



Church of the Holy Spirit News & Notes

April 2014—Volume 17, #4

Advocations – April 2014



Dear Friends,

As I write this column, I am looking out the office window at another foot of fresh snow, fallen on the spring equinox. I am starting to suspect that Plymouth has been caught in a time warp and that it will be mid-February forever. In the Narnia Chronicles, when the White Witch has Narnia under a spell, it's "always winter and never Christmas." In New Hampshire in 2014, apparently it's always winter and never Easter! (And there are years when Easter is as early as March 22 – can you imagine?!)

Nevertheless, Easter will come! And the Church of the Holy Spirit will observe Holy Week, walking with Christ along the stony path to the Cross and being buried with him in the tomb, only to rise again when the power of God's love defeats death. 2013's Holy Week services went very well – they were deep, enriching experiences for those who attended. If you didn't come last year, check out one of the services this year! It will be a profound faith experience.

The schedule is the same as in 2012 and 2013:

Palm Sunday (April 13): Palm Sunday Liturgy and Holy Eucharist at **8:00 & 9:15** – note early start time for the second service, which will begin (weather permitting) at the traffic circle together with the congregation of Plymouth Congregational UCC.

Maundy Thursday (April 17): Family Worship at **5:00 PM**; Parish Supper and Holy Eucharist with Foot-Washing and Stripping of the Altar, beginning in the Undercroft at **6:00 PM**.

Good Friday (April 18): Stations of the Cross at **12:00 Noon**; Liturgy of the Day with sung Passion Gospel and Communion from the Reserved Sacrament at **7:00 PM**.

Holy Saturday (April 19): Great Vigil of Easter with Kindling of the New Fire and First Eucharist of Easter at **9:00 PM**.

Easter Sunday (April 20): Holy Eucharist at **8:00 AM**; Festival Eucharist at **9:30 AM**.

Come one, come all – and bring your friends! Even if there's still three feet of snow on the ground on April 20, there will be new life!

In God's peace,
Grace+

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Church of the Holy Spirit

P. O. Box 68
Plymouth, NH 03264

Church Building

170 No. Main Street

Community Life Center

263 Highland Street
(603) 536-1321

Rector

Rev. Grace Burson

Vestry Members

Senior Warden

Joan Bowers

Junior Warden (property issues)

Robert Cochran

Treasurer

Wavell Fogleman

Clerk

Kristen Fischer

At-Large Members

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Exciting progress on the building project!

The Capital Campaign Committee is pleased to report that the campaign tally currently stands at 77% (\$308,000) in our progress toward our goal of raising \$400,000 to build the new church. If they have not yet contacted you, they will probably do so soon, as we work on getting all the way to 100%! Our profoundest thanks to those whose pledges have gotten us this far toward our vision of a barrier-free, flexible, efficient building that will position us to expand our worship, fellowship, formation and outreach ministries.

Meanwhile, a very exciting opportunity has arisen for us to pursue a significant state grant that would allow us to incorporate a commercial kitchen and community gathering space (parish hall) into the project from the start. This extension of the building would allow us to fill a clear need in the community, which lacks both commercial kitchens and affordable gathering spaces. We are working closely with Whole Village, the Farmers' Market, and many other local groups who are enthusiastic about the possibility of this vision coming to fruition. The grant application is a daunting one, and of course nothing is guaranteed; but we are working hard to make our case as well as we can. I am very excited about this chance to live more fully into our mission of serving the community in Plymouth and the surrounding area.

Please continue to keep the Capital Campaign and the grant application process in your prayers!

Holy Week Services

Lent has begun, which means that (despite the surplus of snow outside) Holy Week and Easter are just around the corner. Put the Holy Week services into your calendar now:

- Maundy Thursday (April 17, 6 PM)
- Good Friday (April 18, noon and 7 PM)
- Great Vigil of Easter (April 19, 9 PM).

Holy Week was full of wonderful energy last year and we hope that even more people will participate in these unique and powerful worship experiences in 2014.



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Continuing Lent Programs

- The final two **Community Lenten Program** sessions will take place from 5:30-7:00 PM on Tuesdays in Lent (through April 8) and will include supper and a presentation on spiritual practices. (See schedule below.)
- **Brown Bag Bible Study** continues on Wednesdays in Lent, 11 AM-noon at the CLC (263 Highland Street) through April 9. We've been looking at the Scripture readings for the upcoming Sunday. Bring your lunch if it helps you to fit this time of study and reflection into your schedule.

Mardi Gras Dinner

On March 4, members of the Church of the Holy Spirit gathered at Griswold Hall for the Mardi Gras dinner and the Burning of the Palms (see photos, below). In addition to the traditional fare, attendees also had the chance to enjoy some alligator, thanks to Wavell Fogleman and his travels!



Community Lenten Series

The Church of the Holy Spirit hosted the first Community Lenten Series for 2014 March 11. Parishioners from various Plymouth Churches came together for fellowship and food, and Grace led the group in the practice of "Praying in Color." Bishop Hirschfeld paid a visit as well! CHS will host the final Community Lenten Series on April 8 and is looking for a few good folks who are willing to help prepare food. Please contact Grace if you would like to help!



Schedule for the Community Lenten Series:

- April 1, at Plymouth UMC: Diane Randall, "Spiritual Storytelling"
- April 8, at CHS: Rev. Paulo Franca (of Plymouth UCC), "Being Human: A Lenten Practice"



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“Ashes to Go” Comes to Plymouth

On Ash Wednesday this year, Grace and several parishioners “took worship to the streets” in the first Ashes to Go in Plymouth. Curious passers-by stopped on Main Street on a cloudy winter afternoon to learn and to be ashed, and familiar faces took the opportunity to incorporate a moment of prayer into their busy day!



Save the Date: Lay Leadership Institute

Congregational lay leaders and clergy are encouraged to make plans for the 2014 Lay Leadership Institute: Saturday, 3 May 2014 in the Rundlett Middle School in Concord. Formerly a school for vestries, the Lay Leadership Institute is now extended to prepare all lay leaders in our congregations for their ministries in the church – and, by extension, in the world. For more information, go to www.nhepiscopal.org/lay-leadership-institute.

Family Worship for 2014

Family Worship is CHS’ “third congregation,” and if you’ve been wondering where the children and their parents are on Sunday mornings ... they’re at Family Worship on Wednesday evenings! You do NOT have to be a child, or have a young child, to come and be part of this terrific group and its experience of faith and fellowship!

Our gatherings – of young children, their families, and those who love them – are being held his semester on the campus of Holderness School, and the families from the parish and the school are enjoying our time together. We eat together, then share a Bible story and activity and a short, kid-friendly worship service. The time frame is 5:30-7:00 PM. Contact Grace (holyspiritrector@gmail.com, 996-1490) for details.

All sessions are Wednesdays, 5:30-7:00 PM, unless otherwise indicated.

April 9 – The Good Samaritan

***April 17** [Thursday at 5 PM]: Parish Maundy Thursday dinner – Cross & Resurrection)

April 30 – Easter Week

May 14 – The Good Shepherd

***May 28** – The End of the Story

* Dates with an asterisk are in the Undercroft; all others are at Holderness School.

April Celebrations

Birthdays

Cynthia Day	Georgia Dexter
Nicholas Ring	Kate Donahue
Liz McKinney	Brint Woodward
Sally Peters	Bob Cochran
Tom Witmer	Simon Mauchly
Robin Bowers	Libby Desfosses
Meredith Sherman	

Anniversaries

Neil & Jane Keller
Russ & Janet Carlisle



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ECW Meeting and Book Sale

The next ECW meeting will be on Thursday, April 3rd at noon in Griswold Hall. And...it's time again for this year's Book Sales! The first Book Sale will be Thursday, April 24th from 3-6 p.m. in Griswold Hall (weather permitting). Please contact Barbara Brooks at 744-3597 with any questions.

Mugs, Anyone?

If anyone knows what happened to the remaining CHS mugs that were in the narthex of the Main Street building, please let the office know!

Spread Some Cheer--Help With the Postcard Ministry

Looking to get involved in a very special corner of church life? Consider volunteering to spread cheer as part of the Postcard Ministry! We are still looking for volunteers for the month of January, February, or December. For one month, send birthday greetings, anniversary wishes, and simple "thinking of you" notes to parishioners. You'll be supplied with everything you need, so if you're interested, contact Postcard Ministry Coordinator Kathy Lennox by phone at 536-4779 or at kmlennox@plymouth.edu.

Acolytes and LEMs Needed!

CHS still could very much use a few new ACOLYTES or LAY EUCHARISTIC MINISTERS! These ministries help to make our worship orderly and meaningful. LEMs serve the chalice of wine during communion; acolytes carry the cross and gospel book and assist the priest in other ways. If you are interested in acolyting, contact Kate Donahue at kdonahue@prhs.sau48.org or 536-9539. If you are interested in being a LEM, contact Kathy at kmlennox@plymouth.edu or 536-4779.

Follow Grace's Blog!

Have you visited Grace's blog, "Parables of the Pea Patch"? You'll find each week's sermon there, as well as other writings and insights, so it's a great way to stay even more connected. You can link to the blog at parableofthepeapatch.wordpress.com.

Sunday Service Child Care—Volunteers Needed!

Volunteers are needed to help provide child care in the Undercroft during the 9:30 am service each week through mid-May. The shift lasts from 9:15 – 10:30. If you are Safe Church trained and would like to help, please contact Melissa Greenawalt at 536-1321 or email holyspiritnh@myfairpoint.net.

Ahh...Spring in New Hampshire!

"White sand or white snow; if you squint hard enough it's all the same, right?" Bob and Anne Cochran snapped this great shot of "Spring in the North"--on March 17th! Some days it certainly feels like spring will never come, but every day the sun gets warmer and the birds return a few at a time. We'll be swatting blackflies before we know it here in New Hampshire!



Do you have news to share? We'd love to hear from you! Send your announcements to Melissa Greenawalt, Parish Administrator, at holyspiritnh@myfairpoint.net. Submissions should be received by Wednesday morning to be included in that week's email newsletter.

April 2014

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
		1 Exec. Comm. Mtg- 11am-CLC Comm Lenten Series- 5:30pm-PlyUMC	2 Brown Bag Bible Study-11am-CLC	3 ECW-noon-GH	4	5
6 8:00/9:30 Eucharist- CH	7	8 Comm Lenten Series- 5:30pm-GH Vestry Mtg-7pm-CLC	9 Brown Bag Bible Study-11am-CLC Family Worship-5:30 pm- HS	10	11	12
13 Palm Sunday 8:00/9:15 Eucharist- CH	14	15	16	17 Maundy Thursday 5:30pm-Fam Worship 6pm-Parish dinner/ footwashing/ Eucharist	18 Good Friday 12pm-Stations of the Cross 7:00pm-Service	19 Holy Saturday 9pm-Great Vigil of Easter
20 Easter Sunday 8:00/9:30 Eucharist- CH	21	22	23	24 ECW Book Sale-3- 6pm-GH	25	26
27 8:00/9:30 Eucharist- CH	28	29	30 Family Worship-5:30 pm- HS		Regular meetings and events: Yoga-5pm W-GH Choir practice-7pm- CH	AA-7am M-F-GH -7pm W-GH Al-Anon-7pm M-GH NA-7pm Th-GH