

CHS News & Notes

Volume 14, Issue 10

Church of the Holy Spirit

Newsletter December 2011

“Advocations”

Since arriving at Church of the Holy Spirit, the question of “So, what do we call you?” has come up quite a few times from quite a few people. I frequently joke that the only major problem still remaining around the ordination of women in the Episcopal Church is the question of how to address women priests. “Father” is obviously not an option!

If I could wave a wand and create one universal title for Episcopal clergy, I would choose to have all of us go by the titles used for the Desert Fathers and Mothers, the remarkable ascetics who left the cities of the Eastern Mediterranean in the early centuries of Christianity and sought to live a life of prayer and self-denial in the desert. These saints were sought out by many pilgrims who came to seek counsel from them in their desert dwellings, and who addressed them as “Amma” and “Abba” – the words used to address parents in Aramaic, the language Jesus spoke. The sayings of desert saints like Abba Joseph and Amma Syncletica have been preserved even to the present day, and are a rich source of spiritual insight. I do know one Episcopal priest who goes by “Amma,” and if we must have titles, I would be happy to see more clergy adopt the practice in homage to those remarkable leaders.

My preference for how to address me, though, is simply by the name that was given to me at baptism: Grace. I’ll answer to pretty much anything – “Mother,” “Pastor,” “Reverend” – but when it comes down to it, I prefer the “Christian name”. Thankfully, my parents gave me a name with a fair amount of weight to it – if my first name were Fifi, I might feel the need for a title! (As an English major, I also feel obliged to point out that “The Reverend”, while correct for referring to me in the third person, is not, strictly speaking, a form of direct address.)

Addressing me by my Christian name reminds us all that we are all commissioned and empowered for ministry at baptism, whether that ministry is ordained, like mine, or one of the myriad of ministries that the people of Church of the Holy Spirit carry out in the wider world.

In Christ’s peace,

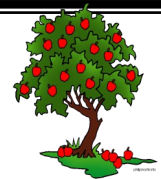
Grace+



Rev. Grace Burson

Stewardship Campaign Celebration

This year’s stewardship celebration brunch will be held after the 9:30 service on December 4th. The celebration will feature apple dishes continuing with the apple theme adopted for this year’s campaign. Financial support is so important this year as we start a new chapter in the life of the Church of the Holy Spirit with the arrival of Grace, our new Rector. We anticipate the coming year to be a very exciting one for us. In addition to the financial commitments, this celebration recognizes the time and talent commitments made by so many that sustained our church this past year during the transition. If you haven’t submitted your pledge for 2012, pledge cards are available at the back of the church and can be turned in at the church office or placed in the offering plate on Sunday. The apple tree will continue to be displayed in the church for a few more weeks, so there is still time to get your apple on the tree.



Bob Cochran for the Stewardship Committee



Feasibility Committee News

On Sunday, December 11, from 11-12:15, the Feasibility Committee will present its findings to the congregation. This is the chance for everyone to receive the information they need to pray and discern before the Annual Meeting, at which there will be a vote on whether to go forward with the potential Capital Campaign and building project for a new church. Please make every effort to be there! Snow date is January 8.

Our inclement weather cancellation policy

It is important to everyone at the Church of the Holy Spirit that you exercise care and caution when our area is experiencing inclement weather. We make every effort possible to ensure cleared walks, but during a snowstorm we cannot keep the walks perpetually clear. If you are worried about the weather, please use your common sense and stay safe!



Our parish will generally never cancel a scheduled service of worship, so long as the Rector can find some way of getting to the church. Lay ministers and worshipers are encouraged to use their best judgment to determine if it is safe for them to come in. In the rare instance that a Sunday or Wednesday service is canceled, we will utilize two methods for getting out the word:

- We will place an announcement on the parish's answering service to the effect. (So therefore if there is no such announcement, you will know services are being held as scheduled.)
- We will place a listing on the WMUR (Ch. 9) "scroll" noting the cancellation no later than 7 a.m. on the day such services are canceled.

EMAILING NEWS & NOTES

Over a year ago the Vestry made the decision to try get as many as possible to receive *News & Notes* electronically in order to save on printing and postage. To date not very many folks have made the switch from paper to email. What this means is that we are no longer mailing out enough copies to get bulk rate postage and we are not saving any money at all because we have to use first class. It also costs us about \$63 per month to print the copies we mail. If you are not one who already receives *News & Notes* via email, **WON'T YOU CONSIDER GETTING IT BY EMAIL?** You should also know that you can always read it on our web site, holyspirit-plymouth.org so there is no need to worry about losing an email copy.

Wavell Fogleman, Treasurer

QUILTING



Quilting will be held...
December 13 at 6:00PM &
December 16th at 9:30AM at Griswold Hall.
 See Lois Grant for more info!

CHRISTIAN YOGA

JOIN US ON WEDNESDAY
 EVENINGS, 5-6PM.

BRING A MAT & A PILLOW!
 ALL ARE WELCOME!



**IS IT HARD TO GET TO A
 TRADITIONAL CHURCH
 BECAUSE YOU FIND GOD
 ON THE SKI SLOPES
 ON SUNDAYS?**

**Are you looking
 for a community
 that will welcome
 your whole family?**

**Do you want to
 experience
 worship & learning
 with all 5 senses?**

Infants to Seniors—

ALL AGES WELCOME! COME AS YOU ARE!

170 Main Street in Plymouth
 (across from the furniture store)

5:30 PM Twice a month, starting January 11

Call 536-1321 or email holyspiritrector@gmail.com for details—

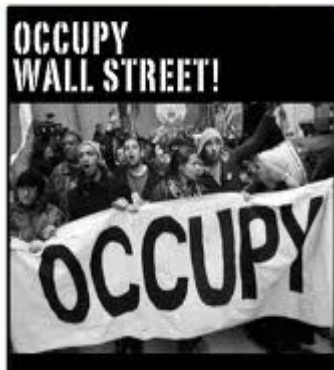
- ♦ *Storytelling*
- ♦ *Music*
- ♦ *Activities*
- ♦ *Potluck*
- ♦ *Communion & MORE!*



WEDNESDAY SCHOOL will be starting up again after New Year's! This intergenerational time of storytelling, activities, potluck fellowship, and worship is a great way for busy families to participate in the life of the church. Please spread the word far and wide!

ALL are welcome, from infants to seniors.

Please call Grace for more information!



We will be hosting an Advent Study Day around the topic of the Occupy Wall Street movement. The Diocesan Convention voted to commend study, reflection and engagement around this movement to each parish during Advent. We hope that a broad range of viewpoints will be represented! The day will run from 9 AM-1 PM in Griswold Hall on Saturday, December 3. We will conclude by sharing a provided lunch.



ECW NEWS

YANKEE SWAP-

Our Traditional ECW Yankee Swap will be held on Thursday, December 8th. Bring a brown bag lunch. Dessert & Coffee will be provided.

BOOKS FOR THE BOOK SALE- Thank you for donations of books.

We are accepting donations at the church office Wednesdays & Thursdays from 9-1. (Please, no Reader's Digest condensed books.)

PURCHASE SOME BEAUTIFUL NOTECARDS! OUR COMMUNITY CLOSET NEEDS YOUR HELP!

Each pack of 10 different local scenes costs \$15.00 and \$7.00 of each purchase is going directly to the Community Closet. Help our neighbors in need while enjoying these beautiful watercolor reproductions of the original Artist's paintings. Anne Power Hardenbergh, sister of Tyrone Power, painted these inspirational scenes from Rumney, Alexandria, Plymouth and more... See Pam Gould or call her at 536-3356 for more information on the artist and her famous connections. Contact Pam to purchase these beautiful cards, while helping our neighbors in need. These will also be available Sundays after the 9:30 Service or in the church office.



*The Appeal to Rebuild
Holy Trinity Cathedral
Port-au-Prince, Haiti*

“MEN ANPIL CHAY PA LOU.”
Many Hands Lighten the Load.

Rebuilding the Soul of a Nation

When the January 2010 earthquake hit Haiti, people turned to the church. They knew they would find help there even though nearly all the church buildings, including Holy Trinity Cathedral, had been reduced to rubble. The bishop, clergy and Cathedral staff offered what food and water they had. They handed out tents until all the tents were gone.

Church of the Holy Spirit has joined the [Rebuild Our Church in Haiti](#) campaign to rebuild Holy Trinity Cathedral so that there will always be a place people can go during times of trouble, a place that will lift them up both spiritually and physically. Rebuild Our Church is a national project launched by the Executive Council of the Episcopal Church to encourage every parish to participate in resurrecting the poorest and most populous diocese in the Episcopal Church.

The Diocese of Haiti is a member of Province II and home to nearly 100,000 Episcopalians with 97 parishes and 200 schools. In 2008 the Diocese celebrated over 200 baptisms and 700 confirmations. Per capita income is about \$480 a year.

Fundraising will begin on November 27 and run for the 4 weeks of Advent. Parishioners can “buy a brick” to help rebuild Holy Trinity and restore the famous murals by making a donation at coffee hour (talk to Wavell Fogleman), giving online at www.episcopalchurch.org/HaitiAppeal or sending a check to Rebuild Our Church, c/o The Episcopal Church Foundation, 815 Second Ave., New York, NY 10017. To make a gift of stock, call 1(800) 697-2858 and ask for Nancy Grizzaffi, or email all@episcopalfoundation.org.



REMINDER

*January
Newsletter Article
Submission
Deadline:
December 21.*

WE NEED TO KNOW YOUR CURRENT EMAIL ADDRESSES!

Please send a message to the office (holyspiritnh@myfairpoint.net) and to Grace (holyspiritrector@gmail.com) so that we have your current address on file and can contact you with important announcements. Can you please note if you would like your News & Notes emailed as well? Even if you are already receiving it by email, this will help us to update our records.

~Thank you!

Church of the Holy Spirit
PO Box 68
Plymouth, NH 03264

Church Building
170 No. Main St.

Community Life Center
263 Highland St.
(603) 536-1321

Rector

Rev. Grace Burson

Vestry Members

Senior Warden

Robert Cochran

Junior Warden (property issues)

Fred Gould

Treasurer

Wavell Fogleman

Clerk

Kristen Fischer

At-large members

Brendon Hoch

Lois Grant

Susan McKimens

Jonathan Santore

Elsa Turmelle

Nursery

Siobhan Davis

Email:

holyspiritnh@myfairpoint.net

Website:

www.holyspiritplymouth.org

Newsletter Editor

Michelle Betts

603-536-1321



DECEMBER ANNIVERSARIES:

- 3 Jorgen & Lilah Piper
- 16 Albert & Brenda Conrad
- 21 Wavell & Susan Fogleman
- 23 Stephen & Barbara Lambert

CHS News

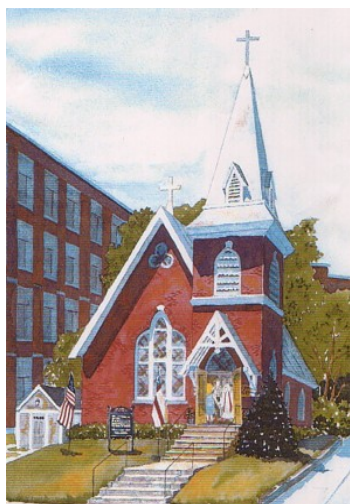
Robert Brooks is our News Reporter for the Record Enterprise. He has set up an email address for anyone who wishes to send him Church news to be put in the paper, the address is: chsnews@hotmail.com

Bob needs to receive information by Thursday, a full week before the paper comes out.

Happy Birthday!

DECEMBER BIRTHDAYS:

- 3 Maddie Kilfoyle
- 8 Nathaniel Hoch,
Bobbi Hunter,
Grace Burson
- 12 Stephen Buttolph
- 21 Russ Carlisle,
Susan Fogleman,
- 22 Paul Wilson,
Stephen Lambert
- 23 Thelma Gregoire
- 27 Jane Keller
- 28 Beth Simpson,
Nick Sevigney



**CHURCH OF THE HOLY SPIRIT
IS NOW ON**

FACEBOOK!

If you are too, please find us
("The Episcopal Church of the Holy Spirit")
and "like" the page.

The Rector will also happily accept friend requests!



OUR CHRISTMAS SCHEDULE

Christmas Eve Family Service: 6:30PM

“Midnight Mass” at 10:00PM

Christmas Day 9 AM,
Christmas Lessons & Carols (with Eucharist)

The Chapel of St. John of the Mountains will be hosting a non-denominational Candlelight Christmas Service at 4:00 p. m. The Chapel is located on Ellsworth Hill Road, 4 1/2 miles from the intersections of Routes 3 & 49, Campton. For more information, phone Pastor Ray Hahn, 536-4308.

Advent's Wildernesses: 2 HOUR RETREAT

An Advent Quiet Day for the Diocese of New Hampshire

Repeated in **four Locations** in the second and third weeks of **Advent, 2011.**

(a simple meal of soup and bread will end the retreat in its last half hour of conversation for Saturday morning retreats and will begin the retreat in its first half hour for Sunday afternoon retreats and will be provided by the hospitality of the hosting parish.)

Please register at the church office of the location at which you plan to be present:

Saturday, December 3, 10:00 – 12:30, **St. Paul's, Concord**, NH (register at 224-2523)

Sunday, December 4, 1:00 – 3:30, **St. Barnabas, Berlin**, NH (register at 752-3504)

Saturday, December 10, 10:00- 12:30, **Christ Church, Exeter**, NH (register at 772-3332)

Sunday, December 11, 1:00 – 3:30, **Trinity, Meredith**, NH (register at 279-6689)



Advent's Wildernesses- a retreat day for clergy and laity

Because there was no punctuation in the original Hebrew, Isaiah's advent reference to John the Baptist's work of prophetic calling is unclear about where the people were to whom he was preaching! Who is in the wilderness? Was it John the Baptist? Was it the people to whom he was preaching? We do not know. But we do have our own wildernesses and advent is a time of connecting our memories and our pain with our healing and our hopes. This retreat will look at longing, wilderness, healing and hope as we prepare our hearts for the coming of the Messiah. Part teaching and part silent life-processing, the retreat will consider various types of life management and spiritual wellness which can assist us with the modeling we seek to do as Christians in living balanced, centered lives. Bring nothing. Read nothing. Pay nothing but DO make a reservation! Take two hours off from the busy-ness. Just come, enjoy and be fed by hot bread, creamy butter, hot soup and God-dwelling community.

Retreat Companion: The Rev. Canon Charles LaFond