



TIDINGS



Saint Elizabeth of Hungary Episcopal Church

Feb./March 2016

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

Lent 2016:

Make it a God time

Looking back at the first Sunday in Lent's gospel, we can benefit from considering the temptations we have to overcome by the day, week, month, and year. In marriage counseling, we learn that what couples tend to do is have the same fight over and over again. The temptation is to read the same script again and again and again. The words may or may not change, but the message is the same. Therapists teach us that if we are ever going to get out of this redundancy, we have to rewrite the end of the script. Change the way the argument ends. In my mind, that means make real concessions, find out the true pinch under the argument and work on making that less hurtful, painful, insulting, or threatening. Or discover why the argument is so vital to our own self-respect or position in the relationship. Is it worth ruining what could be a stronger, better relationship because we have to be so protective of our position? Maybe it is. Maybe it doesn't have to be.



So are we tempted in our relationship with God. Tempted to want to take over God's position of God. Tempted to think worldly goods and position are more important than family, principals, time given freely to others, money contributed, along with a willingness to be dependent on God in a healthy, loving childlike way. We are tempted to stop trying to be all that God wants us to be. Tempted to stop trying to see the world as God sees the world. Tempted to stray from a vibrant and engaged relationship with our Lord Jesus. Not even realizing it, we find we stray and wander off – maybe not wander away from the Sunday pew, but wander away from a sense of worship of all that is of God, and a sense that our love of God needs renewal and refreshing even as love within relationships, families, communities, and friendships need renewal and refreshing.

Lent calls us to examine some of the places we've fallen under the power of temptation and given up on love. Given up on being surprised by a single daffodil in an unexpected place and allowing ourselves to smile and sense a Holy moment – and saying Thank you God for springing up in places unexpected. Lent is a good time – or better said, Lent can be a God time.

Pastor Doris Graf Smith †
Interim Rector

Meet Doris Graf Smith

**Our new Interim Rector
introduces herself on Page 4**

Canon introduces parish to search process

by Margo Booth, Tidings Editor

On Jan. 17 the Rev. Canon Alicia Schuster-Weltner spoke to the congregation about the search process and answered questions from parishioners during the annual meeting.

"A parish can flourish and grow during the transition period," said Canon Schuster-Weltner. Albert retired at a healthy time for the church, so we are starting from a healthy place, she said.

The search process takes an average of 6-12 months, the canon said. The committee will help us find a rector that we are enthusiastic about, and the bishop will approve the call. The search committee, also called the nominating committee, will present more than one name to the vestry, and the vestry will interview those candidates and make the call.

In a handout Canon Schuster-Weltner distributed, the search process follows a path which takes the committee on the following route, but which also continually circles back through the diocesan office, interacting with the bishop, transition officer and consultant.

1. The church has an opening.
2. A search committee is established.
3. A parish profile is updated.
4. A portfolio for the Office of Transitional Ministry (OTM) is created.
5. OTM collects and passes on names of potential candidates.
6. Interviews are held by the search committee.
7. The search committee passes on more than one name to the vestry for interviews.
8. Vestry interviews are held.
9. A call is made.

The search process begins at St. Elizabeth's

Search Committee Update page 5

Considerations in selecting members... page 5

The hand of the potter Article and photo by Rosalie Jensen

ABOUT CLAY

When Mike and I travel in Georgia we avoid interstate highways in order to explore new scenery and small towns. On one of our trips to the Okefenokee Swamp we left US 441, a remarkably little used 4-lane highway, to travel on state roads that led more directly to our destination. As we approached the city of Sandersville we looked out across the countryside and saw a large excavation of an exceptionally white earth material. In contrast the ground around it was a reddish brown. Our Georgia topo map had the term Kaolin Field printed alongside the road that we were traveling.

Through research we found that kaolin is a very valuable white clay used in a multitude of products, including paper, cosmetics, medicines, paints, and even the nose cone of rockets. By the end of the 20th century the kaolin shipped around the world was an \$800 million dollar business and was the state's largest volume export. About 2.5 tons of Georgia's "white gold" is shipped from counties along the fall line, along which mineralogists say that particles of kaolin were washed down from rocky piedmont hills millions of years ago. Responsible mining companies report restoration of about 80 percent of the land that has been stripped.

Sandersville is known as the "Kaolin Capital of the World." Local residents host a Kaolin Festival each year to celebrate their good fortune in having such a valuable resource in their region. Meanwhile, gardeners in North Georgia are less pleased with the clay in our soil. The heavy, acidic red clay is the right dirt for native plants that have grown here for many years, but is not good for growing vegetables, herbs, and nonnative flowers. For diligent gardeners the two best solutions are amending the soil with organic matter and nutrients or building raised beds with wooden or stone sides.

Somewhere between the fineness of kaolin and the poor quality of the red clay found in our area is the clay that potters use to create their wares. As a two-dimensional artist, I have profound respect for those who create three-dimensional art, including pottery and sculptures. Although most people probably picture a potter's wheel in their minds when they think of creating pottery, most of the potters that we have known use a method called hand-building. Hand-builders usually construct wares from coils of clay, several flat slabs of clay, pinching solid balls of clay, or some combination of these methods.

Whether created on a wheel or by one of the methods of hand-building the potter will decide how to decorate and glaze chosen pieces before placing them in a kiln to harden the clay, which has been softened with moisture to make construction possible. Creating a beautiful piece can be a lengthy process, but the reward of seeing one's finished piece after firing must be great.

DAMAGED AND RE-FORMED

On Ash Wednesday we are reminded "Remember that you are but dust, and to dust you shall return." Ashes are equivalent

to dust, and human flesh is being compared to dust or clay. In the Old Testament, people covered themselves in sackcloth and ashes as a recognition that they had transgressed; moreover, this was like a promise that they would turn from former corruption and sinful endeavors. When we participate in the Ash Wednesday service we are saying that we regret past wrongdoings and want to live a better life in the future.

We have considered the satisfaction that a potter must feel at the completion of a prized piece. What happens, however, if the potter is not satisfied at some stage along the way? One answer

is found in Jeremiah 18:4. "The vessel he was making of clay was spoiled in the potter's hand, and he reworked it into another vessel." This solution applied to people would say that a person would be changed in some major way to satisfy the master Potter.

Such a change came for Adelaide Pollard, a hymn writer, who had hoped to be a missionary to Africa but was not able to finance her undertaking. Deeply

disappointed, she attended a prayer service, where she heard an elderly woman praying, "It really doesn't matter what you do with us, Lord, just have your own way with our lives." Returning home that night, the composer wrote all four stanzas of a hymn with this first verse:

Have Thine own way, Lord! Have thine own way!
Thou art the Potter, I am the clay,
Mold me and make me after Thy will,
While I am waiting, yielded and still.

This hymn is often sung in some churches as an invitation for people to consider their past mistakes and consider changes in their lives.

HOW THE LIGHT GETS IN

The Psalmist said "I have become like a broken vessel." Sometimes a seemingly broken vessel can be seen from another point of view. The container pictured here was fashioned by Margaret Apple Jones, an active member of St. Elizabeth's and a great friend whom we called Margi. At first sight the pottery seems to have a crack; however, the gap is actually part of the vessel itself. Looking at it from different angles reminded me of these lines by the poet/songwriter Leonard Cohen in his composition called Anthem:

There is a crack in everything
That's how the light gets in.

We are all broken in different ways. If Lent can be a time for the Light of the World to come in, can it also not be a time for our own light to get out? Perhaps Lent is a time for picking up the pieces of our broken lives by finding new ways of helping other people with broken lives.



St. Elizabeth Chapter of The Order of the Daughters of the King



A Lenten Invitation to the Women of St. Elizabeth's **DOK will hold inquirers' session**

by Jackie Peabody

St. Elizabeth's Daughters of the King invite our sisters who are interested in learning more about The Order to join them Tuesday, Feb. 23, at 10 a.m.

This is our regularly scheduled meeting, but this is to be an open meeting, and we will be reviewing some of the basic tenets of The Order, discussing requirements for membership, and sharing some of our experiences as members of The Order. We will discuss plans for the mandatory three-month period of preparation for membership, seeking your input in creating an opportunity for growth in our commitment to our Lord Jesus Christ.

Even in our small parish, there are many opportunities for both service and socializing. What is different about The Order of the Daughters of the King? The three-month period of preparation is meant to offer a process of discernment, of learning who we are, what we do, what is expected of us, and whether God is calling you to make this commitment.

Daughters are not members of a spiritual elite, but rather are women who share a common need: to conform their lives more closely to God's will. Their experience is that strength, solace, and nurture come in sharing a common Rule of Life. Through prayer, study and service, Daughters find their minds and hearts turning from self to God.

Women, consider yourselves invited to taste and see!

VESTRY NEWS: New members, new assignments

by David Connolly, Senior Warden

At St. Elizabeth's Annual Meeting on Jan. 17, Wilma Bammer and Bill Lach were elected to the Vestry by acclamation. They replace Jimmy Booth and Suzanne Ryerson who have completed their three year terms.

The Vestry met after the annual meeting and took the following actions: David Connolly and Rick Hayes were re-elected as Senior and Junior Wardens respectively. Sharon McWhorter will replace Jimmy Booth as Scribe and Bob and Ginny Ingram will continue as treasurers for 2016.

Each Vestry member will serve as a liaison/member of the following committees:

Parish Life: Wilma Bammer

Outreach: Millie Alexander

Finance: David Connolly

Building and Grounds: Rick Hayes

Worship: Bill Lach

Special Projects: (Pastoral Care and Administrative Liaison with the Diocese)—Sharon McWhorter

Keep us in your prayers!



LEV training offered Feb. 28

Pastor Doris and Rev. Paul Roberts will lead training for new Lay Eucharistic Visitors at 11:30 a.m. on Feb. 28. This event is for individuals considering becoming LEVs and those already commissioned who would like to be part of the training and meet others who are doing this ministry.

LEVs are responsible for visiting those who are unable to attend a church service but who would like to have the opportunity to take communion. They visit those individuals in their homes, hospitals, and other facilities, pray with them, share scriptures with them and offer them communion.

A sandwich lunch will be served at the training and it should be over by 2 p.m. Please contact Sharon McWhorter, stelizabeth1188@gmail.com, if you are interested in attending as she will be ordering the sandwiches!



Lenten Services at St. Elizabeth's

Maundy Thursday, March 24

• 5:45 p.m. Agape Meal (a Love Meal): This will be our traditional Maundy Thursday pot luck dinner with a Mediterranean theme. Suggested dishes include things like rice pilaf, olives, pita bread, feta cheese, lamb, etc.

• 7 p.m.: Maundy Thursday service

Friday, March 25

12 Noon: Good Friday Service

Sunday, March 27

Easter Sunday: Festal Eucharist

Note: *There will be only one service on Good Friday and no Holy Saturday vigil.*

The Rev. Doris Graf Smith introduces herself

Editor's note: On Feb. 8 Senior Warden David Connolly announced to the congregation that Pastor Doris Graf Smith would become our interim pastor. His announcement follows:

"I am happy to announce that Pastor Doris has agreed to become

our interim rector effective Monday, Feb. 8. Although this is a part-time position, she expects to be at the church office two days a week in addition to Sundays. She and the vestry are still sorting out her weekday schedule and the full range of her duties as a part-time interim

priest, but you can expect her to be a regular and positive presence at St. Elizabeth's while we search for a permanent rector. I know all of you will join with me and the rest of the vestry in extending a warm and loving welcome to her. We are indeed blessed!"

When I was ordained in 1984, the big question was, "what do we call you." I answered to Father Smith on many occasions. For over 20 years, I went by Doris or Canon Smith. Some years back, at the behest of members who didn't like calling me Doris, I decided on Pastor Doris. It's a universal term across many denominations, readily available, and doesn't even require a name after the Pastor part. So for those of you who might not know how to address me, I'm good with Pastor Doris.

Now what do I call you? For a time, I'll call you my parish. Not for a great long time, for change is coming, but for now, we are a team. A team devoted to doing the very best job of showing Dahlonge the love of God in Christ the very best ways we can.

I first knew Dahlonge as a freshman at North Ga. College when there were 100 women and 400 hundred men enrolled in the college. We couldn't leave campus except on Tuesday night when we could go into town. We could call the Dairy Queen and get them to bring us our order to the middle of the road so that technically we hadn't left campus. We went to church every Sunday, all other meals were in the dining hall where we lined up outside the cafeteria and moved through the line. It was a different time, for sure. I left after my first year to go to the University of GA to become a journalism major. That didn't last long. The Journalism Department at the time was sub-par, and I didn't think my parents should have to sacrifice to pay my tuition if I weren't getting a top notch education. I transferred to Education. Graduated with a bachelor of science in secondary English Education. I never taught secondary English a day in my life. But I did meet my husband at UGA while he was in his senior year in Law School. I was technically a sophomore at the ripe age of 19. He asked me to keep it quiet. We married at 20 and 25 in 1967. I went to summer school to finish college and become certified as a middle school teacher.

Children came. Law School came (only for a year.)

Political aide work came as did running for office. Volunteer work in our parish church came more and more. In the early 80's, I couldn't shake a call to the priesthood. It was a rocky transition from stay at home mom, hostess, devoted wife and volunteer to full time seminarian, wife, mother, and not so much the hostess anymore. In 1984, I graduated with honors from Emory University's Candler School of Theology, ordained to the diaconate, and employed as assistant at St. Catherine's Episcopal Church in Marietta. After five years, I became rector of Ascension in Cartersville, GA. After a rocky time there, I moved on to do interim work in several parishes, became interim assistant at St. Michael and All Angels in Stone Mountain; after that I spent five years as Canon for Communication and Adult Education at the Cathedral of St. Philip in Atlanta. More interim work followed that. Received a call to be rector at St. Joseph's in McDonough, but after a heart event, the vestry withdrew the call. In time, I was called to be rector of Christ Church in Kennesaw. I was there as their rector for 12+ years until I retired. During the course of my career, Archer and I were married 48 years, had a daughter and a son, who married to give us a bigger family of two daughters and two sons along with three bouncing "baby boys." The grandsons are now 16, 11 and 2 ½ - and all still bouncing, I can guarantee! Archer died in September in an automobile accident. He had practiced law in Atlanta for 49+ years.

So here I am. Delighted to be with you during this time of transition. It is pure joy. Thank you for allowing me the privilege. dgswooten@bellsouth.net; 678-523-5752. Let me know how I can be in touch if you desire conversation, comfort, encouragement, pastoral call for illness or hospitalization or other individual needs. Also, if you have need for home communion. Please know one of the more difficult parts of interim work is not knowing you. Wearing name tags is CRUCIAL to help me know your name. Telling me what you might need of me is also so important. Don't assume I "ought" to know. Ought gets a lot of bad raps which could be avoided. God bless you. I ask your prayers.

A Lenten invitation from Bishop Wright

This Lent, you're invited to participate in a conversation about how to love like Jesus. Each week we'll focus on one specific area, offering ideas and posing questions in order for you to grow even stronger and more courageous in loving like Jesus during this special time of year and beyond. While your relationship with God is unique, God's love is universal, and we challenge you to look inward to determine what loving like Jesus means to you. By taking the conversation to Facebook and Twitter, and using our hashtag #GrowForLent, you'll have the opportunity to share with friends, family, and others what it means to you to love like Jesus.



SEARCH COMMITTEE UPDATE:

Commissioning, training and a request for prayerful support

by Martha Roberts, Search Committee Chair

St. Elizabeth's Search Committee members, Bill Lach, Elaine Clark, Darrell Woodall, David Jones, Don Hunt, Judy Ford, Michael Zose and myself, were commissioned by The Rev. Doris Graf Smith Sunday, Feb. 7, in a brief ceremony, which served to emphasize through vows, scripture, and prayer, the nature of the commitment that the Search Committee makes to the parish.

The committee members were asked "Will you, as long as you are engaged in this work, perform it with diligence?" and "Will you faithfully and reverently execute the duties of your ministry to the honor of God, and the benefit of this congregation?" They vowed, "I will with God's help."

In return, the congregation was asked to reach out during the closing prayer, to each other and to the committee members, who stood in the center aisle. It was a moving and memorable conclusion to the Service of Commissioning.

So what happens next? On Sunday, Feb. 21, the Vestry and Search Committee will meet with the The Rev. Jody Greenwood, a trained consultant from the Diocese, in a joint instruction/ planning session.

In announcing the committee

members, Senior Warden David Connolly asked the congregation to keep them "in your prayers as they undertake their important mission." David added, "Keep in mind that while members of St. Elizabeth's will have an opportunity to provide input into the search, there are many aspects of the search, such as the names of the applicants, that the committee must keep confidential. The vestry has full confidence in this

committee and its ability to achieve success in its search for a new rector."

Your Search Committee members are committed to the task. We ask for your patience and your goodwill. We also ask for your prayerful support as we go forward. My personal prayer is for courage, wisdom, and discernment. I am also praying that God will touch the heart of that someone, out there somewhere, who is intended for us.



Pastor Doris commissions St. Elizabeth's Search Committee: Michael Zose, Don Hunt, Darrell Woodall, Bill Lach, Martha Roberts, David Jones, and Judy Ford. Not pictured is committee member Elaine Clark

Considerations in selecting our Search Committee by Sharon McWhorter

In selecting and calling a new Rector, the Vestry was given, and assumed, several primary responsibilities, two of which have been to appoint a Search Committee and select the Chair of the Search Committee. The appointment of this Committee and its Chair were done with careful prayer, discussion, and reflection.

The Vestry gathered and brainstormed possibilities for members of the Committee and potential candidates for Chair. After the brainstorming session, the Vestry adjourned for a week to consider the lists, pray, contemplate, and discern the best persons for these assignments. After a week, the Vestry gathered back together, prayed, and appointed the Chair of the Search Committee to be Martha Roberts. Martha has the unquestioned trust of the Vestry and a good relationship with the entire parish.

She is trusted by all, including her ability to handle confidential information, and also possesses an ability to manage detail and the extensive paperwork involved. Martha graciously agreed to commit her time to lead this very important process, and St. Elizabeth is grateful for her leadership.

The Vestry and Martha then met and reviewed thoughtfully and prayerfully a list of potential candidates for the Search Committee. The Vestry and Martha determined with the advice of the Canon that the size of the Committee should be the size of the Vestry (6), plus no more than one current member of the Vestry and Martha as Chair. The Vestry and Martha considered several different factors in choosing a broadly representative committee for our parish. Factors included the following:

Those who are longtime members and

can remember several Rectors;

Those who are active, but who have only known the present Rector;

Those who are active in leadership;

Those who are active in participation, but not leadership;

A cross-section of age, gender, and family status;

Those perceived to be protectors of the status quo, and those more interested in fostering change; and

Those who contribute financially to the parish.

The Vestry and Martha then reconvened after another week and reached unanimous agreement on Search Committee members. Our St. Elizabeth parish owes its gratitude to Martha Roberts and the talented and dedicated members of the Search Committee, who are embarking on the complex process of calling a new rector.

St Elizabeth's Episcopal Church members 'Party Hardy' by Jill Hayes

On Thursday, Jan. 28, the members of St. Elizabeth's Episcopal Church gathered at the church for the first (of many) pot luck dinners. These dinners are currently being scheduled in lieu of the traditional Foyers' Group gatherings in anticipation of encouraging more members to participate – and boy did they!

We were thrilled to host 40+ members and their guests for a delightful evening of great food, and lots of fun and fellowship. Thanks to Susan Richtarcik and her "gang" of kitchen worker bees, the evening went off without a hitch and the copious amounts of wonderful dishes were enjoyed by all.

Clean up occurred so efficiently that it appeared we were blessed with silent gremlins who moved in and accomplished the deed "magically." Those of you who were unable to attend, you missed a great evening and one which we hope to enjoy monthly. Please plan to make the next one. The Shrove Tuesday dinner Feb. 9 was to be the second dinner with pancakes and coffee, but had to be cancelled do to inclement weather. In March we will gather for our traditional Mediterranean meal on Maundy Thursday, March 24.

For planned dinners beyond that please "stay tuned," and be sure to read your church bulletin, emails and Tidings. Susan and her team have a great year planned. We are so blessed to have Susan at the helm of this aspect of our spiritual community, when closeness and fellowship are particularly important to strengthen our community and help us to move forward to the transition.

If you have any ideas/suggestions for future dinners please let Susan know – I am sure she would welcome all thoughts you might have and also your "busy hands" to help her to achieve this fun side of our spiritual journey.



Photos by Susan Richtarcik

Chamber recognizes Suzanne for volunteer efforts

Consummate volunteer Suzanne Ryerson was honored Feb. 5 by the Dahlonega-Lumpkin County Chamber and Visitors Bureau with their Dahlonega's Golden Pick Award for Outstanding Community Service.

Suzanne was presented the award recently at the Chamber's annual meeting "for her significant impact and commitment to volunteering for the Community Helping Place." She was nominated for her work as a "tireless volunteer who never shies away from the hard work of caring for those in need." It was noted that she is "respected for her hard work, innovative ideas and compassionate heart."

Suzanne organized St. Elizabeth's Outreach Committee several years ago to bring together a lot of groups and individuals in the church who were involved in a variety of outreach efforts. She represents St. Elizabeth at the CHP and last year was honored as their Volunteer of the Year.



Suzanne Ryerson was recognized for her volunteerism at the recent Chamber of Commerce annual dinner. She is pictured with Chamber President Amy Booker and Stefani Logsdon, VP of Operations.

5th Annual Not-at-all Ball . . . A no show event

Lumpkin Literacy doesn't want anyone to show up for their Not-at-all Ball Saturday night, March 5. In fact, non-appearance is actually the theme of the ball, an annual fundraiser for the Lumpkin non-profit.

"This is a ball that doesn't have a band, or a silent auction, door prizes or even a location," said Julie Leibel, chairperson for the Not-at-all Ball and a member of the Lumpkin Literacy Board of Directors. The ticket for the non-event is a donation to the Lumpkin Literacy, with donation levels ranging from \$25 to \$1500.



A Night of Reading

"Instead of going out for a lavish evening, we want guests to participate in the Ball by staying home and curling up in a favorite chair with a great book," said Leibel. "The joy of the Not-at-all Ball is knowing that, by donating and not attending an event, you are actually helping people learn to read."

"When Julie first approached our Board of Directors with the idea of a Not-at-all Ball, we had no idea how successful the event would be," said Dr. Donna Gessell, Chairman of the Lumpkin Literacy Board of Directors. "The ball is now second only to the Adult Spelling Bee as our organization's biggest money-maker."

All profits from the Not-at-all Ball go to funding the Dolly Parton Imagination Library for Lumpkin pre-schoolers and other literacy programs including ESL, adult learning, and the GED in Lumpkin County.

For more information about the organization or to make a donation for the Not-at-all Ball, email lumpkinliteracy@gmail.com.

All you do is select your amount for tickets, donate and enjoy a night of reading.

Here is how your donation can help:

\$25 provides reading materials for an ESL (English as a Second Language) student.

\$48 provides a year of free books for a Lumpkin County child (0-5).

\$96 provides a year of free books for 2 children (ages 0-5).

\$160 covers the cost of GED testing for one academically qualified student.

\$500.00 funds a Continuing Education Scholarship for a GED graduate.

\$1500.00 provides free Dictionaries and Thesauruses for every 3rd and 6th grader.

Other (Your donation in any amount will enter you into a drawing for a valuable prize!).

Donations can be made online at www.LumpkinLiteracy.org or mailed to 150-B Johnson Street, Dahlonega, GA 30533. See Sue Spence at St. Elizabeth's for additional information.



County-wide in-service day scheduled for April 23

Plan to take part in Side by Side in Service, a county-wide one-day outreach effort that involves over 300 volunteers from throughout Lumpkin County. If you are mechanically minded or can do construction work you are needed; if you can sew you are needed; if you can make sandwiches or baby sit you are needed; if you can visit a shut in, transport meals to volunteers, or rake leaves you are needed. Get the picture? There is a place for you.

The date is April 23. You can sign up now at SideBySideInService.com. If you or someone you know needs help with a home project, you can also suggest a project at that sight

See Warren Johnson with any questions.

2016 Outreach Committee

Melissa Lach has taken over the chairmanship of St. Elizabeth's Outreach Committee. New members and new assignments for 2016 are listed below.

Each of the local organizations we actively support and pray for weekly has a representative from the parish who you can talk to about volunteering or providing any other kind of support. The committee meets on a monthly basis following the service.

Currently there is an opening for a representative for NOA, the local organization that provides shelter and other services to victims of domestic violence.

Melissa Lach: Chairperson, St. Elizabeth's Outreach Committee & CHP White Christmas

Elaine Clark: CHP Thrift & Clothing stores

Sue Spence: Literacy Coalition

Jackie Peabody: CHP Free Clinics

Michael Zose: Adopt A Road

Millie Alexander: Rainbow Children's Home

Teresa Hughes: Habitat for Humanity

Warren Johnson: Side by Side

Suzanne Ryerson: CHP Food pantry

Representative NEEDED: No One Alone (NOA)

ANNOUNCEMENTS



A Call for Singers:

All those with an interest in singing are invited to participate in our Super Saturday Choir Practice from 9 a.m. to noon on Saturday, Feb. 27 in St. Elizabeth's choir loft. We will be practicing our Lenten and Easter music. Come try us out. No experience necessary – just a love of singing. *Julie Woodall*

BOOK CLUB

Our book for February-March is: "The Good Lord Bird," by James McBride. The novel is set in Charleston, S.C., where slaves are fomenting a rebellion. Library policy now requires that each person wanting a copy must contact our library (phone is ok) and request a "hold" from the PINES system. (PINES has plenty of copies of this book.) Our next meeting will be at noon—note the time) Monday, March 14, at Hoka Hoka. *John Ackermann*

EASTER FLOWER DONATIONS REQUESTED

St. Elizabeth's Flower Guild is once again planning a beautiful presentation of flowers for the Easter service on March 27. Look for a sign up slip in the Sunday bulletin. You can fill it out and give it to Donna Wright or put it in her mailbox in the office. The suggested price is \$15 but donations of any amount are welcome. Just put your check in collection plate with Easter Flowers in check memo area. Thanks so much. *Donna Wright*

BIRTHDAY/ANNIVERSARY UPDATE

Sharon McWhorter is in the process of updating birthdays and anniversaries. If you are new or if you have not seen your birthday listed in the bulletin and Tidings, please email her at stelizabeth1188@gmail.com.

CHP PANTRY

The Food Pantry needs for February are canned fruit (regular sized cans only), Mac & cheese, and jelly. Thank you for your support. *Suzanne Ryerson*

CHURCH CHOIR FESTIVAL AT DUMC FEB. 28

A Church Choir Festival will be held at Dahlonga United Methodist Church at 3 p.m. Sunday, Feb. 28. Choirs from Bethel United Methodist Church, Dawsonville; Christ the King Lutheran Church, Cumming; Dahlonga United Methodist Church; Parkway Presbyterian Church, Cumming, and the University of North Georgia will participate. The program will culminate with the 150+ voice mass choir.

ECW AND PIECEMAKERS GIFT COUNTER

Come downstairs and see the new merchandise that we have bought for our gift counter. We have jewelry and some pretty items for those special gifts. The gift counter is something we hope to continue to have, not only to have items to sell, but also to showcase what these groups are doing. Thanks to everyone for their support! *Susan Richtarcik*

FIRST MONDAY SOUP CAFÉ MARCH 7

The final First Monday Soup Café will take place from 11 a.m. to 1 p.m. March 7 in the fellowship hall of Dahlonga United Methodist Church. Proceeds benefit the Community Helping Place and Family Connection. *Suzanne Ryerson*



Maundy Thursday, March 24, 5:45 p.m.

Please bring a simple pot luck dish with a Mediterranean theme—appropriate foods include soup, cheese, olives, dried fruit, bread, and wine.

IN OUR MAILBOX

Dear Church Family,

I cannot begin to express how touched and humbled I have felt through the love and support everyone of you has shown me and my family through this entire ordeal over the last year and a half.

Mike was proud to be a member of this family and was so broken when he could not attend anymore.

Please know you all are in a special place in my heart and I will eternally be grateful.

*Peace to all.
Linda Bunting*

Dear people of St. Elizabeth's

I would like to extend my thanks to everyone for all the prayers, thoughts, cards, phone calls, visits, food, and other gestures of love and support that flowed out to me from all the members of this congregation. Truly, the outpouring of love and support from this church family has been a wonderfully sustaining stream. I have kept my prayer shawl with me from the day of surgery, and surround myself with the knowledge of your love and prayers.

*Thank you so much,
Betty Greene*

CALENDAR

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

SUN	10:00 a.m.	Holy Eucharist (Nursery open)
	11:00 a.m.	Coffee
TUES	9 a.m.	MOBS (Men Only Bible Study) breakfast at Dannys
	10 a.m.	MOBS meeting at church
WED	6:15 p.m.	Choir practice
THURS	10 a.m.	Piece Makers

FEBRUARY

- 21 Vestry meeting
- 23 Daughters of the King meeting, 10 a.m.
- 27 Super Choir Practice 9 a.m. to noon
- 28 Pastoral Care meeting in library at 11 a.m.
Lay Eucharistic Visitors training following Pastoral Care meeting in upstairs conference room (11:30)

MARCH

- 6 Outreach Committee, middle conference room
- 13 Daylight Savings Time begins—set clocks forward
- 14 Book Club, noon, Hoka Hoka
- 18-19 Vestry work weekend
- 20 Palm Sunday
- 24 Agape Dinner 5:45, Maundy Thursday service 7 p.m.
- 25 Good Friday service, 12 noon
- 27 Easter Sunday: Festal Eucharist
- 27 Pastoral Care Committee in library
- 29 Tidings deadline for publication on April 3

SCHEDULE OF SERVICE

	FEBRUARY 21 (3RD SUNDAY)	FEBRUARY 28 (4TH SUNDAY)	MARCH 6 (1ST SUNDAY)	MARCH 13 (2ND SUNDAY)	MARCH 20 (PALM SUNDAY)
OMBUDSMAN	Bill Lach	Bill Lach	Bill Lach	Bill Lach	Bill Lach
READERS:	Jackie P/Rosalie J	Donna W/WarrenJ	Margo B/Jim O	Teresa H/Pat H	Jackie P/Rosalie J
CHALICE BEARERS:	Sharon M/Garry M	Lloyd C/Jackie P	Tom & Martha R	Janet B/Lloyd C	Sharon M/Garry M
PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE:	Wilma Bammer	Margo Booth	Garry Mayfield	Jackie Peabody	Wilma Bammer
CRUCIFER/SERVER/ACOLYTE:	Robert W/B Hacker	Robert W/B Lach	Robert W/Dave B	Robert W/B Lach	Robert W/B Hacker
NURSERY	Millie Alexander	Millie Alexander	Millie Alexander	Millie Alexander	Millie Alexander
USHERS:	Don & Elaine C	Jim & Angie Elmore	Sharon M/B Hartman	B Hacker/Darrell W	Jim & Angie Elmore
ALTAR GUILD:	Bill & Carol M	Melissa L/Jackie P	Sharon M/Cally P	Pat H/Teresa H	Bill & Carol M
FLOWER GUILD:	Donna Wright	Donna Wright	Donna Wright	Donna Wright	Donna Wright
HOSPITALITY:	Margo & Jimmy B	Marilou K/Rosalie J	B Hartman/Jackie P	Bonnie H/Debbie H	Amy A/Michael Z
BREAD MINISTRY:	Cally Pratt	Molly Callender	Florence Roberts	Molly Callender	Cally Pratt
LAY EUCHARISTIC VISITORS:	Jim Ory	Bill Lach	Jim Ory	Martha R	Jim Ory
TELLERS:	Walton P/B Hacker	Pat H/Tom R	Judy F/Tom R	Lloyd C/Larry C	Walton P/B Hacker
VESTRY OF THE DAY:	Rick Hayes	Millie Alexander	David Connolly	Sharon McWhorter	TBA

	MARCH 24 (MAUNDY THURSDAY)	MARCH 25 (GOOD FRIDAY)	MARCH 27 (EASTER SUNDAY)	APRIL 3 (1ST SUNDAY)
OMBUDSMAN	Bill Lach	Bill Lach	Bill Lach	Bill Lach
READERS:	Donna W/Dave B	Jackie P/Lloyd C	Donna W/WarrenJ	Margo B/Jim O
CHALICE BEARERS:	Tom & Martha R		Jim O/Susan R	Tom & Martha R
PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE:	Lloyd Cupp	Warren Johnson	Margo Booth	Lloyd Cupp
CRUCIFER/SERVER/ACOLYTE:	Robert W/B Hacker	Robert W/B Lach	Robert W/B Hacker	Robert W/Dave B
NURSERY			Millie Alexander	Millie Alexander
USHERS:	Don & Elaine C	Dave B/B Hartman	Don & Elaine C	Sharon M/B Hartman
ALTAR GUILD:	Melissa L/Jackie P		Melissa L/Jackie P	Sharon M/Cally P
FLOWER GUILD:	Donna Wright	Donna Wright	Donna Wright	Donna Wright
HOSPITALITY:			Nancy R/Millie A	Margo & Jimmy B
BREAD MINISTRY:			Susan Richtarcik	Cally Pratt
LAY EUCHARISTIC VISITORS:	Bill Lach	Bill Lach	Martha Roberts	Martha Roberts
TELLERS:	Walton P/B Hacker	Lloyd C/Dave B	Pat H/Judy Ford	Judy F/Tom R
VESTRY OF THE DAY:	David Connolly	Wilma Bammer	Rick Hayes	David Connolly

FINANCIAL SUMMARY • JANUARY 2016

Operating Accts	Actual	Budget
Plate Receipts	\$ 704	\$ 833
Pledge Receipts	10,771	12,276
Interest	382	250
Total Income	<u>11,857</u>	<u>13,359</u>
Total Expense	<u>8,784</u>	<u>13,897</u>
Difference	<u>3,073</u>	<u>(538)</u>

Notes from our treasurers, Bob & Ginny Ingram

Plate and pledge were under budget for the month. This was probably a function of weather and should correct itself. Expenses were \$5,000 under budget. Rector expenses were budgeted but no actual, accounting for \$4,300 of that amount.

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.

Please note that if you have a scheduled position on Sunday (as posted on the Participant Schedule in this email or in the bulletin) and cannot be there – you are responsible for finding your own replacement. Then please email Jill Hayes (jill.hayes@ung.edu) so the Vestry Person of the Day can be made aware of the change and so that Jill can change the posted schedule if possible. This, of course, is not always possible, but the more accurate our information the better. Thank you.

MARCH BIRTHDAYS

March 4	Stella Christopher Elora Emory
March 5	Robert Wright
March 8	Alice Moore Wherry
March 12	Mike Saunders Gerald Skelly
March 22	Robbie Niles

ANNIVERSARIES

March 14	Robert & Carol Nielsen
March 19	Walton & Jackie Peabody
March 23	Tom & Martha Roberts

FOOD PANTRY SCHEDULE

Feb. 26	Chet Barger, Garry Mayfield
Mar. 4	Trina Pellegrino, Ginny Ingram, Lloyd Cupp
Mar. 11	Teresa Hughes, Paul Hamm, Evelyn Shirley
Mar. 18	Garry Mayfield, Martha Roberts, John Ackermann
Mar. 25	Chet Barger, Judy Ford
Apr. 1	Trina Pellegrino, Paul Hamm, Pat Braswell
Apr. 8	Judy Ford, Garry Mayfield, Martha Roberts

Next TIDINGS

Deadline: March 29 • Publication date: April 3

WHO TO CONTACT

To assist us in this interim transition period, we wish to thank in advance our office volunteers Jill Hayes, Ginny Ingram, and Judy Ford. New St. Elizabeth office hours will be Tuesday, Wednesday, and Thursday, 9:30 a.m. to noon.

The contact list at right will help you know who to contact for prayer requests, updates, news, concerns, meeting information, etc. You may do this at any time via email or phone.

Of course, you may also contact any of our office volunteers during St. Elizabeth office hours.

Please let us know if you have any suggestions. We are a parish together!

Sharon McWhorter

Address & Phone Updates / Parish Register	Sharon McWhorter
Altar Guild	Helen Long
Buildings/Grounds/Junior Warden	Rick Hayes
Book Club	John Ackermann
Bread Ministry.....	Judy Ford
Choir.....	Julie Woodall
Church Calendar/Meetings	Harriet Connolly
Church Prayer List / Prayers of People	Sharon McWhorter
Church Service Bulletins	Harriet Connolly
Congregational Care	Marilou Kinney
Daughters of the King	Jackie Peabody / Pat Hughes, President
Email Changes	Harriet Connolly
Episcopal Church Women	Donna Wright
Flower Guild	Donna Wright
Memorial Garden	John Barber
MOBS (Men's Only Bible Study).....	Dave Bammer / Robert Wright
Monthly Pot-Luck Dinners	Susan Richtarcik
Nursery.....	Millie Alexander
Office Volunteers (Tues-Thurs.—9:30 a.m. -noon)	Jill Hayes, Judy Ford, & Ginny Ingram
Outreach.....	Suzanne Ryerson
Pastoral Care	Sharon & Mac McWhorter, Martha Roberts, Jackie Peabody, Marilou Kinney, Bill Lach
Pet Memorial Garden.....	Amanda Ballew
Piece Makers	Susan Richtarcik
Refreshments.....	Linda Bunting
Reimbursement Checks.....	Ginny Ingram
Senior Warden.....	David Connolly
Servers, Chalice Bearers, & Readers	Bill Lach
Service Participant Contact	Jill Hayes
Thursday Parish-wide Updates.....	Harriet Connolly
Tidings.....	Margo Booth
Ushers.....	Bill Hartman



Saint Elizabeth's Episcopal Church

1188 Hamp Mill Rd.
Dahlonega, GA 30533
(706) 864-5423

www.stelizabethepiscopal.com

www.facebook.com/stelizabethepiscopal

Office hours: Tues-Thurs: 9 a.m. to noon

Interim Rector

Doris Graf Smith
dgswooten@bellsouth.net
678-523-5752

The Vestry:

David Connolly, Senior Warden
Rick Hayes, Junior Warden
Millie Alexander • Wilma Bammer
Bill Lach • Sharon McWhorter

Newsletter Editor:

Margo Booth
Tidings@StElizabethEpiscopal.com

Bulletin Editor

Harriet Connolly, harriet.connolly@gmail.com

Diocese of Atlanta

The Rt. Rev. Robert Christopher Wright, Bishop
www.episcopalatlanta.org