

Christ Episcopal Church

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Mission Statement:

*This mission of Christ Episcopal Church is to...Love the unlovable; Help the helpless; Inspire the discouraged;
Be a family to those who have none; Be the right hand of God in the world.*

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Fr. Jim's Journal:

Dear Sisters and Brothers in Christ,

I hope you and your family had a wonderful and relaxing summer! Our family's was not the usual turn of events—with my wife Sandy having knee replacement surgery on June 22nd, our summer was spent in a “recuperation” mode! I'm glad to tell you that Sandy is making some great progress and is walking (and climbing steps!) with the aid of a cane. This was a long ordeal for her, but thankfully she's on the road to a full recovery. Thank you for your kindness and understanding, as I was out of the office at times taking care of my wife. (Please see Sandy's note in this newsletter.)

Sandy's mother, Josie Pulvino, had an aneurism in her brain that burst; normally this would have resulted in death, but because she was visiting Sandy's sister in Buffalo, NY—and near one of the finest brain treatment hospitals in the country—Josie's life has been spared. Unfortunately, her road to recovery, including speech and motor skill rehabilitation, will take a lot longer than Sandy's knee recuperation. Please continue to keep Josie and her husband, Charles Pulvino, in your thoughts and prayers.

This Sunday, September 7th at 9:30 a.m. we will have a special parish meeting in our church hall; biscuits, juice and coffee will be available. We will go over the plans for a visitor-friendly entrance to our church offices (after a period of listening to positive alternatives). We will also share some news with you regarding the renovation of some of the rooms on the second floor of our parish hall, and some related AC/heating concerns. Please plan on attending this meeting and sharing your input with the rest of us!

Please note that whenever we meet as members of our parish, in all things we are called by God to: “love the unlovable, help the helpless; inspire the discouraged; be a family to those who have none; [and] be the right hand of God in the world.”

Peace to you and yours, in Christ,
Fr. Jim Bernacki+

Just for your Information

The Group Homes for the Autistic will be using our facilities for training events for the following dates:

Upstairs Classroom

Wed., Sept. 10 9 am-12 Noon

Parish Hall

Thur., Sept. 11 10 am-2:00 pm

Mon., Sept. 22 9:30 am-11:30 am

Tues., Sept. 23 10 am – 5 pm

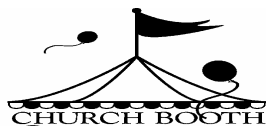
Wed., Sept. 24 10 am – 5 pm

CONGRATULATIONS!

Congratulations to **Hamilton Deese, son of Terry & Lisa Deese**, who was pictured along with his team mates (The Richfield Tigers Basketball team) and coach in the Stanly News and Press in the Aug. 28 issue! The Tigers won the RRMS Division I Regular Season Title with a perfect 14-0 record!

Also, congratulations to **Alley Deese, daughter of Terry & Lisa Deese, and Mary Margaret Brown, daughter of Chris & Amy Brown**, who were pictured along with their team mates (The Richfield Lady Tigers Basketball team) and coach in the Stanly News and Press in the Aug. 28 issue! The Lady Tigers won the RRMS Division Regular Season Title with a record of 11 wins and 1 loss!

God places all of us in a position to shine for Him! We all have a work to do, and Hamilton, Alley, & Mary Margaret have done a great job! We are very proud of you! Keep up the great work!



CHURCH BOOTH

Stanly County Fair

Mon.-Sat., Sept. 15-20

We will be serving food at the Fair Booth again this year. A sign-up sheet to provide food or to work at the fair booth is on the bulletin board in the Parish Hall. For more information, see the following:

Joe Burris at 704-984-6839

Dewey Preslar at 704-984-0352

Judy Ross at 704-982-8339

Becky McKeon at 704-983-3352

Environmental News

Thanks to Craig Kennedy, Linda Burris, and Bo Burris for their work in taking the cans for recycling. Thanks to Bo & Linda Burris for their work in putting up the replacement signs on the bins. We received \$143.40 for the cans in August. Thanks for your support!

COMING UP IN OCTOBER

Thur., Oct. 16, we are co-sponsoring a Mobile Food Pantry with Gleaning Mission Church in Oakboro. The pantry will be held at Gleaning Mission Church. We will need volunteers to help distribute the food at 10 am that day. If you can help, please call our church office, 704-982-1428.



BIRTHDAY PARTY

We will be hosting a birthday party on Sat., Sept. 13, at 2:00 pm at Britthaven for the residents there. There is a sign up sheet on the Parish Hall bulletin board for food needed, and we will be giving little gifts to them. Items needed for the party: (17) each - shampoo, body lotion, bath wash or soap, mouthwash, deodorant and lip balm. We have 13 women and 4 men to buy for.

(30) ice cream "Dixie cups"

(3) bags chips

(3) bags cheese curls

(4) 2-liter bottles diet soda
napkins - at least 30-50
balloons

We already have plates, cups, angel food cakes and gift bags & cards.

The Buffalo Creek Stringband has agreed to donate their talent on this date for our party. Please put this date on your calendars. See Lana Erickson to help (336) 461-3856.

SCCM'S EMPTY BOWLS

There are tickets available for \$15 for the Empty Bowls Project which will be Fri., Sept. 19, from 4-8 p.m., in the hall of Central United Methodist Church, Albemarle. This is for a hand-crafted pottery bowl for you to keep along with a bowl of soup, bread, dessert and a drink. The empty bowls serve as a reminder that there are "empty bowls" in the world. The hand-crafted bowls are being donated by area potters (some local and some from the Seagrove area). If you buy a ticket & can't attend, you can pick up your bowl at the SCCM. Proceeds go to both Community Tables. Tickets may be purchased at the SCCM or at the Albemarle Hallmark Christian Book Store.

LECTURN EDITION RCL & GOSPEL BOOK

Last year, our denomination began using the new Revised Common Lectionary (RCL) in all of our services. The Revised Common Lectionary Lecturn edition cost \$100, and the RCL Gospel Book, which is carried in procession at the services, cost \$150. If you would like to donate towards these books, just be sure to note on your envelope/check "for RCL Books" and make the check out to "Christ Church".

A Note of Thanks

Thank you, thank you, thank you! I would like to thank you for the many prayers, delicious dinners, cards, phone calls, and visits during my recuperation time with my knee surgery. I am well on my way to full health, and I appreciate the love and support my church family has given me. Once again, I have to let you know how blessed I am to be part of this church family.

Thank you again. I love you all!
P.S.-Thank you also for being so patient with Jim while he had to take care of me; he is a great care giver—another blessing from God!

--Sandy Bernacki

OUTREACH:

In July we took 10 lbs. of food to the SCCM on July 7th and 15 lbs. on July 14th! Thanks for your generous donations! In September, the SCCM is asking for rice and macaroni & cheese. Thank you, in advance!



SCCM HELPER

September: Lori Kirkingburg

VOLUNTEERS NEEDED

We are in need of volunteers for our English as a Second language program, 5:30-7:30 p.m., Mondays and Thursdays beginning Sept. 15, and is continuing weekly through Dec. 11 (with Oct. 6 & Nov. 27, being holidays). If you can help either day as a team leader/older youth supervisor, or nursery volunteer, please contact the church office or Linda Burris (704) 982-1323.



A NURSERY VOLUNTEER IS NEEDED ON OCT. 26 & JAN. 4, 10:30 A.M. CALL THE CHURCH OFFICE (704) 982-1428 TO HELP.

COMMUNITY TABLE I & II SOUP KITCHEN SCHEDULE:

Albemarle: None for rest of 2008
Norwood: Nov. 1



Our Deepest Sympathy

Our deepest sympathy and thoughts and prayers are extended to the family of **Nancy Beattie** who passed away on Tue., July 29. The funeral was held in the church on Fri., Aug. 1. Condolences may be sent to her long-time friend Hubert Drye, at 612 Brown Ave., Albemarle, NC 28001, or to her daughter Kelly Herrin, son-in-law Chris, and grandson Christopher, at The Herrin Family, 17221 Meadow Creek Church Rd., Locust, NC 28097. May Nancy and all the departed, through the mercy of God, rest in Christ's peace. Amen.

PRAYER CONCERNS

Parish Intercessions

Praying for the presence and action of God's holy and healing spirit is a vital part of the Christian community's work. We are praying for:

Those with pressing needs:

Lew Scott (brother-in-law of Amy Ledbetter); Ada Lambert (per Jack & Elizabeth Bell); Sonia & family (per Fr. Jim); Elizabeth Holland (mother of Gene Hinson); Josie Pulvino (mother of Sandy Bernacki); Molly and Ed (per Paula Worth); Patricia Melton (per Katrenia Davis); Larry Burleson and Terry Campbell (per Susan Knowles); Joanne Christman; Scott Burris (son of Bo & Linda Burris); Billie Farris (mother-in-law of Neesie Farris); Donna; Shawn.

Those with ongoing needs:

(Unless requested, these names are removed monthly.) David Davis; Lenelle Davis White (daughter of David & Katrenia Davis); Phyllis Loflin-Klutz & family (co-worker of Renita Ritchie); Sandy Bernacki; Charlie Burris and Debbie Frick (friends of Dewey Preslar and Judy Ross); Thelma Gardner; Peggy Holt (mother of co-worker of Tom Lowe); Bob & Lillian Layton; Debby Melton (mother of Felicia Amick); Keith (per Roy Dominick); Charles Davis (brother of David Davis); Billie Ward (aunt of Robin Hughes); Tyra (sister of Kay Throneburg); Stan & Vivian (Miller) Pinion; Clyde Sawyer (father of Laura Lowder and Caroline Sawyer); Jim Irvin; John Stillwell (per Susan Knowles); Irene Snyder (mother of Gordon Knowles); Gene Brackens (grandfather of Felicia Amick); Dick & Sally Colwell; James Talbert (father of Alice Lewis); Coy Ritchie; John and Maggie Snuggs; Wayne & Betty Mabry (Clegg Mabry's parents); Tokiko Watanabe (mother of June Mabry); Marie Padgett (Poss Wilhelm's sister); Phil Huneycutt; Jimmy Crider (cousin of Katrenia Davis & nephew of Kate Mabry); Evelyn "Jan" Jaquinta; Chris Burris (son of Linda & Bo Burris); Poss Wilhelm; Sarah Boyd (Pieter

Scheer's mother-in-law); Dillon & Rose Harris; and Marianne Bumgarner-Davis.

Those who have departed: Charles Scott, Jr. (Rev. Ed Scott's brother). May Charles and all the departed rest in Christ's peace.

In the military service: Jeff Davis (grandson of Walter Davis) and Ryan Hinson (son of Tony & Denise Hinson). Pray also for all engaged in battle in world conflicts and for world peace.

SEPTEMBER

Mon. & Thur., Sept. 15, 18, 22, 25 & 29 5:30-7:30 pm *ESL*

Mondays, Sept. 8, 15, 22 & 29

Fr. Jim in conference in mornings

Tuesdays, Sept. 2, 9, 16, 23 & 30

5:30 pm Evening Prayer-Upstairs

Wed., Sept. 3, 10, 17 & 24

6:30 p.m. Holy Eucharist (in church)

7:15 pm Adult Choir Rehearsal

Thur., Sept. 4, 11, 18 & 25

6:30 am HE, Brkfst, & Bible Study

Fridays, Sept. 5, 12, 19 & 26

Fr. Jim's day off

Saturdays, Sept. 6, 13, 20 & 27

5 pm Holy Eucharist

Mon., Sept. 1, Labor Day

Church Office Closed

Wed., Sept. 3 & 17 9 am *Clergy*

Lectionary Bible Study in Conf Rm

Sun., Sept. 7 9:30 am *Parish*

Meeting, Loose Plate Offering & non-perishables go to SCCM

Tue., Sept. 9 4 pm *Adult Day Care Mtg.*

Sat., Sept. 13 8 am-12 Noon *Yard*

Sale, 2pm Brithaven Birthday Party

Mon.-Sat., Sept. 15-20 *We serve*

food at the Stanly Co. Fair Booth

Sun., Sept. 21 *Loose Plate Offering to Rector's Discretionary Fund*

Tue., Sept. 23 7 pm *Vestry Mtg., 7 pm Quilter's Guild*

Thur., Sept. 25 11 am *Fr. Jim at*

St. Luke's, Salisbury (clergy mtg.),

11:30 am Ladies Noon Out at Badin Inn (carpool=church parking lot 11:15)

Sat., Sept. 27 8:30 am *Men's Group*

From God's Word...

“So shall my word be that goes out from my mouth; it shall not return to me empty, but it shall accomplish that which I purpose, and succeed in the thing for which I sent it.”

—Isaiah 55:11 (NRSV)



Congratulations to Craig & Carol Kennedy on the birth of a new grandson!

David Alexander Mathis was born to the Kennedy's daughter & her husband, Dwight & Alicia, on Aug. 1.

Also, congratulations to Clif & Diane Robinson on the birth of a new granddaughter!

Anna Gabrielle Adcock was born to the Robinson's daughter & her husband, Gabe & Sherry Adcock, on July 10th.



Remember to pray a prayer of thanks to God for our nation, our freedom, and our jobs. Have a safe and happy Labor Day!

ALTAR FLOWERS...

There are 11 open Sundays for altar flowers, including all of September. Call the church office or come by the office to sign up for altar flowers for a Sunday. Donations are accepted.

FROM THE MAIL BAG...

Editor's Note: We received funds for our 2008 Lenten Offering (mite boxes during Lent), which we sent to the Millennium Development Goals Inspiration Fund at Episcopal Relief & Development. Below is a letter of thanks from ERD.

Received in July from Episcopal Relief & Development:

Dear Mr. Bernacki [and Congregation]:

Thank you for Christ Episcopal Church's generous contribution of \$276.04 to Episcopal Relief & Development (ERD). Your gift was received on Monday, May 19, 2008, designated for the MDG Inspiration Fund.

Millennium Development Goals [MDG], which aim to cut global poverty and disease in half by 2015, are a mission priority of the Episcopal Church. Your gift to the MDG Inspiration Fund is part of a special initiative undertaken by Episcopal Relief and Development (ERD), Jubilee Ministries and Executive Council. The goal of the fund is to raise \$3 million to fight malaria and support a broad range of health initiatives in Africa, Asia, Latin America, and the Caribbean.

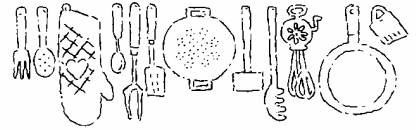
The MDG Inspiration Fund will allocate \$2 million to support ERD's malaria prevention program, NetsforLife in sub-Saharan Africa along with a potential pilot program in Asia. This program delivers long-lasting insecticide-treated nets, educates communities about malaria and its transmission and advocates for increased access to more effective drug therapies.

The fund will provide \$1 million for basic health initiatives, including malaria, community hygiene and sanitation education, clean water as well as maternal health programs in Latin America and the Caribbean and Asia.

Your contribution to the MDG Inspiration Fund is promoting good health and saving people from contracting deadly diseases such as malaria and HIV/AIDs.

By supporting the MDG Inspiration Fund and ERD's integrated health programs, you help achieve MDG's 1, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7 and 8.

Faithfully,
Robert W. Radtke, President, ERD



CHURCH KITCHEN NEWS...

We are very pleased and delighted to let everyone know that the new base kitchen cabinets were completed with new hardware placed on the old cabinets to match the new cabinets. If you can't tell which cabinets are new and which ones are old, the new ones are those on the left side next to the stove. These were done by Stanly Cabinet Co. who did an excellent job! And, these cabinets with a backsplash and new hardware for the old cabinets are paid in full! The total cost was \$1,764.52. The Jean Ritchie Memorial Fund along with 3 other very generous donors paid for this work without having to touch any money from our budget or Building Fund. Thank you to all who donated! Special thanks to Jane Scheer who cleaned the new cabinets, and special thanks for all the extra work done by Doris Stickney, who organizes the kitchen and manages our kitchen supplies. ***Praise God from whom all blessings flow!***

Answers to

Music in The Bible

The questions are on page 5 of this newsletter:

- | | |
|----------|-----------|
| 1. Harps | 3. Miriam |
| 2. Jubal | 4. David |

More From the Mail Bag...

Dear Pastor & Congregation,

The Stanly Community Christian Ministry gratefully acknowledges your donation of \$40 given in June.

We really appreciate your donation, as it will carry on the charitable work of this Ministry. No goods or services were received for this donation.

Serving together,

Barry Whitley, Exec. Dir., SCCM

**🎵 NOTE: CHOIR REHEARSAL
ADULT CHOIR REHEARSAL
RESUMES ON WED., SEPT. 3,
AT 7:15 PM. SEE YOU THERE!**

**YOUR CONTRIBUTIONS
IN ACTION...
VALUE OF
STANLY COMMUNITY
CHRISTIAN MINISTRY
SERVICES
Year to date
through June 2008**

Community Table I & II
Albemarle & Norwood

Meals served = 22,875
Cost per meal = \$1.35
Value = \$ 30,881.25

Assistance Center
Financial Assistance=\$ 67,909.66
Furniture Distribution= 2,185.00
Value of Food Distributed
Through Food Pantry = 145,878.00
Total Assistance Ctr.=\$ 215,972.66

Clothing Closet
Value Clothing given=\$ 73,663.64
Value Household items 33,952.00
Total Clothing Closet=\$107,615.64

Volunteer Hours Given
Community Tables
Hours=4,365.0 Value=\$43,650.00
Assistance Center
Hours=3,200.0 Value=\$31,995.00
Clothing Closet
Hours=1,970.0 Value=\$19,700.00
Total Vol. Hrs Value=\$ 95,345.00

Total Services Value=\$ 449,814.55

♥ **ON THE FUNNY SIDE** ♥

Two students were walking home. One child said to the other, "The rector said that all the answers we'd ever need are in the Bible. I guess he has never taken one of Mrs. Jones' geography tests."



A Note of Thanks...

We wish to thank the kind and caring person or persons who put the beautiful yellow daisies near Jim Harris' window in the church.

--Allison Poplin and Helen Harris

The Carpenter

(Author Unknown)

Submitted by Rita Burris

An elderly carpenter was ready to retire. He told his employer-contractor of his plans to leave the house-building business and live a more leisurely life with his wife, enjoying his extended family.

The contractor was sorry to see his good worker go and asked if he could build just one more house as a personal favor. The carpenter said yes, but in time it was easy to see that his heart was not in his work. He resorted to shoddy workmanship and used inferior materials.

When the carpenter finished his work the employer came to inspect the house, he handed the front-door key to the carpenter. "This is your house," he said, "my gift to you."

The carpenter was shocked! What a shame! If he had only known he was building his own house, he would have done it all so differently.

So it is with us. We build our lives, a day at a time, often putting less than our best into the building. Then with a shock, we realize we have to live in the house we have built. Your attitudes and the choices you make today, build the "house" you live in tomorrow.

Build wisely! Remember...work like you don't need the money. Love like you've never been hurt. Sing like nobody is listening. Dance like nobody is watching.

From God's Word...

"For you shall go out in joy, and be led back in peace; the mountains and the hills before you shall burst into song, and all the trees of the field shall clap their hands."

--Isaiah 55:12 (NRSV)

Music in The Bible

(Answers=page 4 of this newsletter)

1. What stringed instrument did John hear in his vision of the heavenly throne?

(Revelation 14:2)

2. Who is mentioned as the father of those who play the harp and organ?

(Genesis 4:21)

3. What prophetess played a tambourine and led the women of Israel in a song of victory after crossing the Red Sea?

(Exodus 15:20-21)

4. What King of Israel had 4,000 musicians who praised the Lord with instruments the king made?

(I Chronicles 23:2-5)

"Razzle-dazzle" Churches

(This article was referenced in a sermon of Fr. Jim's recently.)

In response to "Spiritual special effects": I am so glad that church leaders are beginning to understand that my religion can't be anything like my stuffy old Grandfather's.

On Sunday he would put on his one suit, bought at great sacrifice, and enter the sanctuary with a whispered "Be still and know that I am God."

He would never understand the tough decisions I have to make each Sunday in this day of "Church in the world and of the world." Should I attend Soft Rock Church, Hard Rock Church, Techno Church, Wrestling Church, Hip Hop Church, or High Tech Razzle Dazzle Church? For Grandpa, worship was something that inspired a sense of awe and reverence and was often done quietly, thoughtfully and humbly. Worship was about, for, and directed to God.

These new churches give ME more energy. They keep ME coming; they keep ME from falling asleep. These new churches understand what Grandpa never got. Worship is supposed to be about ME. In fact let's all just worship ME. And please keep in mind that I am easily bored, and if this Sunday's "Razzle" doesn't "Dazzle," I'll find some church that can pander to and worship ME more.

--Harold McKinney, Boone

PRC NEWS

The Pregnancy Resource Center needs summer clothes for boys, sizes 12 months-2T. Also, volunteers are needed to answer phones, greet clients & straighten up around the Center on Wed. and Thur.

As a result of their April fund raising banquet, the PRC was able to bring on board a Director of Hispanic Ministries, Rocio Little. Many lives were touched in April:

Pregnancy Tests	8
Hope's Closet (maternity wear & baby clothes distributed)	314
Parenting Class attendees	21
Counseling Appointments	3
Total Contacts	346

Here's the PRC's wish list: Diapers—all sizes, but they use a lot of 4's and 5's, postage stamps, baby wipe-shampoo-wash-lotion-powder, car seats—all stages, baby formula and baby food, children's clothes newborn up to 4T, baby cribs and bedding, strollers and high chairs.

The PRC's Annual Walk for Life is scheduled for Saturday, Oct. 18.

A Note of Thanks...

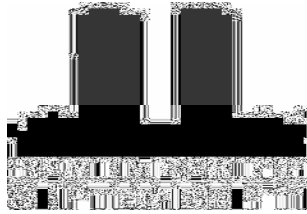
Dear Fr. Jim and Christ Church Family,

The Prayer Group of All Saints' Episcopal Church, Concord, thanks you for your generosity—allowing for the use of eight of your tables for a Southern Barbeque that we held at our house, July 17th, for our “goddaughter” & her fiancé & their families. Shelley is marrying Huang Ruo who is Chinese. His family—10 members—were here from China and were most interested in sampling “real” Southern barbeque! It was a delightful evening that your willingness made possible.

Please accept this small token of appreciation [a financial gift]. Seeing as Huang Ruo is a notable composer, we hope you will consider using it to advance your music and worship.

May God bless you richly & may your witness shine brightly in Albemarle and beyond.

Lovingly,
Joyce Butler



Hearts and Minds

“Hearts and minds.” That phrase keeps echoing through my head, especially in the years since September 11, 2001. “Hearts and minds.” In 2005 investigators were trying to piece together plans that led to devastating explosions in the London Underground and on a London bus. Other terrorist acts spur governments in their security development and their military strategies. But in a free society, there will always be risks as long as hearts and minds are convinced that hatred and indiscriminate destruction of average citizens is a good thing. The battle that counts in the war on terror is won in hearts and minds of people.

Though we in semi-rural Pennsylvania can have some impact on the hearts and minds of people half a world away, such impact is indirect and limited by our lack of connection. We can learn more and form connections, of course. Our outreach ministries form some contacts around the world, and we will hold a study and discussion about Islam. But our relationship with terrorists or their potential recruits is limited.

Violence, however, is not the sole purview of terrorists, nor do only young Muslim men feel suicide-provoking despair. Our own neighborhoods—our own families—are the scenes for violence. Our own teenagers are targets for depression and loss of hope. Our own relationships can be fraught with prejudice of others, even when ethnicity or gender or age are not at issue. Our own daily lives offer us opportunities to positively affect the hearts and minds of others and of ourselves. This is where a great

difference starts. “Hearts and minds.”

St. Paul, in his letter to the Romans, calls us to be “transformed by the renewing of our minds.” The Christian life involves a daily walk with God in which God's love and justice transforms who we are and how we relate to others. God's love for us stands in great contrast with the crass, self-oriented attitudes so often found around us (and sometimes in us). The more each of us is in touch with God's indiscriminate and sacrificial love for us imperfect people, the weaker the forces of darkness become. The more we know the joy of God's grace, the more passionate we can become in presenting this positive alternative to others, seeing the transformative force of God's love in the world.

We, as Christians, can seek to build up, rather than tear down, to draw together rather than separate, to reach out rather than fearfully fall back. We can allow God's love and justice to bring conversion to our hearts and minds each day. We can allow God's love and justice to change hearts and minds of others through us—through our actions and indeed our courageous words of insight, challenge, encouragement, and truth. With Jesus' forgiveness, we can reach out to others—even to those who have hurt us—and bring reconciliation, hope, God's peace, and God's wholeness. God's love and justice is a powerful force in the hearts and minds of our world, a powerful force given lavishly to each of us to embody and to share. The powers of darkness and despair and terror cannot overcome these gifts, active in the Christian community and boldly brought to the hearts and minds of the world.

---The Rev. Thomas C. Pumphery, St. Mark's, Honey Brook, PA, Printed from “The Anglican Digest”, Vol. 48, No. 5, Eureka Springs, AR, 2006.

“Traces of Our Trade: Church and Slavery in NC”

This event is Sat., Sept. 6, 9:30 am-4:30 pm, at St. Matthew’s Church, Hillsborough, & is open to all members of the diocese and is intended to be of special interest to congregations founded during slavery and Jim Crow eras. To register, contact our church office 704-982-1428—registration forms available in Christ Church’s office. The cost is \$20 and includes lunch. For further information, call (336) 273-5770 or send an email to shelley.kappauf@episdionc.org.

FIRST ANNUAL COMMUNITY YARD SALE -- SAT., SEPT. 13

If you haven’t heard yet, we are having a yard sale at our church parking lot on Sat., Sept. 13, from 8 a.m. until 12 Noon. The parking lot spaces will be rented for \$10 each & Gene Hinson will come around to each space that day and collect the space rent. The rent will go to the Stanly Community Christian Ministry. However, the profit from the items you sell will be yours to keep! We are inviting the entire community to come out and sell their stuff as well. So, let Gene Hinson or Joanne Christman know soon if you want a space. You will be responsible for setting up your own tables and cleaning up your space after the sale is over.

HOW YOU SPENT IT

(Author Unknown)

Source: *The Anglican Digest*

If God granted you 70 years of life, you would spend:

24 years sleeping

14 years working

8 years in amusement

6 years at the dinner table

5 years in transportation

3 years reading

3 years watching television

If you went to church every

Sunday and prayed 5 minutes

every morning and night, you

would be giving God five months

of your life. **5 mos. out of 70 yrs.?**

What Does It Take to Have a First Class Sunday School?

Source: *The Anglican Digest*

1. **It takes parents** whose attitude is supportive, positive, enthusiastic, cooperative. With such, we are more than half-way home. Without it, the finest teachers and materials are worthless, because the children won’t be there. An attitude which is casual about attendance and negative about most aspects of the program will only produce children who are skeptical and tentative in their attitude and commitment, even if they do manage to come.

2. **It takes parents** who are willing to participate in the adult education program. Their participation and example says to the children that the two people they love and respect the most do not consider themselves too old to learn, too old to grow. Also, it is just possible that through adult education, parents may come to learn how to deal more effectively with the needs of their children. Parents are not only the child’s first teachers; they should be his best teachers.

3. **It takes parents** and children worshipping together as a family. Worship is never an optional part of the Sunday morning program. In fact, any educational program which ignores, downgrades, or is used as a substitute for participation in liturgy is hardly worthy of the name “Christian.” The Eucharist is the chief and central continuing act of Christians, one which creates and renews us individually as a community.

4. **It takes people** who are willing to give of themselves as teachers. Teachers, not curriculum materials or visual aids, are at the heart of the undertaking and our primary need. Christian education will be just about as good as people want it to be.

NEEDED:

HOMES OF HOPE MENTORS

We are looking for mentors or mentor families to support the program’s participants while they are living in the transitional housing that is provided by Homes of Hope for up to six months. All it takes is a genuine desire to make a difference in someone’s life and some time each week to make contact with the client.

We have three new residents who will soon be moving into our homes, and they need mentors to help provide emotional support and encouragement as they strive to become self-sufficient. Two of the clients are men who are in their 40’s, and both have struggled with substance abuse in the past. They have both been sober for more than a year and are committed to starting afresh. We also have a young woman who has a six-month old baby, and she has had financial difficulty in trying to make ends meet.

For more information, please contact Bobbie VanDusen, Phone 336-461-2629 or email her at bav@rtmc.net.

Rector Needed

(Reprinted from the church newsletter from St. Luke’s Church, Anchorage, KY (Fr. Joe’s church—friend of Fr. Jim—Source: *Presbyterian Outlook*)

Cold, uncaring church with long history of foibles, fights and feuds is seeking a myopic leader who is willing to take the guff, preach like Paul, administer like Peter and walk on water like “you know Who.” Must be willing to work for peanuts, deal with a secretary who originally worked for Moses, develop funding from a bunch of skinflints and be an enthusiastic worker. If we sound like your cup of tea, contact Brutally Honest Episcopal Church, 2 Doors Down from the Big Methodist Church, Sonora, MO.

Bread & Wine

Bread & Wine Articles DUE Sept. 16!

Christ Episcopal Church
Mail: PO Box 657
Albemarle, NC 28002

Time sensitive material

Mailed on September 3, 2008

*A parish of the Episcopal Diocese of North Carolina ,
The Episcopal Church of the United States of America (ECUSA),
and the Worldwide Anglican Communion*

Rector – The Rev. Dr. James Bernacki
Senior Warden – Russ Hollins
Jr. Warden – David Wilhelm
Treasurer – Archie Chase
Vestry Clerk – Allison Poplin
Parish & Financial Sec’y – Carol Bowman
Organist & Choir – Jane Scheer
Acolytes – Cindy Moore
Altar Guild – Pat Bryfonski
Flower Guild – Beth Chivington
Christian Ed.—Cindy Moore, Lisa Deese

Columbarium – Helen Harris, Allison Poplin
Coord. Of Relig. Formation – Lisa Deese
ECW – Shelia Chase, Pat Bryfonski, and Jane Scheer
Lawn Care – Craig Kennedy
Lay Eucharistic Ministers – David Cook
Lectors – Dr. Marianne Bumgarner-Davis
Men’s Group – Walter Davis
Nursery – Diane Robinson, Cindy Moore
Evangelism/Outreach –Lana Erickson, Matt Amick

Parish Life – Beth Olivieri, Michael Lowder
Pastoral Care –Walter Davis, Lisa Brandyberry
Buildings & Grounds-David Wilhelm
Stewardship & Finance- Russ Hollins, Archie Chase
Ushers – Wayne Davis
Worship – Tom Lowe, Matt Irvin
Youth – Nancy Deeck
Church Kitchen Coordinator – Doris Stickney
Parish Nursing – Becky McKeon, Felicia Amick

Happy Birthday!

The Parish Family of Christ Church
wishes the following parishioners a very
“Happy Birthday” in **September**:



September

1 Geoff Olivieri	12 Brent Allen	27 Frances Reaves
2 Wayne Davis	17 Jeff Irvin	27 Betty Manuel
4 Ralph Leister	20 Alma Breckenridge	27 Chip Manuel
6 Belle Huneycutt	23 Lori Kirkingburg	29 Anne Harwood
10 Dick Colwell	24 Julie Russell	
10 Amanda Efird	25 Judy Ross	
12 Alan Stickney	25 Janet Treadaway	

OUR HOUSE

This craft is a reminder of the blessing of your family and what you and your family should do for God.

What you need:

- 8 1/2" x 11" cardstock
- Markers or crayons
- A photograph of each person in your family that you can cut apart
- Scissors
- Glue stick
- A hanging picture frame that holds an 8 1/2" x 11" photo (optional)

What you do:

- Draw a colorful picture of the outside of your house. Remember to add a door and windows.
- Decide where you want each person's photo to go. Cut out a whole body (if you want someone to stand on the front porch, for example) or just cut out a face (if you want someone to be looking out a window).
- Use the glue stick to glue the cut-out photos onto your drawing.
- Write out Joshua 24:15b, NIV: "But as for me and my household, we will serve the LORD."
- To frame your picture, have an adult help you. If you don't have a frame, display your house on a refrigerator or bulletin board for everyone to see.



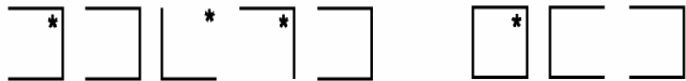
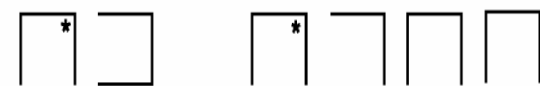
As for our family...

With school starting, schedules are getting busy again. Sometimes you might feel like you're going in too many directions and forgetting what's really important. Use the key below to remind you of where your family's real focus should always be.

	A	B	D	O*	N*	R*
KEY:	E	F	H	S*	T*	U*
	I	L	M	V*	W*	Y*



"B



JOSHUA 24:15B

Answer: "But as for me and my household, we will serve the LORD."

Works and Words of Your North Carolina Council of Churches

“Why Don’t All Those Immigrants Just Get Legal?”

By Sr. Attracta Kelly

(Reprinted from *Church Council Bulletin*, published by The NC Council of Churches, Vol. 66, No. 2, July 2008)

Contrary to what seems to be a common misperception, an immigrant can acquire legal status in the United States in only a limited number of ways. This article provides a very basic overview of the major avenues. Readers should use it as a general guide. Those seeking legal advice on a specific situation should contact a qualified attorney.

The most common way for an immigrant to obtain legal status is through an application filed by a **family member**. The Family Member category is, in turn, divided into two general areas:

1) A current United States Citizen (USC) may apply for his/her spouse, children (under 21), and parents. This is called the **Immediate Relative Category**. Such applicants can acquire legal status relatively quickly (usually in as little as one year).

2) The second most common way for an immigrant to obtain legal status is through the **Preference Category**. A USC may also apply for his or her *unmarried* sons and daughters (21 and over). Processing usually takes about six years (unless the petitioner is from Mexico or the Philippines, in which case it takes about 15 years). A USC may apply for *married* sons and daughters, but processing takes about eight years (18 years for petitioners from the Philippines and Mexico). A USC over 21 may apply for siblings with a waiting period of about 11 years (with Mexico, the waiting period is 14 and with the Philippines, it’s 22 years).

A Legal Permanent Resident (LPR) who has not yet become a naturalized citizen may apply for his or her spouse and children and for unmarried sons and daughters. The waiting periods to get legal status for applicants in this category range from six to 20 years, depending on the nature of the family relationship and the applicant’s country of origin.

It’s important to note that just because the spouse or parent has filed a petition for their family member in this **Preference Category**, it does not give the family member any immediate legal right to live in the United States. Under the law, the family member must wait until the designated number of years has expired.

A second path to legal status involves a petition filed by an **Employer** for a necessary skilled worker. This process must first be approved by the United States Department of Labor after the employer has established that there is no citizen or legal permanent resident worker available to fill the particular position.

A third way for an immigrant to gain Legal Permanent Resident status is to first obtain **refugee/asylum** status. To qualify for asylum one must *prove* that he or she was the victim of persecution in his or her home country under one of the five protected areas (race, religion, nationality, membership in a social group, or political opinion). An applicant must apply within the year one enters the US. It is a very time-consuming process because one has to document all allegations of persecution. It is always difficult to find such documentation. Often, attorneys try to get it through State Department Reports and other international news sources, in affidavits from country experts and from whatever sources we can find to show that this particular individual was targeted and would most likely be targeted if he/she returned to the home country.

Finally, immigration law also allows a limited number of persons in very specific categories to **self-petition**—that is to apply for legal status on their own behalf. This includes: 1) certain specified groups of Salvadorans and Guatemalans, 2) persons afforded protection under the Violence Against Women Act (VAWA), 3) a category known as “Special Immigrant Juveniles” (these are children who have been neglected, abused or abandoned by their parents), 4) victims of human trafficking, and 5) certain victims of other crimes.

Other than the ways mentioned in this article, it is currently almost impossible for an immigrant to attain legal status in the US. And as noted above, even for those who may be able to attain legal status, the waiting period can be measured in decades, not in months or years.

The North Carolina Justice Center’s Immigrant Legal Assistance Project helps a limited number of low-income immigrants with certain kinds of legal problems related to immigration law. To learn more about the kinds of cases the project is able to help with, visit www.ncjustice.org/content/index.php?pid=36.

Sr. Attracta Kelly is an attorney who specializes in immigration law. She directs the Immigrants Legal Assistance Project (ILAP) at the North Carolina Justice Center, a private, nonprofit, anti-poverty organization. Client intake for immigration law matters takes place on Tuesdays from 9 am to 5 pm only. They do not accept “walk-in” clients. To contact ILAP, call 1-888-251-2776 (toll free), (919) 856-2159, or (919) 856-2153. ILAP staff speak English and Spanish.