



Through The Such Gate of Saint Francis Church



May 2008

Rejoice in hope, be patient in suffering, persevere in prayer.

Romans 12:12

Pentecost

This month begins the season of Christian hope for the Church. Hope was the prevailing emotion at Pentecost. Pentecost is a feast of celebration of the Holy Spirit and the beginning of the church being filled with gifts of the Spirit, filled with hope for the early Church. The definition of hope in the dictionary is “a desire accompanied by expectation of or belief in fulfillment.” But Christian hope is a bit different.

My friend and former Dean of Trinity Cathedral, Dean Donald Krickbaum recently wrote on hope saying,

“Hope often seems like such a nebulous thing – a vague wishing for something that deep down inside we fear will not come true, like, “I hope I’ll win the lottery,” or something like that. That is not what Christian hope is about. Christian hope is that deep trust in the promises of God and the reality of the presence of God in our lives and the life of the world. Hope is the foundation of our faith and one of the main building blocks of our life as a Christian in what sometimes seems a hostile and threatening world.”

In The Dark Night of the Soul, Jerry May spoke of hope: “If there were such a thing as a divine suggestion box, I’d suggest that God make things easier. Or if

not easier, at least clearer. . . . I yearn to offer something that would really make the hard times easier and bring a definite sense of meaning to the unavoidable sufferings of life. It would be so wonderful to be able to prescribe effective methods of understanding that could help us all get a grip on our destinies.

“All we have in our own hands is our desire, which is at once our prayer, our yes, and our hope. For me, in the good times, hope is synonymous with trust. I move into the next moment with confidence and an expectation of goodness. In the hard times, hope takes on an increasing feeling of risk. I hope for the best, but the next moment feels uncertain, even scary. And in the worst of times, the hope and desire may be reduced to a bare ember, so faint as to be almost undetectable. But it is always there, and sooner or later we are drawn to it. I believe that with repeated experiences of touching that desire, we do learn to recognize it, claim it, and know it as who we really are.”

Who are we really? We are all people of hope, people of the promise, people of the Resurrection. Now, our call is to live as “resurrection people,” people of life and love, faith and commitment – in short, people who live within the Holy Hope which God alone can give.

In Why I Am a Man of Hope, Cardinal Suenens wrote:

“I am a man of hope, because I believe that God is born anew each morning, because I believe he is creating the world at this very moment. . . It is happening now. We must, therefore, be ready to accept the unexpected from God. . . God is here, near us, unforeseeable and loving. I am a man of hope, not for human reasons or from any natural optimism, but because I believe the Holy Spirit is at work in the church and in the world. . . To those who welcome him he gives each day fresh liberty and renewed joy and trust. Who would dare say that the love and imagination of God were exhausted? . . . To hope is not to dream, but to turn dreams into reality. . . Happy are they who dream dreams and are ready to pay the price to make them come true.”

How are you turning your hopes and dreams into reality? Nearly 2000 years ago, the early church was founded on Christian hope and faith. What are your hopes for our church? Because of Christ, we are people of hope, people of the Resurrection, people of promise. May you each have the hope of Christ in your hearts as we begin the season of Pentecost.

In Christ’s love and service,

Dee+

The Rev. Dee Ann
deMontmollin+

Stewardship of Presence

	8am	11am	6pm	Total
April 6	30	74	5	109
April 13	29	68		97
April 20	29	81		110
April 27	34	83		117

Stewardship of Giving

	Pledged	Non-Pledged
April 6	\$3185.00	\$883.00
April 13	\$3115.90	\$647.75
April 20	\$1044.00	\$845.16
April 27	N/A	N/A

49 items of food for Yokefellow

There were 175 visits to the web site,
looking at 313 pages.

Please celebrate with us in the
blessing of our marriage
Amberleigh Dawn Richardson
and

Andrew Joseph Kirton
Saturday, May 10
five o'clock in the afternoon
St. Francis Episcopal Church

*Reception immediately
following ceremony at
The Firehouse Inn
125 West 1st Street
Rutherfordton, NC



*An informal buffet will be held at the reception. You are asked to bring your favorite dish to share (salads, casseroles, desserts, etc.). Please bring a written recipe card of your dinner item to share with Amberleigh and Andrew.

YOKEFELLOW

Service Center, Inc.
102 Blanton Street ~ Spindale, NC

For May

INSTANT POTATOES

(Although any non-perishable
item will be accepted)

THANK YOU

The Junior Daughters of the King would like to thank the Rutherford County Animal Protection Alliance for its very generous donation of pet food for our Pet Meals on Wheels project.

Mothers Day Brunch



All women in the church from age 1 to 100 are invited to the Mother's Day Brunch on Saturday, May 10, 2008, 10:00 a.m. at the Parish House.

R.S.V.P. Parish Office 287-3888

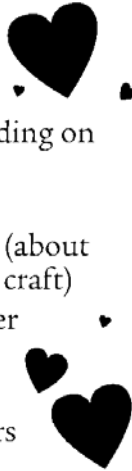
KID'S PAGE

A HEART FOR Mom

Show Mom how much you appreciate all she does for you with this "heartfelt" craft. Give it to her on Mother's Day.

What you need:

- Floral stem wire
- Dried cranberries (about 100, depending on the wire's length)
- Pliers
- Decorative ribbon (about 12 inches for each craft)
- Construction paper or cardstock
- Hole punch
- Crayons or markers



What you do:

1. With an adult's help, thread cranberries, one at a time with no space between them, onto the straight wire.
2. Bend the wire into a heart shape.
3. With pliers, twist the wire together at the top of the heart.
4. Tie ribbon to make a loop atop the heart (so your mom can hang it up).
5. Fold the paper into a card, and write a message of love and gratitude to your mom. You might want to add a verse from Proverbs 31 that best describes her.
6. Punch a hole in the card. Attach it to the ribbon that's tied to the heart.



A Mother of Noble Character

In Proverbs 31 (NIV), God provides the best example of a godly woman. Write the number of the sentence in the space next to the character quality it best describes.

- 1 "A wife of noble character who can find? She is worth far more than rubies" (v. 10).
- 2 "She brings [her husband] good, not harm, all the days of her life" (v. 12).
- 3 "She selects wool and flax and works with eager hands" (v. 13).
- 4 "She sets about her work vigorously; her arms are strong for her tasks" (v. 17).
- 5 "She opens her arms to the poor and extends her hands to the needy" (v. 20).
- 6 "When it snows, she has no fear for her household; for all of them are clothed in scarlet" (v. 21).
- 7 "Charm is deceptive, and beauty is fleeting; but a woman who fears the LORD is to be praised" (v. 30).

- | | | |
|-----------------|------------|---------------|
| ___ Caring | ___ Godly | ___ Prepared |
| ___ Hardworking | ___ Hearty | ___ Priceless |
| | ___ Kind | |

Answers: 1. priceless, 2. kind, 3. hardworking, 4. hearty, 5. caring, 6. prepared, 7. godly

LECTIONARY READINGS FOR MAY

May 4	The Seventh Sunday of Easter The Sunday after Ascension Day	Psalm 47	Acts 1:1-11	Ephesians 1:15-23	Luke 24:44-53
May 11	The Day of Pentecost	Psalm 104:25-35, 37b	Acts 2:1-21	1 Corinthians 12:3b-13	John 20:19-23
May 18	The First Sunday after Pentecost Trinity Sunday	Psalm 8	Genesis 1:1-2:4a	2 Corinthians 13:11-13	Matthew 28:16-20
May 25	The Second Sunday after Pentecost	Psalm 131	Isaiah 49:8-16a	1 Corinthians 4:1-5	Matthew 6:24-34

MOTHER'S DAY OFFERING



Deerfield Episcopal Retirement Community is located at 1617 Hendersonville Road, Asheville, N.C. This retirement home with health facilities owned and operated by the Episcopal Church of the Diocese of Western North Carolina was established in May 1955. Accommodations are available from self-care in rooms, cottages or apartments, to a skilled nursing care facility. Admission preference is given to Episcopalians of the Diocese of Western North Carolina; however, members of all faiths are accepted on a quota basis. Since Deerfield does not accept government support of any kind, persons entering this retirement community must initially be financially capable of self-support. However, some residents have exhausted their funds. Deerfield does not want any of its residents to have to leave this

retirement community for lack of funds. With much foresight, the Deerfield Residency Fund was established many years ago in an attempt to make sure that those who choose this retirement community can be supported should they outlive their financial resources.

The Residency Fund is primarily supported by an offering in Remembrance or in Honor of one's parents, and is collected each year from Mother's Day to Father's Day.

If you wish to contribute to the Residency Fund, please make your check payable to St. Francis Church and designate it for Deerfield Residency Fund. Envelopes are provided in each pew.



It is time for the St. Francis Web Site to undergo a review and possible renovation. Please answer the questions below and turn them in to the Parish office by June 1. Better yet, go to the web site and fill in the questionnaire on-line. If you would like to serve on the evaluation and redesign team, please indicate that in your answers.

www.stfrancischurch.org

St. Francis Website Evaluation Questionnaire

1. How many times per month do you visit the website? Why do you go to the website?

2. What are your expectations for our website?

3. Who will visit our website?

4. Who are we targeting with our website? What do they need/want to know?

5. What is the primary reason someone would visit our website?

6. What would make the website more desirable for St. Francis members to visit more frequently?

7. How do we keep the website current and fresh?

8. What makes our church unique? What about our church would cause someone looking for a church to visit St. Francis? How do we show that through our website?

9. What is the most important thing we can portray about St. Francis on our website?

10. What is good about our current website?

11. What does not work well on our current website?

12. What do we not have on our website now that we should have?

WORSHIP VOLUNTEERS FOR MAY

	May 4	May 11	May 18	May 25	
8:00					
Usher	Josef Sibley	Josef Sibley	Josef Sibley	Josef Sibley	
Usher	Robert Wall	Robert Wall	Robert Wall	Robert Wall	
Greeter	Martha Wilkins	Dick Wilkins	Keppie D'Alessio	Jane Cassada	
Reader	Nancy Bole	Denise Hempstead	Sue Lloyd	Youth	
Chalicer	Denise Hempstead	David D'Alessio	Cynthia Ruppe	Anita Quinley	
Sunday School Greeter					
11:00					
Usher	Susan Keith	Susan Keith	Susan Keith	Susan Keith	
Usher	Paula McIntosh	Paula McIntosh	Paula McIntosh	Paula McIntosh	
Greeter	Don Corry	Betty Dickey	Rebecca Reger	Bob Blanton	
Presenter	Linda Jeanne Harrill	Linda Jeanne Harrill	Linda Jeanne Harrill	Youth	
Presenter	Beverly McKinney	Beverly McKinney	Beverly McKinney	Youth	
Yokefellow	Michael Carrier	Eric Trumpey	Michael Carrier	Eric Trumpey	
1st Reader	Bob Blanton	Nancy Bole	Susanne Richardson	Youth	
2nd Reader	Bill Coxe	Vernon Hoyle	Rebecca Melton	Youth	
Prayers	Anita Quinley	Rebecca Melton	Barbara Hobson	Youth	
Chalicer	Gerry Roberts	Bob Blanton	Don Corry Eric Truempy	Youth	
Nursery	Linda Bailey	Sherry Campbell	Anita Quinley	Denise Hempstead	
	Kathy Demas	Diane Dickerson	Beverly McKinney	James Segers	
Acolytes	Team 1	Team 2	Team 1	Team 2	
Coffee Hour 8	Sherry Campbell Ruth Henson				
Punch on the Lawn 11		Susan Keith	Tammy Edwards	Christian Education Comm.	
		Bradley Lloyd			
Potluck	Relay for Life				

IF YOU CANNOT SERVE, PLEASE FIND A REPLACEMENT
AND **THEN** CALL THE CHURCH OFFICE BY THURSDAY 12:00 NOON. 828-287-3888

VESTRY HIGHLIGHTS

March 10, 2008

The Vestry of Saint Francis Church met in regular session in the Cloister House on Monday, March 10, 2008 at 6:00 p.m. The following items were discussed or acted upon.

1. Susan Keith opened the meeting with a devotional.
2. The Treasurer's Report was received.
3. The minutes of the January 14, 2008 and February 11, 2008 meetings were approved.
4. The Reverend Dee Ann de Montmollin gave the Rector's Report.
5. The Senior Warden's Report was received.
6. The Junior Warden's Report was received.
7. The following SWEEPS Commission Reports were received: Worship, Evangelism, Education and Pastoral Care.
8. Three new youth acolytes have been added this year, bringing the total to fifteen. We also have a total of seven trained adult acolytes who serve on fifth Sundays and on special occasions.
9. The Vestry expresses thanks to Vicki Dury who is serving as our Missionary Liaison.
10. Junior Daughters of the King recently made tray favors for Rutherford Hospital.

RELAY FOR LIFE

Relay For Life: Spring Salad
Sunday, May 4,
after the 11 a.m. service.
Love offering accepted.

Salad Luncheon



A Safeguarding God's Children Training will take place at St. Francis, on Saturday May 17 from 9 am to 12 noon.

Honoring Our Graduates...

Sunday, May 25

Ann Coxe

Isaac King

All vestry members and those working with children are required to take this course. Please let Susan Keith know if you plan to attend the training as spaces are limited.

MAY 2008

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
<p>Church Potluck: May 4 - Relay for Life Salad Luncheon Fund Raiser 8:00 am Coffee Fellowship: May 4 - Sherry Campbell & Ruth Henson 11:00 am Punch on the Lawn: May 11 - Susan Keith & Bradley Lloyd May 18 - Tammy Edwards May 25 - Christian Education Committee</p>				<p>1 9:00 AM Yoga 6:00 PM Yoga 6:30 PM EFM Ascension Day</p>	<p>2 6:00 PM Girl Scouts</p>	<p>3</p>
<p>4 8:00 AM HE Rite I 9:00 AM Coffee Fellowship 11:00 AM HE Rite II 12:30 PM Relay For Life Salad Luncheon 4:30 PM Cursillo 5:00 PM Cont. Eucharist</p>	<p>5 5:45 PM Vestry Meeting</p>	<p>6</p>	<p>7 9:00 AM Dayschool 10:00 AM Healing Service 5:15 PM Joiful Noyz 6:00 PM Yoga 6:30 PM Adult Choir</p>	<p>8 9:00 AM Yoga 6:00 PM Yoga 6:30 PM EFM</p>	<p>9 6:00 PM Wedding Rehearsal</p>	<p>10 10:00 AM Mother's Day Brunch 5:00 PM Wedding</p>
<p>11 8:00 AM HE Rite I 11:00 AM HE Rite II 12:15 PM Punch on the Lawn Pentecost Mothers Day</p>	<p>12 6:00 PM NAMI</p>	<p>13 6:00 PM NAMI</p>	<p>14 9:00 AM Dayschool 10:00 AM Healing Service 5:15 PM Joiful Noyz 6:00 PM Yoga 6:30 PM Adult Choir 7:00 PM Brotherhood of St. Andrew Prison Meeting</p>	<p>15 9:00 AM Yoga 6:00 PM Yoga 6:30 PM EFM</p>	<p>16 6:00 PM Girl Scouts 7:00 PM Junior DOK</p>	<p>17</p>
<p>18 8:00 AM HE Rite I 11:00 AM HE Rite II 12:15 PM Punch on the Lawn 12:30 PM Christian Ed Comm 12:30 PM Coffee Hour Trinity Sunday</p>	<p>19</p>	<p>20</p>	<p>21 9:00 AM Dayschool 10:00 AM Healing Service 5:15 PM Joiful Noyz 6:00 PM Yoga 6:30 PM Adult Choir</p>	<p>22 9:00 AM Yoga 6:00 PM Yoga 6:30 PM Brotherhood of St. Andrew Dinner Meeting 6:30 PM EFM</p>	<p>23</p>	<p>24 6:30 PM Brotherhood of St. Andrew Dinner Meeting</p>
<p>25 8:00 AM HE Rite I 11:00 AM HE Rite II 12:15 PM Punch on the Lawn 12:30 PM DOK Youth Sunday/Graduate Recognition</p>	<p>26 Memorial Day Office Closed</p>	<p>27</p>	<p>28 9:00 AM Dayschool 10:00 AM Healing Service 5:15 PM Joiful Noyz 6:00 PM Yoga 6:30 PM Adult Choir</p>	<p>29 9:00 AM Yoga 6:00 PM Yoga 6:30 PM EFM</p>	<p>30 7:00 PM Dayschool Graduation</p>	<p>31</p>

AN OPPORTUNITY TO SUPPORT MINISTRY IN DURGAPUR, INDIA



The Episcopal Church in the Diocese of Western North Carolina

THE RT. REV. G. PORTER TAYLOR

April 22, 2008

Dear parishioners and clergy,

Thank you so much for your generous contribution. Your thoughtfulness helps to provide a dormitory and land for the soon-to-be evicted Indian families. However, Bishop Taylor asked me to share with you about an exciting opportunity, which will further our efforts in helping our Indian companions and friends.

As you know the Indian government plans to evict these landless Indians. The tribals are among the world's poorest people; they live on less than \$1.00 a day. Already their homes have been marked with a red crosses on the roofs for demolition. When their homes are destroyed, a number of women and their children will be homeless and prey to sexual traffickers. Lynn Coulthard, our Episcopal Missionary in Durgapur, from St. Mary's Blowing Rock has been updating our diocese about this situation. Her most recent article appeared in the April "Highland Episcopalian."

Yet, there is hope and together we can make a difference. When I mentioned this deplorable situation to the Mackenzie Foundation board members, they voted to offer a matching campaign to members of the diocese of Western North Carolina to help complete the fundraising to provide land for the evicted families and a dormitory (second floor addition) to our school. This will furnish safe homes for 25 young children and separate quarters for a house parent. Our national church has already contributed \$3,000; our diocese has raised \$13,869. The total cost for the second floor that will include separate dormitory facilities and bath rooms for the boys and the girls as well as quarters for a house mother is \$35,000 plus an additional \$2,600 to purchase the land. The remaining balance is \$20,631.

The Mackenzie Foundation will match dollar-for-dollar up to \$10,500. This amount includes a little cushion for unanticipated expenses. In other words for every dollar that you give, whether you give \$5, \$50, \$500 or more, your gift will be doubled. Perhaps some of you might like to donate additional funds, knowing that your gift will now make twice the difference.

Members of the Mackenzie Foundation request that the match campaign be dedicated to commemorate my mother's birthday. My mother Eugenia Edwards Mackenzie turns 95 on May 19. Any funds donated from April 12 onward will be included in this match. Please put Durgapur Emergency on the memo line and mail your checks to the Diocese of Western North Carolina. Our match campaign will run through June 15th.

With deep gratitude for your generosity,

Clare Barry
Companion Diocese Committee Chair

**MAY
BIRTHDAYS**

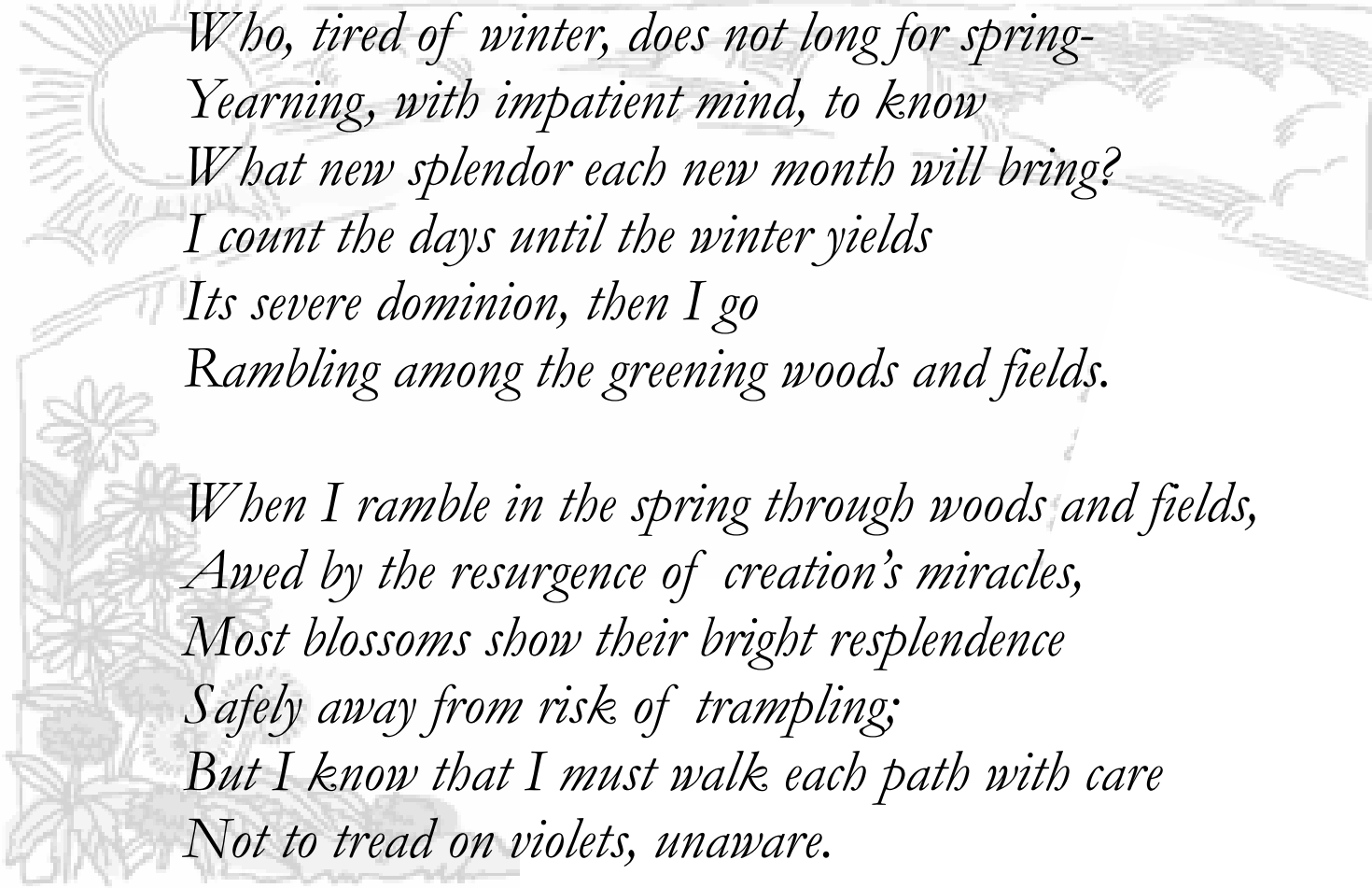
2 Augusta Hyde	25 Thomas Strand
3 Miriam Dixon	25 Josephine Conn
3 Michael Thompson	25 Magi King
3 Ellese Johansen	25 Rebecca Lowrey
3 Sydney Johansen	28 Ann Watson
3 Makayla Gill	28 Rhett Crummie
5 Paul McIntosh	28 Virginia Crummie
10 Richard Anderson	29 David Lloyd
10 Leah King	30 Rebecca Reger
11 Phil de Montmollin	31 Matthew Pickard
12 Barbara Hobson	
13 Jessica Bynum	
15 J.T. McClain	
16 Alex Spence	
20 Lisa Moore	

**MAY
ANNIVERSARIES**

06 Roscoe & Josephine Conn
15 David & Keppie D'Alessio

SPRING

By Sam Ayers



*Who, tired of winter, does not long for spring-
Yearning, with impatient mind, to know
What new splendor each new month will bring?
I count the days until the winter yields
Its severe dominion, then I go
Rambling among the greening woods and fields.*

*When I ramble in the spring through woods and fields,
Awe'd by the resurgence of creation's miracles,
Most blossoms show their bright resplendence
Safely away from risk of trampling;
But I know that I must walk each path with care
Not to tread on violets, unaware.*

JOY SPRINGS FORTH

By Susan Keith



Joy springs forth
Emerging in our souls
Out of the winters of our lives.

Joy springs forth
In glorious radiance
After the gloom and tears
within our lives.

Joy springs forth
Quenching our thirst
After the desert days in our
lives.

Joy springs forth
In brilliance and beauty
After the pruning of the
diseases of our lives.

Joy springs forth
Like the sun over the mountain
On a rainy day.



WE REMEMBER IN PRAYER:

Amanda,
Linda Bailey,
Reba Beasley,
Jenny Bridges,
Wanda Byers,
Cathy,
Michael Carrier,
Maggie Chase,
Rose Lee Crutcher,
Betty Dickey,
Leslie Doster,
Betty Elliott,
Carolyn Gardner,
Brooke Goings,
Ernestine Gold,
Dorothy Goodrich,
Martha Haynes,
Ron Hobson,

John,
Johnel,
Kathy & John,
Candy Laken,
Amy Lee,
Matthew,
Franklyn McIntosh,
Ken McFarland,
Alan Metcalf,
Olive Mistretta,
Roy Morehead,
Tim Pelton,
Haley Riney,
Walt Rumsfelt,
Anita Russell,
Lori & Austin
Scherer,
Stevie Scroggs,

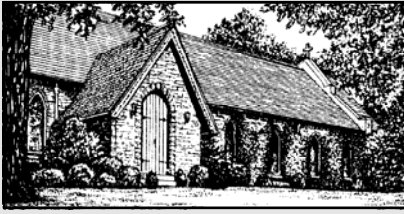
John Segers,
Shirley Sheehan,
Kay Taylor,
Charles Trufant,
Nancy Tucker,
Linda Venderly,
Patricia Westland,
Hilda Wilson

And Those Serving in the Military...

Justin Bailey,
Ben Blanton,
Jim Boyette,
Cory Bridges,
J. D. Brock,
Forest Buff,
Scotty Clark,
Blake Craft,
Andy Feree,
Branson Garrett,
Jeffery Hardin,
Brad Hicks,
Patsy Howard,

Robby Howard,
Jason Kallaus,
Seth Keller,
Susan Keophila,
Baxter Keys,
Andrew Kinard,
Tony Laws,
Troy Laws,
Daniel Leech,
Joseph McComas,
Drew Melvin,
Eric Neely,
Michael Parker,

Nina Paulino,
Kenneth Queen,
Beth Renier,
Rory Semelroth,
Chris Sikes,
David Smith,
Jerome Smith,
Emmanuel Spencer,
Christopher Strand,
Devin Swinkey,
Anthony Tricarico,
Joseph Watson,
Kenneth Young



Through The Back Gate

A Monthly
Newsletter of
St. Francis Episcopal Church
The Episcopal Church of Rutherfordton
Established 1842

408 North Main Street
P. O. Box 46
Rutherfordton, NC 28139

Church Office: 287-3888

Service Times: Extension 1

Rector: Extension 2

Dayschool/Kitchen: Extension 3

Parish Administrator: Ext. 4

Music Director: Extension 5

Fax: 287-4849

E-mail: stfrancis@rfci.net

www.stfranchischurch.org

<i>Jesus Christ</i>	The Head
<i>The People of God</i>	The Ministers
<i>The Right Reverend G. Porter Taylor</i>	Bishop
<i>The Reverend Dee Ann de Montmolin</i>	Rector
<i>Johnathan Jones</i>	Minister of Music
<i>Amberleigh Richardson</i>	Youth Director
<i>Lesley Bush</i>	Parish Administrator
<i>Cindy Hill</i>	Financial Manager

The Vestry

Linda Bailey, Senior Warden

Don Corry, Junior Warden

Rob Bole, Treasurer

2008

Marian Beavers

Don Corry

Bill Coxse

2009

Linda Bailey

Ed Richardson

James Segers

2010

Josephine Conn

Susan Keith

David Lloyd

*The Vestry meets at 6:00 pm
on the second Monday of every month.*

Our Missionaries:

*Jim & Jennifer Bowers - Mali
- China*

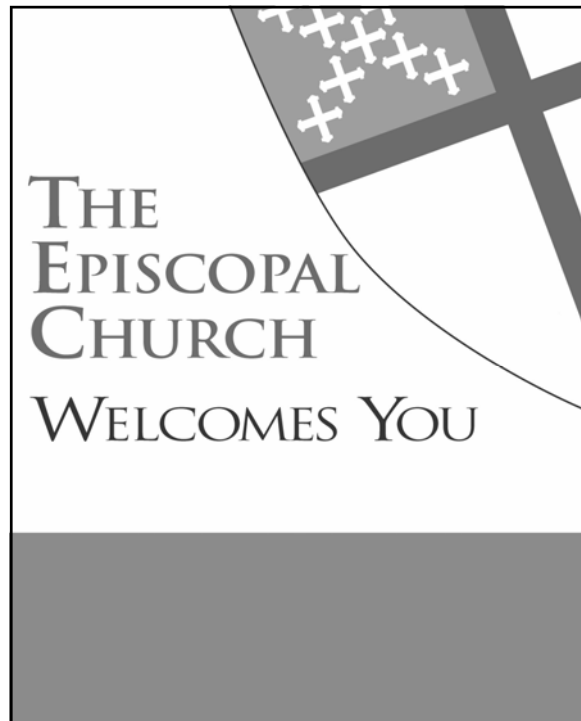
*John and Zopbi Wilson - Hungary
Amber Smith - Poland*

Russ & Heidi Smith - Chili

Lynn Coulthard - Durgapur

Julie & Eric Renzema - S.E. Asia

Non-Profit
Organization
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28139
Permit No. 75



The purpose of St. Francis Episcopal Church is to function as a Christian family in which all are nurtured in Jesus Christ through Scripture, sacrament, prayer, and love, enabling us to proclaim God's love joyfully and witness to His power.