

# THE MESSENGER

## SEPTEMBER-OCTOBER

### 2011



#### RECTOR'S CORNER

Who or what is the church? It is first and foremost people. It is primarily a community. The church is we, the people of God.

The church is not the clergy alone. It is the whole community of the baptized.

This community is marked by a rich diversity of gender, class, education, social status, sexual orientation, race, ethnicity, and culture. It includes saints and sinners alike.

As Paul reminds us in several of his letters, we as the people of God joined with Christ make up the Body of Christ. Each of us in the charisms, or gifts of the Holy Spirit, which we receive, have our unique roles and ministries that contribute to the well-being and smooth functioning of the Body.

As I reflect on who we are as the Church of the Transfiguration, I observe how true it is that we incarnate the above reality. Whether in the various public ministries or in the quiet, private ministries that make up the Body of Christ in this place and this time, we together express well that the Spirit of God is alive and well in our midst and in this place.

As we continue our individual spiritual journeys and our spiritual journey as the Church of the Transfiguration, may we continue to be open to that transforming Spirit of God that dwells in us and among us. May we continue to give thanks for all the individuals who make up the Body of Christ as expressed in our church. And may we continue to welcome those who visit us and those who gift us by joining with us to enable us to become all that God calls us to be.

Namaste'  
Mickey Mugan

#### Condolences:

Jim and Bo Proctor and their families at the death of their father, Francis "Proc" Proctor  
Ackie and JoAnn Okpych and their family at the death of Ackie's mother, Mary Sandorf  
Sara Bentley and family at the death of her husband, Bill Bentley

***HAPPY BIRTHDAY MICKEY - AUGUST 7, 2011***



## **The Marble War**

**The Marble War - the game of chess as told to Steven. Smith Goodrum, author and illustrator.**

**Wart and Buster start a war over what each believe to be theirs...and then can't find what they were fighting about. Through the use of narrative, the author explores the elementary rules of chess for children as well as character development in boys as learned through their games. With the marble as a metaphor for character throughout and five developmental experiences for boys and men, the book concludes in the region where chess as we know it originated.**

**Copies available from the author, Barnes and Noble, Amazon, and AuthorHouse. \$14.95**

**A Navy veteran as a Vietnamese linguist, a graduate of Mars Hill College, the University of Alabama and Duke University, a classroom teacher and a psychotherapist, Dr. Goodrum has committed half of his psychology practice to the assessment and diagnosis of children and adolescents. When asked what influenced his character development, Smith responded "...my grandfather, my first job at 11 years old, and an inherent understanding that what one experiences does not have to predict what one is to become". Smith is the oldest of six brothers and sisters, the father of three, and the grandfather of six. He lives in Asheville, North Carolina and practices psychology for a living.**

## JUNIOR WARDEN

Much repair work continues to take place at Transfiguration and most of this is due to the diligent and dedicated work of Carl Nelson and Bruce Smith.

At the approval of the Vestry, the pew cushions and carpets have been cleaned in the church. Carl cleaned out the back gutters and took on the task of painting the ceiling in the Parish Hall. All of this continues to make our church a beautiful place of worship.

The yard service trimmed the large bushes on the highway side of the church and pulled down the vine. Definitely makes a big difference in appearance.

John and Megan Medina continue to make the Rectory a home and the appearance is warm and welcoming.

Thanks to one and all for jobs well done.

Blessings,  
Robert



# TCW NEWS

## *“END OF SUMMER ROOT BEER FLOAT SOCIAL”*



## **STEWARDSHIP CORNER**

To begin with, on behalf of the Vestry, I would like to offer a belated “Thank You” to the many parish members who responded so generously to our request for increased giving. This was one of several measures taken by the Vestry to remedy our financial problems we faced at the beginning of the year. The response exceeded our expectations and, as a result, our monthly treasurer’s report looks a lot better.

We have a request from the Diocese to have a year-around stewardship program. Because of the financial problems at the beginning of the year (and before), we have been concentrating on stewardship of our Treasure. What about our Time and our Talent? Christian Stewardship is a lot more than fund raising.

Among the measures taken by the Vestry to reduce our expenses was to eliminate the position of Church Secretary and to discontinue the cleaning service. Office work is handled by Harriet Taylor, and JoAnne Ellingson, the Treasurer, does the bookkeeping part of the job. Most of the time, there is no one to answer the phone, so voice mail is used. Carl Nelson and Bruce Smith (both members of the Vestry) are doing the necessary cleaning of the inside of the church. These two jobs suggest opportunities for stewardship of our time (and talent).

Every ministry in the church has a need for more help – including ushers, lay readers, choir, Altar Guild, and servers. These represent opportunities for stewardship of our talent. In addition, every Vestry committee could use additional members. These include: Worship & Education, Pastoral Care, Outreach, Stewardship & Evangelism, and Parish Activities.

In short, there are many opportunities for stewardship of time and talent. If you are interested in any of these ministries (they are ministries), talk to any member of the Vestry.

Your Brother in Christ,  
Curt Ellingson





## **IT'S THAT TIME OF YEAR AGAIN.....BACK TO SCHOOL!!**

I would like to ask for donations of address labels, notepads, cards and all that other stuff you get for being caring parishioners who give to charities! My kids love to use this in the writing center. Some who donate cut their name off the address labels and send just the picture but I leave it all on. I figure the worst they can do it write me a letter! I also save all those lovely used birthday and occasion cards from the trash and let my students give them a new life. And as always, I scrounge materials for our art teacher to use with the children. So feel free to donate anything you think she may be able to use. She is very creative! Thank you for your donations!

**BOX TOPS AND SOUP LABELS!** Please save those box tops and soup labels for schools! They really add up and help give funds directly to our school. Look for them on your groceries and paper products. I would be glad to collect them. Please ask you friends and neighbors! This has been the only way to obtain materials for our classrooms (other than teachers buying it) since funding has been cut for supplies.

Thanks! Julie Maziarka, Sunny View Elementary

## ***ON THE LIGHTER SIDE***

### **GETTING INTO HEAVEN**

**A fellow finds himself in front of the Pearly Gates. St. Peter explains that it's not easy to get into heaven.**

**There are some criteria that must be met before entry is allowed. For example, was the man a church-goer or religious? No?**

**St. Peter told him that's bad.**

**Was he generous, giving money to the poor or to charities? No?**

**St. Peter told him that that, too, was bad.**

**Did he do any good deeds, such as helping his neighbor? Anything? No?**

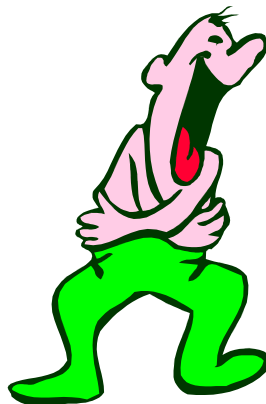
**St. Peter was becoming concerned.**

**Exasperated, the Saint says, 'Look, everybody does something nice sometime. Work with me, here! I'm trying to help. Now think!'**

**The man thinks for a minute, then says, 'Well, I did help this old lady once. I came out of a store and saw that a dozen Hell's Angels had taken her purse and were shoving her around. I threw my bags down and got her purse back, then I told the biggest biker there that he was cowardly and I spat in his face.'**

**'Wow,' said St. Peter, 'That's impressive! When did this happen?'**

**'Oh, about 15 minutes ago,' replied the man.**





## FAITH IN ACTION

A Local Volunteer Hospice Program Connecting Veterans  
with Veterans

Hospice of Rutherford County is organizing a very special program seeking to place a trained volunteer who is a veteran with hospice patients who share similar military experiences.

**Bruce Smith, a veteran, has just completed the Volunteer Training Class.**

If you are a veteran, Hospice needs you today! You can make a difference in the lives of so many who have also served. Call Hospice today at 245-0095 or call Jo Ann Faulhaber at 625-9652.

***MOUNTAIN BREEZE.....***

Be sure to pick up the next two issues of the “Mountain Breeze.”

Joselyn Watkins’ article is “Their Story” as told to her  
by Mickey and Maggie Mugan.

September/October issue will feature Maggie’s Story

***FOOD FOR THOUGHT.....***

**MAY YOU HAVE**

<b>ENOUGH</b>	<b>happiness to keep you sweet,</b>
<b>ENOUGH</b>	<b>trials to keep you strong,</b>
<b>ENOUGH</b>	<b>sorrow to keep you human,</b>
<b>ENOUGH</b>	<b>hope to keep you happy,</b>
<b>ENOUGH</b>	<b>failure to keep you humble,</b>
<b>ENOUGH</b>	<b>success to keep you eager,</b>
<b>ENOUGH</b>	<b>friends to give you comfort,</b>
<b>ENOUGH</b>	<b>wealth to meet your needs,</b>
<b>ENOUGH</b>	<b>enthusiasm to look forward,</b>
<b>ENOUGH</b>	<b>faith to banish depression,</b>
<b>ENOUGH</b>	<b>determination to make each day better than yesterday.</b>

## **LIBRARY DRIVE SUCCESSFUL**

**Our appeal for bible-based books to breathe new life into our budding church library has met with remarkable success.**

**From various donations, we currently have over 200 new selections of historical, biographical, and inspirational books. They are worth browsing through and may be checked out merely by using the form sheet on the near-by clipboard.**

**Happy reading!**





## **FAITH LESSON**

**On a park bench, two long-time friends were in conversation. The first, an atheist, asked his friend, "Harry, I've known you to be a caring man of compassion and a Christian for many years. Given the history of your church's mistakes regarding inquisitions, malfeasance of your Popes, the self-induced "black eye" of the Crusades and even the criminal behavior of church leaders, how do you continue to be committed to your faith?"**

**A long minute passed before Harry responded. "Consider this, he said, a well-meaning man lent his winter coat to someone he loved and while wearing it, his friend robbed a bank. The coat was very recognizable and the owner well known. There was no trouble finding the owner and he surrendered peaceable and accepted his undeserved penalty. What do you make of that?"**

**Weeks later, Harry's friend sought him out to thank him for introducing him to the grace and peace of a loving God who had added so much enrichment to his life. "Harry, he said, you wear the coat of Christ well. Never be without it."**

### **Faith Lesson**

**Are the synchronisms apparent? Who lends his coat? Who wears his coat today? Do we convey our Christianity by what we say or do? Does the behavior of Christians always represent the message of our redeemer? Are we not all to "put on Christ" and wear his coat well? What thoughts came to your mind while reading the account?**

**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**

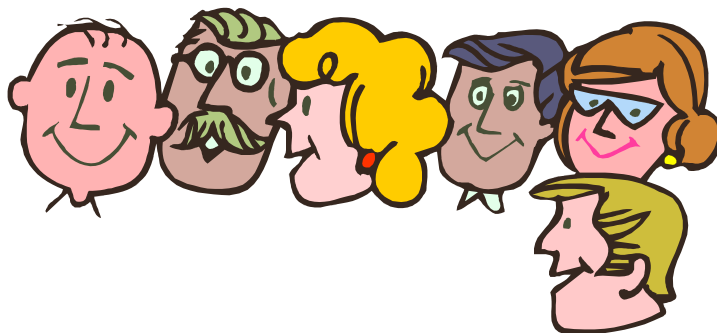
**WHERE:** Church of the Transfiguration  
Saylor Lane @ Hwy 64/74, Bat Cave

**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.



## **UPCOMING EVENTS**

- Sundays:** Eucharist 8:00 AM and 10:00 AM  
Community Dinners – 4:00 PM
- Tuesdays:** September 13 and October 11  
TCW – Bring-A-Lunch – 12:30 PM  
TCW Meeting – 1:00 PM
- Wednesdays:** Healing Service with Eucharist 10:00 AM  
Bible Study 11:00 AM
- Thursdays:** September 8 and October 13  
Vestry Meeting – 4:00 PM
- Saturdays:** September 17 and October 15  
Church Breakfasts – 8:30 AM



### **SEPTEMBER BIRTHDAYS**

08 Ackie Okpych  
09 Riley Hardy  
10 George Wittmer  
13 Chuck Hailey  
21 Maggie Mugan  
26 Carol Ann Spear  
28 Linda Carter  
28 Bruce Smith

### **SEPTEMBER ANNIVERSARIES**

01 Michael and Sara Gray  
05 Dave and JoAnn Woodcock  
13 Joe and Bertha Whitt  
20 Fred and Marion Wilson  
30 George and Hope Wittmer

### **OCTOBER BIRTHDAYS**

09 Sue Brooks  
08 J Michael  
11 Ann Hinton  
14 Dick Washburn  
21 Don Miller

### **OCTOBER ANNIVERSARIES**

05 Ackie and JoAnne Okpych



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