

The Bell Tower

The Church of the Holy Innocents Newsletter

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February 2022

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Visit us on Facebook

FROM THE RECTOR

The Rev. Donald Lowery



Words about our Faith as we prepare for Bishop Sam's Visit

The most important event happening in February will a visitation by Bishop Sam Rodman. He will preach, confirm several children and celebrate Holy Communion. After the service, Bishop Sam will meet with the Vestry. Then I will take him out to lunch and send him on his way for an afternoon visit at St. John's North Henderson.

Our visitation by our bishop is an important event. "Episcopal" comes from the Greek word "Episcopos" which

means overseer and is the source for the English word "Bishop." The bishop is our chief pastor. He oversees the well being of both clergy and laity. It is the role of a bishop to continue the ministry of Jesus' first apostles/disciples. They bore witness to the actions and teachings of Our Lord and most especially to his Resurrection.

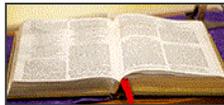
As Episcopalians we share with the Roman Catholics, the Eastern Orthodox, with some Lutherans and several other denominations a belief in "The Apostolic Succession." This is the teaching that there is an unbroken line of bishops, preserved in the aforementioned church bodies, that can be traced back to Jesus and his first disciples. As our link to the Apostolic Succession Bishop Sam by his teaching and by his pastoral oversight shows us a vital and living example of the work begun by our Savior and the Disciples.

The heart of the Apostolic Teaching preserved by Bishop Sam is available to all of us in several sources. First and foremost is the Bible. The New Testament in particular is the record of the work of Jesus and the power of the Holy Spirit in the early church. The Old Testament, the Hebrew Scriptures is not to be discounted. In these holy words, we find the Bible as Jesus knew

From the Rector cont. pg. 2

it. It would be a generation before all the books that comprise the New Testament came into being and several centuries before the church made as final decision as to which books from the early Church to include. During this developmental period the four gospels and the letters of Paul quickly rose to the top as obvious sources of authority. All the while the Old Testament was the foundation for instruction in the faith.

The Creeds, that is the Apostles' Creed and the Nicene Creed, are valuable summaries of the faith. The Apostles' Creed began as a recitation of faith used at baptisms while the Nicene Creed was compiled in the days of the first Christian Roman Emperor, Constantine the Great, at the Council of Nicaea, to refute false teaching about Jesus and to define the faith. They remain ultimate summaries of what we believe the New Testament reveals about Jesus.



We look to the Book of Common Prayer as another statement of faith for Episcopalians, members of our mother church, The Church of England, and all the other churches she planted around the world. If you want to know what we believe, look to the Prayer Book. What we believe is found in the words we use in worship. For us, the Prayer Book is fundamental, superseded only by the Bible itself. †



PARISH NEWS...

Wednesday Services



The Rev. Donald Lowery

We will hold our usual Wednesday Services. As generally the case, the first Wednesday will be the Healing service. †

Lent is late this year

The Rev. Donald Lowery

Normally, one of the important announcements for February is Ash Wednesday and the beginning of Lent. This year, as happens from time to time, Lent begins in early March. Ash Wednesday will fall on March 2, 2022. More information about early Lent will follow in the next newsletter. †



Note from the Editor...

Marsha Nelson

MARCH NEWSLETTER DEADLINE

FEBRUARY 23RD

Please submit any newsletter items either to the church office or e-mail them to marleene125@gmail.com

There is a link to both current and past issues of our newsletter on the church website at www.churchoftheholynnocs.org

Altar Flower Chart

Frank Madigan & Tracy Madigan



The 2022 Altar Flowers sign up chart is located in the Tower. If you have a date you would like to have reserved for you, you can sign on the chart or email your date to either

Frank Madigan (fmadigan@mail.com) or

Tracy Madigan (tracymadigan@yahoo.com)

Thanks for helping us fill the dates so our beautiful Altar will not be without flowers or greens for our church services. †



*Betsy W. Seifert
President, ECW*

The ECW will not meet during the month of February but we hope to resume our monthly meetings as soon as possible. †



VESTRY NEWS ...



Senior Warden's Report

Our Vestry was unable to meet in January due to several scheduling issues and inclement weather. We had planned to hold our annual Vestry Retreat in January. The Retreat is a time for us to identify and prioritize our Parish needs and set goals and plans for the year ahead. Many of you have reached out to us with concerns, ideas and projects for 2022. Thank you! We will be addressing each of your suggestions at the Retreat (now planned for February) and following through on implementation. Please continue to contact Vestry members and let us know your thoughts.

I received exciting news from Tommy Roberson that our video streaming service is nearing completion. We should be up and running by mid-February! Though it would have been nice to have on the Sundays we cancelled services in January because of the snow, soon we will be able to “attend” service from the comfort of our homes should COVID-19 or snowy weather prevent us from attending in person. Many thanks to Tommy for seeing this project through to fruition!

The Church Finance Committee met in early January with several recommendations for the Treasurer and Vestry. The Vestry Executive Committee was able to meet and approve their recommendations as well as those of the Treasurer. The Executive Committee also accepted the Treasurer's year-end report. This allowed him to close out the books for 2021 and set up our operating budget (and pay bills) for 2022. Thank you Bob Nelson for continuing to be our Treasurer and the great job you do. Thank you Donald Seifert for continuing to write the checks and pay our bills as our Assistant Treasurer. Both Bob and Donald donate their time and expertise to keep Holy Innocents on a sound fiscal footing.

We are looking forward to Bishop Sam visiting Holy Innocents in February. He will be meeting with the Vestry. We hope to get COVID-19 updates and Diocesan news as well as express our concerns and needs for Holy Innocents. Please let us know if you have items you wish us to bring up with him.†



Please stay safe, healthy and WARM!

Tracy Madigan
Senior Warden

(Photo courtesy of Episcopal Diocese of NC)

Treasurer's Report

Bob Nelson, Treasurer

1/11/2022

Church Of The Holy Innocents Revenue and Expense Summary Year-to-date, Through December 2021

Accounts	MTD Actual (This Year)	MTD Budget (This Year)	YTD Actual (This Year)	YTD Budget (This Year)
Revenues				
Pledged Income	\$16,628.66	\$20,000.00	\$166,840.02	\$180,000.00
Other Income	\$260.96	\$250.00	\$1,898.75	\$2,600.00
Total Revenues	<u>\$16,889.62</u>	<u>\$20,250.00</u>	<u>\$168,738.77</u>	<u>\$182,600.00</u>
Expenses				
Compensation				
Salaries	(\$5,620.32)	\$2,700.00	\$26,300.00	\$31,300.00
Employee Expenses				
Rector's Expenses	\$1,120.35	\$900.00	\$9,674.88	\$11,500.00
Other Employee Expenses	\$3,670.44	\$3,700.00	\$49,327.03	\$39,400.00
Total Employee Expenses	<u>\$4,790.79</u>	<u>\$4,600.00</u>	<u>\$59,001.91</u>	<u>\$50,900.00</u>
Total Compensation	<u>(\$829.53)</u>	<u>\$7,300.00</u>	<u>\$85,301.91</u>	<u>\$82,200.00</u>
Administrative				
Supplies	\$66.39	\$200.00	\$1,949.21	\$2,100.00
Preschool Income/Expense	(\$2,360.75)	\$1,250.00	\$675.99	\$14,800.00
General Insurance	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$10,452.00	\$12,000.00
Other Administrative Expenses	\$144.00	\$100.00	\$7.51	\$700.00
Total Administrative	<u>(\$2,150.36)</u>	<u>\$1,550.00</u>	<u>\$13,084.71</u>	<u>\$29,600.00</u>
Utilities	\$1,620.45	\$1,700.00	\$19,540.56	\$19,600.00
Maintenance	(\$8,662.00)	\$1,500.00	\$18,402.13	\$18,000.00
Parish Life	\$582.58	\$300.00	\$926.46	\$2,700.00
Diocesan & Seminary Support	\$2,538.00	\$2,500.00	\$30,511.00	\$30,500.00
Outreach	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
Total Expenses	<u>(\$6,900.86)</u>	<u>\$14,850.00</u>	<u>\$167,766.77</u>	<u>\$182,600.00</u>
Net Total	\$23,790.48	\$5,400.00	\$972.00	\$0.00



FYI: Amazon reports that \$815.13 total funds have been generated for our church via Amazon Smile through the end of 2021.

Shopping with Amazon Smile definitely benefits us both at home and church !!

-MNelson

Amazon Smile is a branch of the regular Amazon.com site, except all of the purchases that are made through smile.amazon.com will automatically donate 1/2% of the purchase (most everything is eligible) to a charity of your choosing. We are asking parishioners to consider making Holy Innocents that charity. Below is a link that will take you to the Amazon Smile site, and it should ask you to confirm that you wish to support Holy Innocents as your Smile charity. It's an easy way to add to your contribution without additional expense. †

Direct charity link: <https://smile.amazon.com/ch/56-0554227>



For questions or help, visit <http://smile.amazon.com/about>

* A JAR OF *
**Love and
 Appreciation**



Sometimes we forget to show love and appreciation to people who are closest to us. Use this fun craft to let everyone in your family know how much you care.

What you need:

- Plastic jar with lid
- Heart-shaped foam pieces
- Heart-shaped stickers
- Glue
- Construction paper
- Scissors
- Pencil or crayons

What you do:

1. Decorate the jar and lid with heart-shaped foam pieces and stickers.
2. Cut out 2" or 3" heart shapes from the construction paper.
3. On each paper heart, write what you appreciate and love about your family and each member. Have all family members do this, too.
4. Place the heart messages inside the jar. Fold them in half, if necessary.
5. On each day in February, pull out one heart and read the message aloud to the family.
6. Notice the changes in your family when everyone feels loved and appreciated!



**Valentine's
 Day**



Just for KIDS

Our first love

In Deuteronomy 10:12 (NIV), Israel is asked a question that's also for us to answer: "What does the LORD your God ask of you?"

To find the answer, write the words from the puzzle pieces on the matching shapes in the completed heart.

... your heart and with all your soul ..."

Answer: " ... fear the LORD ... to walk in all his ways, to love him, to serve the LORD your God with all ..."

SPOT-
LIGHT
ON...



Birthdays



Bo Cheatham.....2/03
 Tim Seitzer, Sr.....2/04
 Richard Davis, V.....2/04
 Wilhelmina Scott Ratliff2/04
 Beau Burnette2/04
 Berkeley Ellis..... 2/08
 Barbara Foster.....2/12
 Lucy Gray.....2/15
 Garrett Powell.....2/19
 Uriah Ford.....2/21
 Christopher Catlett2/23
 Allen Bean2/27

Anniversaries



Mariana & Richard Davis.....2/03

Remember In Your Prayers

Pray for Healing and Comfort:

**Cynthia Shaw
 Mary Shearin
 Bill Mast
 Peggy Mast
 Veneal Williams
 Rose Flannagan
 Johanna Robinson
 Margaret Williamson**



Special Dates

• Boy Scout Sunday
 February 6, 2022



• Valentine's Day
 February 14, 2022



• Presidents Day
 February 21, 2022



• Transfiguration Sunday
 February 27, 2022



Altar Flowers

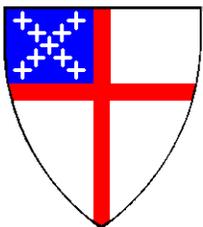
Blanton & Ruth Hartness2/06
 Nick Long2/13
 TBD..... 2/20
 TBD2/27

FEBRUARY SERVING SCHEDULE

FEB	ACOLYTES	USHERS	LAYREADER/ CHALICE BEARER	ALTAR GUILD
6	Jack & Kaitlyn Paynter	Maurice Floyd Pat Olmert D.Boyd Kimball	8:00am—Bob Nelson 10:30am—Porter Shaw	Mariana Davis
13	Jack & Kaitlyn Paynter	Maurice Floyd Pat Olmert D.Boyd Kimball	8:00am—Tracy Madigan 10:30am—Richard Davis	Anne Almand
20	Beau & Chap Burnette	Maurice Floyd Pat Olmert D.Boyd Kimball	8:00am—Greg Taylor 10:30am—Caroline Burnette	Anne Almand
27	Beau & Chap Burnette	Maurice Floyd Pat Olmert D.Boyd Kimball	8:00am—Rix Edwards 10:30am—Linda Shaw	Shirley Young



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



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THE CHURCH OF THE HOLY INNOCENTS
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The Church of the Holy Innocents



**All are welcome to join us as
we joyfully greet each person present at our worship.
May our love and respect for one another be
steady and true as we strive to follow Christ our Lord.**