From the Partlows

Does it ever end? Jacob and Esau get their problems solved but then it resumes in the next generation with Joseph and his brothers. I don't know if anyone keeps score but I can't believe there have ever been more nations in violent strife, either internally or with neighbors or perhaps both. Pity John Kerry! The world seems hopeless and I think it is unless we all take heed of what the first verse of today's Psalm requires:

I will listen to what the LORD God is saying, * for he is speaking peace to his faithful people and to those who turn their hearts to him. Psalm 85:8

As we noted last week, the truth of God consumes in a cleansing fire all that is false. There is no truth that can face the ultimate truth of God and justify the violent death of children or any child of God. The problems of the world are neither political, religious, economic, or tribal they are spiritual! If you think you can stand before God and justify the death of a child, you are standing before a mirror not God and your religion is false. I commend to you Psalm 122:6:

Pray for the peace of Jerusalem...and Damascus, Tripoli, Gaza...and on and on...

We welcome Justin Davis today to talk to us about the development of his ministry as a young adult. Justin is a 2014 graduate of VCU and is with us to share his experiences in the Young Priest Initiative of the Diocese of Virginia. He will spend a year as YASC (Young Adult Service Corp) serving with the Mission to Seafarers in Hong Kong. The loose offering today will go to his work. If you wish to write a check to help with his mission, make it out to Fork Church and note "Justin Davis" in the "for" section.

CARITAS is coming! <u>VOLUNTEERS</u> NEEDED:

August 25th pm until 26th am
Prepare and serve supper and breakfast
Prepare bag lunches
Accompany guests to showers and laundromat
Stay the night with guests and CARITAS supervisor
For further information please contact:
Jenny Smith (241 1896) - micaminefarm@yahoo.com
Howard Anderson (804 514-6309) - hpjar@msn.com

Looking Ahead

August 21, 22 – Office closed

August 26 – The Reverend Nicholas "Nik" Forti arrives to take up his duties as Priest-in-Charge

August 26 – Vestry meeting 7-9PM

August 29 & 30 - Youth Confirmation Retreat

August 31 – First Sunday service with the Reverend Nicholas Forti