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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.



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You May Share Abundantly: Stewardship 2009

I was led to 2 Corinthians 9:8 as my theme for stewardship this year. There we read, “*God is able to provide you with every blessing in abundance, so that by always having enough of everything, you may share abundantly in every good work.*” I am sure I like that verse because of its congruence with my own simple stewardship principles:

“**God is able**” to meet our needs, to provide us with loving relationships, grace and forgiveness, and even material well-being. We worship an eternal God of power and glory who nonetheless knows our daily needs and meets them. We live by a lively faith in a God who is able.

We have received “**every blessing in abundance.**” Let me take these “blessings” to be non-material and non-economic. I am sure that the greatest blessings of my life, such as salvation, hope, family, and living in community and freedom, are by no means reduced by the waning recession. We share an abundant life, full of all the joy and hope of believing.

I have “**enough of everything.**” I realize this may be a hard sell in these economic times; our sense of “enough” always seeks to expand. Yet I know that in global and historical terms, I and most of you have been blessed with abundant financial resources. At the beginning of the last century, my grandparents were growing up on hardscrabble farms in West Tennessee, where they knew hunger and hopelessness. Two generations later, I am never hungry, have plenty of clothes, can always see a doctor, and can count on my children receiving as much as education as they desire. In fact, I know that reducing my surplus of everything toward the level of enough would be a liberating and faithful experience.

The abundance of our able God *enables us* to “**share abundantly in every good work.**” God’s abundance invites my own abundance and your own abundance. I want to live abundantly because I have been blessed abundantly. We do so by living in generous and sacrificial ways. We are all the beneficiaries of those who have shared abundantly before us and all around us. I encourage your giving to the church, to United Way, and to other groups that take some part in the spread the Gospel and in bringing good news to the poor, sight to the blind, and freedom to the oppressed. We are made in the image of God, molded for abundant giving. The tithe, which I embrace and commend, tests and reaffirms my commitment to living with enough and to living abundantly.

What about the church budget? In 2010, the budget will again present challenges. We need to increase our Outreach budget toward the tithe we intend, giving us new resources to respond to the Bread and Water Campaign for Haiti and to new ministries in our neighborhood. We are also likely to begin a third service, which may require some new resources but will further the growth and development of our parish. We need additional money in the budget to carrying forward our decision-making process regarding the Parish House. We also hope to be better stewards of income from the Edna Burnette Trust, reserving that income for major capital expenses, rather than using it to balance the budget. I hope these budget priorities give you a sense of our parish’s vision, direction, and calling.

But my basic message is this: if you choose to live abundantly, the church budget will take care of itself. I encourage you to think, pray, and do some math. Study your past giving and choose to give away a portion of your income that leads you toward abundant living. Many of us already do, so much so that we, this very church, are already a sign to a hungry world of the able and abundant God of Jesus Christ.

In this important season, I thank you for the privilege of being your priest. Nicholas+

A Note from Emmett and Edie Brooks

Like good stewards of the manifold grace of God, serve one another with whatever gift each of you has received. 1 Peter 4:10

Many years ago, as a member of our Church's stewardship committee, I was assigned to call on one of our devoted parishioners, Dr. W.K. Thayer (now deceased). As I explained the purpose of my visit and was prepared to talk about stewardship, he promptly interrupted me saying that he believed whole heartedly in the support of his church and stated that all that he had ever given has been returned to him with God's blessing "many fold." With that statement he made his usual generous pledge to the church.

I think of Dr. Thayer's statement each year as Edie and I make our pledge to the church. As a life-long member of the Church of the Resurrection, being married in this church and rearing four children in this church has truly been a blessing. Although we have practiced stewardship all of our adult lives, we too feel that we have been blessed far beyond any contributions we have made.

We hope you will join us in making a financial commitment to Resurrection for 2010.

Emmett (Buster) & Edie Brooks

**Pledge Sunday is All Saints' Day,
November 1.**

Diocesan Convention and Celebration of Bishop Henderson

Every Episcopalian in Upper South Carolina is invited to Greenville on October 16 and 17 for festivities celebrating our diocese and our retiring bishop. You should have received an invitation at home and can pick up fliers around the church. Registration is online at www.edusc.org. Please let the parish office know if you will attend the Friday evening banquet, so that we can find a way to gather.



Save the date: St. Cecilia Children's Choir will sing on Sunday, October 18 at 10:15.

Bishop Henderson at Resurrection on October 25

Our bishop will be here for his final visitation at the end of the month. We have seven candidates for confirmation/reception and adult candidate for baptism. There will be a reception for the bishop and those baptized, confirmed, and received after the 10:15 service. The vestry will also take counsel with the bishop during his visit. Please be with us as we give thanks to the bishop for his faithful leadership.

CHRISTIAN FORMATION

Three and Four- Year-Olds Program

Beginning in October, we will be experimenting with a Sunday School class for three and four year olds. This class will be taught by Allison Wooten and will be offered during the regular 10:15 service. Allison will pick up the three and four year old children from the nursery and take them upstairs to their Sunday School room for a thirty minute lesson from the curriculum entitled *Let the Children Come*. This curriculum offers a multifaceted approach for introducing very young children to the colorful characters of the Old Testament and the wonders of Jesus' birth and life.

Stories come alive through interactive visuals, games, group play, and more. Children are invited to see, hear, touch and taste the richness of scripture. We hope that this format will allow us to give our younger children a happy beginning in Sunday School. If the program is successful in October we will continue it throughout the church school year. *Domer Ridings*

Children's Classes (K5-grade 5)

During the month of October the children (ages K5 - 5th grade) will be studying about The Saints of God on Sunday mornings at 9:15. They will learn about the different saints and how we are all Saints of God. Each child will be able to pick their favorite saint and this unit will end with A Parade of Saints on All Saints Day, November 1st, during the 10:15 service. Carmen Kinney, Cecily Hughes and Donna Brooks will lead the group. We look forward to a fun month with your children! *Cecily Hughes*

EYC Christmas Project

Please join us in Bishops' Hall after the 8:00 and 10:15 services on Sunday, November 1st, 18th and 15th to participate in EYC's Christmas Outreach Project. To raise funds for Christmas gifts for needy Greenwood children, we have commissioned a customized solid **pewter tree ornament with a rendering of the inside of our Church**. This ornament is similar in quality and size to the one we offered in 2007 of the outside of our church and will be offered at the same price...\$22.00.

United Ministries and the Salvation Army will, once again, supply us with a list of Greenwood families who have children ages 6 months to 17 years who will not have a very good Christmas unless we help!! Last year, our group was able to provide gifts for over 30 children and we would hope to help at least as many again this year. We are excited about continuing this worthwhile outreach project.

Early in December, our EYC group will have a shopping day to fill the wish lists and the gifts will then be delivered, with a tag indicating that it's from The Episcopal Church of the Resurrection.

Thanks again, we'll see you in Bishop's Hall to answer any questions you may have. *Roxy Fawcett*



Food Bank Needs

The Food Bank is in need of canned goods. Canned meats, such as salmon, are especially welcomed. Please place your contributions in the box in Bishops' Hall.

St. Francis' Day Pet Blessing on Wednesday October 7 at 6:00 PM

Resurrection will observe the Feast of St. Francis of Assisi on October 7 this year. We'll gather in our courtyard with the statue of St. Francis from our parish garden. After some prayer and praise, your animal will be blessed. Please bring your dogs leashed. Cats



may be happiest in pet carriers. If your pet does not travel or socialize well, feel free to bring its picture for blessing. This service will take the place of our usual 6:00 Eucharist and will be followed by supper. Please make your supper reservation soon.

Much loved but rarely imitated, St. Francis lived in Italy in the 12th century. Having grown up in a wealthy family, he renounced his wealth and lived very simply. When Francis spoke, everyone listened, including the animals, according to pious legend. Francis also founded the Franciscan order, a Christian community still committed to intentional poverty and to ministry with the poor.

St. Anne's ECW will meet Tuesday Oct. 6 at 10 o'clock in Bishop's Hall. Chief of Police, Gerald Brooks, will present a program on safety.

For Newcomers...

The welcoming committee will host a dessert social for those new to the parish on Sunday, October 11, 7-8:30 pm at the home of the Beasleys, 126 Blyth Avenue. If you've been visiting or have joined us since our last gathering in April, please call Barbara Brock at 223-6420 to let us know to include you for this casual get-together.

Schedule Note...

There will **not** be a Noon service of Holy Eucharist on Wednesday, October 14. Fr. Beasley will be returning from the Trustees meeting at Sewanee.

Looking Ahead to All Saints'

All Saints' Day, November 1, falls on a Sunday this year. **This is also the day our clocks fall back!** We'll have a special liturgy at 10:15 that day, with no fewer than three baptisms, brass music, and the annual barbecue. We hope to collect stewardship pledges that day as well. Senior Warden Allen Hughes is again the grill master; Elizabeth Schuler will be smoking her famous turkeys. Make your reservations in the month ahead. Contact the parish office if you would like loved ones remembered in our intercessions for those who have died. We always remember those buried from the parish in the past 12 months.

Save the Date: Choral Evensong November 15

Resurrection is pleased to host a service of choral evensong, sponsored by our local chapter of the American Guild of Organists, on Sunday, November 15 at 5:00 PM. Our music will be led that evening will the Erskine Chamber Singers, under the direction of Shannon Jeffries. The service will feature the opening of the Rachmaninoff vespers, Charles Villiers Stanford's setting of the *Magnificat* and *Nunc Dimittis* in G Major, Palestrina's *Sicut Cervus*, and the contemporary composer John Rutter's anthem *God Be in My Head*. There will also be a reception afterwards marking Donna Brooks's 25th anniversary as our organist-choirmaster. Please make plans to join us for this beautiful liturgy and joyous occasion.

Mark Your Calendar
Kanuga Parish Family Week-end
March 5-7, 2010

Vestry Nominations

At the Annual Meeting (November 22, 9:15 AM in the church), we will elect four adult members of the vestry, a Youth Member of the Vestry, and a Deputy to the Diocesan Convention. Members of the Nominating Committee include outgoing members of the Vestry (Welborn Adams, John Cobb, Lee Roper, and Dyan Webb), the President of the Episcopal Church Women (Chris Jayne), a representative of the EYC, and a representative of the Christian Formation Committee. Dyan Webb has agreed to chair the committee. Our bylaws require that nominees be confirmed adult communicants in good standing, meaning that they have received communion three times in the past year and have been faithful in corporate worship and in working, giving, and praying for the spread of the Kingdom. Vestry service requires attendance at monthly meetings, an annual retreat, and leadership in one or more areas of the parish's mission and ministry.

Your nominations, including self nominations, are invited for the committee's prayerful consideration. Please submit a short letter of nomination, emailing it to Dyan Webb at dwebb70@earthlink.net or mailing it to Nominating Committee, Church of the Resurrection, PO Box 3283, Greenwood, SC 29648. Our bylaws require the committee to nominate one person for each opening on the vestry. Nominations from the floor remain in order. Those can be made at the Annual Meeting or in advance, by marking a written nomination as being "from the floor in advance." Nominations must be submitted by October 15.

Altar Guild Fall Gathering and Continuing Education

St. Helena's Altar Guild is planning a fall gathering with the rector in November. All interested ladies and present members are invited to attend a Saturday eucharist, simple lunch, and continuing education demonstrations by Fr. Beasley. This is to be an annual meeting of the membership and an open invitation for anyone interested in participating in Saturday, Sunday, or Wednesday preparations of the Altar. Helpful hands and a shared commitment to this ministry are the only requirements. Training occurs gradually over a period of time that is comfortable for each new member. Even experienced members benefit from renewal and demonstrations. We would love to see all members and anyone else interested in learning about the altar guild on a Saturday in November. Watch *The Rafters* for more information, date, and time. *Noonie Fennell and Susu Wallace*

EMPTY BOWLS

Help Stamp Out Hunger in Greenwood

Join us for dinner on Thursday, Oct. 15
at the Greenwood Soup Kitchen
United Center for Community Care
929 Phoenix Street in Greenwood
Seatings at 5:30, 6:30 and 7:30 pm

Tickets are \$15 and available from
Norm Fawcett (227-3421)

All attendees will select a hand made pottery bowl to be filled with soup and accompanied by bread, dessert, beverage. Ticket prices include the "take home" bowl.

October Birthdays and Anniversaries

Family News

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:

01 – Jane Merrill 01 – Joan Turnage 02 – Phil Ellenberg 02 – Sandra Miller Kern 02 – Makaela Wood 03 – Tommie Harris 03 – McKay Rambo 08 – Lisa Wideman 10 – Joe Jenkins, Jr. 11 – Matthew Bachinski 11 – Lucy Dixon 11 – Linda Dolny	12 – Carmen Kinney 13 – Mary Lou Harwell 13 – Nancy Miller 13 – John Park 15 – Travis Craven 16 – Jeanne Treeter 18 – Selma Jones 19 – Claire Gillespie 19 – Ed Hukill 19 – Maggie Smith 20 – William Bachinski 20 – Joel Cleland, Jr.	23 – John Hinkel 23 – Dick Turnage 24 – Lattie Gillespie 25 – Nan Hines 26 – Laura Beth Brooks 28 – Anne Wells 29 – G. Walker Moore 30 – Caroline Newlon 31 – Tim Brown 31 – Grace Smith
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ANNIVERSARIES:

11 – Patrick and Katie Craven 20 – Julianne Collins and Bryan Wesson	21 – Bob and Suzanne Dixon 23 – Adrian and Jennifer Little
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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, Nancy Miller, Diana Dent Cox, Ann Arnold, Bill McDaniel, Betty Curry, Edith Powell Wilkins, Danny Wilbanks, Add Penfield, Sr., Sara Kummer, Marsha Brodie, Kate Grusauskie, Gail Van Hoy, Amy Poore, Mae Phillips, Neil Steifle, Gus and Billie Latham

- We give thanks for the birth of Carolyn Doyle Hasting, daughter of John and Sarah Hasting and granddaughter of Joe and Noonie Fennell on September 10.
- We give thanks for the birth of Atticus Lupine Eaton, son of Grace and Woody Eaton and grandson of Gratin and Adelaide Smith on September 14.
- We bid farewell to Ed and Kris Cheeseman, relocated to Columbia.
- We bid farewell to Rob, Betsy, Lily, and Sam Elsner, transferred to Grace Church, Anderson, SC.
- We bid farewell to Marilyn Dickinson, relocated to Canton, OH.
- We extend sympathy to Deryl McGuire on the death of her mother Martha Fricks.
- We extend sympathy to Chris and Allen Herd on the death of their mother Beverly Adams.

For the men and women in the Armed Forces of our country: Kurt Cheeseman, Carey Varas, Jennifer Smith, Patrick Sullivan, Will Ross, Derek Starkey

For the people of Afghanistan and Iraq

The unemployed

For those to be baptized:

For these families expecting babies: Tripp and Laura Padgett, and Katie and Dave Eisenreich.

For those to be baptized: Mason, Samantha, and Stefan Hartung, and Samuel McDevitt.

For those to be received and confirmed: Jim Bright, Mary Bright, Katie Kent, Margot Burdette, Jon Brooks Newlon, Libby Sealy, Kelly Sealy, and Laura Ann Thompson

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

September Stewardship Report

	Pledges (Budgeted)	Pledges (Actual)
Last Month	\$ 23,250	\$ 20,455
Year to Date	\$ 209,250	\$ 198,220

