



The Call



May the words of our mouths and the mediations of our hearts be acceptable in thy sight oh Lord our strength and our redeemer.

A Monthly Newsletter

Issue - May 2018

Worship

*Newly Baptized
Pentecost*

Formation

*Youth
New Rotation CF*

Outreach

*Dinner & Dancing with
Friends
Preschool Sunday*

Parish

*Transitions
WINE
Book Club*

Stewardship

*B&G Workday
Stewardship Update
Financial Pages
Episcopal Relief &
Development*

Pages 2-3

Pages 4-5

Page 6-7

Pages 8-9

Page 5, 9-11



May is my favorite month. It's perfect and sublime in that it comes after a month of wind followed by a month of rain and before a month when the real heat descends. In May, spring flowers are out in full bloom and not yet demanding vigilant watering. May also brings the trifecta of my life, birthday, Mother's Day, anniversary. It's a concentrated time of cards, presents and other family members orchestrating the get togethers! Pentecost, the feast of

the Holy Spirit, the birthday of the church often comes in May. Flame, wind, doves and wild rumpus in the middle of a sedate service, what could be better?

I love May, but I recognize that's not everyone's experience. May gets frantic for many folk. In May, teachers and scholars prepare for EOGs, yearend assemblies, concerts and award ceremonies. Graduation parties and gifts consume resources and require and organization, college students must be packed up, picked up and brought home. I look around and see people looking harried and harried people are diminished people. It is probably counterintuitive but an antidote to harriedness is gratitude. Gratitude is the most effective remedy to feeling over burdened and stressed. Gratitude shifts our perspective from lack to abundance, from woe to joy, from anxiety to calm. Gratitude reminds us what we have and how good those blessings are. Gratitude is not a state that is earned, it is a decision made, it's a determination to see things differently and once we decide to perceive differently, we do.

As a gift for this beautiful, busy month I offer these Gratitude Quotes. I hope they bring you refreshment in the season.

When we focus on our gratitude, the tide of disappointment goes out and the tide of love rushes in. Kristin Armstrong

Gratitude unlocks the fullness of life. It turns what we have into enough, and more. It turns denial into acceptance, chaos to order, confusion to clarity. It can turn a meal into a feast, a house into a home, a stranger into a friend. *Melody Beattie*

I don't have to chase extraordinary moments to find happiness - it's right in front of me if I'm paying attention and practicing gratitude. *Brene Brown*

Give yourself a gift of five minutes of contemplation in awe of everything you see around you. Go outside and turn your attention to the many miracles around you. This five-minute-a-day regimen of appreciation and gratitude will help you to focus your life in awe. *Wayne Dyer*

Gratitude is not only the greatest of virtues, but the parent of all the others. *Marcus Tullius Cicero*

The discipline of gratitude is the explicit effort to acknowledge that all I am and have is given to me as a gift of love, a gift to be celebrated with joy. *Henri Nouwen*

Perhaps nothing helps us make the movement from our little selves to a larger world than remembering God in gratitude. Such a perspective puts God in view in all of life, not just in the moments we set aside for worship or spiritual disciplines. Not just in the moments when life seems easy. *Henri Nouwen*

Blessings on your cultivation of gratitude,

Sarah +



Welcome the Newly Baptized
Drake Vanevenhoven
with parents
Alan and Bridget



Pentecost -

Birthday of the Christian Church

Quick details: A Christian Feast Day, occurs fifty days after Easter, (the word literally means 50) and commemorates the day the Holy Spirit descended on the apostles, causing them to speak in tongues.

Back Story: At his Last Supper, Jesus instructed his 12 disciples to go out into the world to minister and heal the sick on their own. It was at that point that they became “apostles.” The word means “one sent forth.” It was the title Jesus gave (Luke 6:13) to the Twelve whom He chose and ordained (John 15:16) to be sent forth to represent Him after His Ascension into heaven. The calling of an Apostle is to be a special witness of the name of Jesus Christ in all the world, giving testimony particularly of His divinity and of His bodily resurrection from the dead.

Scripture tells us, fifty days after Jesus’ death, the Holy Spirit (part of the Holy Trinity- God the Father, God the Son and God the Holy Spirit) descended on the apostles, making them speak in foreign tongues. In the Bible, “foreign tongues” referred to foreign languages suggesting the apostles could now go into other parts of the world to preach their message in ways other tribes and nations could understand. The descending of the Holy Spirit on the first followers allowed the apostles direct communication with God, which signaled a major shift in the religious landscape and laid the foundation for what would become Christianity. You’ll notice that the disciples are always depicted in artwork as regular-looking men while the apostles are depicted with halos around their heads.

Description: From the Book of Acts- “And when the day of Pentecost was fully come, they were all with one accord in one place. Present were about one hundred and twenty followers of Christ including the Twelve Apostles (the Eleven faithful disciples and Matthias who was Judas’ replacement), his mother Mary, various other women disciples and his brothers. And suddenly there came a sound from heaven as of a rushing mighty wind, and it filled all the house where they were sitting. And there appeared unto them cloven tongues like as of fire, and it sat upon each of them. And they were all filled with the Holy Spirit, and began to speak with other languages, as the Spirit gave them utterance.”

Significance: From a historical perspective, Christianity didn’t start with Jesus’ birth, his death or even his reported ascension to heaven. It started with Pentecost — the day the “Holy Spirit” entered a room holding Jesus’ apostles and entered each of them, giving them words and affect to make compelling witness, to be effective bearers of good news to all people. It was the event which many say, “makes the church the church.”

Celebration 2018: Wear Red. 8:30 service in church 11:00 service in Sky Chapel **Lunch** to follow on the grounds. **La Escuelita Pre-schoolers** will reverently receive graduation certificates during at the 11:00 service and later entertain us during lunch.

May 20th 8:30 and 11:0

Summer 2018

May

25-28 • Beach Trip

June

3rd • Youth Sunday

24-30 • Detroit Mission Experience (\$250)

July

29-30 • Episcopal Outreach Camp (\$100)

August

1 • Episcopal Outreach Camp

12-18 • Florida Mission Trip (\$150)

September

9 • Rally Day

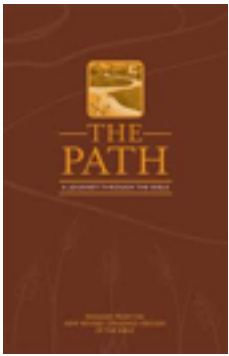
16 • Sunday School Begins

22 • Fall Kickoff Event

See Matt
For More
Info!

Christian Formation 5th and Final Rotation

Begins Sunday April 29th at the 9:30 hour.
Adults and Youth will continue their discussion on
The Path.



Children ages 4 through 5th grade continue to learn the stories of The Bible.

Nursery is always provided for children under the age of 4.
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B&G
Workday
Sunday May 6th
8:30am-12:00pm
Or whenever the
work is done.



Come Worship then work or Work then Worship
Help needed spreading pinestraw
Planting & Watering Flowers
Pruning
as well as some Minor Repairs
*Hot Dog Lunch Provided

Save the Date
for
Dinner, Dancing & Friends

*Please plan to join us on May 11th for dinner & music
with the teachers and staff at Ranson TB Middle School*

5:30pm-9:30pm

at Galilee East

3601 Central Ave, Charlotte

Let's continue to build relationships and show appreciation for the teachers at RMS.

Cocktail hour from 5:30-6:30

Dinner and music from 6:30 on

Childcare provided



"Dinner drinks dancing..."



M A Y 2 0 1 8



PRESCHOOL SUNDAY

MAY 20th at 11am in the Sky Chapel

(8:30 service will observe the Pentecost liturgy in the church)

Join us as we welcome our Escuelita students & families for worship & potluck lunch

The ninas and ninos will preform after the service.

Bring salads and sides if your last name is L-Z

Bring a dessert if your last name is A-K

Outreach will provide the main course



3 former Escuelita Students, Milka, Lily and Ricardo, obviously doing well at their kindergarten award ceremony.



Birthdays

Brett Rhinehardt - 5/1
 Mike Tinsley - 5/2
 Pearl Friis – 5/3
 Blake Michael – 5/3
 Brian Pouliot - 5/4
 Savannah Self - 5/4
 Betty Gluyas - 5/5
 Nate Heggen – 5/7
 Tricia Stephens - 5/10
 Rev. Sarah D. Hollar - 5/11
 Bella Rhinehardt - 5/11
 Bob Weeks - 5/16
 Beatrice Linker – 5/20
 Lauren Siegel - 5/22
 Tom Lenardson - 5/23
 Michael Havens – 5/25
 Werth Roberts – 5/25
 Rae Deicke - 5/26
 Doug McDowell - 5/26
 Debbie Heggen – 5/28
 Leo Brett - 5/30
 Maura Melear – 5/30
 Debbie Plummer – 5/30
 Emma Middleton - 5/31

Anniversaries

Rev. Sarah Hollar & Peter Macon - 5/1
 Jeremy & Dawn Michael - 5/3
 Ralph & Evelyn Fischer - 5/14
 Kevin & Jessica DuBois - 5/17
 Matt & Jennifer Addington - 5/19
 Tom & Lorraine Lenardson - 5/21
 Michael & Molly Thompson - 5/28

Prayers for continued healing:

Richard & Mary Beth Masline	
Saunders & Billy Black	Martha Ann Springer
Jackie Blythe	The Mason Family
George Ann Beam	Bob Egan
Vivien Edgerton	Marcia Nelson
Christopher Heinshon	Johnny Redman
Justin Wilson	Doris Webb
Cole Alderman	Becky Bell
Lucia Smithdeal	Ann Flaws
Joe McSwain	

Panera Bread Pick-Up

Andrew & Libby James – 5/4
Ian & Liesel Doolittle – 5/11
Mark & Lacy Hamilton – 5/18
Scott & Penny Brett – 5/25

W.I.N.E.



Women in Need of Entertainment

Will meet on Monday May 21st

at the home of

**Debbie Siegel
7907 Fairmeadows Drive
Charlotte**

704-641-5845

**Please bring a bottle of wine or a dish to share.
If you don't have time for either just bring
yourself.**

Sign up Below

<http://www.signupgenius.com/go/10c044faaa828ab9-stmarks1>

Please contact Allison Rhinehardt alibrett@gmail.com or
Dawn Middleton dawnmiddleton@bellsouth.net with any
questions

**St. Mark's Muses Book Club
will meet on**

Thursday May 10th at 10am

at the home of

Malinda Bivens

466 Flat Rock Drive

Denver, NC

Our discussion will be on

Guests on Earth

by Lee Smith



If you would like a copy of the book please contact
Genny Hinkle.

Join us even if you have not read the book. The
next month's selection will be handed out at this
time.

Sign up at the link provided

<http://www.signupgenius.com/go/30e054ca4a7238-stmarks>

**Please contact Genny Hinkle for a copy of the
book**

704-595-7957



**"As of April 18, 2018, 99 cards have been turned in, for a total pledge of \$344,175.00
(\$3,476 avg. per unit)**

The necessary pledge total, according to the proposed budget is \$390,000.

We are 88% towards our goal.

2018 Stewardship Update



	2018 Budget	March YTD Actual
Current Pledge Total	\$344,175	\$105,058
All other anticipated income		
Non-Pledge Offerings	\$20,000	\$8,117
Other Income (use of space by outside groups)	\$17,000	\$4,675
Sales Tax Refunds	\$2,000	\$557
Daisy Shipp McCoy Foundation Trust Income	<u>\$32,750</u>	<u>\$8,188</u>
Total Budgeted Operating Income	\$415,925	\$126,595
2018 Budgeted Expenses Approved by Vestry		
Staff	\$263,804	\$65,914
Diocesan Support	\$43,454	\$10,864
Campus Maintenance & Utilities	\$53,012	\$11,888
Office Administration & Other	\$26,515	\$6,929
Youth & Christian Formation	\$12,380	\$ 1,306
Outreach & Escuelita Support	\$12,300	\$ 3,711
Parish Life, Pastoral Care, Stewardship & Parish Retreat	\$ 7,100	\$ 767
Worship & Music	\$ 3,500	\$ 910
%7 pledges unfulfilled based on historical average	<u>\$24,092</u>	
Total 2017 Budgeted Expenses	\$446,157	\$102,288
Current Excess/(Deficit) of receipts over disbursements	\$(30,232)	24,307
2018 pledge notes	99 pledge cards of 143 have been received	
	Average Pledge \$3,476	

***Year to Date Pledge Fulfillment 31%**



Greetings, friends,

Episcopal Relief and Development has announced a matching gift campaign of up to \$250,000 to enable healthy living for children around the world. Here is an excerpt from their announcement:

The first five years in a child's life are crucial.

They form the basis for future learning, good health and well-being that will last a lifetime. This is why, at Episcopal Relief & Development, we have made caring for children's health and development a central priority.

And it's why I am delighted to tell you about an extraordinary opportunity to reach more vulnerable children worldwide. **Two of our steadfast donors have offered to match all gifts up to \$250,000.**

Support our holistic program work with children in over half a dozen countries—including:



Ghana, where we are working to reduce illness and death in children five and under—focusing on three treatable and preventable diseases: malaria, diarrhea and pneumonia.



Zambia and Kenya, where our work with local volunteers and caregivers about best practices in early childhood development helps vulnerable children reach their highest potential.



Burundi, Malawi and Mozambique, where we're encouraging prenatal care, promoting nutrition for mothers and children and ensuring that babies receive the recommended vaccinations.

Please share this announcement with your parishioners and encourage online donations [here](#) or by check to Episcopal Relief & Development, P.O. Box 7058, Merrifield, VA 22116-7058.

Peace,

Reid

Reid Joyner

Episcopal Relief & Development Coordinator

Diocese of North Carolina



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