



The Guiding Light

The Newsletter of the Episcopal Church of the Epiphany

April & May
2011

Our Mission

To Share the Love of Christ with all people through prayer,
Worship and Bible Study;
By caring for those among us and by serving the wider community

Reflections from the Rector

*"Christ be with me, Christ within me, Christ behind me, Christ before me,
Christ beside me, Christ to win me, Christ to comfort and restore me;
Christ beneath me, Christ above me, Christ in quiet, Christ in danger,
Christ in hearts of all that love me, Christ in mouth of friend and stranger."
~From St. Patrick's Breastplate, and Hymn 370*

As my last newsletter reflection goes to press, and I think about these past four years I have served with you, it is your new work for the Lord that comes to the forefront of my mind.

I watched you support hundreds of soldiers overseas with love and letters and packages, phone cards and prayers, letting them know that our troops are not forgotten.

I have seen you open your hearts to become sponsors of The Corner Table Soup Kitchen.

You have taken up collections of so many different kinds in that narthex: books for children at Safe Harbor; Hams for the hungry at ECCCM and The Corner Table; cell phones for soldiers; linens and pantry goods for Sipes Homes; Easter Candy for 4H; items for Habitat; dollars in a soup pot on "Souper Bowl Sunday"...the list goes on and on.

You have joined hands with members of Ascension and St. Albans, picked up hammers and paint brushes, mops and brooms and helped renovate "Apartment #2" for Safe Harbor. You have dedicated yourselves to a new future of our "third" of Human Hurt and Hope grant-writing support initiative through our diocese with your own hearts of service which will endure with this ministry for homeless women, helping them to believe in themselves again, binding up their broken hearts, and giving them a new start in life.

You people are survivors. Our church survived a really rough break-in. A couple of our women ended up having to endure another break-in to their cars. We have survived a

rough economy, and a climate which is not so conducive to church growth of any kind in general. Yet our membership has not fallen, and our budget has managed to hold on as a part-time footprint and get plenty of ministry accomplished together through our diocese.

Sadly, we have said goodbye to members either through their moving, or through their death to this world and entering the larger life. Goodbye is never easy for us. And it brings a church closer, reminding us all to whom we belong, to our God. We cling to God, our life-giver, our Pain-bearer. In love we live and share our hopes and dreams, especially in our church family.

Do you realize the significance of these past few years in terms of your clergy history? Your interim rector The Rev. Dr. Joan Vella before me was the first woman to be placed here; I am the first woman rector to be called here; and you experienced your very first female deacons while I was here. We had the honor of having The Rev. Pat Jones for three months while she waited for the transition at Ascension when The Rev. Karla Woggan came to be rector there. And then, for the year 2010, we were ever so blessed to have The Rev. Deacon Anita Ware to do her year of internship with us after her ordination. I am sure that all of us "women clergy" would join in saying "we trust that we served you well!"

Gardeners? Deacon Anita brought the gardener out in many of you, and we shared with The Corner Table many beautiful vegetables. It was Deacon Anita who organized the deacons of our three Episcopal Churches together, and had the vision to move everyone forward in outreach. And now look at all of us, even after she has gone back to All Saints, the work continues...in fact, in many ways, it's just getting started! She planted good seeds in good soil.

Music? Look and listen! How beautiful the music is at Epiphany. I have been so blessed to be your priest during this time when God would send us Peter Weinrich to be ready to lead us as Minister of Music as a true gift from his heart. Luther Barringer's year as Senior Warden led us in

fundraising for a very fortunate find through our former organist Margaret Alice Rader to a second-hand set of handbells that we could never have afforded otherwise, from New Jerusalem Lutheran Church. Wow! And now we have Kim Gant as director, bringing out such wonderful expertise in our small choir. Need I mention that gorgeous baby grand? Kathy Hardin, thank you again and again! We all thank you, especially Ann Lowery and Amy Campbell, and of course Peter. A dream instrument, an astonishing gift. The Lord is able to bless us in this house of worship over and over again through the sound of music.

My pastoral care relationships with Epiphany members and friends mean more to me than I can ever express in words. As I expressed in my goodbye letter to you, I will continue to pray for you and our family does consider you to be our friends. Please always remember that.

Being with you in worship on Sundays, sharing the Good News of Jesus Christ with you, and celebrating the Eucharist here at Epiphany, is an honor and privilege I dearly cherish and will sorely miss. There is such a close sense of presence with Our Lord and Savior for me in celebrating the Eucharist. However, God will provide other opportunities in the future, I pray.

My prayer for you is this: that God will help you continue to move forward and stay positive! Draw from the good things of your past, just as each week we break the bread of Christ's body and drink from his cup of salvation. Allow that past to strengthen your feet and hands and hearts and minds to stay open to God's NEW call, God's NEW ministry for you EACH AND EVERY DAY. No Christian can stand still anymore, or even sit and watch from the pews. Such posture is a dying posture. Christians everywhere are realizing that we have to do church a brand new way, just to keep our family of Christ healthy and known.

Our God has not stopped moving since He moved through the desert and stood outside the tent in the Oaks at Mamre and spoke to Abraham and Sarah, telling them they would have a son in their old age and He would make of them a great nation. Oh wait, God actually was moving way before that, moving across the waters of this planet earth, separating them from the land and then making us out of the dust and breathing life into us. Deep mystery, this moving, living, long-awaited God of ours. Ancient and yet right here with us. Don't you just love that?

A new young family has just joined Epiphany. Isn't that amazing? We hope to be baptizing their youngest son May 15th. Do not underestimate this wonderful blessing. They know I am leaving, yet they come and join Epiphany anyway! What a treasure! And what a compliment to you as a church. I see this as a sign from God of promise and hope for the future.

And now, THANK YOU. Thank you for letting me lead you to new places in your walk of faith. Thank you for letting me convince you that computers are not "evil monsters." Thank you for allowing me to be at your beside in the hospital and allowing me to do your weddings and to baptize your sweet infants and to lead us as we made our song, Alleluia at the graves of your loved ones. Thank you for receiving the holy sacrament of the Body of Our Lord Jesus Christ from my hands, the Blood of Christ from the chalice; and the blessing of laying on of hands and of a cross made with the oil of Holy Unction, and also of Ashes on Ash Wednesday upon your foreheads. I have loved blessing you, and feeding you, and directing you, and teaching you, and just being there for you as a reminder that God is always, always there for you and will never, ever fail you.

I want to thank you for everything you have done for me and for my family. We have been loved so dearly. It is a wonderful thing to be a clergy family loved by a church. Tom and I especially appreciate how much you have cared for Thomas these four years from his age 12 to 16, very formative and impressionable years. You have planted good seeds of faith in his garden of faith.

We look forward to seeing you between now and my last Sunday (May 22). Please come and walk the rest of Lent and Easter with your church members and with me. Let us celebrate our Risen Lord together, who gives us strength for any journey we undertake. Christ is within us, around us, and Christ leads us. We follow a risen Lord, who makes all things new.

With the blessings of the Lord Our God and the love of my heart,

Mother Beth+



Bishop's Reflection



I have been at the House of Bishops' meeting at Kanuga since last Wednesday. We have a variety of presentations but one of the core topics has been Young Adults. Lisa Kimball from Virginia Seminary spoke on Saturday and offered some reflections on the age group from about 19-35.

She said often they face a world that seems to have little space for them. As a result, sometimes their lives are tribal or nomadic as they search for a niche or home. They face a menu of choices but often seek some sense of contentment in an ever changing world.

Many have enormous educational debt yet have trouble finding a well paying job. They are very well educated. 33% of them have no health insurance. She quoted Christian Smith in describing their religious bent as "moralistic, therapeutic, and deistic. What they desire from the Church is stability and a deep narrative that makes sense in a chaotic world. The words she used are "secure, mysterious, experimental."

We are blessed in pockets of WNC to have many persons in this age group. As our Lord says, "The harvest is plentiful but the laborers are few." There is a deep hunger for The Way because these people know as all people know that we live in the world where everything fades and, therefore, we hunger for what lasts and is true. I had the privilege a few weeks ago of joining a group of Young Adults at the Cathedral for prayer. At dinner following I was amazed at their genuine commitment to the Church and their desire to grow in their faith even as they acknowledge how perplexing it is to be alive in this time. I told them we need their wisdom and their enthusiasm and their perspective. My guess is they need the Church to express that need and desire seriously and authentically.

After the Kanuga presentation, the word I came away with is "engagement." I think programs are good and innovative liturgies can attract Young Adults. However, the greatest tool for spreading the Good News is conversation which leads to conversion and communion. Our calling is to engage this generation as the Church by seriously listening to their hopes and doubts, their dreams and despairs. My guess is those of us over 34 will have to take the first step to show our interest, but this will only work if that interest is genuine. 10% of The Episcopal Church fits this age bracket. If we want that number to increase, now is the time. The word is "engagement."

+Porter

ECW News

Ladies, our next meeting will be Sunday, April 17th at 12:30 p.m., at Catawba Country Club.

As you all know, every woman is automatically a member of the ECW. We ask that you please get your dues up-to-date. The dues are \$1.00 per month, or \$12.00 per year. Please help us get our treasury in good shape so we can do the things we usually do, including some upcoming showers and special events. Please give your dues to either Nancy Shanks, President; Ann Lowery, Treasurer; or Zoe Robertson, Vice President.

We had eighteen ladies present at our last meeting on February 12th at Catawba Country Club, and a good time of fellowship, fine food, and fun was had by all in attendance. Nancy Shanks opened the meeting with a plan to help provide food for parishioners in need during and after hospitalization. She sent around a sign-up sheet. Mother Beth thanked Nancy for coordinating this special ministry.

There was discussion about new sofas for the Library. The ECW voted to give \$200 toward the new sofas, and a check was given to Mother Beth.

Ann Lowery has requested finger foods, heavy hors d'oeuvres, and other refreshments for the Catawba Valley Community Choir's concert, which will be held at Epiphany on Friday, May 13th.

We discussed having a baby shower for Becky Brandon Bryant. This will take place on May 21st, with the time to be announced.

Zoe reminded everyone that the Houston Cottage at Sipe's Orchard Home is presently housing six teenagers in the transitional living program. They are always in need of kitchen, bed, and bath supplies, and paper products are also always needed.

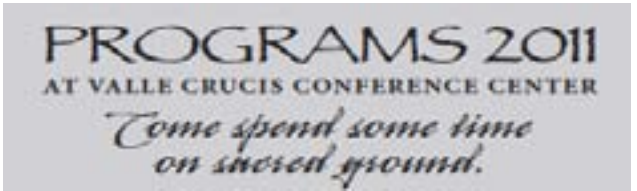
Mark Your Calendars:

April 17th, 12:30 at Catawba Country Club: next ECW meeting
May 21st, time TBA: Becky Brandon Bryant shower

Reminder

Please use the Epiphany Post Office box for all mail and supply orders. The Postal Service does not deliver mail to our street address.

P.O. Box 270
Newton, NC 28658



Sacred Pauses: Balancing Daily Work & Worship

Friday, April 8, 2011
 10AM - 3PM – \$35, includes lunch
 Facilitator- The Rev. Elizabeth Canham
 The workshop will offer suggestions for creating our own rhythm of prayer pauses to enrich daily life.

The Healing Power of Forgiveness

Saturday, April 16, 2011
 10AM - 3PM – \$35, includes lunch
 Facilitator: The Rev. Charlotte Cleghorn
 This day will be a combination of presentation and quiet reflection as we consider what forgiveness is and isn't, and how we might move towards forgiveness into the healing grace of God.

PROGRAM REGISTRATION
(Feel free to copy this form but please use one form per person)

Event for which you are registering: _____
 Starting Date: _____
 Name: _____
 Address: _____
 City: _____ State: _____ Zip Code: _____
 Home Phone: _____ Work Phone: _____
 E-Mail: _____
 Your Faith Tradition: _____
 ** I would like to room with _____
 _____ I will not be staying at the Conference Center but will commute.
 _____ I am coming for a Program Day and will not need lodging.
(If you wish to arrive the night before a Program Day, call to check on room availability.)
 Enclosed: _____ Nonrefundable, nontransferable deposit of \$ _____
 _____ Full payment of \$ _____

Return this complete form with your check (payable to VCCC) to the address below.
 You will receive a registration confirmation by email with any further information necessary.
 VCCC, PO Box 654, Valle Crucis, NC 28691
 ** When requesting a specific room mate(s), registration forms and deposits should be mailed together.

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Holy Week Schedule

Palm Sunday, April 17: Blessing of the Palms, 10:00 a.m. and blessing of our new Altar Candlesticks given in memory of Jack Shanks, during 10:30 a.m. service.
Wednesday Healing Service/Holy Eucharist (as usual) at 5:30 p.m.
Maundy Thursday, April 21: Holy Eucharist and Foot Washing, 7:00 p.m.
Easter Vigil Service, followed by breaking of the fast, 7:30 p.m.
EASTER SUNDAY: Holy Eucharist, 10:30 a.m. (No Christian Formation).

PARISH MINISTRIES - APRIL 2011

SAVE THIS LIST!

DATE	APRIL 3	APRIL 10	APRIL 17	APRIL 24	MAY 1
LESSONS YEAR "A"	The Fourth Sunday in Lent	The Fifth Sunday in Lent	Palm Sunday	Easter Sunday	The Second Sunday of Easter
LECTOR	C. Hartis	A. Williams	All Readers	D. Brandon	N. Ridenhour
CHALICE	A. Campbell	T. Lowery	Z. Robertson	T. Lilly	A. Campbell
USHER/GREETER	R. Hungerford R. Kummer	M/G Jupin	R/V Leath	M/F MacDowell	B/J McPherson
COFFEE	C. Bivens P. Winstead	N/G/J Batz	D/S Brandon	H/J Craddock	E. Godinho P. Parsons
FLOWERS	Lenten Greenery	Lenten Greenery	Blessed Palms	Easter Lilies	OPEN
ALTAR GUILD	F. MacDowell P. Parsons J. Trammell	C. Bivens K. Hardin A. Lowery T. Lowery	C. Bivens K. Hardin A. Lowery T. Lowery	J. Cuomo B. McPherson J. McPherson	J. Cuomo B. McPherson J. McPherson
ACOLYTE/CRUCIFER	A. Donovan D. Donovan	J. Byrd	A. Cortney	W. Roper	C. Hartis
BELL RINGER	A. Donovan D. Donovan	J. Byrd	A. Cortney	W. Roper	C. Hartis
VESTRY PERSON	G. Jupin	V. Leath	T. Lowery	B. McPherson	P. Parsons
NURSERY	As needed	As needed	As needed	As needed	As needed

***** IF YOU ARE SCHEDULED TO SERVE AND ARE UNABLE TO BE HERE, IT IS YOUR RESPONSIBILITY TO FIND A REPLACEMENT AND TO NOTIFY STACEY IN THE PARISH OFFICE OF WHO WILL FILL IN FOR YOU. IF THE OFFICE IS CLOSED, PLEASE CALL THE VESTRY PERSON ON DUTY FOR THE WEEK. Thank You!**

04/02	Christina Leath (daughter of Reggie & Valerie Leath)	04/17	Carol Ben-Davies
04/04	Ellyson Rose Godinho (granddaughter of Toni & Elaine)	04/19	Michael Jupin
04/05	Alan Bivens	04/21	Alex Batz
04/06	John Dorney	04/23	Anita Bell
04/10	Amy Campbell	04/23	Terri Beauvais
04/10	Chip Hardin	04/24	Rohan Gill (grandson of Mike & Gloria)
04/11	Anna Laura McPherson	Jupin)	
04/13	Joyce Trammell	04/25	Kim Sigmon
04/14	Janna Chilton (Tom Harrington's daughter)	04/29	Elizabeth Batz
04/14	Lydia Leake	04/30	Connie Keisler
04/15	Frances Roper	<u>MARRIAGES</u>	
04/16	Ann Adams	04/18	Kyle & Jacqueline (Weinrich) Mergner

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
<h1>April 2011</h1>					1 Stations of the Cross 5:00 pm Mother Beth & Janice McPherson	2
3 Ministries Breakfast 9:00 am HE 10:30 am C 11:30 am	4	5	6 HS/HE 5:30 pm CHOIR 6:00 PM "Getting to know you supper" 6:00 pm	7 Adult Bible Study 11:00am-1:00pm (Last one)	8 Stations of the Cross 5:00 pm Amy Campbell	9 Repairing the Breach Service Trinity Church, Asheville 11:00 am
10 CF 9:15 am HE 10:30 am C 11:30 am HB 4:30 pm Rev. Weisner, Celebrant	11	12	13 HS/HE 5:30 pm VESTRY 7:30 PM	14	15 Stations of the Cross 5:00 pm David Brandon	16 Easter Bunny Breakfast for Families with little ones @ Catawba Country Club 9:30 am RSVP by April 5th
17 Palm Sunday Blessing of the Palms 10:00 am HE 10:30 am C 11:30 am ECW Luncheon 12:30 pm HB 4:30 pm KLB 5:00 pm MNO 6:00 pm CDF -Sunday Collection	18	19 Mother Beth Asheville All Souls Cathedral Renewal of Clergy Vows	20 HS/HE 5:30 pm CHOIR 6:00 pm	21 Maundy Thursday 7:00 pm	22	23 Easter Vigil Service followed by Breaking of the Fast 7:30 pm
24 Easter No CF HE 10:30 am C 11:30 am	25	26	27 HS/HE 5:30 pm DOK dinner and meeting at Catawba CC 6:30 pm	28	29	30

Key for Calendar: ALB = Adult Lunch Bunch; AT = Acolyte Training; CF= Christian Formation; HE = Holy Eucharist; MP = Morning Prayer; C=Coffee Hour; ECW = Episcopal Church Women; MNO = Men's Night Out; KLB = Kids Lunch Bunch; HB = Handbells; HC = Home Communion Sunday; HS= Healing Service; CDF= Clergy Discretionary Fund; OF = Outreach Fund

Office Hours are Monday-Thursday 9:00am-2:00pm unless otherwise noted on calendar, in bulletin, or on office door in emergency.

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
<h1>May 2011</h1>						
1 CF 9:15 am HE 10:30 am C 11:30 am HB 4:30 pm	2	3	4 HS/HE 5:30 PM CHOIR 6:00 PM Financial / Stewardship Committee Mtg. 7:00 pm	5	6	7
8 CF 9:15 am HE 10:30 am C 11:30 am Rev. Weisner, Celebrant	9	10	11 HS/HE 5:30 PM VESTRY 7:30 PM	12	13 Catawba Valley Community Chorus at Epiphany 7:00 pm	14
15 CF 9:15 am Baptism/HE 10:30 am C 11:30 am HB 4:30 pm MNO 6:30 pm CDF -Sunday Collection	16 Love, Medicine & Miracles 6:00-7:30 pm	17	18 HS/HE 5:30 pm CHOIR 6:00 pm	19	20	21
22 CF 9:15 am HE 10:30 am C 11:30 am HC Sunday Mother Beth's Last Sunday	23	24	25 Compline 5:30 pm DOK 6:15 pm	26	27	28
29 CF 9:15 am HE 10:30 am C 11:30 am Rev. Jerry Prickett Outreach - Sunday Collection	30 Memorial Day Office Closed	31	June 1 Compline 5:30 pm CHOIR 6:00 pm			

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SAVE THIS LIST!

DATE	MAY 1	MAY 8	MAY 15	MAY 22	MAY 29	JUNE 5
LESSONS YEAR "A"	The Second Sunday of Easter	The Third Sunday of Easter	The Fourth Sunday of Easter	The Fifth Sunday of Easter	The Sixth Sunday of Easter	The Seventh Sunday of Easter
LECTOR	C. Tucker	A. Lowery	Z. Robertson	T. Lilly	A. Campbell	C. Hartis
CHALICE	A. Campbell	T. Lowery	D. Brandon	T. Lowery Thomas Lilly	A. Williams	H. Craddock
USHER/ GREETER	B/J McPherson	B/D Richards	A. Roper M. Roper	E. Sigmon J. Collins	W/J Trammell	C. Tucker W. Williams
COFFEE	E. Godinho P. Parsons	K. Hardin B. Huggins	M/G Jupin	R/V Leath	B/J McPherson	Z. Robertson N. Shanks
FLOWERS	OPEN	OPEN	Z. Robertson	N. Shanks	OPEN	P. Parsons
ALTAR GUILD	J. Cuomo B. McPherson J. McPherson	J. Craddock M. Roper W. Shook W. Williams	J. Craddock M. Roper W. Shook W. Williams	J. Collins E. Godinho J. Harrington	J. Collins E. Godinho J. Harrington	S. Brandon R. Hungerford G. Jupin
ACOLYTE/ CRUCIFER	C. Hartis	A. Donovan D. Donovan	J. Byrd	T. Lilly	W. Roper	C. Hartis
BELL RINGER	C. Hartis	A. Donovan D. Donovan	J. Byrd	T. Lilly	W. Roper	C. Hartis
VESTRY PERSON	P. Parsons	B. Richards	K. Hardin	G. Jupin	V. Leath	T. Lowery
NURSERY	As needed	As needed	As needed	As needed	As needed	As needed

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BIRTHDAYS	MARRIAGES
05/02 Lynne Shapiro (Beverly Dorney's daughter)	05/03 Harold and JoAnne Craddock
05/02 Dorothy (Dolly) Ben-Davies	05/03 Stan & Alena Baker (grandson of Anita Williams)
05/03 Nicole (Cuomo) Gibbs	05/13 Tom & Anita Bell
05/08 Ethan Kyle Gregory	05/15 Eddie & Jan Johnston
05/11 Mary Frances MacDowell	05/19 Charlie & Pat Dalton
05/14 Susan Godinho	05/22 Walt and Zoe Robertson
05/14 Dylan Tyler Mergner (Weinrich's grandson)	05/24 John and Kim Sigmon
05/21 Whitney Roper	05/25 Ted and Amber Campbell (son of Don & Amy)
05/23 Rusty Reynolds	
05/24 Bennett Leake	
05/26 Cassie Parsons	
05/29 Jacqueline Weinrich Mergner	
05/30 Kyle Alan Mergner	



Members of Ascension, Epiphany and St. Alban's and Safe Harbor staff gather to share barbecue and to discuss ministry opportunities at Safe Harbor Rescue Mission. More than 95 from the three parishes attended and more than 50 signed up.



We Epiphany folks are apparently camera-shy...

Safe Harbor ministry

Three Catawba parishes unite in outreach efforts

By THE REV. DN. PAT JONES
Ascension, Hickory

Deacon Bishop Taylor has invited all parishes across our diocese to find ways to work together to engage, collaborate and transform our communities.

As a result of that invitation the three deacons in Catawba County - Diane Livingston from St. Alban's, Pat Jones from Ascension and Anita Ware from Epiphany - decided to find a way for our three parishes to join together to serve those members of our community in need. We decided to form the Catawba Episcopal Outreach Committee to discern where the Holy Spirit was leading us in this community.

The Catawba Episcopal Outreach Committee gathered at St. Alban's and at Epiphany to discern what we were being called to do together. We spent time getting to know one another, praying and meditating and identifying some ministry priorities as we continued to discern our common ministry together.

After hearing from Debbie Haynes, Safe Harbor executive director, about their rescue mission we decided that we were being called to partner with them. Their yearlong

intensive program provides an opportunity for women in need to rebuild their life in a Christ-centered environment.

In order to involve all three parishes we held a Holy Smoke Ministry Fair for Safe Harbor at Ascension on Jan. 22. What a day we had! Men from all three parishes worked together to cook the meat and prepare the wonderful barbeque. Others added baked beans, cole slaw and desserts.

Folks came from 2 to 5 p.m., eating in or taking their meal out. Board members from Safe Harbor were available in five classrooms to discuss different areas of ministry involvement. A DVD continually showed so that those in attendance could see what the ministry was about.

We had more than 95 people attend and more than 50 sign up to volunteer in a specific area!

So many have commented on the wonderful spirit that permeated the day! The Safe Harbor Board left so encouraged and excited about our Episcopal involvement.

All members of the CEOC are to be commended for their hard work and dedication to our calling to engage, collaborate and transform. The Catawba County Episcopal parishes are united in their effort to make a difference at Safe Harbor and in our

Dates to Remember

- » Handbell Choir: April 10 & 17, May 1 & 15
- » Easter Bunny Breakfast for families with little ones: April 16, 9:30 a.m. @ Catawba County Country Club. **RSVP to Mother Beth by April 5th.**
- » Kids' Lunch Bunch: April 17, 5:00 p.m. - supper and a movie about Jesus
- » Men's Night Out: April 17 & May 15, 6:00 p.m.
- » ECW Luncheon: April 17, 12:30, Catawba County Country Club. **Please RSVP to Nancy Shanks by April 15th.**
- » Blessing of the Palms: April 17, 10:00 a.m.
- » DOK: April 27, 6:30 p.m. @ Catawba Country Club
- » Catawba Valley Community Chorus @ Epiphany, May 13, 7:00 p.m.
- » Financial and Stewardship Ommittee meeting: May 4, 7:00 p.m.
- » Love, Medicine and Miracles book study: May 16, 6:00-7:30 p.m.

Just for Fun

Attending a wedding for the first time, a little girl whispered to her mother, "Why is the bride dressed in white?" The mother replied, "Because white is the color of happiness, and today is the happiest day of her life." The child thought about this for a moment then said, "So why is the groom wearing black?"

A Sunday School teacher was discussing the Ten Commandments with her five and six year olds. After explaining the commandment to "Honor thy father and thy mother," she asked, "Isn't there a commandment that teaches us how to treat our brothers and sisters?" Without missing a beat, one little boy answered, "Thou shall not kill."

~Thanks to Mother Beth

Stop Hunger Now

Once again the Rotary Clubs (District 7670) are sponsoring a volunteer day to package 250,000 meals for school lunch programs in Haiti. Last year several Epiphany parishoners volunteered and helped meet the 250,000 meal goal.

A sign-up sheet will be posted on the bulletin board, and if you have any questions, contact Tom Lilly.

Just for Fun

Life After Death

"Do you believe in life after death?" the boss asked one of his employees. "Yes, sir," the new employee replied. "Well, then, that makes everything just fine," the boss went on. "After you left early yesterday to go to your grandmother's funeral, she stopped in to see you!"

Palm Sunday

It Was Palm Sunday and, because of a sore throat, five-year-old Johnny stayed home from church with a sitter. When the family returned home, they were carrying several palm branches. The boy asked what they were for. "People held them over Jesus' head as he walked by." "Wouldn't you know it," the boy fumed, "the one Sunday I don't go, he shows up!"

Children's Sermon

One Easter Sunday morning as the minister was preaching the children's sermon, he reached into his bag of props and pulled out an egg. He pointed at the egg and asked the children, "What's in here?" "I know!" A little boy exclaimed. "Panty-hose!!"

Support a Family

The prospective father-in-law asked, "Young man, can you support a family?" The surprised groom-to-be replied, "Well, no. I was just planning to support your daughter. The rest of you will have to fend for yourselves."

First Time Ushers

A little boy in church for the first time watched as the ushers passed around the offering plates. When they came near his pew, the boy said loudly, "Don't pay for me, daddy. I'm under five."

Prayers

The Sunday School teacher asked, "now, Johnny, tell me, do you say prayers before eating?" "No sir," he replied, "we don't have to, my mom is a good cook!"

Climb the Walls

"Oh, I sure am happy to see you," the little boy said to his grandmother on his mother's side. "Now maybe daddy will do the trick he has been promising us." The grandmother was curious. "What trick is that?" she asked. "I heard him tell mommy that he would climb the walls if you came to visit," the little boy answered.

The Water Pistol

When my three-year-old son opened the birthday gift from his grandmother, he discovered a water pistol... he squealed with delight and headed for the nearest sink. I was not so pleased. I turned to mom and said, "I'm surprised at you. Don't you remember how we used to drive you crazy with water guns?" Mom smiled and then replied..... "I remember!!"

Grandma's Age

Little Johnny asked his grandma how old she was. Grandma answered, "39 and holding." Johnny thought for a moment, and then said, "and how old would you be if you let go?"

-Thanks to Grace Cortney

A lady lost her handbag in the bustle of shopping. It was found by an honest little boy and returned to her. Looking in her purse, she commented: "Hmmm... That's funny. When I lost my bag there was a \$20 bill in it. Now there are 20 \$1 bills."

The boy quickly replied: "That's right, lady. The last time I found a lady's purse, she didn't have any change for a reward."

Last year I replaced all the windows in my house with that expensive double-pane energy efficient kind, and today, I got a call from the contractor who installed them. He was complaining that the work had been completed a whole year ago and I still hadn't paid for them.

Helllooo.....just because I'm blonde doesn't mean that I am automatically stupid. So, I told him just what his fast talking sales guy had told me last year, that in ONE YEAR these windows would pay for themselves!

-Thanks to Ann Lowery

In our Prayers for Healing and Strength:

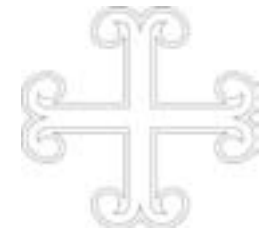
Almighty God, comfort and heal all those who suffer in body, mind, or spirit; give them courage and hope in their troubles, and bring them the joy of your salvation. In your name we pray.

Lorraine-Baker Neal, Luther Barringer, Jane Biggerstaff, Kristen Black, The Rev. Gus Boone, Marilyn Bornemann, Jason Call, Carol Campbell, Zelma Clemmons, Harold & JoAnne Craddock, Joy Crosby, Charlie & Pat Dalton, Cassie deSha, Lucy Echerd, Peggy Ervin, Don Flick, JoAnne Flick, Jessy Fupril, Bill Guy, Rachel Hunt, Fred Keisler, Ann Lowery, Jacque Lowery & Family, Frank Lutz, Mac McRee, Stephen Ackley Ortiz, Sarah Palmer, John & Diane Paton, Margaret Alice Rader, Geraldine Reed, Cindy Reynolds, Zoe Robertson, Anna Ruth Robinson, Gloria Rumore, Jacob Schmidt, Vivian Scott, Nancy Shanks, Forest Shook, Lawrence Shook, Edd Sigmon, John Sigmon, Cozette Sinclair, Candy Smith, Rev. Gary & Janice Smith, Hattie Spaulding, Betty Storey, Dorothy Steele, Shirley Sudderth, Frances Tate, Catherine Tucker, Michael William.

For Those Who Have Died:

Almighty God, look with pity upon the sorrows of your servants for whom we pray. Remember them, Lord, in mercy; nourish them with patience; comfort them with a sense of your goodness; lift up your countenance upon them; and give them peace; through Christ our Lord.

Michael Ware (Deacon Anita's father), Sarah Goodrich, Gordon Gilliland, Jerry Helms, Mel Matthews, Buster Parnell



'Repairing the Breach...' Isaiah 58:12

**A Service of Repentance,
Healing, &
Reconciliation**

SAVE THE DATE:
April 9, 2011

Trinity Church, Asheville - uam

*Bring your parish Banner for the service
*Get youth from your parish to attend the service

*For all clergy that want to order a commemorative handmade reversible black, white, and purple stole for the service please contact Melissa Bailes @ vineyard_studio@yahoo.com by February 28, 2011

*Also if you would like to reserve the Repairing the Breach Banner to display at your church please contact Osondu McPeters @ youth@diocesewnc.org



Coordinated by the Commission to Dismantle Racism

An Ordinary Member

Just an ordinary member
Of the church, I heard him say,
But you'd always find him present,
Even on a rainy day.
He had a hearty handclasp
For the stranger in the aisle,
And a friend who was in trouble
Found sunshine in his mile.
When the sermon helped him,
He told the preacher so,
And when he needed comfort,
He let the pastor know.
He always paid up promptly,
And tried to do his share
In all the ordinary tasks
For which some have no care.
His talents were always available
And his love for God was true;
His prayers were not in public,
But he prayed for me and you.
An ordinary member?
I think that I would say
He was extraordinary
In a humble sort of way.

~Lillian M. Weeks, submitted by Tom Lilly



The Episcopal Church of the Epiphany
P. O. Box 270
Newton, NC 28658