



# Mardi Gras

Tuesday, March 8th

Dinner will be \$20 per person and beer and wine will be available for \$2/drink. Please call the church office to make your reservations 526-2968.

## Lenten Suppers & Program

Beginning Wednesday, March 16

5:30 Supper

6:00 Program

“Living the Serenity Prayer : Spiritual Stress Management”

**The Church of the Incarnation**

**520 Main Street P. O. Box 729**

**Highlands, North Carolina 28741-0729**

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**[www.incarnationwnc.org](http://www.incarnationwnc.org)**

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**HIGHLANDS, NORTH CAROLINA**



*The Episcopal Church of the Incarnation*

*Parish Post ~ March 2011*

### ***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.*



### **What is God Calling You To Do?**

One of the responsibilities of your Vestry is to set the church's annual budget. This year, due to a large number of our members not turning in pledges for 2011, we have had to make some drastic cuts to our budget. Also, your Vestry has decided that our budget should be balanced, so we are no longer establishing a budget that is based on using reserve funds. The impact of this is that most of our church programs have seen a significant cut in their programs and ministries. The most significant cut is in our Outreach Program. Our local outreach budget has been reduced by over 43% in funding.

If you have not turned in a 2011 pledge, please consider doing that now. If you have turned in a 2011 pledge and can contribute more this year, please update your pledge. Pledge cards can be downloaded and printed via the church website ([www.incarnationwnc.org/stewardship.htm](http://www.incarnationwnc.org/stewardship.htm)) or you can simply call Teresa Hollingsworth at the church office at 828-526-2968 and let her know the amount you would like to pledge or the amount you have decided to increase your 2011 pledge.

If you are interested in seeing the details of our 2011 budget, this information is always available in the church office. We encourage all of our members to become more aware of our fiscal situation and to prayerfully consider what God is asking of us in this time when needs have never been greater and resources have had to be reduced. Your Vestry commits to careful stewardship of what you give in response to God's abundance in your life and to the work He calls us to do.

Sincerely,

Denson Franklin, Interim Rector

Bill Temple, Senior Warder

# The Episcopal Church of the Incarnation Vestry Meeting

## Minutes for February 9, 2011

At 4:00, Father Franklin opened the meeting with a prayer. The Parochial Report was signed by Father Franklin, Joe Parrott for Bill Conway, and Isabel Allen.

II. **Minutes from the Vestry Retreat** were approved.

III. **Financial Report:** Joe Parrott reported. For the month of January, the finances were a negative \$16,721. Motion passed to approve the financial report for January. The contributions were consistent with last year. Expenses are reduced. This number is not unusual for the winter. Joe Parrott asked 2011 Budget be approved. Motion made by Mike Murphy; seconded by Ginger Slaughter.

Joe Parrott added that some people have not pledged but this money is reflected in the budget. There are \$367,000 in pledges, with \$43,000 expected. The total adds up to \$410,000.

Outreach has been cut by 43%. It was decided that the budget deficit be fully subscribed before any more money can be allotted to Outreach.

### IV. Reports

A. **Rector's Report:** A shorter bulletin, making use of the *Prayer Book*, for Sunday service could save the church \$300 a year. The congregation would feel more vested in being an Episcopalian by using the *Prayer Book*. A discussion followed. Father Franklin will make the decision.

B. **Senior Warden:** no report

C. **Junior Warden:** Jim Shearon reported maintenance on the building's heat/cooling system has been done; this costs about \$2,500 a quarter, which is about the same amount spent in 2010. The web based interface can be changed over to high speed Internet whenever. With the new high speed Internet connection, the heating/cooling system can be fixed from any location. Motion to install it, using BTE funds made by Kirk Domingos; seconded by Dan Adcock. Jim Shearon will look into other companies that may be able to monitor for less money, and let us know when the contract ends.

D. **Discernment Committee:** Mike Murphy stated that the Parish Profile 2010 was on the church's website. Applications for the position of rector will begin to accumulate in the diocesan office.

### V. Ministry Reports:

A. **Stewardship:** Mardi Gras dinner will be March 8<sup>th</sup>. Cost will be \$20. The church will break even. Welcome

Back Party will be June 12<sup>th</sup> at Wolfgang's. Breakfast Bunch lost money last two years, so the breakfast price must increase March 1 to a break even amount.

B. **Music:** no report

C. **Christian Formation:** no report

D. **Children and Youth:** separate report

E. **Pastoral Care:** Helen Moore has agreed to serve as coordinator of ministries.

F. **Outreach:** Ginger Slaughter reported. There is a dinner planned for June to raise additional funds for Outreach. Also, there will be a money-box placed in the church for our "left-over" change. The committee is trying to meet the most critical needs.

G. **Angel Food:** Dan reported that 15 food packages sold in January.

H. A **Stephen Minister** is not a one-time helper. Everyone must go through Father Denson to obtain this relationship.

I. **BTE:** no report

### VI. Old Business:

A. **Second Day Adventists** no longer have need to meet at Incarnation. If they change their mind they will let us know.

B. Vestry reports and minutes will be emailed, the minutes and the copies of the financial report will be available. Reports may be sent via email several days in advance of the vestry meetings.

C. Kirk Domingos and a committee are updating the membership list. He is categorizing our members, based on whether they are here year round or seasonal and if they are contributors. This process may take a year, but will be ready for new rector.

### VII. New Business

Buck Trott suggested that at the Mardi Gras dinner poker chips be sold as tokens for alcoholic drinks to cover costs. There will be a limit of two drinks per person. Motion to approve made by Ginger Slaughter; seconded by Sam Edgens. Motion passed.

VIII. Motion to adjourn

Prayer by Father Franklin

## MARCH SUNDAY MINISTRIES

Date	Lectors	Chalice	Ushers	Camera	Altar	Acolytes	Vestry of the Day
March 6 10:30	Agnes Dehart	Midge & Jim Rothermel	Team #1	Chris Alley	Sarah Wallin Suzy Mosely		Peggy Woodruff
March 13 10:30	Eric NeSmith	Ginny Harris Carl Norman	Team #2	Thomas Craig	Ginny Harris Barbara Cusachs	Samuel, Tiffany & Alley	Jim Shearon
March 20 10:30	Luther Turner	Diane McPhail Lewis Doggett	Team #3	Mike Murphy	Ann Maxwell Craig Edmondson	Philip, John, Drew & Chalker	Ginger Slaughter
March 27 10:30	Jill Montana	Christine Murphy Ed Whitby	Team #4	Selwyn Chalker	Ann Turner	Emily & Maddie	Mike Hunter

### March Birthdays

3/1 Lane Reeves  
3/2 Charlotte Wood  
3/3 Marie Harris  
3/4 Helen Anderson  
Anne Curtis  
3/5 Ginger Kennedy  
3/6 Ronald Lewellyn  
Patrick Swain  
3/8 Harriet Hamilton  
3/11 George Sherrill  
3/12 Harriet Boger  
3/13 Ann Maxwell  
Gail White  
3/15 Diane Biggers  
3/16 John Underwood  
3/17 Kelly Garrett  
Patce Thornton  
3/18 Beverly Ellars  
3/20 David Moore  
3/25 Mandy Underwood

### Birthdays continued...

3/27 Martha Ferguson  
3/28 Mary Cann  
3/30 J Jay Joannides  
3/31 Ashley Walker  
3/31 Sally Caffery  
Anniversaries  
3/16 Edward & Nancy Waits  
3/25 Mark & Kathy Whitehead  
3/30 Armand & Catherine Mouw

For more information or if you would like to volunteer for any of these ministries please contact:

Ushers / Chalice:  
Lewis Doggett 526-8009

Lectors: Bill Conway 526-4030

Altar Guild: Barbara Cusachs 526-3579

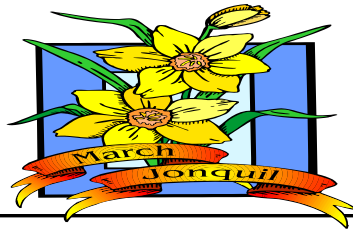
Flower Guild: Midge Rothermel 526-5903

Acolytes: Helen Moore 526-0727

*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.*



# March 2011

## Sundays

8:30am Breakfast \$5/per person  
9:00am Sunday School for children & adults  
10:30am Holy Eucharist Rite II

## Mondays

10:45am Yoga in Jones Hall  
4:00pm Women's cursillo in Library  
5:30pm AA Meeting in Jones Hall

## Tuesdays

8:30am Men's cursillo in Jones Hall  
1:30pm Staff meeting in Vestry Room  
3-5:30 Education for Ministry in Library  
5:30pm Women's AA Meeting in Jones Hall

## Wednesdays

12:00pm AA meeting in Jones Hall  
\*Vestry Meeting on second Wednesdays @ 4

## Thursdays

10:00am Holy Eucharist in the Chapel  
10:45am Yoga in Jones Hall  
12:00pm Al-Anon in Library

## Fridays

12:00pm AA meeting in Jones Hall



**Orders will be taken until Tuesday, March 15 and distribution will be on Saturday, March 19th from 8-9am.**

## Special Events

### Wednesday, March 8th Mardi Gras

5:30pm in Jones Hall / \$20 per person  
Beer & Wine will be available for \$2/drink

### Wednesday, March 9th Ash Wednesday

Services at 12noon and 5:30pm in the Chapel

### Thursday, March 10th

Taize Service @ 5:30 @ Holy Family

### Wednesday, March 16th @ 5:30

Lenten Supper & Program

### Thursday, March 17th

Taize Service @ 5:30 @ Incarnation

### Wednesday, March 23rd @ 5:30

Lenten Supper & Program

### Thursday, March 24th

Taize Service @ 5:30 @ HUMC

### Wednesday, March 30th @ 5:30

Lenten Supper & Program

## Discernment Committee Update

The Discernment Committee would like to share with the parish some results of the recently completed Parish survey. The survey was undertaken as part of the process to develop the Parish Profile, a comprehensive document covering all aspects of the life of the Church of the Incarnation.

The survey identified the following 5 top items as goals for the parish:

Ensure that our church is a vital part of the Highlands community, morally, spiritually, and socially.

Attract more young people, especially families with young children.

Have clergy available for spiritual guidance.

Increase the variety and attendance in all Adult and children's Christian Formation programs (e.g. Sunday School Classes, Bible Study, etc.).

Promote individual spiritual growth through such activities as quiet days, prayer groups, and study groups.

Intensify our welcome ministry for visitors and new members.

The major goals/attributes that were identified for our next rector were:

Preaching, Pastoral Care, Spiritual Counseling/Guidance

Using the results from the parish survey, Holy Conversations and other relevant information the Parish Profile was written and is now available on-line on our church website: [http://www.incarnationwnc.org/Church\\_of\\_the\\_Incarnation\\_Parish\\_Profile\\_2011.pdf](http://www.incarnationwnc.org/Church_of_the_Incarnation_Parish_Profile_2011.pdf).

Prospective candidates will be using our parish profile to learn who we are and determine if our church might be right for them. The last page of the profile has instructions on how candidates are to express interest in our open position. If you know someone that might be interested, please direct them to our church website to get this information. We also encourage all parishioners to look at this beautiful and thorough document on our web site to learn more about our parish as well. A copy is available in the church office for review. Please continue to keep the Discernment Committee and the entire Church of the Incarnation congregation in your prayers.

## Bell Tower Endowment

The Bell Tower Endowment Market Value on December 31, 2010 was \$162,347. The BTE Board voted to transfer to the church treasurer 6% or \$9,740. The BTE will have distributed a total of \$25,820 since October 2009. New computers have been purchased with part of the distributed moneys at a cost of \$1,863.35. Three desktops computers and one laptop computer were purchased to replace the leased computers thus saving the church money. Please pick up a new brochure on the BTE table in the narthex. You will see how generous our parish has been in giving to the BTE!! Thank you to all who have contributed and Thank You for the much needed new computers.

Anyone who would like to leave a permanent legacy to the church endowment may do so with a gift of property, stock, cash, IRA (tax advantage). The bequests may be a percentage or an amount. For a simple bequest, the forms are on the BTE table. Once they are filled out, take to your bank or Steve Lucas to be notarized, give a copy to Theresa at Incarnation. For a more complicated codicil, it is not necessary to make a new will. Just have your lawyer draw up a codicil and add it to your existing will.

Everyone who has made a cash contribution of \$100.00 or more is a member of the Living and Memorial Endowment. Anyone who has made a bequest to the BTE is a member of the Endowment. Bequests are easy to do and are needed-make a gift that keeps on giving for perpetuity.

The Board would like to thank Virginia Parrott for her unending effort both in organizing and developing the Bell Tower Endowment to its present level. Her term expired in February 2011. The work that Virginia has done will continue to be felt by the Church for generations. We will miss her on this committee. She has been such an inspiration to all of us who have worked with her since the commencement of this endowment. We only hope that we can continue to follow her excellent example. Tom Tracy will succeed her as President. We look forward to serving under his leadership.

For more information, please contact any board member: Tom Tracy 526-2816, Tom Cox 526-9889, or Paula Jones 526-0307

## Outreach

### HELP US HELP OTHERS

Last month, grant applications were sent to 11 non-profit organizations in the community, asking them key questions about the services provided, the governance and the financial well-being of their organizations. On March 17, members of the Outreach Committee will meet to discuss the completed applications and decide how to allocate our 2011 Outreach funds. Our deliberations will be particularly challenging this year.

This year the Outreach Committee has only \$40,000 to allocate to these worthwhile organizations – a 43% decrease from 2010. This is indeed heartbreaking, given that so many well-run, effective nonprofit organizations are doing such remarkable jobs responding to the growing needs of people, who face so many challenges in these tough economic times.

These are the organizations, which again will be asking for our help this year: Blue Ridge Mountains Dental Clinic, Bolivian Mission, Bright Discoveries (Incarnation's child development program), Community Care Clinic, The Food Pantry, Haiti Mission (for school and church in Tierra Muscody and Cange), International Friendship Center, Kids 4 Peace, Lake Logan Episcopal Center (for camp scholarships), Literacy Council, and R.E.A.C.H.

Please help us help these organizations, which are doing such valuable work in our community and beyond. In order to increase our Outreach funding for the current year, pledges will have to increase over what we have in hand today. Make a 2011 pledge – or increase your pledge – to Church of the Incarnation. It will make a difference to a lot of people.

Ginger Slaughter, Chair

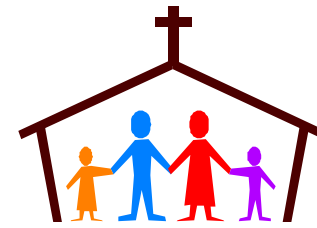
## Stewardship Commission

### Church involved in many "T words"

As you have heard before, Christian Stewardship is believing that everything we have is a gift from God and our call is to determine how much of that gift we are to give back to God. For some, it's easy to think of Stewardship involving the three (3) T words - Time, Talents, and Treasures, with the goal being to determine how much of each to give back to God and the church. The Bible mentions one T word, the Tithe, as a standard of giving that we should strive to live up to. Does that mean I should give 10% of my time, my talents, and my treasure to God's work? Only you can answer that question. For some, the answer to that question is yes. For some, the answer is yes, but 10% is the minimum standard and we are called to give more. Many are striving to define and attain the 10% standard.

Our church is currently involved in another T word - Transition. During this time of discerning/searching for our new Rector, we are afforded the wonderful opportunity to reflect on who we really are and what God is calling the Church of the Incarnation to be. As you've seen in other parts of this Parish Post, our parish is dealing with a rather large reduction in the amount of Treasure that has been pledged to the church, which is primarily due to many of our members not turning in a 2011 pledge. It is during this time of Transition that we need to be increasing our attention to our giving back of our Time, Talent, and Treasure. Please take a moment to prayerfully review your current Time, Talent, and Treasure commitment to the Church of the Incarnation, and if you feel that God wants you to adjust your level of giving back, please take that step, which involves another important T word - Trust.

Your Stewardship Commission



## Family Fun at Incarnation

For more information please contact ...



"The child lacks what is usually thought of as power and yet is able to enter (or receive) the Kingdom... when you meet such a child you meet Jesus, the embodiment of the Kingdom"

Jerome Berryman, *Toward a Theology of Childhood*

### Sunday Mornings

8:30 Breakfast Begins

9-12 Nursery provided

9:00 Sunday School

10:30 Children's Chapel

Lectionary based curriculum that follows the worship service for ages 2nd grade and under...children are brought upstairs for The Great Thanksgiving.

### Family Events

Kids Night Out

Church of the Incarnation

5:30—8:00pm

"Do you have your golden ticket?"

We will use the characters in Willy Wonka's Chocolate Factory to explore different themes for Lent.

## Youth Events

for 6th grade & up!



Youth Retreat  
March 18-20th

The Youth Retreat is going to be at Camp

Tekoa, we will leave Friday after school and return Sunday morning in time for worship. We will be staying in a house at Tekoa that sleeps up to 24 people in bunk beds. The cost is \$20 which includes food. We have lots of fun activities planned, including the zipline, and climbing tower so it should be a blast! Please sign-up by March 9th so we can confirm the details with Tekoa.

Youth Fundraiser: Wednesday, March 2nd, the youth will be providing and serving the Wed. Night Supper. Proceeds to benefit the next mission trip.