

November, 2011

Dreamers can be Leaders

In the past couple of months our "dream team" has gotten to work. They have gathered ideas about new ways to serve God at St. Luke's and about how our campus and buildings could better support both new and existing ministries. They are now in the process of looking at those ideas and deciding which ones to present to the vestry as priorities for our future financial planning (because significant changes to our campus will cost money). Keep that group in your prayers. A lot of the dreams that were suggested, though, would cost no money at all. Many dreams were about fresh ways to worship, welcome, and learn that would require only some leadership and creative energy.

Did I say, "only" leadership and creative energy? Only? That makes it sound easy. Raising up leaders can be actually more difficult than raising money. People have a lot of demands on their time and energy. Many of our St. Luke's are happy to help with a defined task for a limited span of time but find it hard to commit to leadership roles. That makes us all the more thankful that people are willing to plan the Every Member Canvas (including the celebration dinner on Nov. 5) or stand for election to the vestry (elections on Nov. 13) or learn how to coordinate some of our special outreach projects. It also makes us all the more understanding that some of our leaders want a break after years of service.

Jesus was adept at recruiting leaders (most of whom were unlikely candidates). On Nov. 20, we mark the end of the liturgical year with "Christ the King" Sunday. Christ is King, our past, present, and future leader. Yet, Jesus Christ is not the current chair of a ministry team or coordinator of the Christmas tree sale to benefit youth mission trips (see order form in

this newsletter). He exercised his leadership by empowering others to use their gifts, even though it required sacrifice. Jesus calls all of us to "follow" him, to take up our cross. At times, following means that some of us will have to lead.

All of us can take a lesson from Jesus' leadership example. Jesus rarely did anything by himself. Good leaders never go it alone. They share and delegate, encouraging others to participate (this is why your clergy leaders try to involve others as much as possible). Leaders must ask for help. Is a fear of asking for help behind the hesitancy to take on leadership roles? It is not the sacrifice of working that is so hard. It is often the sacrifice of asking others to do things. We feel vulnerable, especially because we might get rejected! It seems easier sometimes to do things alone, but God did not create us to be isolated. God wants us to work and dream together. There is a great saying that I try to remember: "By myself, I can't. Alone, God won't. Together, we can." As we enter into Advent this month and begin the waiting for Jesus at Christmas, we recall that our leader, our King, came to us first as a defenseless child. Even God asks for help, not because God needs help, but because God knows that when we help and allow ourselves to be helped we encounter God's love and healing power.

You will be hearing more from the Dream Team. In the meantime, keep sharing your dreams for St. Luke's and keep praying that God will call leaders and followers among us to take on some of the exciting and joyful work that God has for us. Maybe Christ the King is calling you.

The Rev. Joseph H. Hensley, Jr.



Greetings fellow St. Luke's congregants,

As the newsletter goes to press (10/21/11) we have recorded \$230,279 in pledges from ninety nine pledging units. We have a "need to do" budget goal of \$405,000, a "like to do" goal of \$417,000 and a "love to do goal" of \$429,000. Last year we had 167 pledging units. Our goal this year is to exceed the number of pledging units we had last year. Our campaign officially ends on November 5, 2011. Like any good campaign we are confident yet somewhat anxious that we'll make a strong run to the finish and meet at least our most modest goal. Thank you to everyone who has made a pledge. If you are still considering your pledge, thank you for serious and faithful deliberation. If you want to discuss any aspect of pledging, please contact Mike Henry, or any member of the clergy or vestry.

Now, beyond the numbers. As chair of the Every Member Canvass committee I have to say that I have been humbled and honored to work side by side with so many who give freely of their time, talent and treasure in the service of others. I thought I knew a lot about the many ministries at work at St. Luke's. I really didn't and I still have more to learn. It is truly inspiring to know that there are so many people dedicated to such varied and worthy causes.

Like many of my fellow parishioners, I lead a busy life replete with distractions, large and small, important and not so important. By giving to St. Luke's I know that I am nourishing ministries and other faithful activities whose participants are passionate about the people they serve and who will be good stewards of the resources they receive. With my busy life, I frankly might not get around to seeing to it that my time, talent and treasure were serving the greater good in at least some small way were it not for the "pipeline" that St. Luke's serves as to make sure that resources are used effectively and efficiently.

The term "leverage" is somewhat overused (and misused) in business.

However, on a positive note it refers to taking full advantage of available resources to get maximum results. That's what the power of shared giving of time, talent and treasure is all about. It's not about "keeping score." It's about everyone doing what they can do, large or small, to support each other and to support the greater good.

Again, I've been both honored and humbled to serve in this position. I thank every single person associated with St. Luke's for their contributions and dedication.

Mike Henry, Chair
2011 Every Member Canvass Campaign

Save the Date!
Saturday, November 5th, 2011
Every Member Canvass
Celebration at 5:30 p.m.
Johnson Hall
Food – heavy hors d'oeuvres
Sign up sheets in the Sprague Room

Baptisms on All Saints Sunday, November 6

On All Saints Sunday, November 6, we will be celebrating Baptism. If you or someone in your family was baptized at St. Luke's and have a baptism banner, please bring it with you that Sunday and plan to carry it during the processional hymn. (We will let the newly baptized have their own customary procession after the baptisms.) This is our fourth annual "Family reunion" of banners. Let's make it the biggest reunion yet. We have enough extra poles and bases for loads of banners.

If you or someone you know is interested in baptism, please contact a member of the clergy as soon as possible.

Adult Christian Formation

Sunday Adult Forums in November

(Adult Forum meets in the Conference Room of the Gray Building unless otherwise indicated from 9:20 until 10:15 a.m.)

November 6th, 13th and 20th *Who are the Ministers of the Church? All the baptized are the ministers of the church! And the writer of the Letter to the Hebrews makes the case for the priesthood of all believers. So if we are all ministers and all share in Christ's priesthood, why do we have deacons, priests and bishops?*

The first three Sundays in November we will take a look at lay and ordained ministries and the importance of each ministry to the well being of the whole body.

Sunday, the 6th – Lauren Winner will discuss the early stages of development of ordained ministry beginning with apostolic succession.

Sunday the 13th- Anne Hodges-Copple will discuss the later stages of development of the priesthood and the episcopate including a look at some of the controversies that have strained the bonds of mutual affection among the various branches of our Christian family tree.

Sunday, the 20th – Jan Lamb will discuss the diaconate and share a newly released video on about the reintroduction of the permanent diaconate in the Diocese of North Carolina. (It premiered at Clergy Conference and is excellent!)

Sunday, November 27th, *First Sunday in Advent*: Join your fellow parishioners for wreath making and other Advent activities in Johnson Hall. Look for the Advent Table of resources in the Sprague Room.

Bible Sunday is November 13

Each year, we give a Bible to children in 3rd grade on a Sunday (known as Proper 28) in November. The collect prayer for this Sunday asks God to help us to "read, mark, learn, and inwardly digest" Holy Scriptures. On November 13, we invite all St. Luke's to bring their Bibles to church for a special blessing. We still have some of the St. Luke's Bible bookmarks for those of you who did not get one last year. If you have a child in 3rd grade, please notify the church office so we can have enough Bibles, and make sure to come to church on the 13th.

Youth Activities in November

Sunday school for youth continues weekly at 9:20 a.m. in the Gray Building youth room. Using a curriculum designed for our congregation, our youth are learning how to see the connections within scripture and between the Bible and our world today. EYC youth group meets from 4-6 on Sunday afternoons, unless otherwise noted:

November 6 (begin the planning for our Feast of Lights service in January),
November 13 (an open discussion about sexuality and marriage),
November 20 (bowling with the St. Luke's 20's and 30's group).
No EYC on November 27 (keep "giving thanks" with your family).

Note that our youth will be the worship leaders on Youth Sunday, November 20 at the 10:30 service.

Parenting and faith discussion: All Saints Sunday, Nov. 6

Parents of all ages, especially young children, are invited to join Pastor Joe on All Saints Sunday for a "check-in" about how we manage our own spiritual growth as well as the spiritual growth and nurture of our children. When our children are baptized, we promise that we will help them grow "into the full stature of Christ." What does that look like in practice? Meet at 9:20 in the Gray Building conference room (which is conveniently next to the nursery).

Episcopal Church Women

The annual NC Diocesan ECW meeting on November 11 and 12 will take the place of the regular ECW meeting on November 16. It is not too late to register! Registration forms are in the Sprague Room, and you may register for both days or for only one. The theme of this year's conference is "I Love to Tell the Story". The program leader, Datsarda Whitley, is a gifted storyteller, author, and dramatist. She will give an exciting and informative presentation on how to tell the stories of the women of the church. Dinner tickets are no longer available, but all are welcome to the Eucharist on Friday at 5 p.m. Bishop Curry will be the celebrant, and Anne Hodges-Copple will preach. A special combined choir of the Durham Convocation will provide the music.

20's-30's Fellowship

Join the 20's-30's group for some fun and fellowship! Leigh and Wes Blalock are hosting a Thanksgiving Potluck dinner at their home on November 12th at 6 p.m. Leigh and Wes will provide the turkey; please join us and bring your favorite Thanksgiving side dish or dessert. If you'll be joining us, RSVP to Leigh at leighfblalock@gmail.com and let her know what you'll bring! Also, mark your calendars for a Christmas gathering the evening of December 16. To learn about the 20's-30's fellowship, visit <http://stlukesdurham.org/fellowship/20s30s.html>, follow us on Twitter @stlukesdurham20, or email Liz Takla (liztakla@gmail.com).

Youth Sunday November 20

Youth will serve this day as readers, ushers, acolytes, musicians, and more. Join us for this special "Christ the King" Sunday. If youth would like to be involved, please contact Joe Hensley.

Third Sunday Lunch

Come join the Third Sunday Lunch Group. Just show up in the Sprague Room after the 10:30 a.m. service and after a brief time of socializing, we will decide where to go and proceed to a local restaurant. Come join us on November 20.

Celebrate Carol Joyner on Sunday, November 20th!

Twenty years ago the providence of God brought Carol Joyner to St. Luke's as our nursery attendant. Carol has helped raise a generation of children here at St Luke's. Miss Carol, as she is known, is the first face of hospitality to babies and young children new to our church. She creates an environment of fun and security for our children which, of course, gives great comfort to parents. Over the years we have added to Carol's responsibilities. In addition to overseeing our childcare program for the very young, Carol also assists us with Sunday morning hospitality. She comes over Saturday to get things set for our two Sunday morning coffee hours and is then back very early Sunday morning to turn on the coffee and the lights, check the thermostats, unlock the doors... the list goes on and on. Carol always performs her duties in a calm, peace-filled manner. No early morning grumpiness from this faithful servant!

Since Carol has helped us raise our children and raise the bar of Sunday morning hospitality, this seems a good time to raise her up for appreciation. We will take some time during each coffee hour on Christ the King Sunday, November 20th, to lavish some praise upon Carol. Please join us.

St. Luke's Men's Fellowship

St. Luke's Men's Fellowship Breakfast will meet on the 3rd Thursday, November 17, at 7 a.m. in Johnson Hall. Bring food to share if you can. We will have informal conversation followed by a brief devotional and Bible reflection. All men welcome.

Amazing Faiths Dinners

Triangle Interfaith Alliance and Durham Congregations In Action invite us to participate in a wonderful evening of dinner and sharing with people of diverse faith traditions on Nov. 17 from 6:30-9:30 p.m. Groups gather in private homes to have a meal and share from their lives about faith, religious diversity, and common human values. For more info, go to www.interfaithalliance-nc.org or contact Nancy Huslage (nhuslage@gmail.com or 919.522.3405).

Benefit Concerts help local agencies

St. Luke's supports YO Durham and Housing for New Hope and depends on their services to help us in our ministry as well. YO Durham helps at-risk youth learn job skills and succeed academically. Housing for New Hope responds to homelessness and poverty in our community. YO Durham is sponsoring the Boney James (smooth jazz saxophonist) Concert at the Carolina Theater on Nov. 5. For tickets and info, contact Eric Olsen-Getty (919.688.2036 or ericolsongetty@gmail.com). Housing for New Hope is sponsoring the Murphey School Radio Show (in the tradition of Prairie Home Companion) on November 12 and 13. (www.murpheyschoolradio.net) There are posters advertising these events on bulletin boards at St. Luke's with more info as well. Enjoy some live music and support these important organizations.

Advent wreath making event for all ages

On Sunday, November 27, the first Sunday in Advent, we invite St. Luker's of all ages to come to Johnson Hall during the Christian formation hour (9:20-10:15) to make and decorate Advent wreaths. This year, we are doing away with the styrofoam rings and investing in some wooden rings which can be reused year after year. These rings along with the candles will be available at no charge, although donations will be accepted. Please bring evergreens which can be tucked into wire which will be wound around the rings. If you already have an Advent wreath at home, feel free to bring it. Our clergy will lead us in some Advent singing and instruction about ways to observe Advent at home.

Casting Our Nets

If you were asked to give a name to something that ends with the word "nets", what would you say? Just off the bat: fishing nets, soccer nets, basketball nets, volleyball nets, to name a few. Oh yes, Mosquito Nets! Notice that the first list has to do with being entertained and sometimes at a pretty hefty

price. What's the price for a good seat at a professional basketball game or a professional hockey game? There are many of us who indulge in and enjoy these events. So can we also indulge in the Gospel by giving just \$12.00 for one mosquito net?

The disciples were fishermen. But after they met Jesus, they no longer cast their nets for fish but for people. One might say that we are part of the catch! Let's cast our own nets for the sake of saving lives. Let's help the poor experience the love and mercy of God. I know that we will save lives, and perhaps souls as well. None of the sporting events mentioned above has a guaranteed outcome; on any given day, in any given arena, one team will lose. But chemically treated mosquito nets DO have a guarantee – one net is guaranteed to protect up to three people from the mosquitoes that carry malaria. One \$12 net is GUARANTEED to save up to three lives!

Let's cast our nets in Sub-Saharan Africa.

Each month we are moving closer to realizing our goal, and that's because of your commitment and contributions. At St. Luke's, we have so far purchased 188 nets, not quite 30% of our goal. Generous hearts have brought us this far, but we still need additional support. As you sit down at your Thanksgiving table this year, include in your blessings that you and your family do not need to sleep under mosquito nets in order to stay healthy..... and then consider buying a net for another family who desperately needs one. Nets make great gifts!

Fam Jam Concert to benefit

Nets for Life:

**Joe and Sam Hensley on
December 3**

Mark your calendars for a homegrown concert featuring our own Joe Hensley and his brother, Sam (who is a professional performer (www.samhensley.com)). The concert begins at 4 p.m. on Dec. 3 in Johnson Hall. All ages welcome. Donations accepted to benefit our Nets for Life malaria net campaign.

**Advent Quiet Day:
Saturday, December 3, 8:30-noon**

Mark your calendars for a morning of drawing close to God in the expectant season of Advent. Joe Hensley will guide us through some reflections and activities to help us slow down and open our hearts. Feel free to come for all or just part of the morning. This event is geared toward adults and interested youth, but the last hour will include activities appropriate for parents with children to do together. If you would like to request child care so that you can attend any or all of this day, please contact Joe Hensley.

Christmas pageant – save the date

Our annual “come as you are” Christmas pageant for children will take place at the 3:30 Christmas Eve service on Saturday, December 24. If you are interested in helping us pull this together, contact Suzanne Blankfard or Joe Hensley.

Belize Fundraising Dinner

We'll be kickin' it up a notch on November 19th in Johnson Hall, with a creole dinner to raise funds for the Belize mission trip. It'll be like Mardi Gras in the fall! \$12 gets you the best jambalaya this side of the Who Dat Nation! Sign up in the Sprague Room to reserve your seat.

The Rev. Joe Hensley in cyberspace

More and more people are using the internet to find information and community. In an attempt to use the positive impacts of the internet, Joe Hensley is now on facebook and twitter (@revjoehensley) to connect with people and share good news about faith and St. Luke's. Don't worry...Joe still likes to connect with people face to face! If you use these media, though, find Joe in cyberspace. All of us who use online social media can easily share information about St. Luke's with our networks. A short post about an

interesting sermon you heard (with a link to our website) or an event you're planning to attend is a quiet but potentially powerful witness to what God is up to in our lives and our parish.



**Order your Christmas Tree
from St. Luke's!**

St. Luke's is having a Christmas Tree Sale to support the EYC. The trees are Premium Frasier Firs from a lovely family farm in the Blue Ridge Mountains*.

Order the sized tree of your preference by November 25, and the tree will be at St. Luke's for pick-up on December 3. There is a box in the Sprague Room where you can submit your order form with the payment. If you have any questions, please contact Liz Takla at LizTakla@gmail.com or by phone at 919-358-1772.

*Our tree suppliers, John and Marty Rosser, are parishioners at Holy Trinity Episcopal Church in Greensboro (with a farm in southern VA) and old friends of the Rev. Joe Hensley. (www.rosserchristmastrees.com)

UTO Ingathering

The United Thank Offering began as a “way of connecting between giving thanks and giving money, united in sharing and praying”. The Women's Auxiliary to the Board of Missions started the offering and received the first ingathering in October, 1889. Although small by today's standards, this offering began a tradition of constant and significant support for the Episcopal Church's outreach. It has become a personal and family devotional program of the Episcopal Church. It is thanks for the blessings of our everyday lives. Every penny given in prayer and thanksgiving is disbursed throughout the world for mission and in response to compelling needs. St. Luke's ingathering will take place on Sunday, November 13.

Housing for New Hope

We have received word that Housing for New Hope, one of the agencies St. Luke's Outreach supports (the one that sells the wonderful pins at the Alternative gift Fair) is in need of the following items: Laundry detergent, cleaning supplies, paper products (including plates and cups, etc.), tissues, paper towels, toilet paper, shaving cream, razors, soap and deodorant. If you can pick up one or more of these items, please bring it to St. Luke's with a HFNH label on it and place it under the Outreach Table. Thank you.

Belize Team 2012 Wish List for Holy Cross School

Holy Cross School has updated their Wish List, and we would love to take our extra suitcases filled to capacity with the following items. Please leave donations in the designated box under the Outreach table in the Sprague Room anytime through Jan 20th. This could be a great class project or scout project for your kids.

Teacher's Supplies -- Maps of Central America
Blackboard Borders
Staplers -- One Finger Paper Pro from Staples are great and keep on working!
Dustless White Chalk and Black Board Erasers
Student Geometry Sets -- in individual storage boxes -- sample on Outreach table.
Rulers -- 12 marked in CM and IN
Glue Gun and glue sticks
Sticky Name Tags
Prizes -- for graduation gifts or for dramatic improvement
Personal music players
Handheld video game players
Stickers
Computer Supplies -- Memory -- 1 gig RAM memory
Soldering Iron
USB Flash Drive 4 gig
Cordless/wireless microphones including transmitter
Blank writable DVD's
Sporting Goods -- Soccer balls -- size 5 (deflated)
Volleyball, Basketball, Softball/baseball equipment

Clothing -- Rain boots and Rain Jackets for children and adults
Umbrellas
Costumes -- story book characters, princesses, etc. (not scary ones or monsters)
Library Books -- Non-fiction on the following topics -- Plants, Living and non-living things, Weather, Simple machines, Food chain, Nutrition, Transportation, Global warming, Land and air pollution, Human body, General Science.
Sewing Center -- The San Mateo Empowerment Project now has a Sewing Center on the grounds of Holy Cross to provide employment for women living in San Mateo. They are currently making uniforms for school parents to purchase at a reasonable cost.
Sergers -- 2 needle 4 thread machines or light weight sewing machines (not computerized).
Bobbins -- plastic or metal to fit a Singer Simple #3116
Thread -- primary white and dark gray on spool as well as cone thread for serger in white & gray
Good sewing scissors
Pinking shears
Lt. weight iron on interfacing
Buttons -- especially for white shirts
Needles for sewing machines and hand sewing
Crochet hooks -- all sizes
Fabric -- colorful craft fabrics -- all lengths should be at least 1 yard.
Celebrations and Fairs -- Valentine, Easter, decorations and items for gift bags -- no chocolate!
Construction Supplies -- Circular Saw blades -- 7 1/4" for cutting wood
Sawzall blades -- both sizes, for metal and wood
Paintbrushes -- 2", 2.5", 3" and 3.5"
Medicine Cabinet -- Adult chewable Vitamin C
Age 6-12 melt-away pain relievers
Also a couple of notes on the above list ... they prefer DVD+R and could also use...Printer inks for a Canon Pixma MP990, 1 GB Memory cards for the computers - they are Dell Optiplex 330's. 35 black mouse pads, Hand sanitizer by the 1 qt. bottle, Clear packing tape, Melt away pain relievers for 3-15 year olds and Desk mounted pencil sharpeners (for the teachers).

Belize Wish List for Preschool

Holy Cross has opened a Preschool and needs some supplies. They are requesting the following: *very gently used or new toys, play kitchen accessories, tea sets, paints, jumbo markers, dress-ups.* Check out the after Halloween sales for drastically reduced prices on costumes. Please, no scary, monster or aggressive personality types. These are for the little folks.

Poinsettias

The St. Luke's Belize Teams will again be selling poinsettias for you to purchase to brighten your home and the homes of your friends, families, neighbors and colleagues this coming holiday season. Delivery dates will be Sundays, Nov. 20th and Dec. 4th. Watch for more information in the bulletins, and for order forms in the Sprague Room and on the website. Please feel free to give forms to your friends and neighbors so they can help us out too. Any questions, please contact Denise Beaver – denise.beaver@duke.edu.

Senior Warden's Report

The Vestry meeting of October 11th opened with a prayer, followed by approval of the minutes of the September 12th meeting. A letter from Beth Gray thanking the Vestry for naming the Gray Building in her honor was read; this letter will be published in the next newsletter. Mike Henry, Every Member Canvass chairperson, reported that annual pledging was moving along well at about the same rate as last year. Other reports followed.

Patricia LeMoine and Valleri Callahan volunteered to head a celebration on November 19th for Carol Joyner's being with St. Luke's for 20 years. Copies of the current Building Use policy were distributed and will be discussed more at the next meeting. It was decided to form a committee to develop a Personnel policy; names of potential members were offered. The possibility of hiring a sexton will be reconsidered by John

Wyman, Scott Chapman, Donald Hamm and Bill Gutknecht.

There is real concern that it continues to prove difficult to find parishioners who are willing to serve on the Vestry. In response, Vestry members will prepare brief written statements describing how they feel serving St. Luke's through their vestry membership is an honor.

Bill Gutknecht
Senior Warden

New Phone Number

Joyce Wasdell and David Hesse
919-384-2266

New address

Jonathan and Sarah Steere
1601-B Dexter St.
Durham, 27701

Financial Update

September	YTD
Income	
\$36,160.23	\$328,660.01
Expenses	
\$33,181.49	\$309,720.52

Bulletin Board

The deadline for the December newsletter will be November 20.

Thank you

God works wonders through wonderful people. Thank you for making me feel welcome for twenty wonderful years.

Carol Joyner

A letter from Beth Gray, St. Luke's Preschool Founder

Dear St. Luke's Family,

News has reached me that the building that formerly housed the kindergarten and preschool has been named for me; and what a wonderful surprise this is.

St. Luke's church is dear to my heart and has been for almost sixty years. My husband served as Sunday School Superintendent and as Junior and Senior Warden and vestryman. One of my sons played the organ as a volunteer while we were worshipping in the parish house on club Blvd. One son was married there, and my two daughters were baptized there.

I have fond memories of sewing chair covers to hold prayer books and hymnals, and of having ice cream parties and rummage sales to raise money while we worshipped in the old house on Club Blvd.

The bond between the members of that early congregation, some who are still living and still members of St. Luke's, was incredible.

Especially dear to my heart, of course, was the school which we opened in 1961. The years between that time and my retirement in 2007 hold such wonderful and lasting memories for me.

The church, through the school and its teachers, touched so many children and their parents in the community.

I am grateful for having been a part of St. Luke's through all of these many years, and I am especially grateful for the privilege of having directed and taught in our school.

Thank you for the honor of giving my name to my much loved building.

May God bless each and every one of you.

With love,
Beth Gray

Parish Register

We pray for those who have died: Jona Riffin, brother-in-law of Monnie Riffin.

We give thanks for the marriage of Sarah Eibin and Christian Funkhauser on September 24 at St. Phillip's.

We give thanks and pray for those having birthdays during the month of November.

- 1 - John Hodges-Copple, Laura Danes
- 2 - Jan Lamb, Chris Cook
- 3 - Tom Barber, Bobbie Hendrix, Eric Lassiter
- 6 - Joan Hodges
- 8 - Debbie McIntosh, Brenda Rice
- 9 - Cathryn Hoffmann
- 10 - Peter Taflan, Marlys Ray, Robby Richards
- 13 - Ken Duke
- 14 - Edith Potter
- 16 - Wilbur Longmire
- 17 - Randy Smith, Timothy Duke
- 18 - Charles Miller
- 21 - Gregory O'Toole
- 24 - Dick Hammond, LaRue Dedrick
- 26 - John Cline
- 28 - Cynthia Greene, Maggie Young



Vestry Elections – Sunday, November 13

The Vestry is constituted of twelve fellow parishioners. Four are elected each year for a term of three years. The group meets once a month with the clergy and treasurer. At these business meetings, members concentrate on the financial affairs of the church as well as overseeing the various working committees of the church.

Every person nominated for the Vestry must be a baptized, confirmed, enrolled member in good standing.

The Nominating Committee of 2011 will present these persons at the nominating meeting on Sunday, October 30th: John Carr, Wendy Cook, Donald Hamm, Nora Hammond, Peach McDouall, Tom McIntosh, Randy Smith, Peggy Young. Nominations from the floor will be received on Sunday, October 30th.

Balloting will take place at the close of both services on Sunday, November 13th. A nominee must receive a majority of those present and voting for election. Additional ballots, if necessary, will be taken on Sunday, November 20th. Only enrolled, confirmed adults (sixteen years of age or older) in good standing, present on the day of the voting, are eligible to vote.

The Importance of Being Willing

In the fall of 2005 when I accepted the call to serve as St. Luke's rector, one of the things I most looked forward to was working with the vestry. That's right, the vestry. Vestry meetings, vestry retreats, figuring out the finer and not always terribly interesting details of life together. Surprised? You shouldn't be. Not when you think about the faithful witnesses of those who are willing to serve our parish. Every year of my service here, I have been more and more grateful and inspired by the dedication of this group of ordinary people who do such quiet and yet extraordinary work for the sake of the kingdom of God.

Yes, sometimes the work and the issues can be a bit tedious. Much of the work of the vestry gets no attention unless it is something contentious. Frankly, that rarely happens, but when it does, that is what

makes the "news." Far more often, the work of the vestry is like a quilting circle: sitting with your friends, working on the underside of a work of art, stitching together all the pieces with attention to detail: all in order to produce something beautiful to behold and also something to surround the beloved with a tangible sign of love.

Many years ago in high school I worked on a stage crew for musicals and plays. Behind the scenes it was organized chaos. It took hours and hours of work, loads and loads of materials and props to pull together something beautiful, and awe-inspiring for the sake of others. Often we were so tired we couldn't even enjoy the play. We couldn't even really ever see it! The stage crew, of course, grew bonds of affection and experienced much gratification once the show went on and went well! The vestry is our stage crew. Along with many others they dedicate time and talent to make sure the show goes on. Not easy work, but if you ask anyone who has served on the vestry they can tell you of the dedication and gratification that comes with the job. Well, okay, and a few headaches.

I believe Baptism is among the very happiest of all occasions in the life of the church. At every Baptism, I ask the congregation "Will you who witness these vows do all in your power to support these persons in their life in Christ?" And you answer with a shout, "We will!" When a person agrees to run for vestry, he/she is making good on that pledge. When a baptized, confirmed communicant in good standing agrees to stand for election, this is one way to say to God "I am willing to serve where you need me." When a person accepts the invitation to be nominated for vestry, they are stating willingness to take hold of some of those less-than-glamorous threads of life and see how we can shape a church that is beautiful to behold and surrounds the beloved with God's never-failing love. Thank you John Carr, Wendy Cook, Donald Hamm, Nora Hammond, Peach McDouall, Tom McIntosh, Randy Smith, and Peggy Young for allowing yourself to be a nominee for the 2012 vestry.

Yours faithfully and gratefully,

Anne



Christmas Tree Sale

Preorder your Christmas tree by November 27 and pick up the sized tree of your choice on **December 3** to support the 2012 summer youth mission trips.

<i>Tree Size</i>	<i>Cost</i>	<i>Number Ordered</i>
5-6 Ft.	\$35	_____
6-7 Ft.	\$45	_____
7-8 Ft.	\$55	_____
8-9 Ft.	\$60	_____

Total Amount Received \$ _____

_____ *cash* _____ *check (Please include payment with form and make checks payable to St. Luke's)*

Name _____

Phone Number _____

The trees are premium Fraser firs from a family farm owned and operated by members of Holy Trinity Episcopal Church, Greensboro (old friends of the Rev. Joe Hensley) www.rosserchristmastrees.com .

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Alternative Gifts Fair 2011

As the year continues to race by, the time for the 19th Annual Alternative Gifts Fair is almost upon us! The Alternative Gifts Fair provides you with a great opportunity to find unique holiday gifts for your loved ones while also helping others – all proceeds go to organizations making a difference in their communities, both here in Durham and around the world.

You are sure to find something for everyone on your holiday gift list! Please mark your calendar for December 4th and 11th and join us in Johnson Hall to take part in a special St. Luke's holiday tradition.

We will have the following organizations joining us for the first time this year:

The Center for Volunteer Caregiving provides volunteer services to help Wake County seniors, family caregivers, and adults with disabilities maintain independence, dignity and quality of life. A donation to the Center is a great way to show the seniors and caregivers in your life how much you appreciate them!

Crayons2Calculators seeks to meet the educational and creative needs of students in Durham Public Schools by providing free school supplies. With a strong belief in the importance of education, Crayons2Calculators has served the teachers and students of Durham since 2006.

Recyclique is a nonprofit co-op based in Durham that focuses on environmental education and upcycling – reusing found objects, trash and recycled materials to create unique affordable products. They will have a collection of recycled holiday goods and cards available, the proceeds from which go to support their educational workshops.

We'll also have some of your favorites from years past:

American Red Cross

Cribs for Kids

Duke Pediatric Blood and Marrow Family Support Team

Episcopal Relief and Development- *NetsforLife*

Habitat for Humanity of Durham

Heifer International

Holy Cross Foundation

Housing for New Hope

Interfaith Food Shuttle

IHN

Maple Court VA Transitional Housing

Meals on Wheels Senior Santa Program

One World Market

Society of St. Andrew

Share Your Christmas

Threshold

Uniting NC

Urban Ministries

WISER

And be sure to look for Advent Calendars, Bishop's Blend Coffee and St. Luke's Cookbooks!

Please contact Jean Willard at willarjm@mindspring.com with any questions.



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St. Luke's Episcopal Church
1737 Hillandale Road
Durham, NC 27705

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Healthy Happenings –

Teer House, 4019 N. Roxboro Rd., Durham, NC 27705.

To register: <http://teerhouse.dukehealth.org> or 1-888-ASK-DUKE (1-888-275-3853)

Confusion in the Elderly: Help for Caregivers, Tuesday, November 8, 6:30pm-8pm
Recognize elderly dementia and delirium and learn helpful coping strategies.

Going Home and Staying Home after Hospitalization, Wednesday, November 16, 6:30pm-8pm
Before your hospital stay, learn important self-help strategies and community resources to prevent readmissions.

Holiday Hurt: Living through the Holidays after a Death, Tuesday, November 29, 2:00-4:00pm
A Duke Hospice Bereavement Counselor will provide a forum to help grieving people prepare for the impact of the holidays.

Mindfulness and the Power of the Present Moment, Thursday, December 7, 6:30- 8:00 pm
Develop the natural capacity for mindfulness and relaxation as a powerful support in the process of health and healing. This class is open to all levels of experience for mindfulness and meditation.