

The Episcopal Church of the Epiphany

Newsletter - October 2018

OUTREACH PROJECTS:

- Thanks to all who continue to supply individually wrapped snacks for patients and family members at Carolina Caring (previously Catawba Regional Hospice).
- Wednesday, September 19, we served our quarterly spaghetti lunch at The Corner Table to 120+ guests. Special thanks to Susan and David Brandon for supplying food and to David for making sauce and cooking. We will be serving lunch again on Wednesday, December 19, and encourage anyone that can to take part.

HORSESHOW SEASON: The final horse show will be held on Saturday, November 3. Please contact Zoe if are planning to help with the concessions.

DIOCESE OF WESTERN NC CONVENTION: 2018 convention will be held on November 9 & 10. Dona and Billy Richards will serve as delegates from our parish and Tom Lowery will serve as an alternate. Thanks to the three of you for representing us.

STEWARDSHIP: In the very near future, our vestry members will be conducting an every-member-canvas to discuss our church and where you see us going in the future. Please give prayerful thought to this and how you can support your church both financially and by use of your talents. Recently, Perrin has taken time on Sundays to explain the different ministries that lay people can perform and has asked us to try to get more people involved in our Sunday services.

VESTRY: The next vestry meeting will be held on Sunday, October 21. Please contact vestry members if you have something you would like to have brought up at the meeting. Vestry minutes are available for anyone who would like to have them.

Notes from Vestry retreat:

Goals- To fulfill Canon Augusta's request that the parish identify direction for the coming year(s).
To articulate what we need to do to set realistic goals.
To educate the congregation about these goals and help them dedicate themselves to
The implementation of these goals.

Discussed the following items:

1. Our attitudes about Epiphany
2. Attitudes regarding growth-Does it mean just more people and more money?
Sharing of responsibilities, less overload on parishioners?
Rather than becoming frustrated by not being able to do what we think we should do, maybe we should focus on doing what we CAN do and doing it well.
Discussed other ways to grow
3. Creative use of the buildings as a way to grow-Let other groups use the building (ie AA, yoga, food co-op, La Leche, homework program, support groups, etc)
4. What can we do to become a richer, truer Christian community?
Have a spiritual hopefulness
Not to think we have to SOLVE all problems, but sometimes just explore

POSSIBILITIES

- Concentrate on our MISSION
 - Operate with a spirit of abundance, not a feeling of scarcity
 - To rethink the Wednesday evening service so we can gather for prayer even when a priest isn't available
5. Goal development: (not in any order, just brainstorming)

- How to become more visible
- Getting more people involved in worship and other activities
- Sharing responsibilities better
- Having a permanent priest (part-time) to provide stability.
- Wednesday nite service re-worked
- Try to schedule 2 special liturgical services/events in the next year
- Add further service to the community

Talked about developing policies/procedures to make clearer who is responsible and who does what:

1. The call list-
 - A. The Senior Warden is called first (In the event she/he cannot be reached in a reasonable amount of time, call the Jr. Warden)
 - B. The Senior Warden calls the clerk, and the priest if appropriate.
 - C. The clerk calls the vestry to call their call lists and advised what info to convey.
 2. Procedure for birthdays and anniversaries to be listed in bulletin:

These will be limited to active members and shut ins and their immediate family.
 3. For now we will not make any changes to the prayer lists and military lists.