

# We Are Marching ... Marching ... Marching ...

## *THE SECOND ASHEVILLE WOMEN'S MARCH ...*

*... TOOK PLACE SATURDAY, JANUARY 20.* with a great turnout. The March had been organized by Asheville High School students and was a huge success! Signs, banners, and speeches were all part of the event. Crowd estimates range from 3,000-10,000, with the official police report of 7,000 people attending — persons of all ages and genders. The Church of the Holy Spirit was well represented and even included Peggy Barnes' grandchildren! This event has re-energized the spirits of those actively Resisting and Persisting.

And the march provided an opportunity to put our faith into action. Do you want to be more politically involved but don't know how? Talk to someone who participated in the March. Two active groups are available in this part of WNC: Madison Indivisible and North Buncombe Area.

I personally am so proud to be a part of this congregation which supports endeavors like this in both prayer and participation. For those who marched, the Women's March will have a lasting impact on their lives.

—Nancy Larkin

### **Inside This Issue:**

**More about the Women's March along with a few photos. Our Latina ministry receives February's first offering. And read all about our new Vestry members! This year marks the 100-year anniversary of the worst worldwide flu epidemic in history, and we review a book written about it.**



(Photo courtesy of Linda Tull.)

## The Astonishing Outreach of ECHS

From its founding, Church of the Holy Spirit has maintained an emphasis on outreach, serving the community beyond our walls. This emphasis was reaffirmed by our 2017 giving record. Over \$64,000 in outreach donations were recorded for the year.

Giving to support our Diocese and the denomination at large totaled \$17,325. Members purchased more than \$79,000 in gift cards, raising \$3,960 for outreach causes. A total of \$15,308 was given to support internal and external First Sunday Open Offering recipients.

Heritage Festival activities provided \$7,425 designated for the Villager Initiative and the Community Housing Coalition. In-kind giving of \$4,625 was reported for supplying backpacks, Angel Tree Christmas gifts, and prison ministry meals. Of course, this does not include the hundreds of hours of volunteer service provided by church members.

A summary of 2017 outreach giving will be displayed at the church. Thank you to all for this great report. Please remember to report your in-kind giving to the church office so that it can be recorded for your personal and parish giving records.

—Bill Sewell



**Here's an interesting feature of the year 2018: Ash Wednesday and Valentine's Day will happen on the same day.**

## Lend Us Your Voice

The choir is gearing up for the Lent and Easter Season, 2018. Your voice is needed and wanted for rehearsals and Sunday sings!

Rehearsals begin 15 minutes after the conclusion of the Sunday worship service.

### February

Feb. 4, 11, 18 — Rehearsals

On February 25, the choir will sing "Jesus Walked This Lonesome Valley."

### March

March 4 — Rehearsal

On March 11, the choir will sing "Once Upon A Tree."

March 18 — Rehearsal

On March 25, Palm Sunday, the choir will sing, "Sing Out Hosanna to the Lord."

### April

On April 1, Easter Sunday, the choir will sing, "Christ Is Alive."

April 8, 15 — Rehearsals

On either April 22 or 29, the choir will sing, "Fairest Lord Jesus."

## *"TELL ME WHAT DEMOCRACY LOOKS LIKE. THIS IS WHAT DEMOCRACY LOOKS LIKE!"*

The chant bounced back and forth from one side of Biltmore Avenue to the other as the pink-capped crowd marched from Memorial Stadium to Pack Square.

Where the first Women's March in 2017 expressed anger and outrage at the election results, the participants this day were focused on channeling rage into action.

The crowd's message was one of resolution and commitment to solidify action for equality, health care, environmental protection, education, voting rights, DACA, the **#metoo** movement and immigration rights.

The determination to use the power of the voting booth was evident when the crowd took up the chant "vote" started by Nikki Harris of Planned Parenthood. State Senator Terry Van Dyn reminded us to "Care more. Judge less," leading us into another chant which resounded across the Memorial Stadium field.

Now, having left the march behind and going through my days, I find myself humming/chanting: "Vote - Vote - Vote - Vote! Care More. Judge Less! Tell me what democracy looks like. This is what democracy looks like!"

—Ginny Koranek

*The sign held by Peggy Wilson behind the backs of Pam, Nancy, and Mary Jo reads, "Super Callous Fascist Racist Extra Braggadocious is really quite atrocious!"*

*Photo snapped by an anonymous passerby.*



## Our New Vestry Members

At the ECHS Annual Meeting on Sunday, January 21, the four incoming candidates for the Vestry were voted into their roles.

### **Kathryn Graeter (3-year term)**

Born and raised in Massachusetts, Kathryn moved to Madison County in 1975 along with her husband John as part of the "back-to-the-land" movement. By the early 1980's, they had two children, multiple dogs, cats, goats, and chickens, and lived on a thirty-acre farm near Walnut. Kathryn has worked as a paralegal for a local attorney and taught in preschools, Head Start, and special education settings. Early in 1986, the Graeters attended a Sunday gathering of Church of the Holy Spirit, when meetings were held in Mars Hill. They were hooked and became members of the "Church of the Holy Flexible." Nowadays Kathryn and John reside in Hot Springs on two-and-a-half flat, sunny acres. She still digs in the dirt, growing vegetables and tending her flock of chickens. She helps caring for her two-year-old granddaughter and hikes on local mountain trails, finding in nature both God's presence and hope of a saner, more just world.

### **Cristi Johnson (2-year term)**

Cristi Johnson will complete the term of Barbara Moloney, who is now our Senior Warden. Cristi is the wife of Justin Reilly and the mother of Samuel. Daughter of a Southern Baptist minister, she attended a Presbyterian University. She and Justin married while he was in Vanderbilt Divinity School. They baptized Samuel in a Methodist church. Cristi graduated from ETSU with degrees in English and psychology.

But Cristi pursued neither of those fields, instead becoming a traveling folk musician. She has spent the last twenty years as half of the award-winning folk duo "Alathea," playing for music festivals, churches, and colleges across the country and internationally. Her band partners with the non-profit organization Appalachia Service Project, sharing and celebrating ASP's work to help eradicate substandard housing in the Appalachian mountains. Cristi is grateful to be rooted and planted with her family in these beautiful mountains and surrounded by the love, faith and mission of the folks at Holy Spirit.

### **Adam Reda (3-year term)**

Adam was born in Clarksville, Tennessee, and moved to the beautiful mountains of Madison County in the spring of 2014. He graduated from North East High School and having completed one of three courses at the Servant Leadership School of Greensboro, he looks forward to continuing those classes. His Episcopal and Catholic grandparents had Adam baptized as a child and in 2016, he was confirmed in the Episcopal Church of the Holy Spirit. Adam was owner and operator of a family-owned retail business from 2005-2013. Adam now works as a carpenter for Nanostead, a local building company. He is also a co-chairman of the facilities team and head groundsman at Glory Ridge, a local ministry. Adam lives with his wife Jennifer, who is Director of Ministries at Glory Ridge, and his son, Tacoma, age 14. His family includes his two dogs: a black lab, PJ, and a beagle, Stella. Adam loves hunting and fishing, collecting artifacts, being outside, getting on the water, playing games, cooking, snowboarding, and wants to begin rock climbing.

*(continued on page 5)*

## New Vestry (continued)

### Donna Turnbaugh (3-year term)

Donna Turnbaugh was born and raised in the small town of Marseilles in northern Illinois. She graduated with an education major from Knox College in Galesburg, Illinois. She and Roy met and married in 1970. While Roy was in graduate school, Donna earned a Master's degree in education. She taught for eight years at the elementary level, first in the classroom and then as a reading specialist. After they adopted their two sons, Andrew and Peter, Donna became a stay-at-home mom for the next twelve years.

When they moved to Oregon, she returned to graduate school to become certified as a speech-language therapist, working in that field for sixteen years in school settings. Donna retired when they moved to Weaverville in 2005. She keeps busy with volunteer activities, including pet therapy, Meals on Wheels, and Eblen Charities. Donna joined the Church of the Holy Spirit in 2012 and is active with the Outreach team, Villager Initiative, and ministry scheduling. Donna loves dogs and has three sweet adult females, all rescues. She enjoys the mountains and the local music scene. She and Roy have four granddaughters, two each in Illinois and San Francisco.

*(Photo courtesy of Linda Tull.)*

## February Birthdays

- Helen Clark ..... 3
- Joan Henry\*..... 3
- Ed Caskey..... 8
- Kathryn Graeter... 8
- Dillon Wyatt ..... 8
- Robin Hare..... 10
- Katy Singhas ..... 10
- Bobbie Pell ..... 11
- Dora Hare..... 13
- Robertjohn
- Gillespie ..... 15
- Dick Jordan..... 17
- Vivienne
- McCullough.... 8
- Carolyn Ogburn... 20
- Lucas Yeakley.... 20
- Jack Poisson..... 21
- Lynn Michie..... 22
- Jade McWilliams . 25
- Zeke Loomis ..... 26
- Ronnie Jordan .... 27

\* Bob Henry's sister



## ***“LUNCH WITH THE LAW”***

### **February’s First Sunday Offering Goes to *Mujeres Unidas en Fe***

Exactly a year ago, the new administration in Washington announced its plan to step up deportations. Fear swept through immigrant communities, and understandably most decided that the safest response was to stay as hidden as possible. But *Mujeres Unidas en Fe* (Women United in Faith), the bilingual group that meets at Holy Spirit for three hours every Thursday, chose a different path. One of our sisters from Mexico had voiced the bold idea that perhaps their best protection would be for local law officials to get to know them and their families.

A few weeks later, “Lunch with the Law” took place in the sanctuary, attended by the sheriff and several of his deputies, Mars Hill’s chief of police, and the university’s head of security, as well as a few supportive pastors and neighbors. The *mujeres* had prepared an exquisite feast of *tamales* and *empanadas*, rice and salad, flan and sweet *dulce de leche* caramel cake. Courage was gathered, stories were shared, responses offered, and this extraordinary event launched us all toward increased communication and mutual respect.

The lunch was just one response of *Mujeres Unidas en Fe* to the deportation crisis. Others included a “Know Your Rights” workshop and legal clinic.

There was guidance in the preparation of family emergency plans, information sharing about the sanctuary movement, and updates on DACA (Deferred Action for Childhood Arrivals). A member of the local library staff has also visited to offer tips on using the library and its computers, along with guidance for mothers wanting to help their children with homework.

But if you happen to be at the church on a Thursday, you know that laughter is as important for this group as gaining information and discussing fears—and just as bonding. Whether making strawberry jam or *mole verde* together in the kitchen, exchanging Spanish and English language lessons with flashcards or our own version of the game Pictionary, and occasionally spending a summer afternoon at the local public pool with all the children, joy is abundant.

Perhaps most evident is the spiritual nurture that occurs. For *Día de los Muertos* (Day of the Dead), the *mujeres* transformed a corner of our sanctuary into a gorgeous *ofrenda* (altar) with elegant tissue-paper flowers and colorful *papel picado* banners. The church was filled for Masses both that day and on Three Kings Sunday in January. The group shares Bible study and is currently drawing inspiration from some of the lesser-known stories of biblical women. And before diving into our potluck lunch every week, we lift up our thanksgivings and petitions in prayer.

*“Lunch with the Law” continued on page 7*

## UNDIE SUNDAY RETURNS TO ECHS IN FEBRUARY!



For years our parish sponsored Undie Sunday, whereby we collected underwear and socks for the homeless of Western North Carolina through our diocesan ministry Church of the Advocate.

Thanks to a grant from Thrivent Financial, which supports many of our parish's outreach projects, we

are asking our congregation to donate items needed by COA homeless men and women.

These items, which must be NEW, include white tube socks, men's underwear and undershirts sized medium and large, and women's underwear sizes 6-8, with men's items being the most needed. Please bring these items to church by Sunday, February 25.

*(For more about Church of the Advocate, see page 8)*



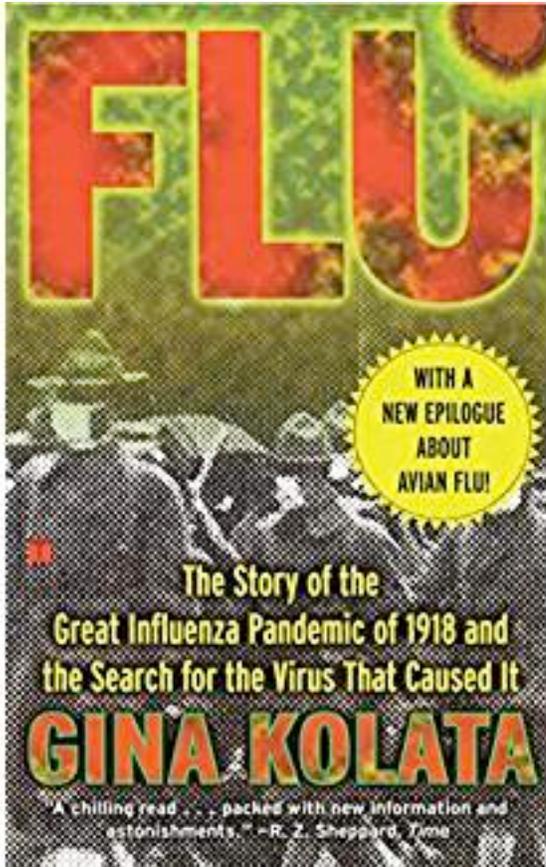
*(Photo courtesy of Linda Tull.)*

## "Tweet Women with Respect"

## "Lunch with the Law" (continued)

Some of the enormous creative talent of the *mujeres* was on view at the Christmas silent auction in the forms of crocheting, sewing and embroidery, jewelry, painting and printmaking. The money raised that day, along with February's First Sunday offering, will be used to help meet medical, educational, transportation, and other needs that regularly arise. *Mujeres Unidas en Fe* offers a huge thank-you to Rebecca Sharp for her leadership, to David McNair and Martie Carson for their support, and to the entire Holy Spirit community for reaching out in friendship, providing space and rides, and being lavish in your generosity. You are a critical part of this hope-inducing, transformative faith effort.

—Joyce Hollyday



## 100 Years Later and ... Still We've Got the Flu With Us

The year 2018 marks the 100th anniversary of the most deadly flu epidemic in history. In 1918 while the world was still at war, this flu swept through the world and killed millions, even reaching remote locations such as Eskimo villages in Alaska. If you are my age, you likely had aunts, uncles, or maybe grandparents who succumbed to this flu.

Gina Kolata recounts the history of this pandemic in fascinating story-telling fashion. She follows decades of work by medical scientists trying to understand how flu is transmitted and searching for a vaccine. Ironically, 2018 has also been visited by a vicious flu epidemic. This book is affordably available in soft-back from Amazon.com.

### **ECHS has been very active in Church of the Advocate's ministry to the homeless of Western North Carolina**

in recent years, including occupying a seat on their board. Using Thrivent Financial grants, we prepared lunch for 150 homeless on two Sundays in 2017. We hope to prepare lunches quarterly in 2018, with our first date being March 25, Palm Sunday. We welcome new members to the team that prepares and serves these meals!

In the summer of 2017 we placed a tub in the hallway to collect donations of new or gently used men's and women's jeans, as well as athletic shoes. The jean collection was augmented by our ECHS members who volunteer at My Sister's Attic in Marshall.

They used their free-bag-of-clothes "payment" for the day's volunteer work to fill their bag with jeans which were put in the jeans tub. Good going, Sisters! Obtaining shoes is much more difficult, and the latest word from Church of the Advocate is that they are desperately in need of shoes.

ECHS is making an increasing and concerted effort to meet these needs, working hand-in-hand with Thrivent Financial, a nonprofit, fraternal association that returns monies normally going to taxes and bonuses to charities supported by members. If you want more info on Church of the Advocate, or on Thrivent Financial, please contact Pam Stein, Donna or Roy Turnbaugh, Roger Hartner, or Bendik Clark.

—Pam Stein

## Poor People's Campaign to Kick Off in Asheville

Press release from the Poor People's Campaign, Posted by Mountain Xpress, January 22, 2018.

**ASHEVILLE — The Poor People's Campaign: A National Call for Moral Revival, sponsors its first Town Hall in Asheville Feb. 8, 7-9 pm at Hill Street Baptist Church.** The campaign originated in 1967, created by Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King Jr., who was assassinated before he was able to organize and carry out his stated mission of changing public policies that keep people in poverty.

The current national campaign is organized by North Carolina's Rev. Dr. William J. Barber II, former president of the N.C. NAACP and current head of Repairers of the Breach, and Rev. Dr. Liz Theoharis, of the Kairos Center at Union Theological Seminary in New York.

The campaign's actions are slated to begin in May and last 40 days, and will include civil disobedience, education about issues of poverty, contact with elected officials and protest rallies.

The Feb. 8 Town Hall here will include information on issues such as health care, hunger, the environment and justice reform, among others.

Speakers include people whose lives are impacted by poverty, plus Rev. Amy Cantrell of BeLoved Asheville; Richard Fireman, M.D., Community Roots, Alliance for Energy Democracy; Rev. Shannon Spencer, Asheville Poverty Initiative; Carmen Ramos Kennedy, president, Asheville-Buncombe NAACP; Mirian Porrás Rosas, Nuestro Centro and Leslie Boyd, health care activist. The program also will include music by the Be Loved Justice Band.

Participants will learn how they can support the Poor People's Campaign in a number of ways. Come hear what the campaign is all about, learn how you can become a participant and hear how poverty affects people and communities.

**The event is free and open to the public.**

**MOUNTAIN SPIRIT** is the monthly newsletter of the Episcopal Church of the Holy Spirit, Mars Hill, NC, a parish belonging to the Diocese of Western North Carolina. Visit our website: [www.holyspiritwnc.org](http://www.holyspiritwnc.org)