

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/>

ATTENTION: IMPORTANT

A Combined Sunday Service to celebrate completion of the renovation of St. John's will be held this Sunday, June 29 at 10:00 AM with a potluck picnic on the grounds following. *Please note: On such a special day this event is in lieu of both the 8:30 and 11:00 AM services at Holy Cross. Guest musicians: The Holy Cross Choir, Deborah and Randy Sheets and John Fawcett. We will celebrate the renovation and bless all our new furnishings and ornaments—including the new bathroom and restored east window. Plan now to attend this special service. All are urged to carpool and to arrive early to get a seat. Bring folding chairs or blankets and an abundant picnic to share. A variety of gifts and memorabilia will be available to those who attend. (a flyer is attached to this email)

Music at St. John's 2008 - The Carolina Brass! Sunday, July 6 at 5:00 PM. Celebrate your 4th of July weekend with the energetic brass ensemble that is sweeping the country with stellar performances of beautiful music ranging from the classical to the hard driving sound of big band. This one is lively fun for the whole family! Bring a picnic for fellowship following the concert. Also, please note that the Carolina Brass will be playing at the 11:00 AM service at Holy Cross on this date. This is a great weekend for friends and family to attend church together and top off the day with a concert and picnic!

The Gentlemen's Breakfast Club will be serving a delicious Sausage and Brie Souffle as well as some heart healthy foods on Sunday, July 6. Everyone is invited to share and enjoy good food and good company after the early service. Donations are encouraged to help us buy food and replenish kitchen supplies. Please note that the Carolina Brass will be playing at the 11:00 AM service at Holy Cross on this date. This is a great weekend for friends and family to attend church together and top off the day with a concert and picnic!

ECW will not meet in July. There will be a picnic on July 10th at 11:30 for the Diocesan ECW Board at the Valle Crucis Park. In the event of inclement weather, the picnic will be in Skiles Hall. **All women of the church are invited.** Food will be provided. Please call Sally Prosch for reservations - 963-2395.

Mark your calendar: **Sunday, July 13 at the Apple Barn**, for "**HOLY HOP**" with famous disc jockey Larry Byerly. Food, music, dancing, fun for the entire family. Yes. Elvis lives!

Lectors, Chalice Bearers, Acolytes, Ushers and Oblation Bearers

June 22, 2008

St. John's Service 9:30: Erin Kirby (L) Becky McDonough (C) Susan Duke (C)

Greeter and Oblation Bearers: Serge & Jill Storelli; **Ushers:** John & Faye Cooper

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

Mission and Outreach

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!

THOMPSON Child and Family Focus is having a Summer Fun Drive. Please help the boys and girls of Thompson have fun this summer with donations of the following items: Art Supplies, Baseball items, Bottled Water, Balls, Disposable Cameras, Hula Hoops, Jump Ropes, Sunscreen, Sand Toys, Chalk, Water Toys, Swim Suits, Tickets, and Gift Cards to Wal-Mart, Target,

Home Depot, Craft Stores. For more information contact Rachel Eldridge, reldridge@thompsoncfff.org or 704-644-4403

ECW NEWS

The ECW will not meet in July: There will be a picnic on July 10th at 11:30 for the Diocesan ECW Board at the Valle Crucis Park. In the event of inclement weather, the picnic will be in Skiles Hall. All women of the church are invited. Food will be provided. Please call Sally Prosch for reservations - 963-2395.

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.

June Birthdays

6/2 Bill Pritchard & Stewart Tugman
6/5 Theo Copeland
6/7 Trish Lanier, Ryan Loflin, & Joan Webber,
6/8 Faye Cooper
6/9 Ernestine Glover,
6/13 Louise Hatch, Tracy Maness & Alicia Toomey
6/18 Stephen White
6/21 Ann Carlton-Jones, Debbie Pace, and Mia Platt
6/22 David Barnhill
6/24 Dedy Traver
6/25 Evelyn Hall
6/26 Debbie Galleher & Claire McDonough
6/28 Edie Tugman
6/30 Ken Craig & Susan Stone

June Anniversaries

6/2 Ken & Niki Craig
6/4 Ernie & Mary Armstrong; Hugh & Harriet Bennett
6/5 David & Betsy Walker
6/6 Tracy & Jackie Maness
6/7 Ralph & Sandy Barnhardt
6/9 Dale & Ernestine Glover
6/13 Earl & Barbara Pariseau
6/19 Bill & Susan Stone
6/20 Fred & Lisa Martin
6/30 Bobby & Hattie Yates

Diocese of Western North Carolina **Bishop's Weekly Reflection**

6-25-08

I leave for The Lambeth Conference in two weeks. Therefore, I have been thinking about what it will be like to be with such a wide diversity of bishops from all over the world. I have been day dreaming about the interaction of about 700 people most of whom are meeting for the first time. How is it you introduce yourself? Do you start with your titles and your accomplishments? Do you start with your causes? Do you find a way to inform the listener of just how an important person you are at home? Perhaps we all start with one or more of those ways. Perhaps it's human nature to begin by fortifying our own ego.

My prayer is that we quickly move beyond that to a deeper place. I hope we overcome our temptation to repeat the old arguments that have consumed us, and my belief is that we will. I am not interested in a ecclesial version of one of our political talk shows. I don't want to play Chris Matthews or George Will. My hope, prayer, and belief is that we quickly get to a place where we can relate to one another what matters dearly to us.

As I have been thinking about this, I remembered reading a letter Thomas Merton wrote to James Forrest about the Vietnam War and the Roman Catholic hierarchy pressuring him to cease his antiwar protests. Then he writes this:

And then this: do not depend on the hope of results. When you are doing the sort of work you have taken on, essentially an apostolic work, you may have to face the fact that your work will be apparently worthless and even achieve no result at all, if not perhaps results opposite to what you expect. As you get used to this idea you start more and more to concentrate not on the results but on the value, the rightness, the truth of the work itself. And there too a great deal has to be gone through, as gradually you struggle less and less for an idea and more and more for specific people. The range tends to narrow down, but it gets much more real. In the end, as you yourself mention in passing, it is the reality of personal relationships that saves everything.

You are fed up with words, and I don't blame you. I am nauseated by them sometimes. I am also, to tell the truth, nauseated with ideals and with causes. This sounds like heresy, but I think you will understand what I mean. It is so easy to get engrossed with ideas and slogans and myths that in the end one is left holding the bag, empty, with no trace of meaning left in it. And then the temptation is to yell louder than ever in order to make the meaning there by magic So the next step in the process is for you to see your own thinking about what you are doing is crucially important. You are probably striving to build yourself an identity in your work and your witness All the good that you will do will come not from you but from the fact that you have allowed yourself, in the obedience of faith, to be used by God's love. Think of this more and gradually you will be free from the need to prove yourself. and you can be more open to the power that will work through you without your knowing it.

The great thing after all is to live, not to pour out your life in the service of a myth: and we turn the best things into myths. If you can get free from the domination of causes and just serve Christ's truth, you will be able to do more and will be less crushed by the invincible disappointments

It doesn't mean we don't have principles but it does mean that we cannot have community if that's all we have. Jesus the Christ is beyond our causes. We have to go deeper to "Christ's truth" which is the only place where real communion can be found. I am hoping to meet other people and not just hear or repeat abstract positions. I am hoping my range narrows down in the time I am there so the "reality of personal relationships" can indeed save me from the prison of my own opinions. I ask your prayers for all the bishops in the Anglican Communion that we may be more open the Holy Spirit to blow us where God wants US to be.

+Porter

Respectfully submitted,
Erin Kirby

----- End of Forwarded Message