



# *Cares, Prayers and Current Affairs*

A Newsletter from St. Joseph's  
Episcopal Church  
November 2019

Salutations Family!

On Your Marks... get ready... set ... GO !!!!

Familiar words for running a race. With the onset of the end of the church year, the beginning of a new and entering into the Advent Season, there is so much to be done within our calendar, it almost seems like the race.

It brings to mind the childhood story of the race between the Hare and the Tortoise.

The secular world, with its commercialism, is like the Hare. He is running at top notch speed.... zipping past all things important while giving more time to Halloween than All Saints Day. The Hare zooms past Thanksgiving and onto Christmas to win the race to make more money this year than last. The Hare slides into the new year with the parties, celebrations and of course the resolutions that we always make but few achieve.

The Tortoise, on the other hand, is how the People of the Way (Christians) should go about

life....slow and easy, savoring each moment and blessing. The Tortoise is not anxious for the days to come or the race that he knows he will not win, for winning is not as important as finishing. He happily lives in the presence of God in the moment. We should go often to our prayer closet...not only talking to God, but more importantly, listening to God. Plan with purpose. Go for what is really important.... Salvation at the end of the race. We should embrace each day for it truly is ... a present. Brood not over the things you do not have but be thankful for what you do have. In the story of Mary and Martha preparing for the visit from Jesus, Mary lived in the presence of Jesus, where as Martha was more concerned with the grunt work preparing the house and the food while complaining of having to do all the work.

Christians take heed....material things will all pass away. Scripture tells us to lay up our treasures in heaven where thieves cannot break through, moths destroy nor rust corrupt.

Though we have a full schedule for the month of November, we will count it all joy, taking it one day at a time. To God Be the Glory!

Sunday Nov. 3rd : All Saints Day  
Sunday Nov.10th: Veterans Day (Guest Speaker Col. Jerry Powell )  
Sunday Nov.17th: Women's Day (Guest Speaker, Rev. Dorothy McNeil)  
Sunday Nov. 24th: Christ The King  
Thursday Nov. 28th: Thanksgiving



## **HEALTH NEWS**

With this being flu season, it is a good time to practice intinction. Take care of yourselves and those you love by getting your flu and pneumonia shots. Use the inside of your elbow to sneeze or cough and wash your hands frequently with soap and water. Drink plenty of water!

## **What has been Happening at St. Joseph's' !**

### **Bereavement**

Our beloved brother, Dr. Rodney Burrows, member of 40 years at Saint Joseph's, passed into his new life, joining his ancestors on Oct. 5, 2019. Though we were not able to accommodate the Celebration of Life Service, we were honored to host the repass for the family on October the 15th in the Butler Parrish Hall. May he rest in peace and rise in Glory.



Episcopal Church  
Women

## **ECW**

The women of St. Joseph's gathered to attend the Gilbert Theatre for the Musical of "You're a Good Man Charlie Brown." Many of us had not attended the Gilbert Theatre which is located on the top floor of the "Fascinate You Museum" downtown on the corner of Bow and Green Street. We were all in awe when we were shown to our seats marked 'Reserved' ! The fact that we were special enough to have seats

marked 'reserved'. Those seats were on the front row! As our dear sister Carol, the church comedian said, we were close enough to shave Charlie Browns legs. Carol... keeps us in stitches! I kept asking the attendant....are you sure these are our seats? OH... DID WE FEEL AND LOOK VIP! (Truth be told.... our people, know people with connections! Shhhhh!!! Her name is Vikki Clark.) A million thanks, Vikki!

The actors were superb and entertaining. The music was fabulous. But we all agreed the icing on the cake... was to have Janice Butler join us! Thank you to all who made this outing wonderful!

### Autumn Tea



### **The Autumn Tea**

The Autumn Tea was a great success! Upon entering the Butler Parish hall, it was not hard to tell that the theme was, "Everything Autumn." The scriptural reflection was from Ecclesiastes which tells us that for every event on earth there is a season. There is a time to be born, a time to die, a time to sow seeds and a time to reap the harvest. The emphasis of our event was that of, a time to laugh in fellowship and to embrace God's mystical plan of seasons with joy and admiration.

The entertainment was the entrance of St. Joseph's Dynamic Choir, under the direction of Mrs. Sharon McNair! Members of the choir were in hiding, awaiting their cue to enter. All were dressed in all colors of the fall leaves, many in African attire. They sang Siyahamba! It was

wonderful! A song that makes you want to clap your hands and move your feet. Did I dance? Yes, I did!

Deacon Shields blessed the food. There was a bounty of foods of all kinds. In fact, there was so much food, everyone had carryouts! The games and fun began after most were near finishing their meal. We had a 50/50 winning, a silent auction and awards. The Couple that received the Dinner for two at Grandson's for being married the longest were Mr. and Mrs. Hamilton for 53 years of marriage. The winner of the 50/50 cash was Ms. Christine Flores. The attendee that traveled from the greatest distance was from Georgia, who just so happened to be Paula, the beautiful daughter of the Hamilton's. Her prize was a beautiful cream colored ceramic box trimmed in gold with tiny golden roses. This gift was donated; compliments of Floral Arts. Gifts for the silent auction included a beautiful pumpkin shaped basket filled with spa type toiletries donated by Roots Salon. A mini vegetable chopper, a large black shawl, dazzled in metallic silver threads, a small fall colored throw and for some lucky man, a leaf blower. Other gifts and awards were given to the highest number of store reward cards which was 22, the strangest item ever eaten which was a scorpion, the most unique item in a pocket was a 33 year sobriety coin and in a purse was a roll of surgical tape. Mr. Francis could name the past 7 presidents in order. Mrs. Graham could name all the planets.

Rev. Clark kept the crowd rivetted with his funny antics to boost the cost of the items for the silent auction. We all laughed and had a jolly time. But even good times have to come to an end. Rev. Ralph gave closing remark about the importance of Christians coming together to simply fellowship in fun and laughter. Laughter is truly good for the soul. It is one of God's greatest gifts, the emotion of joy and happiness expressed through laughter. It is Universal....present in all cultures. The choir sang us out of service in my favorite song... "This Little Light of Mine"....and boy did I dance !



## WOMEN' S Day

Our Women's Day service will be held on November 17. Our guest speaker will be Rev. Dorothy McNeil of First Baptist Church. During the service we will also induct two new members into the Enid Ferguson Chapter of the

Daughters of the King. At this time we also recognize a member as the Woman of the Year. Dinner will be served following the service. Each woman or couple is asked for a donation of \$50.



## DOK

I am humbled to be a Daughter of the King and am proud to say every i' has been dotted and every t' crossed and we are anxiously waiting to receive two new sisters into

the Enid Ferguson Chapter of the DOK. Mrs. Ann Marie Smith and Mrs. Vernell Hamilton , we are proud of your accomplishment as well as your commitment to devote your life to service and prayer.

### **Angels Amongst Us!**



A special thanks to the angel that replaced the Coffee Urn that went missing several months ago! May you and all our loving angels be blessed 10 fold in all you do!

### **An Angel Among Us and a New Mission is Born!**

To God be the Glory! Mr. Harry Carswell answered the call for blankets and he did deliver! Who would imagine blankets...gently used from jail could be repurposed and made a blessing to others. The blankets were in need of a little TLC, so Deacon Shields organized a group of retired women from the community to bring their sewing machines and a good pair of fabric scissors to the parish hall. Approximately six women attended willing and ready to work. There were two teams. One group accessed the damage and trimmed off the frayed edges of the blankets. The second group sewed new hems on the blankets. If a blanket had a tear or hole near the ends, the damaged portion was cut away and will later be made into a poncho. Mrs. Vikki called a friend who ran an organization called " Seth's Wish." She was happy to receive

the 25 blankets we were able to finish on the first meeting!

See how one kind gesture and willing hands came together to equal a blessing for a homeless person. Our next Gathering will be on Tuesday the 19th from 9:00 to noon in the parish hall.



### **Brotherhood of Saint Andrew**

President, Tony Ferguson wishes to thank all the brothers and sisters of Saint Joseph's

and friends for making the Fish Fry and BBQ fundraiser profitable as well as successful. The men have delivered more supplies to TC Berien School. If your contribution did not make it in time for the last delivery...keep the snacks coming. With Thanksgiving, and Christmas to follow, children will need the extra food over the holidays when school is out. Can members make a donation that are not a member of the Brotherhood? Yes, yes you may. It will be greatly appreciated



### **Eucharistic Visitors**

The invitation still stands to anyone wishing to tag along with the visiting eucharistic team. We go into the community to visit with members unable to come out each Sunday to service. We are the hands and feet of God. We go once a month on the third Sunday which is also our Healing Sunday.



## **Leaders Needed !**

**Good Leaders are like a Good Pair of Shoes.  
They wear out after a while and have to be replaced.**

Without leadership....there is no order..... and where there is no order,

.....I do not want to think about it.

Everyone can do something? We all have different gifts to offer. Now is the time to start thinking about what skill or gift you have to offer or what you are willing to do. Work does not magically happen. No... not at St. Joseph's. That box of Kleenex that is always available to anyone in need on the credenza at the back of the church. I know, it seems like it is always full... right. It seems to never run out! Well, someone throws out the empty box and replaces it with a new. Just like someone has coffee ready for members that come early to service.

Someone purchases the bottled water and puts it in the fridge that we all enjoy. The mail gets collected. The bills get paid. The doors get unlocked and locked, lights turned off, tables moved around for different occasions. Bulletins are available for every Sunday service. So much goes on at St. Joseph's yet no one is hired to do any of this work but it all comes together! God is good!

Soon we will be asking members to consider taking leadership roles. At the beginning of the

year we will be voting on leadership roles on the vestry and other important committees. Be prayerful in regard to what God would have you to do.



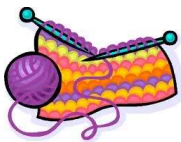
### **FSU Campus Ministry**

A few members have diligently been going to FSU and sitting among the students as they go and come through the student center. There is a sign up list in the parish hall who have a couple of hours to sit among the students. If you are not sure what to do...pair up with Deacon Shields, Mr. Sam or me, Jan! Keeping a presence will eventually , by God's grace, students may consider checking St. Joseph's out. That would be quite the blessing!



### **Altar Guild**

One of the missions of the Daughters of the King is also being willing to serve on the altar guild. It is one of the most humbling and rewarding service of which to be a part. You will receive training. The first step shadow a seasoned member, then work under the guidance of a member and when and only when you are confident, you will receive a key and code to the sanctuary.



### **Crocheting Ministry**

Come join us and learn a relaxing craft that will turn into a gift of love for a new baby and a grateful

mother. Im sure you have seen our basket overflowing with baby blankets, booties and toboggans for the babies in the NIC Unit at Cape Fear Valley Hospital.

We who can are willing to teach others. We meet on the third Saturdays of the month at 1:00 in the parish hall.



## November Birthdays

3rd David Harvey

19th Carol Stewart

Olu-Orondava Munford

## Birth to Be Announcement!

Coming in February to Michael and Amanda.



## Bible Trivia

What insect will destroy earthly treasure?

- A) Gnat
- B) moth
- C) Scorpion
- D) Worm

## Bible Humor

**Finish this statement.**

Give God what's right.....Scorpion

Answer: not what's left.

## The Chuckle Corner

At one point in the life of 'Old Mc Mumford's Farm' we had two Great Danes at the same time. The female was nearing her winter season and the male was still quite young but still an adult dog, non the less. The male, General had had an unfortunate incident as a puppy which rendered him sweet as pie but dumb as a box of rocks. ( He found and consumed most of our neighbors discarded rust filled water filter.) He would only bark if the female barked first. If you gave him a hot dog, he would not eat it but would toss it in the air and play with it as if it were a toy that is until the female named Baby, snatched it away and consumed it for the purpose it was given. However, if a rock was tossed in his direction....he would swallow it!

Well, I was on a quest to prove that General, in fact had some form of intelligence. One day I had to call in for a sick day at work. The kids had already told me that General was always waiting for them at the gate when they got home from school. This was my chance! I was going to witness this phenomenon for myself and prove once and for all that General had at the least, a sense of timing! I watched the kids climb onto their golf cart and drive down the dirt road to catch the school bus. General followed and looked on through the gate as it closed in front of him. All during the day I would look out the window in search for General. Each time I looked....General was still at the gate. At the appointed time for the kids to return home...

there was General, who had waited all those hours at the gate for their return! So much for that proof!

By spring time, both dogs were in season for mating. General was so excited. He would not even eat! I could tell he knew something was amidst but General had not a clue as to what it was nor where anything should go. He would nuzzle the neck of the female, nudge at her arm pit.... if she had one. He would constantly paw at her. All this would go on until Baby tired of his misinformed attempts to scratch his itch, she would snap at him. My husband had the bright idea to just leave them outside to their own devices and if it was meant to be... it will happen and by summer we would have puppies!

Upon nearing home from work, I was in total dread for what I would find. I was afraid one of my dogs could possibly be dead. To my shock... they had both survived. There was a huge hole dug in the ground. Baby, the female was in the center of the hole... and poor General was running in circles around the hole, tongue hanging out from exhaustion still "Dumb as a box of Rocks" but also as sweet as pie!

It was decided that we would just keep them separated until the season passed.



## **From Deacon Shields**

St. Joseph's hosted a deanery event, Snip an Sew, October 26. Members from our parish, Haymount United Methodist Church, and Holy Trinity gathered to mend blankets. The City of

Fayetteville has given us over two hundred blankets which need to have the edges trimmed and hemmed. We worked for three hours and repaired 25 blankets. Vikki Clark contacted Seth's Closet and delivered them that day. This is a wonderful opportunity to meet people from around our deanery and surrounding community and do an outreach project which benefits those in need of warm blankets. All are welcome to join us so invite your friends. Please bring scissors or a sewing machine. Another session of "Snip and Sew" is scheduled for Tuesday, November 19 from 9-12pm. We look forward to seeing you.

For more information contact Jan Mumford, 910-567-5155.

Deacon Mary Mac



## **Rev. Ralph's Corner**

We live in an era where information flows freely all around us.

Collectively, many of these platforms of information sharing are known as social media.

There is some debate about whether social media is good or bad and I suppose there is a valid argument on both sides of this issue. I would like to consider the positive aspects of social media that might be helpful for the propagation of the good news.

You may know that St. Joseph has a webpage where persons can find us on the web. St. Joseph also has a Facebook page where we can share the activities of the parish. There is also a deanery Facebook page where we can share the work that each of the churches in the upper cape fear deanery are doing. Facebook can be a platform for sharing good news and coordinating the work of the church.

Another social media platform is Instagram. The FSU campus ministry has an Instagram account where information can be shared with countless other persons. The deanery also has an Instagram account where the activities of the deanery can be coordinated, advertised, and celebrated.

Social media is not without its dark side but there are many ways that these platforms can be tools to continue the work God has given us to do.

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