

Family Affairs

June 2017

Deadline for July/August *Family Affairs*: June 19

What does it mean to welcome newcomers to church? It means being inclined to love them.

Seriously. It's that simple.

Of course, there are lots of things we can do to enact our welcome: introduce ourselves, offer help with children or finding the right place in the Prayer Book, inviting someone newly arrived to Fellowship Time, taking care to introduce them to a few more people, and sticking around to talk for a bit.

But what we are really doing when we welcome someone new to Holy Family is welcoming them on behalf of Jesus Christ, and that means being inclined to love them even before we know them.

In the Rule he developed for his monks, St. Benedict instructed that there was to be a porter stationed in a room near the entrance of the monastery so that visitors would always find someone waiting to greet them. The porter was to reply to every knock with, "Thanks be to God," and then, "with all the gentleness that comes from the fear of God, [provide] a prompt answer with the warmth of love."

There was no hidden agenda behind the porter's greeting, no unspoken desire to increase the number of monks in residence, or up the number of hands available to help with the beehives or in the garden. In fact, Benedict's instructions were as much for the sake of the porter as for the stranger knocking at the gate. Christians are bound by our baptismal covenant to seek and serve Christ in all persons, loving our neighbors as ourselves. Giving thanks to God for every person who shows up at the door is a daily practice of exactly that. The discipline of thanking God for those who show up at the gate cultivates the habit of treating others as blessing. It cultivates the habit of expecting to meet Jesus in our neighbor.

Becoming the sort of people inclined to love others for Jesus' sake is one way we enact his Great Commission—"Go therefore and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, and teaching them to obey everything that I have commanded you." (Matthew 28:19-20) The mission of the Church (i.e., our mission) is to "restore all people to unity with God and each other in Christ," according to the Book of Common Prayer (page 855). Simply put, the mission of the Church is relationship, community, and communion, inviting people into unity and wholeness in the midst of a world of brokenness.

This is serious, and seriously joyful, business, this welcoming of God's children! As many of you learned at an Adult Forum in April, Holy Family is doing some strategic thinking and planning for our life together in the next few years. One of our top priorities is expanding our practices of intentional welcome and hospitality, especially of those who are newcomers. You will be hearing more about this in the next few months and the whole parish will be invited to participate. In the meantime, be thinking about Benedict's porter. What can we all do to make the people who come to the door feel as if we thanked God for them, even before we opened the gate? How can we continue to become people who are inclined to love for Jesus Christ's sake?

In Christ's peace, Sarah

In this issue:

Parish Notes / page 3

Christian Education / page 4 & 5

Outreach News / pages 6

House of Prayer / page 7

Summary of Vestry minutes

AT ITS REGULARLY SCHEDULED MEETING on **April 18, 2017**, the Vestry:

- Heard the Associate Rector's report including: Holy Week went smoothly; Attendance totals for all services from Palm Sunday through Easter Sunday reached about 1,500. Tyler Hambley will be leaving in May; she recently attended an IAF meeting (a group that is similar to Orange County Justice United) as part of the parish's efforts to expand its outreach beyond Chapel Hill, particularly since so many of our members live in Durham.
- Senior Warden's Report: Andrea is participating in the Strategic Planning Committee and is interested in the Newcomer's Ministry. Andrea also attended the March meeting of OCJU and her involvement within the parish recently included Pastoral Care Commission, Fellowship Commission, and Funeral Committee.
- Endowment Committee Resolution: The vestry reviewed the resolution, which appointed Bill Andersen and Annie Liptzin for a two-year term and Sefton Stevens (Chair) and Allison Zollcoffer for a three-year term. The appointments passed unanimously.
- Bylaws Report: The Associate Rector and Junior Warden, John Blunk, reviewed recent changes to the diocesan canons regarding vestry election, and they report the parish bylaws are in compliance and recommend they not be changed.
- Strategic Plan Report: Don Kerkow reported the Strategic Plan Committee is meeting monthly. Each of the plan's three primary goals (stewardship, newcomers, outreach) has a team which shares their progress at each meeting.

Commission Meetings in June:

Finance Commission, *Tuesday, June 13, 7:00 p.m., Conference Room*

Outreach Commission, *Wednesday, June 14, 7:00 p.m., Library*

Vestry, *Tuesday, June 20, 7:00 p.m., Conference Room*

MEET OUR NEW SEMINARIAN: Julia Powers has recently joined the Holy Family team as our newest seminary intern. She just completed her first year of the M.Div. program at Duke Divinity School. Prior to coming to Duke, Julia completed her B.A. in English with a creative writing concentration from The College of William & Mary in 2013 and then spent 3 years in Dallas, TX, where she worked in nonprofit development and served at the Episcopal Church of the Incarnation. Here at Holy Family, she looks forward to serving in the altar party on Sundays, working with particular ministries such as the young adults ministry and newcomer ministry, and joining in the life of the parish as much as possible. For fun, Julia enjoys writing (especially on her blog at www.juliapowersblog.com), reading, mental health advocacy, good conversation, and getting to know the Triangle. Be sure to say hello!

Prayer Shawl Ministry - A Close Knit Group!

The prayer shawl ministry began in January of this year and has met four times in the Gallery classroom. We meet the first Wednesday morning of each month for two hours, where we knit and enjoy fellowship. As to date, we have donated eight prayer shawls that were all very well received. We are always happy to have new members, whether you are new at knitting, experienced or want to learn. If you know of anyone that would enjoy a shawl because of illness, death in the family, or any other worthy reason, we would be happy to consider a gift. If you have questions concerning our group, please address them to Patti Bischoff at pat-tib@bex.net or Lisette Bolduc at embrnc@gmail.com.

Nursery Volunteers needed for summer

We've been blessed with an increase in babies and fortunate to have had two functioning nurseries--one for babies and one for toddlers--over the past year! As we come up on the summer, several staff leaving for vacation or leaving our employment. Hiring new staff takes time. While we are diligently working to re-staff our nursery, we hope to find several members of the congregation who can take turns in the nursery during the 10:00 a.m. liturgy on Sundays during the summer. Helpers must be over the age of 18 and must pass a background check. Please contact Angela Nelson (anelson@chfnc.net) for more information and thank you!



Tongues O'Fire Softball Season Begins!

Another softball season is upon us. Holy Family's team, Tongues O'Fire, will once again be playing in the church softball league on Sundays in June, July, and August. All games will be played at Homestead Park in Chapel Hill. Come out and cheer the team to victory! Tongues O'Fire schedule:

June 4, 4:00 p.m., field 2, vs. Church of the Good Shepherd

June 11, 2:00 p.m., field 1, vs. United Church

June 18, 2:00 p.m., field 1, vs. Community Church

June 25, 4:00 p.m., field 2, vs. Union Grove Methodist

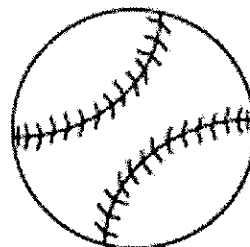
July 9, 4:00 p.m., field 1, vs. Orange Methodist

July 16, 4:00 p.m., field 2, vs. St. Thomas More

July 23, 4:00 p.m., field 1, vs. Community Church

July 30, 2:00 p.m., field 1, vs. St. Thomas More

August 6 & 13 - Rain make up days; August 19-20 - Tournament week end



HOLY FAMILY CHURCH SCHOOL

The Rev. Angela Nelson, Minister of Christian Education (anelson@chfnc.net)

Page 4

Vacation Church School | June 18-22, 2017 | Living Water

Water, water, everywhere! This year our Vacation Church School program will focus on the stories of Jesus and water: the start of his ministry in baptism, his water miracles, demonstration of love in washing the disciple's feet before his death, and appearances to the disciples by the sea following his resurrection. To the Samaritan woman at the well, Jesus says, "whoever drinks of the water I give them will never thirst again." What is this living water that Jesus offers? How does it shape our lives? This year we investigate these questions and more!

Who Participates?

- The whole church! Especially, ages 4 years – students entering sixth grade in the fall, parish youth and adults who serve as companions, station leaders, and shepherds, young ones under four in need of nursery care as their parents help out (provided for VCS leaders).

Over the next several weeks, registration will be available in the Parish Hall following the liturgy. You may also use your phone to scan the QR code on the right, or use the link on Holy Family's Facebook Bulletin Board. Please register your child(ren) as soon as possible so we can have an accurate participant count as we order materials and t-shirts, and recruit adults to journey with your child(ren). Check out our schedule below to find out more about how our time together will be structured!



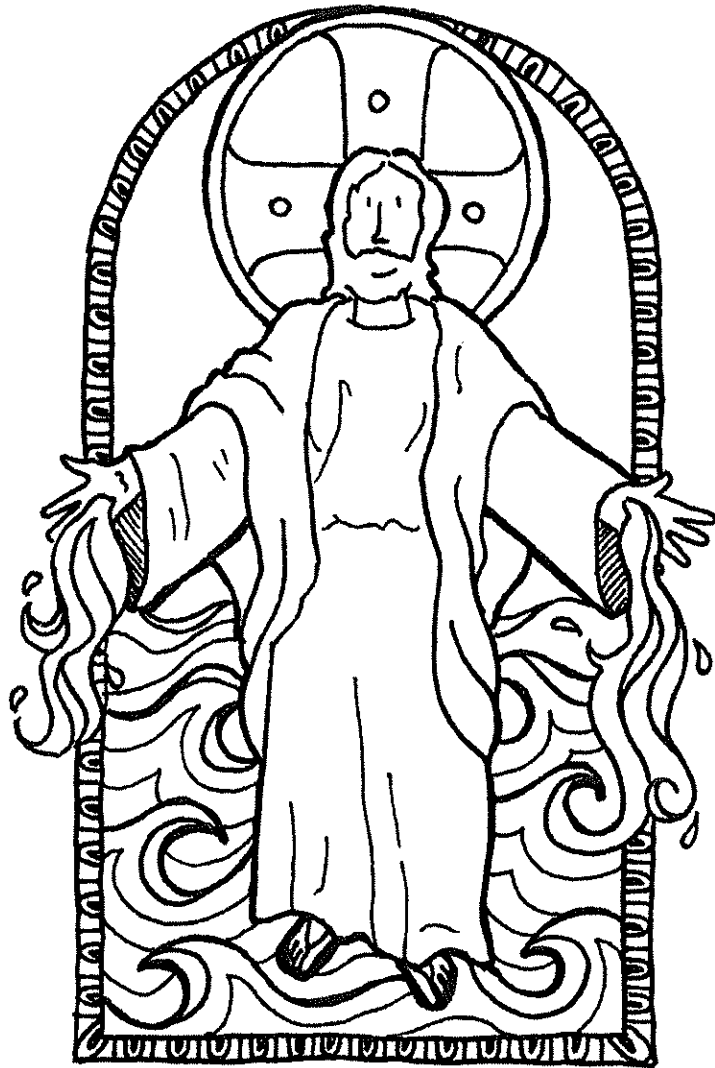
VCS Adult Participant Training

All adults participating in Vacation Church School as shepherds, station leaders, etc. are asked to attend a training session during the Fellowship time on June 11th. You will receive information about Safe Church Practices and VCS themes and lessons. Students are invited to join a group of adults downstairs in the Commons for a VCS Sneak Peek (information to follow). Contact Angela for more information (anelson@chfnc.net).

Schedule for VCS 2017: Living Water

Sunday—Wednesday		Locations
5:20-5:45	Dinner (Family-style)	Parish Hall
5:45-5:50	Programming Begins	Parish Hall
5:50-6:10	Story	Parish Hall
6:10-6:15	<i>Transition</i>	
6:15-6:40	Craft or Game	Commons (Craft) Garden (Games)
6:45-7:05	Snack and Small Group	Gallery, porch, or gallery classroom
7:05-7:10	<i>Transition</i>	
7:10-7:30	Music/Pick up for younger children	Nave
7:30-8:00	VCS Continues for children 1 st grade and older	Commons (Art) Choir room (Choir)
Thursday		
6-6:40	Closing Eucharist	Nave
6:45	Feast	Parish Hall

Please note: Pick up for younger children is optional. You do not **need** to pick up your children early.

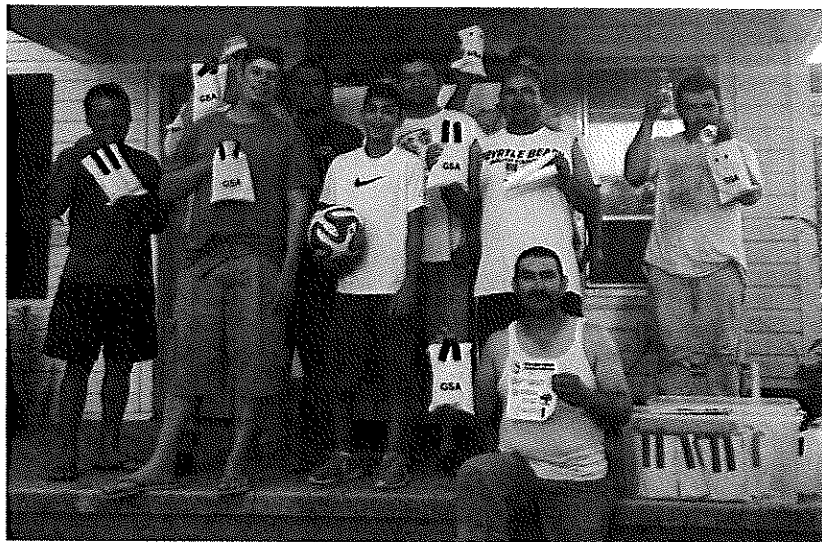


Living Water
Holy Family VCS 2017

WATER IN THE FIELDS

“The water is on the edge of the field. Sometimes it takes us an hour and a half to get from one side of the field to the other and come back.” (*Farmworker interviewed by Juan Carabana of Episcopal Farmworker Ministry, July 2015.*)

The Episcopal Farmworker Ministry in eastern NC is partnering with Lyf Company to provide insulated canvas water carriers for NC farm workers to hook to their belts so they can drink water in the fields when they are thirsty instead of waiting until they reach the end of a crop line to use the group water jug. The carrier was born out of a product design class at NCSU last year and has been refined with input from farmworkers for wider distribution this year. EFWM has a campaign going to raise \$25,000 for 3,300 water carriers (\$7.50 each) through this summer. 1,000 of the water carriers will be distributed by the Ministry to farmworkers in H-2A camps in the Newton Grove area. The remainder will go to farmworkers elsewhere in North Carolina. CHF's Outreach Commission has designated \$225 to purchase 30 water carriers. Please read more about this campaign at the “Water in the Fields” link on the EFWM website and consider adding your donation: <https://episcopalfarmworkerministry.org/donate/>



Annual Haiti Scholarship Drive: June 11, 18, 25

June is the time we begin to raise money for the following academic year for our school in Molas, Haiti – L'École de Notre Dame. We need to raise at least \$29,000 each year to cover the operating expenses of the school. Proceeds from the annual drive, together with Holy Family's commitment through its Outreach budget, are the only source of support Père Wildaine has to educate the 300 kids at the school. His number one priority is paying the teachers. Each summer he also needs to buy curriculum and supplies and uniforms for the children.

- A teacher's salary at the school averages about \$75 per month
- It costs about \$2 per week to feed each of the kids in the school
- It costs about \$100 per year to educate each child (tuition, uniform and materials)

Please come by the table after the liturgies **June 11, 18, or 25** to look at pictures from the May trip to Molas and make a contribution. Or you can leave your check (made out to CHF with Memo: Haiti Scholarship) in the offering plate or the church office. Mesi anpil!

SAVE THE DATE

The Haiti Silent Auction is back – Sunday, Sept 24!

Be thinking about how you might contribute to this effort to raise funds toward building additional classrooms at the school in Molas to accommodate 7-9th graders. Look for more information soon!

My house shall be called a house of prayer for all nations.

—Mark 11:17

Your prayers are invited for the people of our parish and of all nations,
and for the extension and establishment of the kingdom of God.

Almighty and everliving God, ruler of all things in heaven and earth, hear our prayers for this parish family. Strengthen the faithful, arouse the careless, and restore the penitent. Grant us all things necessary for our common life, and bring us all to be of one heart and mind within your holy Church; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen

house of prayer

Intercessory Prayers on behalf of specific individuals or groups can be recorded in the notebook kept on a lectern in the Narthex. Intercessions are offered at Morning and Evening Prayer during the week. To have a prayer included in the parish prayer list, please call the church office: 919-942-3108.

The e-mail listserv is a means of inviting the community to join in praying for particular concerns or thanksgivings. To make a prayer request in this way, contact either the Rev. Clarke French (cfrench@chfnc.net) or the Rev. Sarah Ball-Damberg (sballdamberg@chfnc.net).

Confidential requests for prayer may be made directly to one of the clergy, or by asking members of the Prayer Team at the 10:00 a.m. Sunday service to pray with and for you.

This month, please pray for:

- **The victims** and perpetrators of violence, and the victims of war and natural disasters.
- **Those who lead the nation**, especially Donald Trump, our President, and Roy Cooper, our Governor. Please pray that they may serve justice, and promote equality and peace.
- **Those who risk their lives** in the service of their country, especially members of the armed forces and the diplomatic corps.
- **Our sick, homebound, and recovering**, especially Pegge Folger, Eleanore Dunn, Sylvia Woodgates, Dave Worster, Jim and Mary Iva Gray, Ann Edmonds, Bill Harrison, and S T Kimbrough.
- **Those who have died.**

- **Those expecting children**, especially Michelle Sroka and Angela Nelson.
- **Those in any need or trouble**, especially Billy Ray, Yahweh, and James in prison; Eddie on Death Row; the inmates and staff of Orange Correctional Center.
- **Our bishops:** The Most Rev. Justin Welby, Archbishop of Canterbury; The Most Rev. Michael B. Curry, Presiding Bishop; the Rev. Samuel Rodam, Bishop-elect of North Carolina; the Rt. Rev. Anne Hodges-Copple, Bishop Pro-Tem of North Carolina; the Rt. Rev. Peter Lee, Assisting Bishop.
- **Our seminaries**, especially the University of the South, Sewanee, and the Anglican Episcopal House of Studies at the Duke Divinity School.
- **Our mission partners:** Gyani Thapa in Nepal (Kirtipur Christian Fellowship), Catherine Piwang in Uganda (ChildReach Africa), and Karen Calani in Guatemala (Food for the Hungry).
- **L'École de Notre Dame** in Molas, Haiti – its students, teachers, and staff, and priest-in-charge Père Wildaine André.
- **The Augustine Literacy Project** students, tutors, staff, and board members.
- **Our clergy:** Clarke, Sarah, and Paula.
- **Our seminarian:** Julia.
- **The staff of our parish:** Tom, Celia, Gary, Angela, Julie, and Beth.

Family Affairs

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RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED

Comings and goings

*The Lord shall watch
over your going out
and your coming in,
from this time forth for
evermore.*

—Psalm 121:8

New Addresses:

Kathryn Wilson, 9 Clubview Court, Greensboro, NC 27410

New Email Addresses:

Amy Burtch - amyburtch@gmail.com

Kathy Williams - katwill58@gmail.com