

St. Francis Episcopal Church



Newsletter - June 2011

Church News and Announcements

NEWS FOR JUNE

Well, after the horror of the tornadoes, we enjoyed a fairy tale respite on April 29th as we watched the wedding of William and Kate! Oh yes, I was definitely one of those who got up at 3:00 A.M. so I wouldn't miss a minute of the celebration -- just loved it! For sure this has been a crazy spring. But aren't we are so very glad that the world didn't end on the 21st?

Accolades have been pouring in for Jimmy Machen – Jimmy was the acolyte for the 10:30 Easter service and also swung the incense – this is no easy feat as he has to be careful not to knock Roy in the head! Proud of you Jimmy!

Another hot topic of conversation is the huge vees of pelicans -- 20 or 30 at a time soaring across the sky, just above the water or playing the thermals by the bridge. Seems as if the word got out that Dauphin Island is THE place to be this year! If you were fortunate enough to be here for the Music Fest, you were lucky enough to hear Dr. John as he headlined a fun and popular group of bands -- by the way, it wasn't too hot and the breezes were just right. Our own Joy Russell was the photographer for the town and did she ever do a bang up job! Another huge crowd munched on crawfish at the Island Mystics Crawfish boil in the square on the 21st... the island has been hopping!

Now while these crowds were coming onto the island, some of our favorite people were leaving! Frank and Theo packed themselves up and headed for North Carolina for the summer... we know Theo loves being with all of her family there but we miss them here! Mel and Lamona packed

themselves off to Islamorada in the Keys for just about the whole month of May -- Mel tried that new shoulder out fighting a 25 lb. tuna and all the parts worked as advertised! Good for Mel! Its so good to have them back! Then our world traveling, bird watching bundle of energy, Eugenia – took off for Kenya in a search for a cheetah! Julia Willis hopped a plane for California to visit with her sister -- Julia says the trip was THE BEST!

Perhaps the saddest is that we are losing the Felice family -- Joe, Pamela, Joseph and Amelia. They are moving back to Atlanta around the 1st of June. Believe you me, the whole island will be missing this active and so likable family -- Pamela has been very active in our ECW – using her talents in publicity for our festival and bazaar. She is a constant and reliable volunteer at the Little Red School House and its many fund raising activities -- besides that she is fun and so personable. Joe has served as a chalice bearer for this past year, bringing a warmth and friendliness to that job. He is always ready to come help the ladies hang a picture or the TV – (besides holing up all those wires and cables). His steady and friendly presence will surely be missed. Then of course, our choir girl, Amelia, with her beautiful voice -- standing up there with the adults on Sunday mornings----- and how will we ever decorate the Christmas tree without Joseph's help? We've all fallen in love with this family and wish them the very best -- prayers and good wishes. Linda Percival was off on the 22nd on a grand journey with her two granddaughters -- The 3 of them left for Japan to meet John and enjoy the sights of that country. The school where John teaches/ consults was so excited that they were

News and Announcements (Cont.)

coming that they planned extraordinary tours and outings, entertainments for them. Can't wait to hear all of the fun details from Linda when they get back! (you'll be the next to know!)

Heard from Annie Ferguson on the 24th ---they're busy with graduations, daughter Valerie in marathons in Lexington -- all fun experiences -- Kenneth Feinberg was the speaker at Virginia Tech graduation -- no comment -- Nancy Boyers reports that Nashville has a LOT of rain and a LOT of 13 year cicadas! Mary Ely writes from Roswell, New Mexico that she misses all of us and thinks of us often! (Mary, we miss you too!) Wimberly's grand daughter, Garland, has been on ESPN a lot these days -- announcing and analyzing the girls softball championships -- she is so cute -- so fun to see her!

Then on Memorial Day weekend a group of ladies --Sisters of St. Francis -- met with the Episcopal Community to be initiated into its membership. This group has met regularly this year to study and discuss St. Benedict's Toolbox.....from these meetings

a solid bond has been formed as we all struggle to increase our Christian faith. Thanks to Lamona's diligent work, the group became the Sisters of St. Francis and I would say that that name is so right -- we ARE sisters in mind and spirit. You will be hearing more of this group as time goes on.

A gorgeous Memorial Day weekend is on tap for us -- fishermen everywhere, beach goes delight! Aren't we so very blessed to have this treasure right under our feet? Knowing ya'll as I do, I think we all will say prayers of thanksgiving for the sacrifices so many made for us so that we may enjoy freedom! These are crazy times we live in but with "prayer and supplication," and God's help, we will overcome.

Love, God's peace and many many blessings to all of you! martha

Remember in Your Prayers

Carolyn Allender, Dick Cobbs, Don Costello, , Brad Cox, John Cruse, Matthew Delaney, Eldon Dugan & Family, Glenn Foster, Marilyn Greene, vard, Frank Hawkins, Fr. Klein, Jeff Krantz, Alison Martha Mayson, Win McAnn Montgomery, Hap Russell, Cindy Smith, Bill tine, Jim Watson, Kathryn Jan Zirlott and those in Stacy Eubanks, John Boone, & Stanley Robinson.



The Vicar's Remarks

Dear People of God,

As promised, here is more on the Episcopal Church's theological language that every Episcopalian should know. Again, our language is unique and conveys a theological understanding of our faith; therefore, it is important for us to understand and speak the same language as we proclaim who we are as Christians and Episcopalians.

Absolution: Act whereby a priest or bishop formally pronounces the forgiveness of sins to those who have confessed them, usually making the sign of the cross over the congregation while repeating the words of absolution. A public confession of sins is part of the Daily Offices and the Eucharist on appropriate occasions; private confession is also available (BCP, 447-452). In some parishes it is part of the ceremonial for members of the congregation to make the sign of the cross on themselves while it is being made over them.

Anamnesis: From a Greek word meaning "to remember" or "to recall"; refers to the parts of the Great Thanksgiving or Eucharist Prayer which recount the history of our salvation in a series of God's saving actions in history. When Jesus told his disciples to continue the action with bread and wine, he said, "Do this for the anamnesis of me." Usually, the word is understood to mean not just a thinking about again, but a reliving in the present, so that in the Eucharist we do not simply remember Jesus' passion but also participate in its benefits.

Anglican, Anglicanism: England is really "Angleland," or the land of the Angles, one of the Germanic tribes that settled there early in the Christian era; therefore, the Church of England is also *ecclesia anglicana*, or the Anglican Church. Anglicans are properly all those who are communicants of churches - including the Episcopal Church - which are part of the Anglican communion and owe their identity to their historical and liturgical relationship to the Church of England. We usually call ourselves Episcopalians and not Anglicans, although it would be all right to call ourselves Anglicans. Anglicanism usually refers to the claim of the Church of England to represent a body of Christendom distinct from Orthodox, Roman Catholic, and Protestant traditions.

Anointing: Act of applying consecrated oil, used in Baptism, Confirmation, and Ministration to the Sick. Traditionally, an action signifying the gift of the Holy Spirit in such rites, the use of oil is in some places associated with other rites in which the individual so anointed is set apart for special reasons, such as Ordination.

Bishop: The chief sacramental officer of the church, and the office which gives our church its name. The Latin word for bishop is *episcopus*, and so the original name of the Episcopal Church said of us that we were the Protestant church with bishops in the United States. Bishops are the chief pastors for their dioceses; they are responsible for ensuring that the faith proclaimed in parishes is the faith of the church. The official title of a bishop is The Right Reverend.

Book of Common Prayer: The book that makes it possible for the Episcopal Church to be a pragmatic church which understands its identity through participation in corporate worship. The first Book of Common Prayer was produced by Archbishop Thomas Cranmer in 1549; he also produced a revision in 1552. With these books worship could be conducted in English rather than Latin; they also brought the diverse rites and services of the medieval church together into

one book for use by both clergy and lay folk. The Prayer Book is essential to the character of the Episcopal Church because its use holds together congregations with very different styles of worship and emphasis within the broader traditions of Christian belief and practice.

Bowing: From very early, Christians have bowed at the mention of Jesus' name (Philippians 2:10); later, the bow acts as an act of reverence and honor extended to the altar, the Eucharistic elements, and in some places the processional cross as it passes. The development of ceremonial produced a distinction in some parishes between a simple bow (slight inclining of the head and shoulders) for the name of Jesus, and a more pronounced profound bow (bending of the waist) for the altar. Genuflection (kneeling with the body erect until the right knee touches and then standing again) as an act of reverence for the Blessed Sacrament developed from the bow and is part of the tradition of some parishes.

(Excerpts from A New Dictionary for Episcopalians)

More to come in next month's newsletter.

Pax !

Roy †

Report from The Vestry

VESTRY NOTES MAY 2011

The meeting was very short (Mel was out of town). Reports were given about ECW, Finances, and spring cleanup for both the outside and the inside of the building. All these reports were approved and appreciated.

Julia Willis, Junior Warden Emeritus

Thanks to Julia for doing this. Yes, I was in the Florida Keys testing my new titanium shoulder. I am happy to report that it held up fine while I caught an amazing number of mahi mahi and a surprising number of tuna. Thanks to everyone who kept things going. No breakfast this month due to many, many absences and the Memorial Day Holiday. Be assured that breakfast on the last Sunday of each month will resume next month on June 26. I hope you are having a wonderful summer and I look forward to seeing you at St. Francis.

Mel Lucas, Senior Warden

A note from the Editor.

Just a reminder!

We are continuing to encourage e-mail subscriptions to the newsletter, saving paper, ink and postage!

Just send an e-mail to dibirder@gmail.com with the subject: **Subscribe St. Francis Newsletter** and you'll get your next issue hot off the press...

Report from the Episcopal Church Women

The ECW monthly meeting was May 9, 2011 with five ladies present. The attendance was indicative of summer activities - vacations, visitors, etc. Our treasurer, Theo Hawkins has escaped the heat for the mountains in North Carolina and when last heard from, was playing golf. We miss you, Theo.

Pickle making is still popular with Blanche and other members. There are currently pickles available and more in the making. Gumbo is low, but there are a few pints left.

Following is a report from Lamona Lucas concerning the Sisters of St. Francis:

"For the past year, eight women from St. Francis have been in a period of study and discernment in order to become members of The Episcopal Community. Much to our joy our circle (we have named ourselves The Sisters of St Francis) was installed this past weekend at the retreat at Beckwith Lodge. There were three present and three present via Skype at a member's home on the Island. It was a lovely service and a wonderful experience for us. The best part of all was meeting the other members of The Community. Some of them we knew by phone or e-mail but it was wonderful to be together. The whole weekend was a deeply spiritual religious experience for us and we came home wanting to find more ways to grow spiritually, study and serve. We thank the Circle of Leadership for all their hard work to make this happen. We offer ourselves to assist in any way we can. What a treasure to make so many new friends and to know that we are Christ's Own Forever!

The group has asked Father Roy to meet with us to discuss what our role of study, spiritual growth and service can mean to St. Francis. Then he plans to introduce the group to the Parish and outline our role at St. Francis. We welcome ideas from all to help guide us in defining our role."

We all thank Lamona for her diligence in forming this group and her perseverance in guiding us through the process.

Summer is here! Remember, the gulf coast has six seasons, not four like the rest of the country. How do I know this? Bill Finch says it and I believe it. Three weeks from now we will have the summer solstice and then, if you can believe it, the days will start being shorter. Enjoy!

Our next ECW meeting is June 13, 2011, 10:00 Wilkins Hall Please join us if you can.

Mary Porter, ECW President

Calendar for 2011

Holy Eucharist Rite II @ 10:30 am

	June 5 The Seventh Sunday of Easter	June 12 The Day of Pentecost Whitsunday	June 19 The First Sunday after Pentecost	June 26 The Second Sunday after Pentecost
Reader	John Porter	Cindy Smith	Julia Willis	Anne Elam
Chalice	Mary Porter	Lamona Lucas	Blanche Emerson	Linda Percival
Ushers	Mack & Joy Russell	Stella Anderson & John Lane	Walt & Marcia Hayes	Wimberly Hory & Al Clark
Refresh- ments	Linda Miller	Mary Porter	Katheryn Carver	Joan Lane

Wednesday Evening Prayer Service @ 5:00 pm

Litany for the Gulf of Mexico

June 1	June 8	June 15	June 22	June 29
Blanche Emerson	Mary Porter	Lamona Lucas	Linda Percival	Blance Emerson

Sunday School

Adult @ 9:30 am Except last Sunday of the month

Children @ 9:30

Choir Practice Sunday @ 9:45 am

Dates to Remember

Vestry Meeting	Sunday, June 12 @ 11:45 am
ECW Meeting	Monday, June 13 @ 10:00 am
Men's Breakfast	Sunday, June 26 @ 9:00 am