

The Bell Tower

The Church of the Holy Innocents Newsletter

Volume 11 — Number 10

October 2015

INSIDE THIS ISSUE

- 1** From the Rector
Stewardship Season...
- 2** From the Rector...cont.
Parish News...
Youth Group
Healing & Communion....
Clergy Conference
Acolyte Meeting
- 3** Treasurer's Report...
- 4** Parish News...cont.
ECW
Schedule of Events...
- 5** Deacon's Bench...
- 6** October Birthdays
and Anniversaries
Remember in Your Prayers
Special Dates
Unified Serving Schedule
- 7** Diocese News...
Celebration Events for...

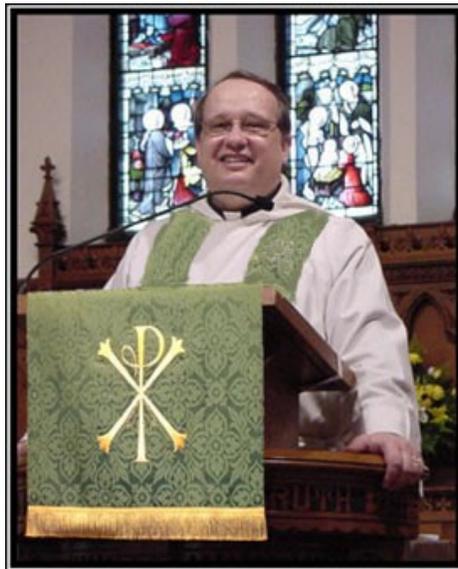
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FROM THE RECTOR

The Rev. Donald Lowery



Stewardship Season

Through the years, the Episcopal Church in the United States has financed itself in many ways. In colonial times, from Maryland south, the Church of England, our mother and predecessor in ministry in what would become the United States was established by lay. That meant that many of the costs of having a parish were provided by tax dollars. The best thing of all was that everyone had to pay a tithe tax to support our congregations. Baptists, Presbyterians, Quakers (Methodists were still technically part of our church) and even non-believers were required to pay for our churches to exist. If the tax funds were not enough, the members would take up a private subscription, usually for the Rector's salary. Offerings were collected but they were generally used for poor relief.



After the American Revolution, parishes tried a variety of schemes to raise money. Private subscriptions continued. In some parishes a family paid an annual rent for the pew on which they sat. Their place in church was guaranteed. Perhaps that is where the habit folks have to this day of always sitting in same place and feeling a bit territorial about their spot in church comes from. Some churches were still receiving pew rents as late as the 1950's. The poor and visitors had a few free pews reserved for them at the back of the church. Today, I suspect if Holy Innocents reserved pews for visitors today they would be in the front as it seems to me the back pews are considered very desirable by many of our members.

After the War Between the States, there was a move to abandon pew rents and go to subscriptions as they were then still called, or as we call them today, pledges. The main reason was a feeling that all pews should be open to all who came to worship. The hope was that it would make churches more welcoming, especially to the poor and to newcomers. It is interesting that Good Shepherd in Raleigh was founded because Christ Church was reluctant to abandon the pew rent system. It did provide a guaranteed income and made sure that the right sort of people had the best seats. Good Shepherd boldly billed itself as The Free Episcopal Church of the Good Shepherd because all seating was free and open. As a missionary endeavor it worked. They grew wonderfully and Christ Church ultimately decided they should be free as well.

Holy Innocents is a pledge parish. We project a budget and ask the parish

Continued page 2

to support with their pledges the work we seek to do for the coming year. If the pledges do not meet the proposed budget, then adjustments are made. The leaders of the parish would also emphasize that this is a statement of faith. We know a person's circumstances can change in the course of a year. Some may find they can give more. Others may have a setback and find they need to give less. That is perfectly acceptable. One need only inform the treasurer of the need for the change and that information is confidential.

Tithes & Gifts

We need your pledges. It is how we know we can meet budget. We also ask you to consider percentage giving. The Episcopal Church as a denomination asks that its member give a tithe or 10% of income to the church. I know that all cannot do that. What I do ask as your pastor is one approach giving intentionally. Sometimes folks fall into the trap of pledging or giving a bit off the top without really thinking about what the parish needs or what they can really afford. Intentional percentage giving asks each of us to look at our income calculate what percentage we actually can afford to give away and then act accordingly. I am a tither. I give away at least 10% of my income. However, I have not always been a percentage giver. I started at about 3% as I recall and then year by year built up to the full tithe. I will also tell you that while I give most of my tithe to the church, I also give some of that 10% to other charities, especially my Colleges and Seminary, because I highly value education not only as life preparation but as a spiritual enhancement.

We begin our pledge campaign on October 18, 2015. Please prayerfully consider giving on a percentage basis to pledge campaign. †

PARISH NEWS...



The Rev. Donald Lowery

The Youth Group will meet on every Sunday in October except October 11th, the Sunday of Homecoming at Old St. John's. †



The Rev. Donald Lowery

Wednesday Services

Except for October 7th when the parish clergy will be at the Clergy Conference, we will have the Communion Service on Wednesdays in October at 5:30 p.m. The Healing Service will be on October 14th. †

The Presiding Bishop's Installation

The Rev. Donald Lowery

The Right Reverend Michael Curry will be installed as Presiding Bishop of the Episcopal Church on November 1, 2015 at the Cathedral of St. Peter and Paul, also known as the Washington National Cathedral. I will be attending that service in my capacity as a member of the Standing Committee of the Diocese of North Carolina and will travel to Washington by chartered bus on October 31. I'll return to North Carolina on Monday, hopefully on the same bus.

Homecoming at Old St. John's Williamsborough

The Rev. Donald Lowery



Holy Innocents along with St. Stephen's Oxford was founded by people who were originally members of Old St. Johns. Those two churches later gave rise to St. John's North Henderson and St. Cyprians, Oxford. Those four churches, daughters of Old St. John's, gather every second Sunday in October to celebrate our common heritage. We worship at 11:00 a.m. followed by a pot luck lunch after the service. I will be preaching this year because we are baptizing children from Holy Innocents at that service.

The old church was completed in 1773 and remained an active parish until 1901 when changing demographics in the county seemed to warrant its closure.

However, some sort of homecoming has been maintained through the years. In 1948 Bishop Penick began a successful effort to restore the building to its colonial splendor. One of the signers of the Declaration of the Independence was a member as was one of the founders of Kentucky. It is possible that the revolutionary legislature met there when General Cornwallis occupied Hillsborough which was the capital of North Carolina at that time.

Come soak up the history and enjoy the fellowship on October 11th at 11:00 a.m. Holy Innocents will have 8:00 a.m. service on that day. †



Fall Clergy Conference

The Rev. Donald Lowery

Deacon Johnson and Father Lowery will attend Fall Clergy Conference in Winston Salem on October 6th, 7th and 8th. There will be no Wednesday Communion Service nor Healing Service on the 7th. †

Acolyte Meeting

Yolanda Yoder



Our Acolyte meeting/training will be on Sunday, October 25th at 4:00 p.m. in the church. Parents are encouraged to attend as we announce something new!

Following training there will be a pizza party for all acolytes/servers/crucifers and youth. Come join us for the food and fun. (Youth group will meet after pizza.) †

Tabitha Guild



Janet White, Betsy Callett & Margaret Williamson

Tabitha Guild will not meet October 13th but will meet on Tuesday, October 27th at 10:00 a.m. in the Ladies' Parlor. We would love for you to join us!!! †



Treasurer's Report

9/14/2015

Church Of The Holy Innocents Revenue and Expense Summary Year-to-date, Through August 2015

Accounts	MTD Actual (This Year)	MTD Budget (This Year)	YTD Actual (This Year)	YTD Budget (This Year)
Revenues				
Pledged Income	\$8,541.33	\$7,200.00	\$133,596.25	\$154,200.00
Other Income	\$572.27	\$1,000.00	\$3,134.27	\$8,000.00
Total Revenues	<u>\$9,113.60</u>	<u>\$8,200.00</u>	<u>\$136,730.52</u>	<u>\$162,200.00</u>
Expenses				
Compensation				
Salaries	\$6,539.61	\$7,109.00	\$54,476.92	\$56,864.00
Employee Expenses				
Rector's Expenses	\$1,272.23	\$1,000.00	\$8,666.02	\$8,200.00
Other Employee Expenses	\$2,574.38	\$3,733.00	\$31,073.81	\$31,067.00
Total Employee Expenses	<u>\$3,846.61</u>	<u>\$4,733.00</u>	<u>\$39,739.83</u>	<u>\$39,267.00</u>
Total Compensation	<u>\$10,386.22</u>	<u>\$11,842.00</u>	<u>\$94,216.75</u>	<u>\$96,131.00</u>
Administrative				
Supplies	\$219.29	\$200.00	\$1,331.46	\$2,000.00
Preschool Income/Expense	\$1,777.20	\$50.00	\$998.05	\$100.00
General Insurance	\$2,703.50	\$1,000.00	\$8,461.77	\$7,000.00
Other Administrative Expenses	\$55.00	\$225.00	\$1,592.15	\$1,400.00
Total Administrative	<u>\$4,754.99</u>	<u>\$1,475.00</u>	<u>\$12,383.43</u>	<u>\$10,500.00</u>
Utilities	\$1,914.78	\$1,800.00	\$15,934.70	\$14,200.00
Maintenance	\$2,685.94	\$700.00	\$13,402.03	\$5,700.00
Parish Life	\$0.00	\$250.00	\$1,712.34	\$2,600.00
Diocesan & Seminary Support	\$2,242.00	\$2,200.00	\$17,936.00	\$18,100.00
Outreach	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$350.00	\$0.00
Total Expenses	<u>\$21,983.93</u>	<u>\$18,267.00</u>	<u>\$155,935.25</u>	<u>\$147,231.00</u>
Net Total	(\$12,870.33)	(\$10,067.00)	(\$19,204.73)	\$14,969.00

Bob Nelson, Treasurer



OUR CHURCH'S
**FINANCIAL
HEALTH**



*Betsy Seifert, President
Shirley Young, V. President
Ann Ellis, Secretary
Marsha Nelson, Treasurer
Margaret Williamson, Vestry Liaison*



The first meeting of the ECW was held on Tuesday, September 22 at 10:00 a.m. in the Ladies' Parlor. Items discussed included plans for renovating the ladies' restroom in the lower hall and the biennial food sale in December.

Two years ago we decided to change our traditional December bazaar from an annual event to a biennial event and have a holiday food sale in December in its place every other year. This year our ECW Food Fair will be held on Saturday, December 5th from 9:00 am until noon. More details to follow in the November Newsletter. †



**Next Meeting
October 27 - 10 a.m.
Ladies' Parlor**

October 2015 Schedule of Events

Choir Weekly Practice Schedule

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

Daily Morning Prayer

Monday — Thursday (weekly)
7:30 AM, Hughes House

Sunday — October 4

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

Wednesday — October 7

5:30 PM, No Service on schedule

Sunday — October 11

8:00 AM, Holy Eucharist — Rite I
11:00 AM, Homecoming Service
—Service at St. John's—
in Williamsboro

Wednesday — October 14

5:30 PM, Holy Communion & Healing Service

Sunday — October 18

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

Wednesday — October 21

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

Sunday — October 25

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

Tuesday - October 27

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

Wednesday — October 28

5:30 PM, Holy Communion

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



We now have the nursery open for the 10:30 a.m. Service. 😊



SAVE THE FOX - BONE MARROW DRIVE

Saturday, October 10th

11 a.m. - 2 p.m.

- The Great Hall at Holy Innocents-



If you are 18-55, please consider coming out to support this great cause and save a life. If you are not eligible, this great cause can always use recruiters!

For more information, please call Lucy Gray @ 252-438-4488.

November Newsletter

Items Due October 23

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

MJNELSON@nc.rr.com

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

Current and past newsletter issues are available on our website at:

www.churchoftheholynnocents.org

Thanks for your support !

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



The Deacon's Bench

by the Rev. Harrel Johnson

Today your Rector made a comment about the following article which had been posted on Facebook by Ministry Matters.Com. The Author of the Article is Ron Edmundson. Fr. Don stated that “this is a good article for clergy and I suspect it has wisdom for any leader”. I concur! But it also occurred to me at this time of constant media comment about upcoming political competitions that maybe these are the standards that all candidates should be held to. It also occurred to me that in order to be a good leader one also must be a good follower. We are all called to lead others to Christ so let us also be good followers.

“There are no perfect leaders except for Jesus. For the rest of us, we each have room for improvement. Most of us live with flaws in our leadership and the more we mature the more aware we become of them. Good leaders learn to surround themselves with people who can supplement their weaknesses. There are, however, some leadership traits which a leader can never delegate away. If the leader can't work through them, in my opinion, their leadership will be crippled. With these traits, the best the leader has to offer will never fully materialize. These leadership traits will eventually wreck a leader's success.

Here are eight dangerous leadership traits:

Immoral character - If the leader's character is flawed, the leadership will be flawed. A leader can never escape the quality of his or her heart.

Assuming everyone's support - Leaders seldom hear the complete story unless they pursue it. Environments have to be created that produce transparency and honesty. Even in the healthiest organizations there will always be things a leader doesn't know.

Assuming everyone understands - In my experience, most leaders think they are communicating effectively. What's clear to them, they assume, is clear to others. It's usually not as clear as the leader thinks. Good leaders ask lots of questions to identify the level of clarity.

Continually avoiding conflict - Conflict never, ever, ever, goes away. Ever. Unresolved conflict damages the strength and integrity of organizational health. It may get ignored, overlooked or stifled, but until conflict is dealt with it continues to stir strife in an organization.

Pretending to have all the answers - The less a leader listens to others, the less willing others will desire to help the leader succeed. Arrogant leaders never attract the best from people. Great leaders invite input, knowing that with more people involved, decisions will be stronger and more buy-in will be achieved.

Allowing friendship to derail progress - The best leaders I know value relationships and recognize friendships with others as an important part of their personal well-being. At the same time, some leaders fail to separate their friendships from their callings as leaders. They confuse loyalty as a friend from their responsibility as a leader. A leader cannot allow personal friendships to negatively alter the course to success.

Refusing to let go of control - When the leader doesn't delegate, he or she stifles the growth of the organization. Healthy delegation involves releasing authority over a project. If a leader continually maintains the right to control, the organization will be limited to his or her abilities, rather than the strength of the team.

Living in the past - Unless you're a teacher of history, the leader's primary focus needs to be on the future. Leadership is about moving things forward. That requires progressive thinking, welcoming change and refusing to let past failures determine future success.

Be honest, of which of these are you most guilty? As difficult as it may be, until you push through them and improve in that area, you'll never experience the leadership success you desire”. †



Birthdays

Nick Long.....	10/01
Janet White.....	10/01
Tracy Madigan.....	10/01
Bob Kittrell.....	10/02
Anne Bliss.....	10/03
Marcia Hartness.....	10/09
Lydia Rogers Byrd.....	10/09
Don West.....	10/14
Porter Shaw.....	10/14
Sofia Ford.....	10/16
Cady VanVenrooy.....	10/16
Mike Rainey.....	10/19
Scott Williamson.....	10/19
Kathleen Long.....	10/20
Michael Roberson.....	10/22
Mary Ann Johnson.....	10/22
Frances Saunders.....	10/25
Chick Young.....	10/27
Rose Flannagan.....	10/30



Anniversaries

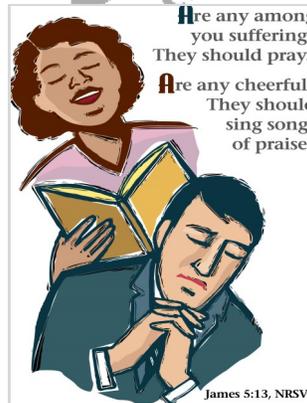
Helen & Steve Flannagan.....10/10



Remember In Your Prayers

Pray for Healing and Comfort:

Cynthia Shaw, Trayce Wheless, Barbara Collins, Staci Barnett, Mary Ann Hill, Barbara Madigan, Melody Shearin, Carolyn Lowery, Belinda Catlett, Mary Shearin, Meghan Bunn, Laura Peace, Mason Allgood, Hazel Peck, Francis Saunders, Vivie Drake, Lisa Adcock, C.G. Williams, Bobby Woodward, Bettie Cooper, Graham Shearin, Rorin Platt, Tommy Greenway, Al Thompson, Hannah Youngblood, Marshall Cooper, Jean Gaddy Scholl, John Doe, Veneal Williams, Gus Bachman, Bob Catlett, Griselle Woodward and Tracy Clawson.



Special Dates

- World Communion Sunday
October 4, 2015
- Columbus Day Observance
October 12, 2015
- Reformation Sunday
October 25, 2015

Calendar of the Church Year According to the Episcopal Church

- Francis of Assisi—Friar,
October 4, 2015
- Saint Luke—The Evangelist,
October 19, 2015
- Saint James—of Jerusalem,
Brother of Our Lord Jesus
Christ, and Martyr, c. 62,
October 23, 2015
- Saint Simon & Saint Jude—
Apostles,
October 28, 2015

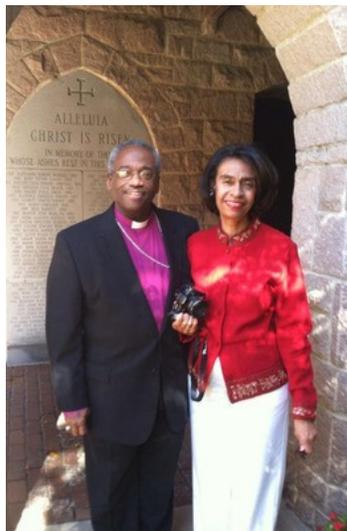
OCTOBER UNIFIED SERVING SCHEDULE

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

OCT	BEARERS	ACOLYTES	CRUCIFER	LAY READER / CHALICE BEARER	USHERS	ALTAR GUILD	GREENS/ FLOWERS
4	Lorena Negron (Book)	Juliana Negron Ethan Holloway	AJ Holloway	8:00am—Bob Nelson 10:30am—Ruth Hartness	Tommy Roberson Hut Wester	Anora Rainey	Peggy & Jimmy Williams
11	11:00am St. John's	11:00am St. John's	11:00am Uriah Ford	8:00am—Rick Palamar 11:00am—Nick Long	11:00am- St. John's	Mariana Davis	Susan & Hunter Hartness
18	Mary Beth Parish (Book)	Jason Elliott Sarah Rose Parish	Genie Parish	8:00am—Lucy Gray 10:30am—Tom Church	Tommy Roberson Hut Wester	Mariana Davis	Anora & Mike Rainey
25	LC Olmert (Book)	Tucker Olmert Brennan Olmert	AJ Holloway	8:00am—Hut Wester 10:30am—Nancy Whitt	Tommy Roberson Hut Wester	Shirley Young	Cat & Steve Watkins

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

Celebration and Thanksgiving for Bishop and Mrs. Curry



The dates and locations for the Celebrations and Thanksgivings for Bishop & Mrs. Curry have been set. All gatherings will run from 2 p.m. until 4 p.m., and registration is required. The dates and locations are:

Saturday, Sept. 26: St. Andrew's, 2105 W. Market St., Greensboro - [Register by September 18.](#)

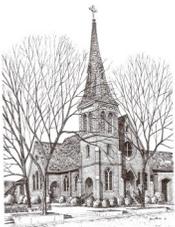
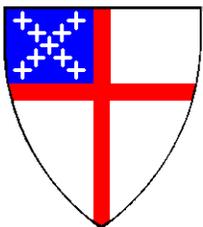
Saturday, Oct. 3: Christ Church, 1412 Providence Rd., Charlotte - [Register by September 25.](#)

Saturday, Oct. 10: Good Shepherd, 121 Hillsborough St., Raleigh - [Register by October 2.](#)

Each gathering will begin with a short liturgy and include plenty of time to say good-bye to Bishop and Mrs. Curry, thank them for their dedication to the diocese and wish them well. A "Celebration Fund" has also been established in order to purchase vestments for Bishop Curry, make a contribution to the Episcopal Farmworker Ministry in his and Mrs. Curry's honor, and give them a farewell gift.

If you would like to contribute, you may do so via PayPal or check. Checks should be made out to the Diocese of North Carolina, memo line: "Celebration Fund," and mailed to:

Diocesan House - 200 W. Morgan St., Ste. 300 - Raleigh, NC 27601



PHONE: 252-492-0904

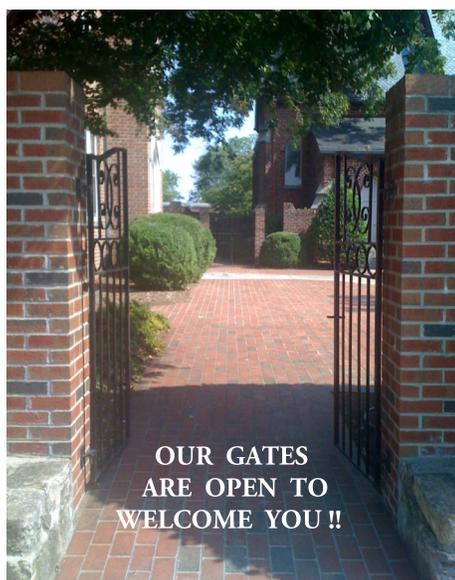
E-MAIL: hinnocents@centurylink.net

WEB: www.churchoftheholvinnocents.org

THE CHURCH OF THE HOLY INNOCENTS

210 South Chestnut Street

Henderson, NC 27536



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.**