

The Bell Tower

The Church of the Holy Innocents Newsletter

Volume 10— Number 5

May 2014

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FROM THE RECTOR

The Rev. Donald Lowery



A Long Journey

I am going to Russia again with my parents and sister. I will drive to Baltimore County on Thursday, May 8 to meet up with my family. We will fly to Russia on May 9 and fly back to the United States on May 24. I will attend church the next day with my parents at Trinity Episcopal Church, Long Green, Maryland where they are members. I will return to Henderson either on the afternoon of the 25th after church or on Monday the 26th depending on how tired I am from jet lag. Needless to say, this trip was planned before the present troubles between Russia, the Ukraine and the rest of the world. Despite the posturing of politicians, the Russian Government is still issuing visas for tourists and our own government is making no objections to Americans traveling to Russia. As our tour

organizer pointed out, both sides are too interested in the free flow of trade, including tourist dollars, to let a political crisis get in the way of business.



This is a very important vacation for my parents, my sister and me. As many of you are aware, my mother was diagnosed with Alzheimer's disease almost two years ago. Mother first visited Russia with dad in 2005 and fell in love with the culture, history and food of Russia. She is very aware of what is going on in her life and wants to make one more big trip while she is still aware of most of what is happening around her. Dad has worked hard to pull together the finances to make this possible because it is so important to her. Please pray for us, for a safe journey there and back again.



The real long journey my mother faces, and that we who love her face with her, is the agonizing slide down into dementia. I know that my family is not alone in this. Members of our parish have battled dementia while others have walked with family members as they went down this long sad road. A bit more selfishly, perhaps, I worry about

From the Rector cont. pg. 2

what my own future holds. Having a parent with dementia increased my chances of having the same battle to about 50% and the fact that I have a bright and active mind only partially ameliorates the risk I face. It is probably a good thing that we don't exactly know what our future holds and that life is best lived one day at a time.

Many years ago, I was blessed with the friendship of Fr. Tom Hudson. He was a brilliant man, a published author and one of the heirs of the Belk family. At 58 years old he was diagnosed with Alzheimer's. It was a devastating piece of news for him and his family and friends. Fr. Tom faced the disease with amazing courage. He taught me a valuable lesson when he said, "No matter what happens to me, no matter how much I forget, God will never forget me. I may even forget God, but God will not forget me."

Those words have given me much encouragement and hope. Whatever my mother faces, God will be with her. Whatever my family faces as we care for her, God will be with us. Whatever you may face with family or friends who battle some form of dementia, God will be you and with them. We face no crisis of life and health in which we will be abandoned by God.

The Resurrection of the Lord is not only Jesus' decisive victory over death, hell and the grave, it is also our assurance that God's final will for us is health and salvation. The ills of this world will be healed in eternal life. The sorrows we face will be comforted with an everlasting love and as St. Julian of Norwich said, "All shall be well, and all shall be well, and all manner of things shall be well." †



PARISH NEWS...



The Rev. Donald Lowery

The youth group will meet on May 4th. It will not meet on May 11, 18 or 25th because of my trip. We will resume our normal schedule on June 1. I will be back in time for Kerr-Vance Baccalaureate and Graduation and look forward to seeing so many fine young people launch into the next part of their life odyssey. †



The Rev. Donald Lowery

The healing service will be held on May 7th as part of our Wednesday Communion series at 5:30 p.m. in the church. Obviously, there will be no Wednesday Communion services on May 14th or 21st, but we will hold service on May 28th. †



The Rev. Donald Lowery

We will celebrate Holy Communion at Old St. John's, Williamsboro at 7:00 p.m. on May 29th.



I will be the guest preacher and my topic is, "Communism is dead and Jesus Lives." †

Our Supply Priest

The Rev. Donald Lowery

Fr. Nils Chittenden, the Episcopal Chaplain for Duke University, will be our supply priest on two of the Sundays I am away. Nils is from Durham, England and came to visit Duke when he was on sabbatical several years ago. Upon discovering the position of Chaplain was open, he applied and received the call. So, from Durham to Durham and now visiting Henderson, Nils will come to share God's word with us. Please give him a warm welcome. †



The Tabitha Guild

Betsy Catlett, Janet White & Margaret Williamson

Tabitha will meet in May as usual (2nd and 4th Tuesdays at 10 a.m. in the Ladies' Parlor). Remember that we will not be meeting during June, July and August!!

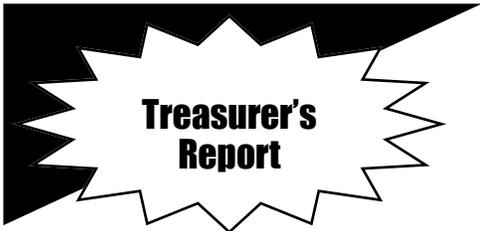
Have a great and relaxing Summer! †



Betsy Seifert, President

The ECW will meet at 10 a.m. on Tuesday, May 27th in the Ladies Parlor. Please join us! †





Treasurer's Report

04/17/2014

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

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Accounts	MTD Actual (This Year)	MTD Budget (This Year)	YTD Actual (This Year)	YTD Budget (This Year)
Revenues				
Pledged Income	\$24,641.87	\$22,700.00	\$95,571.19	\$93,500.00
Other Income	\$458.58	\$600.00	\$1,469.60	\$1,800.00
Total Revenues	<u>\$25,100.45</u>	<u>\$23,300.00</u>	<u>\$97,040.79</u>	<u>\$95,300.00</u>
Expenses				
Compensation				
Salaries	\$7,855.86	\$7,770.01	\$23,602.83	\$23,310.03
Employee Expenses				
Rector's Expenses	\$1,000.02	\$1,000.00	\$3,235.29	\$3,000.00
Other Employee Expenses	\$1,740.17	\$3,108.33	\$8,691.70	\$9,324.99
Total Employee Expenses	<u>\$2,740.19</u>	<u>\$4,108.33</u>	<u>\$11,926.99</u>	<u>\$12,324.99</u>
Total Compensation	<u>\$10,596.05</u>	<u>\$11,878.34</u>	<u>\$35,529.82</u>	<u>\$35,635.02</u>
Administrative				
Supplies	(\$82.02)	\$266.67	\$537.37	\$800.01
Preschool Income/Expense	\$738.84	(\$600.00)	\$1,176.37	(\$1,800.00)
General Insurance	\$1,874.00	\$1,000.00	\$3,410.19	\$3,000.00
Other Administrative Expenses	\$159.62	\$183.33	\$931.48	\$1,549.99
Total Administrative	<u>\$2,690.44</u>	<u>\$850.00</u>	<u>\$6,055.41</u>	<u>\$3,550.00</u>
Utilities	\$2,037.70	\$1,550.00	\$6,550.55	\$4,650.00
Maintenance	\$1,528.02	\$957.42	\$4,218.83	\$2,872.26
Parish Life	\$216.87	\$291.67	\$781.65	\$1,075.01
Diocesan & Seminary Support	\$2,281.00	\$2,280.92	\$6,843.00	\$6,842.76
Outreach	\$0.00	\$250.00	\$0.00	\$750.00
Total Expenses	<u>\$19,350.08</u>	<u>\$18,058.35</u>	<u>\$59,979.26</u>	<u>\$55,375.05</u>
Net Total	\$5,750.37	\$5,241.65	\$37,061.53	\$39,924.95

Bob Nelson, Treasurer

OUR CHURCH'S
FINANCIAL
HEALTH



SPOT-
LIGHT
ON...

Easter 2014



VESTRY NEWS...

Parish Life Committee

Kathy Taylor, Chairman



The last two Lenten Soup & Sandwich evenings were held on April 2nd and 9th in the Lower Hall after Lenten Services in the sanctuary. Over 25 people were served soup, sandwiches, desserts and fruit. Thanks goes out to the following people for making these last two gatherings as special as they were for the people attending: Keith Aiken & Frank Madigan, Anne Almand, Mariana & Richard Davis, Fagan Goodwin, Barbara & Chip Hight, Marsha Nelson, Jean & Rick Palamar, Peggy Polak, Anora Rainey, Val Short, Greg & Kathy Taylor, Margaret Williamson, and Janet White.



The 5 weeks of Soup and Sandwich dinners were successful because of the gifts of time, food, thought and love from over 70 church members and all who gathered together for fellowship and fun. I thank each and every person that participated in this and am so very grateful for your help and assistance. †



CHURCH USAGE SCHEDULE

~LOWER HALL~

MONDAY

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

TUESDAY

AA 5:30 to 6:30
 NA 7:00 to 8:00

WEDNESDAY

NA 7:00 to 8:00

FRIDAY

AA 5:30 to 6:30

SATURDAY

NA Noon

NOTICE: Our church email address is hinnocents@centurylink.net. Whenever your email address changes, please be sure to send your new address to the church so that we can update our records.



Summer

(June/July/August)

Newsletter items are due:

May 26th

Thanks for your help!

Marsha Nelson

MJNELSON@nc.rr.com

Printed copies of the newsletter are located in the Bell Tower for you if you have problems with email access and are also available to view and print from the church website:

www.churchoftheholyyinnocents.org

Thanks for your support!

May 2014 Schedule of Events

Choir Weekly Practice Schedule

Hand Bell Choir — Wed. at 6:00 PM

Parish Choir — Mon. at 6:00 PM

DAILY MORNING PRAYER

Monday — Thursday (weekly)

7:30 AM, Hughes House

Sunday — May 4

8:00 AM, Holy Eucharist – Rite I

9:35 AM, Adult Forum

9:45 AM, Children's Sunday School

10:30 AM, Holy Eucharist – Rite II

12:30 PM, La Misa Servicio

Wednesday– May 7

5:30 PM, Communion &

Healing Service

Sunday — May 11

8:00 AM, Holy Eucharist – Rite I

9:35 AM, Adult Forum

9:45 AM, Children's Sunday School

10:30 AM, Holy Eucharist – Rite II

12:30 PM, La Misa Servicio

Tuesday – May 13

10:00 AM, Tabitha Guild (Ladies Parlor)

Wednesday– May 14

3:00 PM, Nursing Home Ministry

Sunday — May 18

8:00 AM, Holy Eucharist – Rite I

9:35 AM, Adult Forum

9:45 AM, Children's Sunday School

10:30 AM, Holy Eucharist – Rite II

12:30 PM, La Misa Servicio

Sunday — May 25

8:00 AM, Holy Eucharist – Rite I

9:35 AM, Adult Forum

9:45 AM, Children's Sunday School

10:30 AM, Holy Eucharist – Rite II

12:30 PM, La Misa Servicio

Tuesday – May 27

10:00 AM, ECW/Tabitha Guild

(Ladies Parlor)

Wednesday– May 28

3:00 PM, Nursing Home Ministry

5:30 PM, Communion Service

Birthdays

Kathleen Burwell.....	5/03
Nancy Whitt.....	5/03
Eleanor Betts.....	5/03
Harry Collins.....	5/05
Graham Ellis.....	5/06
Steve Flannagan.....	5/07
Helen Flannagan.....	5/07
Dianne Floyd.....	5/08
Richard Young.....	5/08
Ann Ellis.....	5/10
Barbara Hight.....	5/10
Parkie Stewardson.....	5/10
Betsy Catlett.....	5/18
Peggy Mason.....	5/20
Wade Bliss.....	5/27
Peggy Polak.....	5/28
Ernest Houle.....	5/29
John Dow.....	5/30



Remember In Your Prayers

Pray for Healing and Comfort:

Cynthia Shaw, Helen Church Miles, Trayce Wheless, Barbara Collins, Staci Barnett, Harry Collins, Mary Ann Hill, Barbara Madigan, Melody Shearin, Virginia Frank, Carolyn Lowery, Belinda Catlett, Mary Shearin, Megan Bunn, Rebecca Aiken, Dr. Beverly Tucker, Vivie Drake, John Amos, Joy Suther, Peggy Polak, Phillip Redwine, Sherry Wallace, Frances Saunders, Marion Devoe & Marty Sullivan.



Anniversaries



Griselle & Bobby Woodard.....	5/10
Susann & Kirk Elliott.....	5/11
Katherine & Scott Williamson.....	5/15
Betsy & Donald Seifert.....	5/21
Jean & Rick Palamar.....	5/25
Sofia & Harrison Ford.....	5/29

Special Dates

- **National Day of Prayer**
May 1, 2014
- **Mothers Day**
May 11, 2014
- **Armed Forces Day**
May 17, 2014
- **Memorial Day**
May 26, 2014
- **Ascension of the Lord**
May 29, 2014

MAY UNIFIED SERVING SCHEDULE

MAY	ACOLYTES	CRUCIFER	LAY READER / CHALICE BEARER	USHERS	ALTAR GUILD	FLOWERS	VESTRY GREETER
4	Mary Beth Parish Sarah Rose Parish Genie Parish (book)	William Parish	8:00am - Hut Wester 10:30am - Nick Long	Craig Clodfelter Mike Rainey	Shirley Young	Barbara & Chip Hight	Kathy Taylor
MOTHER'S DAY							
11	Brennan Olmert Tucker Olmert Liz Presho (book)	Chris Nelson	8:00am - Bob Nelson 10:30 am - Richard Davis	Craig Clodfelter Mike Rainey	Mariana Davis	Shirley & Chick Young	Porter Shaw
18	Amber Presho Lucy Olmert Anne Presho (book)	Matthew Williamson	8:00am - Steve Flannagan 10:30am - Nancy Whitt	Craig Clodfelter Mike Rainey	Mariana Davis	Betsy & Bob Herford	Craig Clodfelter
25	Genie Parish Lehman Ford Uriah Ford (book)	Nick Andrews	8:00am - Lucy Gray 10:30am - Ruth Hartness	Craig Clodfelter Mike Rainey	Anora Rainey		Ruth Hartness

— COFFEE WILL BE AVAILABLE IN THE GREAT HALL AFTER THE 10:30 AM SERVICE —



The Deacon's Bench

by the Rev. Harrel Johnson

Easter is not over! It is just beginning!

We live in an age of scoffing; But this god, the one who visits the disciples in the locked room, the one to whom they later testify with such eagerness, this was the only god with scars. And that is the huge difference.

It's the evening of the first day. The disciples are afraid and confused. They are behind closed doors. But on this day, the first day, they have received startling news. Mary of Magdala, has told them a story that has shaken them. "I have seen the Lord," she had announced to them early in the morning, and they are not quite sure what to make of it. So they are together, waiting, confused, trying to decide.

And then Jesus comes. Jesus came to them when they needed him the most, and he offered them his peace. It seems that they didn't immediately recognize him. The last time they had seen this body and this face they were torn, deformed and bleeding, not a pleasing sight for those who loved him. But this body before them is wholeness itself. After his greeting, Jesus shows them his scars. And now they know him. We can only guess at their joy.

What happens next is the beginning of the church as the body of Christ. He breathes on them as he says, Receive holy "breath" or "spirit." It is important to note that in Greek the word *pneuma* means both breath and spirit, and also important to note that in its original use, it does not have the definitive article in front of spirit. In the Greek, the noun comes before the adjective here. It should be read: "Receive breath that is holy."

Jesus breathes on all of them, the community of them, and to this community he says, "As the Father has sent me, so I send you." The baptism in Spirit, as John the Baptist had predicted, has arrived.

This is a dramatic story "

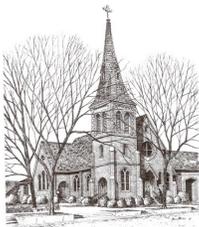
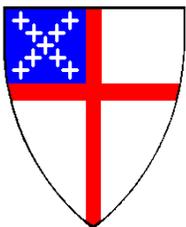
The disciples are beginning to comprehend the Incarnation, and they are ready to change the world, even though they don't know it yet. The energy of God, the Holy Spirit, has been breathed into them. But they do understand that now they are to do the work that Christ has asked them to do: to bear witness to Christ by proclaiming the good news. They lived in a world where belief in a god was a given. Jerusalem, a multicultural city, was filled with Jews from other lands who worshiped the One God, and with pagans worshiping many gods. In that environment, Peter stands up to proclaim a particular incarnate god, crucified and resurrected.

In this season of Easter, we, too, need to be reassured and energized by the presence of Christ. We are surrounded by scoffers. And our ease of communication today makes us aware of the suffering of people we will never see or know. We want to experience the joy of resurrection, not just for ourselves, but for the world.

We give thanks for this Jesus of the Scars, the resurrected Christ who has breathed new life into us.

Thanks
be to
God





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THE CHURCH OF THE HOLY INNOCENTS

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The Church of the Holy Innocents



**All are welcome to join us as
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.**