

SUNDAY SERVICE - 10:00 A.M.



Christ the Redeemer ANGLICAN CHIMES

www.ctranglican.com



[478] 953-3844

2815 Highway 41, N., Ft. Valley, GA 31030

January 2011

Serving Warner Robins, Perry, Byron and Ft. Valley

VICTORIA SELBY INSTALLED AS ACOLYTE



David and Andrea Selby were proud to offer their daughter Victoria in service to our Lord as an Acolyte on December 12, 2010. After training with Pastor Father Paul Gerlock for several weeks, she was installed in front of the parish during the Sunday service with her parents David and Andrea by her side.

According to the Selbys "She is excited to have been invited to participate in Holy Communion services at CTR, and is anxious to demonstrate

that she understands the sacredness of her new responsibilities."

As a part of her installation, Father Paul presented Victoria with a wooden cross necklace to be worn with her robes. He blessed the cross, and advised Victoria that it was hers to keep, and encouraged her to cherish it and show it to her future children and grandchildren - as a symbol of her desire to live her life as a servant of God.

Operation Santa Claus – Toys, Toys, Toys...

Operation Santa Claus was a great success!!! We are thankful for the opportunity to place our resources to help those in need. The Methodist Children's Home located in Macon was the recipient of these gifts. We are thankful for SMSgt. Chris Rumley who asked us to join him and his co-workers in this great effort. We are thankful for everyone who participated so that a child may receive a special gift under the tree on Christmas Day. (Continued on page 2)

Epiphany Celebrates the Arrival of the Three Wise Men

January 6th, is the Feast of the Epiphany. Epiphany is the traditional end of the Christmas season in the Western Church and is traditionally the day when people put away their Christmas decorations. In the Western Church, December 25th was established as the date of Christ's birth and January 6th as the date on which the Wise Men visited him. In the Eastern Church (Orthodox) January 6th was established as the date to observe the birth of Christ.

The Twelve Days of Christmas arises from the fact that the celebration of Christ's birth runs from December 25th through January 6th. However, in some Latin American countries the period of the Christmas celebration and observance extends for forty days from the birth of Christ on December 25th through Candlemas (Candelaria in Spanish) which occurs on February 2nd. In Ireland Epiphany is also called Little Christmas or Woman's Christmas.

While in America Epiphany tends to be observed mostly in Churches, it is both a religious and secular holiday in other parts of the world. Since it is a day of religious observance in America and, in the Catholic Church not a major feast day on which the faithful are expected to attend Mass, Epiphany has tended in recent years to be observed on the first Sunday after the first Saturday in January. Most Roman Catholic and Protestant Churches in the U.S. now observe Epiphany in this manner.



The Arrival of the Magi

Epiphany is the date on which Caspar, Melchior and Balthasar, who are variously referred to as The Three Kings, Three Wise Men or Magi arrived from the east bearing gifts for Jesus. In the story they see the star in the west announcing the birth of the Messiah and then follow the star to see the new king. They bring gifts of gold, frankincense and myrrh. When they arrive they go to King Herod's palace seeking information as to where to find the newly born king. Herod has not heard of the

new king but, fearing that baby might be a threat to his position as king, instructs the Magi to seek out the location of Jesus and then come back and let him know where Jesus is so he, Herod, can bring gifts also.

The Magi do find Jesus, but God directs them in a dream to return home by another route so as to avoid having to meet Herod again and tell him where to find Jesus. Not hearing from the three Magi again, Herod proceeds to have his troops slaughter all infants under the age two so as to remove this possible threat to his throne.

Can You Fill a Paper Grocery Bag? - or Help Fill it?

Help us to provide food for those in need. On your next trip to the store, remember to pick up a little extra for the Food Bank. You may bring items such as cans of soup and vegetables, canned meat, peanut butter, rice and cereal. **The need is ongoing, and the needy appreciate your efforts!**

Volunteer Medical Clinic...

Houston County Volunteer Medical Clinic is a non-profit facility providing free medical care to working, uninsured citizens of Houston County. The clinic depends on donated funds to provide free, quality, compassionate medical care to those who have no other resources for health care. Items needed are paper towels, hand sanitizer, spray disinfectant, toilet tissue, kleenex, and large trash bags.

Does anyone have some great ideas for outreach in our community? If you would like to provide suggestions for future community service projects, please see Terry Rogers, Linda McCraw or Lolly Keck. You may also e-mail Terry at terry_fagan@yahoo.com.

DECEMBER VESTRY MEETING MINUTES

Christ the Redeemer Anglican Church Vestry members met on December 14, 2010. Present were Bunny Nobles, Linda Thompson, Wayne Crow, Clyde Wilkins, Dotty Cox, Katherine Pfohl, Father Paul, Terry Rogers, David Selby, and Joan Johnson. Members excused: Travis Kay, Joe Short, Bob Dubiel.

1. Father Paul opened the meeting with prayer at 6:30pm.
2. The minutes from the November vestry meeting were approved as submitted.
3. **Treasurer's Report:**
 - a. The treasurer's spreadsheet was reviewed.
 - b. It was noted on the last page that there are now 4 different bank accounts for the church. There are two accounts at Robins Federal Credit Union, one account at CB&T bank, and one CD at Atlantic Southern bank.
 - c. Giving statements will be broken down into pledged giving, building fund giving, and the building fund giving will show pledged for the current year and paid for the current year.
 - d. The 2nd reading and approval of the 2011 budget was postponed until the January vestry meeting.
 - e. The vestry voted to provide a salary of \$40,000 for the priest for 2011. The salary will be broken down to provide a \$30,000 stipend, and a \$10,000 housing allowance.

4. Sr. Warden's Report:

a. Email was sent out to membership that can be used to solicit funds from family and friends for the capital fund drive. The email included a pledge card and a letter that can be tailored by parishioners.

b. Cyrena is updating the web site. Father Paul stressed the point that the website is representing an Anglican Church, where traditions and teachings are important to keep in mind as site is being updated.

c. Wayne owns the domain, which is hosted on Yahoo! The cost is \$40 per quarter. There is another fee for purchasing the domain name, but Wayne has not paid the fee because he is not concerned that anyone will steal the name.

d. Bob Dubiel sent pledge cards and letters to 3 members who have not yet pledged to the Capital Fund Campaign.

5. Jr. Warden's Report:

a. The door-casing on the thrift shop has been repaired after the break-in, but it is still drafty. This will be fixed.

b. In an effort to control access to the thrift shop, the locks will be rekeyed and the only people who will have keys will be the Priest, Sr. Warden, Jr. Warden, and the thrift shop board.

c. Several quotes have been received from Edward Henning at Mr. Security to secure the church building and the thrift shop. More details will be presented at the January meeting. David asked the vestry to think about the need for a cell access to the system, monitoring, a self-dialing system and tying the church building system into the thrift shop system.

d. Two security lights have been purchased to install behind the church. The contractor has a work order and the lights should be installed soon.

e. The new classroom building will be finished out in the spring, as the weather gets warmer.

6. Father Paul will establish **vestry teams** for each month. The teams will begin operating in January. Responsibilities include closing up the church no later than 1:30pm on Sundays, and securing the church during week night events.

7. **Memorials:** Lolly Keck will handle all memorial gift acknowledgements. Acknowledgements will be sent to the giver, as well as the family of the deceased.

8. **Fellowship:** Father Paul wants to have more fellowship opportunities for the membership. We all work hard for the church, so he wants us to have some fun too.

9. **Communications committee:** Father Paul is working to establish a communications committee. The committee will oversee all communications of the church. This includes the Anglican Chimes newsletter and prayer requests. He is also looking to establish a verbal communication policy. Katherine will develop a call tree to notify vestry members of important information, and the vestry will in turn phone all members of the congregation. Katherine will also create a contact list for all vestry members.

10. Father Paul is working to update the **membership directory**. Updates will be submitted to Katherine to publish.

11. **Strategic Plan Review:** Father Paul asked the vestry to read and focus on the commitment statement, prayer, and working together. It was suggested that the vestry get together a couple of Saturdays to work on the strategic plan. Father Paul stated that he would not attend the sessions unless invited by the vestry.

12. Father Paul read a letter from Tina Jenkins requesting funds to support a group of children in the Philippines. The vestry will revisit this matter at the January vestry meeting.



CHRISTIAN PRAYER

The first work of all Christians is Prayer. The context of Christian Prayer is Scripture, Sacraments, and Community. The activity of putting Scripture at the core of our lives is our common challenge. It is the means to making our lives more authentic and it is the place where we discover our Lord's invitation to become his disciples. Each generation is called to conversion of life and manners. We cannot ride on the accomplishments of previous generations nor should we want to if we desire to be truly alive to God.

Giving up selfish concerns and learning to live freely as instruments of a wider love for everybody, men, women, children, and particularly the poorest of the poor, is at the heart of the Gospel. Jesus came as one who served. Moreover, we have been told that those who are the first in the Kingdom of God are those who serve. Learning to listen to the Word of God as the most important thing in one's life compels us to learn that one should follow Jesus, rather than oneself. In order that we do not go off on flights of fancy, it is important that our prayer take place in the midst of a praying community gathered to listen to the Word of God and partake of our Lord's sacramental presence. Prayer in the context of the Church gathered like the family of disciples gathered around Jesus is a pathway to becoming familiar with the whole purpose of God. We not only become familiar with the words of Jesus and his prayer, but also with former generations' prayers such as the Psalms of the Hebrew people and with the needs and concerns of those about us. Without prayer, both common and personal, we become impervious to our real needs as well as the needs of the whole world.

Prayer, simple and direct, is the lifeline that encourages us and changes our hearts. We are called to prayer not because we expect to change God and the mysteries of life and living but in order that we might be changed to a way of thinking and living which is in accord with the will and purposes of God. This means it is not enough to hear the Gospel; rather we are called to live into the Gospel. The Gospel is, by nature, to be shared. While it is a precious treasure that must be shared, it is not a possession. It is our Baptismal responsibility to share the Gospel, but how can we share it authentically if we ourselves do not spend time with it and its community?

If we let it, the Gospel allows us to cross the barriers of race, nation, and culture. It encourages real friendship based on our common inheritance in the Creator. It allows us to see that in Christ Jesus, there is "neither Jew nor Greek, slave nor free, male nor female." To live in solidarity with each other, we must live in solidarity with the Gospel. The only limits to our service to each other are those of charity. While it might seem much easier to draw into our shells and protect ourselves from the vagaries of this world, we condemn ourselves to a half-life born of isolation. Prayer is not an escape but an entry into reality – the reality of a God who invites us into liberation -- liberation for all, including the oppressor and the oppressed.

*-- The Very Rev. William Willoughby, III,
St. Paul's, Savannah, Georgia*

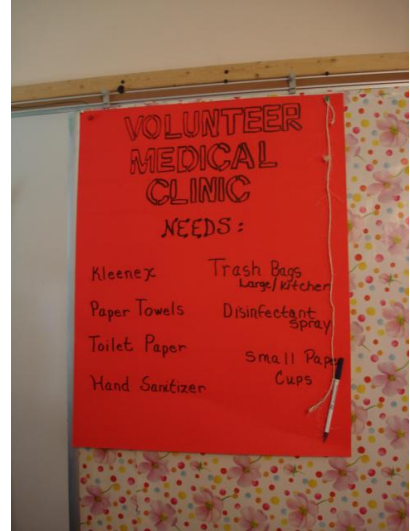
THINGS TO REMEMBER.....



Thank Joe Short for those delicious pots of food!



And everyone who contributes a dish!



Bring in a donation for the Volunteer Medical Clinic!

THE STORY is told about a parish priest who at Christmas greeted his congregation thus: "I wish you all Merry Christmas. And since many of you here come to church only once a year, let me now take this opportunity to greet you also Happy Easter!"



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September 2010

THANK YOU ALTAR GUILD !

