



ST. BARTHOLOMEW'S NEWSLETTER

APRIL 2015



The Rector's Desk—Father Bill Oldland

"One man, ran filled a sponge with wine vinegar, put it on a stick, and offered it to Jesus to drink. "Now leave him alone. Let's see if Elijah comes to take him down," he said. With a loud cry, Jesus breathed his last. The curtain of the Temple was torn in two from top to bottom. And when the centurion, who stood there in front of Jesus, heard his cry and saw how he died, he said, "Surely this man was the Son of God!" NIV Mark 15:36-39

"But then they looked up, they saw that the stone, which was very large, had been rolled away. As they entered the tomb, they saw a young man dressed in a white robe sitting on the right side, and they were alarmed. "Don't be alarmed," he said. "You are looking for Jesus the Nazarene, who was crucified. He has risen! He is not here. See the place where they laid him. But go, tell his disciples and Peter, "He is going ahead of you into Galilee. There you will see him, just as he told you." NIV Mark 16:4-7

Dear Brothers and Sisters in Christ,

In the next two weeks we will remember and celebrate some of the most incredible events in the Christian faith and in the history of the world. Services will be held around the entire globe concerning Jesus' death and resurrection. Some of these services will be in small churches in towns and villages whose names are known only to a few. Still other services will be witnessed by many people in places like cathedrals and the Vatican. All of these services will have the same things in common. They will bear witness to the life, death, and resurrection of Jesus Christ our Lord.

And yet, I wonder in the wide variety of services if we truly understand the depth of the transformative power of Jesus Christ.

As we recall the events of Palm Sunday, Maundy Thursday, and Good Friday are we so captured by the waving of the palms, the basin and the towel, and the starkness of the plain altar that we notice the physical events, but are slightly unaware of the spiritual significance. As we come to the Easter service and our senses are completely overwhelmed by the scent of the flowers, seeing the robes and the altar hangings, and hearing the beautiful music that we find ourselves on a bit of physical overload, and not aware of the spiritual stirrings within us. It would be so easy to do. After all, our culture is very attuned to the physical and the senses. And yet, the spiritual, transformational power of God in Jesus Christ is always present and often appears in interesting ways in our lives. *(continued on page 3)*

COMING UP...

- ◆ Holy Week services are listed on the calendar (see page 5)
- ◆ The office is updating the directory. Please contact the office if any changes need to be made.
- ◆ A new website is being constructed. Be on the lookout for our new design!



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New Service Offering

Beginning Tuesday, April 14th, St. Bartholomew's will be offering a healing service at 6:00 pm in the church. What is a healing service? The service has two parts. The first part of the service has scripture readings, prayers, and a time for individuals to ask for specific prayers for themselves or for others. At that time, they also may be anointed with holy oil



for healing and renewal. The second part of the service is the Holy Eucharist. As you know, the Eucharist reminds us constantly of Christ's Passion and glorious resurrection. It empowers us to go into the world to share the wonderful Gospel of Jesus Christ. Please know that everyone is welcome to attend.

Christian Education Offerings

Teachers for Christian Education Needed: The Christian Education Commission would like to thank everyone who has been involved in educating children and youth for the last year. We are also seeking additional individuals who have a desire to share their faith and who have a love for children and youth. It is our desire to build a comprehensive education program for members of St. Bartholomew's for all ages. A part of this program is the development of team teaching which requires additional teachers. The program will include Sunday School every Sunday morning and a Youth Program for 6th through 12th grades. The Commission is already beginning the process of seeking curriculum and materials. We need the assistance of those individuals to whom God has given the gifts of education for children. If you are interested, please call Elizabeth (Beth) Guttery at 843-917-4460, or Father Bill.

Tuesday Night Lenten Studies: The last two Tuesday Lenten studies will be on March 24th and 31st. The last two classes are entitled

Jesus as Savior and Jesus as Lord. The evening schedule is:

6:00 pm – Order of the Evening in the Church
6:15 – Light Dinner in the Parish Hall
6:40 – Program
7:30 – Compline

Wednesday Bible and Book Studies: Due to the Lenten services and lunches at St. Luke's Methodist Church on Wednesdays during Lent, the Proverbs class has decided to postpone the continuation of this study until after Easter. The time of the class will remain the same immediately following the Wednesday Eucharist. Classes will resume on April 15th.

Adult Sunday School: The adult classes will meet in the Parish Hall at 9:15. During the season of Lent we will be reviewing the readings of the Sunday lectionary. In Easter we will review the various resurrection stories of the Gospels and the coming of the Holy Spirit on Pentecost as described in the 2nd chapter of the Book of Acts.

Christian Education for Parents, Young Adults, and Newcomers: We will begin our Christian Education Classes for parents, young adults, and newcomers on **Sunday, April 19** in the library.



The class will provide an opportunity for participants to examine cultural issue and how our faith can meet the challenges of caring for children, living in a secular world which often threatens our faith, and understanding the history of the Anglican Communion. The class will examine the Gospel of Mark through an interactive series *Christianity Explored* and possibly the Letter of James. Hopefully, these discussions will be a time for the participants to become stronger in their walk with Christ. If you have questions concerning this series, please see Father Bill or Deacon John.

Attendance for Worship Services from February 26th through March 22th

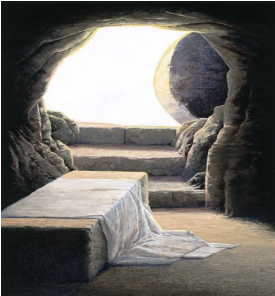
03/01	HE I	8:00	14	Lent II
	HE II	10:30	73	
03/04	Wed. HE I	12:00	6	
03/08	HE I	8:00	8	Lent III
	HE I	10:30	60	
03/11	Wed. MP I	12:00	5	
03/15	HE I	8:00	10	Lent IV
	HE II	10:30	66	
02/18	Wed. HE I	12:00	10	
03/22	HE II	8:00	12	Lent V
	HE II	10:30	71	

CONTACT INFORMATION

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The Rector's Desk, cont.



AN EMPTY TOMB

These two scripture readings are clear examples of how people, ordinary people, can be transformed by God through Jesus Christ. The first person we see changed is, of all people, the centurion. Basically, a centurion was an officer in the Roman army. He had authority over those men. This particular officer commanded the detail that was to crucify Jesus. He was probably involved in the entire process of Jesus' Passion from the moment Jesus appeared before Pilate. He would have witnessed the animosity of the crowd, the physical beating of Jesus, and the long walk to Golgotha. He would have commanded the men who placed Jesus on the cross and nailed him to it. He would have given the directions as the cross was lifted and placed for all to see the dying man upon it. He would have seen all of the events in their entirety.

And yet, what would make this time, this crucifixion, any different? He had probably been present for or carried out the orders for the crucifixion of other men in the Roman Empire. Jesus and the two thieves were probably not the first Hebrew men he had witnessed crucified. Somehow Jesus was different. It was more than just the fact that Jesus was a truly innocent man. What could have touched him so? It had to be the Spirit of God who helped him see beyond the physical and into the eternal. He didn't simply claim that Jesus was an innocent man inap-

propriately killed. He proclaims Jesus correctly as the "Son of God." Only by God's presence could this man, this officer of many men, see the true identity of Jesus. The man who commands other men to kill Jesus is the one who sees him for who he truly is at the moment of Jesus' death. Only by God's Spirit could this transformation occur. Only by God's love could this truth be known.

And what about the women who come to the tomb? They did not come to see a risen Lord. The scriptures tell us that they have brought spices to anoint Jesus' body. They are coming to perform the Hebrew rites for the dead. They are not expecting the resurrection even though Jesus told them about it many times. They don't even know how they will get past the huge stone in the way. As they arrive, they see the stone already moved. Looking into the tomb they see the young man dressed in white, an angel. He proclaims to them that Jesus is alive and that he

has risen. The women are scared. They are scared when they see the young man and they are still scared when they leave. Obviously they began to tell the story. They came to believe because they had no other option. No one would have taken the body of Jesus out of the tomb. The priests wouldn't do it because it would make Jesus' words appear true. The Romans wouldn't have done it because they could have cared less about one more dead Jewish male. The disciples didn't do it because they were too afraid for their own lives. Only God's spiritual power of incredible love raised Jesus from the dead. The

women witnessed the empty tomb and they were forever changed. From that point on they believed in Jesus as the Son of God.

So here we have two stories of people who were transformed by God through Jesus Christ. In one case the person chosen is unusual, the officer who carries out the crucifixion. In the other

case, it is the event that impacts the spiritual understanding of the women. In both cases, the individuals are changed, transformed spiritually in their understanding of God. What is amazing is that God offers the same to us today. We, too, can be transformed by the power of the Living God to become disciples carrying his message into the world. What does it require? Not a great deal. It simply requires allowing God to teach us in God's way what we need to believe.

Over the next two weeks we will relive many events of Jesus' last week on earth. We will see many colors change in the Church tapestry. We will hear a wide range of music from the sorrowful to the exuberant and joyful. We will recall the Last supper in the footwashing and in the bread and the wine. All of these events are designed to help us remember, recall, and celebrate what God has done for us through Jesus Christ, our Lord. Pray that as we come to worship with our bodies and our physical senses, that we also come with open hearts and spirits to see what God has to share with us that we might be transformed, refreshed, and empowered to share God's love in Christ to others in our day. Amen.

**In His Holy Name,
Father Bill+**

Prayer Needs

Please remember to keep in your daily prayers all of the following members of our church family and our community: Margaret Coker, Shelia Colclough, Geri Jarrot, Garrison Murph, Anna Rogers, Willie Rhonda Shere, Chris Fuga, Heather McKissick, David Plyler, Michael Starling, Charlie Griffin, Hollis Youngner, Tonya Rainey, Kathryn Farrow, the Tyner Family, Ed Saleeby, and Luke Martin.

Please pray for the repose of the souls of:

Carol Perry, mother of Carol Scarborough (Randy)

James Winburn, grandfather of Matt Winburn.

Brian James Mixon, son of Bill and Jean Mixon

PASTORAL CARE – If you know of any member of St. Bartholomew's with a special need at any time such as illness, birth, death of a family member, or any emotional or spiritual need, please call the rector (843-910-3875) or the office (843-332-8765).

Parish News

New Baby! Steve and Alice Rumpf welcomed a new grandson, Nathan Christopher Rumpf, born March 9th to Christopher and Rebecca Rumpf.



Learn & Play: During the month of March, students have enjoyed activities related to celebrating Dr. Seuss' birthday. If you are interested in the summer or fall 2015 programs, applications are now available in the office. For more information, contact Stacy Talbert at 843-307-4898.

Report from the Deacon: Outreach at the College and in the Community

During the past few weeks, I have visited two high schools, Hartsville High School and the Governor's School for Science and Mathematics. I offered to the keynote address for the Hartsville High Black History Month Program. At the Governor's School for Science and Mathematics, I was asked to lead a discussion for a small group on the Bible and Human Sexuality. Both opportunities were enlightening and special. I would ask that you keep all high school students in your prayers as the world they live in is full of challenges and obstacles.

I have begun our third year of offering SAT preparation to Darlington County students at the Butler Heritage Center. We have twenty students this spring. We offer this program

as a partnership with Omega Psi Phi Fraternity, the Boys and Girls Club and members from Jerusalem Baptist Church.

Finally, I have been working with Jeremy Nere of Coker College. He has established the Dress for Success program for students who need to build a wardrobe for their first professional interview or for their interview for graduate schools. We have a significant number of first generation students at Coker College who for a variety of reasons may not have an adequate wardrobe for their first interview. Through my discretionary fund, I have made a donation on behalf of St. Bartholomew. If you have "gently used" items that you would like to donate, please contact me. I can assure that the students will be grateful for your donations.

Liturgy: I am pleased to say that beginning during the Easter season, we will children and teenagers serving at the altar. I am not sure who is more excited me, or the young people who will be serving. Martha Flowers and I have worked with the children for the past three weeks. So, please encourage the youth as they begin this ministry in our parish.

Campus Ministry and Teaching: I have been accepted to participate in Council of Independent College/ Interfaith Youth Corp seminar on Teaching Interfaith Understanding that will held at Boston College in Chestnut Hill, Massachusetts, June 21-25.

Respectfully submitted,
John Foster, III, *Deacon*



April 2015 Calendar of Events

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
29 8am - Holy Eucharist I @ St 9:45am - Choir Practice @ 10:30am - Holy Eucharist I	30 Learn & Play Spring Break @ St Bartholomew's Episcopal Church, 103 Campus Drive, Hartsville, SC 29550, United States	31 6pm - Lenten Program	1 10am - Holy Eucharist 12pm - Lenten Program	2 6:30pm - Maundy Thursday	3 12pm - Good Friday Service	4
5 8am - Holy Eucharist I @ St 9:45am - Choir Practice @ 10:30am - Holy Eucharist I	6 9am - Learn & Play @ St	7 9am - Learn & Play @ St 10am - Alzheimer's Support 4:30pm - DOK (Parish Hall)	8 9am - Learn & Play @ St 10am - Holy Eucharist	9 9am - Learn & Play @ St	10 9am - Learn & Play @ St	11 4pm - Coker College
12 8am - Holy Eucharist I @ St 9:45am - Choir Practice @ 10:30am - Holy Eucharist I	13 9am - Learn & Play @ St	14 9am - Learn & Play @ St	15 9am - Learn & Play @ St 10am - Holy Eucharist	16 9am - Learn & Play @ St	17 9am - Learn & Play @ St	18
19 8am - Holy Eucharist I @ St 9:45am - Choir Practice @ 10:30am - Holy Eucharist I	20 9am - Learn & Play @ St	21 9am - Learn & Play @ St 6:30pm - Institution	22 9am - Learn & Play @ St 10am - Holy Eucharist	23 9am - Learn & Play @ St	24 9am - Learn & Play @ St	25 5pm - Children's Choir
26 8am - Holy Eucharist I @ St 9:45am - Choir Practice @ 10:30am - Holy Eucharist I	27 9am - Learn & Play @ St	28 9am - Learn & Play @ St	29 9am - Learn & Play @ St 10am - Holy Eucharist	30 9am - Learn & Play @ St	1 9am - Learn & Play @ St	2

Lay Readers and lay Eucharistic Ministers Needed

Father Bill and Deacon John would like to invite and to encourage parishioners to consider serving as a lay reader or a Lay Eucharistic Minister. We are grateful for those who serve in those ministries presently, but we have a need to increase our servers for both services at 8 and 10:30 a.m. Our lay readers will read the lessons and our Lay Eucharistic Ministers will serve at the altar. You can serve in either one or both ministries.

Those parishioners who would like to work with Father Bill and

Deacon John in our pastoral care ministries will be trained as Lay Eucharistic Ministers with the responsibility of offering the Sacraments to parishioners at home, in the hospital or living in an assisted living environment.

If you are interested in serving in either of these ministries, please speak with Father Bill or Deacon John. Also, please note that if you are serving presently, you will need to attend the training sessions as well. The sessions will be scheduled for late April.

Usher Schedule:

April 5 —
Bobby McGee
Wayne Guttry

April 12—
Keith Williamson
Tim Anthony

April 19—
Wade O'Kelley
Wayne Guttry

April 26—
James Ward & Sons

Altar Servers & Lectors

April 5 —
Altar Servers: Le Flowers & Floyd Finch
Lector: TBD

April 12—
Altar Servers: Tom & Marie Neville
Lector: Nancy McGee

April 19—
Altar Servers: Floyd Finch & Bené Brockman
Lector: Wayne Guttry

April 26—
Altar Servers: Le & Martha Flowers
Lector: Carol Ann Godwin

SCHEDULE OF EVENTS

Mar. 29th – 8:00 am & 10:30 am – Palm Sunday Services –
Procession of the Palms will take place at the 10:30 service.

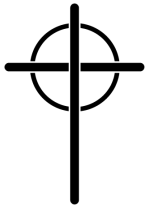
Apr 1st – 12 noon – Lenten services and lunches –
Sponsored by the Hartsville Ministerial Alliance—the services and luncheons occur at St. Luke United Methodist Church.

Apr 2nd – 6:30 pm – Maundy Thursday –
This service will be the Holy Eucharist with foot washing and stripping of the altar.

Apr 3rd – 12 pm & 6:00 pm – Good Friday Service –
We will use the Good Friday Liturgy from the Book of Common Prayer.

Apr 5th – 8:00 & 10:30 am – Easter Sunday –
The Celebration of our Lord's Resurrection. At 9:15 we will have breakfast in the Parish Hall instead of Sunday School. Immediately after the 10:30 service we will have an Easter Egg Hunt for the children.

Apr. 21st – 6:30 pm – The Celebration of a New Ministry –
We will welcome Father Bill and his wife, Ellen, into our parish family in this wonderful celebration. Bishop Lawrence will be present for the Institution and there will be a reception to follow.



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103 Campus Drive
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