

Really BIG October Events!

Annual Heritage Festival

Mars Hill

Saturday, October 7

10:00am to 4:00pm

Come eat lunch and browse all the wonderful items for sale at the Unique Boutique! The drawing for the quilt is scheduled for 4:00pm. (Oh, and there are a few other events and booths you might like to check out, too.)

Blessing of the Animals

Feast Day Of St. Francis

Of Assisi – Celebrated

Sunday, October 8

As part of the liturgy that day there will be a Blessing of the Animals. You are invited to bring your pet(s) into the sanctuary for the service and the blessing, which will take place before the sermon. Pets are welcome to remain in the sanctuary following the blessing, but do remove them if they become disruptive. If you don't feel your pet would be comfortable in the church setting, bring a photograph of your pet for the blessing. Children are welcome to bring stuffed animals, too!

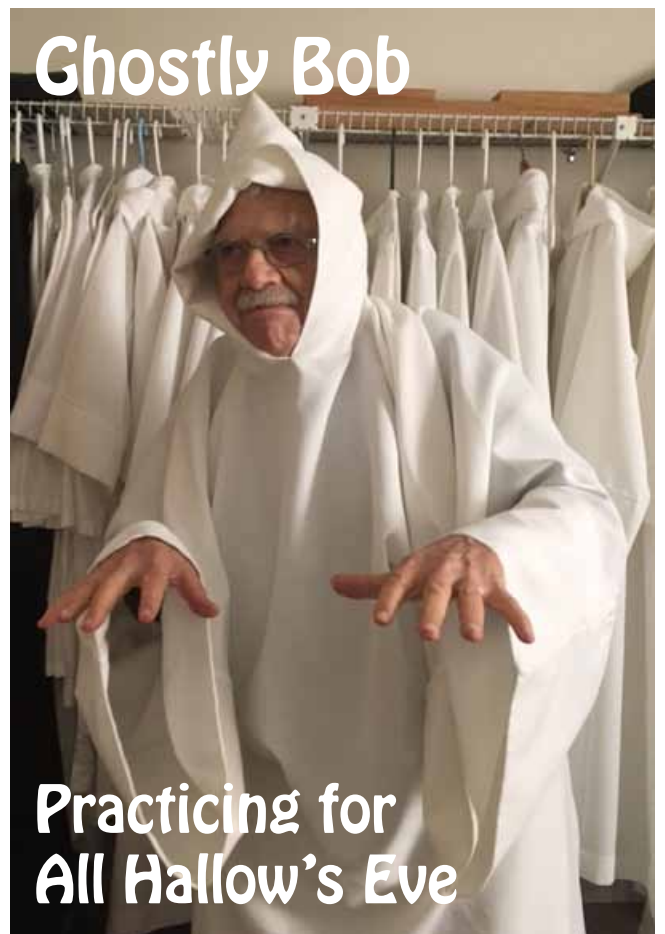
Fall Cleanup at ECHS

Saturday, October 28

9:00am to 1:00pm

Cleanup starts at 9:00am and finishes at 1:00pm. As part of the fun, a special team will "purge purgatory," the storage/ furnace/utility room next to the sanctuary. (See page 4 for full explanation.)

Ghostly Bob



**Practicing for
All Hallows' Eve**

Photo courtesy of Justin Reilly

Unique Boutique Schedule

Friday, October 6

Meet at the church at 3:00pm. Load up everything needed for the Heritage Festival and head to Mars Hill. Set up tents, etc., at the Gazebo downtown.

Saturday, October 7

Meet at the gazebo at 7:00am. Set up the Unique Boutique and food booth. At festival's end (4:00pm), load up all that's left over and do cleanup.

“Consider Haiti”

October's First Offering Reipient

Consider Haiti has one objective – to promote the health and welfare of children in Haiti by concentrating its efforts in four core programs: Medical Care Program, Community Health Agent Program, Sustainable Nutrition Program, Clean Water Program. If you are thinking about supporting **Consider Haiti** please know that this is a 501C3 organization and therefore tax deductible. All **Consider Haiti** staff are volunteers and 95% of all contributions are utilized directly in Haiti.

After a recent trip to Haiti this spring, one board member explained, “Nothing that happens in Haiti would ever happen in the United States! The depth of human suffering is unimaginable. In the mountain villages where we hold pediatric clinics, we are the only health care these children receive each year.”

*The Haitian boy pictured at right is Jean Hubert Pulaski, along with his family's goat. **Consider Haiti** gave his family a pregnant goat after Jean Hubert had completed the six-month nutrition program. As a result of this program, hundreds of goats are now providing meat and milk to many families like his. (Jean Hubert's last name is Polish.)*



Mission Earth

A Service Event for Youth About Faith and the Environment

Christmount Christian Assembly
Saturday, October 14, 12:30-6:30pm

Middle and high school youth groups are invited to join Asheville Youth Mission and Creation Care Alliance for an afternoon of service and discussion. They will work at a variety of local agencies and talk with community leaders about how our beliefs affect the way we treat our planet.

A \$20 registration fee includes service project program, dinner, and an event shirt. Want to come and get involved with other youth like yourself?

Talk to David McNair or get in touch with the office immediately. The event is coming up very soon!

Day's Schedule for Mission Earth

12:30-1:00pm

Check-in at First Presbyterian Church

1:00pm Opening Gathering

1:30 Depart for worksites

2:00 Work at local agencies

4:00 Finish at worksites and regather at Christmount Conference Center

4:30 Debriefing session and conversation

5:30 Dinner

EYC Youth Class October Schedule

Oct. 1 — No EYC Youth class

Oct. 8 — **Blessing of the Animals**, Each youth to give a quick speech on what his/her animal best friend mean to her/him, or on the subject of animals in general. We will be having class as well if feasible, and if the animals don't take over.

Oct. 15 — Special EYC for those who wish to participate in decorating sugar skulls, paper chains, and other decorations for the Day of the Dead (El Dia de Los Mertos). Please be thinking about a loved one who has passed whom you would like to be honored on the Altar/Offerenda.

Oct. 22 — EYC Youth class with Ben Smith teaching.

Oct. 29 — No EYC Youth class.

Fall Purge of Purgatory

Saturday, October 28, 9:00am – 1:00pm

In Catholic doctrine Purgatory is where souls go to suffer until they are holy enough to enter heaven. We have consigned many objects to their own purgatory in the storage room at the left of the sanctuary entry doors. This room also houses the furnace and electrical utilities.

Fall Cleanup this year aims to liberate these captives and send them to their just reward: either to the dump, My Sisters Place, or someone's attic. And we need to declutter this closet for safety reasons. Consequently, any team or ministry storing stuff in that purgatory should send someone October 28 in order to scour their sacred items, or contact Danny Wyatt if that's not possible. Should anything need to remain in that room, consult with the Property Team for a possible dispensation.

The major focus of our Fall Cleanup will be preparing our church both for the winter and the Bishop's visit on November 5. Outside we'll be freeing the grounds of leaf and limb, clearing gutters, cleansing flower beds and borders, shearing the last grass, and washing exterior windows. Inside, we'll thoroughly clean the kitchen and all windows and replace furnace air filters. Cleanup will be a huge task and many hands are needed. Come for coffee and a continental breakfast at 9:00am and stay until 1:00pm for a "Thank You!" lunch of soup and sandwiches. And, of course, sharing fellowship with the ECHS family is the best remedy for any purgatory. Sign up sheets will be in the cubby area. Or email or call Danny Wyatt, dkwgm@gmail.com, ph. 649-3633.

—Danny Wyatt

LATINX

The Latina Women's Group has renamed itself "Latinx," a gender-neutral term. They meet at the church every Thursday from 10:00am to 1:00pm, with a Bible study, a potluck, and play accommodations for their children.

October Birthdays

Bob Johnson	1
Emily Ball	2
Katrina Caskey ..	6
Quinn Yeakley ...	6
George Stein	8
Bob Cumbie	10
Meghan Hare ...	10
Larry Burda	12
Cameron Loomis	13
Jack Angel	14
Grant Trevor	16
Roy Turnbaugh..	16
Adam Reda	23
Beth Detwiler ...	24
Sadie McNair ...	24
Gary Rice	30



Telling the Unvarnished Truth

by Lin Von Dreele

Attending the new National Museum of African American History and Culture in Washington, DC, was on our essential bucket list when we recently traveled up that way for Pete's sixtieth high school reunion in Wilmington, Delaware. We expected to simply walk into the museum; however, we learned too late the necessity of making reservations. Oops! Scratch that goal, we thought in disappointment. But here's the good part . . . we were able to check online at 6:30am to spot possible cancellations for that day. Pete's persistence and the alignment of the stars got us in.

Coverage of this exceptional museum has not been overblown. The jaw drops as you approach the startling multi-cubic exterior of bronze-toned metal filigree (scrim) ornamentation reaching toward the sky. The striking facade emulates a crown worn by a leader of the Yoruban culture. Sited across the street from the Washington Monument which honors one of our founding leaders, the museum has a special place of honor.

The wonderment of the exterior, however, is secondary to the interior. Below the entry floor history is depicted prior to the 1400s when African and European societies shared common trade, scholarship, and cultures

Beginning with the centuries of European expansion westward into the Americas, colonial plunder contributed to the rise of North and South economies in the American Colonies and ultimately the United States, not to mention the Caribbean and South America.

In this lower level the visitor is confronted by words providing context for the entire exhibit:

Five hundred years ago, a new form of slavery transformed Africa, Europe, and the Americas. For the first time, people saw other human beings as commodities – things to be bought, sold, and exploited to make enormous profits. This system changed the world.

The movement through time in the lower level is stark: the Middle Passage, the horror of family separation, the discredit of humanity . . . all occurring when our nation was forging a new concept of freedom by many of our forefathers who owned slaves. The exhibition included individuals like Harriet Tubman and Sojourner Truth, and events such as radical slave uprising pushbacks, the Civil War, Reconstruction, and Jim Crow.

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Telling the Unvarnished Truth (continued from page 5)

Finally, current times displayed Dr. King and President Obama. Moving into the upper gallery levels the visitor could see music, science, economics, sports, and politics represented by African Americans. (It's pretty cool to see Chuck Berry's cherry red Cadillac convertible or hear a recording of Leontyne Price singing at the Metropolitan Opera.)

Moving along the interior journey, the large crowd was deep in observation and thought. While in front of the Tuskegee Airmen exhibit, I engaged in conversation with a woman eager to tell me that her mother dated one of the Tuskegee Airmen. She and many other visitors had their own stories to tell. Recording stations are available for continuing the oral histories of African Americans living today.

We found the museum to be sacred ground. You can't absorb the pain, disgrace, anger, and experience of dismissal without asking forgiveness for both those who went before us and those continuing the practices of prejudice and exclusion.

We can learn from John Hope Franklin who said in 2005: "We've got to tell the unvarnished truth." The National Museum of African American History and Cultural will help us know that truth.

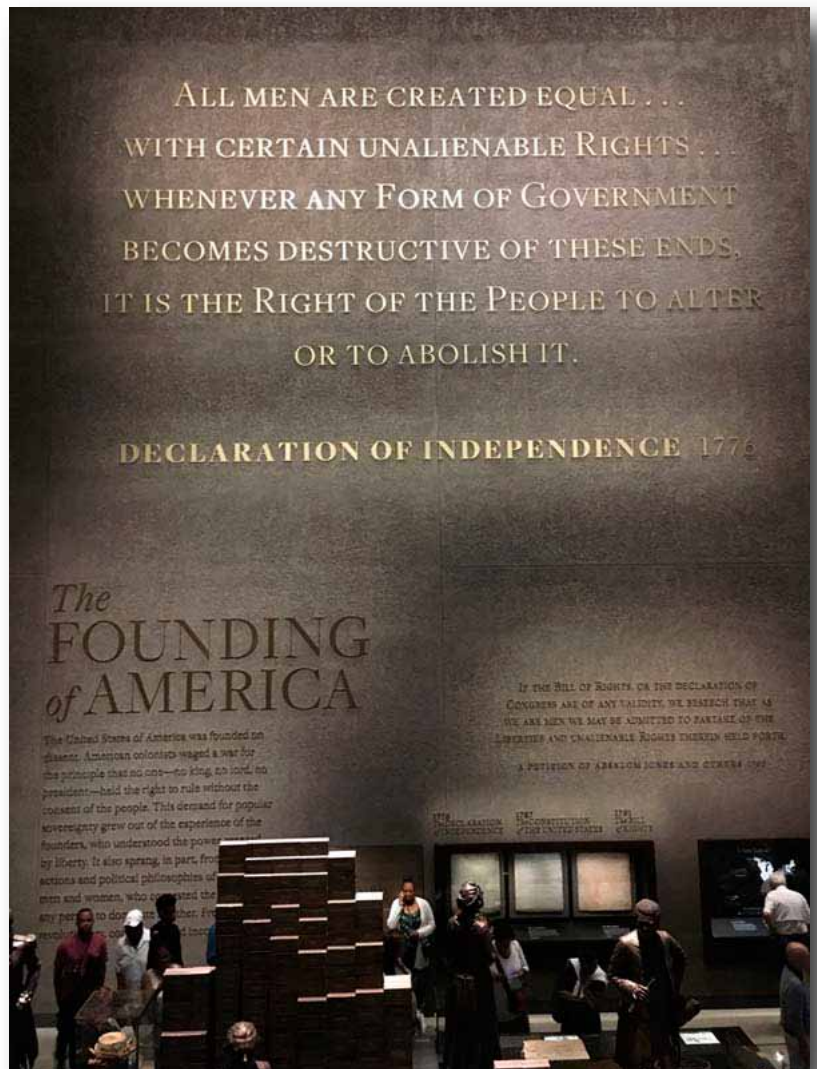


Photo courtesy of Pete Von Dreele

THE EPISCOPAL CHURCH WOMEN'S BOARD invites you to this event on October 7: **Conversations with Bishop José** at St. John's Episcopal Church, Asheville. Bishop José will be sharing his Hope and Vision for the Diocese and the Episcopal Church Women (ECW).

Registration for the event can be made online at <http://www.episcopalchurchwomen-wnc.org/events-news.html>

Ecumenical Prayer Service

A global movement entitled "Share the Journey" was launched by Pope Francis Wednesday, September 27. He is calling on all of us to support our brothers and sisters who have fled their homes seeking a decent and safe life for their families.

In solidarity with this campaign, the Asheville Vicariate will be sponsoring an ecumenical prayer service on Saturday, October 28, 11:30am in the green space in front of the Buncombe County Courthouse in Asheville. This gathering will be focused on prayer; it is not a protest or political event.

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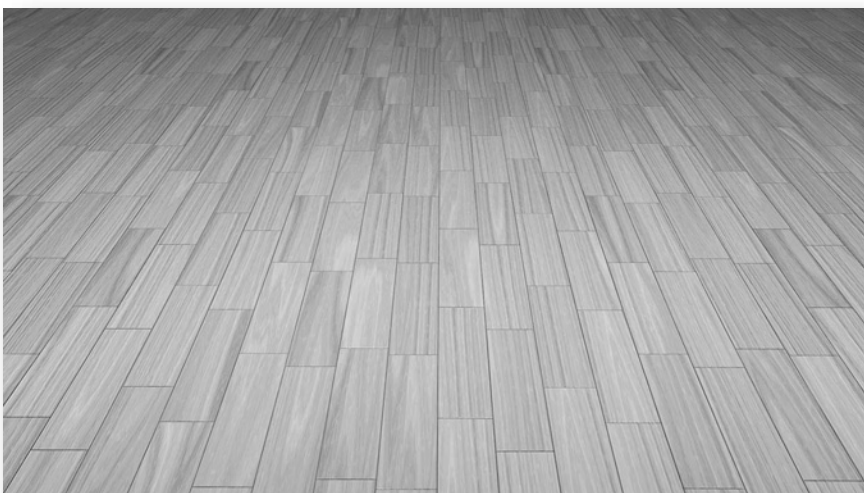
Hi there! I'm your commercial grade vinyl flooring. You know... that gray stuff you have been walking on for several months. I came with instructions from my maker (who is not nearly as great as yours) and would like to share with you. These instructions are simple but important and will help keep me looking nice for years to come. Here goes...

'Protect your floor when using a dolly for moving furniture (such as tables), or appliances. Never slide or roll heavy furniture or appliances or heavy boxes across the floor.'

In addition, my maker asks you to use felt protectors under all heavy pieces of furniture and chairs. I'll add 'furniture and chairs with rough feet.' But I know these were placed on all the furniture and chairs when I was installed.

”

That's all for now except to say...
Remaining faithfully under your feet, I look forward to seeing how THE HOLY SPIRIT moves you in months and years to come.



Message from the floor was interpreted for us by Linda Tull who, among her many talents, speaks Floor.

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. Editor: Lorrie Cooper

For more information about the church, visit www.holyspiritwnc.org

All Hallow's Eve

**By Mary Reed Newland at CERC,
Catholic Education Resource Center**

(Following are selections from her article at the above website. To read the article in its entirety, see link at end of article.)

“. . . for so long Halloween meant nothing but parties and vandalism . . . when someone first proposed that it came out of the liturgy, I asked: 'Are you sure?'

"You still hear people doubt it, even when you show them that Halloween is All-Hallows'-Eve which is the night-before-All-Saints'-Day. Some tell me they understand that Halloween pranks were a post-Reformation contribution to plague Catholics who kept the vigil of All Saints. . . nevertheless, during all the Christian centuries up until the simplification of the Church calendar in 1956, it was a liturgical vigil in its own right and thus has a reason for being. . .

"A celebration much like our Halloween, with bonfires and feasting on apples and nuts and harvest fruits, was part of pagan worship for centuries. The Britons celebrated in honor of their sun-god with bonfires, a tribute to the light that brought them abundant harvest. . . It was in the eighth century that the Church appointed a special date for the feast of All Saints, followed by a day in honor of her soon-to-be saints, the feast of All Souls. . .

"Apparently how you spent the vigil of All Saints depended on where you lived in Christendom. In Brittany the night was solemn and without a trace of merriment. On their 'night of the dead' and for forty-eight hours thereafter, the Bretons believed the poor souls were liberated from Purgatory and were free to visit their old homes. The vigil for the souls, as well as the saints, had to be kept on this night because of course the two days were consecutive feasts and a vigil is never kept on a feast.

"Breton families prayed by their beloveds' graves during the day, attended church for 'black vespers' in the evening and in some parishes proceeded thence to the charnel house in the cemetery to pray by the bones of those not yet buried or for whom no room could be found in the cemetery. Here they sang hymns to call on all Christians to pray for the dead and, speaking for the dead, they asked prayers and more prayers.

"Late in the evening in the country parishes, after supper was over, the housewives would spread a clean cloth on the table, set out pancakes, curds, and cider. And after the fire was banked and chairs set round the table for the returning loved ones, the family would recite the *De Profundis* (Psalm 129) again and go to bed. During the night a townsman would go about the streets ringing a bell to warn them that it was unwise to roam abroad at the time of returning souls."

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All Hallow's Eve

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"It was in Ireland and Scotland and England that All Hallows' Eve became a combination of prayer and merriment. Following the break with the Holy See, Queen Elizabeth forbade all observances connected with All Souls' Day. In spite of her laws, however, customs survived . . . Begging at the door grew from an ancient English custom of knocking at doors to beg for a 'soul cake' in return for which the beggars promised to pray for the dead of the household. Soul cakes, a form of shortbread and sometimes quite fancy, with currants for eyes became more important for the beggars than prayers for the dead, it is said. Florence Berger tells in her *Cooking for Christ* a legend of a zealous cook who vowed she would invent soul cakes to remind them of eternity at every bite. So she cut a hole in the middle and dropped it in hot fat, and lo a doughnut. Circle that it is, it suggests the never-ending of eternity.

Truth or legend, it serves a good purpose at Halloween. . .

"Charades, pantomimes, and little dramas, popular remnants of the miracle and morality plays of the Middle Ages, commonly rehearsed the folk in the reality of life after death and the means to attain it. It is probably from these that the custom of masquerading on Halloween had its beginning."

And there's much more to the article, including suggestions on how to make a great Hallowe'en party.

Go to

<http://www.catholiceducation.org/en/culture/catholic-contributions/all-hallow-s-eve.html>



Weekend Centering Prayer Retreat

Oct. 13-15, 2017

Lake Norman (near Charlotte, NC)

Enjoy a weekend of contemplative silence in a comfortable waterfront home in a peaceful setting. The retreat will begin at 5:30 p.m. Friday and conclude after lunch on Sunday.

Retreat leader Rob Field is a certified Centering Prayer workshop and retreat leader. He is director of Center for Spiritual Wisdom in Brevard, NC, and an Episcopal priest. Rob has extensive experience leading workshops, retreats and Centering Prayer groups. He is affiliated with Thomas Keating's international organization Contemplative Outreach.

This retreat is for individuals who have attended an introductory workshop and have their own Centering Prayer practice. During the retreat, there will be multiple periods of group Centering Prayer each day, solitude, contemplative worship, as well as free time.

Cost for the weekend, including overnight accommodations Friday and Saturday and all meals, is \$375 (double occupancy). Single occupancy: \$450. Space is limited and registration is on a first-come, first-served basis. The deadline to register is October 5.

Further details and registration information can be found at the following:

<https://center4spiritualwisdom.org/>



ECHS Financial Report for August, 2017

	August Actual	August Budget	Better/ (Worse)	YTD Actual	YTD Budget	Better/ (Worse)
Pledges	\$ 12,053	\$ 15,417	\$ (3,363)	\$ 123,418	\$ 123,333	\$ 85
Open Offerings & Other Revenues	576	920	(344)	9,766	7,360	2,406
Operating Expenses	(18,554)	(19,406)	852	(130,484)	(133,590)	3,105
	\$ (5,925)	(3,069)	(2,856)	\$ 2,700	(2,896)	5,596

Parishoners interested in pledging to support the operation of our church should contact Bill Sewell, Treasurer, at wsewell@charter.net or (828)273-9917.

Report Chart courtesy of Bill Sewell