

The mission of St. Paul's is to develop and nurture a community of faith by rejoicing in the Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ through worship, service, and love.

The Parable is published bi-monthly by St. Paul's Episcopal Church. Articles may be faxed in or submitted by email. All articles are subject to editing.

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Vestry Members

Deborah Wimberly, Sr. Warden
Lyle Miller, Jr. Warden
Helen Gibbs, Clerk
Ella Reese Hinson, Treasurer
Mike Winburn
Trisha Collins - ECW
Pray for Vestry Members Daily.

"Lil' Red Wagon Collection"
*Sundays, May 6 and June 3 will be collection
Sundays for the Pee Dee Coalition. Thank you!!!*

"FLC on the Third"
*The Third Sunday of each month, the DOK will
collect cleaning supplies, paper products and gift
cards for Family Literacy. Our next collections
will be May 20 and June 17*

Rector
James W. Barnhill, Jr.
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Parish Administrator
Carolyn J. Andrews
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Social Saints

We are always in need of Social Saints! If you would be willing to help with the refreshments after the 10:00 service, please contact Vicky Armes or the office at 479-2252 or stpaulepisch@sc.metrocast.net

St. Paul's Prayer Chain

**Please call Edith Furman (497-2304) with your prayer requests!
Edith will start the prayer chain in motion.**

Prayer requests for the Bulletin
Please call the office to add or remove prayer requests from the bulletin.

THE PARABLE

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ADDRESS SERVICE REQUESTED



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May/June 2012

Wednesday, April 25, 2012 *(The Feast of St. Mark, Evangelist)*

Dear People of God,

³³That same hour they got up and returned to Jerusalem; and they found the eleven and their companions gathered together. ³⁴These were saying, 'The Lord has risen indeed, and he has appeared to Simon!' ³⁵Then they told what had happened on the road [to Emmaus]... ³⁶While they were talking about this, Jesus himself stood among them and said to them, 'Peace be with you' (Lk.24:33-36 – NRSV).

These verses from our Lectionary reading for the Third Sunday of Easter describe Jesus' appearances after His Resurrection, first to His disciples along the road to Emmaus, and then in the upper room.

When people plan a surprise party for someone, they organize the room before-hand by decorating it with bright colors, and preparing food and drink for the festivities. And then, when the guest of honor is nearing home, everyone hides somewhere in the room, in order to jump out as the one who is honored crosses the threshold. "Surprise!" And of course, there is a moment of stunned amazement, and then much joy.

But, in the upper room, Jesus turns the surprise party on its head. Oh yes, He is very much the guest of honor, but it is **the disciples** who are stunned when The Lord suddenly appears among them in His Resurrected form. "Surprise!" Of-course, the reaction is very much the same. There is at first, stunned amazement, and then delirious joy.

This is the over-arching emotion which should be with us in this season of Easter. These are really the days of joy. Christ is truly risen! How else are we to respond to such incredible news except to rejoice, and to rejoice ecstatically?

And what about our worship services? This gathering of the disciples in the upstairs room of the home which, by tradition, belonged to the mother of John Mark was quite likely the very first Christian prayer service to take place after the Resurrection. And sure enough, Christ is right there in the middle of them, just like He promised (see Mt.18:20 – "Where two or three are gathered together in my name, there am I in the midst of them"). So, if the reaction to people who are in the very presence of Jesus is exuberant joy, then shouldn't that same abundant, vibrant joy also be the hallmark of our own worship of the Lord today, if He is truly right there in the middle of it all?

During this Eastertide, let us set aside the cares and concerns which weigh us down, and fix our eyes instead on the wondrous tomb that now stands empty, and the victorious cross of Christ's Resurrection.

Because the truth is, you see, it's time to party! ☺

Blessed Easter, everyone,

James T

Special Activities and Meetings upcoming for St. Paul's

- May 6** CPC Sunday - ECW meeting 11:45 a.m.
- May 13** Mother's Day - Camp St. Christopher Sunday
- May 18** Bingo Night 6:30 p.m.
- May 19** Parish Maintenance Morning starting at 8:30 a.m.
- May 20** UTO Spring Ingathering - Vestry Meeting 11:45 a.m.
- May 27** Pentecost Sunday

CPC/MOP Sunday is May 6

The Church Periodical Club is an Episcopal institution and its ministry is to supply books, magazines, tapes, videos and computer programs, free to those who cannot otherwise obtain them. There are two primary granting funds. The National Books Fund grants annually and responds to requests for books and related materials around the world. The Miles of Pennies fund is exclusively used for the book needs of children and grants are made year round. Last year, this collection provided book funds for seminarians and bought Bibles and prayer books for missions, prisons, jails, treatment centers and other organizations. There will be envelopes in the narthex or you may write a check to the church – clearly marked that it is for CPC.

Additional information about CPC is on the bulletin board!

ECW Meeting

The next ECW meeting is Sunday, May 6, at 11:45.

Trisha will be reporting back from the ECW conference, which she is attending on April 28. We will also be discussing upcoming events and projects.

Camp St. Christopher

The Diocese of SC has named Sunday, May 13th, Camp St. Christopher Sunday

There will be forms available in the Narthex and in the Fellowship hall, on which you may request additional information about special programs and features, along with information on how to contribute to Camp St. Christopher.

If you would like your contributions to go through the church, you may write a check, to the church, clearly marked for Camp St. Christopher.



UTO Sunday is May 20
The Spring UTO Ingathering is Sunday, May 20th.

On Sunday, May 20, we will collect contributions for the programs of the UTO.

The United Thank Offering is an Episcopal outreach, and is taken twice a year, in thanksgiving for all we have. The funds go to help projects here and around the world.

MAY BIRTHDAYS AND ANNIVERSARIES !! JUNE BIRTHDAYS AND ANNIVERSARIES !!

- C.B. Hayes – 5
- Cathy Lynch – 15
- Affra Gibbs - 16
- Sam Thomas – 16
- Lyle & Ramona Miller – 20
- Douglas Page – 21
- Barbara Ohanesian – 21
- David Montrose – 28
- Derek Montrose – 28
- David & Pat Montrose – 28

- Donna West-Barnhill – 2
- Lyle Miller – 4
- Kristin Avent – 6
- Marguerite Lee – 6
- Nave Graham – 15
- Dick & Janet Archer – 20
- Bill & Liz Stubbs – 27



Those in Need of Prayer
Parishioners

Chris Montrose, David Montrose, Frank Townsend, Janet Sherbine, Harriet Gibson, Dot Rogers

Family and Friends of the Parish in Need of Prayer

Nancy Pringle (Helen's sister), Martha Pettigrew (Edith's sister), Tom Wimberly (Deborah's husband), Laurel Yates (Carla's sister), Manuel Vasquez (Anselma's son), Bart West and family, Georgia Satterfield (Shawna Collins' step-mother), Jo Evans (Woody's Aunt), Allen Rogers, Fred Rogers, Theren and Regenia Nester (Sandra's parents), Nancy Baucom, Timmy Stubbs and family (friend of Chris'), Beth Rubio (friend of Carla's), Patricia Lowery (friend of the Collins), Gilbert McLaurin, Christy Hagen and family, Collins Elizabeth Coffey, Rick Archer (Dick Archer's son), Leroy & Betty Manlove, Marlboro County Family Literacy Program, The Pee Dee Coalition and victims of domestic abuse, & Marlboro County Schools

Church Staff and Leaders

James Barnhill, Sandra Widejko, Carolyn Andrews, Deborah Wimberly, Lyle Miller, Helen Gibbs, Ella Reese Hinson, Mike Winburn, and Trisha Collins

Special Prayer Request for our Diocese

Katharine Jefferts Schori, Presiding Bishop, The Rt. Rev. Mark J. Lawrence and The Rt. Rev. Julio Holguin Rev. Tabitha Wang, Diocesan Missionary to The Peoples Republic of China

Those who have lost loved ones

The families of Mary Hope Rogers, Julian Drake, Howard Baucom, Margaret Principino and Edward Albert Try
The Prayer list is prayed over daily and is cared for with extreme love and compassion. If you have made a request and it is time to remove that name, please let the office know. Thank you.

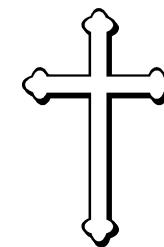
The Website is better than ever! Go to www.stpaulssc.org and see current news and information!!!

- ** The weekly Bible Study - Look under "News/Info" at the top of the page. Each week's Bible Study Questions and Reflections are posted there.
- ** The Newsletter - Published bi-monthly, it is also under "News/Info." You will be notified when to look for the latest edition.
- ** The Calendar of events—including the Lay Ministry schedule - Look under "Calendar" at the top of the page and then in the middle of the next page go to "Click Here" to see what is coming up in the near future!!!



Bingo Night !!!

Please join the vestry for a fun-filled bingo night on Friday, May 18th at 6:30 PM. We will meet in Porcher Hall where we will have snacks, soft drinks, beer and wine. And, maybe, a few prizes for the lucky winners.



The deadline for news for the next Parable needs to be in the office by Monday, June 18



Maintenance & Clean up day!!

Please come help us out on Saturday morning, May 19 8:30 a.m.

The more we have, the more we can accomplish!