

Comfortable Words

A NEWSLETTER PUBLICATION OF THE EPISCOPAL CHURCH OF THE HOLY COMFORTER

Volume 12 - Issue 12

2024



December

www.hc-b.org

THE EPISCOPAL CHURCH WELCOMES YOU

WELCOME TO ALL NEWCOMERS AND VISITORS

Please complete the information card and 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

Please call the church office at 336-227-4251 if you or someone you know needs visitation, prayers or other assistance because of illness or inability to attend worship service.

MISSION STATEMENT

To worship God, revealed to us as Creator, as Jesus the Christ, & 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.

AN ORDER FOR
Compline

ALL ARE WELCOME

7pm on DECEMBER 1 in St. Athanasius



DECEMBER CALENDAR

SUNDAY, DECEMBER 1 - FIRST SUNDAY IN ADVENT

ACAC DONATION DROP OFF

- 8:00am Breakfast Ministry (*Great Hall*)
8:15am Advent I (*Sanctuary*)
with Rev. Greg Farrand
9:20am Children's Chapel (*3rd floor Atrium*)
9:30am Lectionary Bible Study (*Small Dining Room*)
9:45am Choir Rehearsal (*Choir Room*)
10:30am Advent I (*Sanctuary*)
with Rev. Greg Farrand
11:30am Lemonade & Coffee in the (*Parlor*)
7:00pm Compline (*St. Athanasius*)

MONDAY, DECEMBER 2

- 7:00pm Courage to Change (*Parish House*)

TUESDAY, DECEMBER 3 - WEEKLY WORDS DUE

WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 4

- 7:00pm Choir Rehearsal (*Choir Room*)

THURSDAY, DECEMBER 5

- 8:00am Men's Breakfast Group (*Twin Lakes*)
7:00pm Courage to Change (*Parish House*)
-

SUNDAY, DECEMBER 8 - SECOND SUNDAY IN ADVENT

- 8:00am Breakfast Ministry (*Great Hall*)
8:15am Advent II (*Sanctuary*)
with Rev. Melanie Barbarito
9:20am Children's Chapel (*3rd floor Atrium*)
9:30am Lectionary Bible Study (*Small Dining Room*)
9:45am Choir Rehearsal (*Choir Room*)
10:30am Advent II (*Sanctuary*)
with Rev. Melanie Barbarito
11:30am Lemonade & Coffee in the (*Parlor*)

MONDAY, DECEMBER 9

- 11:00am **EPISCOPAL CHURCH WOMEN** (*Great Hall*)
6:00pm **VESTRY MEETING** (*Small Dining Room*)
7:00pm Courage to Change (*Parish House*)

TUESDAY, DECEMBER 10 - WEEKLY WORDS DUE

WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 11

- 7:00pm Choir Rehearsal (*Choir Room*)

THURSDAY, DECEMBER 12

8:00am	Men's Breakfast Group (<i>Twin Lakes</i>)
11:00am	Brookwood Village Eucharist (<i>Brookwood</i>)
7:00pm	Courage to Change (<i>Parish House</i>)

SUNDAY, DECEMBER 15 - THIRD SUNDAY IN ADVENT

8:00am	Breakfast Ministry (<i>Great Hall</i>)
8:15am	Advent III (<i>Sanctuary</i>) <i>with Rev. David Williams</i>
9:20am	Children's Chapel (<i>3rd floor Atrium</i>)
9:30am	Lectionary Bible Study (<i>Small Dining Room</i>)
9:45am	Choir Rehearsal (<i>Choir Room</i>)
10:30am	LESSONS AND CAROLS (<i>Sanctuary</i>)
11:30am	PARISH RECEPTION (<i>Parlor</i>)

MONDAY, DECEMBER 16

7:00pm	Courage to Change (<i>Parish House</i>)
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TUESDAY, DECEMBER 17 - WEEKLY WORDS DUE

9:00am	ECW TRIP TO DANVILLE
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WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 18

7:00pm	Choir Rehearsal (<i>Choir Room</i>)
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THURSDAY, DECEMBER 19

8:00am	Men's Breakfast Group (<i>Twin Lakes</i>)
11:00am	Twin Lakes Eucharist (<i>Twin Lakes</i>)
7:00pm	Courage to Change (<i>Parish House</i>)

SUNDAY, DECEMBER 22 - FOURTH SUNDAY IN ADVENT

8:00am	Breakfast Ministry (<i>Great Hall</i>)
8:15am	Advent IV (<i>Sanctuary</i>) <i>with Rev. Melanie Barbarito</i>
9:20am	Children's Chapel (<i>3rd floor Atrium</i>)
9:30am	Lectionary Bible Study (<i>Small Dining Room</i>)
9:45am	Choir Rehearsal (<i>Choir Room</i>)
10:30am	Advent IV (<i>Sanctuary</i>) <i>with Rev. Melanie Barbarito</i>
11:30am	Lemonade & Coffee in the (<i>Parlor</i>)

MONDAY, DECEMBER 23**COMFORTABLE WORDS' ARTICLES DUE**

7:00pm	Courage to Change (<i>Parish House</i>)
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TUESDAY, DECEMBER 24 - WEEKLY WORDS DUE

CHURCH OFFICE CLOSED

- 5:00pm **CHRISTMAS EVE SERVICE** (Sanctuary)
with Rev. Dr. Jim Melnyk & Rev. Dr. Lorraine Ljunggren
- 6:00pm **CHRISTMAS EVE RECEPTION** (Parlor)
- 10:00pm **HOLY EUCHARIST W/ CAROL PRELUDE** (Sanctuary)
with Rev. Dr. Jim Melnyk & Rev. Dr. Lorraine Ljunggren

WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 25

CHURCH OFFICE CLOSED

- 10:00am **CHRISTMAS DAY SERVICE** (Sanctuary)
with Rev. Jim Lockley

THURSDAY, DECEMBER 26

- 7:00pm Courage to Change (Parish House)
-

SUNDAY, DECEMBER 29 - FIRST SUNDAY AFTER CHRISTMAS

- 8:00am Breakfast Ministry (Great Hall)
- 8:15am HE Rite II (Sanctuary)
with Rev. Greg Farrand
- 9:20am Children's Chapel (3rd floor Atrium)
- 9:30am Lectionary Bible Study (Small Dining Room)
- 9:45am Choir Rehearsal (Choir Room)
- 10:30am HE Rite II (Sanctuary)
with Rev. Greg Farrand
- 11:30am Lemonade & Coffee in the (Parlor)

MONDAY, DECEMBER 30

- 7:00pm Courage to Change (Parish House)

WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 1ST

CHURCH OFFICE CLOSED

Our Office will be

CLOSED

December 24, 25
and January 1



DECEMBER MINISTRY CALENDAR

SUNSHINE COMMITTEE

Susan Ryan

ALTAR GUILD

- Dec. 1** Audrey Deadmon, Leslie Haines, Elizabeth Hood, Sandy Moulton, Jane Spencer, Bea Swajkoski
- Dec. 8** Joanne McClusky, Cheryl Miner, Tish Murray, Susan Ryan, Julie Smith, Nancy Smith
- Dec. 15** Shara Partin, Verne Booker, Ren Bryan, Connie Griner, Mary Telander, Marilyn Tyler
- Dec. 22** Janie Sellers, Betty Brown, Rene Burgess, Mary Collins, Lynn Dahl, Beth Glidewell, Elizabeth Hansen, Debbie Nichols-Smith
- Dec. 29** Ren Bryan, Janet Brown, Judy Driscoll, Jennell Harris, Gregg Lee

FLOWER GUILD

- Dec. 1** Connie Griner
- Dec. 8** Betty Brown, Sandy Gerow, Julie Smith
- Dec. 15** Ren Bryan, Janie Sellers, Betsy Weatherly
- Dec. 22** Margaret Egede-Nissen, Jennell Harris, Patsy Isley, Mary Telander
- Dec. 29** Carole Moore, Connie Griner

SUPPLY CLERGY

- Dec. 1** Rev. Greg Farrand
- Dec. 8** Rev. Melanie Barbarito
- Dec. 15** Rev. David Williams
- Dec. 22** Rev. Melanie Barbarito
- Dec. 24** Rev. Dr. Jim Melnyk & Rev. Dr. Lorraine Ljunggren
- Dec. 25** Rev. Jim Lockley
- Dec. 29** Rev. Greg Farrand

FLOWER DONORS

- Dec. 1** Dick May
- Dec. 8** Patrick Rudd
- Dec. 15** Paula Boyd
- Dec. 22** Patsy Isley
- Dec. 24/25** Chappy Moser
- Dec. 29** Jennell Harris

CHILDREN'S CHAPEL

- Dec. 1** Jocelyn Safrit
Dec. 8 Christmas Pageant role assignments
Dec. 15 Christmas Pageant costumes
Dec. 22 Christmas Pageant practice
Dec. 29 No Children's Chapel

MEN'S BREAKFAST GROUP

- Dec. 5** Jeff Andrews
Dec. 12 Jim McAdams
Dec. 19 Jim Romer
Dec. 26 No Men's Breakfast Group

MEALS ON WHEELS

- Dec. 9** Janice and Jim McAdams
Dec. 10 Frank Harris
Dec. 11 Pete Glidewell
Dec. 12 Shara Partin / Martha Adams
Dec. 13 Lynn and Peter Dahl

VESTRY COUNTERS

- Dec. 1** Pat House, Alex Stevens
Dec. 8 Carol Thornell, Diana Wallace
Dec. 15 George Blaisdell, Derek Bates
Dec. 22 Joanne McClusky, Julie Swanner
Dec. 29 Sid Little, Max Newbauer

READERS

- Dec. 1** 8:15am - Julie Smith
10:30am - Martha Stewart, Meredith Patterson
Dec. 8 8:15am - Elizabeth Hansen
10:30am - Patrick Rudd, Paige Ysteboe
Dec. 15 8:15am - TBD
10:30am - Cheryl Dickey, Jim McAdams, Sandy Gerow, Martha Stewart, Larry Vellani, Jane Romer, Pete Glidewell
Dec. 22 8:15am - Curt Odem
10:30am - Cheryl Dickey, Meredith Patterson
Dec. 24 5:00pm - Wesley Swanner, Julie Swanner
10:00pm - Larry Vellani, Jim McAdams
Dec. 25 10:00am - Elizabeth Hansen
Dec. 29 8:15am - Julie Smith
10:30am - Jocelyn Safrit, Sandy Gerow

USHERS

- Dec. 1** 8:15am - Paula Boyd
10:30am - Jim Romer, Stig Egede-Nissen
- Dec. 8** 8:15am - Tom McLean
10:30am - Patrick Rudd, Hu Womack
- Dec. 15** 8:15am - Ron Driscoll
10:30am - Ed & Rene Burgess
- Dec. 22** 8:15am - Derek Bates
10:30am - Sarah Moore, Phil Savage
- Dec. 24** 5:00pm - Paula Boyd, Brad & Mary Collins
10:00pm - Ron Driscoll, Tom McLean
- Dec. 25** 10:00am - Derek Bates
- Dec. 29** 8:15am - Frank Harris
10:30am - Brad & Mary Collins

ACOLYTES

- Dec. 1** 8:15am - Julie Smith
10:30am - The Newbauer Family
- Dec. 8** 8:15am - Elizabeth Hansen
10:30am - Paige Ysteboe, Meredith Patterson, Mourine Todd, Wesley Swanner, William Swanner, Caitlyn Todd
- Dec. 15** 8:15am - Julie Smith
10:30am - Kathy Hykes, Steven Swanner, Gabe Johnson, Micah Ash, William Swanner, Lorenzo Johnson
- Dec. 22** 8:15am - Curt Odem
10:30am - Paige Ysteboe, Meredith Patterson, Mourine Todd, Wesley Swanner, William Swanner, Caitlyn Todd
- Dec. 24** 5:00pm - The Slott Family
10:00pm - Julie Smith, TBD
- Dec. 25** 10:00am - Curt Odem
- Dec. 29** 8:15am - Julie Smith
10:30am - The Newbauer Family

Housing the Homeless, Feeding the Hungry

Allied churches of Alamance County, Inc.

ACAC



“We are projected to serve over 42,000 meals by the end of 2024.” Allied Churches Newsletter

Will YOU assist our ACAC partnership by bringing items for the hungry and homeless on
SUNDAY, DECEMBER 1?

Every donation of ANY kind fills a need and warms a heart!
Feel free to bring any time best for you by ringing our church's back doorbell, then taking gifts to the Bell Tower basket.

THANK YOU for building lives in our community with your generous gifts last month to ACAC.

SPECIAL REQUESTS

Turkeys (12-15 lbs)*

Put these in church dining room fridge & call/text Martha)

3 compartment food trays with lids*

Sweet peas

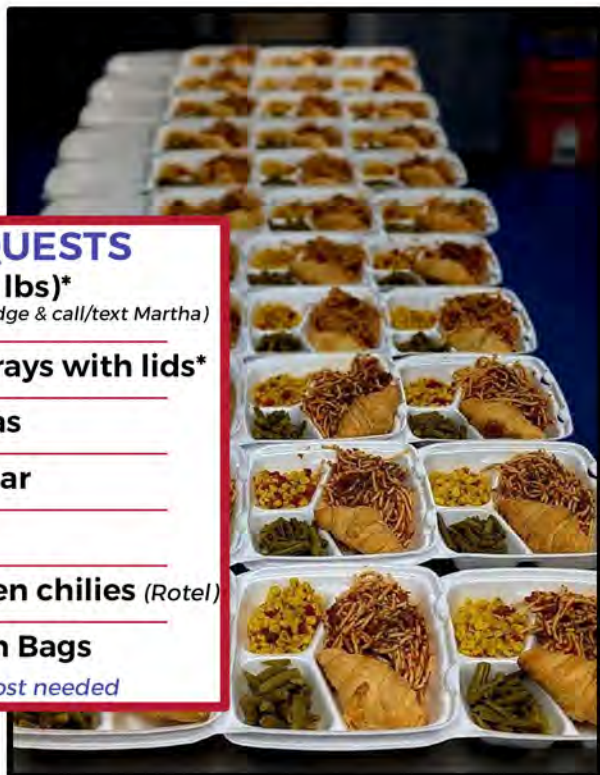
Brown sugar

Sugar

Diced tomatoes w/green chilies (Rotel)

55 Gallon Trash Bags

** Most needed*

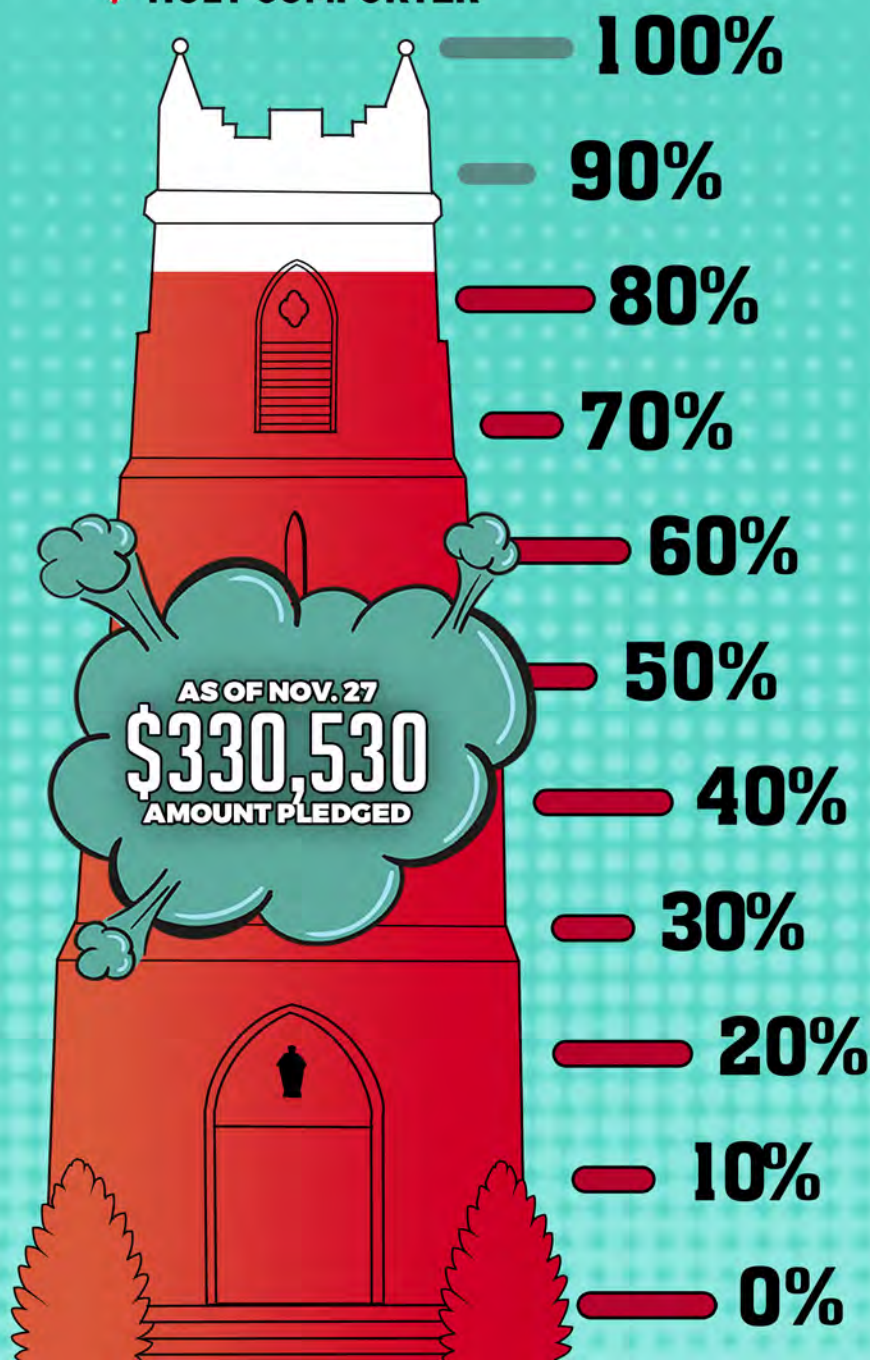


CONTACT: Martha Adams (awam3a@outlook.com)

OUR GOAL \$400,000



THE EPISCOPAL CHURCH
OF THE
HOLY COMFORTER



IRA DIRECTLY TO A QUALIFIED CHARITY

**DID YOU
KNOW**

...that you can give up to \$105,000 per year from your IRA directly to a qualified charity (this is called a Qualified Charitable Distribution, or QCD) if you are age 70 ½ years or older, without having to pay income taxes on the gift? And that beginning in the year you turn 73, a QCD can count toward your annual required minimum distribution (RMD), also a tax-free gift? And that Holy Comforter is considered a qualified charity?

The IRS recently issued a reminder about these options:

“The Internal Revenue Service reminds individual retirement arrangement (IRA) owners age 70½ and older that they can make up to \$105,000 in tax-free charitable donations during 2024 through qualified charitable distributions...For those age 73 or older, qualified charitable distributions (QCDs) also count toward the year’s required minimum distribution (RMD).

Generally, IRA distributions are taxable, but QCDs remain tax-free if sent directly to a qualified charity by the trustee. To make a QCD for 2024, IRA owners should contact their IRA trustee soon to ensure the transaction completes by year-end.

Each eligible IRA owner can exclude up to \$105,000 in QCDs from taxable income. Married couples, if both meet qualifications and have separate IRAs, can donate up to \$210,000 combined. QCDs don’t require itemizing deductions.”

Remember also that QCDs lower your adjusted gross income (AGI) and therefore may potentially reduce taxes on Social Security and avoid increased Medicare premiums.

If you are considering making a gift to Holy Comforter using a QCD, contact the institution that administers your IRA to ensure the right steps are followed to have these funds sent directly to the church.



Financial Report

Pledged revenues for October were \$33,062, and **unpledged gifts added another \$9,082**. It appears likely that we will reach our revenue budget for the year, which is a welcome change from our experience during and immediately after the pandemic. **Disbursements for the month totaled \$39,304**, including a large, budgeted expense. When investment and interest income were added to the mix, we finished October with a **monthly surplus of \$8,881**, and an **accumulated surplus of \$56,616** for the year to date.

Our **cash balance stood at \$83,842**, and in addition to that we have **\$120,000 in certificates of deposit**. Giving tends to be above average in November and December, so we are optimistic that our financial condition will be stronger at year end than has been the case in recent years. We resume paying a rector in January, so the financial cushion we have accumulated will be extremely helpful as we move into 2025.

The Stewardship campaign is coming along nicely, but as I write this, I do not have up to date information including cards received on Stewardship Sunday. We have over 70 pledges so far and hope for 100 or more. It is not unusual for pledges to continue to arrive in December, I confess that mine has been among the late arrivals on occasion.

**It will be helpful to have pledge cards by
December 9, when the Vestry
needs to complete our 2025 budget.**

We are fortunate to have some faithful parishioners who make **gifts of securities** towards the end of the year. We ask that any such gifts be initiated with your investment firm **no later than December 18th**, and ideally earlier. And please notify our financial administrator, Julia Buffington, to be alert for your gift. We need to have the securities in our account by December 27 to ensure cash proceeds are available by December 31. For any who might own appreciated securities but have not given in this way before, consider that such a gift allows Holy Comforter to receive the full value of the securities, the donor can deduct the full amount from their income taxes, and there is no capital gain tax liability.

In closing, we express our gratitude to our faithful and generous parishioners for your many gifts, financial and otherwise. We have endured a few challenges recently, but your steadfast support has given us a good foundation as we move into a new year with a new rector.

Sid Little

Assistant Treasurer

(336) 214-9344

Dslittle48@gmail.com

TWIN LAKES, COBLE CREEK REHABILITATION CENTER

THE COBLE ROOM **8AM** Breakfast | **9AM** Program

THURSDAY, DECEMBER 5.

JEFF ANDREWS will present the program
for the December 5th Men's Breakfast.

Jeff has a long-standing fascination with Rock and Roll music, recording artists and record companies. This deep rooted interest in all things connected with Rock and Roll music stimulated his interest in many aspects of Rock Music history.

In this upcoming program, Jeff will explore the transformational relationship between Organized Crime and the Rock Music industry. In addition to how and why this unlawful partnership was created and contributed to the multi-billion dollar growth of the Rock music industry, Jeff will offer his insights into a number of the more suspicious deaths and violent acts in Rock and Roll history. Please join Jeff for his presentation of "Organized Crime and Rock and Roll."

Looking forward to being with you.

Phil Savage ([**savageboatman@bellsouth.net**](mailto:savageboatman@bellsouth.net)),

Richard McBride ([**mcbride@elon.edu**](mailto:mcbride@elon.edu)),

Jeff Andrews (Jeff Andrews ([**jeff.alan.andrews@gmail.com**](mailto:jeff.alan.andrews@gmail.com))).



MEN'S BREAKFAST

FAITH, FOOD & FELLOWSHIP



ECW | EPISCOPAL CHURCH WOMEN MONDAY, DEC. 9 *in the Great Hall*

Monday December 9 is the CHRISTMAS LUNCHEON with CAROLS BY THE SPINET.

Jennell Harris and Nancy Smith are the hostesses. We will
gather in the **GREAT HALL AT 11**, the **MUSIC WITH PHIL
DEADMON AND JIM MCADAMS WILL BEGIN AT 11:30AM**
followed by **LUNCH AT NOONISH.**

BRING A SALAD OR DESSERT TO SHARE;

ALL ARE WELCOME *to join us for this festive meeting.*



TUESDAY, DEC. 17

we will go to **DANVILLE** for a
**TOUR OF THE 20FT. CHRISMON
TREE AT THE LUTHERAN CHURCH**
where the tradition began.
Gather in the kitchen side parking
lot **at 9:00am** to form carpools.

Our tour is at 10:30am,
we will have lunch (*tbd*)
before returning by 2:30pm.
Those who want to return directly
home can ride together
and be home by 12:30pm.

THE TOUR IS FREE
but we will make a contribution
and maybe take one of our
ornaments for their tree.

2024 ACAC HONOR CARDS

The Honor Card Campaign has begun. ACAC is proud to present its second agency designed card. This year's card continues to follow the tradition of past year's card. The beliefs of hope, faith and charity continue to shine through in this picture.

We listened to feedback from our supporters, and we have included an interpretation/meaning of the card itself as seen through the eyes of our Executive Director, Jai Baker. We continue to fulfill our mission on Ending Homeless and Hunger in Alamance County and Thank You for all your support....

“Life can be tough! Things happen that are unexplainable.... Nights get long, they can get cold, but we must keep pushing forward. Sometimes we feel that there is darkness and despair in our lives. We continue to live, we must “Look to the Hills!””

In this year's Honor Card, there are visuals of the cold night and despair. The Snow and Ice are prominent in the illustration. But upon further observation, we see the water is starting to flow again, the light of the day bringing about a fresh new view and maybe even a promise of what is to come. This illustration speaks of the job we do, to the lives that we touch and to the changes that happen in the lives of the individuals, families and children that we serve.

Thank you for supporting ACAC on its mission to End Homelessness and Hunger
... Jai Baker

TO PURCHASE CARDS

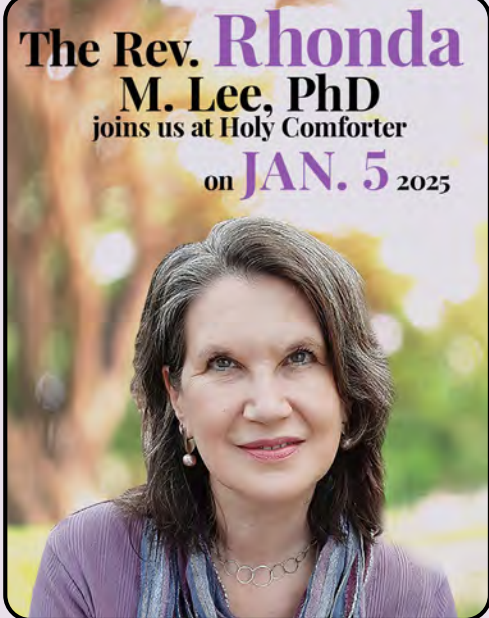
CONTACT **MARTHA ADAMS**
awam3a@outlook.com
(336) 324-4108

OR **RENE BURGESS**
burgessrene@gmail.com
(336) 269-5959



After a long season of waiting and preparation, it is almost time to welcome our new rector!

Rhonda Lee's first Sunday at Holy Comforter will be January 5th. As we look forward to embracing her into our Holy Comforter family, there will be many opportunities in the new year to get to know Rhonda and experience her thoughtful leadership. In the meantime, below is a glimpse into her ministry philosophy, worship style, and pastoral care approach. For those who wish to learn even more, her book, *Seek and You Will Find: Discovering a Practice of Prayer*, will soon be available in the church library, with two copies ready to borrow.



WHAT IS YOUR APPROACH TO MINISTRY?

"I help Christians and seekers imagine what it might look like for us to accept Jesus' invitation to love God, neighbors, and ourselves; and I worship, pray, and serve with them as we respond together."

HOW WOULD YOU DESCRIBE YOUR WORSHIP STYLE?

"My style is 'mid' church, neither 'low' nor 'high,' rooted in our Anglican tradition as found in our liturgical books. As a priest who has worked with many churches, I am flexible, appreciating worship that maintains our Episcopal forms while honoring local gifts and customs (e.g., in musical choices and culturally significant celebrations)."

WHAT IS YOUR PERSPECTIVE ON LAY MINISTRY?

"I take seriously the fact that all baptized persons (regardless of age) are ministers of Christ's church. In parishes, I encourage apprenticeships and shared and rotating leadership to involve more people in ministry, make clear that ministries are the responsibility of the whole church, and reduce burnout."

HOW DO YOU FOSTER INCLUSIVITY AND SHARED LEADERSHIP?

"In all areas of my ministry, I ask, 'Whose voice is missing from this discussion, making decisions and setting direction? How can we involve more voices and share power, authority, and accountability?'"

WHAT IS YOUR APPROACH TO PASTORAL CARE?

"Pastoral care offers presence and attention, both on an ongoing basis and in crisis situations. I strive to be available to listen, to pray, and to accompany people as they reflect on their lives and how God is present. This happens over lunch, on the telephone, in hospitals, in correspondence, and on buses and street corners when people approach me unexpectedly. Sometimes pastoral care means asking hard questions, accompanying people as they consider their options in tough situations, and offering professional referrals as needed. And it sometimes means addressing the root causes of suffering, sometimes, for example, by participating in non-partisan political action."

HOW DO YOU VIEW STEWARDSHIP?

"Stewardship is a lifelong practice modeled on the Eucharist: offering gifts, giving thanks, sharing them, and finding ourselves and our neighbors abundantly blessed. My financial giving has grown over the years. This practice has increased my gratitude and allowed me to speak to the joy of giving as I help fellow Christians discern how God calls us to share our gifts, whether money or time, education, and skills."

As we prepare to begin this new chapter, I once again offer my deepest gratitude to our supply clergy and our Rector Emeritus, David Williams, for guiding us faithfully through this period of transition. Most of all, I'm grateful for you - our outstanding parishioners. Your dedication has blessed our parish, and I am thankful for your service, support, and leadership.

Faithfully yours,

JULIE SWANNER

SENIOR WARDEN



THE NEWLIN PARTNERSHIP NEWS



WWW.NEWLINPARTNERSHIP.ORG

BACKPACK PROGRAM GIFTS FOR NEWLIN STUDENTS

For several years the Newlin Partnership and Holy Comforter parishioners have helped provide a small bag of Christmas gifts to each of the Newlin students who receive weekly backpack food during the school year. This year we have 75 students who participate in this program. We would like to make this happen again this year! Listed below are suggestions for items that we would like to give these children. The Dollar Stores are wonderful sources for these items!



If you prefer to have us shop for these kindergarten through 5th grade students, please send a check to Holy Comforter with "Christmas gifts for Newlin backpacks" in the memo line.

THE DEADLINE FOR GIFTS/DONATIONS IS FRIDAY, DECEMBER 13.

A large bin will be in the church library for these items. Once again thank you so much for helping us provide Christmas gifts for Newlin students. *(see details on next page)*

Margaret Egede-Nissen (336) 266-9443

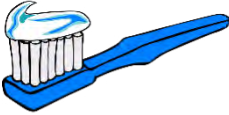
Audrey Deadmon (336) 213-2213

Ren Bryan (336) 675-3920

SUGGESTIONS:



Small toys, small stuffed animals, pencils, crayons, colored pencils, coloring books, toothbrushes, toothpaste, mittens, gloves, hats, notepads, small books, puzzles, candy, socks.



NEWLIN LITERACY PROJECT LUNCH & LEARN

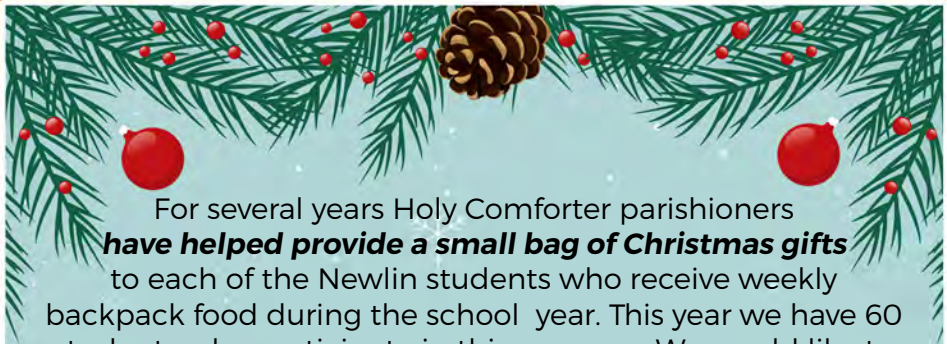
18 tutors and Lucky Listeners met Thursday, November 21st for their monthly continuing education session.



Susan Kern led the group in learning more about the “Ages and Stages” of child development. The focus was on cognitive and behavioral development of 6 and 7 year olds since Tutors and Lucky Listeners work with 1st and 2nd graders in their programs. Participants shared stories, strategies, and helpful suggestions about working with their students..



CHRISTMAS FOR NEWLIN STUDENTS



For several years Holy Comforter parishioners **have helped provide a small bag of Christmas gifts** to each of the Newlin students who receive weekly backpack food during the school year. This year we have 60 students who participate in this program. We would like to make this happen again this year! Listed below are suggestions for items that we would like to give these children. **The Dollar Stores are wonderful sources for these items!** If you prefer to have us shop for these kindergarten through 5th grade students please send a check to Holy Comforter with **“Christmas gifts for Newlin backpacks”** in the memo line.

THE DEADLINE FOR GIFTS / DONATIONS is FRIDAY DECEMBER 13. A large bin will be in the church library for these items.

Once again thank you so much for helping us provide Christmas gifts for Newlin students.

Margaret Egede-Nissen
(336) 266-9443

Audrey Deadmon
(336) 213-2213

Ren Bryan
(336) 675-3920

SUGGESTIONS

- | | |
|------------------|-----------------------|
| small toys | small stuffed animals |
| pencils | crayons |
| coloring pencils | coloring books |
| toothbrushes | toothpaste |
| mittens | gloves |
| hats | notepads |
| small books | puzzles |
| candy | socks |



STEPHEN MINISTERS: THE AFTER PEOPLE

People often ask, "What exactly is a Stephen Minister?" One way to put it is that Stephen Ministers are the After People.

Stephen Ministers are there:

- ... after the phone call you hoped you'd never get.
- ... after the divorce papers are served and the bottom falls out of your life.
- ... after the funeral, when everyone has left and the emotions you've held at bay come crashing in on you.
- ... after the doctor says, "I'm sorry, but there's nothing more we can do."
- ... after the nursing home director shakes your hand and says, "Welcome to your new home."
- ... after the last child honks the horn, waves, and drives away—and the house suddenly seems empty.
- ... after the gavel goes down, the handcuffs go on, and your loved one is led away.
- ... after the baby arrives, demanding more of you than you ever dreamed possible.
- ... after you find a pink slip with your final paycheck.
- ... after your family and friends have heard your story one too many times, but you still need to talk it out.

Stephen Ministers are the "After People." They are ready to come alongside you—or your friends, neighbors, coworkers, or relatives—and provide comfort and support for as long after as needed. www.stephenministries.org

Become part of Stephen Ministry. Contact Rene Burgess, Stephen Leader (336-269-5959 burgessrene@gmail.com). or Derek Bates, Vestry Pastoral Care (dbates@myhst.com)



As we prepare to celebrate Advent and the joy of Christmas, we invite you to honor or remember others with a special donation.

Envelopes are available at the back of the church for those who wish to contribute toward our beautiful Christmas greenery, such as poinsettias, or direct their gift to areas of greatest need.

Please take a look at the label on the back of the envelope, where you may choose how to direct your gift

(Christmas greenery or greatest need).

Your generosity will help make this season especially meaningful for our parish community.

THANK YOU FOR YOUR SUPPORT!

CALLING ALL PHOTOGRAPHERS!

Do you have an eye for capturing heartfelt moments?

Holy Comforter is looking for volunteer photographers to help us tell the story of our vibrant church community!

We need your talent to capture the spirit of events like:

- Sunday Services
- Sunday School
- Choir Practice
- Parish Home Gatherings
- ECW Gatherings
- Breakfast Ministry
- Men's Breakfast Group
- Foster Children's Program

Whether you're a seasoned pro or simply love taking photos, we'd be thrilled to have you join us in preserving these precious memories. Help us showcase the warmth and energy of our mission!

READY TO GET INVOLVED?

Start snapping and **send your photos to Alex Stevens** at (336) 684-2095 or **alexanderfstevens@gmail.com**.



**Thank you for helping us
shine a light on our church's
beautiful journey!**

DECEMBER

Birthday CELEBRATIONS

01	Ryan Daniels	16	John Stubblefield
02	Audrey Heffley Bob Kirchen Tom Ryan Sarah Williams	19	Katharina Kerr Mary Telander
03	Corrinne Surratt Edward Sutton	23	Rene Burgess CW Wilkerson
05	Mary Coe	25	David Day
06	Annagrace Newbauer Aurora Marasca	27	Susan Ryan
08	Philip Deadmon Shara Partin	28	Adam Scarboro Ed McCauley
12	Linda Gordon	29	Richard Parker Jennell Harris
13	Coral Erikson	30	Becky Gilbert
15	Mittie Landi Cecelia Walker	31	Les Plumb

If your birthday was missed, please message
info@hc-b.org so we can add it in our records

SYMPATHIES

For the repose of the soul of Robert Kittenger, for the comfort of his family, and for Holy Comforter friends.

MEMBERS

Chappy Moser

Curt Odem

Mittie Landi

Doug Peet

Margaret Egede-Nissen

Edward Dunlap

Nancy Christensen

Evie Surratt

Bob Stewart

Bill Amidon

Bobby Puett

Nelson Young

Cecelia Walker

FAMILY AND FRIENDS

Randy Williams - *David Williams' brother*

John Lewis - *Sarah Moore's friend*

Christina Creason - *Cat Sykes' friend*

Will Nadolski - *Paula Boyd's grandson*

Carolyn Strafacci - *Cat Sykes' mom*

Annie Griner - *Connie Griner's daughter-in-law*

Richard Lehman - *Gary Schilke's friend*

Mary Leighton Sellers - *Janie Seller's mother-in-law*

Gus Holbrook - *Julie & Steven Swanner's friend*

Phillip Tillman - *Sandy Gerow's friend*

Janet and Bill Bates - *Derek Bates' parents*

Allison - *Ren Bryan's daughter-in-law*

Terry Babin, Henry Haughton - *Elizabeth Hansen's friend & Uncle*

Dick Rowe - *Adriane Newbauer's father*

Lisa Daniels, Lupe Wood - *Julia Buffington's friends*

Pat Harwood - *Amy Hess' mother*

Marcus Day - *David Day's brother*

Sid Owens - *Linda Buff's friend's grandson*

Lavette Morgan - *Angie Boone's former mother-in-law*

Bonnie Honeycutt - *Cherry Wrenn's friend*

Brynja Bowman, Jeff Safrit - *Jocelyn Safrit's niece & brother-in-law*

Patricia Holt Langston, Aubrey Henderson - *Nancy Powell's*

granddaughter

& great granddaughter



113 YEARS AND GROWING



CONTACTS

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