

Glad Tidings



Our Mission

To inspire, nurture and expand Nativity's spiritual growth through faith, worship and community

March 2014

A MONTHLY PUBLICATION OF THE CHURCH OF THE NATIVITY

Issue No. 3-14

Please Note



Shrove Tuesday

Pancake supper
March 4, 5:30 -7:30 pm

Ash Wednesday

March 5, services at 8 am,
noon, 7 pm

Stations of the Cross

Saturdays during Lent
8:30 am

Daylight Savings Time begins

March 9

Ministry Team meetings

March 12, 7 pm

Parish meeting

Stewardship campaign results
and 2014 budget
Sunday, March 16

Glad Tidings Deadline

April 2014 Issue

Deadline: Wednesday
March 19 at noon

Mailing date: March 26

Send articles to

[gladtidings@
nativityonline.org](mailto:gladtidings@nativityonline.org)

A Meditation on an Invitation

I invite you, therefore, in the name of the Church, to the observance of a holy Lent, by self-examination and repentance; by prayer, fasting, and self-denial; and by reading and meditating on God's holy Word.
Book of Common Prayer, page 265



I invite you, in the name of the church...

Come as you are. Come messy. Come broken. Come broken-hearted. Bring your despair. Bring your pain. Bring your sorrow. You don't have to have it all together. No one expects perfection. But come, in the name of the church, to experience new life.

to the observance of a holy Lent...

Observance means paying attention. How are we paying attention to God? How do we notice the work of the Holy Spirit. How is the saving grace of Christ working in our lives?

by self-examination and repentance...

Ann Lamott has said that God loves us just as we are, but loves us too much to allow us to stay that way. Repentance means turning, not necessarily removing the mess or the brokenness, but turning our lives toward God that He may redeem the rough spaces into places of grace. It means taking a good, hard look at the cracks and the mess, and inviting God to enter in.

by prayer...

A daily encounter with God. There may be words. There may be silence. There may be only "Help me!" and "Thank you!" But every day, a commitment to connect with God.

by fasting...

Fasting may mean giving up food. It may mean giving up a destructive behavior that you know is not life-giving. It may mean intentionally using fewer of the earth's resources. It may mean going without to stand in solidarity with those who fast not by choice, but by circumstance of geography or socio-economic location.

by self-denial...

In North Raleigh, the United States, in the 21st century, we generally can have whatever we want whenever we want it. Can we tolerate the discomfort of denying ourselves, not to punish or to feel guilty, but to place ourselves in the world where the marginalized and oppressed live every day? (See also "by fasting")

and by reading and meditating on God's holy Word.

Read the scriptures. Choose a book of the Bible to read during Lent. Read the psalms. See inside this newsletter for other devotional ideas. Crack open that Bible.

In all these things, if you need help or resources, David, George, or I will be happy to offer thoughts and guidance.

Prayers for a holy Lent,
Stephanie

Parish Life

COMING SOON! Parish Pancake Supper and Silent Auction

Fran Kenney



Join us for a "Fat Tuesday" pancake supper sponsored by Nativity's Youth! We'll be serving up pancakes, sausage, and great fellowship time in the parish hall on March 4, 5:30 -7:30 pm. There will be crafts for kids and a silent auction as well. Donations of \$5/ person, with a max of \$20/family will be appreciated and accepted at the door on the night of the supper. Build up your appetite for pancakes, invite friends and neighbors, and plan to join us for the fun event! Questions? Contact Fran Kenney at franandpatk@bellsouth.net or 919-676-8708.



Your 2014 Vestry

Alfred Christensen, Senior Warden

The 2014 Vestry had its first meeting January 21, when Stephanie appointed Alfred Christensen as Senior Warden and the Vestry elected Sue Young as the Junior Warden for 2014. The members of the Vestry and their Ministry Team liaison responsibilities are:

- Alfred Christensen Senior Warden, Stewardship
- Sue Young Junior Warden, Children's formation
- Diana Hudgens Adult Formation
- Riley Gaddy Buildings and Grounds
- Judy Garces Newcomers
- Pete Crow Outreach
- Nancy Reed Communications
- Ken Jenkins Finance
- Fran Kenney Youth

Vestry liaison to the Worship Team will be Stephanie Allen and Waltje Rasulala, while Vestry liaison to the Pastoral Care Team will be David Lynch. Mike Rhaney serves as the church Treasurer for 2014 and Gail Christensen will replace Gail McNally as Clerk of the Vestry for 2014.



L to R: Alfred Christensen, Sue Young, Diana Hudgens, Riley Gaddy, Judy Garces, Pete Crow, Nancy Reed, Ken Jenkins and Fran Kenney

Adult Christian Formation

Lenten Daily Spiritual Practices

Stephanie Allen

Lent is a rich opportunity to take on a new spiritual practice to connect with God. Here are a few resources that you might find helpful.

Love Life: Living the Gospel of Love

Starting March 5, 2014 and continuing until Palm Sunday the Brothers of the Society of St. John the Evangelist will be offering short, daily videos that delve deeply into the Gospel that shapes our community life. John's message of love can unlock our hearts and transform our lives. For more information visit: www.SSJE.org/lovelife.

Lent Madness

Who will win the golden halo? Lent Madness began in 2010 as the brainchild of the Rev. Tim Schenck. In seeking a fun, engaging way for people to learn about the men and women comprising the Church's Calendar of Saints, Tim came up with this unique Lenten devotion. The format is straightforward: 32 saints are placed into a tournament-like single elimination bracket. Each pairing remains open for a set period of time and people vote for their favorite saint. The first round consists of basic biographical information about each of the 32 saints. Things get a bit more interesting in the subsequent rounds as we offer quotes and quirks, explore legends, and even move into the area of saintly kitsch. To print your bracket and vote, or simply to follow the madness, visit: www.lentmadness.org.

The Abbey of the Arts

If you are seeking more creativity in your practice, visit the Abbey of the Arts, an online global monastery without walls offering retreats, classes, books, and resources to nurture contemplative practice and creative expression. Special Lenten classes are offered, as well as the overall practices of the Abbey. Visit: www.abbeyofthearts.com.

d365

These daily online devotions aimed at college students and young adults are the result of a collaborative among the Episcopal Church, the Presbyterian Church, and the Cooperative Baptist Fellowship. Each day's meditation includes music, and the format *Pause, Listen, Think, Pray, and Go*. They are not just for young adults, however. People of all ages have resonated with the interactive, multi-sensory experience of these devotions. Visit: www.d365.org.

Simplifying the Soul: Lenten Practices to Renew Your Spirit by Paula Houston

If you are seeking something in print format, this book offers a daily practice to try alongside a meditation. I used this in my practice last Lent, and found it meaningful, thought-provoking food for the soul.

Daily Devotion booklets, both for individuals and for families with children

Booklets will be available in the lobby area of the church and the lobby of Estill House. Short meditations and prayers that can guide and shape you during the season of Lent.

May you keep a Holy Lent!

March Adult Christian Formation

Nancy Terry



Continuing through April 6: Book Study: *Without Buddha, I Could not Be a Christian* by Paul Knitter. This is the story of the author's search for truth and spiritual authenticity during a personal crisis. The class is led by Father George Clifford. We are looking at one chapter each week and by March 2, will be discussing Chapter

4. New participants are welcome to join the class. The book can be purchased from most book stores and is available as an eBook from both Kindle and Nook.

Contemplative Spirituality for Everyday Living

Nancy Terry



March 9 through April 6: Winston Charles, former rector of Christ Church, will lead us in a study of the ancient Christian tradition of contemplative spirituality. Contemplative spirituality calls us into a quietness that enables us to listen to God, and thereby find that firm ground on which we can stand in order to face and even embrace the challenges and joys of life. "How does faith sink deep enough inside of us to shape our thoughts, actions, and reactions?" asks Winston. He will share thoughts and practices that can become a steady foundation for day-to-day living through a life-giving relationship with God.

Youth Christian Formation

Preschool through 5th Grade Sunday School

Becky Showalter

We love to see our Sunday Schoolers each week and they are such a fun and lively community in and of themselves. Thanks to all who are a part of this wonderful group. All Sunday School classes meet at 10 am and childcare is provided for 3-5 year olds in the Education Building during each service. We are still trying to fine tune the transition periods, but hope that this schedule is working for everyone. We welcome any ideas or feedback you may have.

Our lesson plans for March are shown below. These lessons will also be published in *Sunday Tidings* (the Sunday announcements), so be sure to take a look at them and then bring them up with your children. Each week your child should also come home with a Spark Learner Leaflet which often has a "Take Home" idea – something to do outside of class to reinforce the lesson. Take a look!

Preschool Class and the Kindergarten -1st Grade Class:

Using the Spark Sunday School Curriculum and meeting at the 10 am Sunday School hour in the Education Building, they are now learning about Jesus' young life. These lessons are experienced through games, group play, crafts, learner leaflets and more.

March 2 The Sheep and Lost Coin
 March 9 The Prodigal Son
 March 16 Mary and Martha
 March 23 Zacchaeus
 March 30 The Last Supper
 April 6 Holy Week

Also meeting at the 10 am Sunday School hour in the Education Building (room 201), this class uses the lectionary version of the Spark Sunday School Curriculum. These lessons will center on our daily lectionary readings (the Bible passages read in church), and our hope is that this exposure to the lessons in class will help the students connect to what is being said in church during the services. Outside of class, they will look for ways to put into action the call to be God's hands in the world by participating in different outreach projects – look for information coming home soon.

March 2 The Transfiguration
 March 9 The First Sin
 March 16 Abram's Call
 March 23 Woman at the Well
 March 30 Pool of Siloam
 April 6 Lazarus

2nd-4th Grade Class:

Ready to Play Easter Bunny?

Becky Showalter

We are looking for someone to coordinate our two Easter Egg hunts on Easter Sunday. The coordinator will be responsible for purchasing candy (with church funds) or having candy donated, filling the plastic eggs with candy or having one of the youth Sunday School classes help, advertising the details of the hunt, and then hiding the eggs. It really is a very straightforward volunteer opportunity. We will offer the hunt for all attending children after the 9 am service and after the 11 am service. If you will be in town and are willing to help with this fun event, please email Becky Showalter at jbshow@bellsouth.net or call at 919-845-8975. This can be especially fun for a family to do!



Vacation Bible School – A Wonderful Summer Tradition

Becky Showalter

Are you well organized and enjoy working with kids? Do you know one or two others that are as well? We are looking for a person or group of people to coordinate Vacation Bible School this summer. Because of year-round school and the busyness of our families, Nativity hosts Vacation Bible School for one week-end during the summer – Friday evening through Sunday morning – so it's not during work hours or for a continuous week. Also, we will be purchasing a new curriculum this year including music and lots of ideas to choose from, and as always, we have many dedicated parishioners that are willing to help! Please prayerfully consider helping coordinate this event (as Becky really is ready to take a break!) If you are interested or have any questions, please contact Becky Showalter at jbshow@bellsouth.net or 919-845-8975.

Environmental Concerns

All this is from God, who reconciled us to himself through Christ, and has given us the ministry of reconciliation; that is, in Christ God was reconciling the world to himself, not counting their trespasses against them, and entrusting the message of reconciliation.

2 Cor. 5:18-19

Care for the environment from a teen perspective

Endangered Species

Bridget Knapp

Almost all animals that are endangered suffer from habitat loss, poaching, hunting, and humans invading their habitats. This ultimately has an impact on our environment because if we destroy habitat for animals, we will eventually destroy ourselves. Here is a list of some critically endangered species from Asia. All of the information provided was found at https://worldwildlife.org/species/directory?direction=desc&sort=extinction_status.

The Amur Leopard, which lives in northeastern China and in the Russian Far East, can leap more than 19 feet horizontally and 10 feet vertically; however, there are only about 30 of them left.

With only about 35 Javan Rhinos surviving in Ujung Kulon National Park in Java, Indonesia, they are the most threatened out of the five rhino species.

Saola (pronounced: sow-la), are critically endangered, antelope-like animals that are only found in the Annamite Mountains of Vietnam and Laos.

In Southeast China, the South China Tiger population consisted of about 4,000 individuals in the early 1950s; however, today they are considered to be “functionally extinct” because no one has seen one in the wild for more than 25 years.

Yangtze Finless Porpoises live in the Yangtze River, which is the longest river in Asia. They are very smart, they have a playful smile, and are critically endangered with only about 1000 to 1800 individuals surviving today.

God made this Earth perfect. It is our choice to either keep it perfect or ruin it.



My Ministry of Reconciliation

Carl Sigel

On February 16, Nativity participated in the national Interfaith Power & Light Preach-In on Climate Change. Stephanie acknowledged that people are not in agreement about how to respond to this challenge but concluded her sermon by saying we are called to reconcile our differences. As a scientist and as a Christian, to me the pathway is clear. From science, I know the Earth is warming at an unnatural rate and humans are causing that by polluting the atmosphere with greenhouse gases. This human activity is causing loss of life, and the suffering is mainly (at this time) among the vulnerable, poor, and marginalized. From my Christian training, I know that Jesus made it very clear that addressing the suffering of others must be among my highest priorities, and further through God Christ has given me the ministry of reconciliation (2 Cor. 5:18-19).

On December 3, 2013, leading climate scientist Jim Hansen and colleagues stated that the most effective way to protect nature and future generations was to reduce carbon dioxide emissions from fossil fuels. To avoid dangerous climate change, we need to decrease global emissions annually by 6%. If we wait until 2020, that rate of reduction increases to 15%. My ministry of reconciliation is to work aggressively on reducing emissions; will you join me? Environmental Stewardship at Nativity meets next at 7 pm on March 11.



If America's more than 300,000 houses of worship cut energy use by ten percent, more than 2 million tons of greenhouse gas emissions would be prevented, equivalent to the emissions of about 400,000 cars, or to planting over a half million acres of trees, and nearly \$200 million would be saved for congregations' missions and other priorities. (*US EPA Energy Star Program*)

Right:
Solar panels on
Richards
Memorial United
Church in
London, Ontario
Canada



Parish Life

Don't Miss This Event!

Mark March 2 at 4 pm on your calendar to attend a very special *Spirituality in the Arts* program, "A Banner Year in Worship." Quilter and parishioner Evelyn Judson will present a program featuring the creativity of the banner designs that she has made for Church of the Nativity.

Join us to hear the stories behind the designs. Music to complement these works of art will also be performed. A reception will follow in Corlett Hall.



Call for Graphic Artists (or aspiring artists)

Gail Christensen, Communications Team

The Communications Team is looking for people to help with occasional graphic needs of the church. The graphics are typically small projects such as creating an image for the website or making a flyer. If you are interested in helping out, contact Gail Christensen at gailc@nc.rr.com.



Seniors' Luncheon

Tom McNally

The next Seniors' Luncheon is scheduled for Sunday, March 16, at 12:45 pm. The luncheon will be hosted by Diana Hudgens at Aladdin's Eatery located at 6325 Falls of Neuse Road in the Sutton Square Shopping Center (corner of Falls of Neuse Road and Spring Forest Road). If you would like to attend please contact Diana Hudgens at dhudgens@nc.rr.com or 919-847-0396 or Tom McNally at t24mac@nc.rr.com or 919-376-1869. Reservations must be made by Wednesday, March 12. All seniors and seniors-to-be are welcome. Come join us.



Parents' Night Out

Fran Kenney



Attention parents of young children! Plan a night out and leave the babysitting to Nativity's youth! We'll be hosting a Parents' Night Out on Saturday, March 22, 5:30—8:30 pm for children 3 to 10 years old. Cost will be \$10/child, with a maximum of \$20/family. Please note that dinner will not be served, but we will enjoy snacks, games, a movie, and fun with the children. Share news of this event with friends and neighbors. Proceeds will go to support this summer's youth trips.

Save the Date: Church Picnic, April 27

Carol Meyer

We're baaaack! After a many-year hiatus, Nativity will be returning to Blue Jay Point County Park on Sunday, April 27 for its annual picnic. We will gather at 10 am, with our service starting promptly at 10:30 am. Please bring chairs and blankets and come enjoy a relaxed time of worship and fellowship.

Our picnic team of Josh and Sandra Booth (food), Lori Special (worship) and Carol Meyer (logistics/promotion/activities) are looking for volunteers. If you are interested in helping us, please let Carol know at carolbmeyer@gmail.com.

Please note that Nativity will have its regular 8 am service on April 27 but there will be no 9 am service or education hour that day. We hope to see you at Blue Jay Point!



Parish Life in Pictures



Nativity Honduras Medical Mission Team
Steve Gordon, Evelyn Judson, and Pete Crow



Left: The team in a health promotion skit in which Evelyn plays the role of someone who has badly cut her arm with a machete, and Pete is showing how to apply direct pressure to stop the bleeding. See article on page 10.



Youth Regathering breakfast

Long, long ago in January before the snow and ice settled on Raleigh, the youth of Nativity re-gathered after the Christmas break for fun, fellowship, and pancakes. They were grateful to the awesome cooks: Ben Bloom, René Garces, Pat Kenney, Charly Kerr, Sal Mungal, Perry Schneider, Jon Showalter, and Mary-Benton Gordon, along with assistants Jane Weinberger and Fran Kenney. The youth enjoyed making a pattern of quilt blocks for Susie Holmes, whose quilting group will turn their design into textile reality for an upcoming auction to benefit their mission trips. A special shout-out of happiness goes to Charly Kerr for donating the sausage!



Parish Life in Pictures

In honor of the Olympics, the youth of Nativity held their own games during their regular monthly gathering on February 9. The teams of Uzbekistan, Tonga, and Lichtenstein (extra points if you know where they are) competed in games including relay chocolate marshmallow-feeding, pickle-spitting, cheez whiz fortress-building, and the style and technique sport of hair dressing with spaghetti. No one remembers who won, but fun was had by all. A celebratory marshmallow food fight ended the evening. All youth are invited to join us March 9, from 5 to 7 pm, for our next dinner and adventure.



The January 9 gathering of the youth group was tasked with making dinner for the group. A pasta feast was prepared, along with salad and fresh bread, and strawberry shortcake for dessert. The secret ingredient for their delicious meal? Playing games before and after (and sometimes while) cooking! Did you know you can play football in the parish hall? Just ask former FSU Seminoles "assistant coach" Ben Bloom. Other youth leaders are Sally Bloom and Jon and Becky Showalter, all of whom are supervised by Fran Kenney.



The Fixers kids (the 5th and 6th graders) gathered at class leader Chris Chiavacci and his wife Chloe's home for a super fun Super Bowl pre-game gathering on February 2 that was aptly named a "Taco Tumble and Super Bowl Sundae Party." Class members had fun making several projects (ever tried to tear and shape a piece of paper, from behind your back, into the shape of a heart? Not easy!), playing team-building games, and thoroughly enjoying delicious make-your-own tacos and ice cream sundaes.



Outreach

A Newbie's Take on Honduras

Evelyn Judson

We are home. From January 9 to 19, Nativity members Pete Crow, Steve Gordon, and I were part of a group of 34 people from North Carolina, Georgia, Alabama, Ohio, Massachusetts and Honduras itself. We ran a clinic for six days, and served somewhere around 1300-1400 people in medical, optometric, and dental areas (numbers are not clear because some people were counted twice in different areas).

The first thing we noticed while approaching Tegucigalpa Airport was the terrain. *Honduras* is the word for depths, and there was no place where we could not see mountains—no higher than our Appalachians, covered in jungle—but newer, edgier, more like the Rockies. The airplane circled sharply to approach the runway in the valley bowl, almost on its left wingtip. Some of the Mission veterans commented how much better the touchdown was since the runway was extended a few years ago. The second impression as we drove away through town by bus was the extreme poverty: tiny shacks lining the road built of used, crazy boards stuck together any which way, roofed with corrugated metal or decrepit tiles on collapsing wooden framework, mile after mile until we left the city. The very lucky ones were built of cinder block, but no more space, no better roofs. People live there.

After spending several hours on the bus we arrived at El Corpus, where we were housed, fed, and nurtured by Juana, the Honduran coordinator, and the good people hosting us for the week. Their houses were poor by North Raleigh standards, but large, spacious, and modern compared with those in Tegucigalpa. All had electricity, running water (some of the time), space, and continuity. I was in a house with four men from our group (they got a dormitory; I got a tiny bedroom to myself). We neophytes were warned that we would be woken by dog-fights, roosters crowing, donkeys braying. I wish. We were directly upstairs from the town corn mill, which the miller started up every morning at 4 am. It was LOUD.

The miller's wife, Reina, is the best cook in town. I had expected to lose a little weight while there—no such luck. Red beans, rice, tortillas, eggs, and queso formed the basis of our diet, with some sort of meat or fish every day: pork, beef, chicken, or tilapia, varied with imagination and style. I got tired of the white salty cheese, but not the rest of it.

Every morning we climbed onto the back of a large flatbed truck, equipped with iron bars to hang onto. We then stood during a 40-minute, five-mile trip to the clinic held in a tiny village of Madrigales. The trip was breathtakingly beautiful: over the mountains, through coffee plantations, huge ancient mango trees, and hedges of the bougainvillea that is the beauty even the most poverty-stricken huts used for joy. By the time we arrived, we were ready to be done with the truck. I still have the bruises a week and a half later.

The people would already be in line as we arrived. Their village elders were in charge of making sure first come were first served. We would dash to our stations: Pete in charge of traffic control at the medical clinic, Steve a translator, and I, general

jack-of-all-trades. I helped getting blood pressures and weights, escorted people who were not quite sure where to go next, and played with the kids. Pete and I were the entertainment with a skit to educate those in line on how to treat severe lacerations. I played “cut by the machete!”, and was covered in catsup every day.

The core of the clinic was four nurse practitioners and a doctor (medicos) who saw the medical patients, and the pharmacy, which dispensed everything from blood pressure medicine to Selsun Blue shampoo (used to treat fungal infections) to vitamins and more. Medicos might see single people or families of five or six (the whole family at the same time, in half a room with only a sheet between them and the same setup in the other half). Ailments ranged from ears plugged with wax and minor rashes to terminal cancer. Fortunately, this year the medicos said there seemed to be more of the former, and fewer of the exceptionally ill than in previous years.

There was also a dental clinic for extractions, fillings, and cleanings, and optometrists who checked eyes and gave out free glasses if they could find a match in their supply, both of these staffed by Honduran volunteers.

At the end of the day, we rode the truck again: different scenic views, same bruises. We ate dinner with our families, and then gathered at Juana's house for daily debrief and Compline. Two priests from the Georgia group that worked extremely hard in the pharmacy led Eucharist.

After six days we were tired. Everyone in the group had been working grueling, emotionally exhausting days with minimal breaks for lunch and coffee. The last day we closed the clinic a little early, had a small closing ceremony with the Hondurans, and then headed back to Juana's for a fiesta with food, music, dancing, and relaxing. The next morning we traveled several hours by bus to Comayagua, a regional resort city—no too touristy, but historic, for a day of decompression.

Saturday night, the second Eucharist really completed the journey. Preacher Ben Wells talked about our journey: OUR journey...that we could have stayed home in Raleigh or Atlanta, and done good work that is so badly needed here, but for ourselves we sometimes need to completely change the paradigm. We need to step away, to see what we can do in the world, and what we are called to do at home. He spoke to what I was feeling—that I had embarked on the trip as an adventure, and realized that I have found more of myself than I anticipated. I will go back.

The Honduras Medical Mission thanks the Church of the Nativity for all your support. Special thanks for your prayers, monetary contributions, and to everyone who packed pills and donated suitcases, toothpaste, brushes, etc. If you are interested in going on this annual (January) Mission, talk to me, Pete, Steve, or any one of the many past Nativity participants.

See photos of Evelyn in Honduras on page 8.

From the Office



Where Do the Cookies Come From?

Sunday Morning Fellowship needs your help. The Fellowship Team takes care of the set-up, clean-up and organization, but would appreciate help with baking cookies, picking up the iced tea, and cleaning up at the end - many hands make light work! It would be helpful if everyone signed up in some way once every two or three months. To sign up please visit Sign-up Genius at <http://www.signupgenius.com/go/60B0A4EADAF2CA46-sunday>. You may also call the church office and Jennie can assist you with signing up.

Births

Finley Elias, grandson of Kathy Linthicum



Our congregation extends its sympathy and prayers to:

Waltye Rasulala on the death of Lee Perdue, her nephew-in-law

May his soul, and all the souls of the faithful departed, through the mercy of God, rest in peace. Amen.

Connect

Please note: we are charged by the post office for returned mail if you change your address and do not notify the church office! Please call or email Jennie coordinator@nativityonline.org with your change of address.

- Like us on Facebook <https://www.facebook.com/nativityonline>
- Follow us on Twitter @NativityOnline
- Join our email group. Log on to <http://nativityonline.org/community/keep-informed/>
- Read *Glad Tidings* online, in color, at www.nativityonline.org

Prayer Chain: To begin a confidential prayer request, or to have names added to the Prayers of the People list for Sunday services, please contact the church office: 919-846-8338.

If you have an illness, hospitalization, or death in your family, please contact the church office or Stephanie directly. If you have a pastoral emergency, please contact Stephanie on her cell: 919-744-1663.

Job Postings—to receive daily job postings from Caring Connections, contact Karen Ridout at kgr@mindspring.com.



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Glad Tidings Team

Stephanie Allen

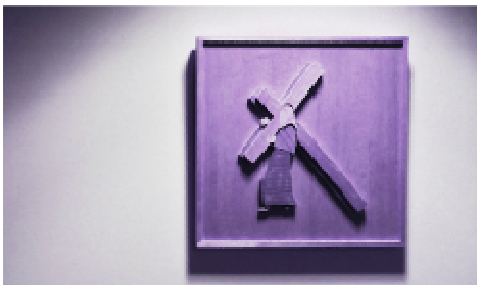
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Stations of the Cross During Lent

The service of walking the Way of the Cross will be offered each Saturday during Lent, March 8 - April 12, at 8:30 am in the church.

The congregation "walks" through the final hours of Jesus' life by visiting each station on the wall of the church, sharing a reading about that moment, and then saying a prayer.

"The devotion known as the Way of the Cross, or Stations of the Cross, is an adaptation to local usage of a custom widely observed by pilgrims to Jerusalem; the offering of prayer at a series of places in that city traditionally associated with our Lord's passion and death." Book of Occasional Services, page 56

All are welcome to attend this quiet and prayerful meditation time.