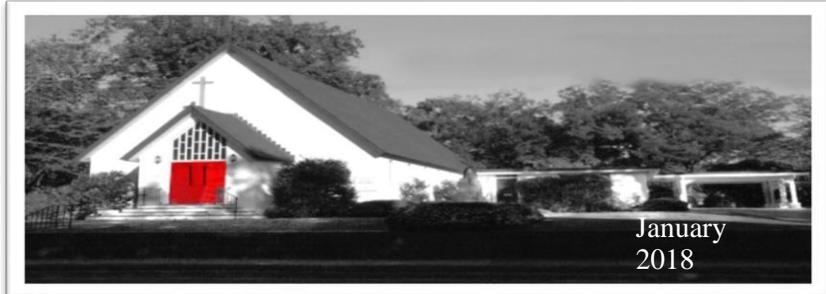


the Apostle

... newsletter of Grace Episcopal Church and
Christ the King Lutheran
105 S Madison Street Whiteville NC 28472
910.642.4784 www.gracechrist.com



PARISHIONERS: Jack Babb, Elsie Campbell, Alice Murphy, and Shirley Jo Smith

FAMILY: Brenda Batchelor, Peggy Currie, Debbie Harrelson, Ted Marzullo, Angie Moss, Bill Ray, Ruthann Smith, Shep Wagoner, and Jim Faulk

FRIENDS: Victoria Harrelson, Peggy Hinson, Kay Huggins, Ayven Lennon, Dorothy Rudd, Ginger Scott, Rhonda Scott, and Kenneth Smith

O God of grace and glory, we remember before you our brother Seth. Most merciful God, whose wisdom is beyond our understanding: deal graciously with Shirley Jo, Seth, Jr., Cindi, Nielsen and Jacqueline in their grief. Surround them with your love, that they may not be overwhelmed by their loss, but have confidence in your goodness, and strength to meet the days to come; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen



The Rev Lowe Davis will return as our Guest Celebrant on January 7.



The Rev Matt Ernst will return as our Guest Celebrant on January 14.

The Rev Jim Papile will return as our Guest Celebrant on January 28.



The Rev Kamila Blessing will return as our Guest Celebrant on January 21 and February 4.



U.S. Poet Laureate, Tracy K. Smith will be in Columbus County March 6-7, 2018.



Smith is coming here at the invitation of the Reuben Brown House Preservation Society (RBHPS), a bonus to the 25th anniversary of Reuben Brown House's A.R. Ammons poetry contest for students this year.

Tentative plans are for Smith to have a public reading, along with some students on March 6, with a reception to follow in the Reuben Brown House. Plans for March 7 are for Smith to interact in reading and talking with seventh graders from all over the county, with a master class at the Columbus County Arts Council building with about 20- juniors and seniors from all over the county, and there may be a session with Southeastern Community College students.

U.S. Poet Laureate visits are funded by the inviting organizations. So, the RBHPS is seeking contributions. In addition to contributing from the church, the Vestry voted to designate this cultural

honor (that has never been bestowed on the county before) as one of our January Outreach Projects. Contributions may be made payable to the church, with RBHPS in the memo line, or directly to RBHPS.

Our pantry will be open on JANUARY 22.

We particularly need cleaning supplies, personal toiletries, meats and fruit.

Staple items like flour, sugar, coffee, and corn meal are also in demand.

If shopping is a challenge, donations are welcome, and Connie Ghent and a friend make a monthly shopping trip to restock needed items.



We also continue to provide 2 liter sodas and paper products to the [ANGEL HOUSE HOSPICE CARE CENTER](#), and detergent, Lysol cleaner, and FoodLion cards for [FAMILIES FIRST](#).



Minutes for this meeting are posted on the bulletin board.

Plans to repair and pave the remaining unpaved drive around Grace House are in the works, and this should be done early in 2018. Work on the electric hook ups in the Parish Hall kitchen will be done as soon as our electrician recovers from a broken arm.

Ruth Glass will continue to have a bible study of the Gospel of Matthew on Wednesday nights.

On January 7th we will recognize retiring vestry members Paula Blanchard and Ruth Glass.

Installation of the news vestry members, Shari Gardner and Donna Thigpen, will be January 7th, 2018.

The diocesan convention will be February 8th to the 10th in New Bern. Our one delegate is

John Dean, and the alternate is Lisa Richey.

Susan Woods reported that US Poet Laureate, Tracy K Smith's March visit to Whiteville needs financial support. The Vestry voted to support this important cultural event with a \$200 donation and a congregational invitation to donate through the month of January.

The Vestry also voted that our Annual Shrove Tuesday Pancake Supper will be a BRUNCH this year. With cold nights and limited transportation in mind, the men of our church will serve our traditional pancake feast on

February 11th, after service. All food and beverage is provided, just stay and enjoy.

VOLUNTEERS ARE NEEDED!

Looking Back and Ahead...



It is conventionally thought that the month of January is named for Janus, the Roman god of beginnings, gates, transitions, time, duality, doorways, passages, and endings.

(contributed by Kay Horne)

As we look back, THANKS to all in our parish family who helped serve our community and others in 2017. Month after month our pantry helped our neighbors make it to the end of the month. The fact that this is done in a warm and welcoming environment has not gone unnoticed. Young Preston McKinley and his family were confirmed in February. Our organist Jamie Faulk gave a well-received concert in February, and in November Jamie and friends gave another concert to raise money for the Matthew 25 house near Tabor City. Our parish raised over two thousand dollars for this project. We raised money to make shoes, buy fans, fill baby bottles and continued to support United Thank Offering, Hospice and Families First. In December we made Christmas happy for 6 children and their mothers. In terms of our Building and Grounds, we painted Grace House, inside and out, and replaced the roof, and arranged to have our back drive-way re-surfaced.

During all of this, we continued to have our Shrove Tuesday pancakes, a Saint Patrick celebration, and participate in Deanery events.

For a small parish we are amazingly productive. Let us pray that we can continue these activities, our legacy, to the glory of our Lord.

As we look forward, it's natural to think of things can be improved and more can be done. We hope they can. So where do we start? Start by reading the newsletter. It is full of opportunities to learn, reflect, and serve. Needing help to participate is not a bad thing. If getting out is a problem, call a parish friend. A few phone calls or an email could resolve most issues. Let us make 2018 a year where we all reach out; reach out TO help or reach out FOR help.

JANUARY 2018

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
	<p>1 ✠</p> <p><i>The Holy Name of our Lord Jesus Christ</i> V. Mail/Mail-Ruth</p>	2	3	4	5	<p>6 <i>Feast of the Epiphany</i></p> 
<p>7 <i>The Baptism of Our Lord Jesus Christ</i> 10:00 Choir 10:30 HE II Inspect Bldg- Kevin</p>	<p>8</p> <p>7:30 <i>Compassionate Friends Meeting</i> 2:00 <i>Spiritual Directors mtg</i> V. Mail/Mail- Paula</p>	9	<p>10</p> <p>5:00 PM CHOIR 6:00 PM – Connie LBW Compline</p>	11	12	13
<p>14</p> <p>2 <i>Epiphany</i> 10:00 Choir 10:30 LutheranHC Inspect Bldg- Kevin</p>	<p>15</p> <p>V. Mail/Mail-Paula</p>	<p>16</p>  <p>9:00 Connie/ Bill H. 6:30 PM <i>Vestry Mtg.</i></p>	<p>17</p> <p>5:00 PM CHOIR 6:00 PM – Ruth Compline</p>	<p>18 6:00 PM <i>LCF Deanery Meeting St. Andrew's On Sound</i> <i>The Confession of St Peter the Apostles</i></p>	19	20
<p>21</p> <p>3 <i>Epiphany</i> 10:00 Choir 10:30 HE I Inspect Bldg-John</p>	<p>22</p> <p>9:00 AM <i>Pantry Hillie & Ruth</i> V. Mail/Mail-Connie</p>	23	<p>24</p> <p>5:00 PM CHOIR 6:00 PM – Shirley Jo Compline</p>	<p>25</p> <p><i>The Conversion of Saint Paul the Apostle</i></p>	26	27
<p>28</p> <p>4 <i>Epiphany</i> 10:00 Choir 10:30 HE II Inspect Bldg- John</p>	<p>29</p> <p>V. Mail/Mail-Connie</p>	30	<p>31</p> <p>5:00 PM CHOIR 6:00 PM – All Compline</p>			<p>FF & LCFH Holly Shelley Fellowship Supplies Connie</p>

