

October 2009

The Parable

St. Paul's Episcopal Church, Bennettsville, South Carolina

Dear People of God,

In the most recent meeting of our Deanery, we clergy-people heard an address from Whitney Kuniholm, author of several books on the Bible, and President of the Biblical studies organization Scripture Union.

In his address, Whitney reminded us how pertinent certain portions of Scripture are to the questions and challenges our Episcopal Church is facing. You have doubtless heard of the debate currently in progress, a discussion which revolves around certain positions adopted by some leaders of the National Church; positions which seem to be outside the bounds of our traditional understanding of Scripture.

What Whitney clearly pointed out to us is that this type of challenge is nothing new. The early Christian church was facing challenges to its understanding of Scripture almost from the very moment Our Lord ascended to His Father's throne. One passage of the Bible which clearly indicates how the Church struggled early-on with these challenges is the letter of Jude, written probably in around 65 AD.

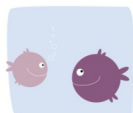
Now, if you read Jude, you will see that he doesn't pull any punches. Jude is forceful and clear in his convictions concerning the accuracy of the Gospel and the supremacy of Christ. And we should be too. And Jude clearly encourages the early church to "contend for the faith that was once-for-all entrusted to the Saints" (v. 3). He instructs the faithful to "build yourselves up in the faith, and pray in the Holy Spirit" (v. 20). Absolutely sound advice for us all.

But, what Jude also directs the first believers to do is to "be merciful to those who doubt" (v.22). And this is what I am afraid we are so often in danger of forgetting. Even as we go forward in a clear profession of our faith in the One Lord Jesus Christ, the only begotten Son of God, and as we persevere in our dedication to the Word of God, let us never forget to be merciful, especially to the ones of our community and of our own denomination who are struggling with these issues. For it is in the very act of humble Christian mercy that, in my experience, so many struggling souls are won over to the faith.

I believe this is the action toward which Jude was encouraging the early faithful. And his objective was so very clear, for the conclusion of Jude's letter comprises what is probably the most beautiful benediction in all of Scripture:

"Now to Him who is able to keep you from falling and to present you before His glorious presence without fault and with great joy – to the only God our Savior be glory, majesty, power and authority, through Jesus Christ our Lord, before all ages, now, and for evermore" (Jude, verses 24-25, NIV)... Wow! Alleluia and Amen!!!

James Barnhill†, 09-22-09



Blessing of the Animals

There will be a Blessing of the Animals Eucharist at the 10:00 service on October 4. Worship will be held on the grounds behind the Sanctuary. All are welcome to bring their pets (properly secured) for a special blessing.



On the fourth Sunday of each month, the 10:00 service will be Morning Prayer.

The 8:00 service will remain Eucharist Rite I



ECW News:

In lieu of the October meeting, we will meet September 27 to make final plans for the yard sale.

We will discuss setup on Thursday and Friday and we will need to know who will be here to help and to sell. Make sure to bring any plastic grocery bags or small boxes. There will be a bucket available on the back porch of the Annex. Bring them any time next week!

The ECW Yard Sale is October 3 from 7:00 a.m. to 12:00 noon.

Make sure to tell your friends!

The Greenery sale will be Saturday December 5.
Details and order forms will be available soon.

DOK News:

Father James will be leading the DOK Quiet Day at St. Bartholomew's in Hartsville, on Saturday October 31. All St. Paul's Ladies are welcome. Watch the announcements for further details.

"Into Narnia"

Wednesday Night dinners and study will begin on October 21 and will run for 5 weeks.

We will study the book "The Magician's Nephew" by C.S. Lewis, and will finish with a comparison of the 1988 film version of "The Lion, the Witch and the Wardrobe" and the recent (2005) version.



October & November Birthdays & Anniversaries



OCTOBER

- Casey and Hirut Mann – 3
- Terence Lee – 7
- Leigh Todd – 8
- Woody Collins 13
- Katie Hinson – 14
- Charlie Lynch – 18
- Dick Archer – 21
- James Barnhill – 29
- Britne Stubbs – 31

NOVEMBER

- Cornelia Crosland – 1
- Emily Jackson – 1
- Janet Archer – 9
- Carson Lee – 10
- Kathie Hollis – 11
- Greg Ohanesian – 19
- David Knight – 20
- Bill Stubbs – 24
- Sue Andrew – 28

Healing Service and Bible Study

Healing Services and Bible Study have returned.

The winter Schedule is 9:30 Healing Service and 10:30 Bible Study.

St. Paul's Episcopal Church will be hosting a Life Line Screening on **Friday, October 9, 2009.**

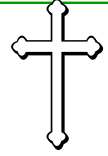
They will offer five different health screenings for people 40 years old and older. These screenings are performed using state-of-the-art Doppler color flow ultrasound systems. The screenings offered include:

- A Carotid Artery Screening – visualizes the buildup of plaque in the carotid arteries, which leads to stroke. (Up to 75% of all strokes are linked to carotid artery blockage);
- An Abdominal Aortic Aneurysm (AAA) test – visualizes the existence of an aneurysm (enlargement) in the abdominal aorta that could lead to a ruptured aortic artery. The vast majority of people who have an aneurysm have no symptoms;
- An Ankle Brachial Index (ABI) – screens for peripheral arterial disease in the lower extremities, which is closely linked to coronary artery disease.
- A bone density screening, which tests for the early detection of osteoporosis.
- Atrial Fibrillation- checks for irregular heart rhythms that cause 1out of every 6 strokes. **NEW**

You must pre-register by calling **1-800-697-9693**. These screenings are completely painless, non-invasive, and require ten minutes or less each to complete. The cost is \$35-\$45 each or all five for \$149. Finger-stick blood tests are also available. Please enter the source code HSC6055 if registering on the website at www.lsa.com.



Those in Need of Prayer



Homebound Parishioners

Alexa Kerr & Charlie Lynch

Parishioners

Lyn O'Tuel, Chris Montrose, Mike and Bonnie Winburn, Doyle and Nell Kiker, Frank Townsend, David Montrose

Family & Friends of the Parish

Jim Roger's mother-in-law, Elsie, and Family, Barbara Spannagel (Trisha's sister), Cynthia McDowell (Patty's Family), Ashley (Nell's granddaughter), Dorothy Newman (Tunney's sister), Bentley Gibson (Harriet's brother), Margaret Principino (Breta's Sister), Louise Heriot, Edith Lane, Mary Edith McDuffie, Lib Miller, Carolyn Dudley Wallace, Amber Forosiski, Allen Rogers, Lee Duryea, Matt Preveti, Henry Cheves, Marlboro County Family Literacy Program, The Pee Dee Coalition and victims of domestic abuse, and Marlboro County Schools

Seminarian and Family

Jason and Shawna Collins, Hannah and Duncan



Deborah Wimberly, Marion David and James Barnhill meet with Dr. Roberson and Marian Wright Edelman.

Marlboro Co. native and founder of the Children's Defense Fund (CDF), Marian Wright Edelman, visited the Family Literacy Center this summer to observe the Pre-K Freedom School; a National Pilot Program for Early Childhood Development. A program of the CDF along with Title I and the Marlboro Co. Schools, this was the first Pre-k summer program they have offered. So many of Marlboro Co.'s children are born to teenage mothers and live below the poverty level. This program was an opportunity to provide 3-5 year olds with additional help and support during the summer. Additional support now helps to bring greater success in the future. This was the perfect partner for the school year program that is housed here at St. Paul's and helps with babies and toddlers while their mothers finish school. Marlboro Co. was very blessed to have been selected for this pilot program.

Family Literacy News

The Marlboro County Family Literacy Program is in full swing for the 2009-10 school year. We have 18 new and returning families with 15 babies and toddlers at the Child Care Center. Please come by the center between 8:00 a.m. and 12 noon to volunteer with the children or just say hello. We are recruiting an array of people who are willing to volunteer on a weekly, monthly, or even one time basis to read, mentor, tutor, rock the babies, assist with filing and clerical work, and etc. If you have questions, come by the center or contact Marian R. David at 843.479.4846 or mdpeace@aol.com.

Lay Schedule through the beginning of November

Date	Lay Reader	Ushers	Social Saints
10-04	Carla Horry	Billy & Ella Reese Hinson	Jean Davidson and Vicky Armes
10-11	Woody Collins	Barry Avent & David Graham	Julie and Barry Avent
10-18	Harriet Drake	Breta Montrose & Louise Lindsay	Mary Caroline Rogers & C.B. Hayes
10-25	Chris Montrose	Mike Winburn & C.B. Hayes	Trisha & Woody Collins
11-01	Deborah Wimberly	John Jackson & Edith Furman	Harriett & Julian Drake
11-08	Carla Horry	Billy & Ella Reese Hinson	Breta Montrose & Chris Montrose
11-15	Woody Collins	Barry Avent & David Graham	David Graham

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.

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"Lil' Red Wagon Collection"

The First Sunday of each month is collection Sunday for the Pee Dee Coalition. Our next dates are October 4 and November 1.

"FLC on the Third"

The Third Sunday of each month, the DOK will collect cleaning supplies, paper products and gift cards for the Family Literacy Council. The next dates are October 18 and November 15.

Rector
James W. Barnhill, Jr.
jbarnhill@stpaulssc.org
479-5693 (Rectory)
439-3016 (Cell)

Organist/Choir Director
Sandra Widejko
sandyawidejko@yahoo.com

Parish Administrator
Carolyn J. Andrews
stpaulepisch@sc.metrocast.net

Vestry Members

Woody Collins

Kathryn Jackson

Wade Kalinowsky

Billy Hinson

Deborah Wimberly

Barry Avent - Treasurer

Harriett Drake - ECW

Pray for Vestry Members Daily.

Social Saints

Would you be willing to be a Social Saint? If you would like to have your name added to the social Saints List, please speak with Vicky Armes (910-276-7311)! We also need "substitutes" for those who are unable to serve on their assigned Sunday, so let Vicky know if you would like to be a Substitute!

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