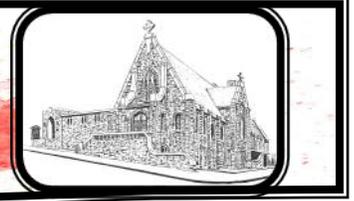


The Rainbow



November 2022

An In-Between Time - Reflections *by the Rev. Lou Hays*

We are in an unusual time in the liturgical calendar – sort of an in-between time. We are coming to the end of what some call Ordinary Time, the long season following the Day of Pentecost. We haven't quite arrived at Advent yet, the new liturgical year that begins the last Sunday of November. But at least one of our upcoming Gospel readings sounds a lot like Advent, with warnings of end times. The Gospel narrative we have been following since the beginning of summer – Jesus' long journey toward Jerusalem – came to an end on the last Sunday in October with the story of Zacchaeus, although we won't hear the actual entry into Jerusalem until Palm Sunday.

The Gospel readings we will be hearing for the first three Sundays of November will be different, each stand-alone episodes from Luke. And thus the preaching will be different, without the direct connection the preacher can sometimes make between the previous week and the following week's Gospel message. The first Sunday of November, All Saints' Sunday, features Luke's version of the Beatitudes. The second Sunday is the apocalyptic reading from Jesus' last week on earth when he predicts the destruction of the Temple in Jerusalem. And we end with Christ the King Sunday when we fast forward to Good Friday and the crucifixion.

So, perhaps like in-between periods in our lives, this time will be a little unsettling, a little different, less orderly and predictable than we might prefer. Let's see what God has in store for us as we try to make the most of it!



Becketts Honored *by Don Williams*

John and Becky Beckett were given the Honorary Alumni award at the Alumni Awards Luncheon on Oct. 15 that was during the Bluefield University Homecoming & Family Weekend.

This award was established to honor individuals who are not alumni of Bluefield University but who are to be commended and given honorary alumni status due to significant contributions of service and support to the University, its mission, and vision. In addition to their many years of service to the university, John is currently a member of its Board of Trustees, and Becky is a former trustee. Congratulations to John and Becky.



Food Pantry Receives Grant

Christ Episcopal Church has been awarded a \$3,515.67 grant from the Community Foundation of the Virginias, Inc., for the Food Pantry Enhancement Project. The project will include the installation of commercial industrial shelving and serving carts, which will greatly help this ministry, which distributes 40 to 60 bags of groceries to people with limited incomes on the third Thursday of each month. In winter months, when kerosene vouchers for home heating are also distributed, as well as other items including blankets, hats, scarves, and gloves, this number can exceed 100.

Many thanks to the Community Foundation for the grant and to Art Mead, who tackled the job of completing the grant application with the assistance of Mary Catherine Williams.



Daughters of the King *by Don Williams*

The Daughters of the King had as their guest at the October 18 meeting West Virginia Assembly President Johanna Rengers, from Morgantown, W.Va. After the meeting, the group went to David's Downtown for a delicious lunch.

Front row: Claire Lambert, Linda Thomas
Back row: Mary Catherine Williams, Becky Beckett, Chris Justice, Johanna Rengers

Upcoming Canterbury Club Events *by Mary Catherine Williams*

John and Becky Beckett will host a Canterbury Club at their home at 1500 College Avenue on Sunday, Dec. 18 at 6:00 p.m. It has been a long time since we have been able to get together, so plan to attend and bring your favorite hors d'oeuvres and desserts and enjoy the evening. Bring your own adult beverage, if desired. Hope to see you there.

On Sunday, January 8, at 6:00 p.m., the Thomas Family will host a Canterbury Club at 345 Mountain View Avenue. This will be a carry-in for an Epiphany Celebration. Bring your favorite dish and your adult beverage. Hope to see you there.

Be sure to mark your calendar for these two events, and if you are interested in hosting a Canterbury Club gathering, contact Mary Catherine Williams to schedule or for information. These events are gatherings for adults.

Bishop Mary Adelia McLeod passes away

By Mary Catherine Williams and Mimi Merritt

The Rt. Rev. Mary Adelia Rosamond McLeod, the first female diocesan bishop in the history of the Episcopal Church, died October 12 at her home in Charleston. She was 84.



Photo Caption: Confirmations on Sept. 28, 2003. L-R: Bishop Mary Adelia McLeod and the Rev. Elizabeth Morgan. Farther to the right are the four confirmands: Becky Beckett, John Beckett, Dee Puckett, and Joe Hunnicutt.

McLeod was ordained as the ninth bishop of the Diocese of Vermont during a blinding snowstorm on All Saints Day in 1993, and she served until 2001. She was the third woman to become a bishop in the Episcopal Church, but the first to lead a diocese, and her ordination was broadcast globally via satellite from Burlington, VT.

An article about her death published Oct. 13 by the *episcopalnewsservice.org* reports her answer when questioned post-ordination about the way in which her gender would affect her ministry: “I really just bring myself, warts and all. I think people are ready to accept me for whom I am... We all bring our particular gifts to what we do.”

After graduating from seminary at University of the South in Sewanee, Tenn. – which she did not enter until she was 39 – she became the first Alabama woman to be ordained into the priesthood.



Before her election in Vermont, she served as co-rector of St. Timothy’s Episcopal Church in Athens, Ala., and co-rector of St. John’s Episcopal Church in Charleston, W.Va. At both parishes, she served as co-rector with her husband. She also served as archdeacon in the Diocese of West Virginia.

Photo Caption: During her visit to Bluefield, she met with our Sunday school children in the Children’s Chapel and explained the symbolism of all the things that a bishop wears and carries.

HEP CHRISTMAS PROJECT

The Highland Education Project in McDowell County is an outreach project of our Diocese with which our parish has a longstanding relationship. HEP is sponsoring a major Christmas outreach project for the community of Keystone, which is next door to North Fork, where HEP's ministry began 73 years ago. This community has become a key partner in their work and has a true need for support. Of the 51 children living in the community, almost half are being raised by non-parents because of the drug epidemic. HEP will also be reaching out to seniors in Premier Park and families served by the Children's Home Society. The primary focus of this outreach effort is to provide Christmas gifts to children and hams to families and seniors. You may support this worthy outreach project by writing a check to Christ Church with "HEP Christmas Project" in the memo line.

DAUGHTERS OF THE KING PROJECT

The Daughters of the King will be sponsoring a new project for The Wade Center. They are currently in need of sweatpants for children that will be used when they have an accident. A plastic tub is the narthex to collect the following items: M(8-10), L(12-14) and XL if you can find them. Thank you for any contribution that you can give.

The Food Pantry is collecting hats, scarves, gloves, socks and blankets for our food pantry friends to help make winter a little warmer for them. A plastic tub is in the narthex for these donations. They can be homemade, purchased or gently used.

Please Keep the Following in Your Prayers: Dorene Dimes, Bonnie Taylor, Joe Sanders, Bea Paine, Bob and Peggy Walk, John Kersey, Martha Linkous, Jay Kephart, Buck Sowers, Donna Fortune, Ed and Gladys Fortune, Ivy and the Gaines Family, Chris Justice, John Beckett, Patty, Brian, Lane, Sherry, Lilian Blackman, Scot, Max, Brad, Sandi, Joan, and Mike Boosier.

The following people have graciously donated flowers for the month of November:

November 6, 2022 Peter and Patricia Taylor
November 13, 2022 Teresa Paine
November 20, 2022 Paul and Rebecca Broyles

November 28, 2022 Stan and Gray Kiser

Lector and Acolyte Schedule for November:

Lector:	Acolyte:
Katherine Lewis	Rob Merritt
Ted Lewis	Becky Beckett/Chris Justice
Rob Merritt	Becky Beckett/Becky Kersey/ Elizabeth Burton
Don Williams	Becky Kersey/Elizabeth Burton

Altar Guild for November:

Betty Nash, Linda Ammar and Grey Kiser

Birthdays:

11-1	Eleazer Resurreccion	11-6	Tricia Hein Brewster	11-14	Rob Merritt	11-22	Linda Ammar
11-3	Charlie Blevins	11-9	Frank Dragotto	11-15	Art Mead	11-23	Bill Denney
11-3	Chas Davis	11-9	Russ Hatfield	11-18	Debbie Faber	11-24	Patrick Paine
11-4	Kate Faber Tombillo	11-10	Kathy Burge	11-19	Jaret Taylor	11-28	Grey Kiser
						11-30	Elizabeth Burton

MONTHLY MINISTRY REPORT OCTOBER 2022

News flash from Craig Hammond, director of the Bluefield Union Mission:

Episcopalians have been serving BBQ meals on every fourth Wednesday since 2006.

Participating churches include Christ Church, Bluefield, W.Va., Christ Church, Pocahontas, Va., Stras Memorial, Tazewell, Va., and St. Mary's, Bluefield, Va.

On Wednesday, October 26, 2022, this group reached "15,000 dinners served!"

FOOD PANTRY Oct. 20, 2022

Bags distributed: 46

Kerosene vouchers: 15

Bread: donated by Sheila Brooks

Workers: Patricia Taylor and Betty Nash

Many thanks to all those who brought warm blankets. Please bring socks, gloves, and toboggans for the month of November. If you have any Christmas decorations you are not using please drop those off also. Thanks again!!!

UNION MISSION Oct. 12, 2022

Meals prepared: 80 served Wednesday evening

Menu: Stouffer's Lasagna, salad, roll, brownie, and soft drink.

Volunteers: Sheila Brooks, Elizabeth Clement, Shirley Ofsa and
Patty Richardson of Christ Episcopal Church; Marjorie
Justice of Bluefield, Va. Craig Hammond, Mission
Director, also assisted.

Wednesday, Oct. 26, 2022

Meals prepared: 131 (96 served on Wednesday; 35 served Thursday)

Menu: BBQ on a bun, coleslaw, baked beans and a brownie.

Wednesday Volunteers: Shelia Brooks, Elizabeth Clement, Art Mead, Shirley Ofsa,
Patty Richardson and Linda Thomas of Christ Episcopal Church, Bluefield,
W.Va.; Charlie Helmandollar, Christ Episcopal Church, Pocahontas, Va.;
Frieda Helmandollar, Cumberland Heights Baptist Church; and Marjorie
Justice and Betty Watson of Bluefield, Va.

Christ Episcopal Church Minutes-Vestry Meeting

A regular meeting of the Vestry was held on October 19, 2022, beginning at 6:00 p.m.

Present: Peter Taylor, David Kersey, Vic Bowman, Elizabeth Clement, Susanne Pulse, Mary Catherine Williams

Absent Peter Richardson and Betty Nash

Also present was Rev. Lou Hays

Lou declared the presence of a quorum and opened the meeting with a reading and comments about the lesser saint, Henry Martyn. He then read the Collect for Henry Martyn and led the vestry in reading Psalm 98.

The minutes of the September meeting were reviewed and upon motion of Mary Catherine Williams and second of Elizabeth Clement, were approved unanimously.

In Don Kersey's absence, the September financial statements and Don's previously submitted comments were reviewed and discussed. Upon motion of Elizabeth Clement and second of Mary Catherine Williams the financial statements were unanimously accepted, as presented.

David Kersey gave the senior Warden's report. Applications for grants for the proposed flat roof membrane replacement were submitted to the 1912 and Tierney foundations. The 1912 Foundation sent us a gift of \$10,000, which will be credited to the Special Purpose line item on the balance sheet. We have not heard from the Tierney Foundation. New brass name plaques for the columbarium cross have been ordered from New River Engraving in Christiansburg, Va.

In the absence of Peter Richardson, Mary Catherine Williams reported that the excess furniture on the third floor of the church building has been donated to the Union Mission and removed.

Peter Taylor reported that Food Pantry would be held tomorrow, October 20. Due to the recent cold snap, 15 kerosene vouchers were authorized for distribution, though that ministry will begin in earnest in November.

Lou Hays gave the Rector's Report. He thanked all Vestry members and officers for submitting their pledges for 2023. To date, we have received 14 pledges, totaling more than \$45,000, approximately 20% of the needed funding for our expected budget.

The annual meeting will be held during January, 2023 and Lou would like individual reports for each Vestry lead mission. The budget will be adopted by the Vestry, in keeping with Canon law, prior to the meeting and then presented to the congregation at the meeting.

Mary Green has requested assistance in the HEP Christmas mission/outreach. There followed a discussion about the need in McDowell County and how this is a very worthwhile project. Sources of funding were discussed, including the ECW, ECM and Rector's discretionary fund.

Under new business, Mary Catherine Williams reported that DOK had met earlier in the week and would be participating in a project to provide sweatpants for the Wade Center children and would seek the congregation's assistance.

Offering two services on Christmas Eve services was discussed. At present we will plan to offer both the early evening service and the 11:00 p.m. service.

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned with prayer by Lou, after motion of Vic Bowman and Mary Catherine Williams.

November 2022

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
		1 ALL SAINTS	2 All Souls	3	4	5
6 Twenty-Second Sunday after Pentecost 10:00 Holy Eucharist	7	8	9 4:00 Union Mission	10	11	12
13 Twenty-Third Sunday after Pentecost 10:00 Holy Eucharist	14	15	16 6:00 Vestry	17 9:00 Food Pantry	18	19
20 Last Sunday after Pentecost 10:00 Holy Eucharist	21	22	23	24 THANKSGIVING	25	26
27 First Sunday of Advent 10:00 Holy Eucharist	28	29	30 Saint Andrew the Apostle			



Fall Back!

Remember to move
your clocks
back one
hour.



CHRIST EPISCOPAL CHURCH
200 DUHRING STREET
BLUEFIELD, WEST VIRGINIA 24701

To our friends and family:



November 2022

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