

Church of the Holy Spirit Down By the Riverside!



SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 23

It was a beautiful Sunday morning, a mild early fall day, and Holy Spirit Church was on the Marshall Island to celebrate the baptism of Amanda Hilty. With the town of Marshall as backdrop, we witnessed her baptism in the flowing waters of the French Broad River. Many cameras clicked away during this event, and similar versions of the post-baptism photo above were snapped by the onlookers.

Above: Smiling happily, Amanda is flanked on her right by her mother, on her left by the Rev. David McNair, and at the far end by her wife Loraine. Following the service was the ECHS signature potluck meal, delicious as always.

(Photo courtesy of Susan Sewell.)

Some of what you'll find IN THIS ISSUE

The Poorest Country in
the Western Hemisphere
and How You Can Help

Women's Group with a Twist

Steps Awaiting a Path

Making Your Personal Identity

Suffering Down at the Border

... and you'll find lots more



“Consider Haiti”

October’s First Offering Reipient

Consider this: Haiti is the poorest country in the Western hemisphere.

And consider this: Haiti is one of the *five poorest countries* in the world.

Consider Haiti is an Asheville-based charity that focuses on improving child health in the rural villages of Montrouis, Fond Baptist and Ivoir. It helps over 2,000 children a year. To accomplish this, **Consider Haiti** has four programs.

First: Using local health agents, **Consider Haiti** enrolls malnourished children in a six-month program to rehabilitate their bodies. It provides food, nutritional supplements, deworming medicine, and vitamins. Consider Haiti also offers guidance on improving health and wellness for their families, and connects them with the other components of the program.

Second: **Consider Haiti** distributes goats, rabbits and other agricultural products to impoverished families along with instructions on how to use these resources to build sustainable sources of food and income. **Consider Haiti** breeds Haitian female does with a Nubian Boer buck to attain hearty offspring adapted to local conditions. They are delivered to families in Montrouis, Fond Baptist and Ivoir. **Consider Haiti** works closely with the families in the Community Health Program to ensure that they receive the gift of the goat and are able to utilize future offspring for nutrition, milk income and school tuition.

Third: Drinking and using contaminated water leads to widespread acute and chronic illnesses and is a major cause of death and misery. To combat this problem, Consider Haiti provides water filters effective in removing suspended solids and most pathogens to each family with a child enrolled in the Community Health Program.

Fourth: Consider Haiti routinely organizes and sends teams of medical volunteers to Haiti to provide medical care. These teams provide week-long clinics for Haitian children. In the mountain villages where Consider Haiti holds pediatric clinics, it is typically the only healthcare these children receive each year. More than a thousand children are seen during each of these medical trips. All trip participants pay their own airfare, room, and board. **Consider Haiti** is entirely volunteer-based. Over 95 percent of contributions goes directly to its Haitian programs.



*This Haitian boy is Jean Hubert Pulaski with his family’s goat. **Consider Haiti** gave his family a pregnant goat after Jean Hubert had completed the six-month nutrition program.*

**PREP FOR THE 2018
MADISON HERITAGE ARTS
FESTIVAL**

FRIDAY, OCTOBER 5

**Food Booth set up beginning
at 2:30 pm.**

**Precook sausage beginning
at 3:00 pm.**

**Still need volunteers
to help out!**

**The Festival takes place in
Mars Hill, Saturday, October 6,
10:00am to 4:00pm.**

The Church of the Advocate and Brother Zeller

John Zeller, who for several years was a parishioner at ECHS, recently completed his formation and took his first vows with the Anglican Order of Preachers (Anglican Dominicans). He is now Brother John Zeller and serves on the Church of the Advocate Advisory Board. He also preaches and helps at the Church on Sundays.

Brother John Zeller is considered a Friar (Brother), not a monk. Monks live a cloistered life in a monastery. Anglican Dominicans Friars and Anglican Franciscans Friars stay in the world living out their vocation in a variety of ministries.

Women's Group

The October Women's Gathering will have a little twist added! Nancy Larkin and Jim Thorsen recently moved into a new home on the Little Ivy River. The house is located on a beautiful piece of property bordered by a small river. For Nancy this setting is a holy place that calls daily to her, reminding Nancy of her life journey. While attending the Women's Retreat in September, she decided to share this place with the women who have become part of her life in Church of the Holy Spirit.

The women have the 10:30 meeting at Nancy's home Saturday, October 20. But **FIRST** a small breakfast treat of coffee and tea will welcome the group at 10:00am.

During the meeting we will celebrate our life journeys while **Traveling the River of Life**. Nancy asks that participants bring either a writing or an item to signify traveling on this river. Her hope is that weather will allow the Gathering to take place outdoors on the river bank. Please bring lawn chairs.

Nancy Larkin's address is 34 Whitt Branch Road, Weaverville. In GPS this address will show as Weaverville, but in actuality it's located closer to Mars Hill. Nancy's home is less than ten minutes from the downtown Mars Hill Post Office.

Be looking for more information in the *Weekly Spirit* newsletters. Nancy hopes you will join her in marking an important step in her **Travel on the River**.

Adult Christian Formation

October 14, 21 — Mark Holland

**Making Personal Identity:
God's Voice at the Center**

Is a self only a product of our genetics and socialization? What has the self to do with God, with religion? This class will discuss different ideas about the self, focusing on the work of Swiss psychologist Carl Jung, who developed a concept of the self that puts God at the center of the human personality.

**November 4, 11, 18 —
Fred Burnham**

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.

Why Buy Ingles' Gift Cards?

INGLES' GIFT CARD sales are an essential source of income for CHS outreach. Many of us are unaware of how this program works. This is an attempt to explain the program for new members and those of us who have forgotten.

CHS takes orders and payment for Ingles gift cards on the last Sunday of each month. Mike Ray sends an e-mail reminding people of this. People who won't be in church can mail their payment to Mike. Mike will also take credit cards. Ingles gives people the full value of what they pay for the gift card.

If we sell a minimum of \$5000 for the month, CHS earns a 5% rebate (\$250). Of this \$250, \$150 goes to the First Sunday recipient and \$100 goes to the Rector's Discretionary Fund. If we sell more than the \$5000 minimum, 5% of sales over \$5000 goes to our Outreach Committee. Since this is Outreach's only source of funding, it is crucial that we sell more than the minimum each month. For the first eight months of 2018, Outreach received \$40 in March (the lowest month) and \$175 in June (the highest month), with an average of \$88.75 per month.

Please consider participating in this important program on a regular basis.

—Donna Turnbaugh

Memorial Garden Memo by Susan Sherard Steps Awaiting a Path

When you have a few minutes before or after a service or meeting, or if you are looking for a quiet place to sit and pray, walk down to the Memorial Garden and enjoy its quiet beauty. Just recently the Memorial Garden team added something new to the mix - three "Orange Carpet" azaleas and six "Grow Low" fragrant sumacs. When the garden was created, it was a sunny place! Over the years, the mix of light and shade has shifted, and sun lovers are being replaced with native species that enjoy some shade during the day.

Next spring we'll do some planting below the south end of the garden. Over time, the growth of the woods has blurred the visual impact of the three intersecting circles which make up the Memorial Garden. Since this symbol of the Trinity represents the heart of the original design, we want to preserve it - but in a way that also honors the natural environment. So we'll do a minimal amount of clearing just below the garden, and then use a variety of oak-leaf hydrangeas and two redbuds already growing there to create a natural but defined border along a portion of the bottom edge.

Sometime next year, as part of the overall landscape plan for the church's property, we hope to create a path from the church to the Memorial Garden.

The accessible path that circles the hill was never intended to be the only approach to the garden. A second path, one that invites people to leave the sanctuary and proceed down the hill to the garden, was envisioned from the beginning. The stone steps into the garden have been patiently waiting for almost three decades! Maybe 2019 will be the year.

Maintaining the Memorial Garden is a year-round ministry. Some tasks are scheduled solo or with partners, and others involve group gatherings of a couple hours. We almost always sweat and have fun. Our goal is to maintain the space as a sacred place for people to visit any time, as well as to ready it for a service of burial.

Many thanks to Roger Hartner, Annette Henry, Theresa Matthews, Kathleen Phillips, Julie Johnson and Jim Woodruff for their faithful weeding, pruning, mulching, watering and planting. We're also grateful to Amanda Hilty and Tom Panek who pitched in during the major mulching project, and to Ed McNally for helping us with plant selection, purchase and delivery.

If you are interested in joining the Memorial Garden Team, or if you have questions about the garden or the ministry, just get in touch with me at ssherard64@gmail.com.

Mission Earth

**A Service Event for Youth About
Faith and the Environment**

Trinity Church

Sunday, October 7, 12:50-6:00pm

We will **MEET OUTSIDE OF TRINITY CHURCH** in the parking lot with the playground at 12:50PM to walk to First Presbyterian. Please wear clothes that are comfortable and can get dirty because we are going to volunteer.

COST: \$15 (For a pizza lunch, snacks and a small donation for the Creation Alliance)

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



AND ON THE EIGHTH DAY GOD JUST PITTERED AROUND THE HOUSE

from the September 24, 2018 issue of **The New Yorker**

October Birthdays

Bob Johnson	1
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For more information about the church, visit www.holyspiritwnc.org

Oktoberfest Auction

Friday Evening, October 26

There will be wonderful food prepared by Tom Panek and Susan Sherard. And beverages, music, and a live auction. Invite a friend! A sign up sheet will be in the cubby in until October 21. Be sure to reserve your place for the meal!

The Oktoberfest committee is looking for items for auction. We are striving for original items, original local artist paintings, pottery, vacation cottage or beach house rental, gift baskets, photographer session, custom cakes or pies. Services such as baby sitting, cooking a gourmet meal for four, computer tutoring. Concert tickets or play tickets. Gift cards That desirable item that more than one someone wants or needs, that is what makes a live auction work.

- Don't despair if, like me, you have some things that don't fit into the auction line up — My Sister's Place always needs items to sell. It's all good.
- Collection of items will be in the back left classroom down the hallway at church. (Old kindermusik room) Please tag your item with your name or fill out a donation sheet, take the top copy, tape the yellow copy to your item. The cut off for accepting items is October 7.
- Travis Wilson of Broken Arch Auction Gallery will be the auctioneer for the evening keeping things fun and lively.
- Bottom line:** get the mostest for Villager Initiative and Beacon of Hope.
- If you have questions, don't hesitate to call me, Peggy Wilson, at 713-7596.

Down At The Border: Hear the October 21 Report

Rebecca Heskamp, Bill Ramsey, and Joyce Hollyday participated in a week-long church witness at the Arizona-Mexico border in late August. They saw the immense suffering caused by the administration's "Zero Tolerance" immigration policy. But they also witnessed the enormous courage, compassion, and hope of migrants and their allies. They visited shelters in Mexico and while at the border wall shared communion.

They observed migrants being hastily sentenced to detention and deportation in a Tucson federal court as part of "Operation Streamline." They held a vigil at the largest Border Patrol Station and took a pilgrimage into the desert to the site where a young migrant died of dehydration.

During our October 21 church service, Rebecca, Bill, and Joyce will share the poignant stories and helpful insights they gleaned on their journey about our current immigration crisis and faithful responses to it.