15). Through this non-partisan effort, we can help ensure the continued funding of the most effective tools for ensuring that our nation's most vulnerable children -- our "lambs" -- are fed.*

## Love Alone Won't Save Us

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### Read books, for example:

*Dear White America: Letter to a New Minority* by Tim Wise

*Dog Whistle Politics: How Coded Racial Appeals Have Reinvented Racism and Wrecked the Middle Class* by Ian Haney Lopez

*The New Jim Crow: Mass Incarceration in the Age of Colorblindness* by Michelle Alexander

*The Possessive Investment in Whiteness: How White People Profit From Identity Politics* by George Lipsitz.

*When Affirmative Action Was White: An Untold Story of Racial Inequality in 20<sup>th</sup> Century America* by Ira Katznelson.

### Then, Take Action!

Let's put love into action by fighting evil with knowledge and skill. Remember: The only thing necessary for the triumph of evil is for good men to do nothing.

## 'What's My Mission?' Consider Five Marks

How do you answer these questions?

"What is the mission of the Episcopal Church?"

"What is my mission within the Episcopal Church?"

"Why am I here?"

To begin to find answers for your life, turn to the Five Marks of Mission, which were developed by the Anglican Consultative Council between 1984 and 1990.

- To proclaim the Good News of the Kingdom
- To teach, baptize, and nurture new believers
- To respond to human need by loving service
- To seek to transform unjust structures of society
- To strive to safeguard the integrity of creation, and sustain and renew the life of the earth.

Episcopalians throughout the world rely on these practical statements as they develop activities to fulfill the mission of Christ in their lives and in their communities.

To learn more about the Five Marks of Mission, go to "What We Believe" at [episcopalchurch.org](http://episcopalchurch.org).

## Special Events Luncheon Thank You

by Laura Christian, Special Events Chair

The Parish Luncheon on June 14 included a delicious array of food from talented cooks and the help of other volunteers from our parish. The Steeple People Luncheon made a total of \$320.00 for the Capital Projects Fund and 33 meals were served.

Thank you to Cary Johnson, Aurie Acciavatti, Marlin Dehoff, Neha Lal, José Oquendo, and Jerrey Hoyt for assisting with organization and at the event! Our next lunch will be in September.

At our June meeting, we shared many ideas for fundraising in the future, including a guided jewelry making event and a Parent's Day Out/Kid's Activity day. Thanks to Allie Hamilton for the suggestions!

We will not be meeting in July due to conflicting vacation schedules, but look for exciting things to come later in the year. Our August meeting will be August 2.

## Take me out to the ball game!!

Join us for the Third Annual St. Thomas à Becket baseball outing!

Come to see the *new* West Virginia Black Bears play Mahoning Valley Mahoning Valley at 7:05 p.m. on Friday, August 28.

Stay after the game for post-game fireworks!!

Ticket prices: \$15 for adults; \$10 for children under 18

RSVP to Amy Robbins [amyLmrobbins@comcast.net](mailto:amyLmrobbins@comcast.net)

with the number of tickets you want and submit payment to the church with Baseball in the memo line no later than **August 16**.



## Community Kitchen News

Thanks to Becky Hoyt, Carolyn Zinn, Sarah Whitty, Bob Acciavatti, Aurie Acciavatti, and Adam Anderson for a very successful Saturday Soup Kitchen on June 13. We hear Becky's pasta salad was a hit with the 65 clients.

Thank you also to all who signed up for July and August. However, we just received word from The Rev. Mike Hadaway that due to other events to be held at Trinity, the Saturday Community Kitchen will be **cancelled in July and August**. We will start again in September.

### SAVE THE DATE

**Saturday, August 22nd**  
**Camp Muffly**  
**Morgantown, WV**

Proceeds will benefit Empty Bowls Mon

## *Jerrey Hoyt Receives Significant Award from Rotary!*

Congratulations to Jerrey Hoyt! He recently was given the “Brad Laidley Award” by the Morgantown Rotary for his commitment to Rotary and the people in it as well as others in our community. This award is only given to one Rotarian each year.



*Above right: Jerrey Hoyt shows his award.*

*Above left: Some of those who attended the luncheon, including from many from St. Thomas à Becket.*

## **Sunday School Summer News**

*by Amy Robbins, Director of Children’s Programs*

4-S (Summer Session Sunday School) continues during the summer. The Sunday School students will continue working on lessons this summer, learning about jobs from the Bible and doing crafts to go along with the lessons.

We want to thank all the teachers and volunteers who signed up to help with this program. Regular Sunday School and Youth Church will resume on August 30.

The Sunday School will again be collecting **backpacks** and **school supplies** for Scott’s Run Settlement House this summer; please leave any donations in the back of the SS room no later than July 26. Thank you for your support!

## ***Local Dental Clinic Grateful for Donation***

Did you know that dental patients with limited resources can be treated at Milan Puskar Health Right, Morgantown’s community-supported free clinic?

A part of the clinic’s community of support, St. Thomas à Becket recently received a letter of gratitude from Health Right for our \$1,000 donation to its Community Dental Partners Program.

“As requested, your donation will be used for the dental initiative, which provides dental care to our patients. Health Right could not do what it does without the commitment and generosity of a caring community,” wrote Executive Director Laura Jones, who said she was expressing gratitude on behalf of the clinic’s board of directors, staff, and patients.

Health Right is among the clinics in West Virginia struggling with severe state budget cuts.

## **St. Thomas à Becket Annual Parish Picnic with Fun and Games for the Sunday School Children**

*by Linda Yost, Parish Administrator*

On Sunday, May 31, St. Thomas à Becket held its Annual Picnic/Fun and Games Day. As always, the Picnic was a great time for parishioners to come together. There were plenty of games and activities for the children, a plant sale, and Sunday School held a bake sale.

Thanks you to Marlin Dehoff and Neha Lal, who sponsored a plant sale during the picnic. They generously donated the \$202.00 in proceeds from the sale -- giving half to Empty Bowls Monongalia and half to St. Thomas à Becket’s Capital Projects Fund.



*Above left; Ann Pahl sets up for the donut eating contest*



*Above right Anna Robbins, Gabriel Flanagan, and Collin Claycomb participate in the Donut Eating Contest.*



*Above left: Sean Flanagan supervises the relay race.*



*Above right: Ann Claycomb and Ian Claycomb enjoy the Fun and Games Day activities*



## ***In Next Month’s Canterbury Cross: CAMPING AT THE WHITE HOUSE!***

Pictured above: Amy Robbins, Kate Robbins, and 3 other members of their Girl Scout Troop make history on Tuesday, June 30, 2015! They, along with 46 other Girl Scouts, camped on the south lawn of the White House!

Look for Amy’s article in the August newsletter.

## *Our Worship Schedule*

The Rev. Julie B. Murdoch, Rector  
The Rev. Dn. Al Prichard



### **Sunday**

8:00 a.m. (Rite I, spoken)

10:30 a.m. (Rite II, with music)

*Nursery care and Sunday School with children's worship are offered during the 10:30 a.m. service.*

### **Tuesday - Saturday**

Morning Prayer, 8:30 a.m. *(except in the Rector's absence)*

### **Wednesday**

Holy Eucharist, 12:00 noon (Chapel)

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### **Please contact us at**

St. Thomas à Becket Episcopal Church

75 Old Cheat Road

Morgantown, WV 26508

304 296-0270 (emergencies: 304-282-4241)



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# July 2015

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
			<p><b>1</b> Noon Eucharist in Chapel</p>	<p><b>2</b></p>	<p><b>3</b> Church Office closed for holiday</p>	<p><b>4</b> <i>Independence Day</i></p>
<p><b>5</b> 8 a.m. Rite I 9:15 a.m. Becket Choir <b>Property Comm. Mtg</b> 10:30 a.m. Rite II 4-S</p>	<p><b>6</b></p>	<p><b>7</b></p>	<p><b>8</b> Noon Eucharist in Chapel</p> <p><b>SRSB Backpack Feeding Program</b> 1 p.m.</p>	<p><b>9</b> <b>Vestry Mtg.</b> 7 p.m.</p>	<p><b>10</b></p>	<p><b>11</b> [NO COMMUNITY KITCHEN THIS MONTH]</p>
<p><b>12</b> 8 a.m. Rite I 9:15 a.m. Becket Choir <b>Outreach Comm. Mtg</b> 10:30 a.m. Rite II 4-S <b>Finance Comm. Mtg.</b> <b>Spiritual Parenting Mtg.</b></p>	<p><b>13</b></p>	<p><b>14</b></p>	<p><b>15</b> Noon Eucharist in Chapel</p>	<p><b>16</b></p>	<p><b>17</b></p>	<p><b>18</b></p>
<p><b>19</b> 8 a.m. Rite I 9:15 a.m. Becket Choir 9:30 a.m. <b>Stewardship Comm. Mtg.</b> 10:30 a.m. Rite II 4-S <b>Columbarium Comm. Mtg.</b></p> <p><b>Writing for Kids' Food</b></p>	<p><b>20</b></p>	<p><b>21</b></p>	<p><b>22</b> Noon Eucharist in Chapel</p>	<p><b>23</b> <b>Women's Grief Support Group</b> 6 p.m.</p>	<p><b>24</b></p>	<p><b>25</b></p>
<p><b>26</b> 8 a.m. Rite I 9:15 a.m. Becket Choir 10:30 a.m. Rite II Sunday School</p> <p><b>Writing for Kids' Food</b></p>	<p><b>27</b></p>	<p><b>28</b></p>	<p><b>29</b> Noon Eucharist in Chapel</p> <p><b>SRSB Backpack Feeding Program</b> 1 p.m.</p>	<p><b>30</b></p>	<p><b>31</b></p>	