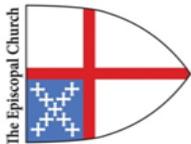


All Saints' Episcopal Church
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Saints Alive

803-796-5735

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Volume 20

January

Issue 1

Dear All Saints' Community,

One of the vows I took at my ordination to the priesthood was to “take [my] share in the councils of the Church.” I take that vow seriously, and I have endeavored to participate in all levels of Diocesan work. For the last three years I served as the Dean of the Midlands Convocation, coordinating and facilitating the gatherings of clergy and convention delegates from the Columbia metropolitan area. In that role I also served on the Diocesan Executive Council (DEC) (with voice but no vote). I learned a great deal in this role, and, most especially, I got to develop relationships with my clergy colleagues in this area.

As of the Diocesan Convention in November, I have “retired” from the position of Dean, but --- at Convention I was elected to a three-year term as a regular member of DEC (with voice AND vote). At the DEC meeting in December I was elected as Vice-President of DEC, which means that I now chair the Commission on the Diocese and I am part of the Executive Committee of DEC, meeting regularly with the Bishop and President of DEC, Tom Stepp. I am looking forward to this new role and getting to know the inner workings of the Diocese. I feel that I can represent the voice of the many small churches, like All Saints’, in our Diocese. As we shift into new ways of being church in the coming years, hearing from small churches will be crucial.

If you have any questions about my work with the Diocese, please contact me! The better we all understand the many ways we are connected to and supported by the Diocese, the better we will function as the Body of Christ.

Blessings on this New Year,

Patricia+

From the Lois W. Smith Parish Library:

I found a wonderful children's book in the library. It's entitled *Secretly Do Good Deeds* by Melody Carlson. It is based on Matthew 6:3-4, about not letting your left hand know what your right hand is doing when giving to the needy. The text rhymes which makes it all the more enjoyable. I have put it on the table under the window in the library. I think that adults would enjoy the five minutes it would take to read this book, and any child would love to read it or have it read to them. Stop by and check it out!

Susan Gilliam

Altar Guild Schedule

Jan	1	Jano/ Karen
	6	Barbara
	8	Cindi
	15	Arpina
	22	Tracey
	29	Barbara
Feb	5	Jano/Karen
	12	Arpina
	19	Cindi
	26	Tracey

Who's Who at All Saints'...

Church Office (803)-796-5735

Reverend Patricia Sexton (803)- 318-0833

Email — rector@allsaintscayce.org

Senior Warden Mark Gilliam (803)-429-8126

Junior Warden Karen Weathers (803)-767-7956

Vestry Clerk Tracey Washburn (803)-287-0499

Treasurer Robbie Robinson (803) 238-1816

Director of Music Judy Priester (803) 238-6404

Acolytes ML Tanner & Jason Priester (803) 568-5534

Altar Guild Barbara Robinson (803) 238-3622

Lay Ministry Jason Priester (803)-796-9309

Lay Chaplain Barbara Robinson (803)-238-3622

Youth Ministry Rebecca Kenner (803)-730-5913

INASMUCH Karen Weathers (803)-356-6412

President of ECW Terri Locklair (803)-315-7600

Men's Group John Tanner (803) 422-4714

St. Anne's Regina Ratterree (803)-794-7147

St. Mary's Delores Goodwin (803)- 413-1770

Vestry Meets 2nd Wed. of Month 6 pm

Christian Formation Team : Will Washburn Meets 4th Tues. of Month 6:30 pm

Parish Life Team : Virginia Gilliam Meets 3rd Thurs. of even Month 6 pm

Stewardship Team: Betsy Groff Meets 1st Thurs. of Month 6:30 pm

Facilities Team: Walt Spencer Meets 3rd Wed. of Month 6 pm

Spiritual Life Team :Barbara Robinson Meets 2nd Tues. of Month 6:30pm

Delegates to 2017 Convention:

Regina Ratterree, ML Tanner, Tracey Washburn, Jason Priester

Alternates: Gavin Kenner, Will Washburn

The Episcopal Diocese of Upper South Carolina <http://www.edusc.org/> or
1115 Marion Street, Columbia, South Carolina 29201 | 803-771-7800

The Episcopal Church, USA — www.episcopalchurch.org

Next "Saints Alive" deadline January 25, 2016

Make sure your articles are **emailed to Pastor Patricia Sexton**. Please include who wrote the article.

Birthdays and Anniversaries

JANUARY

4	Debbie Hickman
5	Robert Brooks
7	Tobias Pilat (child)
9	Kenny Priester
13	Fran McKelvey
15	Jack Cheek
19	<i>Mark & Susan Gilliam</i>
24	Kendra Taylor
30	John Tanner
30	<i>Bill & Betsy Groff</i>

FEBRUARY

5	Douglas Learn
7	Lucien (Red) Bruno
10	Elizabeth Chestnut
11	Sarah Weaver
19	Copeland Nash Taylor (child)
21	ML Tanner
22	Joanie Sanders

Taylor Elementary Christmas Gifts

Dear Parishioners,

Once again, you have made eight boys and one girl extremely excited and happy with your generous gifts to them this Christmas. As they walked back into the classroom from their special area, all presents were under the tree and they really believed that Santa brought these gifts. I did tell them that I visited Santa and told them how wonderful and caring that they all were as we were walking back to the room.

They just knew that Santa had visited them because of this. Lots of jumping up and down, laughing, and grinning from ear to ear like all kids do. These students are in the third through fifth grades and are on a kindergarten – first grade level. They have big ideas like all of us, yet are faced with challenges. The students and I thank you for your loving hearts in bringing the Light to these students.

God's Peace and Love to you in the New Year!

Delores Goodwin

Bible Study Update

(Wednesdays at 11am)

We have finished the online course with N.T. Wright on the Letters of John. On January 4th we will begin our study of the Gospel of John, which will probably take us through all of 2017. Please feel free to join us any week! If you have questions, contact Patricia.

Our schedule over the next few months:

January 4	Introduction to the Gospel of John
January 11	NO CLASS – Patricia on vacation
January 18	NO CLASS - Patricia meeting with the Commission on Ministry all day
January 25	Class
February 1	Class
February 8	Class
February 15	Class
February 22	NO CLASS – Patricia at Pre-Lenten Clergy Retreat
March 1	NO CLASS – Ash Wednesday services
March 8	Class
March 15	Class
March 22	Class
March 29	Class

Spiritual Life Team

Did You Know?

The Christian Year is as old as the Resurrection of our Lord and as new as the latest revisions. They had by the sixth century developed a Christian Year for the order of worship, substantially as we have it today. The Anglican, the Roman, the Greek Orthodox and, the Lutheran churches have followed this Christian Year, each making its own distinctive contributions. As God has flooded earth and sky with color, so the Church has sensed the symbolic use of color in its worship. This sequence of liturgical colors has a principal role in Christian visual education, in teaching the Gospel through the eye. As we move through the Christian Year, please note the colorful days and festivals of our Lord's life and ministry, and those of the Church in which He is Incarnate.

WHITE, symbolizing joy, purity and truth

RED, the color of fire and of blood

GREEN, the color of living things and of God's creation

VIOLET (PURPLE), symbolic of penitence and expectation

BLACK, representative of deep sorrow

ROSE, penitence permeated with joy

BLUE (INDIGO), is frequently used during Advent

Information from: Kalendar Episcopal Church Year Guide:

Jan 1: The Holy Name of Our Lord Jesus Christ- regular services

Jan 6: The Epiphany of Our Lord Jesus Christ (6:00 pm)

Jan 8: The Baptism of Our Lord Jesus Christ- regular services

Jan 15: 2nd Sunday after the Epiphany- regular services

Jan 22: 3rd Sunday after the Epiphany- regular services

Jan 29: 4th Sunday after the Epiphany- regular services

ECW News

The Annual Bazaar was successful and we will be able to continue our mission projects. We made around \$1,200. All items sold well and we had a nice turnout for lunch. There are **still some frozen meals available**, so check with Regina Ratteree if you are interested in purchasing one. Thanks to everyone who donated a bake item, gifts, or their time in helping with the success of this effort. There was wonderful fellowship as well.

ECW 1st Quarter meeting will be Sunday, February 5, 2017 after church. Get your coffee and a snack and join us in the Wyndham Room. We will be introducing our new President, Terri Locklair. She will serve 2017-18. We are looking forward to supporting Terri in our work with the women of All Saints. Please consider this ministry and join us on February 5th.

Many Blessings in the new year for everyone.

Martha Best, President

Week of Prayer For Christian Unity

January 18-25, 2017

Every year in January, there is a world-wide week of prayer for Christian unity, sponsored internationally by the World Council of Churches, and sponsored locally by the West Metro Clergy Group. Pastor Patricia and All Saints' participate as hosts of a prayer service each year.

A different theme and scripture readings are selected each year. This year's theme is "Reconciliation – the love of Christ compels us." The guiding scripture is 2 Corinthians 5:14-20, with additional readings for each day. The prayer service each day is from 6-6:30pm and is lay-led. Each denomination creates their own program around the theme. **The date for All Saints' to host is Tuesday, January 24th.**

On the last day of the prayer services (January 25th), the Eucharist is celebrated at the host church and the plate collection is distributed to Harvest Hope and God's Helping Hands.

Experiencing these half-hour services at each other's churches is a wonderful way to create community relationships and experience other forms of worship. Please participate as often as you can! The schedule of services is below.

All services start at 6pm.

January 18	Faith Lutheran , 1717 Platt Springs Rd., West Columbia
January 19	Providence Presbyterian , 1112 Hummingbird Dr., W. Columbia
January 20	Trinity United Methodist , 1201 Mohawk Dr., West Columbia
January 21	Turner Memorial AME , 1122 Monticello St., West Columbia
January 22	Mt. Tabor Lutheran , 1000 B Avenue, West Columbia
January 23	Transfiguration Lutheran , 1301 12 th St., Cayce
January 24	All Saints' Episcopal , 1001 12 th St., Cayce
January 25	Cayce United Methodist , 1600 12 th St., Cayce. Eucharist and reception on this date

Guest Speaker at All Saints'

Dr. Alexandra Karydi, Program Director South Carolina Youth Suicide Prevention Initiative January 29, 2017 at 6pm

On behalf of the West Metro Clergy Group, All Saints' Episcopal invites you to a presentation and discussion of suicide prevention with Dr. Alexandra Karydi. She will share national and local data about suicides and ways to raise your awareness of signs of suicide in others, in order to help prevent suicides, especially among youth.

Please come with your questions and concerns to this very informative and very important event. If you need more information, contact Rev. Patricia Sexton at rector@allsaintscayce.org

Musings From Your Senior Warden (Mark Gilliam)

So what are you going to do now that it's 2017 ?

Shown below are some healthy Christian resolutions that I humbly recommend. I call these suggestions the "Cliff Notes of News Year's Resolutions."

Practice gratitude – Cultivating a grateful heart is the hallmark of a Christian disciple. Every day, express thankfulness to God and to other people. Seeing the good in your life and others will allow you to keep your heart compassionate and loving.

Engage with God each day – Find time to be with God each day, whether it be for an hour or ten minutes. Have a conversation with the Lord. Give your joys and worries to Him as well. Allow God's love to transform your concerns. Our encounters will keep our eyes and ears open to the presence of Christ in the midst of our daily living.

Be present to others in your life - There is much celebration and uncertainty, joy and sadness in peoples' lives. What a blessing it is to be able to share these times, both good and bad, and not let others experience them alone. The gift of your presence to others is much more valuable than you will ever realize.

Resist overwork – There is always the pressure to produce, meet goals, be successful. But activities that lead us to overwork, constant fatigue and worry do not give glory to God. What God calls us to do we can do well. Cultivate the listening ear of God's message. Be mindful that life requires balance, down time and letting go of unrealistic goals.

Nurture friendships – Our friends are those we choose to be with, those whom we spend our worship services with, ones we socialize with and others whom we go to for advice. Friends are gifts from God who give us a greater appreciation of God's love for us. Friends need our time and love and response.

Consider living more simply – We cannot find fulfillment in possessions. They add nothing to our self-worth. Jesus blessed the "poor in spirit" in his Sermon on the Mount; and Saint Francis of Assisi urged us to live with only what was necessary, for that is how we begin to find God.

Get healthy – Studies show that most people in North America are accelerating their own decline into premature old age, owing much to poor diet and lack of physical activity. Be a good steward of your body. Plan a complete overhaul of your diet and exercise habits. We have several church members who can assist you with your questions about the New You!

Don't give up – People give up their New Year's resolutions because of perfectionism and unrealistic expectations. Take it slow, be kind to yourself and keep trying and believing. Resist the urge to throw your hands up and quit with your solution. You succeed through small, manageable changes over time.

Let's try these suggestions please - your resolutions along with these recommendations - I believe they shall enable us to live a richer, more fulfilling Christian life.