



The Messenger

A publication of The Church of the Transfiguration



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We have been busy the week after Christmas making improvements to the building and grounds. Patrick and I improved the new parking areas below the cemetery and we still have some split rail fence to put up there as well. I also used the machine to do some clearing around the cemetery and remove some dead trees and stumps from the property. A big thank you to Tennoca construction for allowing us the use of a mini excavator to do the work. There will be a lot of new work to continue in the New Year around the property so keep your eyes peeled. (see photos on page 2)

The Rev. Wes Shields

My hope for the New Year is the same hope that we can grow in the love of Christ and in our service to the Lord. That statement is both simple and daunting. What that means will remain to be seen. I do hope that you will begin, or hopefully continue to pray for our church family. We cannot hope to do the will of God if we do not seek the will of God. I am convinced that, I personally, and we as a parish can and need to improve in this area. Please pray for our ministries, our Vestry, and for me as your priest.

Along with our renewed prayer life we some new ministries beginning such as AA group meeting at the rectory, Health Care Ministry, Prayer Shawl ministry which isn't exactly new but renewed, as well as our other continuing ministries. I hope that each of you can find an outlet for your God given talents and passions in these ministries or in something we haven't even conceived of yet. Our life as a church family and our individual faith journeys are strengthened when we invest ourselves, our time, talent, and treasure, in service to the Lord and those around us. Christianity is not a spectator sport no matter how hard we try to make it one. We have to be engaged in order to receive the blessings that God intends for our lives. I hope one of your resolutions is to grow in your faith and commitment to the Lord and I hope you will let us know how we can help you on that journey.

Wes

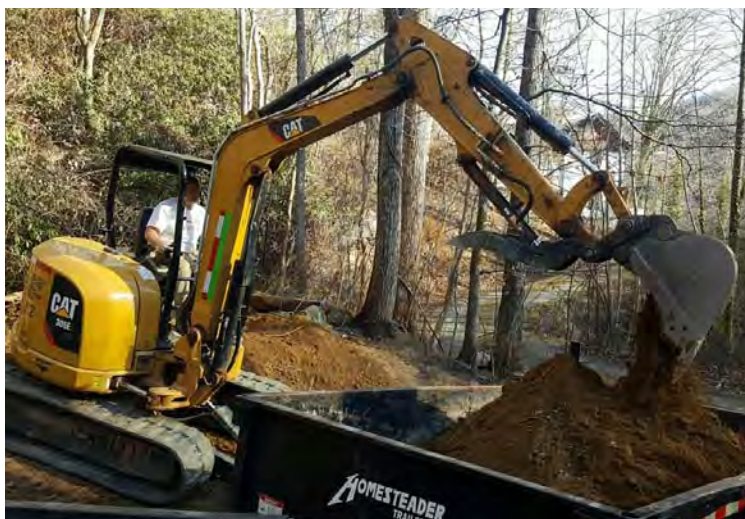


Christmas Eve service began at 9:30 with the congregation and choir singing carols. We were graced by soloist, Evelyn Thatcher singing He Shall Feed His Flock and Rejoice Greatly. Many thanks to her for generously sharing her talent with us. The beautiful and sacred service was well attended by church members and visitors alike. Silent night was sung by all from candle light passed from one candle to another. It was a beautiful celebration of Jesus' birthday.

Julie Maziarka

Christmas Eve photo. More photos on our church's website.

Improvement on church's grounds



Wes and Patrick working hard to improve church's property.

Thanks, guys!

Thirteen Church of the Transfiguration in Bat Cave members and guests formed a Christmas Caroling group bringing harmony and joy to our community! One recipient said it was the best Christmas present ever. This was a wonderful way to receive and give the Christmas spirit.

Thank you JoAnne Ellingson for reviving this practice and for all those who joyfully participated in and received our offerings. Hopefully this will become a yearly tradition! Julie Maziarka



Bare Necessities Update

It is the season to reflect upon the past year. It has been another meaningful one for the Bare Necessities Team in ministry and fellowship. Below is what we have accomplished in terms of numbers:

2015	2016
95 diaper kits	110 diaper kits
79 feminine hygiene kits	128 feminine hygiene kits
4 newborn kits	2 newborn kits
Thailand, Nicaragua, Uganda, Lake Lure	Haiti, Lake Lure

For 2016, the “kits” translate into: 220 waterproof diaper covers, 1100 cloth diapers, 1100 cloth wipes, 110 tote bags, 256 feminine hygiene shields, 1280 cloth absorbers, 128 soaps, 256 ziplock bags, 128 tote bags, 2 newborn fleece blankets, 2 newborn fleece hats and 2 newborn fleece toy balls.

Good work Bare Necessities Team and church for your hard work and support!

Upcoming workdays will be January 4 and February 1 from 4-6pm.



The M&M group (mature and motivated) sponsored a festive outing to the Omni Grove Park Inn to view the gingerbread competitions on December 20. Fourteen church members and guests enjoyed the beautiful ambience, Christmas decorations, creativity, hot chocolate, and even a little shopping at the Grove Park Inn. It was a wonderful way to join each other in experiencing and enjoying the Christmas season! And Wendy even had her famous St. Luke's grab bag of prizes!

Events for January

TCW Meetings - Jan 11 at 12:30 bring lunch



Firewood Ministry

Every Monday at 1 pm
Cutting and delivering
firewood to those in need
Call Wes for more information



Bare Necessities Group

January 4 and February 1 - Time 4-6 pm

Vestry Meetings

Second Wednesday of the month
12:30 in the Parish Hall. All are welcome

Wed. Night Covered Dish Dinner - The last Wed. of each month at 5:30 (January 25)

M&M Group will have glass painting on January 18 at 1:00 at the Church of the Transfiguration. You won't want to miss this one! Julie and Diane Earnest are teaching painting snowflakes and winter themes on wine glasses!

NO EXPERIENCE NECESSARY! It is basically stick figure and everyone can do it! All materials are provided including the wine glasses. There will be prizes and refreshments.

FUN, FUN, FUN!



Friendship Dinners' Schedule:

Sunday, January 8, January 15, January 22 and January 29 at 4:30

All are invited! Bring a friend!



Church's Cleaning Rotation Schedule

12/26 – 1/1 Mike & Julie Maziarka

1/2- 1/8 Heyward & Nancy Nettles

1/9 – 1/15 Sandra & Carl Nelson

1/16 – 1/22 Gary Seymour

1/23 – 1/29 Mike & Julie Maziarka

1/20 – 2/5 Heyward & Nancy Nettles

2/6 – 2/12 Sandra & Carl Nelson

2/13 – 2/19 Gary Seymour

2/20 – 2/26 Mike & Julie Maziarka

2/27 – 3/5 Heyward & Nancy Nettles

3/6 – 3/12 Sandra & Carl Nelson

3/13 – 3/19 Gary Seymour

3/20 – 3/26 Mike & Julie Maziarka

If you cannot make it, contact Patrick Warncke: pcwarncke@gmail.com or 828-772-9258



January 1st saw the new beginning of L. R. Boler's spiritual life as he was baptized and welcomed into our church family at the 10:00 service. Fr.

Wes presented him with his own bible. The prelude was a beautiful rendition of "Be Still" (composer, David Evans) sung by Laura and Aaron Wardwell accompanied by Aaron Wardwell on guitar. What a blessing they brought to our church service and L. R.'s baptism. Julie Maziarka

Children visiting with Santa



Hō Hō Hō

Rotation Schedule for 10 am Services

Jan 8 Alice G & Danny H



Jan 15 JoAnne & Curt E

Jan 22 Sandra & Carl N

Jan 29 Chuck Hailey

Jan 8 Barbara M & Wendy F



Jan 15 Harriet & Robert T

Jan 22 Tim T & Robert T

Jan 29 Marion & Fred W.

Jan 8 Dave S



Jan 15 Mike M

Jan 22 Chuck Hailey

Jan 29 Marily F



Jan 8 Nancy McN & Gloria A

Jan 15 Julie M & Russ A

Jan 22 Harriet T & Curt E

Jan 29 Chuck W & Mike B

Jan 8 Jack S



Jan 15 Veryl Lynn C

Jan 22 Robert T

Jan 29 Harriet T



January 6, 2017

January Birthdays

05 - Mike Boff
08 - Sr. Eleanor Grace
09 - Jack Stanier
12 - Sr. Joan Michael
14 - Mary Williams
15 - Sr. Hilary Mary
18 - Joselyn Watkins
21 - Connie Connell
29 - Lynn Morehead
29 - Mary Stroman
31 - Sr. Miriam Therese



Please pray for members who are in the hospital and who are sick.

Susan Brown, Lee Butler,
Monica Ferguson, Margaret
Hodge, Nancy Long,
Gertrude, Ackie Okpych,
Chelsea Parks, Jim Stanier, Stacey Weaver,
Bertha Whitt, JoAnne Woodcock, Barbara Meliski,
Brian Daniels, Robert Ell, Steve Hailey, Zee
Woodcock, Jacob Chalker, Steve Ruddy, Sam
Thompson, George King, Thomas Stroud, Sylvia
Mariani, Anne Hinton, Marty Taylor, Kaitlyn
McElreath, Evelyn Barry, Lauren Jones, Eddie
Gaines, Barbara Freeman, Kirk Gay, Sam Fine,
Holly, Sherwood & Daisy Nye, Evan Hays,
Rebecca La Breche, Betty Zieger, Curt Ledford,
Jennifer Whiteside, Brendan Parks, Keith Wood,
Ken Prentice, Carrie Allen John Wisnewski,
Sharon, Silcox & Lisa & Billy Publilcover, Joanne
D'Onbro, Gloria Anders, and Charlene Efrid.



January Anniversaries

12 - Nathaniel & Roberta
Smith
28 - Joe & Linda Carter
31 - Don & Anne Hinton



... where they will not be judged
by the color of their skin
but by the content of their character.
Martin Luther King, Jr.

Martin Luther King Jr. Day - Jan 16, 2017

Please pray for our men and women in the military and those serving in other areas of conflict. / Daniel Crane, Ralph Salamone, Hamilton, Jordan, Hunter Fitzpatrick, Benjamin St. Pierre & Zach Poole.



faith

This is your newsletter, so please share your photos and stories by sending them to

mransom1@bellsouth.net

The Messenger's next deadline will be

January 26, 2017

Thanks, mary ann



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Vestry 2017

Please pray daily for the leaders of our church.

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Worship & Education	Fr. Wes Shields	625.9244
Senior Warden	Julie Maziarka	625.1309
Junior Warden	Michael Boff	419.438.3460
Finance/Church Treasurer	JoAnne Ellingson	625.9637
	Marta Campbell	432.300.9950
	Barbara Mauldin	828.779.2751
	Jack Stanier	625.4274
	Patrick Warncke	828.772.9258
Clerk	Marilyn Floyd	625.4041



The Episcopal Church of the Transfiguration

Diocese of Western North Carolina

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Weekly Services

Holy Eucharist: Sundays 8:00 am and 10:00 am

Holy Eucharist and Healing: Wednesdays 10:00 am

Bible Study:

Sundays 9:00 am & Wednesdays 11:00 am

Children’s Sunday School 10am

Choir Rehearsal: Sunday 9:15 am