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# TRINITY TIMES

The Newsletter of Holy Trinity Episcopal Church, Hampstead, NC  
[www.holytrinityhampstead.com](http://www.holytrinityhampstead.com)

April 2018

## Sharing the Good News from Pamela †

**D**uring Lent I have asked you to focus on the first promise of baptismal covenant:

*Will you continue in the apostles' teaching and fellowship, the breaking of bread, and in the prayers?*

Our Wednesday service has focused on the apostles' teaching and fellowship as found in the Acts of the Apostles. I suggested reading that book of the Bible would be a good Lenten project.

Recently I read a sermon given by one of the long-time priests of this diocese on the Fourth Sunday in Lent.

The sermon reflected on the Greeks who wanted to see Jesus, saying:

*"We as people of God, as Jesus followers, are called to live our lives in such a fashion that when someone comes to us and from the depths of their being cries, ma'am or sir, we wish to see Jesus, that by the way we live and speak and act, they might in fact catch a glimpse of Jesus through us."*

There were four areas he touched on. The first area of life is that of adult to child, the second area of life is that of our neighbors and the third area of life is that of a citizen involved in his or her community. He discussed ways our actions in each area can show others who Jesus is.

His fourth area spoke to me of the baptismal promise above and I couldn't have said it any better, so I received permission from Jim Horton to share portions of his sermon.

*"The fourth and final area of life is that of a worshiper of God. I believe God calls us to worship God every moment of our lives, not for God's benefit but for ours. We can worship God anyplace; but God has blessed us with a worshiping community, this parish family.*

*For our parish to be healthy we need to worship together regularly. If we believe that, then we need to model it; not come to worship occasionally or once or twice a month. Our children learn from us; our friends who might join us learn from us,*

*We come here regularly on Sunday mornings not because we have to and not because we will always be renewed and certainly not because my sermon offers at least a modicum of insight. We come here because this is where the people of God gather on Sunday morning to hear and be present to and, when blessed, see Jesus. To break bread, to pray for one another, to enjoy fellowship and to say, by our lives, that Jesus is my Lord and Savior and I want to share that Good News by the way I live and the way I act in all areas of my life.*

*Amen"*



## News and Notes from Outreach

Our second forum on the opioid crisis in Pender County has been set for **Thursday, May 3<sup>rd</sup>, 7-9 pm**. This follow-up to our previous successful forum in January with Sheriff Carson Smith will focus on recovery strategies. It will also address how the community can help.

Speakers will be Catherine McDowell, founder of Roots of Recovery, Hampstead, and Mary Parks from Pavillon by the Sea, Wilmington.

**Roots for Recovery** is founded on women supporting women, walking the path of recovery together. According to Catherine, "Our mission is to offer a peer support program for women who have become hopeless, helpless, and homeless. At Roots of Recovery, we are building a cottage community to serve women with alcohol and other drug addictions and their children.



"Lack of a stable, alcohol and drug-free living environment can be a serious obstacle to achieving sobriety. In order to provide a safe, healthy home for women and children, we are building a Cottage Development. Receiving positive social support, while

living free of the fear of becoming homeless, is a key component of Roots of Recovery's philosophy," said Catherine.

**Pavillon by the Sea** offers an intensive outpatient service in Wilmington. According to Mary Parks, "It is critical to partner with a treatment center that is committed to, and singularly focused on providing you and your family with lifelong tools and resources needed to maintain recovery from the disease of addiction."

Pavillon's Intensive Outpatient Program is a level of care that is appropriate for those who have enough structure in their community to maintain sobriety while undergoing treatment. The benefits of outpatient treatment are numerous. While participating in treatment a person may:

- Remain in their home



- Include their family in their recovery process
- Continue their career with a slight reduction in hours
- Become a part of a local thriving recovering community
- Participate in healthy, sober activities in beautiful Wilmington, NC

There will be a Q&A session following the presentations. Coffee and light refreshments will be offered.

## Parish Life

In April/May, a **baseball game outing** at UNCW, will be scheduled and possibly a **mini golf outing** at Shipwreck Point, Surf City, for May.



### Church Picnic

Looking forward to the **Ascension Day picnic**, which will be held on **Thursday, May 10<sup>th</sup> at 6 pm** at our picnic area. Please bring a salad,

side dish, or dessert to share. We hope the Youth Group will arrange for games. Last year was loads of fun and we had a large number attending. Will also be looking for parish members to coordinate this event (Norm and I will be out of the country).

If you have any ideas for Parish Life activities, please contact Pat Gopsill, [pgopsill@gmail.com](mailto:pgopsill@gmail.com).

*Pat Gopsill, Parish Life Ministry*

## STEWARDSHIP NEWS

We are pleased to announce that Roger and Jeanne Rick have declared their intent to name Holy Trinity Church a beneficiary under their estate plan.

They hope that by publicly acknowledging their gift this will encourage others to make similar gifts to Holy Trinity.

We would like to thank Roger and Jeanne for their forward thinking and give praise to God for having them in our Parish Family.

*Dave Mahoney, Stewardship Ministry*

## Stewardship: Serving Others in Love

From the First Letter of John: "We know love by this, that he laid down his life for us. And we ought to lay down our lives for one another." So love lays down life. This is the love that we see in the Cross. This is a love that is so deep, it's really beyond words – this love that Jesus had for us, enough to lay down his life for us, and an invitation to do the same for one another.

So what does this mean for us? I think that it means that in communities of love to whom we've made faithful commitments, I think that that means practicing vulnerability with each other.

There's a brilliant researcher and author, Brené Brown, who defines vulnerability as "risk, uncertainty, and emotional exposure". We lay down our life when we practice those things in relationship with one another. We lay down our life when we apologize to someone when we know that we're wrong, even if we don't want to apologize. We lay down our life by volunteering to do something that we know needs doing; even if we think we might be bad at it, we risk.

We lean into the uncertainty *in love* in communities to whom we've made those faithful commitments as a way of practicing, so that when we go out into the world, when we *testify* to the love of God in word and action, we've had a kind of dress rehearsal for that within the Christian community, within your marriage or partnership, within your family, within your spiritual friendships. We're made strong in that love by the model of that self-sending love – that 'let-it-all-go' kind of love of Jesus – so that we can go out into the world and practice the same kind of love.

Vulnerability is difficult. I know that in my own life. I'm sure that you know that. So we need communities of love to ground us, to practice that, so that we can be prepared to do that in ever widening circles in the world as a testimony to the one who loved us that much.

So, a practice of prayer that might go with this: When you find yourself in that place where you feel called to lay down your life in whatever way, large or small, you might think of composing a short prayer, a laying-down-my-life prayer, that maybe you just breathe in and breathe out and say internally, "This is love. This is love laying down its life." When someone does that for you, when you see love laying down its life for you, have a prayer that allows

you to receive that in return, to practice that mutual giving and receiving of love laying down its life.

Brother Keith Nelson,  
Society of St. John the Evangelist

## April Birthdays & Anniversaries



### Birthdays:

10	Nikolas Chludzinski	28	Cameron & Connor Starrett
11	Libet Cottle		
17	Donna Smith		
18	Sydney Price		
20	Rich Murnock		
22	Marge Miller		

### Anniversaries:

3	Roy & Christie Hawkins
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The Daughters of the King were busy this past month making Easter Baskets for the children at La Familia Sagrada in Newton Grove. We received a request from Church of the Servant, Wilmington. They were compiling 400 baskets for Episcopal Farmworkers so we pitched in and made 24 baskets. It was a fun and worthwhile project. If you are interested in joining DOK and would like more information about who we are and what we are about, let me or one of our other members know. We will be glad to speak to you.

Jackie Redington, President, Daughters of the King

Each month, we will highlight one of the wild and crazy holidays our nation (and the world) celebrates....just for the fun of it!

**April's Wacky Holiday:**

**April 13: National Peach Cobbler Day**

You may not have known it when you awoke this morning, but today is *National Peach Cobbler Day*. How sweet it is!



Peaches are one of America's favorite fruits. When you put it into a cobbler recipe, you've got a treat, of which people will be asking for seconds.

Peach Cobbler is a deep dish fruit pie, made with peaches and biscuit (or its equivalent). While it is best served hot, it is still delicious consumed cold, too.

Back in the 1800's, American settlers travelling to the west, did not have the ingredients to make a then popular suet pudding. They used peaches and dough to cobble together this tasty fruit pie.

**For the record!** The largest Peach Cobbler ever made, was baked at the Georgia Peach Festival in 2007. It measured 11' X 5' and 8" deep.

Peach Cobbler Day was created by the Georgia Peach Council in the 1950's, to promote the consumption of Canned peaches. Canned peaches can be enjoyed any month of the year. This helps to answer the placement of this special day in April, when fresh peaches are not available.

**Economy  
Money  
Budget  
Finance  
Spending**

	Month Ended Feb. 28, 2018	Year to Date Feb. 28, 2018	Annual Budget 2018
Pledged Offerings	\$ 8,830.00	\$17,949.00	\$119,155.00
Total Income	\$10,277.70	\$19,839.10	\$141,415.00
Total Expenses	\$ 9,682.28	\$22,918.23	\$146,239.88

**A BIG thank you to all who have contributed. It's never too late to write a check to Holy Trinity!**

◆◆◆◆◆ **Holy Eucharist Begins Sunday at 10:00 a.m.** ◆◆◆◆◆

Holy Trinity Episcopal Church  
107 Deerfield Road  
Hampstead, NC 28443

"Leading, Listening, Loving, and Sharing through Christ"