

Day of the Dead

NOVEMBER 2 — FRIDAY

**CELEBRATING DAY OF THE DEAD
(DIA DE LOS MUERTES)
Spanish Mass Service
All Are Welcome
7:00pm!**

The women from our Latina group will be constructing an "offrenda" in our sanctuary. All are invited to add photos of deceased loved ones and bring favorite foods of those deceased loved ones to the potluck following the service.

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This monthly book group will be led by Susan Sherard and David McNair. Listed are the challenging titles coming up in future months.

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That time of year already? Help with our annual project of providing food for food-insecure students during their holiday break at Christmas.

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Happening at the Marshall Pres. Church — and you are invited to attend!

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The Black Jesus Liberator Icon Explained page 6
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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. For more information about the church, visit our website at: www.holyspiritwnc.org

Editor: Lorrie Cooper, who has a delightful black cat companion named Ernie. Go get yourself a black cat! You won't regret it!



Black Jesus Book Group

by David McNair

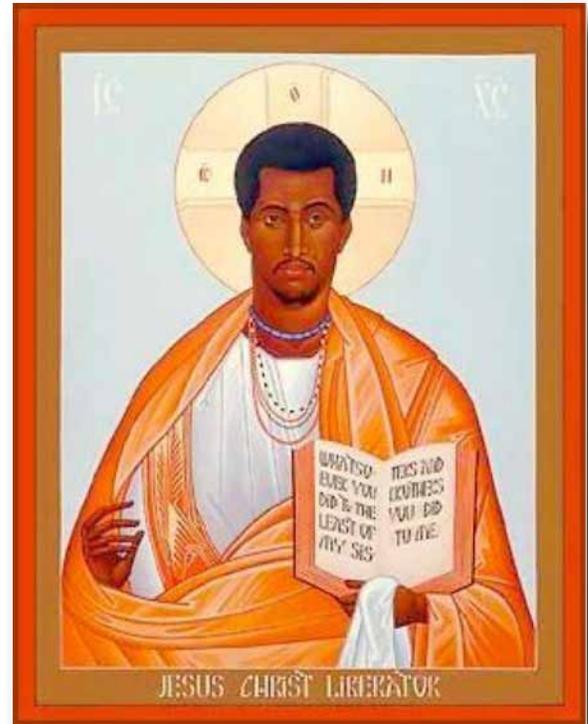
“America is in trouble,” writes Michael Eric Dyson in the first chapter of his book, ***Tears We Cannot Stop***.

He continues, “and a lot of that trouble – perhaps most of it – has to do with race. Everywhere we turn, there is discord and division, death and destruction. When we survey the land, we see a country full of suffering that we cannot fully understand, and a history that we can no longer deny. Slavery casts a long shadow across our lives ...”

“What then, can we do?” asks Dyson. I too ask this question, and I know I am not alone in asking and in longing for forgiveness, healing and transformation of the sin of racism. This sin is a disease that infects and sickens me personally as well as the culture, society and institutions of our nation and the world. This question and longing has prompted me to commit in the coming year to read, study, engage and heed the call of some of those who grapple profoundly and courageously with the naming of and the repenting of our “American original sin,” racism.

To this end, Susan Sherard and I will be leading a monthly book group in 2019 entitled “Black Jesus Book Group” in which we will read, study and discuss twelve books – one per month – that examine institutional and interpersonal racism, white privilege and racial equality.

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See page 6 for an explanation of the Black Jesus Liberator icon above.



The book selected for January is Michael Eric Dyson’s book, ***Tears We Cannot Stop***. Our first meeting is scheduled for Thursday, January 10th, 8:30–10:00 a.m. at The Episcopal Church of the Holy Spirit. All are welcome. Join us for any or all of the twelve meetings in 2019. We will set our future meeting time, date etc. at our January meeting. Several copies of “Tears We Cannot Stop” will be available for purchase in the hallway at ECHS, or you may buy a copy on your own.

Our book selection for the February is ***Raising White Kids*** by Jennifer Harvey, and the March book selection is ***The Hate You Give*** by Angie Thomas. For more information, please contact David McNair or Susan Sherard.





Operation “Pat”

Off to its Fourth Year

Operation Santa, which Holy Spirit Church fondly refers to as “Operation Pat” in honor of Pat Magnus, is off to its fourth year of providing food for food-insecure students in Madison county during the two-week winter break.

150 Children Need Us

While Mars Hill Baptist provides gifts and a Christmas dinner for approximately 150 children (about 50 households), ECHS is the sole provider of the type of food items hungry children — identified by their school counselors — can fix for themselves. These food items would be given to them for what otherwise would be two weeks of wondering if they would eat on days when school is out.

Sunday, Nov. 4 — Dec. 9

Villager Initiative funds and grants from Thrivent Financial for Christians have provided some base funds for food items, but beginning Sunday, November 4, and continuing through December 9, we need our generous parishioners to contribute the following items.

Stuff We Need You to Bring

- **LARGE** jugs of peanut butter,
- Squeeze bottles of jelly,
- **LARGE** boxes of cereal,
- Boxes of Mac & Cheese,
- **BIG** jugs of oatmeal,
- 12-count boxes of pop tarts,
- Cans of Spagetti-O’s and soup,
and boxes of Ritz and graham crackers.

Here’s a tip: Many of these items can be purchased cheaply at Aldi’s.

Help Make Them Merry

The hungry children of Madison will thank you for helping to make their winter break merry!

Contact Pam Stein or Donna Turnbaugh with questions.

Hey YOUTH and Parents of YOUTH!

Beginning this Sunday, there will be Youth Sunday School EVERY WEEK (instead of every other week.)

On the added Sundays, Justin Reilly and Cristi Johnson will be leading us in exploring the idea of STORY — looking at stories from the Bible and how they overlap with our own stories.

WHY EVERY SUNDAY?

Because we like you people. A lot. And we want you to know how important you are to this church family.



High School Fall Retreat November 16-18, 2018

Valle Crucis Conference Center

Join us as we explore how to let our own light shine when facing times of darkness in our personal lives, our community, and the world.

The cost, \$136 per youth, includes lodging, meals, and program for the weekend. Scholarships are available and can be requested during registration. (David McNair will be serving as chaplain for this event.)

November Birthdays



Annette Henry	....	3
John Wilson	.....	3
Chad Willis	.....	4
Bob Byrd	.....	7
June Trevor	.....	8
Stephen Smith	....	10
Maura Moloney	..	13
Sara McDonough	..	15
Laurie Seleski	.....	17
Crellin Byrd	.....	21
Jeff Owen	.....	23
Betsy Browne	.....	24
Zach Smith	.....	25
Nancy Whitaker	..	25
Frances Knisley	...	26

A CHOIR IS FORMING

to sing during Advent and Christmas. Rehearsals will happen on Sundays in the sanctuary, 15 minutes following the service.

Doesn't matter how polished you are...this is truly an opportunity to have fun with other Holy Spirit folks and most important, "Make a Joyful Noise!"

If you want to sing, all you need to do is stay after church and join in.

—Debra Alexander



**\$10 /PLATE
TAKE OUT OR
EAT IN**

ENCHILADAS

SALSA

TAMALES

TOSTADOS

FLAN

Mexican Lunch Feast!

Banquete de Almuerzo Mexicano!

Thursday November 8

jueves 8 de noviembre

11:30am-1:30pm

**Marshall Presbyterian Church
165 South Main Street, Marshall**

***Preparado por las Mujeres Unidas en Fe*
Prepared by Women United in Faith**

**Proceeds support
the Mujeres
Humanitarian
Fund, one of the
outreach projects
of La Esperanza
(Hope) Ministry at
The Episcopal
Church of the
Holy Spirit
in Madison
County**

***Las ganancias
apoyan el Fondo
Humanitario, uno
de los proyectos de
alcance del
Ministerio
de la Esperanza
En La Iglesia
Episcopal
del Espíritu Santo
en el condado de
Madison.***

For more information
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*Para más información llame
a Rebecca Sharp*



Black Jesus Liberator Icon

(As seen on page 2)

ARTIST:

Br. Robert Lentz, OFM

ARTIST NARRATIVE:

The Greek letters in the cross in Christ's halo are the divine name revealed to Moses in the burning bush: "I am who am." The inscriptions in the upper corners of the icon are Greek abbreviations for "Jesus Christ."

Christ wears the traditional Greek garments of icons, whether they are from Russia, Syria, or Ethiopia, but now they have African colors: burnt orange of the Maasai and white of the Saharan peoples. Like most African men, He wears necklaces.

The justification for this icon lies in the text Christ holds (Matthew 25:31-46). "When did we see you...?" those on Christ's left will ask him at the Last Judgment.

This text reminds us that Christ identified with the poor and oppressed of the world. The lives of the saints abound with stories about how Christ appeared as a beggar or a sick person in need. Christ has suffered in the Black members of His Mystical Body for many centuries — slavery, exploitation, prejudice, and racial violence. The time has come to depict His solidarity with the Black peoples of the world — in iconographic form.



Lifelong Christian Formation Class with Fred Burnham

Sundays – November 4, 11, 18:
9:00– 10:00 am

“Everything is Connected”

We will explore the Bible, the earth, the universe, and ourselves for clues that we are immersed in a vast web of amazing relationships called the Creation of a loving God. And we will examine the implications of these discoveries in our spiritual lives.

Folk Duo Performing at MHU

Cristi Johnson is half of the folk duo **Alathea**. And **Alathea** will be presenting at Mars Hill University in Broyhill Chapel on Tuesday morning, November 6 at 11:00am.

Alathea will also be performing at First Baptist Asheville on Wednesday, December 12 as part of a special Advent/Nativity service.

Both events are free and open to the public. For more information, visit **alathea.com** — or simply ask Cristi about details!



Austin Arditti

Introducing Austin Arditti, who shared his musical gifts with us a few Sundays ago.

In his own words:

"I've been playing the piano all my life and making music ever since I started high school. Currently I am a senior at Mars Hill University, majoring in social work, but since starting at Mars Hill University I have also been taking organ lessons. Some of you know me from Camp Henry where I felt honored to serve, loving my time working with the adolescent campers. I appreciate the warm welcome from you all at Holy Spirit, especially while I am trying to finish school. I am thrilled that you enjoyed my original piano piece, which I played recently at the service. My hope is to play for you again — soon! Also looking forward to spending the rest of the semester with you.

Thanks again.

—Austin"

Fiesta de CIMA

Saturday, November 3

6:30-11:00pm

at Land of Sky UCC

Food, Music, Clowns, Raffle!

All are cordially invited to this celebration!

In October CIMA-*Compañeros Inmigrantes de las Montañas Acción* turned sixteen and wants to celebrate this anniversary with neighbors and friends.

Come hear about CIMA and learn more about its work while you join in the celebration of its victories.

The celebration will take place on Saturday, Nov. 3, 6:30-11:00pm at Land of Sky UCC (15 Overbrook Pl, Asheville, NC 28805).

This is CIMA's fundraiser to help with the continuation of its programs.





Memories of a fine evening, delicious food, good conversation.

Friday,
Oct, 26

Auction proceeds benefit Neighbors in Need and Beacon of Hope.

Photos courtesy of Pam Stein.