



Through The Lych Gate of Saint Francis Episcopal Church

December 2009

Christmas and Family

While they were there the time came for her to deliver her child. And she gave birth to her firstborn son and wrapped him in the bands of cloth, and laid him in the manger, because there was no place for them in the inn.

Luke 2: 6-7

Shristmas is the honoring of the Holy Family: Jesus, Mary and Joseph. It is also a time for us to honor our church family, our immediate family and our extended family.

Many of us believe a family consists of a mother, father and a few children. Come with me to Our Little Roses orphanage in San Pedro Sula, Honduras and you will find eighty girls, ranging from babies to 16 year-olds living as a family. In many of the Caribbean Islands and in Asian countries grandparents, aunts, uncles, cousins are all a part of one family and it is not uncommon that the whole clan lives under the same roof.

True family life is a form of interior life or that which causes spiritual, not merely physical, growth. Family life makes for spiritual growth in that it prompts the virtue of truthfulness in its members, together with considerateness for others.

When someone from St. Francis is asked why they love their church, the most common reply is, "We are family." A family church is a community of faith, hope and charity. The Christian family is a communion of persons, a sign and image of the communion of the Father and the Son and the Holy Spirit. The relationships within the family bring an affinity of feelings, affections and interests, arising above all from the members' respect for one another.

So what are the qualities of a good family? Paul tells us, we must clothe ourselves with "kindness, humility, meekness and patience. Bear with one another; forgive whatever grievances you have against one another...Over all these virtues, put on love, which binds the rest together and makes them perfect...In wisdom made perfect, instruct and admonish one another." We would be hard pressed to find words which should better guide us in how to live together as a family. For it is in family life that we first experience kindness, patience, forgiveness and, most of all, love.

Because of the economy, we will be looking at our church a little differently. Your finance committee and vestry have had to carefully study our budget and decrease our expenses. In 2010 we will be seeing our members cutting the grass this year; we will not be sending as many mailings, including the Lychgate; we will be more conscious of our consumption of electricity and water. Other cutbacks will be discussed at the Annual Meeting on January 3, 2010.

Personally, I have a deep sense of need to be with my immediate family and will try to be with them each month during the New Year. As many of you know, my older son has gone through a divorce so our family structure has changed.

There is always another family to which we all belong, the one from which all other families are descended and that is the family of God. We are all God's children and He will care for us just as a human father cares for his human family. This could not be better exemplified than in the Holy Family of Christmas.

As we look around us at the world today with the craziness and rampant materialism, we may tend to believe that God is absent from Christmas, that he is not present among us and has left us to our own devices. But that is not true as long as we stay centered with our Lord. By modeling ourselves on the Holy Family of Jesus, Mary and Joseph, we will know that there is always a right relationship with God and that God is very actively involved in all of our lives.

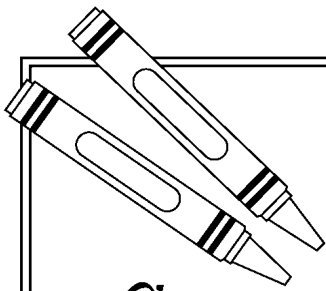
We are called to have faith in God and to believe that He will constantly watch over us, just as he watched over and protected the Holy Family. At this time of the year when family is so important to us, may you truly come to appreciate what being "one of the family" means not only in your own life but in the lives of others.

I wish for each of you a Holy and Blessed Christmas.

In Christ's love and grace,

Dee+

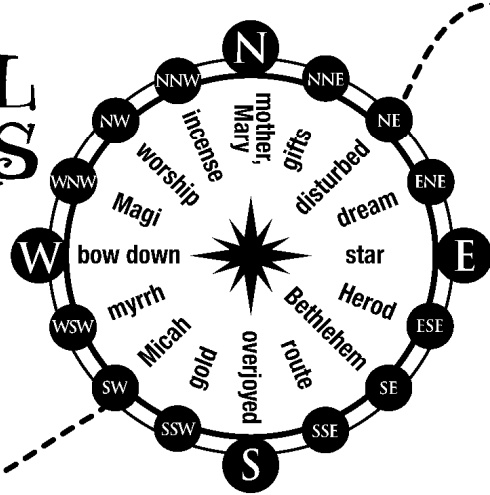
The Rev. Dee Ann de Montmollin+



Just for KIDS

SPECIAL VISITORS

Matthew 2 tells of visitors who traveled to worship Jesus. Read that story, or see if you can answer the questions below from memory. Use the compass guide to fill in the correct answers.



1. Who was king during the time of Jesus' birth? _____ (ESE)
2. Who came from the East to worship the one born king of the Jews? _____ (WNW)
3. How was King Herod feeling about Jesus' birth? _____ (NE)
4. Which prophet did the chief priests and teachers of the law quote when King Herod asked where the Christ would be born? _____ (SW)
5. In what city would Christ be born? _____ (SE)
6. King Herod lied to the wise men and told them to search and report back so he, too, could do what to Christ? _____ (NW)
7. What did the Magi see in the east and follow to find Jesus? _____ (E)
8. When the star stopped, how did the Magi feel? _____ (S)
9. Who else did the Magi see with Jesus? His _____ (N)
10. What did the Magi do first before they worshiped the child? _____ (W)
11. Name the three treasures the Magi brought for Jesus. _____ (SSW)
 _____ (NNW) _____ (WSW)
12. These three treasures were all brought for Jesus as ... _____ (NNE)
13. What warned the Magi not to return to Herod? A _____ (ENE)
14. The Magi had to return to their country by another _____ (SSE)

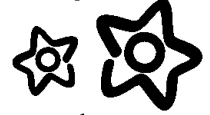
Answers: 1. Herod, 2. Magi, 3. disturbed, 4. Micah, 5. Bethlehem, 6. worship, 7. star, 8. overjoyed, 9. mother, Mary, 10. bow down, 11. gold, incense, myrrh, 12. gifts, 13. dream, 14. route

STAINED-GLASS STAR COOKIES

These star cookies will remind you of the star that led the Magi, or wise men, to our Lord Jesus. Enjoy these treats for yourself or give them as gifts.

What you need:

- An adult to help
- 3 cups flour
- 1 teaspoon baking powder
- 1/4 teaspoon salt
- 1 cup sugar
- 1 cup (2 sticks) margarine or butter, softened
- 2 eggs
- 1 1/2 teaspoons vanilla extract
- Plastic wrap
- Hard candy such as Life Savers in assorted colors
- Zippered baggies
- Rolling pin
- 2 star cookie cutters, one much smaller than the other
- Aluminum foil



What you do:

1. Mix the flour, baking powder and salt together.
2. Cream the sugar and butter. Add the eggs and vanilla.
3. Add the flour mixture and beat until well blended.
4. Divide the dough into four equal pieces. Wrap each piece in plastic wrap and refrigerate for about 30 minutes.
5. Separate candies by color and place each color in a sealed, zippered baggie. With a rolling pin, crush candy into small pieces (not a fine powder).
6. One at a time, roll out each chilled dough piece on a well-floured surface.
7. Use the large cookie cutter to make stars, and then place them on a foil-lined cookie sheet. Then press the small star cookie cutter into each large star and remove the small piece of star-shaped dough.
8. Place some crushed candy in each star-shaped hole.
9. Bake at 350 degrees for 10-12 minutes or until golden brown. (The candy will melt and be translucent when cooled, like a stained-glass window.)

VESTRY HIGHLIGHTS

November 9, 2009

The Vestry of St. Francis Church met in regular session on Monday, November 9 at 7:00 p.m. in the Cloister House. The following items were discussed or acted upon.

1. Linda Bailey opened the meeting with a devotional.
2. The minutes of the October 12, 2009 meeting were approved.
3. The Treasurer's Report was received.
4. The 2010 Budget was discussed.
5. The Reverend Dee Ann de Montmollin gave the Rector's Report.
6. Beginning January 2010, Reverend Dee will be taking personal leave consisting of one week off each month. Clergy supply will be paid from her salary at no cost to the church.
7. The Junior Warden's Report was received.
8. The following SWEEPS Commission Reports were received: Stewardship, Evangelism, Education, Pastoral Care and Service.
9. Amanda Peacock has agreed to serve as Nursery Coordinator beginning January 1, 2010.
10. The Daughters of the King has offered to lead a four week Advent Study on Tuesday evenings from 6:30 to 8:00 p.m. This study will be an introduction to the Diocesan Study materials, Daily Practices for God's People: Cultivating Virtues in Christian Living. They will be looking at one chapter out of this book during this study.
11. The Episcopal Church Women will have their last meeting of the year at the home of Linda Bailey on Saturday, December 12, at 10:00 a.m. Brunch will be followed by a program given by Deborah Pickard Cheek.
12. A new year of Education for Ministry (EFM) will begin on January 7, 2010.
13. Motion was made, seconded and carried to submit the names of Richard Gill, Mary Gregory, and Richard Williams as nominees for Vestry for the Class of 2012.
14. Motion was made, seconded and carried to accept the 2008 Audit Report and recommendations from the Audit Committee.
15. The Vestry expresses thanks to Susan Keith, Jesse McKinney and Dick Wilkins for serving on the Audit Committee.
16. The next Vestry Meeting will be on Monday, December 14, at 6:00 p.m. in the Cloister House.
17. The meeting adjourned at 8:45 p.m. with The Lord's Prayer.

WORSHIP VOLUNTEERS FOR DECEMBER

8 a.m.	Dec. 6	Dec. 13	Dec. 20	Christmas Eve 5:30 pm	Dec 27
Usher	Kathy Demas	Mary Gregory	Denise Hempstead	Kathy Demas	Dick Wilkins
Usher	Dick Wilkins	Bill McClain	Richard Williams	Linda Jeanne Harrill	Denise Hempstead
Greeter	Doug Elliot	Sue Lloyd	Betty Morehead	Mary Gregory	Martha Wilkins
1st Lesson	Linda Bailey	Mary Ann Hamilton	Anita Quinley	Roscoe Conn Sr.	Mary Gregory
2nd Lesson	Sue Lloyd	Richard Williams	Doug Elliot	Susanne Richardson	Linda Bailey
Chalicer	Bob Blanton	David D'Alessio	Cindy Ruppe	Terry Demas	Denise Hempstead
10:30 a.m.				Christmas Day 10:00 am	
Usher	Bill Coxe	Richard Gill	Linda Jeanne Harrill	Charles Pickard	Paula McIntosh
Usher	Beverly McKinney	Anita Quinley	Lee Roberts	Gordon Scott	Vera Scroggs
Greeter	Larry Lester	Susan Lester	Betty Dickey	Vernon Hoyle	
Presenters of Bread and Wine	Christine Hoyle Susan Keith	Paula McIntosh Beverly McKinney	James & Liz Segers	Gillian Pickard Judy Scott	Linda Jeanne Harrill Betty Dickey
Yokefellow	Bill Coxe	Michael Carrier	Blue Pittman		Michael Carrier
1st Lesson	Nancy Bole	Roscoe Conn Sr.	Bill Coxe	Gillian Pickard	Judi Gustafson
2nd Lesson	Linda Jeanne Harrill	Roger Hughes	Susan Keith	Judy Scott	Susanne Richardson
Prayers of the People	Dee Ulrich	Jim Brown	Julie Pittman	Vernon Hoyle	Roger Hughes
Chalicer	Anita Quinley	Gerry Roberts	Dee Ulrich	Susan Keith	Susan Keith
Nursery	Linda Bailey Keppie D'Alessio	Sherry Campbell Grace Melton	Anita Quinley Missy Hughes		Denise Hempstead Beverly Wellborn
Acolytes	Team 1	Team 2	Team 1	Team 2	Team 1
Coffee Hour 8 a.m.	Sue Lloyd				
Coffee Hour 10:30 a.m.			Beverly McKinney Betty Dickey		
Potluck	Susan Keith Linda Bailey Bill Coxe				

**IF YOU CANNOT SERVE, PLEASE FIND A REPLACEMENT
AND THEN CALL THE CHURCH OFFICE
BY THURSDAY 12:00 NOON. 828-287-3888 (Ext. 4)**

LECTIONARY READINGS FOR DECEMBER

Dec. 6	Second Sunday of Advent	Malachi 3:1-4	Canticle 16	Philippians 1:3-11	Luke 3:3-11
Dec. 13	Third Sunday of Advent	Zephaniah 3:14-20	Canticle 9	Philippians 4:4-7	Luke 3:7-18
Dec. 20	Fourth Sunday of Advent	Micah 5:2-5a	Canticle 15	Hebrews 10:5-10	Luke 1:39-45, (46-55)
Dec. 27	The First Sunday after Christmas Day	Isaiah 61:10-62:3	Psalm 147	Galatians 3:23-25;4:4-7	John 1:1-18

OUR PARISH CELEBRATIONS



DECEMBER BIRTHDAYS

- 2 Tom Lattimore
- 5 Gurlie Rosling
- 13 Gillian Pickard
- 13 Jane Bell
- 14 Carletta Pittman
- 17 J. Vernon Hoyle
- 19 Missy Hughes
- 27 William McClain
- 27 McKayleigh Kirton
- 29 Anita Quinley
- 31 Marilla Okpych



DECEMBER ANNIVERSARIES

- 10 Al and Stella Hart
- 17 Joe and Vicki Dury
- 20 Vernon and Christine Hoyle
- 21 Eric and Lindsay Truempy
- 24 Tommy and Sadie Strand
- 26 Elaine and Scott Sprouse
- 27 Dick and Martha Wilkins
- 30 Alexander and Jane Bell



88TH CONVENTION OF THE DIOCESE OF WNC

ENGAGE COLLABORATE TRANSFORM

It was a beautiful, sunny, crisp morning when the five of us set out for Kanuga Conference Center in Hendersonville. This was the site of the 88th Convention of the Diocese of WNC. There your Rector, your delegates (David Lloyd, Susan Keith) and your alternate delegates (Josephine Conn, Gerry Roberts) met up with approximately 500 other Episcopalians, both lay and clergy, from Western NC. This year our normal three day convention was compressed into two so we jumped right in with the opening message from our Bishop in which he introduced us to the theme of this convention and this year: Engage – Collaborate – Transform. A brief extract (included elsewhere in this newsletter) from his opening remarks may explain this theme.

The business of the Convention was light this year. There were no last minute additions to the Resolutions and no hotly contested committee seats. Only those resolutions that were printed in the November *Highland Episcopalian* were considered. The resolution to amend the Constitution was only read this year and will be voted on next year. The other amendments to the canons all were approved without discussion. They were cleaning up errors in language or bringing the canons in line with the current practices. The three resolutions relating to finances (clergy compensation, diocesan funding, parish giving) were all amended and approved. The revised wording should be in the December *Highland Episcopalian*. The convention approved the budget as printed in the *Highland*

Episcopalian. It renewed our Companion Diocese relationship with Durgapur, India, for another three years. We welcomed the summer worshipping community of St. Francis Chapel, Cashiers, into the diocese. Numerous people were elected to a variety of positions in the diocese and Bishop Taylor announced the new appointments to various commissions. These should all be listed in the December *Highland Episcopalian*. Of note is the establishment of a new Commission on Health in the diocese. The Rev. Dee Ann de Montmollin has been appointed to head that commission and form it.

The business of the convention is the reason it is convened, but the experience of attending convention is much greater than the business. It is worth going just to see so many clergy, all vested, in one place, and to experience the Bishop's sense of humor. It is the fellowship and meeting of new people around the fireplace. It is the beautiful and very moving Eucharist. It is hearing so many voices raised in the melodious songs sung both at the Eucharist and throughout the time of the convention. It was inspiring to see the number of youth that are present and assisting the conduct of the convention. One of our first time attendees commented "I didn't realize how much fun it was". If you haven't been to convention then you should consider going next year. Anyone can go. You do not have to be a delegate or an alternate.

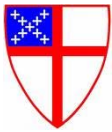
Submitted by your delegates,

*Josephine Conn, Susan Keith,
David Lloyd, Gerry Roberts*

VESTRY NOMINEES

The nominating committee of the Vestry has nominated Richar Gill, Mary Gregory and Richard Williams for election to the Vestry at the annual meeting to be held on January 3th, 2010. Below are the Vestry Nominees Biographies.

Richard Williams



I am an attorney and partner in Williams & Martelle, PLLC, in Rutherfordton, and have lived here fifteen years, my home lying adjacent to St. Francis. I am married to Stephanie, and have two daughters, Darby and Brett. I have been a parishioner here since 1995 after transferring my membership from the church where I grew up, St Peter's



Episcopal in Charlotte. I have served and been members of various groups and charities in Rutherford County, but have found my calling in Habitat for Humanity where I am able to put my professional skills to some good use helping , in some small way, deserving families find homes of their own. If called to serve you on the Vestry, I will, with God's help, do the best I can.

Mary E. Gregory



My life as an Episcopalian began in 1979 at St. Joseph's Episcopal Church in Boynton, Beach, Florida and I remained there until I moved to St. Augustine, Fl. where I attended Trinity Parrish Church. In 2003 I moved here to Rutherfordton, NC and started attending St. Francis. I attend the 8:00 am service and act as usher, lay reader and greeter when



called upon. I also host coffee hour and contribute to Relay for Life by donating craft items I have made. I am also a member of the DOK.

Richard Gill



Richard Gill and his wife Donna, have been members of St. Francis since 2003. They have 5 children and 3 grandchildren. The two youngest children, Jaylen, age 9, and Makayla age 7, were baptized at St. Francis. Richard teaches Social Studies at R-S Central High School. He has been a teacher for over 36 years. The Gill's have lived in Rutherford County since 1994. Richard currently serves as a reader and usher, and a member of the Christian Education Committee.



"What Does St. Francis Do Well"

This was a question raised at the Diocesan Convention of each church. We would like to know what you feel St. Francis does well. Please email, mail, call in, drop off your answer to the Parish Office before Dec. 20. We will compile your answers, compare them with the answer your delegates gave and report on this at the annual meeting in January.

Extract from +G. Porter Taylor's opening remarks to the 88th Convention of the Diocese of WNC

... Let me give you some good news that may not sound so good at first but in time will. We are never getting back to where we were. There isn't a magic pill we can take that will make all the turbulence go away. As the Israelites discovered, even when you get home, you are not at the same home because the world doesn't stand still; the Holy Spirit blows whether we like it or not.

The truth is, we must go forward. We must learn to rejoice in the Lord and be the Church and embrace the Good News exactly where we are, and not mourn over where we used to be. Today is the day the Lord has made with all its mess. Let us rejoice and be glad in it and be the Church God is calling for us to be in this day and in this place.

This means change. Denial is not a river. We must learn to be Church in ways that are congruent with our time and our reality. ...we can't be country parsons anymore. The new century calls for a new Church.

So I have three words for you— **Engage. Collaborate. Transform.**

I believe these will be the ship's keel to steer us through the waters of these times. I am going to describe them and then give a sense of what they mean for our diocese in a few key areas.

Engage.

In times of mess and trouble and confusion, one response is to move to safe ground. As we so often hear in the South, "Let's just don't talk about it." We in the Episcopal Church think if we just keep doing our wonderful liturgy, the world will be saved or at least no one will cause a stir.

However, God is stirring the world up and God is calling us to wade into the stuff of this world in the name of Jesus Christ. My great fear is that we will be a silent proper aesthetically pleasing church that is no longer relevant to the hopes and fears of people

Therefore, I am suggesting that every committee, commission, board, group, vestry, council take a walkabout this year. Instead of giving answers to questions no one is asking, let's ask God's children about their hopes and fears; let's have real conversations about what keeps them awake at night and the future they dream of but almost dare not utter. ...

Jesus sends the disciples out without any stuff— *"nothing for your journey, no staff, nor bag, nor bread, nor money—not even an extra tunic"* so that they will rely completely on him and not allow anything between them and the other person. Conversation leads to mutual conversion.

The gift of this economic disaster is to turn us as painful as it will be. Our ministry will be simpler and it will be hard to let go of some structures, but it may be that in the long run, letting go will make our mission clearer and our ministry more true to God's deep desire.

Engage—Collaborate

We let go; we engage; we discover community. Let's remember Jesus' marching orders: *"Whoever is not against us is for us."* We have to get over trying to protect our market share or our franchise and join with anyone else who is dedicated to God's mission.

We need to collaborate with God and then with our brothers and sisters. "Collaborate" means to "labor with": Co—labor-ate. Now is the time to be counter intuitive. Instead of hunkering down to wait out the storm, instead of staying in the harbor, it's time for us to ask who wants to sail into the deep waters with Christ at the helm and to go with whoever raises their hands. ...

We must say to one another, "Let's pool our resources because we cannot do this alone." We need to reach out to one another as the Church, the Body of Christ. ... Maybe it means letting go of our sense of stand alone parishes so we can stand together. Maybe the parishes in the East need to talk with those in the West and the South with the North or everyone with everyone. Maybe we are called to Pentecost.

Engage, Collaborate, Transform

To be a disciple is to be a pilgrim walking with Christ even as we walk to Christ. I keep quoting Nancy Mairs: "This is what we are here for: to change the world."

Our calling is to be transformed more and more into the likeness of Christ so that Christ will use us to transform this world into the kingdom of mercy, grace, and peace.

We must be changed as individuals, as a Church and as a world. And the word for this transformation is reconciliation.

What a wonderful time to proclaim that message to a world paralyzed by fear. What a wonderful time to be all together on the shores of the river of Babylon and sing God's song of hope and joy and transformation.

What a wonderful time to engage in something that matters and is real and true.

These are extensions of the priorities of the Executive Council...

1. Lake Logan
2. Finances
3. Doing church differently
4. Justice/Outreach
5. Pray
6. Reconciliation
7. Christian Formation

Finances/Do Church Differently/Justice/Pray/Reconciliation/Education

The common theme here is that we need to be lighter and more agile. Our Church will be less like the QEII and more like the small boats Jesus and the disciples used to fish in the Sea of Galilee. Therefore, more work is going to happen on the grassroots level than in Church or Diocesan Offices. If we are going to avoid the silo effect, then we will have to engage and collaborate and be transformed.

December Calendar

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
		<p><i>1</i></p> <p>7:30 AM AA 6:30 PM DOK Advent Study</p>	<p><i>2</i></p> <p>7:00 AM Men's Study Group 9:00 AM Dayschool 10:00 AM HE Healing Service</p>	<p><i>3</i></p> <p>4:00 PM Choir Rehearsal 6:00 PM Yoga 6:30 PM EFM</p>	<p><i>4</i></p> <p>7:30 AM AA</p>	<p><i>5</i></p>
<p><i>6</i></p> <p>9:00 AM Coffee Hour 10:30 AM HE Rite II 12:00 PM Potluck</p> <p>Angel Food Orders Due</p>	<p><i>7</i></p> <p>9:00 AM Dayschool 6:30 PM NAMI</p> <p>Vestry Reports Due</p>	<p><i>8</i></p> <p>7:30 AM AA 6:30 PM DOK Advent Study</p>	<p><i>9</i></p> <p>7:00 AM Men's Study Group 9:00 AM Dayschool 10:00 AM HE Healing Service 7:00 PM Brotherhood of St. Andrew Prison Meeting</p>	<p><i>10</i></p> <p>4:00 PM Choir Rehearsal 6:00 PM Yoga 6:30 PM Brotherhood Dinner Meeting 6:30 PM EFM</p>	<p><i>11</i></p> <p>7:30 AM AA</p>	<p><i>12</i></p>
<p><i>13</i></p> <p>10:30 AM HE Rite II 3:00 PM Angel Tree Party 5:00 PM Junior DOK</p>	<p><i>14</i></p> <p>9:00 AM Dayschool 6:00 PM Vestry Meeting</p>	<p><i>15</i></p> <p>7:30 AM AA 6:30 PM DOK Advent Study</p>	<p><i>16</i></p> <p>7:00 AM Men's Study Group 9:00 AM Dayschool 10:00 AM HE Healing Service</p>	<p><i>17</i></p> <p>4:00 PM Choir Rehearsal 6:00 PM Yoga 6:30 PM EFM</p>	<p><i>18</i></p> <p>7:30 AM AA 6:00 PM Dayschool Program 6:30 PM Christmas Staff/Vestry Party</p>	<p><i>19</i></p>
<p><i>20</i></p> <p>10:30 AM HE Rite II 11:30 AM Coffee Hour 11:45 AM Christian Ed Comm 2:00 PM Eagle Scout Award (David Martin)</p> <p>Caroling to Shut-Ins</p>	<p><i>21</i></p> <p>9:00 AM Dayschool 6:30 PM NAMI</p>	<p><i>22</i></p> <p>7:30 AM AA 9:00 AM Yoga 6:30 PM DOK Advent Study</p>	<p><i>23</i></p> <p>7:00 AM Men's Study Group 10:00 AM HE Healing Service 6:00 PM Yoga</p>	<p><i>24</i></p> <p>5:30 PM Christmas Eve Family Service 10:30 PM Christmas Eve Midnight Mass</p> <p>Office Closed</p>	<p><i>25</i></p> <p>7:30 AM AA 10:00 AM Christmas Day Holy Eucharist Office Closed</p> <p>Christmas</p>	<p><i>26</i></p>
<p><i>27</i></p> <p>10:30 AM HE Rite II 5:00 PM Junior DOK</p>	<p><i>28</i></p>	<p><i>29</i></p> <p>7:30 AM AA 9:00 AM Yoga</p>	<p><i>30</i></p> <p>7:00 AM Men's Study Group 10:00 AM HE Healing Service 6:00 PM Yoga</p>	<p><i>31</i></p> <p>Office Closed</p> <p>11:30 PM New Year's Eve</p>		



If you have not already done so please turn in your Time and Talent, and Financial Pledge Cards this week. We are currently preparing the 2010 budget to present to the Vestry. We will very shortly be identifying the Worship Volunteers and committee members for 2010.



Reminder!!!

Episcopal Church Women
(E.C.W.)

December 12, 2009

10:00 a.m.

Brunch and Program

Home of Linda Bailey

Please RSVP Linda

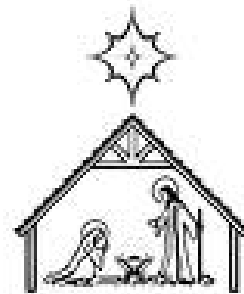
There will be a carpool from the
Parish House at 9:30

ECW will be selling Christmas Cards and note cards
after the program. The price is \$5.00 for 20 Cards.

DOK and JDOK

will meet Nov 22 at 5:00 p.m.
in the Parish House.

DOK is planning on leading the Advent Study
Tuesdays in Dec (Dec 1, 8, 15, 22)
from 6:30 to 8



Advent Study

The DOK would like to invite everyone to a four week Advent Study on Tuesday evenings from 6:30 to 8 beginning Dec. 1. This will be a time to slow down for just a bit and look at how busy our lives have become and to see if we can simplify our lives just a tad and be more reflective during this Advent and Christmas. If you are planning on attending this study, please sign up in the Narthex so that we have some idea of how many people to expect.

PRAYER CONCERN LIST:

Sam Ayers,
Reba Beasley,
Gwen Bole,
Kathie Burgin,
Brian,
Wanda Byers,
Michael Carrier,
Bill Copenhaver,
Betty Elliott,
Carolyn Gardner,
Ernestine Gold,
Ed Goodrich,
Merve Hawkins,
Joe Hempstead,
Ron Hobson,
Scotty Holt,
Momsie Hyde,
Joyce Jaynes,

Marley McKinney,
Olive Mistretta,
Ackie Okpych,
Declan Pico,
Jackie Rains,
Haley Riney,
Gene Rutledge,
Diane Rutledge,
Stevie Scroggs,
Kay Taylor,
Hilda Wilson



And Those Serving in the Military...

Dustin Arledge,
Ben Blanton,
Jim Boyette,
Cory Bridges,
J. D. Brock,
Julian Brown,
Steve Browning,
Forest Buff,
Scotty Clark,
Blake Craft,
Jamie Culbreath,
Jason Curl,
Andy Feree,
Branson Garrett,
Devon Glass,

Jeffery Hardin,
Tony Hartman,
Jason Hempstead,
Brad Hicks,
Patsy Howard,
Robby Howard,
Morris Jones,
Jason Kallaus,
Andrew Kinard,
Troy Laws,
Daniel Leech,
Benjamin Lucas,
Joseph McComas,
Matt McLane,
Drew Melvin,
Michael Parker,

Nina Paulino,
Kenneth Queen,
Rory Semelroth,
Jcee Shaver,
Christopher Smith,
David Smith,
Christopher Strand,
Devin Swinkey,
Anthony Tricarico,
Nick Turner,
Eric Velasquez,
Corey Waters,
Joseph Watson,
Jack Welsh,
Kenneth Young

ODDS & ENDS

Attention Parents of young children!

Godly play is a Montessori-based learning experience for children ages 2-5. Stories from the Old and New Testament are experienced anew with figures, candles and even a bit of desert!

Feel free to join us any Sunday morning to experience this for yourself, and stay for the feast!



The Rutherford County Arts Council
presents:

Darby Rumbles' Doll

A Christmas Musical for Children

Written by
Diane Tucker

December 17 & 18 at 10:00am
December 19 at 3:00pm

The Foundation Performing Arts Center
Spindale, NC

Your Relay For Life Dollars Making a Difference in North Carolina:



* 47 American Cancer Society research grants totaling over \$20,661,702 are in effect in North Carolina

* 121 College Scholarships totaling \$124,000 To college bound cancer survivors

* 10,083 North Carolina residents received support from the Society in 2009

* 1,887 people received 2,480 rides to treatment appointments

* 1,473 women participated in Reach to Recovery, where new breast cancer patients receive support from trained survivors

* 1,565 people participated in Look Good...Feel Better, a program that provides make-overs and training related to appearance-related side effects of treatment

* There are more than 11,000 active grassroots volunteers in North Carolina

* Rutherford County is the only County in North Carolina to have all the support programs provided by the American Cancer Society

ODDS & ENDS



Jesse & Beverly McKinney are the proud grandparents of Marley Alice McKinney Born November 16th!

&

Andrew & Amberleigh Kirton welcomed Paisley Scott on Nov. 17th.

Congratulations to big sister McKayleigh and big brother Ayden!

YOKEFELLOW

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

For November
Spaghetti or Spaghetti Sauce

Although any non-perishable item will be accepted



Dog/Cat Food Needed

The Junior Daughters of the King have been collecting dog and cat food to give to pets belonging to senior citizens in the county who receive Meals on Wheels. Please consider buying extra bags of dog/cat food to help with this project. (See Susan Keith for more information.)



Stewardship of Presence

	<u>8 am</u>	<u>10:30 am</u>
November 1	30	83
November 8	19	83
November 15	37	65
November 22	30	73
November 29	31	67

Stewardship of Giving

	<u>Pledged</u>	<u>Non-Pledged</u>
November 1	2375.45	659.00
November 8	1507.27	555.00
November 15	3867.98	260.00
November 22	3426.00	311.50
November 29	N/A	N/A

CHANGES. IN THE NEW YEAR

St. Francis Changes Communication Method

Change is good. In this instance, St. Francis Church is about to undergo a change in how it communicates with its people. This change is being driven by the reductions needed in the budget, and it just might turn out to be an actual *improvement* in our communications, because it will also *speed up* communication in our parish.

This issue of the *Lych Gate* will be the last newsletter that will be mailed out. Beginning in January, we will be preparing a weekly news bulletin and will be sending it out via *e-mail* to everyone we have an email address for. It will also be posted on the church website: www.stfrancischurch.org. If you do not have an e-mail address or access to the internet, you may pick up a printed copy at the back of the church on Sundays.

Worship volunteer assignments will continue to be on a monthly basis. Copies of this schedule will be e-mailed to all volunteers, posted on the website, and printed copies will be made available at the back of the church.

In order for this change to be successful, we need to ask three things of everyone with an e-mail address and/or web access.

1. Please make sure that the office has your email address. The easiest way is to email the parish office at stfrancis@rfci.net.
2. Please *do not* pick up one of the printed weekly announcement sheets that will be in the back of the church. There will only be a limited number available for those without email access.
3. If you are not in the habit of checking your email at least once a week, please try to do so after the first of the year.

Thank you for working with St. Francis in helping to implement this and the various other changes that will take place this coming year.

Each year, we accept gifts of poinsettias which are used to decorate the church for Christmas. If you would like to give a gift, please fill out the form and drop your order in the mail or in the alms basin. The name(s) of the person(s) you are honoring will be printed in the Christmas Eve bulletins.

Please return the form and money to the church office or place in the alms basin by **Sunday, December 20**. If you pay by check, please designate it for "Flowers."

I would like to order _____ Poinsettias @ \$15 each

Attached/Enclosed is my check/cash in the amount of:

\$ _____

In Memory of: _____

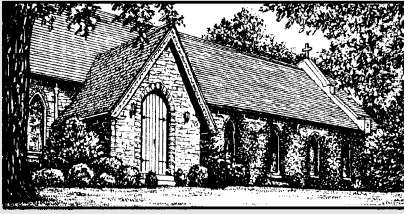
In Honor of: _____

In Thanksgiving for: _____

Given by: _____



Poinsettias



Through The Lych Gate

A Monthly
Newsletter of
St. Francis Episcopal Church

The Episcopal Church of Rutherfordton
Established 1842

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.stfrancischurch.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 Montmollin</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

Josephine Conn, Senior Warden

Linda Bailey, Junior Warden

Rob Bole, Treasurer

2009

Linda Bailey

Ed Richardson

James Segers

2010

Josephine Conn

Susan Keith

David Lloyd

2011

Bill Coxce

Dick Gustafson

Gerry Roberts

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

Our Missionaries:

*Jim & Jennifer Bowers - Mali
- China*

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

*Russ & Heidi Smith - Chile
Lynn Coulthard - Durgapur
Julie & Eric Renzema - S.E. Asia*

Non-Profit
Organization
U.S. Postage Paid
Rutherfordton, NC
28139
Permit No. 75

This is the last edition of the Lychgate being sent via bulk mail. For future email mailings, please submit your email address to:

stfrancis@rfci.net

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.