



St. Barnabas Episcopal Church

Holy Week 2017 Newsletter

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Dear Friends,

In about a month, we will celebrate God's resurrection of Christ: the Truth, the Way, and the Life. Humans have attempted to render this call to hope, justice, and peace invalid several times. First, we executed the one who enfleshed it. Over and over, Christ called people to embrace a new Truth, live in a new Way, and bring a new Life into the world. Over and over, we rejected it. He respected the poor, women, the non-religious, the sinner, the politician, the alien & the refugee, those who saw themselves as more righteous than he, and those who had given up any hope and saw themselves as being unworthy of love. He refused to allow social standing or custom to prevent forgiveness, healing, reconciliation, and restoration. He refused to stand in awe before the power of religion or civil authority. He refused to succumb to the inertia of evil, fear, bigotry, or hopelessness. For this he was killed. And, for the world, he was raised! To this, we are witnesses. It is to this new hope and new ministry that we are called and commissioned.

Over the 50 days of Easter, we will read how the risen Christ engaged those who were afraid or resentful of that calling. We will read about the apostles who hid away from the very things and very people that Christ came to redeem. We will read that, even in the isolation of their own fear, they could not avoid God. Christ came to them in their fear. He showed them the results of fear and hatred in his wounds. He calmed them as a parent tenderly soothes a frightened child. He said, "Peace be with you. Receive the Holy Spirit", the mind of God, the hope of God, the way of God. He inspired them and sent them out. In spite of their shame, their fear, and their hopelessness, Christ came alive for them and to them. From there, he sent them out to tell the story of how they came to hope again.

Many in our world have given up or given in. Some are isolated behind doors nailed shut by fear, anger, greed, violence, or oppression. Some fill every silence with distractions and diversions. Some find themselves living as if they were dead already. There is a reason why a show called "The Walking Dead" resonates so much in our world. This is the death that put Jesus in the tomb. God did not and could not leave him there. God called a new Jesus, a resurrected Jesus out of the darkness of that tomb. A new Way, a new Truth, and a new Life were raised from that death.

It is my belief that God calls us into the work of resurrection. In a world that succumbs to the inertia of evil and violence, I believe we are called to resurrect peace. In a world that exploits God's people and creation, I believe we are called to resurrect honor and dignity. In a world where many are shut off because of fear, I believe we are called to resurrect compassion, courage, and hope. In a world that divides and enslaves many for the comfort of a few, I believe we are called to resurrect justice. In short, I believe we are called to actively engage the world and bring the Way, the Truth, and Life out of the tomb.

Our hope is not in vain. God already raised it. We must leave our own tombs to follow and re-engage this world. We must call out to and raise those who remain entombed. Before Christ left his apostles, he told them that they would experience what he experienced, that they would continue what he began, and that he would be with them always. It's time to get to work. Please know that I remain....

Yours in Christ,

Randall+

Holy Week, 2017

Our celebrations of Holy Week begin with Palm Sunday on April 9, 2017. We will read the story of Jesus' triumphal entry into Jerusalem. Ironically and predictably, this audacity of hope initiated the horrible events of the week. Although the service includes a reading of the Passion, it was not part of the original celebration. The Passion was included later, because the church had little confidence that people would attend Good Friday services. The thought was that everyone should hear the Passion before hearing the Resurrection. However, I am fully confident that the people of St. Barnabas will observe the whole observance of Holy Week.

Holy Week will process through the liturgies of Maundy Thursday, Good Friday, and Holy Saturday. These three days are referred to as the "Triduum". They are the most significant days of the Christian calendar.

On **Maundy Thursday** (April 13) at 7:00 p.m., we will gather in the church to recall Christ's admonition that we serve one another as he has served us. This is enacted through the fellowship of the table and the washing of feet.

On **Good Friday**, we will have two liturgies focusing on Christ's humiliation and death. Those services will be at 12:15 p.m. and 7:00 p.m.

On **Holy Saturday**, our Great Easter Vigil will begin at 8:30 p.m. with the lighting of the new fire. We will read through our salvation history from Creation, through the Flood, the Passover, and then celebrate the first Eucharist of Easter.

And, of course, on **Easter Sunday**, we will sing songs of joy and celebrate Christ's rising from the grave. You are invited to bring flowers to decorate the Paschal Candle. We will have only one service on Easter Sunday. It will be at 10:30 a.m. We will not have our usual Sunday conversation at 9:30 a.m.

Although we have no "days of obligation" other than Sunday in the Episcopal Church, the days of Maundy Thursday, Good Friday, and Holy Saturday come as close as you can get. These three days tell our story. They tell it the same way Passover services tell the story of Judaism, the same way the services of Ramadan tell the story of Islam. I would like to encourage you to plan to attend these services the same way we would plan to observe Christmas. As Christians, this is one of those counter cultural things that we are asked to do. The theology of these liturgies establishes our place in

God's world and serves as the foundation for all of our notions of justice, peace, and hope.

Please do make every effort to come together and be a part of this. Also, please be aware of my prayers for you all as we recommit to lives of resurrection and new hope. Our world is desperately in need of both.

Canon Earnest Graham, March 26

Canon Graham will be with us on March 26. He will preach at both services and speak with us about joining together with St. Francis and Holy Spirit in a new Ministry Hub for Northern Greensboro. This would give us an opportunity to share ministries among us and support one another in the ministries we are currently engaged in.

Community Prayer List – Dolores & Walt Wieselquist, Marie Franklin, Charlotte Patrick, Bonnie Holbrook, Kari Foote, Anne & Bill Williams, James Robert Allen, Holly Ackerman, Cheryl Corpening, Jennifer Corso, Tony Lynch, Mel Kreigsman, Herbert Menendez, Eugene Finocchi, Kate, Mary Smith, Maria De Jesus, Chip Marble, Ann Fincke, Judy Brown, Mitzi Gray, Frances Foote, James Hoots, Christopher Wolfe, George, Walter, Evelin, & Alex, Bob Donaghy, Debbie Felker, Jennie Johnson, Bonnie Pruit, Linda Lewis, Carolyn McLean, Chris Meacham, Tiffany Patrick, Davilynn & Bill Furlow, Marvin Aycock, Peggy Reeve, Rose Mertz.



Hi, St. Barnabas' Friends!

Again this year Chris Fagge and I are part of the Servant's Heart Team in The Human Race. I live in an apartment run by Servant's Heart and participate in their Day Program. I've made many friends through Servant's Heart. Last year, our Day Program moved to a new location, and we used funds raised in the 2016 Race to provide new activities, such as Sign Language classes, music group, arts and crafts, and, my favorite, Drum Therapy! We are now trying to raise money for a new adaptive van.

This year's Human Race is on April 1. Chris and I are looking forward to being in it, and are hoping for good weather! We have always appreciated the donations from friends at St. Barnabas'. If you would like to donate again, helping Servant's Heart, I have an online page at: <https://thehumanrace5k.org/support/#gospelchariot>, and both Chris's and my page can be found at <https://thehumanrace5k.org>, then click on "Ways to Give" and then "Support a Participant." Or, if you want to donate with a check, please make it to The Human Race and put "Servant's Heart/Name of Participant" on the memo line. Please mail it to: Servant's Heart, 3706 Old Battleground Rd., Greensboro, NC 27410, or you may also give checks or cash to my mom or to me and we will turn it in.

Thank you very much for all of your support!
Elizabeth Long

P.S. When you are on the home page, <https://thehumanrace5k.org>, if you look at the third slide, you may see some people you know!

Bilingual Way of the Cross

Good Friday: April 14, 2017

**7:30-8:45 am, beginning and ending
at 301 N. Elm St.**

**Shared period of reflection in
Center City Park will follow**

Leaving on foot from the Greensboro Episcopal Diocesan Offices at 301 North Elm Street, we will pray a bilingual Way of the Cross, stopping at 14 locations along a 1.5 mile route that will finish where we began.

New this year: We will have 2 different 1.5-mile routes to choose from (will be prayed simultaneously as we divide into groups), as well as a third shorter, low-impact option that will be prayed in Center City Park.

Questions? Contact The Rev. Audra Abt at audraabt@gmail.com or Sue Mercier at mersue14@aol.com

Haiti School Support

Many of you may remember a few years ago when some of the congregation at St. Barnabas decided to sponsor a teacher at an Episcopal school in Haiti. As you may know Haiti is a very poor community and our sponsorship of this teacher really helps those children in the school. I'm reminding you about this because Jack Alford, our treasurer, reports that the amount of money being designated for that fund has decreased recently. The amount needed from each person committed to this is only \$5 per week. If you committed to this and have forgotten, it would be great for you to start up again. If you've never committed to this, we welcome more donations for this worthy cause. You can add it to your weekly pledge and note that its is for the Haitian teacher. Thanks, for all your good works!

Mary Lee Rembert, Senior Warden

FCP Trip to Washington

The Friendship Community Partnership Committee is discussing the feasibility of organizing a trip to visit the new African American Museum in Washington. We've assigned someone to put together some basic information about how we might do it. Here is what we've talked about so far:

- Making the trip sometime next fall
- By bus
- Probably spending one night in Washington
- Trying to coordinate with school schedules to allow for students to go

It would be helpful at this point to know who and how many people might consider taking this trip. This is not a request for commitment. We don't have enough specifics for that, but it would help us to pin down more specifics if we had an idea what the interest level is.

Please let me know if you have an interest or further ideas for discussion. You can let me know through the church email or my email or phone.

Anne Carter
Email: msannecarter@gmail.com
Phone:(336)907-6536

Bilingual Volunteers Wanted for Power of Attorney Clinic for Immigrants, April 1st 10am-5pm in Greensboro

The NC Pro Bono Center and NC Justice Center, together with Greensboro's American Friends Service Committee office, are offering a power of attorney clinic for undocumented immigrants who need to prepare power of attorney documents in case of ICE detention. These documents help immigrants prepare to transfer custody of their children and property, and are the number one request of Triad immigrant parents as a way to provide support. Normally these documents cost at least a few hundred dollars to prepare; attorneys will prepare them free of charge at this clinic.

We particularly need bilingual volunteers to interpret for attorneys, but others will also be needed to make copies and help with childcare. If you're interested in helping at this clinic (or the next one) write to awillisgarces@afsc.org. Clinic hours will be 10am-5pm.

RECYCLABLES

Please help our church in its recycling efforts. Ordinary trash, usually in the white drawstring kitchen plastic bags, goes in the large green receptacle outside Randall's office. Recyclables, including paper but NO PAPER TOWELS and no plastic bags, go in the large brown receptacle behind the green container. Styrofoam only items go in the smaller container outside the back entrance to the church.

Thank you,
Marcia House

2017 Mowing Volunteers

Mowing season is fast approaching and we need volunteers. A sign-up sheet is on the bulletin board if you would like to help. Bill Myers, our Jr. Warden, will contact volunteers as needed.

Trash/ Recycling Volunteers

Thanks to Marcia House for taking our trash/recycling cans to the street for the past few months. Our trash/recycling pickup is early Tuesday morning. ***If you are interested in helping, there is a sign-up sheet on the bulletin board.***

Housing Summit 2017

Wednesday, March 29, 2017
8:00am-3:00pm
George K's Event Center
2108 Cedar Fork Drive, GSO

Tickets are \$65.00

Online Registration: www.gsohc.org or
www.eventbrite.com



March Birthdays

2nd – Ann Fincke
2nd – Alex Saenz
4th – John Maddocks
15th – David Priestley
27th – Maria Menendez

April Birthdays

4th – Robert Dickson, Tony Davies
22nd – Carolyn McLean
28th – Betsy Crawford



April 1st – Betsy & David Crawford
April 17th – Ann & David Long

