



This wooden sculpture was sent by the church at Tierra Muscady to Incarnation with many thanks for the continued support and prayers.

I wish you could have been with me on September 18th when I attended the inaugural service at Transfiguration, the church at Tierra Muscady. It began about five miles from the church with a motorcycle escort which was joined by men on horseback. After walking down the rocky road lined with people waving palm fronds, we entered the beautiful new church. Then what a service - with a band, several choirs, many acolytes, much incense, a sermon by Father Lafontant, communion, speeches by the governor of the Central Plateau, by the senator who represents the Central Plateau in Congress, by the mayor of Tierra Muscady, an offering procession that began with small children carrying pineapples or avocados, through all ages up to adults with live goats, or huge baskets on top of their heads full of all sorts of produce plus live chickens and turkeys. A rooster crowed during the service. The service lasted five hours - maybe you are glad you were not with me. I told the congregation how proud we are to be partners and that they are continually in our prayers.

Jane

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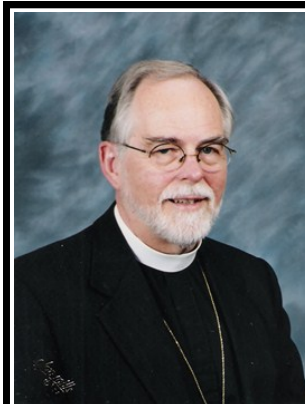
THE PARISH POST



***The Church of the Incarnation
Parish Post November 2011***

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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.*



Dear Friends and Family of Incarnation,

Methodist Bishop William H. Willemon edits a quarterly journal which I read regular. It's called the Pulpit Resource and sometimes it proves to be just that for me, a story or commentary on scripture that "lights my fire." This quote in the recent issue from writer and ethicist, Samuel Wells, says the following:

"To be a saint does not require one to have outstanding gifts and talents. All that is required is that one employ all of the churches' tradition rather than create them for one's self, and long for the church's destiny rather than assuming one must achieve it for one's self."

This reflects a catholic, connectional, historic view of what it means to be a Christian. We are part of an on-going community with resources that have been collecting over the centuries. It's not all up to us. We don't make it up as we go. We are moving together in an endless line of followers of Jesus who bring gifts from their time and culture, to and from the church. The liturgy, the sacraments, the scriptures, the works of mercy, the commitment to justice and inclusion, are not something we just figured out a few years ago. This is a gift to us from the saints, from the people before us who lived out this faith, community, and practice. This relationship is infused in the waters of Baptism and the oil of chrism.

When the newly baptized had the sign of the cross marked on his or her forehead, and is told "you are sealed by the Holy Spirit in Baptism and marked as Christ's own forever," that child or adult becomes a part of the long, historic line of saints. They are integrated into a community that began with Jesus and the Apostles. They have resources and purposes that are given and employed, not made up. The affirmation that "we believe in the communion of the saints" is one of the doctrines that defines us Anglican Christians, that makes us different from those who emphasize "contemporary" as their central approach to the life of faith. Catholic Christians seek to be relevant, hospitable, ecumenical, but "contemporary," not so much. We worship and live with "angels, archangels and all the company of heaven." We do not make it up as we go.

Peace!

Denson+

The Reverend Denson N Franklin, Interim Rector - The Reverend Howard W. L'Enfant, Priest Associate
The Rt. Reverend G. Porter Taylor, Bishop - The Most Reverend Katharine Jefferts Schori, Presiding Bishop

Vestry Minutes for September

The Vestry meeting was called to order by Father Franklin, members present: Joe Parrott, Dan Adcock, Mike Hunter, Bill Temple, Mike Murphy, Jim Shearon, Bill Conway, Bev Cone, Ann Maxwell and Ginger Slaughter.

The minutes of the August meeting were approved with minor changes.

The report of the Treasurer, Bill Conway, stated that the church is on budget based on revenues and expenditures to date. If current trends continue, and the end of the year reflects what is expected from past years we will finish this year without exceeding our revenues.

The interim rector talked about the Sanctuary Lecture Series and the pending visit of Dr. Martin E. Marty. He said that the heavy schedule of weddings for the season has been completed. He also reported that the staff and clergy of our parish work well as a team. There are few mistakes even with the changes made because of Andrea Chalker's leaving her administrative post in August.

The Senior Warden reported that the church has secured a credit card with low limits for certain purchases. Five officers and staff are approved as signers.

The Junior Warden with a committee appointed by the vestry has nearly completed the project to refresh the clergy offices. Repairs have been made on the HVAC system and the hot water system.

All ministries and committees gave positive oral reports about their continuing work. The Angel Food ministry will no longer be functioning because of the closing of the company due to finan-

Minutes continued.....

cial problems.

Outreach has received funds outside the budget allocation nearly equal to funding. Decisions are nearly completed on distribution of these funds. The 3rd quarter budget allocations have been mailed.

The Discernment Committee is completing the last site visit. The process is moving toward the offering of the name of a candidate for rector in the weeks ahead.

Stephen Ministry has fifteen care givers all of which are deployed. Another training class is projected for the winter.

Under old business the continuing effort to have a data base that includes all pertinent information on members will be restarted in the winter. Progress had been made but the church still does not have full names and addresses, both in Highlands and in alternative locations, for many seasonal members.

Under new business it was noted that no additional nominees for the 2014 vestry class have been received. The proposed new vestry members will be elected at the annual meeting by acclamation.

The meeting adjourned at 5:30pm.

NOVEMBER SUNDAY MINISTRIES

Date	Lectors	Chalice	Ushers	Camera	Altar	Acolytes	Vestry of the Day
Nov. 6 8:00	Bill Conway	Ed Whitby			Craig Edmondson		
Nov. 6 10:30	Emily Murphy	Midge Rothermel & Lewis Doggett	Team 1	Chris Alley	Barbara Cusachs & Terese Heard		Bill Temple
Nov. 13 8:00	Jack Freese	Robin Carter			Barbara Cusachs		
Nov. 13 10:30	Eric NeSmith	Ginny Harris & Carl Norman	Team 2	Thomas Craig	Sarah Wallin & Suzy Mosely	Alley Preda	Mike Murphy
Nov. 20 8:00	Peg Brannen	Jane Chalker			Ann Maxwell		
Nov. 20 10:30	Diane Rosazza	Diane McPhail & Ed Whitby	Team 3	Mike Murphy	Ann Turner & Martha Hunter		Ann Maxwell
Nov. 27 8:00	Luther Turner	Selwyn Chalker			Claire Harrington		
Nov. 27 10:30	Zeke Sossomon	Midge & Jim Rothermel	Team 4	Selwyn Chalker	Harriet Hamilton & Nancy Freese		Kirk Domingos
Dec. 4 8:00	Jean Whitby	Lewis Doggett					
Dec. 4 10:30	Nancy Tarbox	Christine Murphy & Luther Turner	Team 1	Zeke Sossomon			Bev Cone

November Birthdays

11/1 Chuck Hammock
 11/2 Samual Murray
 11/6 Shelley Marshall
 11/7 Robert Goddard
 11/7 Brindley Mitchell
 11/8 Terry Potts
 11/9 Sylvia Greene
 11/10 Elizabeth Salzarulo
 11/10 Bill Stiefel
 11/12 Dan Adcock
 11/12 Donna Alley
 11/12 Ed Lowrey
 11/12 Lauch Magruder

11/14 Ruth Lee Bolick
 11/14 Joanna Rainey
 11/15 Kevin Naylor
 11/16 Barbara Cusachs
 11/17 Bryan Lathem
 11/19 Garrison Boyce
 11/20 Melanie Cusachs
 11/20 Diane Rosazza
 11/23 James Santo
 11/24 George Richard Taylor
 11/25 Jean Trott
 11/28 Janet Sossomon
 11/28 Amanda Chambers
 11/29 Grant Andrews

11/30 Edith Dillon
 11/30 Nicholas Mathiowdis

November Anniversaries

11/9 Marie & Robert Harris
 11/17 Nancy & Everett Tarbox
 11/21 Peggy & Neil Crawford
 11/22 Cathy & Forrest Neal
 11/23 Janet & Zeke Sossomon
 11/24 Carolyn & Denson Franklin
 11/26 Vickie & Thomas Chambers



November 2011

Sundays

8:00am Holy Eucharist Rite I
 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
 9:00am Staff meeting in Vestry Room
 3:00pm EFM in Vestry Room
 5:30pm Women's AA Meeting in Jones Hall

Wednesdays

7:30am Yoga in Jones Hall
 12:00pm AA meeting in Jones Hall
 *Vestry Meeting on second Wednesdays @ 4
 3:30-5:30 Stephen's Ministry in Library (1st & 3rd)

Thursdays

10:00am Holy Eucharist Prayers for and Healing in the Chapel
 10:45am Yoga in Jones Hall
 12:00pm Al-Anon in Library
 5:30pm Overeaters Anonymous in the Library

Fridays

12:00pm AA meeting in Jones Hall

Announcements

Taize services will be held on the first and third Thursdays of the month at 5:30pm. The next services will be held November 3rd at Holy Family Lutheran and November 17th at Our Lady of the Mountains.

The Concert Coral under the direction of Grat Rosazza will present "music for the holidays" on Sunday November 20th at 4:00pm.

Highlands Interchurch Community Thanksgiving Dinner Tuesday, November 22, 6:00pm at the Highlands Rec Park. Each of the participating churches will be providing a different dish to accommodate 250 people. This year the Incarnation has been asked to bring either green beans or a sweet potato dish along with serving utensils. Please make sure you bring your dish "ready to eat" because they don't have the time or the means to heat/cook your dish. If you have any questions please contact Pat Griffin at 526-0542 or 200-0433.

Thanksgiving Day Service November 24th 10am chapel. The Rev. William Walker from Miami, preacher and celebrant.

The Food Pantry is experiencing a critical shortage of canned fruit, canned tomatoes, and dried black beans. Please help by picking up a grocery bag downstairs and filling the bag with your donation. As summer comes to an end - and jobs become scarce - The Food Pantry needs more food to meet increased demand. Your assistance here would be greatly appreciated. (For more information about The Food Pantry, call Claire Harrington at 526-9407.)

National Cathedral The cathedral church of St. Peter and St. Paul, our National Cathedral, was build over the years by Episcopalians from all over the country. Although it is the cathedral for the Dioceses of Washington, D.C., it belongs to all of us. It has been the setting for many occasions of celebration and mourning for our nation.

Recently the cathedral was severely damaged by an earthquake that struck the capitol. It will require millions of dollars to restore it. If you are inclined to assist that project write a check to Incarnation marked National Cathedral. We will get it to the fund for restoring this national treasure.

Big Brothers Big Sisters Mentor Recruitment Drive: Start Something Big... Friendships. School Success. Life Skills.

The Big Brothers Big Sisters chapter in Highlands is looking for volunteers to share one hour a week by being a mentor for a child at the Highlands School After-school Program. Experience the **Power of an Hour**, by giving your time being an adult friend and building a youth's self-confidence and social skills.

If you are 18 years or older and want to be a mentor or have questions, contact Program Coordinator Debbie Lassiter at 526-4044 or highlands@bbbswnc.org.

Statistics prove the following changes in children who have a Big Brother or Big Sister: increased success in academic performance, more self-confidence, better school attendance, and better behavior. Please decide to lend a hand and make a difference in our community.

Stephen Ministers "The After People"...

Stephen Ministers are there:

....after you've washed and returned the last casserole dish.

....after the divorce papers have been served and the bottom falls out of your life.

....after you realize the hands on the gold watch you received at your retirement party move more slowly than you ever imagined.

..after the baby has arrived, putting more demands on you than you ever dreamed possible.

....after your family and friends have heard your story one too many times, but you still need to talk it out.

Stephen Ministers are ready to come alongside people and provide comfort and support for as long "after" as they are needed.

Stephen Minsters are professionally trained individuals who minister one-on-one to those in need. Contact Dan Adcock or Bobby O'Dell if you wish to receive CONFIDENTIAL caring from one of Incarnation's Stephen Ministers.

Currently we have had a very active summer fulfilling caring and we are considering doing another class after the first of the year. If anyone is interested in enrolling in the classes please let Father Denson. Father Howard, Dr. Dan Adcock, or Dr. Bobby O'Dell know by calling the church and leaving your name and number.

Bell Tower Endowment

As you walk into Incarnation this fall/winter think about our beautiful church and how important Incarnation is to your life. We hope you will consider her perpetual care in your financial planning. We encourage you, if you have not considered it, to sign a codicil to your will and leave a lasting legacy to the Church. 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. Stephen Lucas is also available to do this for you too (free of charge). Like the energizer bunny, this is a gift that keeps on going!! You are leaving a legacy for perpetuity. Please attach all codicils to a Legacy or Anchor Society form (located in the narthex).Your gift amount is kept confidential.

Looking for the perfect birthday gift or anniversary gift? Why not make a contribution in honor of a loved one to the BTE!! Your gift will continue to grow and grace others.

Many thanks for the following contributions:

- Beverly and Butch Ellars, in honor of Jane Tracy's birthday
- Tom and Jane Tracy, in honor of Ruth and Tom Claiborne and Mary Ann and C Massey Jr. Anniversaries
- Tom and Jane Tracy, in honor of Sara Mann and Nancy Shurling's birthdays
- Helen Moore, in honor of Tom and Jane Tracy's generous spirits.
- Joe and Virginia Parrott, in honor of Jane Tracy's birthday
- Wolfgang and Mindy Green in appreciation for your generous contributions in Highlands
- Jane and Frank Troup in memory of Lucy Thatcher and Wally Bunn
- Jane and Frank Troup in appreciation for Carolyn and Denson Franklin

For more information or if you have any questions, please contact a BTE Board Member: Tom Tracy 526-2816, Alwyn Staley 526-3219, Paula Jones 526-0307, or Tom Cox 526-9889.

Stewardship

Stewardship - What's it All About?

It's about **TIME**. Time was created by God, along with the rest of creation. How we spend our time tells who we are and whose we are. Most of us live over-scheduled lives. How we live in time reflects our relationship to God. It's about **RELATIONSHIPS**. One of God's greatest gifts to us is relationships. The Bible teaches us to love people and use possessions rather than to use people and love possessions. Four of the 10 Commandments deal with our relationship with God. The other six deal with our relationship to each other.

It's about the **ENVIRONMENT**. The creation stories in Genesis clearly identify our responsibility for the care and concern for "this fragile earth our island home". In Genesis 2:15 when Adam is put in the garden to work it and care for it the Hebrew word suggests the exercising of dominion as a caring benevolent ruler.

It's about **TALENT**. Each of us is unique, given gifts for ministry by God in a way no one else has. When we apply our talents to meet the needs of the world and our neighbor, we are being good stewards of our unique gifts.

It's about **WORSHIP** and **GOD'S WORD**. Evangelism, which is sharing the Gospel, and stewardship go hand in hand. Our very attendance at church services is an act of stewardship for when we gather to worship, we are exercising stewardship of the faith that God has given us.

It's about **MONEY**. 15% of everything Jesus said related to money and possessions. He made more references to money and possessions than either prayer or faith. He spoke more about money and possessions than heaven or hell. Why? Because scripture makes clear that there is a fundamental connection between a person's spiritual life and their attitudes about money and possessions. "For where your treasure is, there your heart will be also" (found in both Matthew and Luke). The Bible gives a very effective method for lessening our attachment to possessions: give a tithe, 10% to God and keep 90% for yourself. This is a very practical step in lessening our attachment to money.

It's about **LIFE**. Stewardship encompasses all that we are, and all that we hope to become. Stewardship is not a program. Stewardship is not about raising money. Stewardship is not here today and gone tomorrow. Stewardship is a journey. It's about life. In fact, stewardship is a way of life.

- Excerpt from the Episcopal Diocese of Western Louisiana website.

"Tis the Season" The Alternative Gift Market

Giving to help others through the "Tis the Season" - Holiday Gift Market.

Times are tough for many and all of us are watching our pennies. We clip coupons and we look for discounts. Here in America we are truly blessed and our Creator looks to us to share those blessings. There is no better way to share than to give through the "Tis the Season" - Holiday Gift Market.

The Market is always held immediately following the Highlands Christmas parade. This year it will be on Saturday, December 3rd beginning at 11:30am running through 2:00pm at the First Presbyterian Church's Coleman Hall on Main Street, Highlands. By participating in the Market you are able to help people from 14 charitable agencies.

Area charities that are supported by the Alternative Gift Market:

Big Brothers Big Sisters

REACH of Macon County

Blue Ridge Free Dental Clinic

Highlands Bolivian Water Mission

Bosnia Mission

Highlands Emergency Council

Highlands Community Care Clinic

Kids for Peace NC

Food Pantry

International Friendship Center

Haiti Mission

Highlands Community Child Development Center

Highlands Bolivian Mission

Literacy Council of Highlands

The Alternative Gift Market offers gift-giving without the hassle. Not having to get to the mall or to worry about mailing and shipping. You simply make a gift to a favorite charity. Help others who are less fortunate than you and share your blessings with others. Hope to see you at the Gift Market after the Christmas Parade.



Family Fun at Incarnation

For more information please contact ...

Andrea Chalker 526.2968 x206 christianed@incarnationwnc.org



"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

Summer Sunday Mornings

8:30 Breakfast Begins

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 during the passing of the Peace.



Advent Wreaths

Sunday,

November 27th

Jones Hall

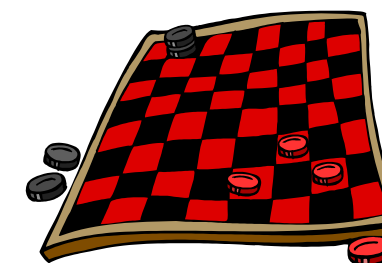
9:30 am

Everyone is invited to begin our first Sunday in Advent by making a wreath. Extra greenery is always welcome!

Youth Events

(6th grade & up... held in HUMC youth room)

Wednesday Evenings 6-7:15



Family Game Night

Friday, Nov 18th

5:30pm

Bring your favorite family game

and join us for a simple evening of fun!

Dinner will be provided.