

## *The Episcopal Church of the Incarnation Parish Post ~ May 2009*

### *Our Mission Statement:*

*The Church of the Incarnation exists to proclaim the Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ through worship, love and service. As individuals and as a congregation, we dedicate ourselves to this purpose.*



### *Fisher Garden Tour 2009*

In 2006, Bob & Cathy Fisher opened their garden for tours for Kids4Peace. In 2007 and 2008, the tours raised over \$40,000 for the Incarnation Haiti Initiative to build a school in Cange, Haiti. Once again 100% of the 2009 proceeds will continue our school building in Haiti.

Tickets are one sale at the church for \$25.00. You can order tickets over the phone 828-526-2968 (we take MasterCard or Visa) or you can come by the church on the corner of 5th and Main Street.

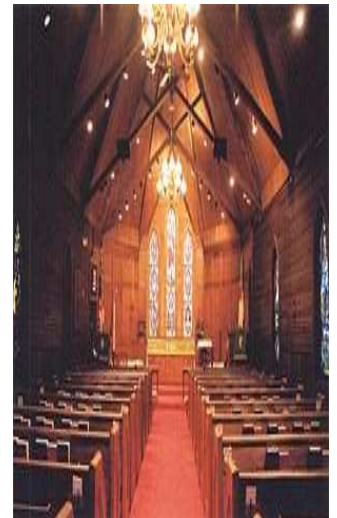
The dates are July 18 and 25th. You can select tours times of 10:00, 11:00, 12:00, or 1:00 and purchase tickets from the church office. Everyone must meet at the Macon Bank Gazebo to get a pass for the tour.

## NEW SUNDAY SERVICE!!!

### The Simple Eucharist at 9:00

Have you ever yearned to walk into the chapel on Sunday morning in complete silence? Followed by simple music, readings in everyday language and a short homily? Do you rise in the morning and wish to start your day with worship but 8:00 is a little too early and 10:30 a little late? Well, look no further.

**Beginning Memorial Day weekend (May 24<sup>th</sup>),** the 9:00 service will be your choice for worship. The schola (a learning choir) led by Grat Rosazza has been rehearsing simple music, most of which was composed for a monastic setting. If you would like to join us for rehearsal, meet in the chapel at 5:00 on Wednesdays. The music is easy to learn, the verses repeat, which will allow the whole congregation to easily join in at its own pace. There is plenty of silence between each part of the service. The only lectionary readings will be from the Psalms and Gospels. The homily will be short and the Prayers of the People will be in silence, with an opportunity to light a candle in memory of someone, as well as, a healing station at the altar rail. Holy Communion will be familiar to most Episcopalians, but accessible to anyone. So invite a friend and join us for the newest incarnation at Incarnation: The Simple Eucharist at 9:00.



# The Reverend Brian C. Sullivan

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## “What’s New at Incarnation?”

This is the question most frequently asked this time of year. So much has happened in the past year that it is hard to answer the question in less than several pages. So here are some bullet points to give you an idea of what has happened since last September.

- ◆ **The Rev. Peter Gorday**, our assistant rector since October has directly contributed to beginning: Stephen’s Ministry, a New Sunday School class entitled “All Things Episcopal and Anglican” Tuesday morning Bible Study Class, Another clergy for pastoral situations
- ◆ **The Stewardship Commission** led by Michael Murphy is helping to transform our understanding of stewardship.
- ◆ **Reorganization of Staff:** Robert Henry has taken on the leadership of Director of Music, Teresa Hollingsworth, our financial secretary, will also be the Rector’s Secretary, Andrea Chalker, our Children/ Youth director, will also be the Parish Coordinator, Helen Moore our Faithful Acolyte Leader will also be our Office Volunteer Coordinator and along with Jane Chalker: our Stewardship Communications leader. As part of these changes, Cain Hailey our part-time receptionist, will be leaving Incarnation and will be pursuing a job relating to her tremendous strength in accounting.
- ◆ **New Bulletin** at 10:30 service.
- ◆ **NEW SERVICE** beginning at 9:00 on Sundays beginning Memorial Day Weekend (May 24<sup>th</sup>).

One of the mottos I have adopted over the years is “change does not come without education.” I hope the first three changes above are rather self explanatory. The two that need further explanations are the new bulletins and the new service.

The bulletins help promote three of my priorities: a welcoming environment, clarity of communication and stewardship of our resources. When people walk into a service, especially visitors, a fully printed bulletin contributes to an informed and comfortable worship experience. Because of the new events, classes and opportunities, we increased the size of our insert to allow for better communication. To alleviate the waste of our resources with all the paper we are using, the Sunday bulletin can now be reused every Sunday. While these changes take some getting used to, I am confident that we will be an even more welcoming, better communicating and resourceful parish.

Finally, the new service was created as a result of the wonderful growth we have experienced over the past several years. Last summer, our 10:30 service attendance increased to 120% capacity and several Sundays last summer we also had more than 50 people watching the service from the chapel. Church development experts claim that when a principle service reaches 80% capacity, newcomers assume there is no room for them in the church. To attract new members and give others another choice of worship times, we are adding a 9:00 service. The Sunday schedule will stay the same with an 8:00 service, 8:30 breakfast, 9:00 Sunday school & choir rehearsal, and 10:30 principal service. We are just adding a service at 9:00, which will be NOTHING like the other two services, and possibly nothing like anyone has ever experienced before at Incarnation. For more information, see the article on the front page.

# The Reverend Peter Gorday

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## Putting Stephen Ministry into Action!

On Wednesday, May 20, the first group of Incarnation Stephen ministers will complete their initial round of training. They are Martha Andrews, Anne Curtis, Martha Hunter, Mary Jackson, Susan Kaiser, Jill Montana, Helen Moore, Bobby O'Dell, Linda Shearon, and Mary Vaughan. The trainers have been the Stephen Leader, Dan Adcock, and I. Since early January, we have met every Wednesday since early January for two and a half hours, and each person has done substantial outside reading. This group has worked hard and faithfully. Their commissioning will take place in front of the congregation in late May or early June.

We will want to make the best use of these compassionate, motivated and skilled Stephen Ministers. How shall we do this?

Recall that Stephen Ministry is a one-on-one ministry of spiritual and emotional support for persons in need. These would typically be persons in some kind of acute crisis or else in some more chronic and ongoing struggle. My hunch is that in this Highlands community, our Stephen Ministers will often be serving persons who have experienced a loss and are in some stage of grieving. In some cases there will be confusion and fear. In some cases, addictive behavior will be involved. In some cases there will be a degree of depression. The task of the Stephen Minister is to maintain contact with a care-receiver, to offer support, to encourage discussion of needs and difficulties, and to be a conversation-partner as the care-receiver makes decisions about the management of his or her life.

Stephen Ministers are trained to maintain absolute confidentiality, to be non-judgmental, to recognize the nature and limits of their role, and to be clear that the love of Christ does not include "fixing" people or making pain go away, it does involve letting persons know that they are loved by God and can turn to God. They are also trained to recognize mental illness and to know when professional help is required. We are creating a data-base of helping resources in order to get people linked up with special forms of assistance. The Stephen Ministers will meet biweekly with one another and with Dan Adcock and me for ongoing supervision and peer consultation so that they are not "flying solo".

How do we determine who might benefit from receiving the care of a Stephen Minister? Names will come to Father Brian or me as pastors of the parish, or to Dan Adcock as Stephen Leader, from many sources, including direct requests as well as suggestions from parishioners. We will contact that person in order to see if he/she is appropriate to receive Stephen Ministry, or really needs some other form of care, and to see if he/she would like to be visited by a Stephen Minister. We would then assign this individual to one of our ministers, one who would seem to be a good "fit" for that individual. We will try to give first priority to members of the parish who need care, but then will offer the ministry to the wider community. We will be placing a sign-logo for Stephen Ministry on our Incarnation church sign.

For me one of the most exciting things about Stephen ministry is the well-integrated combination of spiritual motivation - the Lord Jesus commands us ("Maundy = Mandate Thursday) to love one another - and psychological insight - confidential conversation with a compassionate and competent individual can have enormous healing power.

Peter+

## Vestry Minutes April 8, 2009

Minutes: The minutes of the March 2009 meeting were presented and approved

Treasurer's Report: Bill Conway presented the recommendation of the Finance Committee to pay off the remainder of the construction loan (approximately \$50,000 due April 28, 2009). \$7,800 already exists in our bank account specifically to pay down this loan. The Finance Committee recommends withdrawing funds from the unrestricted investment account to cover the remainder. Those funds are currently earning extremely little, the bank has presented unacceptable renewal terms, and paying this in full would give closure to the successful building campaign. The Finance Committee also recommended that unpaid pledges (to date) be accepted as either testamentary bequests or to restore the unrestricted funds account.

### Reports

**Rector:** All is well.

**Senior Warden:** Bill Temple reported that the parish retreat was warm and successful, especially due to the time and effort of Andrea Chalker. Over 40 people attended. Bill wrote a letter of thanks to Andrea for her retreat ministry. Some feedback received by the Rector: for the next Parish retreat, consider a different locale (warmer) and consider a less costly locale.

**Junior Warden:** John Underwood is away for Spring break; Fr. Sullivan reported on his behalf. A copy of the Sexton's job description will be distributed at the next meeting. The leak above the nursery has been fixed. The insulation in the kitchen area is completed.

### Ministry Reports

**Christian Formation:** Fr. Gorday's report is attached. A new class will be starting the Sunday after Easter. Fr. Gorday will be starting a daytime Bible study on the Gospel of John on Tuesday, April 21, at 10am in the Library and on Wednesday evenings beginning in May (possibly with a light supper). Fr. Gorday is looking into a discussion group on Science & Religion.

**Children and Youth:** They are still meeting at the Methodist church. A trip to Haiti is being planned for this summer with fundraising at the community Easter egg hunt (selling ChikFilA for the lunch) on Saturday at the Rec Park.

**Caring:** Stephen Ministry is going well. Nine people (led by Peter Gorday and Dan Adcock) will graduate in mid-May with a commissioning at the end of May. This group will then be available and regular part of our Parish life. A new training group will possibly be forming this summer. Stephen Ministry is a one-on-one caring and visitation ministry staffed by trained ministers who will visit with those who desire this ministry. On a regular basis, trained ministers will provide encouragement, support, prayer and a listening ear in a confidential environment. Caregivers will receive regular guidance from the leaders. This ministry will start with our parish and will hopefully extend to the wider community. A Stephen Ministry sign will be added to the main church sign.

**Outreach:** Fr. Sullivan reported on four distinct sections of outreach: 1) The Executive section, related to the finances; 2) the recipients of the outreach fundraising (who met 2 weeks ago); and 3) Friends of Haiti. (The Fisher Garden Tour will occur again this year with proceeds going to the Friends of Haiti.) 4) There will also be a "catch-all" group, similar to a United Way.

**Stewardship Commission:** May 2, from 9-3, the Vestry will meet in Cashiers to learn about the Commission.

## Vestry Minutes ~ April 8, 2009 continued...

### Old Business

Retreat notes: Congregational vision in the Stewardship Commission; a Mission Statement prayer is included in the service; we still need framed signs of the Mission Statement; each Parish Ministry will comply with our Mission Statement.

Assimilation: we still need an article on membership and name tags.

Greeters: after Easter, they will create a Lay Visitation team.

Informational materials, such as BTE and Stewardship Commission, will be displayed appropriately on a new table to be either purchased or built by a skilled member of our Parish.

The main sign for the front of the church is being refurbished and redesigned by Dan Adcock, Peter Gorday, Helen Moore and Deborah Berlin.

Stewardship: a job description will be written for each Commissioner.

Easter services will be at 9 and 11; beginning Memorial Day, we will add one new service at 9am; mid-May, we will re-introduce the 8am service.

Andrea Chalker will present the Safeguarding God's Children workshop to the Vestry at the May meeting. This three hour training is required by all leadership in the parish.

### New Business

None to report.

Brought for discussion during the meeting: 1) Ann Maxwell will talk to Andrea Chalker about including food bank requests in the bulletin; 2) Bill Conway will talk to John Underwood about repairing the ceiling of the Narthex.

### Adjournment

Fr. Sullivan adjourned the meeting with prayer and thanksgiving at 5:00 pm.

## WELCOME

With our summer parishioners returning and the expectation of many visitors (we had over 100 at Easter), let's be sure to wear our name tags and to welcome those returning. Please try and introduce ourselves to our visitors (blue name tags) and make them feel at home at Incarnation.

## Volunteer Opportunities

Testing Proctors are needed to help with the end of grade testing May 19-22.

In a nutshell: Proctors need to roam around the room but don't hover over the kids; if a child needs a rest-room break the proctor will walk them to and from (leaving test materials in the room), pass out extra #2 pencils and scratch paper as needed, and basically don't fall asleep. Please call the school 526-2147 if you could volunteer a few hours!

## Stewardship Commission



### PARISH RETREAT: IT'S ALL ABOUT RELATIONSHIPS

There are a number of ways in which the subject of stewardship can be approached. Little did the participants of the recent church retreat at Lake Logan realize that quantum physics is one such way. Dr. Fred Burnham formally of The Trinity Institute in New York, currently Sr. Fellow of the Servant Leadership Institute in Hendersonville was our leader for the weekend. He elegantly and simply explained to the rapt audience that the very basics of the universe, like quantum physics, are all about relationship. The refrain of the weekend was straightforward—"it's the relationship-stupid!" Whenever stewardship is discussed, it is about relationships—relationship with ourselves, our families, our parish, our community and the larger world. It is about our connectedness that allows for life itself. Stewardship is about the recognition, appreciation, and how we care for those relationships. As we all know relationships are often vexing and poorly understood. However, they are the most important aspect of our lives together.

Stewardship flows directly from our relationships with each other. Ultimately all relationships flow from our relationship with God, we live and move and have our being. Simply put: GOD has made his universe for us to care for one another and creation. "It's all about relationships!" Bobby O'Dell

## Bell Tower Endowment Corner

The Bell Tower Endowment is having good participation from the congregation. We have 40 people who have made gifts to our "Living Enrollment", 16 in memory of a loved one, 5 people who have added to their existing enrollments (other than memorials). These gifts have been in thanksgiving for someone, a marriage, anniversary, or support of the BTE.

Our new enrollments this month to "Living Endowments" are:

Neil Crawford: in support of the BTE

Mr. & Mrs. David M. Thorne: in support of the BTE

New "Memorials" this month are:

Joe & Virginia Parrott: in memory of Willis J. Peacock, Jr.

Joe & Virginia Parrott: in memory of Bill Jones

We have 14 people/couples who have made codicils to their wills gifting the church. There are many more planning to do so. Have you remembered our beloved church in your will?

If you have any questions, please contact Virginia Parrott at 200-0997 or email at [jvparrott22@verizon.net](mailto:jvparrott22@verizon.net).

# Adult Education

**Sunday Morning, 9:00 a.m.**

"Contemporary Theology Class" This class will begin a series of (always lively!) discussions based on the book, The Faith of Scientists: In Their own Words, by Nancy Frankenberry. The book reaches back to listen to early scientists such as Galileo and Newton, but also includes contemporary voices like Stephen Hawking and Carl Sagan. We will learn how the content of their faith intersects with their scientific approach, as well as how this intersection speaks to the concerns of the modern world. How can the competing claims of faith and science be reconciled? In the vestry room, coordinated by Martha Porter, Peter Ray and others.

"All Things Episcopal and Anglican" This class explores of themes in our own Anglican/Episcopal history of worship, belief, and practical discipleship. The purpose is to deepen our understanding of what Episcopalians do, why they do it, and why they do it that way, in the areas of prayer, church life, and faithful witness to the gospel of Jesus Christ. This is a good class for asking all of those nitty-gritty questions about the liturgy, about customs and traditions, and about theological beliefs and convictions. In the library, led by the Rev. Peter Gorday.

"Living the Good News"

In our new class called "Living the Good News", we will explore the meanings and interrelationships between the lessons for that Sunday. Not only will this make our Eucharist Service more meaningful but it will also guide our journey into greater faith. Come and join this class and learn more about our sacred scripture. It will meet each Sunday at 9:00 in the Children's Chapel led by Linda Arnold.

## Weekdays

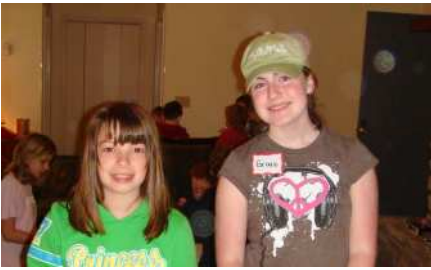
~ Tuesday Morning Bible Study. This is a new class led by the Rev. Peter Gorday, beginning Tuesday morning, April 21, at 10:00, in the library. It is a "come one, come all" informal and conversational bible study, which will start out with the Gospel of John, using William Temple's classic *Readings in St. John's Gospel*.

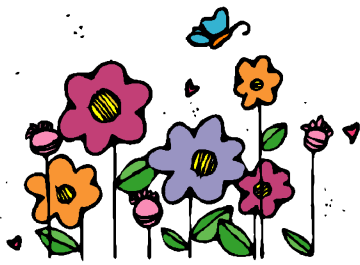
~ Science & Religion Study Group will meet again on Thursday, May 14 at 11:00 am in Jones Hall. All are welcome.

~ Wednesday Evenings: Plans are in the works to begin a Wednesday evening "Walk-Through the Bible for Episcopalians", led by the Rev. Peter Gorday and preceded by a light supper in Jones Hall. Stand by for further details!



# Parish Weekend Parish Weekend March 27-29, 2009





# May 2009

## Weekly Events

### **Sundays**

8:30 Breakfast  
9:00 Sunday School for children & adults  
10:30 Holy Eucharist Rite II  
5:00 Youth (No Youth May 10 or 24)

### **Monday**

4:00 Women's cursillo in Library  
8:00pm AA Meeting in Jones Hall

### **Tuesday**

8:00 Men's cursillo in Jones Hall  
8:30 Staff meeting in Vestry Room  
  
10:00 Bible Study in the Library  
12:30 The Bascom Children's Art Classes  
in Children's Chapel  
5:30 Women's AA Meeting in Jones Hall

### **Wednesday**

12:00 AA meeting in Jones Hall  
2:00 The Bascom Children's Art Classes  
in Children's Chapel  
1:00-3:30 Steven Ministry Training in Library  
4:00 Education for Ministry in Library  
4:00 April 8th Vestry Meeting

### **Thursday**

10:00 Holy Eucharist in the Chapel  
12:00 Al-Anon in Library  
\* Daughters of the King meet 2nd & 4th  
Thursdays at 10:30 in the vestry room

### **Friday**

12:00 AA meeting in Jones Hall

## **Special Events**

### Friday, May 1

Kids Night Out from 5:30-8:30

### Saturday, May 2

Vestry Training at Good Shepherd 9-3

### Tuesday, May 5

Altar Guild Meeting @ 12 in Vestry Room  
3:00 Memorial Service in Chapel

### Thursday, May 7

Flower Guild Meeting @ 12 at the home of  
Midge Rothermel 526-5903 to rsvp  
1:30 Memorial Service in Chapel

### Friday, May 8

4:00 Outreach Meeting in Vestry Room

### Saturday, May 9th

Summer Chapel Work Day  
Rain date: May 16

### Thursday, May 14

Science & Religion Study Group will meet  
in Jones Hall.

### Thursday, May 14

Lifeline Screening

### Saturday, May 16

Wedding in Chapel

### Thursday, May 28

Stewardship Meeting in Vestry Room

## Parish Life

### Birthdays

1 Jay Connors  
2 Kendall Andrews  
3 Fred Ridolphi  
Anne Norman  
Leigh Trant  
Maricel Bujoreanu  
4 Walter Wattles  
6 Mary Ann Massey  
Marilyn Underhill  
11 Charles Arnold  
Amberly Anthony  
13 Ann Duvall  
Betty Chesna  
Thomas Chambers  
15 Mark Whitehead  
Sam Edgens

### Birthdays

16 Lloyd Wendt  
17 Jody Read  
Suzanna Mosely  
Adair Williams  
18 Elanor Taylor  
19 Ken Ferguson  
20 Dwight Bryant  
21 Jill Montana  
Fred LaChance  
23 Agnes Richards  
26 Livy Wing  
Anne Doggett  
28 Barbara Center  
The Rev. Brian Sullivan  
Henry Salzarulo  
31 Beverly Cone

*Every time we think of you, we thank God, and pray for you with prayers of joy. For God began a good work in you, and will complete that work in years to come. Our prayer for you now is this: that your love grow richer in knowledge and insight of every kind, that you learn by experience what really matters, that on the day you appear before God, God welcome you as a flawless gift, a rich harvest of praise, through Jesus Christ. Amen.*

*May the Lord bless you and keep you; May the Lord shed his light upon you, May the Lord look upon you kindly and give you peace.*



*Have you thought about giving flowers as a gift...birthday, anniversary, thanksgiving for a special person?*

***Sunday, May 31st***

***8:30–9:30***

***11:30–12:30***

***Breakfast & Brunch to benefit  
Haiti Mission Trip***

### Anniversaries

5/1 Diane & Grat Rosazza  
5/5 Carol & Curtis Mathews  
5/8 Patce & Skip Thornton  
5/14 Rosemary & Bill Stiefel  
Donna & James Santo  
5/16 Claire & Ed Simpson  
5/19 Julie & Ed McCarthy  
5/20 Mindy & Brian Sullivan  
5/23 Andrea & Selwyn Chalker  
5/26 Nancy & James Taylor  
5/27 Susan & Jerry Center  
5/29 Nancy & Bill Temple

## May Sunday Ministries

**Thank you for serving in this ministry. We rotate the schedule so that everyone has a chance to serve in their preferred time and place. Please remember that if you are not able to serve that it is your responsibility to find a replacement and notify the church office for the correct information in the bulletin. If you have any questions please contact Lewis Doggett 526-8009 or Bill Conway 526-4030.**

Date	Lectors	Chalice	Ushers	Greeters	Camera	Altar	Acolytes
May 3 10:30	J. Diamond	J.Chalker B. Conway	Team#1	D. Laier G. Boyce	S. Chalker	S. Mosley C. Edmondson	Ivy, Maddie & Grace
May 10	Z. Sossomon	G. Harris L. Doggett	Team #2	L. Doggett B. Roberts	T. Craig	S. Wallin P. Parker	Samuel, Kalob Tiffany & Alexandria
May 17	E. Nesmith	D. McPhail D. Moore	Team #3	J. Goddard H. Hamilton	S. Chalker	A. Turner A. Maxwell	Philip, John & Kalob
May 24 8:00	E. Whitby	B. Conway	E. Whitby			C. Harrington	
May 24 9:00	J. Montana	L.Doggett			C. Sossomon	S. Mosley	
May 24 10:30	G. Harris	H. Moore N. Mosley	Team #4	J. Goddard H. Hamilton	M. Murphy	R. Doe N. Freese	Emily, Maggie & Cole
May 31 8:00	L. Turner		L.Turner			C. Edmondson	
May 31 9:00	B. Gray	J. Chalker				G. Harris	
May 31 10:30	B. Chesna	C. Murphy C. Norman	Team #3		C. Sossomon	B. Cussachs D. Conway	



*Wendi Diamond,  
Anne Reddick and  
Isabel Chambers  
share their joy on  
the flower guild  
preparing flowers  
for Easter.*

## Diocese Information



### Ministry & Mission Conference

Saturday, June 6 is the date for our annual diocesan training and educational conference called the Ministry & Mission Conference. There are 27 unique and interesting workshops to choose from. The theme is "Finding Peace in Turbulent Times." Fr. Ronald Rolheiser will be the keynote speaker and will also lead a workshop. Bishop Taylor and many other very talented leaders are offering these opportunities to learn and be inspired. Sign up by April 30 for \$20 and by May 26 for \$25. This price includes lunch at First Baptist Church in downtown Asheville. Please join us for special music and an opportunity to be inspired! Registration forms and more information are available at [www.diocesewnc.org](http://www.diocesewnc.org) also.

### Camp Henry 50th Celebration & Diocese Picnic ~ June 19-21, 2009

At Lake Logan..we will celebrate 50 years of Camp Henry in Conjunction with the Diocesan Picnic. Come for the day, come for an evening or come for the whole weekend. Come and celebrate with old friends, share memories and discover what Camp Henry is like for the newest generation of campers.

Pre-registration deadline June 6th, 2009. Pre-registration in cottages, guarantees you meals and a t-shirt! Questions? Wendy (828) 646-0095 or [wendy@lakelogan.org](mailto:wendy@lakelogan.org)

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