



*Cares, Prayers
and Current Affairs*

November 2020

HAPPY ALL SAINTS DAY!

To all our church family and friends, I trust this November Newsletter finds all well, safe and rejoicing in the glory of God's goodness and mercy.

This past Sunday was All Saints Day. We celebrated the lives of Ms. Essie Stewart - Gore, Ms. Janice Butler, Mrs. Andrea Hill, Mrs. Carol Graham and Mrs. Mary Cardwell. The altar was dressed in white. Music played softly in the background as their names were called. The gong sounded as we held a moment of silent reflection. A white ribbon was placed on each memorial plaque to symbolize God's White Robed Army. The memorial ribbon was removed by our Senior Warden before the calling of the next name. May their

souls rest in peace as they have joined their great ancestors who forged the way for us today.

These past few months have been inundated with updates on the COVID virus and politics. In a few days we will have the outcome of the presidential election but I'm certain, whatever the outcome ... the drama will not end there. As for the virus, it too, is here for the long road ahead as long as people continue to believe mask wearing is a violation of one's rights while caring not for the rights of people, not to breath in their germs. There are also those who choose to believe it is a political hoax.

So where do we as Christians set our focus? It is our duty to lend our attention to what is good and righteous even in the midst of turmoil. This is the perfect timing to show our love and speak the good news of our Lord and Savior to everyone who will listen. It is a good and righteous thing to help those in need. Go the extra mile for a friend or neighbor, even a stranger. We may never know what angels we may be

attending unaware. Did you know you can smile with your eyes? Acknowledge a stranger with the nod of the head, or the tipping of your hat. Everyone likes to feel that they are important. Everyone likes to know that they matter and their needs are justified. We humans thrive on validation. There is so much we can do just by being while in the presence of a stranger, also be in the presence of God, your creator and let his light shine through.

David the Psalmist said, beautiful are the feet that carry the Good News. Sweet are the lips that sing God's praises. Humble are the hearts of those who use their talent to glorify God. Blessed are they who freely share the fruits of their labor.

We should make people wonder why we are happy at a time when our country is in turmoil. I am proud to be a part of a community of believers who show God's love through mission. Can you imagine what this world would be like if the battle cry to love Jesus was as prevalent and loud as the outcry for everyone to vote?

Amazing and Unimaginable!



Bereavement

A few weeks ago, we heard of the passing of Ms. Essie Stewart Gore. She was a life-long member at Saint Joseph's. When she went to live with her sister in the DC area, her health was failing and was in the throws of Alzheimer's. She will be missed by all who knew and loved her. Our loss is heaven's gain. May she rest in Peace and rise in Glory!



The Brotherhood of St. Andrew

The men of Saint Joseph's will soon be making another delivery to the children assigned to TC Berrien School. The mountain of non-perishable foods and school supplies is growing for the second time. Special thanks to Sharon and Karen Robertson of Holy Trinity for a sizable contribution of food. Although this mission was spearheaded

by the Brotherhood of Saint Andrew,
they welcome the participation of all.
Thank you in advance for your help.



Episcopal Church
Women

ECW (Episcopal CHURCH WOMEN)

As you all well know, the COVID virus has put a damper on many things that we are accustomed. We are having to meet virtually. Fundraisers are at a stand-still but the willingness to continue the work of the Lord is stronger than ever. We have received correspondence from the Diocese seeking ways to stay connected as sisters in Christ and as a community of believers. There is a listing of recommended books for Christian women for a possible book club. People are being asked to share ways to hold fundraisers in a safe and productive way. It is advocating that the church building does not have to be open to continue the service of God.



CWU (Church Women United)

The Church Women United of Fayetteville is 65 members strong! This organization is a collection of women from all the local churches regardless of it's denomination in the Fayetteville area. We are in the process of collecting, new blankets, shirts, t-shirts and socks for the migrant farmworkers located in Newton Grove, NC. This mission had been on hold due to the virus and mandates but now the need is critical. Saint Joseph's parking lot will be the drop off sight for all the churches to drive through with their donations. The gathering will be on Saturday, November 7, from 10:00 tie noon. Our president, Mrs. Janice Coats-Smith will deliver the items to the Farmworkers Headquarters. Thank you in advance for your donations.



Daughters of the King: please continue to send in your monthly dues so that we do not fall short

when our order is called upon for donations.

Thank you,
Bernice Motley, President



Nov 2020 Birthdays

- 3rd David Harvey
- 8th Albertha Rouse
- 18th Petrinella Francis
- 19th Carol Stewart



Snip and Stitch

Due to an unfortunate accident at the site of Seth's Wish, our focus has switched from repurposing blankets to making mask. We are churning out 55 adult mask and 30 children mask weekly. We are seeking more volunteers. Sewing skills are not necessary! There are many jobs available from ironing to snipping threads, cutting fabric and packaging. All hands are welcomed!



Crochet Corner

We are still making baby blankets, booties and hats for the babies at the NIC Unit at Cape Fear Valley Hospital. If you wish to learn how to crochet, we will teach you. Please see Deacon Mary Mac Shields, Ms. Bernice Motley or Ms. Jan Mumford and we will schedule a teaching session. Our distribution is the week before Christmas.



Bible Trivia

Why does the name Jesus mean?

- A. God is good
- B. The Lord lives forever
- C. The Lord gives
- D. The Lord saves

Answer: D. The Lord save (Matthew 1:21)

Bible Humor

Looking for a lifeguard?

Answer

Ours walks on water!



CHUCKLE CORNER

Once upon a time on Old Mc Mumford's farm, the children and their Mom had strolled across the yard to the pond to feed the cat fish.

We had barely thrown in a handful of feed when the squawking of the Mallards caught our attention. To our horror the Drake (male) was trying to kill one of the females! He was on her back, holding the back of her neck and forcing her head under the water. She was quacking and flapping her wings trying to break free from the beast! The children were traumatized. We started throwing sticks and pine cones at the honary old buzzard but to no avail! I yelled to my son, "Run and get your Dad.... tell him to hurry."

Their Dad came running, expecting the worse. As he came closer to the scene

of the crime... he turned ever so quietly to their Mom and said, "the ducks are mating. Please stop throwing at them."

I was still angry and so were the kids who were led to believe the Drake was rough housing. Whenever the situation presented itself we still threw pine cones at them. Poor females. Life seems never easy for them. Even a naive and a unsuspecting adult can learn...down on Old McMumford's Farm.

LOVE MUCH

STAY WELL

BE SAFE

LAUGH A LOT

PRAY ALWAYS



Deacon's Updates

This is a time when it is difficult to reach out to people who need our help. St.

Joseph's hosting a Red Cross blood drive is one way that we

can help others and still be safe and stay at distance from others. The Red Cross will be at church on the morning of November 19 to set up. They will bring everything that is needed.....

Chairs, tables, snacks.

What can the parish do to make this outreach program successful? First, we need as many of us to sign up to donate blood. Second, we will need people to help clear the parish hall the afternoon of Wednesday, November 18th

to provide space for the workers to set up. Third, we need everyone to pray for the workers, those who will be donating blood and for those who in the future will receive the blood. That's a lot of people who all benefit from our hosting this event. You can sign up to donate blood by going to www.redcrossblood.org and enter "Episcopal". Our parish always

makes a difference to our community,
near and far. Blessings.

A prayer for Social Justice- Book of
Common Prayer, page 823

Grant, O God, that your holy and life-
giving Spirit may move every heart and
the hearts of the people of this land, that
barriers which divide us
May crumble, suspicions disappear, and
hatred cease; that our divisions

Being healed we may live in justice and
peace; through Jesus Christ our Lord.
Amen



Rev. Ralph's Corner

The second
installment of the
discussion about stewardship will focus
on the giving of financial support to the
church. As a reminder, the definition of
stewardship according to Merriam-
Webster is having the duties and
obligations of someone who is
supervising or managing of something,

especially the careful and responsible management of something entrusted to our care. The writings of the bible and teachings of Jesus all mention the responsibility of giving tithes and offerings to the church to continue the management of the ministry of Jesus entrusted to our care to spread the good news of the grace and mercy of God. One way that we do this is by support Saint Joseph with our monetary contributions.

It takes a lot of money to run a church. The payment of the workers who make our worship experiences memorable and make sure our spaces are clean. The repair and maintenance of our historic buildings and grounds. The repair and maintenance of the historic organ. All these things take money, and we haven't even started to fund the spreading of the good news of God's love and mercy yet! All we have done is provided a place to meet and worship. When we add the funding of outreach ministry where we are actually beginning to be the church the costs can go up and up.

At the parish meeting, which will occur after church on 29 November this year, the vestry will provide the St. Joseph community with a budget for 2021. When each of us listen to this budget presentation, I am hopeful we will consider giving generously to the work of God being done at St. Joseph. Also, I am hopeful each of us will consider making a pledge to the church. Pledge income helps the vestry to manage the funds in effective ways. Maybe a parallel will be helpful to understand.

Imagine managing your home budget. The utilities need to be paid, groceries need to be bought, and other bills need to be paid. Now imagine having to manage your home budget without know how much money is coming in each month. How do you know what bills can be paid and which need to wait? If you think managing your home budget without knowing how much money is coming in each month sounds stressful then you now know the importance of making a pledge to St. Joseph so the vestry knows how much money is coming in each month.

I look forward to seeing you all at
the parish meeting after church on the
29th of this month!

Priest-in-Charge..The Rev. Ralph Clark
The Rev. Deacon Mary Mac Shields
Senior Warden...Mr. Tyrone Francis
Junior Warden...Mr. Karl Vaughn
Director of Music.. Mrs. Sharon McNair
Newsletter Author....Ms. Jan Mumford
Newsletter Editor.....Mr. Sam Lloyd