

the steeple

The Episcopal Church of the Ascension

Summer Issue, 2009

Mission Statement

“Disciples of Christ called to serve neighbors, near and far.”

Please Pray

Almighty God, giver of every good gift: Look graciously on your Church, and so guide the minds of those who shall choose a bishop for the Diocese of Upper South Carolina, that we may receive a faithful pastor, who will care for your people and equip us for our ministries; through Jesus Christ our Lord. *Amen.*

In the quiet of the moment...

Peace and greetings to my brothers and sisters in Christ.

This month I am offering a potpourri of thoughts and reflections...

I have been with you now for two months. It has been a joy getting to know you better. I have had an opportunity to meet one on one with the majority of the vestry members and I will meet with the others within the next few weeks. Those meetings have been insightful and very enjoyable. I invite and encourage all of you to make an appointment and let's chat about your hopes and dreams, for the future of Church of the Ascension. I will be calling on you as well so that we can get to know one another better and to discern how God has called us together to continue the ministry here at Ascension.

One of the many reasons I accepted the call here as your rector is because of the great potential we have to expand our horizons as the

body of Christ. We have a beautiful building with a lot of land around it that can be used for growth, and to spread God's word and love to others. Let us continue to pray and listen to God's direction and will in our lives for the Church of the Ascension.

With that in mind, I call your attention to Bob Andrews' article concerning the future direction of our Adult Education Class. We want to hear from you because your thoughts and insights are important. Also, please let me know what additional weekly book studies, Bible study groups, and offerings for growth in your own spiritual formation you would like to participate in. There are so many, many opportunities available to us for coming together in order to learn more about God. I would like to make one proposal: Let us come together once during the week in order to read and explore the scripture readings for the following Sunday. What do you think? Let me know!!

We are quickly approaching summer. Many of us will be traveling and visiting other parts of state, the USA, and the world. Please continue to worship as you travel, and when you do, pick up a copy of the bulletin and bring it back to share with me. I always like to know what the other

churches are doing in their liturgies and worship.

Also in summer, we hopefully have time for more reading. What have you been reading lately? As you probably suspect, a great deal of my reading centers on spiritual matters. A wonderful overview of our spiritual practices is found in the book Soul Feast by Marjorie Thompson. The Daughters of the King will begin reading it very soon. Ms. Thompson gives a concise and useful review of the different ways we pray and give our attention to God. Also any of those books by Henri Nouwen offer us deeper perspectives of God and our faith. When you're looking around for a good book to read on the matters of faith just give me a call.

About our Newsletter: We want our newsletter to keep everyone informed about the events and news concerning our parish and the larger church in the diocese and the world. However space is limited and we want to serve you in the best way possible. Therefore, please note the new guidelines for submitting articles for The Steeple. We have also added on the back page the new cartoon series. Humor is good for the soul, and we hope you will get a chuckle and a lift in the spirit from this addition to The Steeple.

I like to offer teaching opportunities whenever possible around the liturgy and the way we practice our faith. I will soon do an Instructed Eucharist during a Sunday service. In the mean time, we have been reviewing some of the prescribed practices for Holy Communion. I have spoken with the vestry and several others concerning the receiving of the bread and the wine. Their recommendation has been to continue educating us all on these matters. I believe Bishop Henderson expressed it well in a recent article to the clergy and people in our diocese, a portion of which is included in this edition of The Steeple.

Last, but not least, I want to thank the many, many people of our parish, and outside our parish who came together on Ascension Day to make our Celebration of New Ministry such a beautiful and wonderful occasion for worship and thanksgiving to God. There are so many who worked diligently together that I could not possibly name them all. Thank you and blessings to you all.

I believe that the Holy Spirit has brought us together to work side by side in God's vineyard. Thank you for the many blessings you have brought to me, Bruce, and my family.

In Christ's peace,
Deedie+

The Common Chalice

Our Bishop emphasizes these 4 points in the participation in Holy Communion. If you are interested in the full article, please go to the Diocesan web site and enter Mitre Chat in the search box.

1 "The long-standing doctrine of the Church is that receiving in one kind (that is, the host) is not only adequate but full reception of the Sacrament. Those who choose for whatever reason to decline the Chalice are not receiving anything less than that fullness. (Reference to the "host" reminds me to ask you to refrain from referring to consecrated host as "wafers" — the bread is now the "host" which conveys the Body of Christ — and no longer mere wafers.)

2 Intinction is the preferred form of reception by some Christians, even under normal circumstances — that is, without the fear of an epidemic or pandemic. This is rightfully a personal decision, and an entirely appropriate one.

3 The teaching and training authorized in Upper South Carolina is based on the advice of

The Steeple

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The Rev. Carol Anne Phillips Marshall, Rector

Editors:

Anne Cooke, Donna Hawkins & Dee Smith

+++++

Schedule of Services

Sunday - 8:00 AM - Holy Eucharist - Rite I

Sunday - 10:30 AM - Holy Eucharist - Rite II

Wednesday - 12:00 PM - Holy Eucharist

medical experts with whom I have consulted over the years. Reduced to the simplest expression of that medical counsel: one hand in the chalice (that of the Chalice-bearer) is much less likely to spread anything contagious than the many hands of those receiving. Consideration: the Chalice-bearer is required to cleanse his/her hands immediately before the Eucharist, and is trained to be extra careful to insure that his/her fingers do not come in contact with the consecrated wine or the lip of the Chalice. Thus, the healthiest form of administering by intinction is that the person bearing the Chalice takes the host from the communicant's hands, touches to the consecrated wine, and then places it on the recipient's tongue.

4 The policy was established prior to my episcopacy, but I reiterated it shortly after my consecration. To my knowledge, it is the policy and/or practice established in most dioceses — at least in those of my experience, and those of bishops with whom I have discussed the matter.”

Adult Formation (Bible) Class News

Read on...This is an article about the need of YOUR help in designing a new, or revamping the present, Adult Formation (Bible) Class.

Rev. Deedie has been part of Ascension's Formation class for the past several weeks. She commended the class members for their enthusiasm and thoroughness of preparation and openness of discussion. Rev. Deedie presented ideas on how a new class (or revamping of the existing class) would benefit parishioners who want to participate in a bible class, but not the one being offered now. The class members welcome the start of a new class (or changing the present class) and offered their assistance.

So...Ascension parishioners, please offer YOUR suggestions on how to improve the availability and format of an Adult Formation (bible) Class to Rev. Deedie via her email address (deedie@bellsouth.net), or phone her at 882-2006 at Ascension or see her by SUNDAY JUNE 21.

The present class continues to meet every Sunday morning from 9:30 am until 10:15 and the class welcomes your attendance as a member or as an observer. The Book of Psalms will be studied for the next 12 weeks. For information, call Bob Andrews at 518-963-7825.

The Steeple Changes & Additions in Content

The purpose of the newsletter of The Church of The Ascension, The Steeple, is to disseminate information to members of the parish and other individuals, churches, and organizations that have a connection to the parish.

Information submitted to The Steeple for publication must be dated and signed, with full contact information (telephone # and email address) by the individual submitting. If an article/information is reprinted from another publication, that publication must be credited. In some instances, permission to reprint must be given by the original publication.

All information/articles/opinions will be reviewed and approved by the Rector and Steeple editor prior to publication. Please note that if we have a surplus of articles your material may not be included. If the item is not time sensitive, we will publish it the following month.

Some possible features and/or changes in upcoming issues of the newsletter:

A "Budget Box" – A line item listing the balance in our budget.

(Note: please keep up your pledges during the summer months.)

Outreach - line item

Vestry Discussions

Articles from the Bishop - Mitre Chat

Back page Cartoon

Articles from the National Church

*Reprinted articles from the book "Church Words"

*Hymn Stories

*The Saints

*Christian Book line item - Suggestions for reading a specific Christian Book and why. (No book report)

This year The Steeple will continue with the summer issue, combining June, July & August information. The deadline for articles to be included in the September issue is August 10th.

* Not necessarily every month and as space allows.

Helping Hands Mission

Mission Update: On Tuesday, May 12th, twelve ladies toured both the Helping Hands home and the resale shop. Jean Tulli, the director, gave a short history of the home and told us something about many of the children there. Their fathers, mothers, boyfriend of mothers, grandmothers, have abused many of these children.

There are 40 children under Helping Hands care at the present time. Please pray for all the children that they will know the love God has for them and the love the people working at the home have for them. We will have another tour in the fall if you missed this one.

Helping Hands Resale Shop: is doing well. It is amazing how many things come in to be sold and how many of these things do get sold in a very short time. Please keep the donations coming. Thanks.

Nancy Andrews

Movie Night

We will continue hosting movie nights during the summer months. We invite everyone to come and bring family, friends and neighbors. Movie nights are the third Tuesday of each month. We begin at 6:00 in the parish hall with refreshments. The film begins at 6:30 and runs about two hours. Remaining line-up of films:

Tuesday June 16th **Bonhoeffer: Agent of Grace**

Dietrich Bonhoeffer was a well known Lutheran minister who actively opposed Hitler and the Nazis. He paid the ultimate price for his beliefs.

Tuesday July 21st **Mother Teresa**

We have chosen to repeat this film, since it was so well received two years ago.

Tuesday August 18th **Joshua**

This is a film based on the best-selling novel by Joseph Glizone. **Joshua** is a story about a stranger whose mysterious "supernatural" powers inspire a small town.

Many Thanks

Our thanks go out to the following for their generosity, time, kindness and hard work ~~

Bill Teske, for donating a new refrigerator for our sacristy,

Bob Wilson and Lou Leffler, for ordering and installing new signs for visitor and handicap parking, Leila Walker and Ginger Tidman for doing some painting and reorganization in our nave, narthex and foyer

Doug and Ellen Young, for installing a black out curtain in the parish hall for movie nights

Thank You!

From Marty and Wayne Gallimore: "Our thanks to the congregation for all the prayers, cards, calls and concerns not only at the time of my father's death, but also for our safety during the many trips to VA. You stood beside us the whole way and have no idea how much your devotion and support mean to us.

We particularly want to recognize the Daughters of the King for their steadfast prayers and perseverance for my father's sake and also for the sake of our children, Lewis and Amy through the pain of losing Grant and the joy of Morgan's birth. The young parents join us in appreciation and gratitude for your unwavering support and love."

Many Thanks

I express my thanks for all the meaningful gifts, words of encouragement and support and the reception given by the ECW May 10th. I will treasure my personalized Book of Common Prayer,

beautiful rosary (Miss Gwin and the DOK), the crosses (Mr. Pollock & Dr. Bryson), and the baseball with the special scripture (Dr. Hanahan).

I also appreciate Mother Deedie's care and loving guidance, the poster with your messages, the flowers from Miss Gwin to give to my mother and grandmother, and, of course, the good food and cake.

Thank you for making that Sunday, and each Sunday, such a special time. I appreciate all of the love and kindness you have shown me over the years and will always carry them with me.

With love and appreciation, Tripp

Our Parish Family

With Deepest Sympathy

Eleanor Donovan (Donnie) Dean, age 76, died May 5th after a long battle with cancer. She was born in Oxford, NC and had a long successful career in banking. She was active in many professional and charitable organizations. She was devoted to her parents and was active in the lives of her family. She also leaves behind many close friends and her cat, Amie, whom she loved dearly.

Donnie was a dedicated member of Church of the Ascension where she took great pleasure in singing in our church choir.

In accordance with her wishes, Donnie was buried in a private family service. There was a memorial service on Tuesday May 12, 2009 at 2:00pm at The Church of the Ascension.

Donations in Donnie's memory can be made to The church of the Ascension, 214 North Hampton Rd., Seneca, S.C. 29672.

***Happy Fathers
Day***

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Our sympathy to Kitty Nagem and her family on the loss of her father, Gerard Lamy, who died May 1st. Mr. Lamy was 82 years and he was a native of New Orleans, LA and a resident of Covington, LA the last 50 years. He was a salesman with Exxon Oil Company for over 40 years. Please keep Kitty and her family in your prayers.

Trash & Treasure Sale

Wow! – We raised a total of \$1,930.45. The ECW has not decided how the monies will be spent. A huge Thank You to all of you that donated items for the sale and to those who worked in any way in making the sale a huge success.

The Trash & Treasure was a great success.

Church Periodical Club

The program has concluded WE DID IT!

We reached our mile stone by collecting one mile of pennies – \$844.80. They will be used to buy books for underprivileged children. Thanks so much for helping in this endeavor.

Nancy Andrews

Contacting Rev. Carol Marshall

You can contact Rev. Marshall (Deedie) our new Rector, at the following numbers or e-mail address:

Pastoral Phone – 864-985-8758

Rector's e-mail – deediem@bellsouth.net

Church's e-mail – ascensionworship@bellsouth.net

Church's web site address – www.ascension-seneca.org

Diocese of Upper South Carolina web site address — www.edusc.org

Happy Anniversary

June

- 10 Maria & Raymond Stamey
- 11 Charlene & Russell Stanton
- 14 Joy & Chad Patton
- 15 Jacqueline & William Dunn
- 17 Barbara & Robert Lewis
- 17 Louise & Kenneth Richardson
- 18 Theresa & Sidney Bryson
- 19 Ruth & Benny Ballenger
- 19 Robbie & Doug Grider
- 20 Christine & Lou Christiansen
- 21 Joyce & Dick Brewer
- 26 Kim & Bobby Payne
- 29 Marty & Wayne Gallimore

July

- 06 Nancy & Bob Andrews
- 14 Jeannette & Dick Lantier
- 26 Laura & Wayman Wright Henry III

August

- 07 Connie & James Spencer
- 12 Ellen & Doug Young
- 19 Anna & Ross Hanahan
- 20 Betty & George Stephens
- 21 Dorothea & Bruce Curtis
- 21 Frankie & Tom Whitmer
- 22 Carol & Doug Henderson
- 31 Jane & Chris Jenkins

Be Proud

Hold the United States of America flag high!

Remember those on
our Prayer List

Immediate Concerns

Mary, Jim, Marie, Bob, Joan, Rhett, Maggie,
Joyce, Russell, Bill, Robert,, Beau, Heather,
Louise, Ruth, Julie, Maurice, Marylou, Bronwyn

Our Servicemen and Servicewomen

Benjamin, Paris, Jonathan, Jeremy, Roger, Bran-
don, Jason, Andrew, Thomas, Patrick, Mike,
James, Wesley, Paige, Chuck, Pete, J.T., Robert,
Bailey, Shawn

On-going Prayer Requests

Linda, Camilla, Connie A., Flora K., Diane, John,
Maria, Jean, Daphne, Deborah The Children of
the Helping Hands Home

Deaths

See inside information within the pages of the
newsletter

Donnie Dean, May 9th
Gerard Lamy, May 1st

Respectfully Sub-
mitted, Reta Miskov (ECW Sunshine Committee)

*“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.*

The Steeple is published most months –
deadline is **the 15th** of the month. Please sub-
mit articles to the Steeple mailbox, or you can
e-mail an article to

Anne Cooke —perfectlady@charter.net
Donna Hawkins—hackhawkins@bellsouth.net
Dee Smith — chuckandee@bellsouth.net

NOTE: If submitting articles via e-mail, please
check to see which one of us is editing.

Happy Birthday

June

01 Clifton Collins
 01 Bruce Curtis
 01 Ella Phillips
 02 Connie Spencer
 03 Audrey Trinder
 05 Lynn Shoot
 06 Mark Parker
 07 Bob McIntyre
 07 Bill Teske
 08 Betty Stephens
 10 Jim Walton
 12 Virginia Davies
 13 Jim Fuller
 14 Pat Huggins
 18 Marsha Cabbage
 18 Muriel Sampson
 20 Lou Christensen
 21 James McGuffin
 23 Eve Brooks
 23 Dot Teske
 23 Robert Wilson
 26 Sally Gray
 29 Davida Steinbrink
 30 Lou Leffler

July

02 Barbara Leffler
 03 Linda Davenport
 05 Danny Hawkins
 05 George Stephens
 10 Glen Dunlap
 10 James Neill III
 11 William Corbett
 16 Relia Spencer
 19 Kele Davenport
 19 Tom Davies
 19 Camilla Mabry
 20 Juleeanna Fuller
 22 Joan Barker
 23 Catherine Nagem
 23 Betty Peters
 23 Harriette Wheeler
 24 Sue Dolinar
 25 Anne Cooke
 26 Ginger Tidman
 28 Merrill Guttry
 29 Jim Padgett
 29 Maria Stamey
 30 Bobby Payne
 30 Amy Towe

August

03 Collette Johnston
 04 Emily Nowell
 04 James Tolbert
 04 Bob Trinder
 05 Jerry Davenport
 07 Jonathan Bryson
 07 Dwayne Davenport
 07 Brian Daview
 07 Kathie Goodrum
 08 Nancy Andrews
 09 Liz Metzger
 11 Frank Johnson

11 Barbara Lewis
 13 Joyce Brewer
 13 Gary Cabbage
 15 Barbara Timms
 17 Bob Andrews
 17 Wayne Gallimore
 17 Jack Ligon
 18 Jean Pollock
 23 Jim Hanahan
 24 Carol Henderson
 30 Donna Hawkins

Note:

Diocesan Convention recommends that each person contribute \$10 in thanksgiving for a birthday to the Diocese to provide support for new missions.

Send checks to:

“Builders for Mission”,

Episcopal Diocese of Upper South Carolina, 1115 Marion St., Columbia, SC . 29201

The Episcopal Church of the Ascension
214 Northampton Road, Seneca, SC 29672

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Summer, 2009

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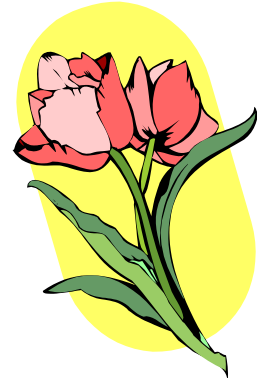
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Laughter - Good for what ails you!
St. Swithin's - by the Rev. Jay Sidebottom

August



June

Anniversaries

Thank You Notes

Happy Fathers Day