



Episcopal Church of Lincoln County

Volume I, Issue 7
October 10, 2016

“To be a welcoming congregation, inclusive of everyone, inspired by the Holy Spirit and educated to live out our Christian faith.”

Rector’s Letter to the Congregation

Dear Friends,

What a wonderful day we had when Bishop Vono was with us. We were blessed to welcome three new members by the Sacrament of Confirmation. Welcome Lottie-Beth Davis, Susan & Terry Garrett. We are blessed to have you. The music that morning was spectacular thanks to the brass ensemble who joined us and to our own choir. The choir, under the direction of Jerry Gowler, seems to get better every week. I know they would welcome more singers. If you enjoy singing, give some consideration to joining the choir.



Our speaker at Clergy Conference this year was the Rt. Rev. Frank Griswold, our retired Presiding Bishop. He did a great job of teaching on prayer & sacraments. He is a very gifted teacher. At Convention this year, our speaker will be the current Presiding Bishop, The Most Reverend Michael Curry. I look forward to hearing him. He has a great reputation as a speaker. The convention will be in Santa Fe, Oct. 27-29. Our delegates will be myself, Laurie Benavides, the Wardens Marilyn Orr & John Harast and delegates, Sal Lopez & Bettye McGinness. Bettye is one of our alternate delegates and will be taking Chely Lopez’s place.

Please be watching for a stewardship letter from me. It is October and time to begin our pledge drive. This year the Vestry is taking charge of stewardship. Some different things are in the planning stage. Some letters, written by Vestry members, on “Why I give” are included in this newsletter. Perhaps they will spur some thought for all of us on “Why we give”. I always ask that each of us pray about our giving and about our participation in ECLC.

This year, I want to encourage us all to pray about how we live each day. We must be a Christ centered church, if we are to make a difference in the world. If we are to know what God is asking of us, we must listen to his voice. I hope we all can make a space in our lives for our Lord to reach us. The most important thing to being a good steward is to listen to God and let Him lead us.

Yours in Christ,
Judy



Inside this issue:

Meetings	2
Ultreya	2
BOSA Breakfast	2
Community Supper	2
Parable of the Life-Saving Station; 5th Sunday Brunch	4
Why we give	3
Weekend with the Bishop	5



Meetings in October/November 2016:

Vestry: Monday, October 17 and Monday, November 21 in Parish Hall at 5:30 pm
 Wednesdays: Holy Eucharist at 5:30; Choir Practice at 6:30
 Thursday: Christian Formation Class in Parish Hall at 6:00 pm
 Third Sundays: Contribution to Discretionary Fund, Soldiers Smiles, Food Bank
 Community Supper—Second Monday night of each month
 Lopez Breakfast—Third Sunday
 BOSA Breakfast—First Sunday
 Daughters of the King—1st Tuesday of each month in the parish hall at 1:00 pm

Please Remember the Hungry

Please bring offerings of food to the Church of the Holy Mount Parish Hall or drop them off at the Food Bank. Recommended items: peanut butter, canned ham, canned soup, jelly, canned fruit (large), Hamburger Helper, Spaghetti Sauce with meat, canned chicken, canned chili, ravioli with meat, pork and beans, dry pasta, bulk salt & pepper and toilet paper

I joined the Church of the Holy Mount in March 2008. Since my first Sunday, I have pledged to this fine church. I do this of my free will because it is the right and proper thing to do. Without our pledges, the church would flounder and we would be cast adrift on an ocean of secular humanism—which to me would mean the death of my soul.—
 John C. Harast

**Brotherhood of St. Andrew**

Yummy Breakfast on Sunday, November 6, 2016 following the 8:00 am service at Holy Mount. The Brotherhood offers this ministry monthly to improve the coffers of our church. Please plan to attend!

Prayer of St. Francis de Sales

*Be at Peace
 Do not look forward in fear to the changes of life;
 rather look to them with full hope as they arise.
 God, whose very own you are,
 will deliver you from out of them.
 He has kept you hitherto, and
 He will lead you safely through all things;
 and when you cannot stand it,
 God will bury you in his arms.*

*Do not fear what may happen tomorrow;
 the same everlasting Father who cares for you today
 will take care of you then and everyday.
 He will either shield you from suffering, or will give you un-failing strength to bear it.
 Be at peace, and put aside all anxious thoughts and imagination.*

Ultreya!

The next Ultreya will be held at the home of Roy and Laurie Benavides on Friday, November 4, 2016 at 5:30 .

**Community Supper**

It's hard to believe that we have served Forty-Two Community Suppers. We will serve our Forty-Third Supper on November 14th. Obviously, not only by our numbers but that three other churches are now serving suppers is a great testimony to the success and response to a need here in Lincoln County.

We are very blessed to have such giving people in our congregation because without them this would never be possible. There are always jobs for anyone who would like to be involved in this well received ministry. If you have any questions, you can call the church office at 257-2356 and ask for Laurie or John.

Why We Give

Vestry members have been considering why they pledge to the church:

From Imelda Horne:

Blessings to all,

Being on the Vestry this first year has been a heart-opening experience. We begin each monthly meeting with a 30-minute Bible study. Every member has an opportunity to offer this to all of us. It is a way to set our minds toward God's work in this church family, community and the world beyond. We then begin the work that has been laid out to us, from the painting of the parish hall walls, to the sewer system, to the monies that are needed to keep our church doors open.

We are now in the season of Stewardship a gathering of all of our gifts and possessions to do the work of the church. Everyone is important for the body of Christ to be proclaimed. We do this by feeding the hungry with our community suppers, to singing of our beloved hymns, to setting the altar table for our Lord's feast, to providing meals to shut-ins and those who need food. We provide home goods to those who are beginning a new life after a life of abuse and we are seeking shelter for our homeless students. Our church family may be small but our hearts are so full of God's love that we continue to offer ourselves to His glory.

So what does this church community mean to me? It means that I come not only on Sunday morning to worship with you, but I pray throughout the week for His presence in my life and for those around me. Why do I give my time and money to the Episcopal Church in Lincoln County:

- To be able to worship with one another in love and peace.
- To have communion at our Lord's table
- To hear God's word proclaimed
- To hear the hymns that are dear to me
- To provide meals to those who are shut-in and in need
- To offer prayer shawls to our loved ones
- To have a place for folks in need of items for their homes
- To pray for one another
- To see the light of Christ in all of us

Consider what it would be like if we didn't offer our time and money. Then all the above would begin with "not" instead of "To". Amen.

Yours in Christ, Imelda Horne

One of the reasons I pledge is I look at the church as my church family, and it is my responsibility to take care of that family. To me that includes my attendance at services, time and financial. It's written in the Bible and I think it is necessary to have a healthy congregation and spiritual learning. . . . Mimi Killian

From Mary J Aigner:

To the Vestry and all our members:

I've been asked, along with other vestry members, to write about why I, and my husband, give to our church. The easy answer is that we feel an obligation to support our

church home, knowing that the money we pledge and give goes to a very worthy cause.

Personally, and I cannot speak for my husband Ron, in this. .but I strongly believe that membership in a church gives me responsibility. Not just the financial responsibility, but also a responsibility to be a faithful and participating member. It has been my experience over the years and as a member of different congregations, that I receive great benefits from being an active member and volunteer.

These benefits include feeling a real part of the church family I chose to join. I find receiving smiles and just being greeted by other in the church family to self-satisfying in many ways. I gain good feelings from the knowledge that I sometimes make a difference in other people's lives. This can come directly from volunteering with individuals, or by maintaining a presence in the background, but still helping to meet the needs of others in the local and more distant communities. Helping others, even in a very small way, makes my life seem more worthwhile in turn. Finally, the peace that comes from my assistance during a worship service gives me a sense of being right with God.

I encourage everyone in our church family to find their niche, that area of service to others, which helps to fulfill you with the benefits received by giving yourself. You won't be sorry. With Love, Mary J. Aigner



"A Parable Of The Lifesaving Station"

On a dangerous seacoast where shipwrecks often occur there was once a crude little lifesaving station. The building was just a hut, and there was only one boat, but the few devoted members kept a constant watch over the sea, and with no thought for themselves, they went out day or night tirelessly searching for the lost.

Many lives were saved by this wonderful little station, so that it became famous. Some of those who were saved, and various others in the surrounding areas, wanted to become associated with the station and give of their time and money and effort for the support of its work. New boats were bought and new crews were trained. The little lifesaving station grew.

Some of the new members of the lifesaving station were unhappy that the building was so crude and so poorly equipped. They felt that a more comfortable place should be provided as the first refuge of those saved from the sea.

They replaced the emergency cots with beds and put better furniture in an enlarged building. Now the lifesaving station became a popular gathering place for its members, and they redecorated it beautifully and furnished it as a sort of club. Less of the members were now interested in going to sea on lifesaving missions, so they hired life boat crews to do this work. The mission of lifesaving was still given lip-service but most were too busy or lacked the necessary commitment to take part in the lifesaving activities personally.

About this time a large ship was wrecked off the coast, and they hired crews brought in boat loads of cold, wet and half-drowned people.

They were dirty and sick, some had skin of a different color, some spoke a strange language, and the beautiful new club was considerably messed up. So the property committee immediately had shower house built outside the club where victims of shipwreck could be cleaned before coming inside.

At the next meeting there was a split in the club membership. Most of the members wanted to stop

the club's lifesaving activities as being unpleasant and a hindrance to the normal social life of the club. Some members insisted upon lifesaving as their primary purpose and pointed out that they were still called a lifesaving station. But they were finally voted down and told that if they wanted to save lives of all the various kinds of people who were shipwrecked in those waters, they could begin their own lifesaving station down the coast. They did.

As the years went by, the new station experienced the same change that had occurred in the old. It evolved into a club, and yet another lifesaving station was founded. History continued to repeat itself, and today you will find a number of exclusive clubs along that shore. Shipwrecks are still frequent in those waters, but most of the people drown. (Take a look at the churches today, look around, see the "shipwrecked" people drowning in the "sea." Who is sending "lifeboats" out to rescue them? Is YOUR church a club or a lifesaving station?)

Quoted from Rev. T. O. Wedel, College of Preachers, Washington Cathedral, Washington, D. C.)



Fifth Sunday—October 30, 2016

We have traditionally have had one unified service with the chapels where there is a month with a 5th Sunday. October is a month with a 5th Sunday. However, the vestry has decided to change things up a bit:

October 30, 2016 - All services cancelled except **9:30 am service** at Holy Mount.

This will be followed by a **potluck Lunch**.

The brunch will give us an opportunity to consider the needs of our church for next year and examine our own goals for giving.

A Weekend with Bishop Vono

Vestry Dinner at the Orr/Rutherford Home on Saturday Night with Bishop Vono.



A Timely Homily



John Cooper receiving the Host from Bishop Vono



Gathering after the Service for Treats