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25

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# COMFORTABLE WORDS



A NEWSLETTER PUBLICATION OF THE EPISCOPAL CHURCH OF THE HOLY COMFORTER



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THE EPISCOPAL CHURCH  
OF THE  
**HOLY COMFORTER**

**STREET ADDRESS**  
320 East Davis Street  
Burlington, NC 27215

**MAILING ADDRESS**  
PO Box 1336  
Burlington, NC 27216

# THE EPISCOPAL CHURCH WELCOMES YOU

## Welcome!

### Thank you for worshipping with Holy Comforter today.

If you are a guest or visitor, and feel comfortable doing so, please complete an information card. You can place it in the offering plate or hand it to one of the ushers.

### We, the people of Holy Comforter

Though very diverse politically and socially, care for each other and care deeply for how our faith is manifested in the community. We believe all people are equal in God's hand. Our nurturing congregation has an appreciation for diverse perspectives and opinions. We grow through a continually evolving and questioning discussion regarding our faith, God, and society. We welcome all, without reservation, into our Christian body to be part of a loving and sharing family.

### We care

If you or someone you know needs visitation, prayers, or other assistance because of illness or inability to attend worship, please call the church office at (336) 227-4251.

### Our Parish Mission Statement

To worship God, revealed to us as Creator, as Jesus the Christ, and as the Holy Spirit, and experience God's presence within the church family, nurturing each other through a comprehensive parish program while affirming each other's individual ministries and responding to Jesus' continuing call to minister to others.

## A WORD FROM RHONDA

Dear siblings in Christ,

These are challenging times.

I wonder: did reading such a banal sentence about the days we are currently living, made you snort or laugh out loud? And yet, how many adjectives did I really need to pile on? Everyone can supply their own.

Here we are, facing conflicts and violence I feel sure none of us wanted; conflicts and violence that may have escalated or been expressed in new ways between the time I write this and when you read it. And by grace, maybe some of the conflicts we read about in today's news stories may have been de-escalated or achieved some peaceful (or relatively peaceful) resolution by then.

I know many of you serve as partners in lament, thoughtful conversation, and fervent prayer with each other. That is one of the many things I value about the community into which I have been so kindly welcomed in Holy Comforter. Thank you for comforting, encouraging, and exhorting each other as fellow disciples of Jesus Christ and citizens (or non-citizen residents) of this country.

As I mentioned at recent celebrations of the Eucharist, I, too, am available if you need a partner in conversation and prayer about current events. This is, of course, true however you vote, or whether you vote at all.

As your priest and pastor, one of my roles is to accompany you by prayer and listening, as you discern which words are yours to speak and which actions are yours to take, in this moment, in what Greek philosophers called the "polis": the public square, the common life we share with

everyone who finds themselves within the boundaries of this state and this country at this time.

Christians' political decisions are meant to be guided by what we call "the great commandment." Discerning how best to love God, our neighbors, and ourselves can be a challenge at times, but I do know that these three things are deeply connected. Our personal well-being is interwoven with the well-being of our neighbors, and how we care for each other and for ourselves is an expression of how we love God.

As you and I seek out ways to follow that great commandment, I do trust the Triune God will guide us. Do not lose heart. As our brother Paul wrote to the church in Philippi in another challenging moment:

"Whatever is true, whatever is honorable, whatever is just, whatever is pure, whatever is pleasing, whatever is commendable, if there is any excellence and if there is anything worthy of praise, think about these things. Keep on doing the things that you have learned and received and heard and seen in [the apostles], and the God of peace will be with you." (Philippians 4:)

The peace of our Lord Jesus Christ be with us all,

*Rhonda*

**The Rev. Dr. Rhonda M. Lee**  
RECTOR | [rlee@hc-b.org](mailto:rlee@hc-b.org)





# JULY CALENDAR

## TUESDAY, JULY 1

WEEKLY WORD ARTICLES DUE

## THURSDAY, JULY 3

7:00pm Courage to Change

Parish House

## FRIDAY, JULY 4

## HAPPY 4TH OF JULY

**The Holy Comforter offices will be closed on Friday the 4th of July in observance of the Independence Day holiday. Rhonda will be off for the holiday Thursday the 3rd, as Friday is her regular sabbath. Thank you for your understanding. The clergy and staff of Holy Comforter wish you all a safe and meaningful holiday.**



## SUNDAY, JULY 6

8:00am	Breakfast Ministry	Great Hall
8:15am	HE Rite II	Sanctuary
9:45am	Choir Rehearsal	Choir Room
10:30am	HE Rite II	Sanctuary
	Summer Children's Choir	Choir Room
11:30am	Coffee / Lemonade in the Parlor	

## MONDAY, JULY 7

7:00pm Courage to Change

Parish House

## TUESDAY, JULY 8

WEEKLY WORD ARTICLES DUE

## THURSDAY, JULY 10

11:00am Brookwood Eucharist

Brookwood

7:00pm Courage to Change

Parish House

## **SUNDAY, JULY 13**

8:00am	Breakfast Ministry	Great Hall
8:15am	HE Rite II	Sanctuary
9:45am	Choir Rehearsal	Choir Room
10:30am	HE Rite II	Sanctuary
	Summer Children's Choir	Choir Room
11:30am	Coffee / Lemonade in the Parlor	

## **MONDAY, JULY 14**

6:00pm	Vestry Meeting	SDR
7:00pm	Courage to Change	Parish House

## **TUESDAY, JULY 15**

WEEKLY WORD ARTICLES DUE

## **WEDNESDAY, JULY 16**

### **COMFORTABLE WORD NEWSLETTER ARTICLES DUE**

## **THURSDAY, JULY 17**

11:00am	Twin Lakes Eucharist	Twin Lakes
7:00pm	Courage to Change	Parish House

## **SUNDAY, JULY 20**

8:00am	Breakfast Ministry	Great Hall
8:15am	HE Rite II	Sanctuary
9:45am	Choir Rehearsal	Choir Room
10:30am	HE Rite II	Sanctuary
	Summer Children's Choir	Choir Room
11:30am	Coffee / Lemonade in the Parlor	

## **MONDAY, JULY 21**

7:00pm	Courage to Change	Parish House
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## **TUESDAY, JULY 22**

WEEKLY WORD ARTICLES DUE

## **WEDNESDAY, JULY 23**

### **1-DAY VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL**

## **Thursday, July 24**

7:00pm	Courage to Change	Parish House
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## **Sunday, July 27**

8:00am	Breakfast Ministry	Great Hall
8:15am	HE Rite II	Sanctuary
9:45am	Choir Rehearsal	Choir Room
10:30am	HE Rite II	Sanctuary
	Summer Children's Choir	Choir Room
11:30am	Coffee / Lemonade in the Parlor	

## **Monday, July 28**

7:00pm	Courage to Change	Parish House
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## **Tuesday, July 29**

WEEKLY WORD ARTICLES DUE

## **Thursday, July 31**

7:00pm	Courage to Change	Parish House
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# LAY MINISTERS FOR JULY

## ACOLYTES

**July 6**

8:15am

Elizabeth Hansen

10:30am

Paige Ysteboe (*chalice bearer*),  
Meredith Patterson (*chalice bearer*), Bo Slott (*crucifer*), Steven Slott (*left torch*), Davis Slott, (*right torch*) Fletcher Slott (*gospel bearer*)

**July 13**

8:15am

Julie Smith

10:30am

Paul Surratt (*chalice bearer, crucifer*), Mourine Todd (*chalice bearer, left torch*), Millie Surratt (*right torch*), Caitlyn Todd (*gospel bearer*), Richard Parker (*verger emeritus*)

**July 20**

8:15am

Curt Odem

10:30am

Adriane Newbauer (*chalice bearer, left torch*), Max Newbauer (*chalice bearer, crucifer*), Anna Newbauer (*right torch*), Holden Newbauer (*gospel bearer*), Richard Parker (*verger emeritus*)

**July 27**

8:15am

Julie Smith

10:30am

Steven Swanner (*chalice bearer*), Meredith Patterson (*chalice bearer*), Wesley Swanner (*crucifer*), William Swanner (*left torch*), Amy Hess (*right torch*), Amelia Pearce (*gospel bearer*)

## SUNSHINE COMMITTEE

**Susan Kern**, Peggy Boswell, Margaret Egede-Nissen, Peggy McCormick, Barbara Simpson, Steen Gorbvby

## **MEALS ON WHEELS**

<b>July 21</b>	Janice and Jim McAdams
<b>July 22</b>	Frank Harris
<b>July 23</b>	Pete Glidewell
<b>July 24</b>	Shara Partin, Martha Adams
<b>July 25</b>	Lynn and Peter Dahl

## **USHERS**

<b>July 6</b>	8:15am	Paula Boyd
	10:30am	Jim Romer, Brad Collins
<b>July 13</b>	8:15am	Tom McLean
	10:30am	Sarah Moore, Stig Egede-Nissen
<b>July 20</b>	8:15am	Ron Driscoll
	10:30am	Ed & Rene Burgess
<b>July 27</b>	8:15am	Derek Bates
	10:30am	Brad and Mary Collins

## **READERS**

<b>July 6</b>	8:15am	Jocelyn Safrit
	10:30am	Paige Ysteboe, Julie Swanner
<b>July 13</b>	8:15am	Curt Odem
	10:30am	Maryanne Shanahan, Meredith Patterson
<b>July 20</b>	8:15am	Peter Dahl
	10:30am	Maryanne Shanahan, Pete Glidewell
<b>July 27</b>	8:15am	Julie Smith
	10:30am	Mary and Brad Collins

## **VESTRY COUNTERS**

- July 6** Steve Slott, Julie Swanner
- July 13** Elizabeth Hansen, George Blaisdell
- July 20** Pat House, Barbara Simpson
- July 27** Alex Stevens, Sid Little

## **ALTAR GUILD**

- July 6** Audrey Deadmon, Leslie Haines, Elizabeth Hood, Sandra Moulton, Jane Spencer, Bea Swajkoski
- July 13** Joanne McClusky, Cheryl Miner, Tish Murray, Susan Ryan, Julie Smith, Nancy Smith, Rosemarie Walton
- July 20** Shara Partin, Verne Booker, Ren Bryan, Connie Griner, Emily Hackney, Mary Telander
- July 27** Janie Sellers, Betty Brown, Rene Burgess, Mary Collins, Lynn Dahl, Beth Glidewell, Elizabeth Hansen

## **FLOWERS DONE BY KEITH PHILLIPS FLORIST DONORS**

- July 6** Connie Griner
- July 13** Pat and Steven House
- July 20** Sandy Campbell
- July 27** Bob and Sandy Moulton

# ACAC

Allied churches of Alamance County, Inc.



*Housing the Homeless, Feeding the Hungry*

Celebrate July 4th with Gifts **SUNDAY, JULY 6** to Allied Churches:  
a Central Access Agency for food, emergency shelter, housing help,  
mental health/substance abuse/employment referrals and more.

**MOST NEEDED \***

3 Compartment food trays with lids \*  
Windex or glass cleaner

## SPECIAL REQUESTS

Canned vegetables or fruits  
White Ream Paper 8 1/2 X 11

Canned beans  
Sugar

*And, these are always appreciated: toothbrushes, toothpaste, other hygiene products*



Any day is a good donations day. Just bring donations for  
Allied Churches by coming to the back door during office hours,  
ringing the bell and taking your gifts to the Bell tower.

**CONTACT:** Martha Adams - [awam3a@outlook.com](mailto:awam3a@outlook.com), (336) 324-4108

# DOCUMENT SHREDDING DAY

Contact **Julia Buffington**  
(336) 227-4251 • [jbuffington@hc-b.org](mailto:jbuffington@hc-b.org)

Secure document shredding is once again available to parishioners. Shredding helps protect your personal information and is safe and easy—no need to remove staples, paperclips, or folders. Please note: no electronics or batteries allowed, and no business shredding.

## **DROP-OFF IS BY APPOINTMENT ONLY**

**Available Mondays, Tuesdays, or Thursdays  
from 10am–3pm, or Fridays from 9am–12pm  
through July 5. Documents will be stored securely  
until the shred truck arrives later in July.**

We suggest a donation of \$8 per box or bag (or any amount you feel led to give). Checks may be made to Holy Comforter Church, memo: Shred Day. To schedule an appointment or ask questions, contact Julia Buffington at (336) 227-4251 or [jbuffington@hc-b.org](mailto:jbuffington@hc-b.org).



## **Stephen Ministry is 50 years old**

### **Stephen Ministry is 10 years old at Holy Comforter.**

Stephen Ministry is a lay caring ministry being used by thousands of congregations to increase care and outreach to hurting people.

Through Stephen Ministry, congregations are able to equip and empower a team of lay- people—Stephen Ministers—who provide one-to-one, Christ-centered care to people experiencing grief, unemployment, hospitalization, loneliness, divorce, financial stress, a terminal illness, and other life difficulties.

Visit [www.stephenministries.org](http://www.stephenministries.org) to learn more about Stephen Ministry and to watch online video stories about the difference Stephen Ministers are making in people's lives.

Answer the call to become a Stephen Minister at Holy Comforter as have over 15 Stephen Ministers. They have used their caring skills to make a difference in the lives of others.

As Stephen Leader, Rene has given 10 years to continue this important ministry.

Training will begin soon and will be at the convenience of those who are ready to make this very important commitment.

Our ministry has provided one on one care to others, Journeying through grief mailings, booklets of prayers doing the COVID epidemic, a new edition of the prayers to be found in the bell tower and in the hall near the office, and a resource shelf of books available near the parlor and the children's chapel for perusal on spiritual enrichment.

We need to train new Stephen Ministers to meet the needs of our parish. We are blessed to have Rev Rhonda Lee who has been diligent about making personal contact with folks in crisis. Now we need folks to walk with them as they continue to navigate difficult times.

Please contact Rene Burgess, Stephen Leader (336) 269-5959, (**[burgessrene@gmail.com](mailto:burgessrene@gmail.com)**) or Paula Boyd, Stephen Leader (336) 260-6151, (**[paulahboyd@gmail.com](mailto:paulahboyd@gmail.com)**).





# Confirmation

THE NEXT STEP ON A JOURNEY OF FAITH

## **SAVE THE DATE FOR CONFIRMATION / NEWCOMERS' / INQUIRERS' CLASSES!**

**Sundays, 17 and 24 August  
and 7, 14, 21, 28 September 2025  
9:30-10:15 a.m.**

Are you new to Holy Comforter or to the Episcopal Church?  
Do you want to learn more about how we live, worship,  
and pray as Christians in the Anglican tradition?

Are you ready to be confirmed in the Episcopal Church (or  
received into this communion, if you have already been  
confirmed in another branch of the church)?

Were you confirmed in the Episcopal Church some time  
ago, and want to reaffirm your commitment?

Please come to this series of classes on Sunday mornings  
in August and September, between our two Eucharists.

Bishop Jennifer Brooke-Davidson will visit Holy Comforter  
on Sunday the 5th of October. We will have only one  
service that day, at 10:30. At that service, Bishop Jennifer  
will confirm and receive anyone who is ready, and also

prayerfully lay hands on any who want to reaffirm their confirmation vows.

The topics the classes will cover include our baptismal covenant, prayer, worship, Scripture, and polity (how the Episcopal Church and Anglican Communion are governed), and there will be a session devoted to questions.

Anyone who wants to be confirmed must attend these classes. Everyone else is encouraged to attend, to learn with and from each other.

**Need more details? Ask Rhonda.**

1-DAY



JULY 23rd

more details  
coming soon



# NEWLIN PARTNERSHIP NEWS

## Newlin Partnership Board annual retreat

The Newlin Partnership Board of Directors held their annual retreat at Holy Comforter on Saturday, June 7th. Members gathered that morning for a light breakfast arranged by Mindy Robinson, the NP Administrative Director. Janice Davis, Chair, called the meeting to order.



*Newlin Partnership Board at June annual retreat*

First on the agenda was Principal Will Price with a detailed look at this psst year at Newlin. For the 2024-25 academic year, Newlin demographics revealed the following:

- 538 students
- 52% male / 48% female
- 46% Hispanic
- 35% black
- 10% white
- 9% multiracial

Principal Price highlighted challenges Newlin faces, such as a transient population in which 25% began their school year late or left early during the year. Next year's highlights include a fully functional PTO, a Science special, and a continued relationship with the Newlin



Partnership. Next year's motto is "Wildcats are All In and Ready to Move Mountains."



*Kathy Landes, Carol Thornell, Jan Kelly & Principal Will Price*

Next on the agenda, tutor Linda Stubblefield shared ideas about how to recruit tutor and Lucky Listener volunteers.



*Linda Stubblefield & Mourine Todd*

The Board welcomed new member, Judy Cone, and then discussed current business items, including committee structure and the upcoming August Teacher Welcome Back luncheon.

*Joseph Keith,  
Mindy Robinson,  
Judy Cone &  
Janice Davis, chair*



**NEW SUMMER DATES ADDED FOR  
ZOOM **SAFE CHURCH** TRAINING**



**JULY 20**

1-3 pm • Register

**JULY 23**

12-2 pm • Register

**JULY 31**

6-8 pm • Register

# HAPPY *Birthday* ★ TO YOU ★

**JULY 3** Julien Furman  
**JULY 3** Peter Klopman  
**JULY 3** Charles Murray  
**JULY 5** Leslie Haines  
**JULY 8** Dale Young  
**JULY 10** Maggie Holt  
**JULY 12** Shannon  
Ansbacher  
**JULY 13** Adela Murray  
**JULY 13** George Tarry  
**JULY 15** Marilyn Tyler  
**JULY 18** Angie Boone  
**JULY 19** Hu Womack  
**JULY 20** Sally Earnest

**JULY 23** Helen Landi  
**JULY 24** Blake Pinson  
**JULY 25** Elizabeth Hood  
**JULY 25** Steven House  
**JULY 26** Steven Mullis  
**JULY 28** Paige Ysteboe  
**JULY 29** Eddie Gant  
**JULY 29** Bea Swajkoski  
**JULY 30** Lauren Jensen  
**JULY 30** Evie Surratt  
**JULY 31** Mary Collins  
**JULY 31** Ashlee Gant  
**JULY 31** Shannon  
McQueen  
**JULY 31** Matt Wall

If your birthday was missed, please message Cat  
at [csykes@hc-b.org](mailto:csykes@hc-b.org) so she can add it in our records.



# PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

## SYMPATHIES

For the repose of the soul of Ann Jennings, for the comfort of her family and friends, including Sandy Gerow.

## MEMBERS

Cheryl Miner, Stephanie Wrenn, Cecelia Walker, Chappy Moser, Bob Stewart, Margaret Egede-Nissen, Rick Weatherly, Caroline Ansbacher, Ashton Fitzpatrick, Evie Surratt, Nelson Young, Robin Maycock, Edward Dunlap, Bobby Puett, Mittie Landi

## FAMILY AND FRIENDS

Charlotte Jankowski - *Connie Griner's Sister*, Jackie Drew - *Paula Boyd's friend*, Wayne Pyrtle- *Beth and Pete Glidewell's friend*, Matt Heck - *Mary Collins' friend*, Joshua Hieter - *Angie Boone's friend*, Barbara Jo Basquill - *David Day's friend*, Gus & Pam Holbrook - *Julie & Steven Swanner's friend*, Edward Pellicano - *Cat Sykes' Uncle*, Janet & Bill Bates - *Derek Bates' parents*, Allison - *Ren Bryan's daughter-in-law*, Eileen Civin - *Jim McAdams friend*, Lisa Daniels - *Julia Buffington's friend*, Maria Roberts - *Elizabeth Hansen's cousin*, Chris Hansen - *Elizabeth Hansen's brother*, Terry Babin - *Elizabeth Hansen's friend*, Peg Shanahan - *Maryanne Shanahan's sister*, Randy Shouman - *Maryanne Shanahan's brother-in-law*, Steve Badger - *Maryanne Shanahan's nephew*, Kevin Shanahan - *Maryanne Shanahan's brother*, Joanne & Bob Flower - *Maryanne Shanahan & Bill Amidon friends*, Annie Griner - *Connie Griner's daughter-in-law*, Richard Lehman - *Gary Schilke's friend*, Pat Harwood - *Amy Hess' mother*, Brynja Bowman - *Jocelyn Safrit's niece*, Jeff Safrit - *Jocelyn Safrit's brother-in-law*, Jennifer Petty - *Les Plumb's daughter*, Charley Jones - *Les Plumb's great-granddaughter*, Aubrey Henderson - *Nancy Powell's great-granddaughter*

# 113 YEARS AND GROWING

## CLERGY

**PRESIDING BISHOP**

The Most Rev. Sean Rowe • [sean.rowe@episdionc.org](mailto:sean.rowe@episdionc.org)

**BISHOP DIOCESAN**

The Rt. Rev. Sam Rodman • [sam.rodman@episdionc.org](mailto:sam.rodman@episdionc.org)

**ASSIST. BISHOP**

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**RECTOR**

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**RECTOR EMERITUS**

The Rev. David R. Williams • [david@davidrwilliams.org](mailto:david@davidrwilliams.org)

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**NURSERY ASSISTANT**

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**VERGER EMERITUS**

Richard Parker • [rparker@hc-b.org](mailto:rparker@hc-b.org)

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HOLY COMFORTER**