



CENTENNIAL
1911-2011

Comfortable Words



Volume 2011 No. 21

December 21, 2011

God is with us

“For a child has been born to us, a son given to us; authority rests upon his shoulders; and he is named Wonderful Counselor, Mighty God, Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace” (Isaiah 9:6).

Christmas has finally arrived again. The wait is over and we are invited, once more, to join the shepherds in going to Bethlehem – to the manger – to behold the bright light of the Christ child – a light, John’s Gospel tells us, that “shines in the darkness and the darkness cannot overcome it” (v. 5).

Christmas comes along to remind us that – in Christ – God is with us. Amidst the lowly and humble surroundings of the birth of Jesus over two thousand years ago, out under the night sky, God lovingly chose to come amongst us and take upon God-self our ordinary and everyday human experience. This is what we Christians have come to call the “incarnation:” God made flesh; the mystery of our faith that assures us that there is no place that we can go in this world that God has not already been; no experience that we could have either – good or bad – that is without God’s loving presence.

And it is important to remember, if we are to ever fully grasp this Gospel truth, just how ordinary and everyday that first Christmas was for the Holy Family. It is important for us to push past the commercialism of this time of year, and the familiarity of the Christmas story, to remember that Jesus was very much a real child born into the sometimes harsh realities of the world in which we live.

In her book, “Mixed Blessings,” Barbara Brown Taylor once wrote,

“[The Christ child] is a love-child, in whom God shows us just how far He will go to be held in our arms. The second part of the message is that in doing so, He has forever blurred the distinction between the holy and the ordinarily human. He could have come among us as a celestial being or a mighty emperor, in some form clearly superior to ours and beyond our reach. He would have been easier to recognize that way, and we could have kept our distance from Him. But God chose to come among us as a child, and a poor child at that. Choosing flesh, he chose the lowest human common denominator and in doing so left us no escape from His presence ... [in Christ] God showed us that flesh and blood, dirt and sky, life and death were good enough for Him. More than that, He hallowed them, made them holy by taking part in them, and left us nothing on earth we can dismiss as trivial or unknown to Him.”

God is with us! May we join once more with the angels and the multitude of the heavenly host in praising God this Christmas and always by saying, “Glory to God in the highest heaven, and on earth peace and goodwill amongst all people whom He favors” (Luke 2:14).

I hope that you will join us this Christmas for worship at Holy Comforter and hope that, in this season of light and life, you may come to know in a deeper way the good news of God in Christ.

Courtney and I want to wish you and yours a very merry Christmas and a blessed New Year.

Peace in Christ, Adam+

Sunday Morning Opportunities for All Ages ~ 9:30 – 10:15.

Adult Classes/Groups: *Coffee & Talk:* An informal time of fellowship in the Parlor.

Sunday Morning Matters: — begins at 9:30 a.m. and meets in the small dining room.

Children & Youth: Preschool – 5th grade classrooms are all on the ground floor. *Ages pre-school to 5th grade pick-up and drop off is in the great hall.* *Children's Chapel* begins each morning at 10:30 for the first half of the service (K-5th grade).

The Nursery is available downstairs during Sunday School and the 10:30 worship hour. Children five and under are welcome.

Journey to Adulthood Program: Rite 13, J2A & Y.A.C. meet on the 3rd floor.

Christian Formation

Please Note:

12/25: No Sunday school for all ages

1/1: No Sunday school for all ages

1/8: Sunday school resumes

Godly Play: Children's Sunday School

On 1/8/12, we will begin using the "Godly Play," Montessori-based curriculum. Parents/guardians are asked to drop-off and pick-up their child/children from the Great Hall. St. Ita's classroom will be used as the main classroom. Each Godly Play session will focus on a different story from the Bible. Below is a schedule for each Sunday:

2012 Godly Play Schedule

January 8: Introduction to Godly Play: Laying the Expectations

January 15: The Cycle of our Church Year

January 22: The Holy Family

January 29: The Story of Creation

February 5: The Flood and The Ark

February 12: Parable of the Good Shepherd

February 19: Parable of the Good Samaritan

Christmas Pageant

A big "thank you," to the adult volunteers that organized the Christmas pageant: **Caroline Barnwell, Heather Hawk, and Michael and Anna Jefferson.** Bravo to the children and the Rite 13 youth!

Josh Mack (a Rite 13 youth) shares about his experience at The Bishop's Ball (a Diocesan event)

The Bishops Ball was a retreat for middle school and high school youth. It took place at the Salvation Army Camp in Denton, NC. Jamie Robbins and I were the only two from Holy Comforter. We broke up into little groups and had conversations about helping others and if they are alone how to bring them into your group. We lit candles and walked them up to the church where we had a service with the bishops. After that we went to a dance where everyone just jumped up and down the whole time. LOL. I made a lot of new friends and met different types of people. I recommend that more people from Holy Comforter join me and Jamie at the next Bishop's Ball.

- Josh Mack

Sunday Morning Matters

We will explore the Orders of Ministry in the Life of the Episcopal Church when Sunday Morning Matters reconvenes on Sunday, January 8th, 2012. We will meet in the small dining room for this series.

| | | |
|--------------------|------------------------------------|--------------------------------|
| January 8 | Deacons | Presenter: The Rev. Al Moore |
| January 15 | Priests | Presenter: The Rev. Jan Fuller |
| January 22 | Report on Convention | Delegates |
| January 29 | Bishops | Presenter: Bishop Chip Marble |
| February 5 | Laity | Presenter: Kathy Hykes |
| February 12 | Third Order of Secular Franciscans | Presenter: Joseph Wolyniak |
| February 19 | How to Write Your Own Rule of Life | TBD |

The Holy Comforter Book Club

The Holy Comforter Book Club will meet on Sunday, January 8th after the 10:30 service at Paula Boyd's house. Lunch will be served. We will watch Dogma.

The book chosen for February is The Problem of Pain by C. S. Lewis. Ask for the book for Christmas and join us next time.

For information contact Kathy Hykes at khykes@ec.rr.com or 538-0985

Education for Ministry Group

EFM will not meet on 12/27/11. The next meeting will be on 1/3/12.

Please Welcome the Rev. Dr. Jan Fuller to Holy Comforter!

The Rev. Dr. Jan Fuller is the new University Chaplain at Elon. She was raised by Baptist missionary parents in Lebanon and Jordan, and is fluent in Arabic as well as English. Educated at Hollins College, Yale Divinity School, and Wesley Theological Seminary, she came to Burlington from Roanoke Virginia, where she had been the University Chaplain and professor of religious studies at Hollins University for 24 years. She joined the Episcopal church in 2000 and was ordained a priest in the diocese of South-western Virginia on October 7, 2010. In her spare time, Jan likes to read, cook, quilt, cross stitch, and write poetry. She is a contributor to Forward Movement's Finding God Day by Day 2011. Jan's son, Sam, is a first year student at Radford University.

As University Chaplain at Elon, Jan's responsibilities include offering spiritual resources to all religions and to developing the multi faith program for the Numen Lumen Multifaith Pavilion which is about to be built on campus. She is interested in building relationships with local faith communities and in being at home (for worship and spiritual nurture) at Holy Comforter.

Jan will begin to serve amongst us at Holy Comforter, as an occasional preacher and celebrant at the Eucharist on Sunday mornings, as well as in the area of Adult Christian formation, in the New Year.

Adam+

END-OF-YEAR CHURCH OFFICE SCHEDULE
(Please keep handy for reference.)

Friday, December 23 - Office open 8am-noon.

Monday, December 26 - Office closed.

Tuesday/Wednesday, December 27/28 - Office open 8am-noon, 1-4:30 pm

Thursday, December 29 - Office open 8am-noon.

Friday, December 30 - Office open 9am-1pm to receive final 2011 contributions.

Monday, January 2 - Office closed.

Normal office hours (8am-Noon, 1-5 pm) will resume on Tuesday, January 3. You may always reach staff by leaving voice mail or sending email. Every attempt will be made to respond to inquiries as soon as possible. For pastoral emergencies, please call 336-227-4251.

Your church staff sends continued best wishes for this blessed season of the year and expresses deepest gratitude for the opportunity to share with you in ministry.

FROM THE VESTRY AND FINANCE OFFICE
Year-End Contribution Information

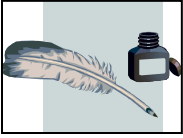
As we are running a slight deficit going into December, the Vestry encourages you to fulfill your pledge for 2011. Financial contributions received at the church on or before 1:00 p.m., Friday, December 30, will be reflected in 2011 giving statements. If you anticipate making a stock gift to the church this month, please contact David Vaughan in the Parish Office right away for transfer information. All contributions received on Sunday, January 1 will be reflected in 2012 giving statements, regardless of the date on which a check is written. For further information, please contact Pete Glidewell (Finance Committee chairman), Paula Boyd (Parish Treasurer), or David Vaughan (Financial Secretary).

Music this Christmas

Linda Cykert will play the flute and the Trebles will sing in the 5:00 p.m. service and Zachary Lee will play the trumpet and the Adult Choir will sing in the 10:30 p.m. service. The Choirs then take some well deserved time off from rehearsing and singing. The Adults return to our morning worship services on January 8, the Trebles resume rehearsals on January 10, and the Adults resume rehearsals January 11. Many thanks to both choirs for their contributions to our worship services.

Laurie Ryan

Morning Prayer meets Tuesday and Thursday mornings at 7:30 a.m. We will not meet December 27 and 29, and we will resume the schedule on Tuesday, January 3. This simple service takes twenty to twenty-five minutes and is a wonderful way to begin your day. Please join us in the Children's Chapel. Entry is via the door nearest the Chapel.



Verger Notes

By Richard Parker

The white vestment which covers the entire body from the shoulders to the ankles is called an Alb. The Latin word *alba* means white. It may be girded at the waist. It is worn by priest when celebrating the Eucharist and sometimes by those who serve at the altar. Its whiteness symbolizes purity.

From: The Episcopal Dictionary

NOTES FROM THE SENIOR WARDEN

Merry Christmas, Holy Comforter! I am a little sad to be sending you my last notes from my term as your Senior Warden, but also very happy about the year our Church is completing. I must note first that there are several people no longer among us whose presence and guidance were extremely valuable; this holiday season will be very different without them and I want to acknowledge that fact. But there is much in which we can take pleasure and feel God's goodness to us – we have Adam and Courtney as part of our Holy Comforter family and after our first celebration of new ministry in over 25 years, we had a wonderful celebration of our Church's first century.

We are moving strongly ahead into our second century with old members energized and newcomers and new members eager to go out and do the work God is giving us to do. Our programs for children and youth are extremely active; with the Godly Play curriculum and a J2A pilgrimage on the horizon for 2012, we can expect plenty of excitement in Christian Formation. We have shed the albatross of debt through the Burn the Note campaign, so ably led by Bob Hykes, and can now devote our resources to the future rather than the past. We have begun a new community outreach effort with the Augustine Literacy Project at Newlin Elementary. Our technology is updated and we're on Facebook and improving the website. We can gather for fellowship or a quiet moment in the beautifully redecorated parlor. We have discernment committees meeting for two potential candidates for ordination and a seminarian from Duke Divinity School interning with us. If this is not new century activity, I don't know what is. At the same time that we look ahead, we continue to enjoy our Episcopal traditions, our familiar liturgy, beautiful music and the greens at Christmas. The addition of Richard Parker to our staff (of the unpaid variety), as Verger, has enhanced our worship services and I know he will have things running smoothly this coming weekend when we come together for worship on Christmas Eve and Christmas. I hope to see many of you then. I thank you for the opportunity you gave me to serve on your excellent vestry for the past three years while Holy Comforter has navigated an important transition. I know we will have excellent leadership in the new year and can't wait to see what will be next for us all!

As we grow in age, may we grow in grace,

Janie Sellers



Episcopal Church Women!!!!

of Holy Comforter

Thank You to everyone who participated in the Bake Sale: It was a great success ! Whether you cooked chicken, rolled dough, made cookies, cake or soup, ALL was sold and will enable ECW to continue to support ongoing outreach projects: Allied Churches, Thompson Child & Family Services, Counseling Center, Good Shepherd Kitchen, Women's Prison Match to name a few. A special Thank You to Harriet Whitley and Joanne McClusky for making it all happen !!!

Thank You to everyone for supporting Paper Bags for Paper Goods and Nonperishable Foods. The proceeds were donated to local food shelters. Thank You to Kathy Longbrake for organizing !!

We had an enjoyable and delicious Christmas Lunch at the Village of Brookwood, thank you Peg Ladd for hosting this festive event !!

May the blessings of this Christmas season find everyone.

Next meeting: Monday, Jan 9 in the small dining room @ 10:00am

Nancy Smith, 336-430-7838

2012 Stewardship Campaign: "Moving Forward; Our Next 100 Years"

As Christmas approaches and the year comes to a close, so does our Stewardship Campaign. Anna and I would like to take a moment to thank everyone who made pledges this year. Your pledge is truly the most important gift you can give to our church, because it is your pledge that allows the vestry to plan for the coming year.

We have had a successful campaign thus far, and we are well on our way to meeting our operating budget for the 2012 year. However, there is room for improvement. We still have 220 pledge cards that have not been returned. If you haven't pledged for 2012, we want to remind you that it's not too late.

Throughout this campaign we have asked you to reflect on the question: "What does Holy Comforter mean to you?" During these past 4 weeks, we've heard testimonials from so many parishioners from the oldest to the youngest, who witnessed to God's love in this place. Our church is rich in its faith and we have a lot for which to be grateful.

If pledging is still on your "to-do" list, well then, fill out your card and send it in and begin 2012 with a clear head! Thank you for your prayerful reflection and have a Merry Christmas.

Anna and Michael Jefferson
Stewardship Campaign co-chairs

INCLEMENT WEATHER POLICY

1. The Rector or, in the absence of the Rector, the Senior Warden, has the authority to cancel services of Holy Eucharist in the event of inclement weather.
2. If both services of Holy Eucharist are cancelled on a Sunday morning due to inclement weather, a reading of Morning Prayer may be offered at 10:30 am by a lay officiant.
3. Communication of changes in the regular schedule will be made as follows:
 - a. The answering machine on the church office phone (336-227-4251) will have a message regarding any changes in the schedule.
 - b. A posting will be made on the official Holy Comforter FaceBook page by the Rector or, in the absence of the Rector, the Senior Warden, regarding any changes in the schedule.
 - c. The following television and radio stations will be notified by the Rector or, in the absence of the Rector, the Senior Warden, regarding any changes in the schedule:

Fox-8
News-2 DigTriad
WBAG Radio 1150 AM
 - d. When possible, schedule changes will also be posted to the Church website and sent to the Holy Comforter email distribution list via “e-mail blast.” Work is in process on the technology with respect to these communications.

Every effort will be made to keep the church open for worship but everyone should use good sense and put safety first in deciding whether to come in the event of inclement weather. This policy applies to worship participants, as well as members of the congregation. If services of Holy Eucharist are being held, worship participants who do not feel it is safe for them to attend should follow customary procedures to give notice of absence. For those who wish to join a worship service from home when the weather is bad, the National Cathedral website is suggested: <http://www.nationalcathedral.org>.

Parishioners who are interested in being trained to lead Morning Prayer in the event of inclement weather should contact the Rector or the Senior Warden.

Adult Bible Study

Kick off the new year by attending the Adult Bible Study Group. We are currently studying and discussing the book of Isaiah. We meet every other Tuesday in the Library at 10:30am starting on January 3rd. Please join us for any or all group discussion. For more information please contact Kate Wheatly at katewheatly@gmail.com or 329-8581. All are welcome.

Kate Wheatly

ST. MARTHA'S GUILD NEWS

St. Martha's Guild will hold its first meeting of the new year on **Wednesday January 11, 2012**, at 3:00 p.m., in the church parlor. We invite anyone who is interested in what we do, to join us at the meeting for a little Constructive Fellowship.

We would also like to take this opportunity to thank the St. Martha's Guild members who donated their hand-crafted items for the sale.....and we send our thankful appreciation to all of you who visited our Christmas sale tables this month. It all helped to make it a successful end to 2011. We are now able to begin 2012 knowing that we have the funds to purchase the yarn and supplies necessary to keep our ministries going. We will be able to produce many prayer shawls, baptismal blankets, comfort dolls, and items for the needy, and bring some comfort to those needing it.

Merry Christmas to all.
Arlene and Juli

Church Women United Presents A 70th Anniversary Tea "Reflecting on Our 70-Year Heritage"

Date: Saturday, January 21, 2012 (Inclement weather date: January 28, 2012)
Times: Registration: 1:45 p.m. Tea and Program: 2:00 p.m.
Place: Ebenezer United Church of Christ, 734 Apple Street, Burlington
Who: Everyone is invited
Dress: Hats and gloves are fun
Cost: None, but reservations are necessary. Send name, telephone number, and church to Judy Springer at jkspringer@bellsouth.net or 3831 Wade Coble Drive, Burlington, NC 27215
Deadline: January 14, 2012

ZUMBA-THON

Saturday January 21 from 11:30 - 1:30 in the Great Hall, to benefit Family Abuse Services. Tickets \$10 in advance, \$15 at the door. Door prizes, food and lots of fun. All experience levels welcome-- you do not have to stay the whole time. A great inexpensive Christmas present too! For tickets or more information, please call Pam Shook at Family Abuse Services, 336-226-5982.

Pamela Shook
Community Education Coordinator
Family Abuse Services of Alamance Co.

MEALS ON WHEELS

Picture this:

You live alone on a meager Social Security income.
You can no longer drive a car.
Getting around in your own home is becoming more difficult every day.
You can't remember when you didn't hurt.

Now try imagining what you're likely to fix yourself for lunch.

That's exactly the situation hundreds of people in Alamance County face every day. Fortunately, 37 years ago our own Jocelyn Safrit and others worked to establish an agency here in Burlington that could deliver hot lunches to persons like these. That agency is now called Alamance County Meals on Wheels, and ever since 1974 Holy Comforter parishioners have been helping that organization to carry out its mission.

Alamance County Meals on Wheels, a not-for-profit organization, is part of a nationwide network that addresses the nutritional needs of home-bound clients. Every weekday of the year, with only a few holiday exceptions, an army of volunteers delivers lunches to about 400 elderly people all over our county. Holy Comforter is responsible for one of the 25 routes one week a month.

For many years we've had ten teams of two to make our meal deliveries. This year, as always, some were wife/husband teams:

Martha and Bill Adams, Juli and Gary Hauser, Shara and Kim Partin,
Chris and Dan Seiler, Cecelia and Bob Walker.

Others were just happy-to-work-with-you teams:

Lib Clarke and Mildred Nowell, Eddie Gant and Ann Williams,
Mikki Harper and Marilyn Tyler, Erika Robbins and Nancy Smith,
Jocelyn Safrit and Lee Ann Szigeti.

The work these people do is not hard. It does not demand creativity or original thinking. It simply requires willingness, faithfulness, and kindness. These our fellow parishioners *care about* the clients whom they serve. They are willing to commit an hour or so every other month, often for years and years, to ensure that the clients get a nutritious hot lunch. They are faithful to the schedule and try very hard to fulfill their commitment. And they smile at the people who often totter to the doors to receive their lunch.

At this year's end, a few of our long-time volunteers are retiring. Mildred Nowell and Juli and Gary Hauser have reluctantly relinquished their spots in the lineup. But new people—Stig Egede-Nissen, Sue Schilke, and Harriet Whitley—have stepped forward to fill their shoes. All of these wonderful people, along with all the others listed above, have made my job as coordinator amazingly easy. Please, please seek them out and say thank you on behalf of our parish.

Submitted by Marilyn Tyler

MANY THANKS

To **Harriet Whitley and Terri Kirchen** for all their efforts in putting together such a wonderful pictorial directory.

Adam+

Nets For Life Works

Episcopal Relief and Development has 7 years of data on the nets campaign, especially in Ghana and Namibia. In North Ghana the program was implemented and tested because it was an area of highest risk with just .7% of people using nets though 32% of the population had them. Instead of covering just children and pregnant women Nets for Life began universal coverage. With follow up visits it was found that 92% of the population had nets in their possession and 90% were in use. Results showed that two city hospitals with wards dedicated to treating malaria patients had closed down half of their wards.

Two years ago it was estimated that a child contracted malaria once every 30 seconds. After two years that number has changed to every 45 to 60 seconds. Deaths have gone from 1 million a year to 800,000 in the same period. ERD's data is even better because of their protocol of having the trainers return to the village after a set period of time to check on how the campaign is being carried out. The network of Anglican churches has been one of the single most important pieces of the distribution system. Eight out of seventeen countries have adopted the Nets for Life methodology for preventing malaria.

Until a vaccine is developed and distributed, the nets we are purchasing at Holy Comforter are the best way to prevent children from dying of malaria. For more information about the success of this program, call Kathy Hykes 336-538-0985 or email her for a copy of her full report from ERD.

If you have not heard about the campaign, nets cost \$12.00 and can be purchased through the church office. A card for mailing comes with a donation.

Kathy Hykes

ALLIED CHURCHES

Allied Churches of Alamance County strive to “shelter the homeless, hungry and hopeless.” As well as being “a sanctuary for those seeking spiritual renewal and a catalyst for personal responsibility and transformation.” We are very fortunate to have this in our community. However, the need never ends and because of this, they need assistance with day to day operations. The shelter serves over 31,000 meals a year and requires more than just food for their guests. Starting Sunday, January 8, 2012, the basket for donations will be in the Bell Tower every Sunday with the Critical Need List for the shelter. Thank you in advance for your kindness and generosity.

Sue Schilke

Holy Comforter-Newlin School Partnership

Come be part of creating an exciting new Outreach Ministry!

Thursday, January 26 at 7pm will be the first meeting to form a year-long task force for further development of our new relationship with Newlin Elementary School. All who are interested in this new partnership venture are invited to meet in the Parlor. By the end of January, our first joint venture will begin. Ten parishioners will be serving as trained Augustine Literacy tutors to low-income students struggling with reading. Mr. Larry Conte, the school principal, is now ready to work with a task force to identify other significant needs to which our parish might be able to offer critical resources of time, talent, and treasure. Call Phil Deadmon 449-6044 or Betsey Savage 227-1367 by **January 13** to reserve your spot!

Betsey Savage

**Summarization of Vestry Minutes
Monday November 21, 2011**

Guest Presentations:

- Adam introduced The Rev. Jan Fuller, Chaplain at Elon University - she shared her role and vision of her work at Elon as well as her desire to be a member of our Church assisting as needed
- Barbara Simpson presented the findings of the Personnel committee in staff evaluations and recommendations for 2012
- Bob Hykes presented a request that part of the Scott Turner gift be used to fully fund the Funds Due Others accounts

Staff Reports:

Rector: Adam Shoemaker

- Adam reviewed two recent services and 6 upcoming services
- Hannah Warner has been ably assisting with services, pastoral care and youth activities - her parish reflection committee has been formed and will begin meeting with her
- Adam reported on the two Discernment Committees and the recently established Accessibility committee and their meeting with Meg Hunn, the Diocesan Accessibility committee chairperson
- Adam concluded his report commenting on the growing number of parishioners that have acute or chronic illnesses and the possibility of establishing a pastoral care team

Administrative Division reports:

Financial Report: Pete Glidewell

- Vision note has been paid off with an additional \$2000 going to the Endowment Fund
- The first round draft of the 2012 budget was distributed with a \$47,000 deficit
- Pete reported on the progress of the Annual Pledge review with a full report to come in December

Program Division reports:

Mission and Outreach: Jessie Beddingfield

- Holy Comforter Mission Fund board continues to meet and make plans for educational and fund raising efforts for 2012
- Nets for Life campaign has reached 60% of it's goal

Christian Formation, Worship, & Stewardship Education: Elizabeth Hood

- Children celebrated All Hallows Eve after 10:30 service on October 30 and they have made a community, self-portrait quilt
- The new curriculum for the children, Godly Play will begin in January
- Christian Formation committee is seeking replacements for Anna Jefferson, coordinator for Children's formation and Kathy Hykes, Adult Christian formation coordinator as they have both served faithfully and will be stepping down in 2012
- Youth have enjoyed gathering with Holy Trinity youth in Greensboro; Ethan Hood attended the Happening (Diocesan event) and several are considering attending the Bishop' Ball in December
- Hannah Warner will be conducting a three week advent series for the Youth and they will be finalizing their 2012 Pilgrimage plans
- The Adults have concluded *Seeing the Face of God* seminar, will be moving to Living Simply series for Advent, the EFM classes are well attended as well as the Tuesday morning Bible Study

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Parish Life: Stig Egede-Nissen

- Kate Crawford reported on holiday events for Mature Voice and ECW as well as announcing the Greening of the Church on December 18th
- The Parish Directory is ready to be picked up by parishioners
- Stig reported that the Sunshine committee delivered one meal and St. Martha's Guild gave 3 Prayer Shawls and will be having their annual Christmas sales in December
- Brandon Fargis reported that the 20/30's group will be having a holiday luncheon followed the preparation of gift bags for local nursing homes
- Brandon also reported that the technology committee is working on a new website and has moved the HVAC functionality to the existing server thus saving the need for purchasing a new server

Warden's Reports:

Junior Warden: Frank Harris

- The Standing Property committee has spent most of their efforts lately doing repairs and preparation for the Centennial Celebration
- Trim on the doors of the Bell Tower, Heritage Room and South Door has been replaced and painted
- The locks have all been re-keyed and Sacristy renovation has been completed
- Comforter House repairs have been on-going with only a few items left to be done

Senior Warden: Janie Sellers

Janie reviewed the format for the December meeting which will be the second Monday in December.

Old Business

Motion to display photograph of Marion Brown in the kitchen was unanimously approved earlier by email.

New Business

The following four resolutions were approved by the Vestry:

BE IT RESOLVED that the Vestry of the Church of the Holy Comforter recognizes Kate Crawford for her dedicated work to organize and carry out the plans for the Centennial Celebration on All Saint's Sunday 2011.

BE IT RESOLVED that the Vestry of the Church of the Holy Comforter recognizes Richard Parker for his many years of service to the Vestry as the Recording Secretary.

BE IT RESOLVED that the Vestry of the Church of the Holy Comforter recognizes the efforts of the Welcoming Committee for the New Rector and his wife. The committee consisted of Molly Exum and Margaret Egede-Nissen.

BE IT RESOLVED that the Vestry of the Church of the Holy Comforter recognizes the dedication of Bob Hykes during the recent Burn the Note Campaign.

As always, you are cordially invited to attend a Vestry meeting, which is held on the third Monday of each month from 7:00 to 9:00 pm. The complete minutes are available for your perusal in the church office.

Respectfully submitted by Mikki R. Harper, Clerk to the Vestry

**Christmas Day
Lessons for December 25, 2011**

| | |
|---------------|-----------------------|
| First Lesson | Isaiah 52:7-10 |
| Psalm | 98 |
| Second Lesson | Hebrews 1:1-4, (5-12) |
| The Gospel | John 1:1-14 |

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| LAYREADERS | 10:00 | Greg Deasey (First Lesson) Cecelia Walker (Second Lesson) Howard Miner (Creed & Chalice) Elizabeth Hansen (Chalice) |
| CHILDREN'S CHAPEL ACOLYTES ALTAR GUILD | 10:00 | None Richard Parker (C/CS) Janie Sellers, Rene Burgess, Ruth Holmes, Beth Glidewell, Molly Exum, Betty Brown, Elizabeth Hansen |
| FLOWER GUILD USHERS GREETERS VESTRY ON DUTY COUNTERS COFFEE NURSERY | 10:00 | Patsy Isley, Jennell Harris, Margaret Egede-Nissen Dan Patterson & Don Stanford Betsy Baldwin Kate Crawford TBA TBA None |

PRAYER REQUESTS

For all people involved in conflict and war especially our own Armed Forces:

Scott Sroka, Andrew Hooper, Cole Thompson, Frederick Slott

Jan Scott

Pat Puett

Patti Mintz, friend of Kate Crawford

Jesse Page, Caroline Barnwell's father

Kelly Cain, Sue Schilke's daughter

Richard Hamby, friend of the Adams'

Elizabeth Rinker, friend of Mildred Nowell

Keith Miller, friend of Betty Pulkingham

Dana Moore

Ann Klein, friend of Bob and Cecelia Walker

Lois Ward, friend of Bob and Cecelia Walker

Linda Marie Hackett, Katherine Caudell-Graves niece

Aurelia Taylor

BIRTHS

Andrew Thomas Parker, grandson of Richard Parker

THOSE WHO HAVE DIED

Donald Wasser, friend of Marian Accles

Mabel Hellwinkel, Elizabeth Costello's great-grandmother

Joe Goffman, friend of the Schilke's

Church Events Calendar for Dec. 22-Jan. 12

22 THURS.

7:30 Morning Prayer

7:30 Church Ladies

23 FRI. Office closes at Noon

24 SAT. Christmas Eve

5:00 Holy Eucharist II

10:30 Holy Eucharist II

25 SUN.

10:00 Holy Eucharist II

26 MON.

Office Closed

27 TUES.

5:30 Basketball

28 WED.

11:00 Healing Eucharist Service

29 THURS.

Office closing at noon

7:30 EDGE Group

1 JAN. SUN.

10:00 Holy Eucharist II

2 MON.

Office closed

3 TUES.

10:30 Bible Study

5:30 Basketball

6:30 EFM

4 WED.

11:00 Healing Eucharist Service

7:30 Adult Choir

5 THURS.

7:30 Morning Prayer

7:30 Church Ladies

8 SUN.

8:15 Holy Eucharist II

9:30 Choir

9:30 Christian Ed.

9:30 Vestry

10:30 Holy Eucharist II

9 MON.

9:00 Deadline for Comfy Words

10:00 ECW

6:00 SPC

10 TUES.

7:30 Morning Prayer

11:00 Accessibility Committee

4:00 Treble Choir

5:30 Basketball

6:30 EFM

11 WED.

11:00 Healing Eucharist Service

3:00 St. Martha's Guild

7:30 Adult Choir

12 THURS.

7:30 Morning Prayer

7:00 Adult C. Ed. Committee

7:30 EDGE

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John Fitch, Sexton

OFFICE HOURS

Monday – Friday

Secretary 8 a.m.–12 p.m. & 1 – 5 p.m.

At other times voicemail is available for messages.

It also provides emergency phone numbers.