



December 2011

The Messenger

The Monthly Newsletter of The Episcopal Church of the Holy Cross; Tryon, North Carolina

www.holycrosstryon.org

From the Rector

The Very Rev. Dr. Michael Doty

As I write this we are fast approaching the last Sunday in Pentecost, Thanksgiving week and the beginning of Advent. The vivid palettes of brightly hued leaves are beginning to drop in bunches from the trees and the air is a little cooler each morning. Obviously, things are changing and a sense of anticipation is tugging at my heart and mind.

The season of Advent is just that, the season of change, the season of anticipation, the season of waiting, the season of looking forward in hope, and the season of knowing things are never going to be the same. As we hear the lessons read on Sunday mornings, when we participate in the Advent retreat led by Deacon Walters, as we are emotionally, physically and spiritually hauled through the holiday marathon and morass of Thanksgiving, Black Friday, shopping, parties and finally into Christmas and the blooming of the New Year things change.

In Advent we know that things change because we in the Church have rehearsed these days countless times over the centuries and we take comfort through these days in knowing that by the time we reach January 6th and the Epiphany that the promise of God to be intimately present for his people will be fulfilled in the person of Jesus of Nazareth, the Christ. Our Christian up-bringing, or perhaps just our cultural exposure to the hope of the Incarnation, helps us get through the Advent days of anticipation and uncertainty. We know there is something good waiting for us in the end and so we can endure the anticipatory anxiety and embrace the uncertainty.

This Advent is no different from any number of others, with the possible exception that our socio-economic structures, religious institutions and foundational assumptions about what it means to be a Christian and an Episcopalian in the 21st century are much more in flux. We know the old leaves are falling, the temperature is dipping and we have a sense that major change is in the making. God is somehow about to intervene, whether we like it or not. However, we have the comfort of knowing, if we will but embrace it, that even when our long held expectations and assumptions are challenged we need not be afraid. God is with us to lead us and guide us through whatever changes lie ahead, and in the end will be with us in the celebration of a new revelation of himself, and also of us.

Therefore, rejoice and be glad that we have been given a season wherein our anxieties and uncertainties and hope and joy can all be embraced at once in the expectation that God will bring a new reality to us, that as it was in the person of Jesus so will it be now – in the change will be know the blessed reality of God's loving presence. ■

Michael+

Report on the 90th Convention of the Diocese of Western NC

The Very Rev. Dr. Michael Doty

The 90th Convention of the Diocese of Western North Carolina was held November 11-13, 2011 at Kanuga. Present at the convention from Holy Cross were the Rev. Dr. Michael Doty, the Rev. Deacon Marilyn Walters, delegates Bill Hillhouse and Ambrose Mills, and alternate delegates Ben Davis and Jerry Pospisil.

The Rev. Deacon Marilyn Walters was appointed to the Lifelong Christian Formation committee of the diocese and Father Michael was appointed to be the Very Rev. Dr. Michael Doty and Dean of the Hendersonville Deanery.

The guest speaker was the Rev. Dr. David Gortner from Virginia Theological Seminary. His topic was evangelism.

In terms of business conducted, this is a summary of the resolutions that were presented and the action taken on each of them:

- ✦ A resolution put forward to limit the parish funds on which the diocese could establish an asking or assessment was defeated.

(Continued on page 3)



**The Episcopal Church of the Holy Cross
is a parish of the Diocese of Western North Carolina
The Rt. Rev. G. Porter Taylor, Bishop**

Rector

The Rev. Dr. Michael Doty

Clergy & Staff

The Rev. Marilyn Walters, Deacon
The Rev. Dolores Zeese, Retired Deacon
Wanda K. May, Parish Administrator
Susie Mahnke, Organist and Choir Director
Lori Walter, Finance Administrator
Henry Moffitt, Sacristan
Peter Fenn, Sunday Sexton

Vestry

Sam Doar, Senior Warden
Geoff Carey, Junior Warden
Boyd Correll, Ben Davis, Pat Komorous,
Lynn Page, Jerry Pospisil,
Doug Price, Faith Weathington, Greg Wright

Leadership Circle

Administration - Wanda May
Administrative Volunteers - Harriett Sams
Messenger - Greg Wright
Funeral Coordination - Marilyn Walters
Funeral Receptions - Joan Lonnes, Ruth Goodson,
Pat Martin and Shirley Bradley
Foyers - Wanda Doar, Katy Murphy,
Wednesday Suppers - Greg Wright
Sunday Morning Coffee Hour - Penn Dean
Special Events - Ellen Carey
Birthday Celebrations - Geoffrey Carey, Peter Fenn
Shepherd's Program - Barbara Salmon, Dorothy Wyckoff
Inreach Support Groups - Bill Kelly, Jeanne Mills
Grief Support - Mary Hales, Cam Lawrence
Memorials - Lynn Page
Treasurer - Bill Hillhouse
Budget - B. Hillhouse, L. Walters
Investments - Bill Jenks
Stewardship - Sam Doar
Funds Disbursement - Bill Hillhouse
Properties - Ben Davis
Rental Property - Ben Davis
Landscaping - Ben Davis
Kitchen Oversight - Ellen and Geoff Carey
Worship - Rector, Music Director
Altar Guild - Lynn Page
Flower Guild - Mimi Pospisil
Music - Susie Mahnke
Lay Ministry - Sam Doar
Spiritual Growth - Rector
Youth - Paul Zimmerman, Sam Doar
Daughters of the King - Barbraann Barraud
Outreach - Pam Doty
Church Of The Advocate - Ken Rossen
Thermal Belt Outreach - Cindy Barnett
Hospice - Cam Lawrence
Steps to Hope - Mary Hales
Meals on Wheels - Pam Doty
Indigent Care - Pam Doty

The Episcopal Church of the Holy Cross seeks to welcome, love, and serve all people, as we come to know God through Jesus Christ

Angel Tree Gifts

for Thermal Belt Outreach clients are due very soon. You may take your WRAPPED gifts to the 4-H center in Columbus on Saturday, December 3. or take them directly to Thermal Belt Outreach on White Drive in Columbus on Monday, December 5.

PLEASE DO NOT BRING THEM TO THE CHURCH.

Grace Notes

Thanks to **John Walters** for making all the banners for All Saints' Day. Your time and handiwork is much appreciated.

Many thanks to **Penn Dean** for coordinating our coffee hour volunteers and for keeping the coffee supplies stocked. Your work helps to create a welcoming and friendly environment for newcomers and the entire Holy Cross community.

A round of applause to **Audrey Klatte** and **Harriett Sams** for helping stuff stewardship packets. Thanks for helping out with this very important task.

Hearty thanks to **Paul Zimmerman** for spending some time in the church parking lot blowing away those dangerous acorns. Thanks **Paul** for insuring our safety!

We appreciate the good efforts of **Cee Cee Wilmanns** for hanging new flags and fixing the flagpole hardware. It looks great!

The **Handbell Choir** was splendid in when they performed following the November Wednesday Night Dinner. Thanks for being good sports and presenting a fun program.

Accolades to the **choir** and **Susie Mahnke** for the wonderful Evensong. Thank you for your time and talents and for presenting us with a wonderful evening of worship and contemplation. Bravo!

Kudos to **everyone in the parish** who has made special contributions to our outreach funds...your giving will help those in need.

Please send YOUR Grace Notes to wmay@holycrosstryon.org

You can find program information, weekly schedules, sermons, and more on the Holy Cross website www.holycrosstryon.org

"The Messenger" is published monthly.

If you would like to see an article on a specific topic in future editions, have any suggestions for further improving The Messenger, or would be interested in writing for the publication, please contact:

Wanda May (828-859-9741 or wmay@holycrosstryon.org) or
Greg Wright (828-894-3482 or gawright@windstream.net).

We welcome your thoughts and ideas.

(Continued from page 1)

- ✦ A resolution to change Canon 18 to include all worshipping communities in the diocese was passed.
- ✦ A resolution to establish a Commission on Mission and Structure for the diocese was passed. This commission will be recommending policy and structure changes to diocesan ministries over the next five years.
- ✦ A resolution setting minimal compensation for full time clergy was passed.
- ✦ A resolution defining diocesan stewards as 10-10-10 (a minimal ten percent from the pews to parish ministries, ten percent from each church to diocesan ministries, and ten percent from diocesan ministries to the national church office ministries) was passed.
- ✦ A resolution to change Canon 8 making a ten percent fiving from each church to the diocese mandatory rather than voluntary was defeated.
- ✦ A resolution defining ten percent as the minimal base for parish giving to the diocese was passed.
- ✦ A resolution calling on the 77th General Convention to enter into a advisory role in the Palestinian/Israeli conflict was passed.
- ✦ A resolution endorsing the charter for Lifelong Christian Formation was passed.
- ✦ A resolution disestablishing the Highland Episcopalian Board and replacing it with a Commission on Communication was passed.
- ✦ A resolution calling the 77th General Convention to institute structural reform in The Episcopal Church was passed.
- ✦ A resolution calling for the status and function of the Presiding Bishop to be that of a diocesan bishop who only presides over the House of Bishops rather acting as a Primate with a standing bureaucracy was tabled.
- ✦ A resolution rejecting the proposed Anglican Covenant was passed.
- ✦ A resolution establishing the 2012 operating budget for the diocese was passed.

Copies of these resolutions are posted on the bulletin board in the church offices hallway. If you have any questions about any of them, please see Father Michael. Copies of the Bishop formal address to the convention and his sermon from the convention Eucharist are posted as well. You may also read the resolutions and read or hear the Bishop's address and sermon at http://www.diocesewnc.org/dfc/newsdetail_2/3150188 and <http://www.diocesewnc.org/Convention/resolutions.html>.

The 91st diocesan convention was set for November 8-10, 2012 at Kanuga with the Hendersonville Deanery hosting the convention. ■

From the Organ Bench. . .

By Susie Mahnke

Dear Congregation and Choir,

Many thanks to all of you for a lovely Choral Evensong on All Saints Sunday, November 6. Our dedicated choir worked diligently for weeks in advance to prepare the music, giving themselves fully to the worship and music experience. Then, many members of the community and you, the congregation, gave of your time to attend our evening service. It was inspiring to have so many of you with whom to share evening prayer. We were indeed blessed.

The season of Advent now is here. We have announced our Advent recital series and other music and worship services of the season. On the first Sunday of Advent, the choir will sing an anthem by Libby Larsen, *Lord, Before This Fleeting Season*. The text, by Mary Ann Jindra, poetically reminds us to walk slowly, to do less this busy season, to kneel more, and to simply, peacefully celebrate our Lord.



Bach's Lunch - Wednesdays at Noon Advent Recital Series 2011

Holy Cross will host a series of 30 minute recitals on Wednesdays at 12:00 noon during the four weeks of Advent. A box lunch will be available.

- ✦ November 30 - John Gardner, organ Chorale Preludes for the Advent Season
- ✦ December 7 - Jessica Stewart, violin, accompanied by Susie Mahnke, organ
- ✦ December 14 - John Malloy, violin; Rex Gallatin, French horn; Kymric Mahnke, piano; performing the Trio in E flat major, Op. 40, for horn, violin, and piano, by Johannes Brahms
- ✦ December 21 - Crys Armbrust, organ

Please take this opportunity to hear some of Tryon's fine musical talent. Come, and bring friends! ■

Susie has been organist and choir director at Holy Cross since June 2010. She and her husband, Kym, have been members of Holy Cross for over four years. Kym, an attorney with Nelson, Mullins, Riley & Scarborough Law Firm in Greenville, is a dedicated choir member and a pianist. They have two adult sons, Fritz and Byron.

Reflections from the Breakfast Table

By Dolores Zeese



Reflection is that attunement of the imaginative and the intuitive parts of our inner being, giving yourself over to openness, freedom and vulnerability. It means walking through very ordinary days with a heart that is open to surprises and wonders, graced by the insight of the moment and aware of the feelings that accompany that insightful moment. Out of the daily stream of busy-ness and activity, the here and now, there will often be a revelation of God and His will for us. (Sr. Joyce Rupp)

It's hard to believe that another year is almost at an end, and what a year it has been. As usual, we think back over the year, and for many of us it has been a year of sorrows and changes. The holy season of Advent will be upon us as you receive this month's issue of the Messenger, and the feast of Christmas is right behind. There is probably no season of the year on either our sacred or secular calendars that we face with the same measure of anticipation or delight. For many, this is by far the favorite season of the church year.

Advent is the season that is all about waiting. Peaceful waiting. Expectant waiting. Patient waiting. We're waiting for the coming of Christ; both the baby whose birthday we'll soon celebrate as well as the king whose return we anticipate. It is a season of preparation, a time to get ready, a time to go shopping, a time to make Advent Wreaths, go caroling, and bake favorite goodies. By the time it's over, we need a vacation from the holidays. But, Advent, more than any other season of the church year, asks us to slow down and prepare for the days to come by leading quiet, prayerful and more simply faithful lives. We dwell in a time and place of so much hustle and bustle, (especially in the ways the world outside the church would prepare for coming of Christmas!) that it feeds a deep yearning and need in our souls to just stop, be still, and prepare.

As Christians, we are called to many things; repentance, good works, forgiveness, loving kindness, service stewardship, praise and worship. We are called to listen to the voices of the ancient prophets. On each of the four Sundays of Advent we will hear a rousing call to holy living and true discipleship in the stories of those men and women who God set apart in ancient times to make the way for the coming Christ. We will be called to look more deeply and honestly at our own lives and the world around us. We'll be invited to make smooth the rough places in our lives and in the world, and we'll be encouraged to rejoice and embrace the blessings of our lives, even as we witness more neediness than at any time in recent memory. C.S. Lewis, in his book "Mere Christianity" reminds us that, "everyone must work, so that we may have something to give to those in need." Giving to the poor is an essential part of Christian morality, but we hear some people today state that charity ought to be unnecessary and that instead of giving to the poor, we ought to be producing a society that will be free of the poor. However, I don't think we should give up giving in the meantime, and if we look around this beautiful county we call home, we will find ample opportunities to fulfill this mandate. "Inasmuch as ye have done it unto one of the least of these my brethren, ye have done it unto me." Mt. 25:40

The prophets call to us is not meant to add burden or guilt to our lives, but rather to help lighten our loads and clear the way in our hearts, minds and spirits for a renewed and joyful encounter with Jesus.

Be still. Look. Listen. Prepare. Christ is coming! ■

Hugs from DZ

Dolores and husband Paul are the proud grandparents of 15, and great grandparents of 9. The Zeeses' are now living at White Oak Village.

Becoming a Pilgrim

by Hilary Giner-Sorolla

*No lion can him fright,
He'll with a giant fight,...*

Those words were penned by an English, Christian writer John Bunyan (1628-1688) describing the courage necessary to become a pilgrim.

This important spiritual activity which had its heyday in the 13th through 16th Centuries, is rarely documented in history books but this is changing. Thanks to the use of metal detectors, relics of lead ore, discarded during journeys to and from shrines such as Canterbury, Walsingham and St. Andrews, Scotland, are being revealed. These finds such as inscribed medallions and flasks which contained holy water, are of great interest to historians.

Some of these pilgrims went to make a pact with God in gratitude for a life saving incident, to confess a burdensome sin or to ask for healing. Most often, however, they went after receiving a punishment handed down by a church court; if this was the case, the offender had to shave his head, leave his family, fast, and set out walking with bare feet. If a person had committed a serious crime then the church court would send him to Jerusalem which in those days was akin to a death sentence.

I recently visited the Eastbridge Hospital which was founded during the time of the martyrdom of St. Thomas Becket in 1170. It is situated in the heart of Canterbury as lodging for poor pilgrims visiting the cathedral shrine. The Hospital is still in use today providing accomodation for the elderly, and open use of its two chapels, a focus for modern day pilgrims. On entering this ancient building, a creepy feeling came over me. I am not sure I would be comfortable spending the night there in the company of so many ghosts! ■

The Order of the Daughters of the King is seeking women who might be interested in our ministry. We are empowered by the Holy Spirit. Our vision as Daughters of the King is to know Jesus Christ, to make him known to others, and to become reflections of God's love throughout the world. All women are welcome. Please contact Barbraann Barraud at 864 457-2323, for more information.



The Stewardship Season

The Very Rev. Dr. Michael Doty

Well, it's that time of year again. For churches and other nonprofit organizations the months of September through November are always pre-occupied with financial planning for the coming year. The euphemism often employed for these weeks in the Church is "the Stewardship Season" wherein we conduct the "every member canvas" or "the annual pledge drive" or some such thing. Well, let's just be honest – it's really about fund raising for the upcoming year and often has very little to do with true stewardship.

Genesis 1:26 says, "Then God said, 'Let us make humankind in our image, according to our likeness; and let them have dominion over the fish of the sea, and over the birds of the air, and over the cattle, and over all the wild animals of the earth, and over every creeping thing that creeps upon the earth.'" That is the fundamental definition of stewardship. We, being creatures made in the image of God (i.e. with intelligence and free will), have been given charge over everything else in creation – fish, birds, animals, creepy-crawlies and all. In ancient Hebraic law that means we are God's "shaliachs" or "agents." We have been empowered with God's own authority to care for God's creation; to see that it flourishes and increases in goodness. That law also states that when the appropriate time comes the master will seek an accounting from the agent and the "shaliach" will be held responsible for the stewardship entrusted to him.

If you have any doubts about that, read Jesus' Parable of the Wicked Tenants in Matthew 21:33-40, Mark 12:1-12 or Luke 20:9-19. In that parable Jesus was specifically addressing the lack of good stewardship demonstrated by the Sadducees and the Pharisees in the Temple at Jerusalem, but the implications for our whole lives and the responsibilities we bear for all creation and for our fellow human beings on this planet is still the same. We, by virtue of our creation, have the responsibility to be good stewards of every resource entrusted to us and every life that comes in contact with our own.

The hard part for many of us is taking to heart the fact that we do not truly own anything. Everything we have – every skill and every opportunity – is a gift from God entrusted to our use for God's purposes of creation's life and wholeness. None of our possessions or toys really belongs to us. We may like to think we worked hard for them, but who gave us the skills, the health, the energy, and the circumstances in which to grow the resources necessary to attain our possessions? Our egos will say we did, but our honest spirits will know better.

Holy Scripture sets forth an expectation for how we are to give thanks for those gifts. The minimum expectation is that ten percent off the top ("the first fruits") is returned to God in some way. Now as a working pastor my temptation is to say as we have always said, "Bring it to the Church," but I have changed my mind about that over the past few years. Stewardship is about our entire lives and the many ways we can be of help to God's work in the world, and that work is not always directly through the institution of the Church. A tithe can be given in any number of ways that do the works of love and mercy, or that somehow preserves and builds up our communities and the world.

Fund raising in the Church and other nonprofit institutions is a reflection of good stewardship, but since we all know that if we are to keep our church doors open and our nonprofit institutions active and healthy the money for that comes only from we who value those ministries and who are willing to support them as is necessary. The present economic realities determine that we have to make serious, and often tough, choices about how and where we share our resources. Good stewardship, being a true "shaliach" who is always prepared to give an accounting of one's responsibilities, may mean that we not only offer our minimal gift for God's accounting but for the sake of the whole we use much less for our own needs and give far more to the needs of others, for the preservation of creation, and the well-being of all.

So, I ask that each of you be a good "shaliach" in these challenging economic times. Please, give generously to Holy Cross so your vestry and church staff may continue, with you, to do the good works of the Holy Spirit. Also, make offerings and gifts to your favorite charity or nonprofit institution that they may continue to do the works which enhance and preserve the best of our lives. And, if necessary, do without something extra on another's behalf, knowing that such a sacrifice is always well done and will always be noticed and blessed by God. ■

From the Flower Guild

by Mimi Pospisil

Remember to get your poinsettia dedication cards (and checks) so that we can decorate the church for Christmas. Cards will be due in the office by December 18th. Any cards received after that date will not be included in the bulletin.

The Altar Flower chart 2012 is on the table by the Sacristy. Please consider giving altar flowers in honor of your loved ones. This a special way to remember and honor them on special and meaningful days and it helps make the altar beautiful as we worship.

Thank you to everyone who has contributed these many years to the flower guild. Because of you we get to make arrangements for all to see and enjoy.

December 22nd Thursday 10:00 am. Decorate the church

We need helpers to decorate. We need help from the men to help put up the Christmas tree and do the lights, cut some greenery, etc.

Call me for any questions...828 859-9275, leave a message. ■

Mimi and Jerry Pospisil

By Hoppy Long

"It all started at Holy Cross"

Mimi was born Margaret Erskine Bartol and she is a native of Tryon. Mimi was baptized, confirmed and married at Holy Cross. She attended Tryon Elementary and grew up in the church and was the third of four children. She was a member of the Girls Friendly Society, a forerunner of EYC, and she enjoyed roller skating and learning some of her favorite songs which she still loves today. She says she only participated in sports when she was forced.

Mimi and her siblings all went off to school to finish high school and she went to Ashley Hall in Charleston. Mimi won art awards in school (are we surprised), and she made her own clothes and won awards for that also. She recalls her class going to Europe after graduation and one friend lost her luggage and lived out of Mimi's suitcase wearing the clothes she made in school. Mimi attended Marjorie Webster Junior College in Washington, DC, and her major was medical and secretarial. She took a Religion Class there, and on the final exam they were asked to distinguish between the two Marys in the Bible. Only Mimi and one other girl got the correct answer. At graduation in the baccalaureate speech, this professor referred to the exam question and the two girls with the right answer.

After Marjorie Webster, Mimi took a year off and then attended Spartanburg Technical College and worked at Spartanburg Hospital, which is now Regional. Mimi enjoyed being a vampire and drawing blood from patients. She also confesses to loving cocktail parties where she liked to check out large veins especially on the men.

Around 1969, Mimi became the first woman pilot from Polk County. She loved flying and was a daredevil. During her solo she dared to do 'a touch and go' and the instructor was heard to say, "What the h - - - is she doing!" (Before the flight she was hanging out with other pilots and they talked about 'touch and go's... They said don't stop keep going. So she did.) She flew several small planes and graduated to the 5 and 6 passenger planes which she said took brute strength to fly because the aircraft was so heavy. She delighted in doing snap rolls and spins and confesses that the favorite pastime in the air was to drop a roll of toilet paper out the window from a very high altitude and then do loops and rolls clipping the streamer several times with the wing as it fell to the earth. She relates that she also flew sky divers. She later took Jerry up one time, and once back on the ground he swore never to fly with her again after "hot dogging" over her sister's house, and doing other maneuvers which scared him half to death. (Note: this is our own sweet Mimi)

In 1973, Mimi went to Converse and while there decided to travel with a friend to work at Disney during the summer. She interviewed for the part of Cinderella, gown, curls and all, only to find out that they only had a Cinderella at Christmas. She was discovered crying in the stairwell by none other than Jerry Pospisil. He took her out on five dates at Disney and then asked her to marry him. They were married at Holy Cross with a large reception at 'Sunny Dale' (the log cabin by IGA) and the story goes that people came from all over and they partied for a solid week.

Jerry was born in Port Townsend, Washington. His parents were in the war and his mom was the Purchasing Clerk for the Navy. She supplied materials for the USS Ticonderoga when the ship came into port. Now, Mimi's daddy was a Lt. Commander on that ship and it has been surmised that most likely the paths of the parents of the future couple crossed, not knowing that their offspring were to meet and marry many years later.

After the war, Jerry's parents moved to Orange County, CA, and Jerry attended high school there and lettered in baseball, football and basketball. His team won the state championship in football. Jerry was also a member of the Future Farmers of America and he raised prize winning hogs.

Jerry attended college in Mt. San Antonio in Walnut, California and later transferred to Cal Poly Pomona where he studied Horticulture and Landscape Architecture. He began working for Disney and soon became a restaurant manager. He was sent to the Celebrity Sports Center in Denver to improve the food and beverage facilities. He was called to active duty in the Army and he became a Topographical Surveyor for the Army Corps of Engineers.

After being discharged, Jerry went back to Disney as a full time manager. Within a year he was asked to relocate and open up Walt Disney World in Orlando, running all the fast food operations for the Magic Kingdom. At first Orlando could not supply enough hamburger buns, and they had to be delivered from a bakery in Tampa.

Jerry and Mimi continued for thirty one years at Disney where they raised two children. Jerry became a Hotel Operations Manager, and then became the Assistant General Manager of the campgrounds, after which he went into Resort Development which led to 10,000 resort hotel rooms. He finished his career with Disney as General Manager of the Polynesian Resort. After this, he opened a construction company and JBP Consulting where he provided support in the area of Theme Park and Recreational Development which facilitated much traveling. His consulting business took him to places like Saudi Arabia to build a theme park, as well as theme park properties all around the US.

Mimi and Jerry moved back home to Tryon in 2002. Jerry's parents were here and he became actively involved with Rotary and Tryon Arts and Crafts. He served on the vestry for four years at Holy Cross, as well as serving on the properties, stewardship and finance committees. Mimi is the chairman of the flower guild at Holy Cross as well as teaching lapidary and pottery at TAC, and she helps teach sewing to the members of the 4-H Club.

Holy Cross is honored to have you among us with your smiling faces and your many talents. ■

Hoppy Long has been at Holy Cross since 1996 serving in various ministries. She enjoys music, golf, and bridge. If you would like to be featured in The Messenger or know of someone we should get to know, please contact Hoppy at 828-894-5173.



Holy Cross Youth Happenings

by Paul Zimmerman

The Sunday morning classes with the Holy Cross Youth are off to a great start. This year's theme is "Explore our Faith and Serve our Lord" and are being lead by Sam Doar with assistance from Paul Zimmerman. The year will be spent exploring other faiths and finding ways to serve our community in small everyday ways. Thanks to Father Michael for kicking off the year with a great talk on the origins of the various denominations. Mimi Pospisil also has the group started on a prayer button project.

The third Sunday of every month will be a field trip to other churches and/or to explore service projects. The first trip this past October 16 found us taking a trip to Benson Hall to lead the 11 AM service for the residents. Madison, Annie, Elizabeth, Joaquin, Alita and David all took part. Much to Sam's relief (he had a sore throat) Joaquin volunteered to do all the officiant readings! All the Youth took turns reading portions of the service and afterward remained behind to spend time with the residents – all of whom expressed their delight at being around such youthful energy. Youthful energy that was partly burned off by a lunch and hike to Pearson's Falls afterward.

There is a video of the service on the Holy Cross Youth Facebook page and we encourage you to view, and share it. <https://www.facebook.com/pages/The-Youth-Of-The-Episcopal-Church-Of-The-Holy-Cross-Tryon-NC/183398011739144>

The Youth's Facebook page is new this year! On it you will find photos, upcoming events and over time even more. If you haven't already done so please take a moment to go there and "like" the page to show your support!



By the time you read this the Youth will have taken their first field trip to another church. Trinity Presbyterian in Hendersonville, NC. Photos and more on that in the next Messenger!

December's trip is a special one. On December 18 we will be attending the service at All Soul's Cathedral in Asheville. The service during this time of year is particularly lovely. The day will not end there, however. Afterward will be a visit and lunch on the Biltmore Estate to see the house and grounds.

We would like to invite all the Youth who attend Holy Cross to join our group. We have some exciting and interesting events planned and we'd love to see you there. Please come see us Sunday Morning's at 9:30 in the classroom or catch Sam or Paul anytime. And come join us in Asheville! ■

Paul has had presence in the foothills for close to twenty years – twelve of them full time. Paul is a full time Rosarian, enjoys working on the farm and also volunteers at the Hospice Thrift Barn. Paul is Pam Stone's other half and should not be confused with the "Paul" in Pam's weekly "I'm Just Saying" column.

Youth Group Luminary Project

by Paul Zimmerman

The Memorial Garden at Holy Cross promises to be awash in the luminary glow of candlelight this Christmas Eve. In the European tradition of children placing candles in the cemeteries on Christmas Eve, the Holy Cross youth will be lighting and placing one luminary for each of the over 275 loved ones in the Memorial Garden before the first service on Christmas Eve. They will bathe the garden in light all the way through the late service. Fifty additional luminaries are being offered to remember those not in the garden. Each is a candle with a sleeve placed over it that allows the light to shine through and will have the name of the person being remembered on it. This is not a one time project. The luminaries are re-useable and this is planned as an annual Christmas Eve event.

If you would like to help the fifty additional luminaries are being offered at a suggested minimum donation of \$5 each. General donations are also appreciated to help offset the cost. Additionally if you just wish to help with the lighting and placing of the luminaries your time will also be welcome! Please see Sam Doar or Paul Zimmerman for all of the above.

And be sure to support and thank our Holy Cross Youth by not only coming by the Memorial Garden on Christmas Eve, but also by saying a thank you whenever you see them! ■

What's happening with HOSPICE of the Carolina Foothills?

by Cam Lawrence

At the moment, the patient census is 90. These patients may be at home, living in an area nursing facility or at the Hospice House in Landrum. Every day, they need care of various types: nursing, social work, religious and spiritual support and volunteer support. Every day, supplies are needed to carry out this care.

As we enter Advent and Christmas, please remember these patients. Here are some suggestions for ways to remember:

- ✦ **Make a donation to the patient care supplies** fund by dropping supplies in the box in the hall for Hospice. If it is more convenient, **write out a check marked for Patient Supplies** and mail to Hospice of the Carolina Foothills, 130 Forest Glen Drive, Columbus, NC 28722
- ✦ Plan to make a commitment to **volunteer in some capacity** in 2012. A new class will be starting in January.
- ✦ Give special thought to **volunteering as a patient care volunteer**. With such a large patient census, some patients are without a volunteer at this important a time in their lives. Patient Care Volunteers do many things: sitting, reading, visiting, feeding patients or providing services to the family. The reward of helping someone live their last days to the fullest is greater than the effort put forth.

Please call JEAN PEARSON, Hospice Volunteer Coordinator at 894-7000 to learn more or your Hospice Good Samaritan Volunteer, Cam Lawrence at 457 4469. ■

Foyer Groups

by Katy Murphy

As the fall session closes, foyer groups are finishing strong. All the evenings of delicious food, fascinating conversations, and fellowship will culminate in the Christmas celebrations. Sunday December 11 Hoppy Long (groups 4-6) and Peter Franklin and Greg Wright (groups 1-3) will be hosting our gatherings. Please bring an appetizer and beverage of your choice. Thank you for opening your homes to us.

The spring 2012 foyers groups will start meeting again in February. If you need to change your Foyer Group status--- step out or rejoin please let Katy Murphy know by the first of January.

And for any parishioners whose New Year's resolutions include being more involved at Holy Cross..... Foyer Groups are a great way to meet members in a informal small group setting.

Foyers practice outrageous hospitality! ■



Holy Cross Scholarships

by Cam Lawrence

It is again time to reach out from Holy Cross and serve our own students and those of the community who plan to further their education after high school graduation. The Holy Cross Scholarships are awarded to students in our community who demonstrate a serious attitude about academics, financial need, and community and church involvement.

Applications for the Holy Cross Scholarship are due March 1, 2009. The application must be complete and turned in by 4 PM on the day due (March 1) to the Church Office. Upcoming graduates of Landrum and Polk County High schools should contact their school's guidance department for applications.

Previous recipients of the Holy Cross Scholarship who wish to reapply should contact the Church Office at 859-9741 to obtain an application for reapplication if they do not have one already. ■

Anglican History

By Henry Moffitt

As we go on through our Church's history, we must not neglect happenings on the Continent and their impact on English Christendom. From 1309 to 1417 the Church was subjected to considerable stress, first by the Papacy's moving to Avignon in France owing to dangers in Rome (til 1377), and then, the Papacy having returned to Vatican in 1378, a series of antipopes. This latter caused no small distress in the Church with different nations siding with Pope or antipope. The great mystics of that time, those who were close to God somehow bypassing the Church hierarchy, were equally divided as to who was the true Pope. Such a thing gave rise to doubts in some Christian circles about the Pope's role as 'Vicar of Christ', or whether one was needed at all. As it was, a Council met at Pisa and elected a third claimant to the Papacy! Finally a Council was called at Constance by the antipope John XXIII (no relation to Pope John XXIII of blessed memory who is a Saint on our Calendar) to sort the matter out.

One finds in this time frame, and through the 15th century a great rise in gnostic Albigensian beliefs (found in popular literature), and also the rise of Puritanism amongst the Catholic believers. (In Islamic nations, one finds the arising of the Sharia law, which in many respects was similar, at the same time. Though Puritanism is associated with the Calvinists, its antecedents were already in place from the 14th century; indeed, Calvin appears to have moderated it somewhat in his teachings.)

We also see a rise in Church abuses as well, often by the twisting and distorting of normal Roman Catholic doctrines into something that would scare the money out of the unlearned so that various ecclesiastical projects could be carried out, and for the aggrandizement of various clerics' positions and dignities. Populations were slowly falling, owing to plague, and famine brought on by global cooling. The great cathedrals, even some of the larger parish churches were rather expensive to run; often they had gone into debt for a building project before the plague hit, and then afterwards, the number of donors was only half to two-thirds of what it was. Stewardship was turned to extortion and people were beginning to get fed up with it. But with all the abuses (and it seems historians love 'dirt' as much as tabloid writers; I am guilty of that as well!) one must keep in mind the great numbers of parish priests like Chaucer's priest in the 'Canterbury Tales' who, perhaps lacking in knowledge, yet did their best to escort their flocks into Heaven. One sees much about the abuses and their perpetrators, yet the number of conscientious clerics was perhaps far greater than the number of bad ones, even in cathedrals and the Vatican.

It was in such a milieu that Wycliffe worked, and also one John Huss, a Czech priest who was Dean of the Philosophical Faculty at the University of Prague. Here we have someone who was high up on the Church's 'totem pole' who began clamoring for reform in the Church, attacking immoral clergy and arguing for communion in both kinds. He borrowed extensively from Wycliffe and even had his books put into the Czech language. What kept him out of the Church's clutches was political power. His Bishop, Sbinco von Hasenburg, supported him for a while, but then shifted his allegiance to the Pisan line of antipopes. It was antipope John XXIII who finally had Huss condemned and burnt at the stake, despite efforts of the Holy Roman Emperor Sigismund to spare him; the Czechs honor him as a Martyr to this day, a great national hero, and in recent times Pope John Paul II removed all stigmas from him. Interesting since his condemnation was invalid from the start! His supporters amongst the Czech nobility began a fight which ultimately led to the Hussites (Bohemian Brethren) becoming a self-governing body within the Roman Catholic Church. Some, under one Brother Gregory, broke off in 1467 to form a separate Church. Today they are known as the Moravians (who had an influence upon the Wesley brothers in the 18th century).

As it was, it was the Council of Constance (validated by Pope Gregory XII) settled the matter of who was to be Pope; the Cardinals chose Martin V. There were antipopes until 1449, but their effect was little. But this same Council came forth with an interesting declaration: that the Church in England was of greater antiquity than that of Rome. (The same also at Pisa) The basis of that declaration stemmed from the British King Lucius making Christianity legal in his realm in the AD 160's (as mentioned a good many articles ago) as opposed to the Emperor Constantine's making it legal for Rome in AD 314. However, as I have found out, tradition records our Faith coming to Britain in AD 37 as opposed to its coming to Rome in AD 43, so on both counts, we Anglicans are the senior Church in Western Christendom.

England was to become quietly Roman Catholic through the 15th century, but with a noticable Wycliffian undercurrent through the whole time. It was about the same time that Wycliffe set forth his doctrines that there were two great rebellions against the established order in England. One was that of John Ball, who mainly stuck to preaching Wycliffe's doctrines concerning equitable distribution of property. He also stated that England needed but one Bishop, and that layfolk could administer the Sacraments. He was imprisoned, but freed by the more dangerous rebellion of Wat Tyler, based more on economics than religion. This was an armed insurrection which was quite well organized and may well have had the approval of some of the nobility and some Churchmen. Tyler himself forbade looting and pillaging, except for what was regarded the unlawfully gained wealth of the Church. There was a considerable anti-monastic undercurrent in England at that time; indeed, monks and nuns fared fairly well and people regarded that as their being given a 'free ride' at their expense. As it was, Tyler's rebellion raided some wealthy monasteries and put Simon of Sudbury, Archbishop of Canterbury, to death in 1381. John Ball was there and at the meeting between young Richard II and Tyler at Smithfield. But, Tyler's rebellion collapsed, Ball was recaptured, and things were put to where they were, except that thereafter there was a sharp decline in serfdom.

Wycliffe's religious doctrines continued to be spread and attained some popularity in England; however, being somehow associated with Ball's and Tyler's rebellions, they were looked on with suspicion. But even still, the Crown was asked to adopt them as the doctrine of the Church in England (the King being even then the Head of the Church). It was put to Parliament in 1395 and missed by only one vote. Parliament had already passed laws regarding the Church in the reign of Edward III, and so felt no compunction in exercising its rights concerning the governance of the Church. If the Parliamentary vote is any indicator of popular sentiment, then half of England was ready for Church reform. All this was going on in the days of Dame St. Julian of Norwich and St. Margery Kempe, who, in their ways, showed that an atmosphere of reform was abroad in England.

We must now leave English Church reform for a later tale - how did the followers of Wycliffe, the Lollards, fare through the 139 years to follow? ■

Henricus parvulus

Henry Moffitt has been a faithful member of Holy Cross for many years, serving in the choir, as a lector and lay reader, and chalice bearer. As sacristan he assists the rector or visiting clergy in preparing and conducting the mid-week services.

Weekly Worship, Learning, and Fellowship

Sunday Morning Worship

8:30 AM Holy Eucharist
10:30 AM Holy Eucharist with Music

Sunday School 9:45

Children ages 5-13 will have bible stories and fun activities to help them learn about God, Jesus and our faith.

Youth ages 14-18 will study issues that face our young people and learn what response God wishes us to make throughout our lives.

The Adult class will offer consecutive four-week sessions on a variety of interesting topics. We will touch on our spiritual journeys, the lives of saints, temptation, forgiveness, grace. These sessions will be led by various parishioners.

New Adult Sunday Class coming January 9: Our Spiritual Gifts: Learn what they are and how to share them.

Duncan Ely will be leading a fun yet practical series on discerning, identifying, understanding and using our spiritual gifts, including scriptural background, individual spiritual gifts inventory, and understanding what our gifts are and how to use them in creative and practical ways to improve our lives and make the world a better place.

Sunday Service at Benson Hall 10:30 a.m.

Holy Eucharist for residents of White Oak and Benson Hall, led by Lay Eucharistic Ministers.

Wednesday Worship Opportunities

8:30 AM Morning Prayer (Chapel)
10:00 AM Holy Eucharist with Prayers for Healing (Chapel)
11:15 AM Holy Eucharist at Tryon Estates (1st and 3rd Wednesdays of the month)
5:30 PM Evening Prayer (Chapel)

Wednesday Night Dinners Our monthly dinners for 2012 will be held on January 4, February 1, March 14, April 11, and May 9 at 6:00. The menu and a sign-up sheet will be posted on the bulletin board outside the Common Room. To help us plan, please sign up to attend. To cover the cost of the food, we ask for a donation of \$5 per adult and \$3 per child under 12. Plan to join us!

Parish Choir New members are always welcome to join the choir! The Holy Cross Choir leads the hymns and service music at the 10:30 worship service each Sunday morning during the program year. Rehearsals are Wednesday nights, 7:00-8:40, in the choir room. For more information, please contact Susie Mahnke.

Handbells Choir Ringers, new and experienced, enjoy rehearsing on Wednesdays at 5:45-6:45 pm in the handbells room, under the direction of Margaret Leach. For more information, please contact Margaret Leach or Susie Mahnke.

Crossings Thursdays at 10:00 am.

December 1 to December 22 The "Crossings" group will finish this year with a four-week section entitled "Simple Living". This material comes from *Daily Practices for God's People*. The writers are from our own, Diocese of WNC. We have used several of these sections in classes previously. Learning to live more simply is a spiritual quest as much as anything. For Advent, why not try to focus on what is truly of value to you? Join Faith Weathington on Thursday mornings at 10:00

am as she leads the group discussion on "Simple Living".

In **January**, the "Crossings" group will study two books by a talented contemporary author, Marilynn Robinson. These are the stories told from the vantage point of two men who are next-door neighbors in 1950's Iowa. Both are protestant ministers; Rev. Boughton in *Home* and Rev. John Ames in *Gilead*. The book discussion will be led by Wanda May. Participants are asked to read *Gilead* first and have it halfway read for the first meeting on January 5TH. Books can be ordered at the Book Shelf or online...

Upcoming Events

Philosophy Courses Depending on student preference, two of the following philosophy courses will be offered beginning the first week of January. Introduction to Philosophy, or Philosophy of Religion, or Philosophy of Mind. Classes last for six weeks and meet in the afternoons. A few will be charged. Classes may be joined at any point for a reduced fee. Classes will be taught by Dr. Deborah Fitzgerald. Dr. Fitzgerald has a Ph.D. in Philosophy from University of Iowa; B.A. from Northwestern University. She has taught at Rutgers University, Ohio State University, Furman University and Wofford College. To register, and for further information, please contact Dr. Fitzgerald at 894-3423 or gannon@windstream.net.

Currently, Philosophy of Art is being taught. The next meeting is Monday, December 5 from 2 p.m.-3:30 p.m. in the common room of Holy Cross Episcopal Church.

Foyer Groups Second Sunday of each month (December 11) 6pm to 8:30pm. Foyer Groups provide a wonderful way to get to know your fellow church-goers a little bit better. The groups stay together for three months, then are re-grouped. In December there are two larger gatherings for all of the participants. Do think about joining a foyer group. Contact Katy Murphy for more information. 864 895-3525

Bach's Lunch - Wednesdays at Noon Advent Recital Series 2011

Holy Cross will host a series of 30 minute recitals on Wednesdays at 12:00 noon during the four weeks of Advent. A box lunch will be available.

- ◆ November 30 - John Gardner, organ Chorale Preludes for the Advent Season
- ◆ December 7 - Jessica Stewart, violin, accompanied by Susie Mahnke, organ
- ◆ December 14 - John Malloy, violin; Rex Gallatin, French horn; Kymric Mahnke, piano; performing the Trio in E flat major, Op. 40, for horn, violin, and piano, by Johannes Brahms
- ◆ December 21 - Crys Armbrust, organ

Friday, December 2 All Day. Advent Quiet Day led by Deacon Marilyn Walters. We will hold the retreat in Rutherford County at the River Ministries Retreat Center. The cost of \$15 includes lunch and materials.

Lessons and Carols, Sunday, December 18

The 10:30 service will offer Lessons & Carols (8:30 will offer Holy Eucharist as usual)

Christmas Services at Holy Cross

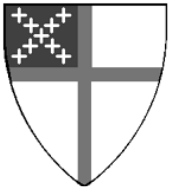
Dec. 24 Early Service 5:00 pm
Dec. 24 Midnight Mass 10:00 pm
Dec. 25 Christmas Day 10:00 am

Lay Schedule for December

	4-Dec	11-Dec	18-Dec	CHRISTMAS EVE	25-Dec	1-Jan
8:30				5:00 PM	CHRISTMAS DAY	
Greeter	Claire Carey	Gordon Downe	Dorothy Wyckoff	-	---	Dorothy Schwobel
Greeter	Dorothy Schwobel	Karen Johnston	Mary Ellen Wuerfel	-	---	Mary Clare Jenks
Usher "A"	Ed Craig	Caroline Chapman	Alan Batchelder	Sam Doar		Mike Jordan
Usher "B"	Jerry Pospisil	Austin Chapman	Tom Wuerfel	Ken Rossen	ONLY	Paula Jordan
Crucifer/Acolyte	Joaquin Rossen	Annie Doar	Ed Craig	Stephen Doar	ONE	Madison Alexander
Acolyte Trainee	Alita Rossen	---	---	D. Doar/A. Rossen	SERVICE	---
Lector/Prayers	Ken Rossen	Renee Duvall	Norma Batchelder	Pam Stone	AT 10:00 AM	Jean Pettigrew
Chalice Bearer	Sam Doar	John Salmon	Bo Edwards	Ed Craig	---	Bill Jenks
Chalice Bearer	R. Gerstenberger	Ken Johnston	Hoppy Long	Lynn Page	---	R. Gerstenberger
Euch. Visitor	R. Gerstenberger	Ken Johnston	Hoppy Long	-XXXX	---	R. Gerstenberger
LEV In Training	---	John Salmon		XXXX	---	---
Coffee	Youth Group	Wyckoff/J Carey	Saunders	XXXX	---	
10:30				10:00 PM	10:00 AM	
Greeter	Wanda Doar	Geoff Carey	Joan Shepherd	Sam Doar	---	Sam Doar
Greeter	Mary Hales	Frances McCain	Wanda Doar	Bill Kelly	---	Mary Hales
Usher "A"	Carl Schumacher	Doug Price	Nancy Ernst	Nancy Myrick	---	Ambrose Mills
Usher "B"	Jane Schumacher	Paul Zeese	Harry Sams	Jerry Pospisil	---	Jeanne Mills
Crucifer 1	Annie Doar	Madison Alexander	Todd Walter	Todd Walter	---	Elizabeth Walter
Acolyte "A"	Rebecca Price	Sara Seagle	Lori Walter	Lori Walter	---	Rebecca Price
Acolyte "B"	-		Katy Murphy	Katy Murphy	---	-
Lector	Geoff Carey	Cindy Barnett	Charles Breuer	Jean Moore	Henry Moffitt	Frances McCain
Prayers	George May	Penn Dean	Jean Boggs	Cindy Barnett	Henry Moffitt	Wanda May
Chalice Bearer	Wanda May	Boyd Correll	Peter Franklin	Peter Fenn	Henry Moffitt	Tom Moore
Chalice Bearer	Pam Doty	Bill Kelly	Harriet Sams	Bo Edwards	Lynn Page	Pam Doty
Euch. Visitor	Pam Doty	Bill Kelly	Harriet Sams	-	---	Pam Doty
LEV In Training		Ruth Goodson	Boggs/Giner-Sorolla	-	---	
Coffee	G & E Carey				B. Baker/Duvall	

Do You Wish to Receive Communion at Home?

It is important to the life of Holy Cross Church that all our members, if they wish, be able to receive communion at home or in the hospital when



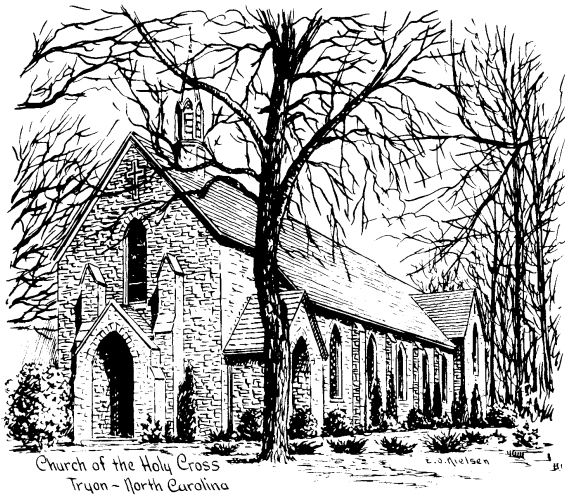
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Tryon - North Carolina

Almighty God, you proclaim your truth in every age by many voices: Direct, in our time, we pray, those who speak where many listen and write what many read; that they may do their part in making the heart of this people wise, its mind sound, and its will righteous; to the honor of Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

The Book of Common Prayer, page 827

December Birthdays

12/01	Jan Whiting	12/13	Ann McGill
12/02	Jean Pettigrew	12/13	Todd Walter
12/02	Pat Seifert	12/14	Mimi Pospisil
12/03	Muriel Lunsford	12/15	Julia Harmon
12/04	Ambrose Mills	12/16	Sallie Page
12/04	Ian Williams	12/18	Hoppy Long
12/05	Jerry Pospisil	12/18	Madison Walter
12/06	Anita Briggs	12/21	Ken McGill
12/06	Jacque Brown-Williams	12/21	Karen Johnston
12/07	Ken Johnston	12/21	Paula Jordan
12/07	Cam Lawrence	12/23	Sandy Willis
12/07	Craig Harmon	12/24	Bonnie Zelinski
12/08	Ann Curtis	12/25	Gene Wyckoff
12/08	Grant Stokes	12/25	Ron Robbins
12/10	Bud Phillips	12/26	Liz Beam
12/10	Sam Doar	12/27	Ryan Wall
12/11	Betty Knopp	12/28	Richard Barraud
12/12	Mary Shapleigh	12/29	Chris Baschon
12/12	Aase Langaard	12/30	Alan Batchelder
12/12	Jean Chesnutt		

December Anniversaries

12/13 Chris and Laura Price

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