

THE MESSENGER

MAY-JUNE

2011



RECTOR'S CORNER

Canon Jim Pritchett at the recent Small Churches gathering reminded us in his presentation "Transforming Ministry in the Diocese of WNC" that in the Episcopal Church the baptismal covenant is widely regarded as the normative statement of what it means to follow Christ. The baptismal covenant is found on pages 304-305 in the Book of Common Prayer. After affirming our belief in the triune God (through the Apostles Creed), we are asked five more questions. Will we continue in the apostles' teaching and fellowship, in the breaking of bread, and in the prayers? Will we persevere in resisting evil and, whenever we fall into sin, repent, and return to the Lord? Will we proclaim by word and example the Good News of God in Christ? Will we seek and serve Christ in all persons, loving our neighbors as ourselves? And will we strive for justice and peace among all people, and respect the dignity of every human being? Our response to each of these questions is "I will, with God's help." As Jim pointed out, all ministry is Christ's while every baptized person is an active participant therein with each participating according to the gifts bestowed on that person by the Holy Spirit. With this as the focus, all of us are seen as the primary ministers on account of our baptism. Together then we the people and the priest share a vision of how Christ is calling this church to be the Body of Christ. May we continue in our shared ministry in realizing all that Christ desires the Church of the Transfiguration to be.

Namaste,
Mickey

Condolences:

Pat Andrews and family on the death of Vern April 14, 2011.

Lew and Josephine Thatcher on the death of Peggy Finsch April 16, 2011.

Congratulations:

Patrick Mugan and Allison Stone on their marriage March 31, 2011.

Dear Family at Transfiguration,

Thank you all for making my ten years as secretary such a joy. Your kindness, friendship, and love have been a blessing to me.

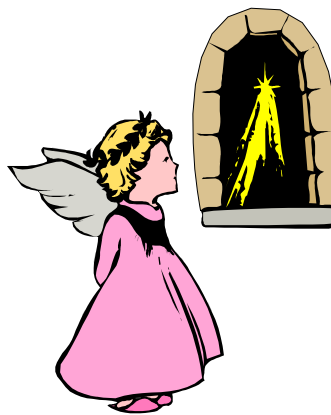
I will miss you all!

Mickey, best boss ever and dear friend. Your kindness and appreciation was always apparent and encouraging to me. In all these ten years, I cannot remember one harsh word ever spoken.

Thank you for being who you are! Thank you for allowing me to be a part (however small) of your ministry.

I pray God's richest blessings on you all who are Transfiguration Church.

**With love always,
Dolores**



JUNIOR WARDEN

2011 work efforts are now underway

It has certainly been a busy two months as Junior Warden!

All of March was devoted to scraping, painting, fixing, hiring contractors and many visits to Lowe's and Home Depot. The week just before the Madinas' moved in, we had a great group of parishioners to put on the final touches by cleaning the baths, cleaning the windows, and anything else, they saw necessary. All assistance given was greatly appreciated and a blessing.

The Medina's appear very happy with their new home. Just 2 minutes from their restaurant so that was a real plus. They have also agreed to split our quarterly garbage pickup with us. They will remit \$17.50 per month along with their rent payment beginning with the month of April.

It is now wonderful to have the facilities in our bathrooms free of rust stains and know that our water supply for both the church and rectory is free of iron. The new filter was costly, but over the years it will be worth it in protecting not only the parishioners, but also our renters, icemakers, water heaters, refrigerators, dishwashers, etc.

Carl Nelson and I spoke with the incumbent lawn service group from Hendersonville. The contract with them was renewed. Our grounds had a beautiful Spring with blooming flowers, shrubs, and our fabulous Dogwood. Thanks to all who take the time to pull a weed or tend a plant. We are all participants in the care of our church.

As we move into the next few months, we need to concentrate on the inside of the church and parish hall. We will try to arrange a good clean-up day for dusting, vacuuming, polishing, etc. Kudos to Carl Nelson for polishing all of the pews in the Nave and Choir areas.

Since there is no cleaning contracted any longer, we need to have some volunteer teams to perform this service on a once a week basis. I project it will take two people about 3 hours to perform the various cleaning functions.

We have a beautiful church and certainly want to keep it that way.

**Blessings,
Robert**



BOB JONES UNIVERSITY ART MUSEUM TRIP

Thursday March 10th, members of the Church of the Transfiguration and the Lake Lure Artists joined to take a guided tour of the Bob Jones University Art Museum. This museum has the most extensive collection of religious art in the Western Hemisphere dating from the thirteenth through the nineteenth centuries. The collection includes paintings, sculpture, icons, and other historical works of art.

As this university is but fifty miles from the Lake Lure area it is easy to visit and hosts several cultural events during the year that are open to the public.

Those attending were Mary Robertson, Linda White, Bruce Smith, Margo Hodges, Sandra Nelson, Curt Ellingson, Veryle Lynn Cox, Don Miller, Rosemary Sipes, JoAnne Ellingson, Bill Bentley, Nancy McNary, Susan Brooks, Joslyn Watkins, Marshall Brooks, and Blaine Cox. Remaining in the gallery is Carl Nelson.



TCW NEWS

Did you notice the two new railings installed to and from the Spiritual Garden? These are the final pieces we were able to add with the funds received for the restricted use of the spiritual garden. Speaking of garden, thanks to Sandra Nelson for organizing two work days to weed, mulch and plant to maintain our garden. Many hands were available to work and spend special time together before our meeting last month. Thanks to all of you.

A gathering of WNC Episcopal Church Women is scheduled for Thursday, May 12th at the Lake Lure Inn. This will be a great opportunity to “show-off” our church and garden that afternoon. Details will be discussed at our next meeting Tuesday May 10th at 12:30 with bag lunch in the parish hall. See you all then

JoAnne Ellingson
President

ROOT BEER FLOATS

Does that bring back good memories???

The TCW is having a root beer float social instead of a coffee hour on Sunday May 22nd after the 10 am service.

This will be a fund-raiser for our church.

We will be serving root beer floats and sandwiches for \$5.00. Advance tickets will be sold so we have an idea how many will attend.

EVANGELISM CORNER

In the last issue of “The Messenger,” I explained something about Cursillo and related activities. Now, I am happy to announce that three members of our Transfiguration family will be attending the weekend starting Thursday, May 5. They are: Nancy McNary, Rosemary Sipes and Leon Sipes.

If anybody would like to write letters of encouragement to any or all our “Pilgrims”, you can get them to Veryl Cox, JoAnne Ellingson or me and we will deliver them to the Cursillo center for you.. We need to have them by Thursday noon, May 5.

One of the main reasons for the success of the Cursillo movement over the years is the prayer support that each weekend receives – literally world-wide. With this in mind, I would like to ask for your prayers for everybody involved with this weekend – the team as well as the candidates (Pilgrims). If you would like to participate in a prayer vigil, you can do so on line at WNCcursillo.com.

Your Brother in Christ,
Curt Ellingson



Friends in Christ,

We are the church and we are presently in crisis. The outcome and resolution of our challenges will depend not on chance, the diocesan, or our rector, but upon ourselves. A popular bumper sticker states, "I hear there is a recession going on, but I refuse to take part." The place in which we find ourselves does not allow for that. Our crossroad has two directions. One, we can become another slowly dying Episcopal congregation without a full-time priest which is dependent upon the Bishop just to keep the lights on or we can become proactive and face our fears.

We are an energetic church people who love God and love each other. We can become a beacon to many small struggling Episcopal churches like us who face similar challenges. We can choose to become solidly solvent and strong, totally resolved to outreach while mending our own fences.

We emphatically need younger families to share our challenges and to be the next generation to nurture and maintain this noble little church. Until then, we need to reach deeper if possible and serve more when able.

Your Vestry looks forward to a future where our church can greatly surpass our present survival mode and step boldly into a renaissance of church service. With renewed resolve, we can look forward to the assurance of a full-time rector, a church staff to better serve God's needs, beautification of our church and grounds, better maintenance of our facilities, increased Christian educational opportunities, and a greatly expanded outreach program.

So, with an eye on what could be and better yet, what ought to be, we ask for total involvement, a mutual and corporate effort and the blending of intellect, resources, and efforts to strengthen our church in every way.

As one pastor admonished his people, "We cannot continue to sing, Standing on The Promises" while we just sit in the premises." God's grace has brought us this far, but we have a distance to go.

**Carl Nelson
Vestry Worship and Education**

LAUGHTER IS THE BEST MEDICINE

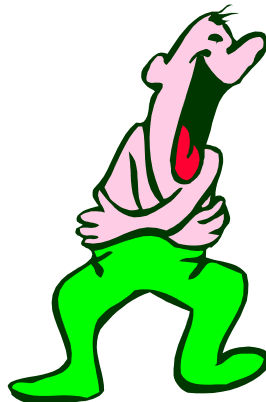
A couple had two little boys, ages 8, and 10, who were excessively mischievous. The two were always getting into trouble and their parents could be assured that if any mischief occurred in their town, their young sons were in some way involved.

The parents were at their wits end as to what to do about their sons' behavior. The mother had heard that a clergyman in town had been successful in disciplining children in the past, so she asked her husband if he thought they should send the boys to speak to the clergyman.

The husband said, "We might as well. We need to do something before I really lose my temper!" The clergyman agreed to speak with the boys, but asked to see them individually. The 8 year old went to meet with him first. The clergyman sat the boy down and asked him sternly, "Where is God?"

The boy made no response, so the clergyman repeated the question in an even sterner tone. "Where is God?" Again, the boy made no attempt to answer. So the clergyman raised his voice even more and shook his finger at the boy's face. "WHERE IS GOD?"

At that, the boy bolted from the room and ran directly home, slamming himself in the closet. His older brother followed him into the closet and asked what had happened. The younger brother replied, "We are in BIG trouble this time. God is missing and they think we did it."



**GORGE-AREA FREE COMMUNITY DINNER
EVERY SUNDAY**

Please spread the word about the Gorge-area community dinner.
We encourage you to come and share a great meal and casual
get together with others.

IT'S FREE, CASUAL, TASTY AND EVERYONE IS WELCOME

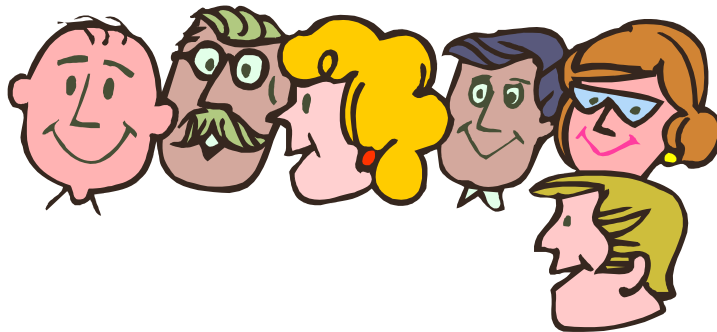
WHERE: Church of the Transfiguration
Saylor Lane @ Hwy 64/74, Bat Cave

WHEN: Sundays form 4:00 PM until 5:30 PM

MENU CHANGES WEEKLY

**NO COST
NO DRESS CODE
NO RESERVATIONS
NO CHURCH SERVICE**

Also, if you know someone that could use a good hot Sunday dinner, please
ask them to attend==or just come eat with us yourself, and then carry out
a "go box" dinner to them.



REMEMBERING THOSE WHO SERVE OUR COUNTRY

Before Mark Moeller, Bill & Nancy McNary's grandson, left Afghanistan to end his tour, he received a Navy Achievement Medal. This is the highest medal a young Marine can receive and is quite an honor. Mark served in Iraq two years ago when his son was born. Deployment to Afghanistan was even more difficult. Mark has been on our prayer lists during both of his combat missions. The Moeller family and Nancy wish to thank everyone for their prayers, keeping Mark safe and bringing him home. We all know Bill (Granddad) would have been so very proud of Mark.



LENTEN SOUP AND SANDWICH SUPPERS

Seventeen souls joined the first Lenten soup & sandwich supper Wednesday evening and enjoyed the fine fare prepared by JoAnne Ellingson. After “supping” Don Miller presented a program on a Christian form of meditation – Centering. Several church members had questions as Don covered the material and Mickey aided in the discussion with his extensive background. The photo shows those who joined in the lesson except for the photographer and mother Elizabeth and young son James Michael who had become a bit playful.



Wednesday, April 6, we once again enjoyed a meal of soup and cornbread followed by a program of Story Telling and Music of Joe Carter.



STATIONS OF THE CROSS

Our final Lenten event was a Potluck Supper with lots of great food and fellowship. We followed by walking the Stations of the Cross.



This was a wonderful and spiritual way to continue our journey to Easter Sunday.

FOR YOUR SPRING GARDEN AND EVERY DAY OF THE YEAR

First, Plant five rows of peas:

Preparation Purity
Presence Perseverance
Promptness

Next plant three rows of squash:

Squash Gossip
Squash Criticism
Squash indifference

Next plant four rows of lettuce:

Let us be faithful to duty
Let us be unselfish and loyal
Let us be true to our obligations
Let us be true and love one another

And no garden is complete without turnips:

Turn up for important meetings
Turn up with a smile
Turn up with new ideas
Turn up with determination to make everything count for something worthwhile
Turn up with honesty and love.

Taken from Cookbook "Our Favorite Recipes"
First Baptist Church
College Park, Georgia



FUNDRAISING

50/50

Very soon, you will be able to post items for sale on both this Newsletter and a poster for that purpose to be located on the bulletin board in the church parish hall.

You name the price, but whatever the item sells for, 50% will be donated to the general church fund. Just call or e-mail me to place the add and then go by the poster on the bulletin board and write in the designated places what you would like to sell. Since we no longer have the thrift stores of Shepherd's Care or the fire department, we hope this might fill a need and boost church revenues.

Carl Nelson

csnelson38@bellsouth.net

625-1065



UPCOMING EVENTS

- Sundays:** Eucharist 8:00 AM and 10:00 AM
Community Dinners – 4:00 PM
- Tuesdays:** May 10 and June 14
TCW – Bring-A-Lunch – 12:30 PM
TCW Meeting – 1:00 PM
- Wednesdays:** 10:00 AM Healing Service with Eucharist
11:00 AM Bible Study
- Thursdays:** May 12 and June 9
Vestry Meeting – 4:00 PM
- Saturdays:** May 21 and June 18
Church Breakfasts – 8:30 AM



MAY BIRTHDAYS

09 Dick Ransom
10 Smith Goodrum
12 David Douglas
13 Joe Whitt
17 Carlann Scherping
25 Harriet Taylor
25 Dave Scherping

MAY ANNIVERSARIES

JUNE BIRTHDAYS

03 Katie Burch
11 Barbara Freeman
14 Ellen Moorehead

JUNE ANNIVERSARIES

07 Russ and Phyllis Maze
15 Dick and Mary Ann Ransom
27 Mickey and Maggie Mugan



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