

# From the Rafters

Vol. VII Issue 11 November 2021

## **Our Mission**

We are a people rooted in worship, branching out into the world.

## Dear Church of the Resurrection Family,

November is here! It is a busy season for all of us as we begin to prepare for the holidays, Advent and of course the Nativity of our Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ.



On November 7<sup>th</sup>, All Saints Day, we will celebrate the day by having a Fall Hymn Festival under the porte-cochere at 4 p.m. Please mark your calendars to make a joyful noise! We hope that much of the work for our new labyrinth will be complete that day and you can take a Holy walk. We will be providing information about the labyrinth in the coming months and how it can be a part of your spiritual journey. The labyrinth is for all to use and enjoy!

I hope you all will mark your calendars for the 5<sup>th</sup> Annual Race to be Thankful on Thanksgiving Day. All money that is raised will go to local non-profits that we as a church family support. Thank you to our leader, Kim Russell, for continuing to organize this event.

To date we have received a pledge card from 105 families for a total of \$377,558 towards our \$410,000 goal. There are 16 pledge cards outstanding. We need \$32,442 to reach our goal. If you have not sent a pledge card, have never pledged before or would consider increasing your pledge, please reach out. It is important that every member of the parish contribute, not just to give, but to glorify God! Lift up your hearts!

As always, I am here for you. I am only a phone call or email away. Reach out and know that you are loved!

Mary Balfour+

## Reflections from the Senior Warden

God always makes the way. God always provides. God always uses faithful people to move on his behalf in the world. God always has a plan. God is love.



A challenge it is to put into words what this past year has meant to me to be your Senior Warden. But before I get to the past 9 months, I'm going to back up a "few years". Coming to live in Greenwood has been a dream that Archie and I have shared for years. Archie grew up here, and his family were committed members of The Church of the Resurrection. When I first met Archie, I had one of my first "God" moments where I truly felt I heard the words of our Lord. I saw him across the room at a party, and my first thought was not "I want to go meet him or I think he's cute", but this is what I heard. "I wonder what it would be like to be married to him." Wow! Where did that come from? It could only have come from our Lord, who was telling me Archie was the one for me. It truly was a whirlwind romance and was made even sweeter when we realized that we were both cradle Episcopalians. We had only been dating a few months when Archie's sister, Hollie, was married in this church. I was invited to Greenwood to meet his family and attend the wedding. I immediately felt "at home" in Greenwood and in this church. It was a feeling, a belonging, and a comfort I had never known before. Something inside me told me I would live here one day.

Fast forward several years ... Archie and I and our two children, Julie and Trey, lived in Spartanburg. We had a good life there, many friends, and we were members of The Church of

the Advent. It was so wonderful to live close to Greenwood and Archie's parents. When we came down to visit, that familiar feeling would return to me. It was almost magical. This town, this house, this church, the people. I longed to live here.

Having lost Archie's father in 2012 and his mother in 2016 and coping with the terminal illnesses my parents faced, we moved to Greenwood in the fall of 2016. It was bittersweet. It would take many months before I was able to attend church here regularly as I spent the majority of my time in Chattanooga with my parents and family. I have never felt as much love as I felt when I was here within these walls. I wanted to be involved in ministries here at COR, and there were so many opportunities to serve. I was drawn to the Daughters of the King (DOK), and it was an amazing experience to get to know the special women in that group, along with other church members. Archie and I became ushers, and I was asked by Nicholas to be a reader for Sunday services. I was nervous about speaking in front of the church but I knew God wanted me to do it. He is always with me even when I'm scared. Becoming a member of the Vestry was a little intimidating, and I prayed I was up to the challenge. It has been an amazing learning experience, and I have been blessed with new relationships and the chance to truly see how decisions are made and how God is moving in the hearts of those who serve in this way.

When God, in His amazing wisdom, brought us Mary Balfour to lead us, shepherd us, and love us, I was so excited as we all were. I knew the second I met her that she and I would become very close. When she asked me to prayerfully consider becoming the Senior Warden, I was truly floored. I was humbled and honored and honestly, a little fearful. Do I know enough? Am I qualified? How do I follow Cecily who did such an amazing job especially when a pandemic had just rocked our world? We have all read stories in the Bible where others such as Moses felt the same way. Me God? Really? I can't do this. You want me to do what? But God always reminds me that it's not solely about me. The purpose here is to glorify Him and to be an instrument for His work

in the world. I may be fearful, but I have faith that God will be with me, and I'm not alone.

Working with this Vestry and Mary Balfour over this past year has been incredible. It has been a blessing to get to know each person and to witness the special gifts and talents each person has brought to share so that our precious church can continue to grow and flourish. To each of you - Bill, Dean, Shana, Susu, Rick, David, Albert, Karen, Jo Ann, Gerald, and Reva - I thank you from the bottom of my heart for your dedication, your willingness to serve and your support. To Mary Balfour – you are truly a gift from God, and it has been a blessing to work with you and to support you this year. You have taught me so much, encouraged me, and shown all of us God's love. To my church family - there is no place I would rather be than to be a part of your lives and be on this journey with you. To God - for walking with me, even when I'm unsure and fearful, I am eternally grateful.

You are always there. You make the way. You brought me home. I always knew You would.

~ Summer Booker

## Friends in Faith Small Groups

Are you a Friend in Faith? If you haven't already, join one of our bible study small groups. They are reading *The Path*, a wonderful resource for learning the biblical narrative, and they are a great way to build lasting friendships on the foundation of our shared faith. Here are the details of our current groups. You are welcome to join any one of them or form you own!

Zoomers = Meeting virtually each Wednesday evening at 7 PM on Zoom.

Lakers = Meeting at the Stoney Point Clubhouse near the homeowners' pool on the first and third Wednesday of each month at 6:30 PM.

Early Birds = Meeting each Sunday morning at 9:30 in Emmaus Hall. You don't have to worship at the early service to be a part of this group!

Parents = Meeting each Sunday evening at 5:30 in Emmaus Hall.

Wesley Commons = Meeting weekly at the home of Earl and Missy Hatt on Fridays at 10:30.

If you have any questions about joining a Friends in Faith group, contact Elizabeth Floyd at <a href="mailto:elizabeth@episcopalgreenwood.org">elizabeth@episcopalgreenwood.org</a>

## Women's Bible Study



On Thursday Evenings at 6:30, Donna Brooks, our Music Director, is leading a bible study for women in the Youth Room. It is another, wonderful

opportunity for women to form friendships built on faith! Contact her for more information, 992-3738, dbrooksgwd@gmail.com.

## Youth and Children's Faith Formation

Children ages K5 to 5<sup>th</sup> grade are invited join our Friends in Faith small group for Kids. Youth in 6<sup>th</sup> through 12<sup>th</sup> grade may join our EYC. Both groups meet each Sunday evening at 5:30, coinciding with our Parents' Friends in Faith group. We study the same stories as the Parents to provide a night of formation for the whole family! Nursery care for ages 4 and under is available upon request. It's never too late to get involved in these formation programs, and it's certainly worth your time.

# Formation Moment: Prayer in all its Beautiful Forms

With the construction of our prayer labyrinth nearly complete, now is a good time to learn different ways to use it. Our Book of Common Prayer reads, "Prayer is responding to God, by thought and by deeds, with or without words." BCP 856. That leaves a great deal of flexibility in how we pray. Prayer can be meditative and still, silent or vocalized, passive or active. You may have a preference for the way you pray or a routine for when or what you pray. But if you are looking for a new approach, here are just a few practices you might appreciate:

## Lectio Divina

Lectio Divina is a form of prayer Christians likely

inherited from our Jewish ancestors, and it became a regular practice at monasteries by the 6<sup>th</sup> century. Lectio Divina translated from Latin means "divine reading." It refers to a form of contemplative prayer using scripture as a medium of dialogue with God. Lectio Divina involves a series of movements that in no particular order guide the practitioner through the dialogue. There is some variation in practice, but generally the movements include: relaxation, reading, reflection and response. To relax requires comfort, quietness and stillness, so you'll need a special place to practice this form of prayer (such as our parish's new prayer labyrinth). Within that special place, you read the scripture chosen for your prayer. Choose only a small selection of scripture for your focus. In Lectio Divina, reading is not a means of consuming information quickly from a text. Reading is a slow process, where every word receives your focus. The context of the scripture is not relevant. The words are for you at that moment; reflect on them. A single word or phrase may stand out to you and draw your attention, so you ask yourself why. What does this word or phrase mean to me in this moment? Allow God to speak to you through these words. Next, respond to God. What do you want to say to God after hearing the words? Rest in the moment of that dialogue. When you are ready, resolve to use what you heard or felt from your reflection and response in some way. Keeping a journal of your thoughts is helpful.

## **Praying the Psalms**

Episcopal worship has always included a Psalm read responsively. The Psalms that were included in the Christian canon of scripture date to the 9<sup>th</sup> through 5<sup>th</sup> centuries century BCE. David may have written some of them, but the Psalms were the work of many Jewish authors as an expression of dialogue with God. The full gamut of human emotion is present in them. Some are difficult to read because they are expressions of anger and a desire for vengeance. Yet even the difficult ones are an important part of our discipleship. When we read the psalms, we connect ourselves to this timeless family of God; we are intercessors for those who are experiencing the emotions represented in the

words, even if we don't presently feel them. Our prayer labyrinth will offer a great setting for sending these timeless words to God.

## Jesus Prayer

The practice of the Jesus Prayer may have come from the first Christians of Egypt, who used "arrow" prayers. It assumes that the invocation of the name of God is sufficient dialogue. We need only call upon God, and God speaks. Most commonly, the invocation takes the form of "Jesus Christ, son of God, have mercy on me, a sinner." But it can be as short as simply invoking the name of God. The Jesus Prayer is a type of meditative prayer that calms the soul and supplies words when our spiritual concerns are too overwhelming to articulate. Many times, the prayer can be combined with a breathing technique. You try to match the length and depth of your inhale with the length and depth of your exhale and recite the prayer one half on your inhale, "Lord Jesus Christ, son of God," and one half on your exhale, "Have mercy on me, a sinner." Repeat the breath and prayer several times until you feel stillness and peace in God's presence.

Ultimately, our prayer life is what we want it to be, what we are willing to make time for. Paul instructed the church to "pray without ceasing," however, and Jesus set an example of praying regularly and frequently. Our dialogue with God can, indeed, be our constant in the messiness and chaos of life.

We hope that our prayer labyrinth will provide a place for prayer for our parish and for our community. It is a sevencircuit, classical labyrinth, and we will provide suggestions for its use at its site. Even if



the labyrinth isn't your thing, though, make prayer a regular part of your day and see how it brings peace: "O God of peace, who hast taught us that in returning and rest we shall be saved, in quietness and in confidence shall be our strength: By the might of thy Spirit lift us, we pray thee, to thy presence, where we may be still and know that thou art God." BCP 832.

## Upcoming Events and Opportunities for Ministry



The DOK will hold a meeting on **November** 16 at 6 PM in Emmaus Hall. All women of the church are invited to attend!



Supporting our Thanksgiving Day Race to be Thankful!



Bring bagels, bananas, muffins, granola bars, gatorade or bottled water, and/or write your name on the sign-up sheet to serve as a race-day volunteer: pointers and regsitration help is needed!

Donations and volunteer sign-up will be on the designated table at the rear of the Nave



Holy Eucharist at Wesley Commons Tuesday, November 9 11:00 AM Please join us!



## **Altar Arrangements:**

**November 7 –** To the glory of God and in memory of Janet McCabe, Mr. and Mrs. Roy E. McCabe, Sr., and Mr. and Mrs. Legare Kizer by the McCabe and Yochum families.

**November 14** – To the glory of God and in honor of all those who served in World War I and all who have served since that time to protect the freedoms that we all enjoy by Dick and Barbara Reeves.

**November 21 -** To the glory of God by the members of the Altar Guild and in thanksgiving for the people of The Church of the Resurrection and in thankfulness for the ministry of Mary Balfour and Murray Dunlap.

**November 28 (Greenery) –** To the glory of God and in memory of Clyde B. and Sara E. Simmons and Charles H. and Martha G. Arnold by Ann Arnold.

The Presence Candle in the sanctuary burns in memory of Ron Little, beloved father; and in thanksgiving for parents everywhere by Jennifer and Adrian Little.

#### Parish Connections...

Music Donna Brooks

992-3738

dbrooksgwd@gmail.com

Altar Guild Beverly Wilson

374-3507

bhallwilson@gmail.com

Acolytes Norm and Roxy Fawcett

227-3421

fawcett@nctv.com

Christian Elizabeth Floyd

Formation 223-5426

elizabeth@episcopalgreenwood.org

Daughters Marty Cobb of 992-6306

the King martycobb@hotmail.com

Episcopal Susu Wallace Church 229-5690

Women swbwallace@gmail.com

Readers/ Denise Brown EMs/Ushers 223-5426

denise@episcopalgreenwood.org

Giving Lindsey Farver

Records 223-5426

finance@episcopalgreenwood.org

Columbarium Joe Fennell & Dean Faden

jdfennell@nctv.com dfaden@hotmail.com

CO3R Elizabeth Floyd

Tutoring 223-5426

elizabeth@episcopalgreenwood.org

Online Jo Ann Brewer

Directory 941-7199

joannbrewersc@gmail.com

November 2021 Ministry Schedule

If you cannot fill the position assigned, please make arrangements for your replacement, and let the Parish Office know of the change. Thank you!

	November 7: All Saints' Day	November 14: The Twenty-fifth	November 21: The Last Sunday	November 28: The First Sunday of					
ZIV.		Sunday after	after Pentecost	Advent					
		Pentecost	Proper 29						
		Proper 28							
Vestry of the	Jo Ann Brewer and Gerald Brooks								
Month									
Altar Guild	Marty Cobb (Chair), Marilyn Gobble, Sandra Lewis, Anne Magruder, Jennifer Little								
Readings	Isaiah 25:6-9	1 Samuel 1:4-20	2 Samuel 23:1-7	Jeremiah 33:14-16					
	Psalm 24	Psalm 16	Psalm 132:1-19	Psalm 25:1-9					
	Revelation 21:1-6a	Hebrews 10:11-25	Revelations	1 Thessalonians					
	John 11:32-44	Mark 13:1-8	1:4b-8	3:9-13					
			John 18:33-37	Luke 21:25-36					
8:30 Holy Eucharist, Rite I									
1 <sup>st</sup> E.M.	Tom Barchi	Chuck McDonnell	Stephen Tucker	Domer Ridings					
2 <sup>nd</sup> E.M.	Mary Bright	Deryl McGuire	Lou Wynne	Mary Bright					
Ushers	Deryl McGuire	John Scurry	Walker Moore	Paul Criswell					
10:30 Holy Eucharist, Rite II									
1 <sup>st</sup> Lesson and	Eddie Barber	Alecia Compton	TBA	Jon Newlon					
Psalm									
2 <sup>nd</sup> Lesson and	Ryan Floyd	Summer Booker	Lucas McMillan	Trisha Craven					
Prayers of the									
People									
1 <sup>st</sup> Cross	Jacob Davis	Peter Russell	Ryan Anderson	Virginia Glenn					
				Donaghy					
2 <sup>nd</sup> Cross	Will Craven	Delaney Floyd	Catie Robertson	Julia Donaghy					
Torchbearers	None	Henry McMillan	None	Chloe Normandia					
		Michael Floyd		Riley Floyd					
Ushers	Christopher	Jo Ann & Bob	John Cobb	Archie Booker					
	Locklear	Brewer	Allen Hughes	Abney Wallace					
	Tom Cobb								
Coffee Hosts	Barbara Cameron	Joanne & Tom	Callie Turner	TBA					
		Hochheimer							

## RESURRECTION CELEBRATES WITH YOU

## **Birthdays**

03 – Nancy VanWaldick

17 - Ann Arnold

03 – Barbara Brock 17 – Donna Holtzclaw 27 – Susu Wallace 03 - Catherine DiBenedetto 18 – Susie Snipes-Rochester 28 - Carol Wynne

03 – Catherine Brooks Sexton 18 – Cannon Wooten 19 - Eliza Cathcart

08 - Diana Carver 19 – Catherine Howell o1 – Barbara & Steve Cameron o8 – Mary Jane Mobley 20 - Barry Wilson 22 – Mary Van & Phil Ellenberg

**Anniversaries** 

13 - Mary Van Ellenberg 21 - Stephen Davis 22 - Catherine & Joshua Howell

15 - Joe Kocik 21 – Dorothy Anna Russell 24 - Nancy & Jon Newlon

16 – Laura Ann Thompson 21 - Shannon Yochum 22 - Robert DiBenedetto

Your prayers are asked for these members of our parish and members of our immediate families: Evan Clay, Bruce Craven, Paul Criswell, Carol Dean, Anne Marie Glawe, Joe Fennell, Charlie and Mary Joe Ferguson, Nan Hines, John Hughes, Chris Jayne, Joe, Joanne, Nicholas Kent, Adrian Little, Rebecca Long, Bart McGuire, Nancy Miller, Erich Normandía, Corrine Price, Teedie Radford, Domer Ridings, Eddie Sanders, Bridge Simpkins, Carol Wynne, Lue Vonia Brooks (Bridge Simpkins' sister), Linda Criswell (Paul Criswell's sister), Ardy Edgerton (Corrine Price's daughter-in-law), Diane de Guzman (step-daughter of Ellen de Guzman), Peggy Esh (Kim Russell's mother), Tanner Griffin (John and Cindy Hughes grandson), Taylor Grist (Robert Headley-Downs cousin), Matt Hall and family, Hazel Hammett (Connie Hammett's mother), Ian Kelso (Karen Bright's brother), Jeanette Little (Adrian Little's mom), Jennifer Love (Renee Love's sister), Linda Love (Renee Love's mother), Suzanne McEacheron (Eddie Barber's aunt), Elliot Norton (Karen and Bill Bright's nephew), Kurt Penney (Bacon family member), Donnie Pouncy (John Maschoff's aunt), Carol Ann Pry (Susie Hinkel's niece), Mason Shirley, Anne Cheshire Wideman (Frank Wideman's sister) and Jack McGinn (Marilyn Bennett's brother in law), Chance Whitington (Elizabeth Floyd's cousin).

And for these persons: Brenda, Bill Ambrose (Joe Fennell's friend), Steve Driskell, Vicki Hart (friend of the Brewers), Phyllis Jenkins, Craig Loner (friend of George Rush), Dr. Giles Schanen, Chuck Taylor, and Gene Taylor.

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

## We give thanks for your giving, which makes the ministry of Resurrection possible!

	Pledges (Actual)	Pledges (Budgeted)	Unpledged/Plate (Actual)	Unpledged/Plate (Budgeted)	Expenses (Actual)	Expenses (Budgeted)
Month as of 11/1/21	\$34,341	\$31,000	\$5,978	\$1,458	\$31,801	\$31,944
Year as of 11/1/21	\$323,822	\$310,000	\$25,312	\$14,433	\$336,636	\$342,855



From the Rafters

PO Box 3283 Greenwood, SC 29648-3283

Phone: 864-223-5426

Website: www.episcopalgreenwood.org Email: cor@episcopalgreenwood.org

[Address Service Requested]

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# Church of the Resurrection

## **Vestry Members**

Summer Booker, Senior Warden
Bill McCabe, Junior Warden
Jo Ann Brewer
Gerald Brooks
Reva Long Davis
David Dougherty
Dean Faden
Rick Green
Albert Merrill
Shana Southard-Dobbs
Susu Wallace
Karen Whitfield

Adrian Little, Vestry Clerk John Scurry, Treasurer Abney Wallace, Assistant Treasurer

## **Clergy and Staff**

Mary Balfour Dunlap, Rector Donna Brooks, Director of Music Ministry Denise Brown, Administrative Assistant Elizabeth Floyd, Associate Lay Minister for Families and Outreach Lindsey Farver, Financial Contractor