

FEBRUARY 2017

The Ridge Runner

The newsletter for the Episcopal Church of the Ridge
EDGEFIELD • RIDGE SPRING • TRENTON



The Episcopal Church of the Ridge

From the Vicar ~

Dear Parishioners:

It is hard to believe that February is here! During the last seven weeks, we have experienced a great deal of change in our society which is agreeable to some and disagreeable to others. Our nation's history is something that can be reassuring, steady or even startling. But one thing is clear; history is about change. We should expect, even anticipate, historical ebbs and flows because history is influenced by people; people who change as they undergo different life experiences. However, we often don't see or comprehend the changes in ourselves that others more readily see. Looking from the inside out, we are often blind to how we continually change. Change is part of our lives because it is integral to the whole universe. We live in a dynamic, chaotic universe which means that our own lives are dynamic and too often chaotic.

Jesus ministered to the chaos, hope and misery of his earthly age. The people, which poured out to touch him, to speak to him, to see and listen to him, were people who were caught up in the events that swirled around them. Like us, they knew what it was like to face illnesses that threatened to overwhelm them, like us they knew what it was like to have immense hope, like us they knew what it was like to feel like life isn't fair, like us they wondered what will be happening next in their lives, in their community, and in the larger world. They turned to Jesus for reassurance, for meaning, for someone who would really care for them and not just utter platitudes that were uttered into the air and then die as they floated to the ground.

During this month of February, I am encouraging you to reach out to Jesus; to take time to pray each day. You can use your Book of Common Prayer to guide you or better yet, use your fingers! You can pray in 5 to 8 minutes using your fingers. (Daily Devotions may be found on pages 137-140; prayer definitions, 856-857)

Thumb - Adore and Praise God: Take a breath, pause and sense God and then praise God for God being God, who created us and all that we have.

Index Finger - Thanksgiving: Thank God for Jesus Christ and all our blessings.

Middle Finger - Penitence: Confess what you have done wrong and be determined to live a new life. Make things right if you have deeply hurt someone or have committed some other offense.

Next Finger - Oblation: Pray to God that you may open your life to God and willingly serve God.

Little Finger - Intercession and Petition: Pray for others as they have need and pray for yourself.

Prayer is your compass, your rudder, your search light in our consistently, changing world. Prayer will allow you to find the direction and the solace needed to have hope and inspiration in all the situations that you face.

Prayerfully,

David Thompson

Standing Committees

The Episcopal Church of the Ridge, in response to the Great Commission, “Go and make disciples of all Nations”, has an organized and intentional structure for committees. This gives Mission Council members, the vicar and congregation a vehicle with which we can go about God’s business and answer God’s call.

During the Mission Council Retreat, January 13-14 at Gravatt Conference Center, the seven standing committees were reviewed and updated. Each committee is chaired by a member of Mission Council; however, in order for the committees to fully function it is necessary for members of our congregation to actively participate. Please reach out to the committee chair if there is an area where you feel lead to serve.

Communication: Sarah Schwarz 803-480-0304, wjacksarahb@gmail.com

Oversee newsletter and other church-wide Church of the Ridge publications and information.

Develop a phone chain.

Make sure all church publications are available and are kept up to date.

Website.

Disseminate information to all members and pertinent personnel on an as-need basis (e-mail blast, etc.).

Have visitor and newcomer packages and information available in the narthex of each church building and the church office.

Submit items to local papers and churches.

Photograph and record important events.

Education and Christian Formation: Joannah Holmes 843-810-7007, joannah_holmes@yahoo.com

This will involve different programs for all ages to nurture and support those who seek spiritual growth.

Solicit instructors as needed for all Christian Education Classes and Nursery.

Aid in the selection of appropriate curriculum in consultation with the instructor(s) and the vicar.

Aid in arranging Safe Church training for persons performing functions that require certification by the Diocese of Upper South Carolina: and those persons in functions at the Church of the Ridge that the diocese “suggests” should receive training per the Church of the Ridge strategic vision.

Communicate the needs of the instructors to the Mission Council and vicar.

Coordinate special Christian Education programs: such as Lenten Series, Vacation Bible School, Advent Series.

Work with the vicar to make sure all instructional space conforms to Safe- Church policies and norms.

Hospitality: Betsy Willis 803-275-3811, ew7000@aol.com

If we are to be an outwardly focused congregation, the ministry of hospitality will be most crucial to our own vitality and growth. Real hospitality involves more than just handshake at the door by the usher. It involves finding out where new people/ visitors are coming from, what their need might be, and following up so folks don’t fall between the cracks.

Coordinate volunteers for “after Church” refreshments and other customary Church of the Ridge events and functions.

Coordinate persons to assist with special events: Baptisms, Bishop’s visits, Confirmations, Weddings and all other functions.

In conjunction with the pastoral care committee; provide food, if needed, for parishioners in need – temporary or long term.

Serve as backup coordinator for funerals if pastoral care chairman is unavailable.

Outreach: Charles Bledsoe 803-673-6999, bledsoece@yahoo.com

Jack Schwarz 803-640-1056

Areas outside the church where the congregation can assist.

Liaison to Mission Council and vicar for existing projects and agencies to whom the Church of the Ridge provides assistance.

Communicate ideas and thoughts for improvement from the congregation to the Mission Council and vicar.

Coordinate special events and fundraisers for projects and/or agencies.

Identify specific areas of need in the local community, diocese and the broader church (if possible in conjunction with other local churches and faith groups) that might benefit from an aforementioned special event.

Pastoral Care: Kathie Stallworth 803-279-8463, kathiestallworth@comcast.net

Be the contact for pastoral care needs and concerns.

Inform vicar immediately of any pastoral care needs or concerns. Including those expressed by members of the congregation for other individuals.

Coordinate with vicar to provide comfort and care to those in need.

Arrange for Lay Eucharistic visits as needed (inform vicar of the person(s) and the date(s)).

Coordinate with vicar and secretary to keep intercessory prayer list up to date and accurate.

Oversee procedures and arrangements for funerals communicating with the chair of the funeral committee. Hospitality chairman to serve as backup for funerals.

Develop pastoral care committee of non-mission council members. And, in conjunction with the hospitality committee; provide food, if needed, for parishioners in need – temporary or long term.

Coordinate with vicar to provide pastoral care training for those persons interested in being a part of the pastoral care team. Coordinate with the chair of Education & Christian Formation to arrange for diocesan training and licensing for interested Lay Eucharistic Visitors.

Stewardship: Dick Glass 803-341-9070, dick.glass@comcast.net

Lead pledge drive during stewardship season.

Make sure pledge cards are mailed or otherwise provided to all members.

Write and mail yearly stewardship letter in collaboration with the vicar.

Assist vicar and Mission Council in conveying that all members of the Church of the Ridge, and all Christians, are stewards of the body of Christ, the church and that stewardship is a combination of money, time, and talent.

With the vicar and Mission Council, create an understanding within the congregation that stewardship is not something that happens once a year, but takes place every day.

Worship: Larry Vann 803-341-0880, larryvanngo@gmail.com

Contact for Altar Guild.

Arrange for special services – make sure everyone that needs to be contacted is contacted.

Arrange supply priest or worship leader for Morning Prayer as needed in the case of vicar's absence.

Bring suggestions and thoughts for improvement from congregation to Mission Council and vicar.

Coordinate and confirm availability of acolytes, lectors, intercessors and other worship personnel—submitting a schedule, monthly, to the publicist. In conjunction with the vicar, arrange for training and support for all persons involved with scheduled worship services.

Food Bank Report

Thank you for continuing to support the food bank outreach ministry! *In December we raised \$725 in the collection plate for a 4th quarter total of \$1,770 plus a \$100 dedicated pet food donation.*

This makes our yearly total \$5,634.00, our BEST year yet!!! The collection plate donations are sent to the food banks quarterly to purchase food to distribute to their participants. We have continued distributing food to both Johnston and Saluda food banks. Bring your food donations (non perishable, no glass, please) to church each Sunday! The food banks can also distribute items such as toiletries (toothpaste, toothbrushes, bar soap, etc.) and don't forget spices! We also make a point of including pet food (dog & cat) to help people keep their pet animals, often their only source of companionship. If you would like to participate in this exciting outreach ministry but are unable to attend church, you may make a donation and mail to our church office

address! (Make check out to Church of the Ridge with 'food bank' in the subject line)

Mary Lou Seymour

803-334-1219 or libetymls1@gmail.com



**Food Bank
Donations**

My Purpose

God has created me to do him
some definite service...

I have my mission... he has not
created me for naught.

I shall do good; I shall do his
work...

I will trust him, whatever I am,
I can never be thrown away.

If I am in sickness, my sickness
may serve him, in perplexity,
my perplexity may serve him.

If I am in sorrow, my sorrow
may serve him.

He does nothing in vain...

We know what he is about.

- John Henry Newman

Liturgical Notes for February

Presentation of Our Lord Jesus Christ in the Temple

February's special liturgical celebration occurs on February 2nd and few Episcopalians have ever experienced this worship service because it seldom falls on a Sunday. It commemorates Jesus being presented in the Temple as described in Luke 2:22-40. Its Hebrew roots are found in Leviticus 12. Leviticus 12 that says in part: "When the days of her purification are completed (re: the woman who has given birth), whether for a son or daughter, she shall bring to the priest at the entrance of the tent of meeting a lamb in its first year for a burnt offering, and a pigeon or a turtledove for a sin offering. He shall offer it to the Lord, and make atonement on her behalf; then she shall be clean from her flow of blood." In an earlier edition of the Book of Common Prayer, this feast day was called The Purification of Saint Mary the Virgin. In the Seventh Century this feast day liturgy began to include a procession of candles and the singing of the Nunc Dimittis; consequently the name Candlemas is associated with this day.

BUDGET REPORT



Receipts for December 2016

	Actual	Budget	Difference
Plate	\$ 5,104.00	\$ 1,770.00	\$ 3,334.00
Pledge	\$ 8,860.00	\$ 7,338.00	\$ 1,522.00
Total	\$ 13,964.00	\$ 9,108.00	\$ 4,856.00

Receipts for 2016

	Actual	Budget	Difference
Plate	\$ 30,662.67	\$ 23,004.00	\$ 7,658.67
Pledge	\$ 99,531.00	\$ 95,392.00	\$ 4,139.00
Total	\$130,193.67	\$118,396.00	\$ 11,797.67



Lenten Wednesdays Are Returning

Beginning on March 8th and continuing through March 29th, the CoR will have a Lenten supper at 6 p.m. followed by a Lenten program

from 6:30 to 7:15 p.m. Please save your Wednesday evenings in Lent for this great opportunity! More details will appear in the March Ridge Runner.

The CROSSWALK is returning!

This is the diocesan magazine for the parishioners and clergy of the 61 congregations that make up the Diocese of Upper South Carolina. You may receive an electronic, pdf booklet of the CROSSWALK or elect to receive a print copy. In order to receive a copy of the magazine to your home or office, email

your request to Carrie Graves at cgraves@edusc.org or mail your request to CROSSWALK, EDUSC, 1115 Marion Street, Columbia, SC 29201



Ladies' & Men's Socials

The Hospitality Committee, chaired by Betsy Willis, is looking for a hostess and host for both female and male socials. If you are so inclined to host the ladies' covered dish or cook for the men's supper; please be in touch with Betsy- 803.275.3811 or ew7000@aol.com

Church Treasurers

The Church of the Ridge, being made of three individual church buildings, has a very interesting financial structure. Church of the Ridge has a treasurer and assistant treasurer; while each church building has its own treasurer. When making donations (not your pledge or weekly offering), you should send it directly to the appropriate treasurer.

Church of the Ridge

Jerrold Watson

PO Box 423

Ridge Spring, SC 29129

Assistant (Pledges)

Dick Glass

28 Independent Hill Ln

North Augusta, SC 29860

Grace Church

Maynard Watson

PO Box 407

Ridge Spring, SC 29129

Our Saviour

Ann Day

529 Hwy 121

Johnston, SC 29832

Trinity

Lovick Mims

PO Box 489

Edgefield, SC 29824

**FEBRUARY
WORSHIP MINISTERS & READINGS**

**February 5 in Trenton
5th Sunday After the Epiphany**

Acolyte.....Hollis Holmes
 Eucharistic Minister.....Larry Vann
 Lector.....Barney Lamar
 Intercessor.....Peggy Ann Moss
 Altar.....Ann Day, Monti McDaniel
 Usher.....Danny Day, Allison McDaniel
 Greeters.....Dick Glass, Joannah Holmes
 Hospitality.....Helen Mims
 Readings.....Isaiah 58:1-12, Psalm 112:1-10
 1 Corinthians 2:1-12, Gospel Matthew 5:13-20

**February 12 in Ridge Spring
6th Sunday After the Epiphany**

Acolyte.....Preston Bledsoe
 Eucharistic Minister.....Maynard Watson
 Lector.....Jerry Stallworth
 Intercessor.....Kelly Vann
 AltarJennie Boatwright
 Usher.....Phillips Boatwright
 Greeters.....Jack Schwarz, Larry Vann
 Hospitality.....Susie Watson
 Readings.....Ecclesiastics 15:15-20, Psalm 119:1-8
 1 Corinthians 3:1-9, Gospel Matthew 5:38-48

**February 19 in Edgefield
7th Sunday After the Epiphany**

AcolyteJack Kornaus
 Eucharistic Minister.....Liz Kornaus
 Lector.....Jerry Stallworth
 Intercessor.....Valerie Holmes
 Altar.....Jean Covar, Lady Hodges
 Usher.....Chris Covar, Bob Hodges
 Greeters.....Sarah Schwarz, Betsy Willis
 Hospitality.....Kathie Stallworth
 Readings.....Leviticus 19:1-2, 9-18, Psalm 119:33-40
 1 Corinthians 3:10-11, 16-23, Gospel Matthew 5:38-48

**February 26 in Trenton
Last Sunday After the Epiphany**

AcolyteLee Holmes
 Eucharistic Minister.....Monti McDaniel
 Lector.....Connie Boggs
 Intercessor.....Larry Vann
 Altar.....Caro Cassels, Zelma Shore, Kelly Vann
 Usher.....Cal Cassels, Ric Vann
 Greeters.....Kathie Stallworth, Larry Vann
 Hospitality.....Deborah Holmes
 Reading.....Exodus 24:12-18, Psalm 2
 2 Peter 1:16-21, Gospel Matthew 17:1-9

**** We enthusiastically welcome anyone interested in serving as acolyte, intercessor, lector or Eucharistic Minister. If you feel called to serve, please contact Larry Vann or Father David for more information. ****



INTERCESSORY PRAYER LIST

Friends and Family

Art Amos
 Edith Amos
 Fran Beals
 Ron Bell
 Edward Bodie
 Thomas Carter
 June Covar
 Ann Day
 Mary Grace Feltham
 James "Maine" Gilchrist
 Shirley Gilliken
 Jarrett Holmes
 Joel Jolly
 Rhett Kirkland
 Mayrant Lojewski
 Carolyn Lovell
 Willie Mae Matheny
 Sarah Mills
 Bennie Moon
 Freddie Padgett
 Rebekkah Robinson
 Mary Anne Roth
 Liz Slisher
 Tommy Stone

**Military Personnel & Others
Serving in Harms Way**

Lieutenant Junior Grade Kevin Ginn USN
 Captain Joshua Summer Army

Deaths

Jon Prince
 Connie Holmes Reynolds



FEBRUARY

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
			1 7:00 am Morning Prayer 6:00 pm Choir	2	3	4
			5 Trenton 10:00 am	6 10 am– DOK Pack boxes at Johnston Food Bank	7	8 7:00 am Morning Prayer 6:00 pm Choir 7:00 PM Mission Council
12 Ridge Spring 10:00 am Loose offering for Gravatt Camp & Conference Cen- ter	13	14	15 7:00 am Morning Prayer RR Deadline 6:00 pm Choir	16	17	18
19 Edgefield 10:00 am Children's Sermon	20	21 6:30 pm DOK Mtg	22 7:00 am Morning Prayer 6:00 pm Choir	23	24	25
26 Trenton 10:00 am	27	28  SHROVE TUESDAY 6—7:30 pm Pancake Supper (Edgefield)	Occurring Regularly in Edgefield Thursday – 12:00 noon– AA Meeting Thursday—6:00 pm—Counseling Group			

Sunday School SCHEDULE

The Sunday Morning (9am) discussion with the vicar will continue! More information will be announced on Sundays and will appear in the next Ridge Runner. The group will be deciding on Sunday, January 22nd, what the next subject will be. We have just finished talking about the Episcopal Church.



FEBRUARY BIRTHDAYS

- | | |
|-------------------|------------------|
| 1 Abigail Rhoads | 20 Ann Byrd |
| 5 Penny Summers | 22 Buzz Byrd |
| 10 Haigh Reiniger | 23 Frank Feltham |
| 14 Ryght Jordan | 28 Dave Holmes |



A BIG THANK YOU

*Dear Church Family,
Thank you so much for the very generous Christmas gift. It will be fun shopping for special things that we need. We are so blessed. Looking forward to a wonderful year. A special thank you to my dedicated choir members.*
Peggy Ann

Thanks to all of you for remembering the needs of the less fortunate during the holidays as well as all through the year.

The Johnston Food Bank recipients and volunteers certainly appreciate your care and concern-

Ann Hughes

1/6/2017

Dear friends at the Ridge,
Once again, we are incredibly grateful for your continued support of Gravatt's mission and ministry and most especially for your donations from your Christmas Eve service. Your generosity means more of God's children will experience his love in communion on this holy ground.
God's peace- Laurie

I would like to thank you for giving my kids some Christmas gift so they will have some gifts. Thank you! Thank you very much with all my heart I really appreciate it.
L. Howard

Thank you so very much for the gifts for my children. This is such a Big Blessing to us. We are so very grateful. This is truly a blessing! Thank you from the bottom of our hearts.
Merry Christmas & Happy New Years!
The Wyndham Family

*Dear Congregation:
The Christmas gift that I received came as a great surprise. I deeply appreciate it and your great generosity. I also thank you for your warm welcome and wonderful acceptance of me as we minister to the people of The Ridge and the greater community. I am looking forward to a fantastic 2017!*
*Faithfully,
David Thompson*

Friends,
Thank you for your donation to Gravatt's 6th Annual Christmas Retreat for Military Families! This would not be possible without you! You helped make Christmas possible for many of our military families.
Thank you!
Chaplain Vicars

Church of the Ridge,
As we wrap up Gravatt's 6th Annual Christmas Retreat for Military families, we would like to say thank you. This year, we were fortunate to serve 16 wonderful families, giving them a chance to relax and spend quality time together. This year, we were also lucky enough to take part in surprising children with the best gift, their father, who had just gotten back from deployment in South Korea.
As always, we could not have done this without your help. The families and our staff are truly grateful for your contributions, and we hope that this retreat continues to bring families together for a long time. These thank you notes are a sample of appreciation from the families that you have served.
Thank you, and Merry Christmas!
- The Gravatt Staff

Thank you for your help to me and my Destiny. I am very grateful for your help.
Love, Washington

Thank you for being a blessing to the Students and families here at Douglas Elementary. You are appreciated and I pray you have a Merry Christmas!
Many Blessings, S. Raiford & The DES Family

The Episcopal Church of the Ridge



Post Office Box 206
Trenton, South Carolina 29847

MISSION COUNCIL MEMBERS

Charles Bledsoe..... 803-673-6999
 Dick Glass..... 803-341-9070
 Joannah Holmes..... 843-810-7007
 David Long
 Jack Schwarz..... 803-640-1056
 Sarah Schwarz..... 803-480-0304
 Kathie Stallworth..... 803-279-8463
 Larry Vann..... 803-341-0880
 Betsy Willis..... 803-275-3811

SENIOR WARDENSarah Schwarz, 803-685-7961

JUNIOR WARDENTBD

TREASURER Jerrold Watson, 803-685-7881

ASS'T. TREASURER..... Dick Glass, 803-341-9070

CLERK TO MCLeisa Long

PUBLICIST.....Emily Bull, easbull@gmail.com

CHURCH OFFICE

PHONE 275-3934 E-MAIL churchoftheridge@gmail.com
 WEBSITE www.churchoftheridge.org

THE MISSION STATEMENT

To be a welcoming Christian community of worship,
 learning and outreach empowered by the grace of God.



Love your neighbor as yourself

Valentine's Day is the perfect opportunity to live out God's love.
 How does Jesus say we should treat other people?

Directions: Find a hidden word in each sentence. For example, "the" is hidden here: (12) "It's Harry's hat he stole." The (12) means the hidden word starts on the 12th letter (ignore punctuation). Use the answers to complete Matthew 19:19, NIV.

(1) You really like ice cream! _____ 

(16) Carly has a really fat hermit crab. _____


(21) My favorite animals are moth, ermine and eels. _____

(4) "Hello, Vera!" called Joseph. _____

(11) When horses neigh, boredom reigns. _____

(17) Their daughter, Kara, sat patiently. _____

(6) "That's yours, elf!" the fairy yelled. _____

 "Honor _____ and _____
 _____, and _____ your _____."

Matthew 19:19, NIV



Answer: "Honor your father and mother, and love your neighbor as yourself." Matthew 19:19, NIV



The Episcopal Church of the Ridge

Post Office Box 206
Trenton, South Carolina 29847

FEBRUARY



The Ridge Runner