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April 2010

From the Rafters

The mission of the Episcopal Church of the Resurrection is to love, worship and serve God, to learn and proclaim the gospel of Jesus Christ and to set an example in our lives as we minister in his name.



Episcopal Church of the Resurrection

South Main at Marion Street • Greenwood, SC 29646

P.O. Box 3283 • Greenwood, SC 29648-3283

864-223-5426 • cor@episcopalgreenwood.org

www.episcopalgreenwood.org

Easter at Pottery Barn

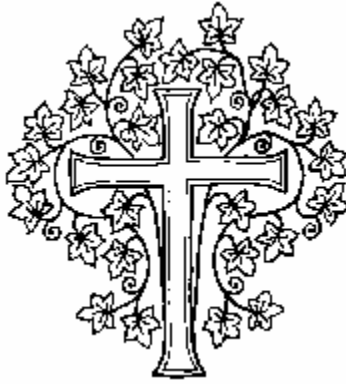
About three years ago this week, I spent part of one evening in Pottery Barn Kids in the Lenox Mall in Atlanta. I am not much on going to malls but had a good reason to be in this one. Elizabeth was pregnant with our son, and we needed a bumper pad for the crib. We heard they had cute ones, and we had a credit left over from our wedding. Pottery Barn Kids is a strange place, full of elegant nursery furniture and crib linen displays that in no way reflect the many spills, acts of vandalism, and parent-child struggles that take place in a small child's room. Our son is never so happy as when he has turned his room into a jungle of books, trains, and stuffed animals, the farthest thing from a Pottery Barn display one can imagine.

I had a fateful learning that night, that Pottery Barn Kids was trying to do to Easter what many others long ago did to Christmas. It was the week of the Fifth Sunday in Lent, a weekday, with Palm Sunday still on the horizon. The front of the store was filled with Easter merchandise. There were monogrammed Easter Baskets, the display insisting that "The magic of Easter morning begins with a colorful basket filled with special treats" rather than at the empty tomb. Certainly, the shopper was meant to feel, your child cannot grasp the meaning of Easter without Peter Rabbit™ Porcelain Plates for \$49, as well as matching tumblers, napkins, and tablecloth. There was an Easter Egg Topiary for \$89 and a genuine Easter Tree for \$69. There were no Empty Tomb plates, no baskets emblazoned with the angelic good news that "He is not here; he is risen as he told you." There was nothing to call to mind the heartbroken women who went to visit the tomb on a cold dark morning and found that everything in the universe had changed. Easter at Pottery Barn was pale pink and yellow and green, eggs and rabbits and beautiful blond children. Easter at Pottery Barn was a terrible fake. And, worst of all, everything was already on sale the week before Palm Sunday. As I watched, the downtrodden clerks were consolidating the remaining Easter displays, moving in the merchandise meant to make yuppie parents (like us) think of summer vacation needs like beach towels, adorable personalized coolers, and sand toys.

Checking their website as I write, I see that much of their current Easter merchandise is indeed already on sale. I'll take that as a sign of Easter's resistance to cultural captivity. The forces of Pottery Barn are unlikely to make Easter into a great commercial success. The message about the resurrection of Jesus and the new life available in him is simply too wild to be domesticated in the way we have with Christmas. The folks at Pottery Barn will not speak about the Cross and its terrible sorrow; they will not speak about the tomb and seeming end of Jesus. And so they cannot claim his resurrection. The resurrection is God's gift and God's project. It was such a great surprise that it continues to defy our consumer culture's attempts to subdue it.

If God will not let the Resurrection be used, he certainly does expect the church to tell the Resurrection story with all its creativity, wisdom, and beauty. Our liturgies across Holy Week mean to make the old story of our redemption new again. Your choir is at work with several extra rehearsals, planning new and special music for the liturgies. We are recruiting readers for the dramatic passion, preparing bulletins, and writing sermons. The Altar Guild is planning flowers, finding foot-washing basins, and readying the fire pit in which we light the Paschal flame. The Resurrection is our story to tell, and the story we will tell is deeper and truer than any pastel knick-knack. I hope that you will be with us in Holy Week and that your faith in Christ Jesus will grow. He means to share his new life with you.

Nicholas+



Holy Week at Church of the Resurrection

- March 28 Palm Sunday: the Sunday of the Passion**
7:45 AM Liturgy of the Palms and Holy Eucharist
9:00 AM Liturgy of the Palms (Courtyard), Dramatic Passion, and Holy Eucharist
11:15 AM Liturgy of the Palms, Dramatic Passion, and Holy Eucharist
- March 31 Wednesday in Holy Week**
12 Noon Holy Eucharist
6:00 PM Solemn Evensong (*with incense; nursery provided*)
- April 1 Maundy Thursday**
6:00 PM Holy Eucharist and Stripping of the Altar (*nursery provided*)
- April 2 Good Friday**
12 Noon Liturgy of the Day
6:00 PM Liturgy of the Day (*nursery provided*)
- April 3 Holy Saturday**
9:00 AM Liturgy of the Day
11:00 AM Easter Egg Hunt
- April 4 Easter Sunday: The Feast of the Resurrection**
7:00 AM The Great Vigil of Easter
9:00 AM Festival Eucharist
11:15 AM Festival Eucharist
Emerald City Brass at 9:00 and 11:15 AM
Nursery at 9:00 and 11:15 AM



**A New Dramatic Passion for
Palm Sunday**

This year we will mark Palm Sunday with the use of a new text and score for the Passion reading. Created by John T. Townsend, the text is a harmonization of the synoptic gospels (Mark, Matthew, and Luke), with embellishments from the Gospel of John. This version of the passion includes two timpani, tambourine, suspended cymbal, and triangle, instruments which add power to the performance of the text. We are thankful to Brooks Kuykendall and the Music Department of Erskine College for lending us some of the necessary resources. The dramatic passion will be performed at both 9:00 and 11:15. As always, we will read the Passion from the Gospel of John on Good Friday, a rich meditation on the saving power of the Lord's death.

The Lenten Project: Capping It Off

From the time former Rector Bill Beckham met Father LaFontant in 1979, the lives of the Church of the Resurrection and the Cange community in Haiti have been inextricably linked. This year's Lenten Project, The Haitian Bread and Water Rescue Fund, is just our most recent effort to support this dynamic community in its efforts to be a beacon of economic self-sufficiency in a country torn by civil unrest, poverty, and disease. Our goal of raising a minimum of \$10,000 [with a \$7,500 match from the Foundation] toward improving the schools, agriculture, and water supply is within our grasp. The members of the Church of the Resurrection Outreach Task Force are humbled and grateful for your incredible display of Christian love. Thank you, and God bless your giving hearts and spirits.

It seems almost an imposition to ask for one more small favor, but there is something else we'd like to ask: we'd like you to help us celebrate the success! It is a small favor, but one we think would mean so much, and one that would put a face on our efforts. At the January Vestry meeting, we brainstormed for a way to personalize our giving. One idea stood out: *baseball caps*. The children at the William A. Beckham School in Cange are wild about baseball caps. Our rector and Charlie Weesner, both of whom have spent time there, can attest to this. We decided to look into how we might leverage that information in a positive way.

When we began to explore the idea of providing baseball caps to students at the school, the hand of God soon appeared. The retail manager at *Action Sports*, Kevin Coursey, showed an amazing and genuine interest in the project and offered to talk to the store management about participating. The proposal this company has made is nothing short of incredible. *Action Sports* has offered to sell team logo baseball caps (MLB, NFL, and NCAA) at a price of three dollars. In addition, as gifts for the young ladies who attend the school, *Action Sports* has made a line of team logo t-shirts and 3-button Henley shirts available for the incredible price of five dollars. If you don't believe this is a fantastic offer, we suggest you price a baseball cap elsewhere in Greenwood.

In the week after Easter Sunday, the Outreach Task Force plans to have a sales display set up in Bishops' Hall to take orders. In the meantime, any member of the Outreach team (Peggy Adams, John Beckett, Diane Bagwell, Barbara Brock, Ann Hayden, Chris Jayne, Chuck McDonnell, Elizabeth Schuler, Charlie Weesner, Glenn or Karen Wright) would be willing to take your donations. We will see that your donation provides the proper

amount of merchandise to be shipped to Haiti and delivered to the Beckham School through our Diocesan friends.

The Outreach Task Force thanks you for all you have done, and we know the love in your hearts has made the goal of giving to The Bread and Water Rescue Fund achievable. The caps and shirts, we believe, would speak directly to the hearts of those children whom Bill Beckham loved so well. It would be a gift that bears that love.
Chuck McDonnell

A Quiet Easter Week

The Parish Office will be closed on Easter Monday, April 5. We will not have services on Wednesday, April 7. Our adult series, *Simply Christian*, with N.T. Wright, will resume on Wednesday, April 14.

New Adult Class Begins the Second Sunday of Easter, April 11 at 10:15

What do you believe about the Resurrection of Jesus Christ? How does that great event shape your daily life? We will take the Resurrection as our topic for the Great Fifty Days of Easter, from April 11 through the Feast of Pentecost on May 23. Fr. Beasley and guest teachers will offer reflections and lead conversations inspired by Eugene Peterson's *Living the Resurrection: The Risen Christ in Everyday Life* (ISBN 157683929X). Reading the book will not be necessary, but you can order it from McCaslan's Bookstore (229-3503) or via Amazon.com. Make your Easter celebration last with this class.

Christ School Open House April 16, 2010

Founded in 1900 and affiliated with the Episcopal Church, Christ School is a boarding and day school of grades 8-12 located in Asheville, North Carolina. Recognized as a national leader in educating boys, the school is known for its college preparatory curriculum, small classes, and its athletic and outdoor programs. For more information, call toll-free 800.422.3212, x106.

Friends of the Resurrection Foundation gather on April 25

We count as a friend of the Resurrection Foundation any person who has made a gift or planned a gift to the Resurrection Foundation. If you have already made a gift, expect an invitation to a wine and cheese gathering on Sunday, April 25 at 5:00 pm. If you have planned a gift in a will or by other means, please let a member of the Foundation Trustees know so that we can invite you as well. And if you would like to attend and learn more about the Foundation, please be in touch with the Parish Office. We hope that some prospective friends will join us as well. Members of the Foundation board are Peggy Adams, David Dougherty, Joe Fennell, Allen Hughes, and Nicholas Beasley.



Primetimers trip to Augusta

A Team Effort to Fight Cancer

Relay for Life is an overnight event on May 7 from 7 PM to 7 AM at the local YMCA. Besides raising money for research and programs of the American Cancer Society, it is also an event to celebrate survivorship. Teams of people either walk or run laps during the relay. Our own Kim Russell will be participating as a team of one.

You can support this event in two ways: 1) by making a \$10 donation for a luminaria – candle lantern lit by the track in memory or in honor of a loved one touched by cancer. (orders are due by April 19) 2) by purchasing a t-shirt bearing the slogan “*Nothing Could Be Finer than a Cure in Carolina.*” The shirts are navy blue with a palmetto tree and available in child or adult sizes, short sleeves (\$15) or long sleeves (\$20). Pictures can be found on the web site, www.RelayForLife.org/greenwood_sc Orders can be placed from now through the end of April. Contact Kim Russell at 864-943-0274 or at jahrussell@embarqmail.com about ordering a tee or a luminaria. Payment can be made at the time of the order.



9 AM service on March 21, 2010

Pictorial Directory – Sign Up for Your Portrait Appointment

If you haven't already, you can sign up for your portrait session on Sunday, March 28, before or after each service (7:45, 9:00, and 11:15 AM.) Appointments are offered from 3 to 5:30 PM on Thursday, April 29 and Friday, April 30, and from 10 AM to 5 PM on Saturday, May 1. Portraits will be taken in Bishops' Hall and you will be able to select one for the directory at that time. Please note – there is no cost to participate in the directory. You will receive a complimentary 8x10 portrait and a FREE copy of the church directory for your participation (one per family).



Breakfast on March 21, 2010



April Birthdays and Anniversaries

We are now listing birthdays and anniversaries in the *Rafters*. This gives us an opportunity to encourage and congratulate one another with cards and to remember one another in prayers of thanksgiving. If the parish office does not have yours, please share them with us. Take notice, years are not listed!

BIRTHDAYS:

02 – Katie Cooper
 03 – Vernon Harwell
 03 – Charlie Weesner
 06 – Ann Hayden
 06 – Connie Hammett
 06 – Cecily Hughes
 08 – Sandra Lewis
 09 – Eileen Featherston
 09 – Marty Cobb
 11 – Rebekah Gillespie

11 – Will Sharpe
 12 – Jerry Kent
 13 – St. Claire Donaghy
 13 – Annabel Grace Wood
 14 – Anna Cay Hawes
 16 – Paul Crawley
 18 – Eddie Moore, Jr.
 18 – Lander Adams
 18 – Brett DuBose
 19 – Phillip Ellenberg, Jr.

24 – William McCabe
 25 – Domer Ridings
 26 – Marlowe Crowder
 26 – David Ballenger
 27 – Anne McKinney
 27 – Catie Robertson
 29 – Glenn Wright
 30 – Doris Clay

ANNIVERSARIES:

02 – Gerald and Donna Brooks
 05 – Loudon and Patsy Brooks

27 – Bill and Becky McDaniel

PRAYERS ARE ASKED

For the sick: Harold L. Stevens, Ryan Wright, Debra River, Jack Pepper, Estelle Craven, Nancy Irwin, Keith Thomas, Doris Suber, Thomas Brooks, Eric Petrus, Diana Dent Cox, Ann Arnold, Bill McDaniel, Betty Curry, Edith Powell Wilkins, Add Penfield, Sr., Sara Kummer, Elsie Speer, Mae Phillips, Gretchen Gwynette, Nancy Wease, Jay Pendergrass, Earl McCombs, Nancy Cash, Paul Crawley, Ronnie Myers, Wanda Sorrels, Gerald Tucker, Janet McCabe, Mary Wilson, Molly Stafford, Will Ross.

- We welcome Ashley Harte, M.D., transferred from St. Peter’s Episcopal Church, Clearfield, Utah.

For the men and women in the Armed Forces of our country: Carey Varas, Jennifer Smith, Scott Daigrepoint, Patrick Sullivan, Will Ross, Derek Starkey, Rick Campbell, Terry Starkey

For the people of Afghanistan and Iraq

The unemployed

For those to be baptized: Annie Sullivan Eisenreich

For those to be married: Malone Scurry and Kevin Whitehead

For these families expecting babies: Patrick and Katie Craven

Please send additions/deletions to the prayer list to Denise at denise@episcopalgreenwood.org or call 223-5426.

March Stewardship Report

	Pledges (Budgeted)	Pledges (Actual)
Last Month	\$ 24,333	\$ 19,998
Year to Date	\$ 73,000	\$ 84,316

Family News