



# TIDINGS

Saint Elizabeth of Hungary Episcopal Church



December 2016

*The mission of Saint Elizabeth's Church is proclaiming God's Word, celebrating God's love, and sharing God's gifts.*

## Stillness as vocation??

by Rev. Doris Graf Smith

Ever sat next to a child with hyper-activity or attention deficit syndrome? Or an adult with this condition? Age doesn't matter. If that person really needs to sit very still during a program, play, concert or lecture, it becomes their *job* to focus on something or squeeze something to allow them to appear to be still. Inside, their mind and even muscles may be running a marathon; when the still-time is over, they can be thoroughly exhausted for they have been *working* extremely hard to accomplish what was asked of them, "Just sit still and listen; how hard could that be, anyway?"



Working to be still can be important, just regular ordinary being still. There are other times when stillness can take on the hue of the Holy. This is a different kind of work. It might be said that such times are the work of growing in Christ. *Advent* is one such time and season.

Because I live away from road noise, river noise, airplane noise, I can go out on my front porch and hear a leaf fall. One leaf falls and shimmers through the air until it finally rests on earth's gravel. It's a stillness of profound impression. I can imagine that when Mary was greeted by the angel who told her of the child she was to conceive and give birth to, there was stillness – solemn holy alive stillness such that she could take in the Word and remember the Word not for a moment or a month, but for all her life. I can imagine the birth of her vocation as the God-bearer, *theotokos*, was revealed in a profound stillness; a stillness that she would recall when times were rough and even when her heart was breaking. A moment in time, of time, for time that she had shared with God and could recall if not recreate. To maintain her true vocation, she would need to reclaim such moments and collect others. Times when all around her was still, and she would know: This is Holy. This is True.

*Advent* offers less earthshaking revelation for us who walk the earth today, but not less necessary as we consider all that we will pass through in this life until the next. We, too, can use our memories of the holy so that we can find our way when the chaos of the world feels like it's bombing our ability to deal and think and muddle through.

One focus of *Advent* is the time when Christ will come again in power and great glory to judge the world. We are told not to be afraid of this. The way we can live unafraid is to embrace our vocation as baptized in Christ so that we can show Him forth through our actions in the world. We can collect our own times of stillness and insight into the Holy and do as Mary did – have them available to ponder in our hearts. Our calling, our vocation to be Christ in the world – to show the way and keep the road cleared for him to come again in power....

Another focus of *Advent* came on that holy night *when earth was joined to heaven and heaven to earth in a manger in Bethlehem*. The sacred birth is a marker that what once was will be again. Through all the years of Christmases, I hope you have had some moments of stillness where you felt something – a tear in the eye, a hand in the night, a song bubbling up unremembered, now revealed. *Unto us is born ...* ringing from the reader's lips. Let us make it our vocation to collect these moments of *stillness* into our hearts and memories so that we too may ponder them and find their strength when we most need them. *Advent* is to come upon the Holy and know it is for us to have and to hold. This is part of our vocation, our work and our joy. May God bless our *Advent* work.

## All invited to parish Christmas party Dec. 10

Everyone is welcome to a parish Christmas party Saturday, Dec. 10, at the home of Don and Elaine Clark, beginning at 3 p.m. Please bring a dish to share (no sign ups this year). Wine and nonalcoholic beverages will be available at the party. Come prepared for good food, good fellowship, good spirits, music, and fun!

### DIRECTIONS:

258 Via Senese in Montaluce  
706-867-8898.

Montaluce is located at 501 Hightower Church Road. Do not let your GPS send you down Jay Bridge Road. It's a locked construction entrance.

- Turn left into Montaluce from Hightower Church Road. Follow the main road to the stop sign at the top of the hill.
- Turn right. Stay on that road. After about 1/4 mile, the road will dogleg to the left.
- Take the second right onto Via Senese. Cross the bridge. As you start up the hill, take the right fork. The Clarks' home is at the top of the hill on the right,

## Search Committee update

by Martha Roberts

The past few weeks have been busy for St. Elizabeth's Search Committee. Parish visits, which involved traveling by Search Committee members in teams of three, meeting with a candidate socially for lunch or dinner, and attending a Sunday service where the candidate preached, have been completed. Reference checks have been done, and background checks, required by the Diocese, have begun.

The Committee then met this past Sunday with our consultant from the Diocese, The Rev. Jody Greenwood, who moderated the discussion of the candidates, and directed the committee on procedure. The Search Committee will meet with the Vestry on Sunday, Dec. 4 and present the names of candidates for the Vestry to consider. From that point, the Vestry will be in charge of completing the discernment process and selecting the next Rector. There are several more steps to complete. Please continue to pray for everyone involved as we move forward.

Committee members are Elaine Clark, Judy Ford, Martha Roberts, Bill Lach, Darrell Woodall, David Jones, Michael Zose and Don Hunt.

## Waiting and Walking

Article and photo by Rosalie Jensen

### WAITING FOR THE LIGHT

For three years in a row Mike and I spent a week in early October on Tybee Island in a rental cottage named Memories of the Beach. Last year we cancelled our reservation because Mike's daughter's ashes were interred that week at Arlington National Cemetery. This year we stayed in North Georgia for the fall. This fortunate decision kept us from being involved in Hurricane Matthew, which struck the island before dawn Saturday, October 8. According to one account "Tybee Island appeared to bear the brunt of the storm in Georgia."

Photographing sunrises is an activity that we intend to repeat on a visit next year before hurricane season begins. As before, we will rise in the morning and walk to the beach in the dark with at least two cameras and a sturdy tripod. We have a favorite shelter above the beach with a good view of the place where the sun is likely to rise. There is much to be observed even before the sun makes an appearance. Photographs from previous waiting sessions include pink rimmed clouds showing promise of the coming sunrise, container ships traveling to and from Savannah harbor, birds outlined against a brightening sky, and people walking or waiting for the sunrise on the beach below.

Sunrises over the Atlantic Ocean are not like sunrises over land. Clouds seem to be piled over the water in the distance, but sometimes there is a rare morning when the sun seems to come up right out of the ocean. The picture that you see here was made on a morning when thick clouds were low over the water. When the sun broke through, its rays scattered in all directions. Soon flocks of birds flew

above the water and landed on the beach.

Can you see in your mind people who had waited patiently now walking along the beach and enjoying another brilliant sunrise? Can you hear in your mind music from Part 1 of Handel's Messiah? About halfway through is an inspiring aria for a bass soloist which begins "The people who walked in darkness have seen a great light." This line is the beginning of a beautiful passage of poetry in the ninth chapter of Isaiah. Following the aria the choir sings the unforgettable "For unto us a Child is born." This stirring chorus continues with words from Isaiah which calls the awaited child "Wonderful Counselor, Mighty God, Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace."

### WALKING ON THE EARTH

Currently we are in the season of Advent, a time of waiting for an anticipated event. In our hearts we are moving toward the night when we celebrate the birth of Jesus the Christ. Of all the miracles in the Bible, have you ever considered that the miracle of God assuming human form and walking on the earth is the greatest miracle of all? There are those among us who cannot walk or must walk with assistance, but we are all invited to walk in spirit toward the sacred birth place as the days in December pass before us.

The Gospels record many places where Jesus walked. We are told that he went from Galilee to the Jordan to be baptized by his cousin John the

Baptist. He was led by the Spirit into the wilderness to be tempted by the devil. He walked by the Sea of Galilee to call his first disciples. With his disciples he traveled throughout cities and villages of Galilee, teaching and healing those hungry to hear his words and witness his miracles. He went on foot to Jerusalem to celebrate feasts and holy days. He traveled through Samaria and had a conversation with a woman at a well. On several occasions he went to the city of Bethany to visit his friends Mary, Martha, and Lazarus. With three of his disciples, he climbed Mount Hermon in South Lebanon for the transfiguration. In the courtyard of the Temple he turned over tables of merchants who created a barrier between people and God by selling animals for sacrifice.

The last recorded walk of Jesus was toward the village of Emmaus. On the day that the empty tomb was discovered, two of his friends were joined by a stranger. Not recognizing the newcomer as Jesus, they described what had happened leading up to the discovery by women that the tomb no longer held the body of their leader. After he interpreted writings about himself in the scriptures, they invited him to join them for the evening. It was only when he took bread, blessed it, and broke it that their eyes were opened to see their Lord.

As we wait and walk toward Bethlehem during Advent we can find hope in these words of Jesus from the book of John: "I am the light of the world. Whoever follows me will never walk in darkness but will have the light of life." As we approach the shortest and darkest day of the year, know that even on that day you can bask in this promise of light from the holy one who walked on the earth.

## REQUESTED BY DEC. 11

# Get those pledge cards in ...

by Pastor Doris

We are well into our pledge program for 2017.

As you know, part of our challenge this year is to have our income reflect our desire for a full-time rector while still funding our outreach ministries, Diocesan commitment, salary for staff and all the other parts and pieces of parish ministry and mission. It is important that in all that we do we project our understanding of how best to proclaim God's Word, celebrate God's love, and share God's gifts with neighbors far and near. If you have not turned in your pledge intention for 2017, **Please do so by Dec. 11 or before.**

You can place the card pledge in the envelope provided in the handout in the basket as you come up for communion, or you can go to our website and pledge on line. Either way, the treasurer receives the information and records it giving a condensed /generalized report to the Stewardship Committee, Senior Warden, and Interim Rector. The Nov. 29 report shows we have reached slightly under 50 % of the draft budget with slightly less than one-half of 2017 pledges expected, returned. These early results show a 12 % raise in the amount of pledges. These numbers are more than numbers because they indicate a strong desire to move St. Elizabeth's forward in Dahlonega, Ga. – drawing the circle wider with the resources to make a difference. Thank you for your participation in this pledge program which includes your continued prayers for the goals set before us.

### HOW TO TURN IN A PLEDGE CARD

1. Put your pledge card (in an envelope) in the basket as you come up to communion.
2. Mail it to the church.
3. Click the ONLINE PLEDGE tab at [www.StElizabethEpiscopal.com](http://www.StElizabethEpiscopal.com)



## Contributions requested for Christmas greenery, flowers

If you would like to make a gift of money toward the decorating of the Nave for the Christmas season, you may do so now through Wednesday, Dec. 21. Cash should go into an envelope with your name and designation of memorial or thanksgiving. If you are offering a check, please notate on memo line: Christmas Flowers.

Fill out the form you will find in the weekly bulletin, and we will publish these memorials and thanksgivings in the Christmas Eve and Christmas Day bulletins.

*Thank you from the Altar and Flower Guilds.*



## SPECIAL SERVICES

### Lessons & Carols

Sunday, Dec. 11 at 10 am.

Advent Lessons and Carols is a service which allows us to enter deeply into the foreshadowing of the Prophets as to Jesus' birth. This year, we will have a thoughtful and useful way to hear these readings with reflective music following the readings. The choir will sing several anthems, the congregation will join the choir in several hymns, we will offer possibilities Advent brings us. We will receive communion and then go forth into the world after our usual good time of fellowship in the Parish Hall. The service is planned to be about the same length as a regular Sunday service if you need to plan your day. We believe this will prove to be a meaningful part of our journey this year and know it is a good time to invite friends, family and neighbors to come and experience with you. We invite your prayers for the service and for all who attend.

### Christmas Eve

Candlelight Service 8 p.m.

The choir will sing three beautiful anthems: The Christ Child's Lullaby, The Wexford Carol, and O Sweetest Lord Jesus. The congregation will sing beautiful Christmas carols.

### Community Advent Services

Tuesdays at noon  
Dahlonega United Methodist Church,  
107 S. Park Street  
*A lunch will follow each service.*

Dec. 6, Fr. John Matejek,  
St. Luke Roman Catholic Church:  
"The Surprise of God's Person"

Dec. 13, Rev. Calvin Ward,  
Wesley Chapel United Methodist Church:  
"The Surprise of God's Plan"

Dec. 20, Rev. Joseph Robinson,  
The Fountain, Church of God of Prophecy,  
"The Surprise of God's Promise"

*The community is welcome to attend.*

## *B-Olivia Update* by Tom & Martha Roberts

During the Memorial Service for our granddaughter Olivia, the Northview Church of Christ, where our son John and his family are members, was able to Skype with Dr. Kevin Broyles and his wife Noelle, who live in LaPaz, Bolivia, where Dr. Broyles is the Country Director for HOPE worldwide Bolivia. In addition to numerous healthcare and social service initiatives, the Broyles have started a clinic in LaPaz, and have recently begun to create a children's library.

For several years the Northview Church of Christ has helped the Broyles with clinic and social services funding, and has sent missionary groups of adults and teenagers to participate in projects in LaPaz, which



is an area of extreme poverty. For the past two summers, our granddaughter was part of this ministry.

As many of you are aware, the B-Olivia Memorial Fund was established by her church with the intent that the donations would be used to benefit the children of LaPaz,

for whom she had a special love. On Nov. 27, Martha and I had the privilege of attending the Sunday service at Northview Church of Christ, where Dr. Broyles and Noelle spoke about their work in Bolivia, and were presented with a check from B-Olivia donations for over \$9600 for the purchase of books for the children's library in LaPaz. Bookplates for each book in the B-Olivia Library will have the B-Olivia logo created by a friend of the family.

Until this library was founded, children in the LaPaz area had no access to books. It is with grateful hearts that Martha and I thank all of you who contributed to this worthwhile cause.

## Potlucks—looking back, looking ahead

by Susan Richtarcik

Our last Parish potluck for 2016 was held Nov. 17. As always, St. Elizabeth cooks did a wonderful job. We had plenty of food and a good variety, with no shortage of hungry people. There were about 45 people to close out this potluck season.

We also had some guests join us and a few college students attended as well. It was wonderful to have the students and hope they will come again.

When we started up the potluck at the beginning of 2016, no one was sure how the congregation would respond. I have received only positive feedback and I am delighted we had so many people come each month.

One reason for doing a monthly potluck at the parish was to make it easy on everyone and no one had to make a commitment. Everyone came as they wanted and were able. It turned out to be a bigger success than hoped for.

I believe that most people are in favor of having potlucks again for 2017. We can restart in March or April, as the weather in January and February is always unpredictable. If we re-start in March, there will only be eight months of actual pot lucks, as our parish picnic is in September and we have our Christmas party in December.

At the last potluck I briefly discussed, for next year, having one or two people each take a month and be responsible to get things organized for that month. The hostess(es) for that month can choose a theme or plan it however they like. Mostly it requires they get the information out and then be there early to set up.

Sometime after the first of the year when the vestry makes committee assignments, I hope to meet with the vestry's Parish Life representative to discuss all the options. All ideas for future potlucks are appreciated, so let me know and I will pass them on. Watch for announcements in Tidings and Thursday e-mails.

Again, the potlucks have been my joy; thanks to everyone who made them the success they were.



### *Baptism of Aurora Lynn*

Aurora Lynn DeYoung, daughter of Lauren Brooke Christopher and Brent Allen DeYoung, and great-granddaughter of Stella and Chris Christopher, was baptized on All Saints' Sunday, Nov. 6. She was accompanied by a very large contingent of family members.

## ANNUAL MEETING/VESTRY NEWS

# Zose, Woodall elected to vestry at called Annual Meeting

Two new vestry members were elected at a special Annual Meeting Nov. 20. The meeting was called to put a full vestry in place as they are charged with completing the discernment process and selecting the next Rector.

Michael Zose and Darrell Woodall were elected to replace David Connolly, who recently resigned near the end of his three-year term, and Rick Hayes, who has also served for three years. Returning members of the vestry are Millie Alexander, Wilma Bammer, Bill Lach and Sharon McWhorter.

In other business at the annual meeting, three "administrative" awards were made by parish administrator Susan and Pastor Doris to several individuals in appreciation "for the great work they are doing and will continue to do." Gifts were presented to Warren Johnson, (prayers of the people editor and compiler), Harriet Connolly (bulletin editor) and Margo Booth (Tidings editor). Harriet and Warren took over these positions at the beginning of 2016 when the previous volunteers were no longer able to do the tasks.

The parish also recognized Pat Hughes for long and dedicated tenure on the altar guild. She has recently retired from countless years of service preparing this holy area for our worship together.

Tom Roberts has assumed the church treasurer duties, taking over for Bob Ingram. Bob will be recognized at the January annual meeting for his service, as will a number of other members of the parish.

And, information on the 2017 pledge program was presented to the congregation.

Following the Annual Meeting, the vestry met and unanimously elected Sharon McWhorter Senior Warden. A Junior Warden will be elected at an upcoming meeting of the new vestry. At this meeting the vestry expanded its body to one administrative member, Joan Anderson, who will serve as Clerk or Scribe and will also be available as the Chair of the new year round Stewardship Committee.

### MEET DARRELL WOODALL

Darrell has been at St. Elizabeth's for two years as of January, 2017. He is an usher, a "Lay Weeder," serves on the Search Committee, and writes the "Veterans Corner" column for Tidings. His wife, Julie, is the church organist and choir master.

Darrell is a retired public school teacher from Henry County, Ga. He taught history and geography at the high school and middle school levels, as well as 4th and 5th grades at the elementary level. He holds an Associate of Arts degree from DeKalb College, a Bachelor of Science degree from Georgia State University, and a Master of Science degree from Piedmont College. Darrell is currently attending the University of North Georgia, with the intention of eventually earning his doctorate degree in education. His hobbies include historical research, photography, reading, writing, and athletics.



### MEET MICHAEL ZOSE



Michael, his wife, Amy, and their daughter, Alexandra (Lexi) have been members of St. Elizabeth's Episcopal Church since the summer of 2015. As a member of St. Elizabeth's, Michael has served on the Search Committee and as both a lay-reader and lay-weeder. He is also a member of the Outreach committee, responsible for the Adopt-a-Road program, on the refreshments committee, and was previously a greeter.

Michael grew up in suburban New York and attended college and graduate school at the College of William and Mary in Virginia, where he and Amy first met. After graduation, Michael started his career at the U.S. Government Accountability Office (GAO) in Atlanta, where he currently serves as a project manager. He primarily oversees projects geared towards improving patient safety, quality of care, and operational efficiency within the VA health care system.

After moving to Atlanta in 2006, Michael and Amy discovered Dahlonega and immediately fell in love with the quaint community and the beauty of the North Georgia mountains. For years, they spent most weekends driving up from Atlanta to enjoy kayaking, hiking, and backpacking in North Georgia. Soon after Lexi was born, they decided to fulfill their dream and finally move to Dahlonega to allow Lexi to grow up in a small town environment. Shortly after moving, they discovered St. Elizabeth's and have thoroughly enjoyed being members of this warm community.

## Forgotten Cold War veterans

By Darrell Woodall



Last month, we had a very nice Veterans Day celebration at St. Elizabeth's Church, in which we honored some 30 members of our parish who are veterans of both wartime and peacetime military service. Some among our number were shot at, while others were often time doing hazardous duty in some form, in some corner of the globe. However, there are many veterans who have given their lives without ever having heard a shot fired in anger. They are those unsung heroes who have given their lives in the service of their country in training accidents, or in the line of duty outside the combat zone. This month this story is about seven of those heroes who died during the Cold War in a training accident.

Thanks to people like Pete and Cally Pratt, and others like them, these seven men are being remembered in a small locality known as Elephant Mountain in Maine. They were members of a nine-man B-52C crew that was on a training mission on January 24, 1963. It was in the middle of the hottest time of the Cold War, which the United States was engaged in with the Soviet Union. Since there was the nearly constant threat that the Cold War could become a nuclear holocaust, the United States Air Force was on constant alert, and trained for the worst case scenario, that of the U.S.S.R. staging a nuclear strike on the United States. Our B-52 bombers were poised to strike back if need be, and the bomber crews flew many, many training missions in order to be fully prepared. In the winter of 1963, one of those bombers had taken off from Westover Air Force Base in Massachusetts, headed for its designated practice area which was near Elephant Mountain in snowy and bitter cold Maine. The flight was to be a low level exercise, testing radar or some other technological aspect of the bomber's strike capability.

Flying into the exercise area at low altitude, the bomber encountered severe turbulence, which caused the structural integrity of the plane to be compromised. According to the released USAF report, the plane's vertical fin stabilizer, at the rear of the

aircraft, was wrenched loose by the severe turbulence, and as the plane was already flying about 2,000 feet from the ground, which is low for such an immense aircraft, the plane lost altitude rapidly. The aircraft was only 300 feet from the ground, flying at about 300 knots, when the crew started to eject. But it was too late for most of them. Three men were able to eject, but the remaining crew went down with the bomber. The B-52 crashed into the ground at Elephant Mountain, scattering debris and wreckage on the mountainside. Two of the men, one the pilot and commander, LTC Dante Bulli, received a broken leg upon impact with the ground. A second crew member, CPT Gerald Adler, fractured three ribs when his ejection seat struck an object as he landed. The third crew member to eject, MAJ Robert Morrison, was killed on impact with the ground. The six crew members left in the plane all died upon the plane's crash.

It would take rescuers eighteen hours to reach the crash site. They found Bulli and Adler alive, although badly injured. Adler had frostbite on both feet in addition to his rib injury. Both would survive. Morrison's body was recovered where it impacted with the ground, and the remaining six men were found at their duty stations within

the bomber's fuselage, all killed in the crash.

Today, one may visit the crash site of this Cold War training accident near Greenville, Maine. Much of the debris from the destroyed aircraft is still visible, scattered along the ground where it was left. The Air Force apparently recovered any top secret material from the site, but left what could not be easily retrieved. This is where Pete and Cally come in. They, along with their friends who lived in the area, have maintained the crash site as a memorial to those fallen heroes from 53 years ago. They have insured that the site is well-kept, as much as possible, and are to be commended for this patriotic work and gesture.

The lesson of this story is obvious. There are literally thousands of service men and women who have died in service just like these men did, protecting our nation quietly and unsung. There is an old adage I recall that in essence says, "We honor all those who man a wall at night so that the rest of us may sleep in peace." May the Lord bless and keep all those men and women who have manned, and still do man, the protective walls of our nation.



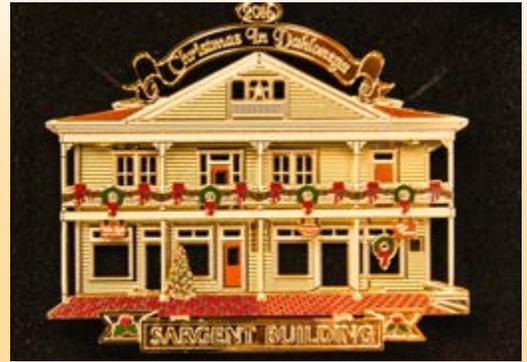
*Pastor Doris presented all St. Elizabeth veterans with a "Proud Veteran" pin during the Nov. 6. Service. Some 70 members were honored for their service.*

## *CHP ornament is here!*

The 2016 official Dahlenega Christmas ornament is here! It is a beautiful rendition of the Sargent Building which is located on the corner of the square where Brad Walker's pottery shop is.

The church office has a supply that is getting low, but can also get more until the week of Dec. 12. Cost is \$20/ornament. Both cash and checks (made out to CHP) are acceptable.

Please contact Dave Bammer or Don Clark if you have any questions. The two send special thanks to Susan Richtarcik for her generous office assistance.



## **Business of the diocese handled at annual council, farewells said to Bishop Whitmore**

*by Pastor Doris*

Diocesan Council meet from Friday morning, Nov. 18, through the day, and then reconvened on Saturday morning and did business until noon. This council was sponsored by the Southeast Convocation and held at the International Conference Center near the Atlanta Airport. Council opened with a glorious family celebration of Holy Eucharist with special choirs, great singing, and a stirring message. People seemed to be truly inspired to be together and experience the variety which our Diocese brings when gathered together.

A large part of the Council is dedicated to electing representatives for the many commissions the Diocese supports to do the work of ministry. Included this year was the election of the delegates who will represent us at the next General Convention which will be in Austin. These delegates begin work soon, learning the rules, reviewing proposed legislature, serving on some of the committees represented at General Convention and giving consideration of legislation which might come out of our diocese. These are dedicated people, paying for much of their own expenses for travel and stay in Austin. A list of those elected will be available in the Diocesan publications.

Another part of the business of the diocese is passing the 2017 budget, which happened without any discussion or upheaval. This happened in part because different groups had vetted the budget for several months. After initial hearings, the finance committee drafted it, the standing committee and executive committee discussed it and its implications, the clergy had a time with the budget at Clergy Conference and at the various Convocational meetings. It was a well-traveled document when it finally came to Council. Episcopal Charities changed its name slightly to better reflect its mission and ministry. Much discussion developed around a request for consideration of the rhetoric used by candidates during the election cycle. After many amendments, amended amendments and an intricate dance led by Bishop Wright with Roberts Rules, a resolution will be sent to national and local officials asking for respect toward the dignity of every human being in regards to language used during elections by the candidates. Bishop Wright did an amazing job of keeping us on task and directed in an orderly and appropriate fashion with just enough humor to lighten some tense moments. The final amendment will be available on the diocesan web site in due time.

Next year's Council will be hosted by our Northeast convocation and will be in Gainesville at Grace Church on the first weekend in November.



## ***Whitmores headed north***

At the end of 2016, Bishop Keith and Suzie Whitmore will bring their ministry in the Diocese of Atlanta to a close. Bishop Whitmore came to Atlanta on April 15, 2008 to serve as Assistant Bishop of Atlanta at the invitation of Bishop Alexander and has served Bishop Wright since his election. The Whitmores are returning to Wisconsin to listen for God's next call to ministry, to be close to family, and to learn to live into retirement.

Bishop Wright said "I am extremely grateful for the service Bishop Whitmore has given to this diocese and to me personally. His experience and wisdom will be missed."

"Susie and I are so grateful for all the people of this Diocese who have welcomed and blessed us these nearly nine years," Bishop Whitmore said.

To express appreciation and gratitude for Bishop Whitmore's ministry among us, a purse will be collected. Checks can be sent to the diocese with the notation "Bishop Whitmore Purse."

## ANNOUNCEMENTS



### COOKIE EXCHANGE DEC. 8

All bakers are invited to the ECW cookie exchange at 5:30 p.m. Thursday, Dec. 8. Bake (4-6) dozen cookies and come exchange for (4-6) dozen cookies. Sounds like great fun for all and we get to take home a variety of different yummy cookies to share and eat. The more bakers we have the more we get to choose from and take home a variety. Remember to bring your own tin(s) to take your cookies home in. Hot chocolate and coffee will be provided. *Donna Wright*

### BOOK CLUB AT DON POLLO DEC. 12

Our book for November - December is "The House on Mango Street," by Sandra Cisneros. This novel is a series of vignettes told by Esperanza, a girl growing up in Chicago, who sees the humor and struggles of her neighbors as she seeks her own maturity. Our next meeting will be Monday, Dec. 12, at noon at Don Pollo. *John Ackermann*

### FOOD PANTRY HELP NEEDED

The Food Pantry is accepting applications for Mondays, Wednesdays and Fridays, 10 a.m.-1 p.m. Lifting required. Contact *Lloyd Cupp* or *Suzanne Ryerson* for details.

### FOOD PANTRY NEEDS FOR DECEMBER:

Canned tuna and grits. Thanks for your support. *Suzanne Ryerson*

### SOUTHERN FINDS:

Volunteers are needed at the thrift shop Tuesdays through Saturdays. Call the store at 706-867-6167 if you would like to help. Thank you. *Betty Greene*

### NOA NEEDS FOR FIRST SUNDAY DONATIONS

Due to oncoming flu season NOA is asking for antiseptic wipes to be given on the first Sundays. They are always in need of paper products, such as paper towels and toilet paper; personal cleaning products, such as soap and laundry detergent, and pillows are always needed. These items can be donated on the First Sunday of the month and put in the benches in the Narthex, clearly marked for NOA. Thank you for your support. *Betty Greene*

### FIRST MONDAY CAFÉ DEC. 5

The First Monday Café at the Dahlonega United Methodist Church will be held Dec. 5 from 11 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. and will continue on the first Monday of the month through March. All you can eat soup, bread, drink and dessert are available in the church's fellowship hall for a \$5 donation. The event benefits local charities. Anyone who would like to donate soup should email *Debby Owens* at *debbyowens7@gmail.com*. NOTE: The January First Monday Café will be held Jan. 9, the second Monday. See *Suzanne Ryerson* for more details.

### CHRISTMAS PACKAGES FOR OVERSEAS TROOPS

Cranberry Corners is putting together Christmas care packages for troops serving in the Middle East during the Christmas Season through Operation Wise Man. Most requested items include phone cards, hand-held games, decks of playing cards, DVDs, AA and D batteries, disposable cameras, stationary supplies, Mach III razor blades, Q-Tips, Ivory soap, white socks, bug repellent and of course, food, especially Ramen noodles, cookies, hard candy. Donations to help cover the cost of shipping are also appreciated. Donations can be dropped off at Cranberry Corners across the street from Hancock Park, 10 a.m.-5:30 p.m. Monday-Saturday until Dec. 16. 706-864-6577

## Mark your calendar for the January annual meeting

The November annual meeting was a called meeting to handle limited business. The January annual meeting is currently scheduled for Jan.15.

We will meet in the Parish Hall, enjoy box lunches put together for us by the Daughters of the King. (A small contribution will be accepted for the box lunch.)

This meeting will feature information on the 2017 budget, reception of annual reports, recognition of past wardens and retiring treasurer, a State of the Parish report, and other important material for the good of the whole community.

### Look who's on stage

Need a little Christmas spirit? Take in "'Twas the Night Before A Christmas Carol" on the Holly Theater stage weekends through Dec. 18. *Jorgene West* is one of the carolers who play an active part in the story.

Tickets are available at [www.HollyTheater.com](http://www.HollyTheater.com).



## CALENDAR

The following have regular meeting times, and only changes are included in the calendar below:

<b>SUNDAY</b>	10 a.m.	Holy Eucharist (Nursery open)
	11 a.m.	Coffee
<b>MONDAY</b>	9:30 a.m.	Yoga
<b>TUESDAY</b>	9 a.m.	MOBS (Men Only Bible Study) breakfast at Steak & Shake
	10 a.m.	MOBS meeting at church
	11 a.m.	Tai Chi
<b>WEDNESDAY</b>	6:15 p.m.	Choir practice
<b>THURSDAY</b>	10 a.m.	Piecemakers
	11:30 a.m.	FABS women's Bible study
	1:30 p.m.	Tai Chi
<b>FRIDAY</b>	9:30 a.m.	Yoga

### DECEMBER

- 4 Pastoral Care committee meeting in library
- 8 Cookie Exchange, 5:30 p.m., fellowship hall
- 10 Christmas Party at Clarks', 3 p.m.
- 12 Book Club, noon, Don Pollo
- 18 Vestry meeting
- 24 Candlelight service, 8 p.m.
- 25 Holy Eucharist, 10 a.m.
- 27 Daughters of the King, 10 a.m., library
- 28 No choir practice

### JANUARY

- 15 Annual Meeting

## JANUARY TIDINGS DEADLINE

Monday, January 2, for publication by Jan. 8

## SCHEDULE OF SERVICE

	DECEMBER 4 (1ST SUNDAY: ADVENT 2)	DECEMBER 11 (2ND SUN: ADVENT 3)	DECEMBER 18 (3RD SUNDAY: ADVENT 4)	DECEMBER 24 (CHRISTMAS EVE 8 P.M.)
<b>CELEBRANT &amp; PREACHER</b>	Rev. Doris Graf Smith	Rev. Doris Graf Smith	Rev. Doris Graf Smith	Rev. Doris Graf Smith
<b>ORGANIST/CHOIRMASTER</b>	Julie Woodall	Julie Woodall	Julie Woodall	Julie Woodall
<b>VERGER</b>	Bill Lach	Bill Lach	Bill Lach	Bill Lach
<b>GREETERS</b>	Rick & Susan R	Linda B/Donna W	Cally & Pete P	Susan & Rick R
<b>USHERS:</b>	Sharon M/B Hartman	Darrell Woodall	Jim & Angie E	Don & Elaine C
<b>LECTORS</b>	Rosalie J/Michael Z	Pat H/Lloyd C	Jackie P/Jim O	Donna W/Wilma B
<b>INTERCESSOR:</b>	Warren Johnson	Donna Wright	Margo Booth	Robert Wright
<b>CHALICE BEARERS:</b>	Betty G/Jim O	Jackie P/Garry M	B Hacker/Sharon M	Martha & Tom R
<b>CRUCIFER/SERVER/ACOLYTE:</b>	Robert W/B Hacker	Dave B/Betty G	Robert W/Bill L	B Lach/Dave B
<b>NURSERY</b>	Adrian B/Jessica J	Adrian B/Jessica J	Rita C/Jessica J	Rita C/Jessica J
<b>ALTAR GUILD:</b>	Sharon M/Cally P	Helen Long	Carol & Bill M	Bill & Carol M
<b>FLOWER GUILD:</b>	Cindy Mayfield	Jorgene West	Harriet Connolly	none
<b>HOSPITALITY:</b>	Margo & Jimmy B	Marilou K/Rosalie J	B Hartman/Jackie P	none
<b>BREAD MINISTRY:</b>	Molly Callender	Cally Pratt	Judy Ford	none
<b>LAY EUCHARISTIC VISITORS:</b>	Jackie Peabody	Bill Lach	Sharon McWhorter	none
<b>TELLERS:</b>	Judy F/Chris C	Lloyd C/Rick R	Walton P/B Hacker	Rick R/Tom R
<b>VESTRY OF THE DAY:</b>	Darrell Woodall	Millie Alexander	Michael Zose	Sharon McWhorter

	DECEMBER 25 (CHRISTMAS DAY)	JANUARY 1 (1ST SUNDAY)
<b>CELEBRANT &amp; PREACHER</b>	Rev. Doris Graf Smith	Rev. Doris Graf Smith
<b>ORGANIST/CHOIRMASTER</b>	Julie Woodall	Julie Woodall
<b>VERGER</b>	Bill Lach	Bill Lach
<b>GREETERS</b>	Donna Wright	Rick & Susan R
<b>USHERS:</b>	Darrell W/B Hartman	Sharon M/B Hartman
<b>LECTORS</b>	Pat H/Warren J	Rosalie J/Michael Z
<b>INTERCESSOR:</b>	Donna Wright	Betty Greene
<b>CHALICE BEARERS:</b>	Jackie P/Lloyd C	Lloyd C/Janet B
<b>CRUCIFER/SERVER/ACOLYTE:</b>	Bill L/Robert W	Robert W/Dave B
<b>NURSERY</b>	Rita C/Jessica J	Jessica Johnson
<b>ALTAR GUILD:</b>	Melissa L/Jackie P	Sharon M/Cally P
<b>FLOWER GUILD:</b>	Donna Wright	Cathy McLendon
<b>HOSPITALITY:</b>	Bonnie H/Debbie H	Linda B/Joan A
<b>BREAD MINISTRY:</b>	none	Susan Richtarcik
<b>LAY EUCHARISTIC VISITORS:</b>	Bill Lach	Jim Ory
<b>TELLERS:</b>	Judy F/Pat H	Judy F/Chris C
<b>VESTRY OF THE DAY:</b>	Darrell Woodall	Wilma Bammer

### FOOD PANTRY SCHEDULE

Dec. 2	Trina Pellegrino, Pat Braswell, Paul Hamm
Dec. 9	John Ackermann, Lloyd Cupp
Dec. 16	Ed Stumpf, Evelyn Shirley
Dec. 23	Chet Barger, Martha Roberts
Dec. 30	Paul Hamm, Judy Ford

### FINANCIAL SUMMARY • OCTOBER 2016

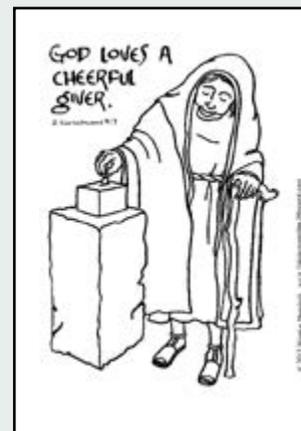
Operating Accts	Actual Budget	
Plate Receipts	\$ 711	\$ 833
Pledge Receipts	9,259	12,276
Interest	399	250
Investment Gain/Loss	(273)	
<b>Total Income</b>	<u>10,096</u>	<u>13,359</u>
<b>Total Expense</b>	<u>10,323</u>	<u>18,723</u>
<b>Difference</b>	(227)	(5,364)

### FINANCIAL SUMMARY • YEAR TO DATE 2016

Operating Accts	Actual Budget	
Plate Receipts	\$ 9116	\$ 8,333
Pledge Receipts	124,806	122,758
Interest	3,347	2,500
Investment Gain/Loss	(273)	
<b>Total Income</b>	<u>136,996</u>	<u>133,591</u>
<b>Total Expense</b>	<u>101,999</u>	<u>129,227</u>
<b>Difference</b>	34,997	4,364

#### Notes from our treasurer, Tom Roberts

Income was down for the month, but is over budget for the year. Expenses for the month were skewed by bookkeeping adjustments, but for the year we continue to be well under budget.



### DECEMBER BIRTHDAYS

1	Michael Zose	12	Garry Mayfield
5	Carol Nielsen	15	Cheryll Jones
8	Larry Channell	16	Linda Duke
9	Dyann Beaty	20	Lara Lowman
11	Chet Barger	26	Ann Thurman

### DECEMBER ANNIVERSARIES

3	Rick & Susan Richtarcik
12	John & Annette Barber
13	Skipper & Kathy Gholston
16	Terry & Celia Hoffman
22	Wendel & Helen Long
23	David & Pat Hughes

### NOTICE TO ALL WHO SERVE

Please be at church 15 minutes ahead of the service time and check in with the Vestry Person of the Day.

If you cannot serve when scheduled, please find your own replacement and email Susan Richtarcik at [stelizabethdahlonega@gmail.com](mailto:stelizabethdahlonega@gmail.com). For last minute changes, the Vestry Person of the Day should be notified. Thank you.

# CHP WHITE CHRISTMAS

*Please help provide food and toys to needy Lumpkin families*

The Community Helping Place (CHP) White Christmas is the annual Christmas outreach which serves Lumpkin County residents in need during the holiday season. Last year CHP White Christmas served 227 households which included toys for 338 children. Not only does CHP White Christmas help our neighbors during the holiday season but also provides emergency assistance throughout the year.

We are asking you to participate this year by donating new, unwrapped toys and non-perishable food items. Like last year, our friends at Fresh and Low have made it easy to purchase the Christmas food we distribute. Visit our local Fresh and Low and let them know you'd like to purchase a CHP White Christmas box and for \$14 they'll take care of everything – including making sure it gets to our offices! Fresh and Low will have these items available until the end of December but we will begin assembling the meals soon so feel free to shop at your earliest convenience!

Of course, financial contributions are always welcomed and most appreciated!

If you would like to make a monetary donation, make checks payable to CHP White Christmas and mail to P.O. Box 712, Dahlonega, GA 30533.

The processing of toys has already begun. Please make your contribution as soon as possible. See Melissa Lach or Suzanne Ryerson with any questions.

## WHITE CHRISTMAS FOOD BOX CONTENTS

2 – 1 lb hams –that do not  
require refrigeration  
2 cans green beans  
2 cans corn  
1 can yams  
1 can cranberry sauce  
1 can chicken broth  
1 box instant mashed potatoes  
1 box stuffing mix  
2 boxes mac-n-cheese  
1 box cornbread mix  
1 can fruit  
Cake mix and frosting



### **Saint Elizabeth's Episcopal Church**

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Dahlonega, GA 30533  
(706) 864-5423

[www.stelizabethepiscopal.com](http://www.stelizabethepiscopal.com)  
[www.facebook.com/stelizabethepiscopal](https://www.facebook.com/stelizabethepiscopal)  
Office hours: Tues-Thurs: 9 a.m. to noon

#### **Interim Rector**

Doris Graf Smith  
[dgswooten@bellsouth.net](mailto:dgswooten@bellsouth.net)  
678-523-5752

#### **The Vestry:**

Sharon McWhorter, Senior Warden  
Millie Alexander • Wilma Bammer  
Bill Lach • Darrell Woodall  
Michael Zose

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