

The Bell Tower

The Church of the Holy Innocents Newsletter

Volume 11 - Number 1



January 2015

INSIDE THIS ISSUE

- 1** From the Rector
Planning for the Future
- 2** From the Rector...cont.
Parish News...
New Year's Day
Healing Service
Communion
Tabitha Guild
Vestry News...
- 3** Vestry News...cont.
January Schedule of Events
- 4** The Deacon's Bench
- 5** Treasurer's Report
- 6** January Birthdays
and Anniversaries
Remember in Your Prayers
Special Dates
Unified Serving Schedule
- 7** Spotlight on ...
December Photos

The Church of the Holy Innocents
210 South Chestnut Street
Henderson, North Carolina 27536
Telephone: 252-492-0904
E-mail: hinnocents@centurylink.net
Church Web Site Address:
www.churchoftheholynnocents.org
 **Visit us on Facebook**

FROM THE RECTOR

The Rev. Donald Lowery



Planning for the Future

Clergy are required by canon law to remind parishioners to attend to "last things." While I don't want to start the New Year on a depressing theme, the year 2014 has been a powerful reminder that we are all mortal and that we will die. There are certain things which it is most helpful to attend to before we die.

Please think about what is wanted at one's funeral. The time of death is always a shock for a family. Even if death comes after a long illness, perhaps as a relief when it brings an end to suffering, even with the assurance of eternal life through Jesus Christ our Lord, that final breath still sends shock waves through most of us. The motto of South Carolina is "While I breathe, I hope" and there is a certain sense in which we still hold out for some miracle

while a friend or loved one lives. It is so very helpful to the loved ones we leave behind if certain questions are already answered. Is burial of the full body or a cremation desired? Which funeral home is preferred? Should burial be in a specific plot or cemetery or in the parish columbarium? Will the service be Rite 1 or Rite 2 and what scriptures and hymns would be most meaningful? When each of these matters is planned and in writing, it makes the time of grieving easier for the family left behind.

If one is leaving behind family and an estate it is important to make provision for the care of loved ones and the disposal of one's earthly goods. Please have an up to date will. Provide adequate life insurance, especially if one is leaving behind young family or family members with special needs who might need financial resources for their own well-being. If one has investments beneficiaries should be named and an executor provided. Jumping back to the time just before death, it is useful to make sure there are trustworthy folks with power of attorney over one's finances and for health care issues. Especially, one should have end of life directives so that family can be spared the agony of deciding whether to end life support without a sense of what is desired.

Please remember charity. If possible, remember your parish church as a beneficiary. The resources given to the parish (especially those that can be invested in endowments) can further various ministries of the church for generations. This is a personal bias, but I think it is important to remember any institutions of higher education we may have attended. One does not have to go back very far in my own family to find deep poverty. My family escaped the cycle of poverty because my grandfather, with only a third grade

From the Rector cont. pg. 2

education himself, recognized that his children would have a better life if they were educated. All of his children received the education he never had and all of them found a place in the middle class. There are other charities to which one might wish to leave something to assist them in continuing the good work they do for others.

The church office can provide forms for listing one's final desires as regarding ones service. We can also connect parishioners with folks who can help with financial planning. Funeral homes encourage pre-planning. As one parishioner is fond of reminding, heaven does not have an economy. God provides for all his people in eternal life. The world we leave does have an economy. Our estate planning can bear witness to our faith and provide for both the people and institutions we love in a way that is wholesome, helpful and Godly. As we start a New Year, let us not forget our mortality and plan for inevitable like conscientious Christians. †



PARISH NEWS...

New Year's Day Service



The Feast of the Holy Name of Jesus

The Rev. Donald Lowery

January 1 is the Feast of the Holy Name of Jesus. For those who like to begin the New Year with Holy Communion, we will hold a worship service at 10:30 a.m. in the church. †



The Rev. Donald Lowery

Our first Healing service of the new year will be held on January 7, 2015 at 5:30 p.m. This service of Healing and Holy Communion will be celebrated in the Church. †



Wednesday Communion Services

The Rev. Donald Lowery

The Holy Communion will be celebrated on January 14, 21 and 28 at 5:30 p.m. The services will be held in the Church. †

Installation of Vestry Members and Acolytes

The Rev. Donald Lowery

The First Sunday after the Epiphany is the Feast of the Baptism of our Lord Jesus Christ. Jesus' public ministry begins with his baptism and serves to remind us that all Christians, not just the clergy, are called to ministry. Our ministries are lived and served anywhere we find ourselves, whether at home, at work or about in the community. Some of our ministries are served in the context of the church community. On January 11 we will celebrate two particular ministries within the church family. Vestry members will be installed. We also trained a number of new acolytes in the fall, and all the acolytes will be installed as servers of the Altar on this date as well. †

Tabitha Guild



Janet White, Betsy Catlett & Margaret Williamson

Start the New Year off right by joining the Tabitha Guild on the 2nd and 4th Tuesdays at 10:00 a.m. in the Ladies' Parlor - knitting and chatting until about noon. We look forward to seeing you! †

ECW will meet on Tuesday, January 27 at 10:00 a.m. in the Ladies Parlor. Members please mark your calendar and plan to attend !!!



The Rev. Donald Lowery

Youth group will meet on all Sundays of January at 5:00 p.m. We will gather at the Hughes House, sort out supper and then either do our activity for the evening at the Hughes House or move over to the Youth Room in the Parish House. †



Chrismon Tree

Yolanda Yoder

What goes up must come down!



On January 4th the youth will take down the Chrismon Tree in preparation for Epiphany. Anyone who wants to help is welcome to join us especially our youth group "graduates" (college youth and beyond college!). The more the merrier!

VESTRY NEWS...

Vestry Retreat

The Rev. Donald Lowery

The Vestry will gather in retreat at Ashland Plantation on January 23 and 24. We will work to set our goals and devise plans for facing out challenges for the coming year. †



VESTRY NEWS ... CONT.

**Church Door Locks**

Tom Church, Senior Warden

The church door locks will be rekeyed on Tuesday, January 13, 2015. The new keys and security codes for the doors will be located in the church office and available for check out from our parish administrator or our rector. †

Parish Life Committee News

*Kathy Taylor, Chair
Parish Life Committee*

The 2015 Church Directory proof was sent off and the new directories should be in the church office by the end of January (hopefully). I'd like to Thank everyone for getting or trying to get your picture taken for this (the last one made was in 2007) and for all the help with the picture taking 3 day marathon! Hopefully I did a good job and these can be used to keep in touch with church family members for many years to come.

I'd also like to thank Janet White and anyone else that helped her contact people, organize, flowers, time and decorations for the Bishop's visit on November 23 (this falls under the responsibility of the Parish Life Committee and I was still dealing with the directory at the time we found out that we were having Henry Ross' service on the 22nd and the Bishop's visit on the 23rd. Thank you Janet for adding that responsibility to what you were already doing and living at the church that weekend! Both services were beautiful!

I will be stepping down as a Vestry member this month and I would like to say that it has certainly been quite a learning experience (I've never served on any church committee before) and I can honestly say that that I understand what it takes to "run a church" a little bit better now. It does "take a village" to do all the things we do as a church but we have a wonderful group of people that are members of the church and I've enjoyed working and getting to know you all just a little bit better. Thank you all!

2015 Vestry

M Nelson

Welcome to new Vestry members Johnny Foster, Tracy Madigan and Margaret Williamson who join returning members Tom Church, Craig Clodfelter, Anne Almand, Alton Stainback, Ruth Hartness and Porter Shaw.

A big "Thanks for a job well done" to our outgoing vestry members Lisa Miravalle, Bill Stark and Kathy Taylor. †

CHURCH USAGE SCHEDULE

~LOWER HALL~

MONDAY

AA 5:30 to 6:30
Cub Scout Pack 7:00 to 8:00
(w/ Tommy)

TUESDAY

NA 7:00 to 8:00

WEDNESDAY

NA 7:00 to 8:00

FRIDAY

AA 5:30 to 6:30

SATURDAY

NA Noon

Note from the Editor...

Marsha Nelson

FEBRUARY NEWSLETTER DEADLINE JANUARY 26TH

Please submit any news items either to the church office or e-mail them to:

MJNELSON@nc.rr.com

Printed copies of the newsletter are located in the Bell Tower for you if you have problems with email access.

There is also a link to both current and past issues of our newsletter at:

www.churchoftheholynnocents.org

Thanks for your support!

January 2015 Schedule of Events

Choir Weekly Practice Schedule

Hand Bell Choir — Wed, at 6:00 PM
Parish Choir — Sun. at 9:30 AM

DAILY MORNING PRAYER

Monday — Thursday (weekly)
7:30 AM, Ladies Parlor

Sunday- January 4

8:00 AM, Holy Eucharist - Rite I
10:30 AM, Holy Eucharist – Rite II
12:30 PM, La Misa Servicio

Wednesday – January 7

5:30 PM, Healing Service
Holy Communion

Sunday – January 11

Baptism of our Lord
8:00 AM, Holy Eucharist – Rite I
10:30 AM, Children's Sunday School
10:30 AM, Holy Eucharist – Rite II
12:30 PM, La Misa Servicio

Tuesday – January 13

10:00 AM, Tabitha Guild (Ladies Parlor)

Wednesday – January 14

3:00 PM, Nursing Home Ministry
5:30 PM, Holy Communion

Sunday – January 18

8:00 AM, Holy Eucharist – Rite I
10:30 AM, Children's Sunday School
10:30 AM, Holy Eucharist – Rite II
12:30 PM, La Misa Servicio

Wednesday – January 21

5:30 PM, Holy Communion

Sunday – January 25

8:00 AM, Holy Eucharist – Rite I
10:30 AM, Holy Eucharist – Rite II
12:30 PM, La Misa Servicio

Tuesday – January 27

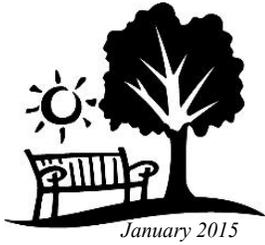
10:00 AM, Tabitha Guild (Ladies Parlor)
ECW

Wednesday – January 28

3:00 PM, Nursing Home Ministry
5:30 PM, Holy Communion

All services are conducted in the Church, unless otherwise noted.





The Deacon's Bench

by The Rev. Harrel Johnson

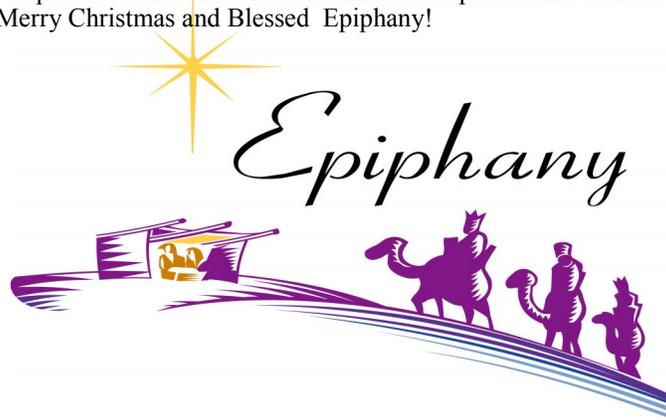
As I write this we are still in the season of advent. We have just celebrated Lessons and Carols at "Old St. Johns" and we are rushing forward into Christmas and Epiphany. It is this rush that causes me to put on the brakes and try to slow down enough to reflect on where God wants me to go.



We live in a world in which bigger and better define our expectations for much of life. We have become so enamored by super size, super stars, and high definition that we tend to view life through a lens that so magnifies what we expect out of the world that we tend not to see potential in small things. But as the prophet Zechariah reminds us, we should not "despise the day of small things," because God does some of his best work with small beginnings and impossible situations.

It is truly a humbling experience to read back through the Old Testament and see how frail and imperfect all the "heroes" actually are. Abraham, the coward who cannot believe the promise. Jacob, the cheat who struggles with everybody. Joseph, the immature and arrogant teen. Moses, the impatient murderer who cannot wait for God. Gideon, the cowardly Baal-worshipper. Samson, the womanizing drunk. David, the power abusing adulterer. Solomon, the unwise wise man. Hezekiah, the reforming king who could not quite go far enough. And finally, a very young Jewish girl from a small village in a remote corner of a great empire.

It never ceases to amaze me that God often begins with small things and inadequate people. It certainly seems that God could have chosen "bigger" things and "better" people to do His work in the world. Yet if God can use them, and reveal Himself through them in such marvelous ways, it means that He might be able to use me, inadequate, and unwise, and too often lacking in faith that I am. And it means that I need to be careful that I do not in my own self-righteousness put limits on what God can do with the smallest things, the most unlikely of people, in the most hopeless of circumstances. I think that is part of the wonder of the Advent Season, and the seasons to come. Merry Christmas and Blessed Epiphany!



Treasurer's Report

12/10/2014

Church Of The Holy Innocents Revenue and Expense Summary Year-to-date, Through November 2014

Accounts	MTD Actual (This Year)	MTD Budget (This Year)	YTD Actual (This Year)	YTD Budget (This Year)
Revenues				
Pledged Income	\$10,872.33	\$7,400.00	\$191,236.07	\$183,200.00
Other Income	\$734.30	\$600.00	\$6,477.24	\$6,600.00
Total Revenues	<u>\$11,606.63</u>	<u>\$8,000.00</u>	<u>\$197,713.31</u>	<u>\$189,800.00</u>
Expenses				
Compensation				
Salaries	\$6,470.57	\$7,770.01	\$85,291.37	\$85,470.11
Employee Expenses				
Rector's Expenses	\$1,315.13	\$1,000.00	\$11,349.46	\$11,000.00
Other Employee Expenses	\$2,449.78	\$3,108.33	\$35,889.85	\$34,691.63
Total Employee Expenses	<u>\$3,764.91</u>	<u>\$4,108.33</u>	<u>\$47,239.31</u>	<u>\$45,691.63</u>
Total Compensation	<u>\$10,235.48</u>	<u>\$11,878.34</u>	<u>\$132,530.68</u>	<u>\$131,161.74</u>
Administrative				
Supplies	\$307.82	\$266.67	\$2,315.10	\$2,833.37
Preschool Income/Expense	(\$1,376.36)	(\$600.00)	\$5,249.41	\$600.00
General Insurance	\$0.00	\$1,000.00	\$7,836.47	\$11,000.00
Other Administrative Expenses	\$146.31	\$183.33	\$1,251.37	\$2,666.63
Total Administrative	<u>(\$922.23)</u>	<u>\$850.00</u>	<u>\$16,652.35</u>	<u>\$17,100.00</u>
Utilities	\$1,119.85	\$1,550.00	\$18,109.51	\$17,050.00
Maintenance	\$1,184.72	\$957.42	\$15,470.39	\$10,531.62
Parish Life	\$498.25	\$291.67	\$2,557.02	\$3,608.37
Diocesan & Seminary Support	\$2,281.00	\$2,280.92	\$25,091.00	\$25,090.12
Outreach	\$0.00	\$250.00	\$1,000.00	\$2,750.00
Total Expenses	<u>\$14,397.07</u>	<u>\$18,058.35</u>	<u>\$211,410.95</u>	<u>\$207,291.85</u>
Net Total	<u>(\$2,790.44)</u>	<u>(\$10,058.35)</u>	<u>(\$13,697.64)</u>	<u>(\$17,491.85)</u>

Bob Nelson, Treasurer

OUR CHURCH'S
FINANCIAL
HEALTH

Birthdays



Cathie Clodfelter1/04
 Chip Hight1/04
 John Van Venrooy1/06
 Phyllis Maynard1/10
 Richard Davis IV 1/13
 Hut Wester1/14
 Don Gwynn1/16
 Jeffrey Polak1/16
 Steve Watkins 1/16
 Elizabeth Presho 1/17
 Mary Cottrell1/21
 Johnny Foster1/21
 Amelia Rogers1/24
 Tom Whitt1/24
 Joel Cheatham IV1/28
 Leigh Anne Loftin1/29

Anniversaries

Bettie & Marshall Cooper1/07



Remember In Your Prayers

Pray for Healing and Comfort:

Cynthia Shaw, Helen Church Miles, Trayce Wheless, Barbara Collins, Staci Barnett, Harry Collins, Hazel Peck, MaryAnn Hill, Barbara Madigan, Melody Shearin, Carolyn Lowery, Belinda Catlett, Mary Shearin, Meghan Bunn, Marion Devoe, Vivie Drake, Peggy Polak, Kimberly H. Hartness, Graham Shearin, Rorin Platt, Bill Duff, Tommy Greenway, Ann Bliss, Laura Peace, Lisa Adcock and Barbara Foster.



Special Dates

- Epiphany
January 6, 2015
- Baptism of the Lord
January 11, 2015
- Martin Luther King Jr. Birthday
January 19, 2015

Altar Flowers



- Christmas Flowers
January 4, 2015
- TBD
January 11, 2015
- Kathleen Burwell
January 18, 2015
- TBD
January 25, 2015

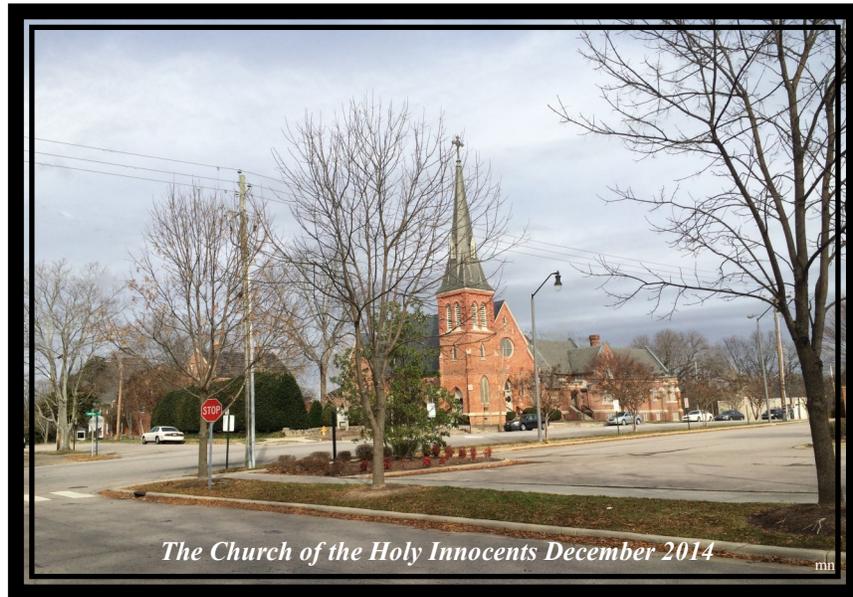
JANUARY UNIFIED SERVING SCHEDULE

~ COFFEE WILL BE SERVED IN THE GREAT HALL AFTER THE 10:30 AM SERVICE ~

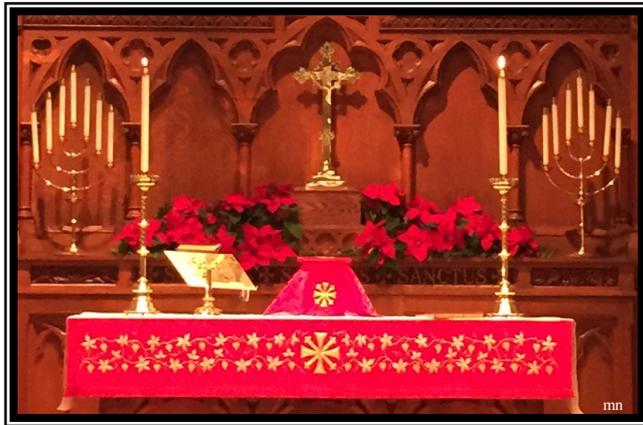
JAN	BEARERS	ACOLYTES	CRUCIFER	LAY READER / CHALICE BEARER	USHERS	ALTAR GUILD	VESTRY GREETER
4	Genie Parish (Book)	Misty Holloway Lorena Negron	AJ Holloway	8:00am - Steve Flannagan 10:30am - Tom Church	Graham Shearin Al Catlett Bill Stark	Anora Rainey	
11	Anne Presho (Book) Uriah Ford (Banner) Brennan Olmert (Tintinabulus)	Ethan Holloway Mary Beth Parish Juliana Negron Sarah Rose Parish	Genie Parish AJ Holloway (2nd Cross)	8:00am - Bob Nelson 10:30am - Nick Long	Graham Shearin Al Catlett Bill Stark	Anora Rainey	Porter Shaw
18	Anne Presho (Book)	Liz Presho Amber Presho	Chris Nelson	8:00am - Hut Wester 10:30am - Ruth Hartness	Graham Shearin Al Catlett Bill Stark	Shirley Young	Craig Clodfelter
25	LC Olmert (Book)	Tucker Olmert Jason Elliott	Lehman Ford	8:00am - Richard Davis 10:30am - Marshall Cooper	Graham Shearin Al Catlett Bill Stark	Shirley Young	Al Stainback

NOTE: IF YOU ARE SCHEDULED TO LAYREAD AND HAVE A CONFLICT, PLEASE CONTACT YOUR OWN REPLACEMENT AND NOTIFY THE CHURCH OFFICE.

DECEMBER CHURCH PHOTOS



The Church of the Holy Innocents December 2014



The Holy Innocents - Special Red - 12/28/2014



ECW Bazaar



Daylight glow through windows



PHONE: 252-492-0904

E-MAIL: innocents@centurylink.net

THE CHURCH OF THE HOLY INNOCENTS
210 South Chestnut Street
Henderson, NC 27536



The Church of the Holy Innocents



**On the threshold of a new year,
we joyfully greet each person present at our worship.
May our love and respect for one another be
steady and true as we strive to follow Christ our Lord.**