

Here are this week's announcements:

If you are interested in having your membership transferred to Holy Cross, or joining our parish family, please contact the church office at 963-4609. <http://www.holycrossvallecrucis.net/>

Dear Holy Cross family, I am on the road for the next couple of weeks. Please forgive the lack of formatting! Peace be with you, Erin

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Your prayers are requested for Ann Elaine Kallestad's best friend in Dallas whose 6 year old daughter, Rosemary, just died from a sudden illness. Elaine is asking for prayers for the Stagaman family in Dallas, TX as they face this tragedy. Please also pray for Elaine.

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Holy Cross Members!! Please expect a telephone call from First Choice Resources in the coming weeks. Their photographer will be scheduling times to take your pictures on Sunday, August 17 and Monday, August 18 for our new Parish Directory. We want to see your shining faces!*

Progress Report on Parish Discernment Committee: The committee, which has been conducting the "Holy Cross Listens" project, has begun compiling the results from some internal and external data gathering (specific statistics tracking parish programs over a period of years, and on the community in which our parish is located). As we begin to integrate all of our listening and the information about our ministry context, the committee has begun prayerfully considering three questions: Who are we? Who are our neighbors? What do we believe God is calling us to do? The committee anticipates making a report to the congregation sometime during the fall.

Christian Education for all ages will resume on Sunday, September 15 - which is the Sunday after our breakfast gathering.

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Choristers, please take note: Choir rehearsals are Wednesdays at 7:00 p.m. All returning choir members and summer residents are invited to sing with us.

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Lectors, Chalice Bearers, Acolytes, Ushers and Oblation Bearers

August 10, 2008

8:30 Service: Missy Watson (L/C) John Cooper (C/P)

St. John's 9:45 Service: Claire McDonough (L) Tom McDonough (C)

11:00 Service: Dale Glover (L) Christine Zellner (C) Gini Halus (C/P)

Greeter and Oblation Bearers: Larry & Robin Byerly Ushers: Ernest & Mary Armstrong

Crucifer: Allyn & Marie/Kayla Morton Gospel Bearer: Hugh & Harriet Bennett

http://www.holycrossvallecrucis.net/Layread_Greet_Oblation_Sched.html

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August Birthdays

August 1 Brittney Fischer

August 2 John Fawcett, Will Rankin

August 6 Joan Bray

August 8 Mary Hansley, Norman Murphy, Barbara Pitts, Betsy Walker, Craig Weeden

August 9 Margaret Beckman

August 10 Maria Morton

August 14 Earl Pariseau

August 15 Erin Morgan

August 16 Jacob Van-Heule

August 17 Corin Brown, Dick Beckman

August 20 Nelia Cunningham

August 22 Sally Hatch, Ingrid Forsyth

August 23 Eloise Vaughn

August 24 Bill Welch, Jim Tennant

August 25 Patty Dyer

August 28 Hugh Bennett, Lynn Davis, Mary Willis, Vicky Weeden

August 29 Joy Flint

August 30 Catherine Tester

August 31 Peggy Hedrick

August Anniversaries

August 1 Mac and Anne Greene, Randy and Andrea McDonough

August 2 Jerry and Doris Boulton

August 9 Jay and Brenda Binning

August 15 Charlie and Mary Frisbie, Dennis and Margaret Lehmann

August 19 John and Carolyn Pollards

August 22 Ralph and Anna Boswell
August 26 Bill and Gena Rankin
August 27 Steve and Beth Loflin
August 29 Tad and Debbie Pace

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Mission and Outreach

ECW NEWS

Don't Forget to Purchase Lowe's Foods Cards! Lowe's Foods donates a portion of all cards sold at Holy Cross to the ECW for the Scholarship Fund. These cards are available from Sally Prosch or Francile Shelley. Cards may also be purchased in the office from Kathy Williams. Easy to buy! Easy to use! Easy to help make a difference!

Villager Initiative: One evening a month volunteers play and care for foster children while their foster parents have two hours of respite. Additional persons are needed to help provide this important ministry. Contact Alicia Toomey at 297-7586 or MtnToomeys@aol.com to volunteer for service or for more information.

Diocese of Western North Carolina
Bishop's Final Lambeth Blog from Saturday, August 2

Saturday, August 2, 2008

Saturday was a day of meetings. The process here is decentralized, and, therefore, it's difficult to have a sense of the whole. There are fifteen groups talking separately and then their conversations are gathered into one report. On a separate track, the Covenant Drafting Group holds hearings during which bishops can give input into their document. On yet a separate track, the Continuing Windsor Group has hearings for input on the status of the Windsor Process. It's like going to a giant tea party and then being asked if you can say what was talked about everywhere.

The draft of the report is on the Lambeth Website. I would just remind you before you read it that it's a report, not a resolution. It is a record of the conversation, not the mind of the Church. This is especially important as concerns the Proposed Covenant. The timeline for that document is (I think) as follows:

- +The Drafting Group meets again in late September to revisit the document in light of Lambeth and other feedback.
- +They present a report to all the Provinces (national churches) and invite comments between the fall and March 2009.
- +They meet again in April 2009 to rewrite the Covenant given the new input.
- +They send a new draft to the Anglican Consultative Council in May 2009.
- +The ACC will either recommend it or rewrite it or send it back to the Drafting Committee or table it.
- +If sent out, all Provinces will vote on it--(it's unclear if that would mean the General Convention 2009 or 2112 or The Episcopal Church).

Therefore, nothing has been ratified here. We have talked about it but not voted on it.

Sunday we have the final plenary. I would anticipate that is a time for summing everything up.

The gift of being here is to know the wideness of the Communion by experience and relationships. The challenge, I think, is to do better at letting Anglicans across the world know about us. I am simply stunned by the lack of reliable information about The Episcopal Church. Few people know anything about our response to the Windsor Report. We cannot do anything about the past, but we can and must do better about getting our story out to our brothers and sisters across the globe.

I would also add that in many ways the experience is the product. If indeed the "bonds of affection" across the Communion have been strained, then our time together is a way of strengthening them. There has been a healing here and a resolve to look at each other differently in the future.

No doubt some will say "You didn't do anything," but I think that's a limited and outside view. We changed our perspective which in itself is doing a great deal. One of the English bishops said, "No one is clapping but the Holy Spirit." I think a lot of people (like me) are clapping but I know the Holy Spirit is. "How very good and pleasant it is when kindred live together in unity!"

I will be reporting back to the diocese in various ways.

Keep us in your prayers as I keep you in mine.

+Porter

Respectfully submitted,
Erin Kirby

"You don't earn grace and you don't deserve grace; you simply receive it as God's loving gift and then share it with others." W. Wiersbe