



The Parable
St. Paul's Episcopal Church
PO Box 587 306 Fayetteville Ave.
Bennettsville, South Carolina 29512

January/February 2012

Dear People of God,

Jan. 1, 2012 (Holy Name)

"...and you shall be called by a new name that the mouth of the LORD will give. You shall be a crown of beauty in the hand of the LORD, and a royal diadem in the hand of your God" (Is. 62:2b-3 – NRSV).

One of the beautiful things about the period of time which is upon us has to do with new beginnings. Now I get to start over with so many things. I get a new chance to set an exercise schedule so that I get (and stay!) in better shape this year. I get a new chance to be more disciplined in my morning devotionals. I get a new chance to keep my study at home in better order than the more-or-less constant disarray that reigned in 2011.

Sadly, however, the most pervasive characteristic of New Year's resolutions is that we almost never keep them. I already know that there will be mornings when I'll find it irresistible to stay in a warm bed, rather than going out into the cold morning to exercise. I already know that there will be many frenetic days when the demands of work will eliminate the quiet time I should be spending with The Lord each and every day. And barring some unforeseeable and miraculous change in my character, the seemingly constant confusion on my study desk at home will continue to reign supreme in 2012, just as it has in every year until now.

One of the great ironies about us is that we really do want to improve the way we're living our lives, yet we lack the will to do so. Sooner or later, we're all going to teeter, and fall off the tight-rope we're walking along, with regard to one thing or another in our lives.

Perhaps the most wondrous aspect of the Good News of our salvation in Jesus Christ is that we no longer have to depend on our own fickle natures in order to be right with God. Because of the faithfulness of Our Lord, we have obtained, as John says, the right "to become children of God" (see Jn.1:12). And that wondrous inheritance has nothing to do with my ability to keep even a single one of my New Year's resolutions (Thank the Lord!).

As we go into 2012, it's a good idea to reflect on the new beginnings that God has already planned for us in the year ahead. As Paul says, we are all becoming "a new creation" because of Our Lord (see 2Cor.5:17). Because of God's faithful constancy in our lives, those same lives are now being utterly transformed, and we are being gifted with new and transformed identities in the eyes of Our Lord.

Happy and Holy New Year!

James T

Congratulation to our new Vestry Members— Ella Reese Hinson and Mike Winburn!

Thank you to C.B. Hayes and Billy Hinson, for your service.

Special Activities and Meetings upcoming at St. Paul's

January 29 - 11:45 Altar Guild meeting

February 5 - 11:45 ECW meeting

February 10 - Valentine Party time TBA

February 11 - 8:30 a.m.—Maintenance Day at the church

February 12 - 11:45 Vestry Meeting

February 21 - 5:30 p.m. Shrove Tuesday Pancake Supper.

February 22 - 5:30 p.m. Ash Wednesday - Promulgation of Ashes

March 9 & 10 - Diocesan Convention

April 1 - Palm Sunday

April 8 - Easter Sunday

DAUGHTERS OF THE KING

"**MAKE US EVER MINDFUL OF THE NEEDS OF OTHERS**" for a "little" something is better than 100% of nothing. In this New Year, won't you resolve to contribute an item to the "red wagon" and/or the "blue basket?"

The Lydia ladies continue to pray daily for those on our parish prayer list, for our Diocesan Sisters in Christ with special health issues, and for our Vestry and the Diocesan leadership especially Bishop Lawrence.

Several ladies in the parish have expressed an interest in joining our Order.....not only would you be blessed, but also St. Paul's would be blessed by your personal commitment to prayer, service, and evangelism. Be in touch with Ella Reese, Kathryn, or Vicky for more information.

The Rev. Martha Horn, who is a Daughter herself, will be our guest speaker and retreat leader at our Spring Retreat in March @ St. Christopher (March 16-18). Grace Sears, our National DOK President, is also planning to be with us for this spiritually "packed" weekend!

ST. PAUL'S ECW

The Poinsettia and Wreath sale was a great success! A total of \$611 was raised!! Thank you to everyone who help with this project!

St. Paul's adopted a family of four children, for Christmas and we collected clothes and other items for the children and household. Thank you to everyone. We were able to help give this family a very special Christmas!

The next meeting of the ECW will be on Sunday Feb 5, after the 10:00 service.

The first Sunday of every month is Little Red Wagon Sunday. ECW and members of St. Paul's are asked to bring items for The Pee Dee Coalition for battered women, and place them in the wagon in the Sanctuary. They are always in need of personal items, cleaning products and gas or grocery gift cards.



JANUARY BIRTHDAYS AND ANNIVERSARIES!!

Jayne Lee – 5
Trisha Collins – 6
David Lynch – 10
Luke Lee – 11
Kathryn Jackson – 15
Adrienne Thomas – 21
Sara Jane Alston – 23
Mike Winburn – 25
John Jackson – 26

FEBRUARY BIRTHDAYS AND ANNIVERSARIES !!

Liz Stubbs – 1
Zachery Norton – 5
Chris Montrose – 6
Mary Douglas Hope – 7
Barry Avent – 14
Alex Hinson – 20
Mary Kay Easterling – 25





Those in Need of Prayer



Parishioners

Julian Drake, Louise Mary Hope Rogers, Chris Montrose, David Montrose, Wade Kalinowsky, Frank Townsend, Harriet Gibson, Dot Rogers

Family and Friends of the Parish in Need of Prayer

Bart West and family, Janet Sherbine, Margaret Whetstone (Julie Avent's mother), Georgia Satterfield (Shawna Collins' step-mother), Jo Evans (Woody's Aunt), Allen Rogers, Fred Rogers, Theren and Regenia Nester (Sandra's parents), Miriam Kalinowsky (Wade's mother), Margaret Principino (Breta's sister), Beth Rubio (friend of Carla's), Patricia Lowery (friend of the Collins), Gilbert McLaurin, Christy Hagen and family, Collins Elizabeth Coffey, Rick Archer (Dick Archer's son), Leroy & Betty Manlove, Marlboro County Family Literacy Program, Pee Dee Coalition & victims of domestic abuse, & Marlboro County Schools.

Church Staff and Leaders

James Barnhill, Sandra Widejko, Carolyn Andrews, Mary Cook, Deborah Wimberly, Lyle Miller, Helen Gibbs, Ella Reese Hinson, Mike Winburn, and Trisha Collins

Special Prayer Request for our Diocese

Katharine Jefferts Schori, Presiding Bishop, The Rt. Rev. Mark J. Lawrence and The Rt. Rev. Julio Holguin Rev. Tabitha Wang, Diocesan Missionary to The Peoples Republic of China

Those Who Have Lost Loved Ones and in Need of Prayer

The family of Louise "Weeza" Lindsay

"May her soul and the souls of the departed through the mercy of God, rest in peace."

The Prayer list is prayed over daily and is cared for with extreme love and compassion. If you have made a request and it is time to remove that name, please let the office know. Thank you.



VALENTINE'S PARTY



Friday Night, February 10

At the home of the Hinsons

Details coming soon

Maintenance Day

Saturday February 11

8:30 a.m.

Bring your tools and join us at the church to do a little repair.



The Website is better than ever!

Much work has been done recently, on the St. Paul's Website.

Go to **www.stpaulssc.org** and see all the new ways to access information!!!

** The weekly Bible Study is now online. Go to "Calendar" Look for Bible Study Questions/ Reflections

** The Newsletter will now be online. Go to "Newsletter" and look for the correct month. You will be notified when a new newsletter is online. In an attempt to be responsible with our funds, we are encouraging people to read the newsletter online!

** The Calendar of events—including the Lay Ministry schedule—is now online and up to date! Check to see what is coming up in the near future!!!

Family Literacy moves to a new location

After several years of operating out of the St. Paul's Education Building, Marlboro County Family Literacy has moved to a new location. Their offices are now located at the Bennettsville Middle School and they have a new phone number—454-2030. The childcare is now at the Adult Education Center, on Broad St.

We ask for God's blessings on them in their new home and we will continue to support their important work.

Remember, we collect items for Family Literacy on the third Sunday of each month!

If you missed the Powerpoint presentation of Family Literacy's time at St. Paul's, it can be viewed through the Marlboro Co. School's website - www.marlboro.k12.sc.us/

The mission of St. Paul's is to develop and nurture a community of faith by rejoicing in the Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ through worship, service, and love.

The Parable is published bi-monthly by St. Paul's Episcopal Church. Articles may be faxed in or submitted by email. All articles are subject to editing.

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Vestry Members

Deborah Wimberly, Sr. Warden
Lyle Miller, Jr. Warden
Helen Gibbs, Clerk
Ella Reese Hinson
Mike Winburn
Trisha Collins - ECW
Pray for Vestry Members Daily.

"Lil' Red Wagon Collection"

Sundays, Feb 5 and Mar 4 will be collection Sundays for the Pee Dee Coalition. Thank you!!!

"FLC on the Third"

The Third Sunday of each month, the DOK will collect cleaning supplies, paper products and gift cards for Family Literacy. Our next collections will be Jan 15 and Feb 19

Rector

James W. Barnhill, Jr.
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843-439-3016

Organist

Sandra Widejko
sandyawidejko@yahoo.com

Parish Administrator

Carolyn J. Andrews
stpaulepisch@sc.metrocast.net

Child Care

Mary Cook

Social Saints

We are always in need of Social Saints! If you would be willing to help with the refreshments after the 10:00 service, please contact Vicky Armes or the office at 479-2252 or stpaulepisch@sc.metrocast.net

St. Paul's Prayer Chain

Please call Edith Furman (497-2304) with your prayer requests! Edith will start the prayer chain in motion.

Prayer requests for the Bulletin

Please call the office to add or remove prayer requests from the bulletin.

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ADDRESS SERVICE REQUESTED