

Epiphany Star

July 2011

School's out for the summer! (If you were a teenager when I was a teenager, now you have a song stuck in your head!) It's that time when our thoughts turn to vacations, trips to the lake or the beach, hiking in the mountains, and just getting away from it all.

A break from school, work, or our daily routine is a good way to reenergize us, to help us think more creatively, and to allow us to unwind and escape some of the things that worry or exhaust us. We all need such a break from time to time. Then there are the other routines – the ones that feed us, that enrich our lives, and that keep us grounded in the things that are truly important. Perhaps those shouldn't be part of our escape, but often they are.

When we close the textbooks for the summer, when we hear the ocean calling our names, it's easy to "check out" from lots of our other habits, even the positive ones. One of those is often church participation. Attendance during the summer is usually far below the rest of the year. This is due in part to the fact that many people travel during the summer. But that's not the only reason for the decline in attendance at worship and activities. Sometimes we get the feeling that church, like school, takes a break for the summer. But that's not the case.

We don't have Sunday school or choir rehearsal during the summer months, but many of our other activities continue. Our youth group continues to meet (that's the choice of the young people themselves, which says a lot about their commitment), as does the vestry and many of our committees. In fact, summer is the busiest time for some committees, such as stewardship.

And the needs of the church never take a break for the summer. We still have bills to pay (and the power bill is always high at this time of year) and, more important, we still have ministry to accomplish in Christ's name. The needs among our parishioners and within our community don't end because the weather is warm. In fact, they are often greater during this season. The need for financial assistance, for hands-on ministry, and for prayer know no season, and they never take a vacation.

The good news is that God never takes a vacation, and neither does our worship, or our service in Christ's name. God is with us at the beach, in the mountains, or around the world. God carries us through our travels and our leisure, just the same as in our work and worship. And because God doesn't take a vacation from us, it's important that we don't take a vacation from God.

If you are in town this summer, please don't forget that our worship and mission continue year-round, and join us on Sundays at 8:30 or 10:00. Give thanks and praise to God for the gift of leisure and for the opportunity to do fruitful work. Lift up your voice in song and prayer with us. Get involved by hosting Punch on the Lawn one Sunday, or by attending the activities which are planned for the coming weeks. Continue to give financially so that our parish can do the work God has called us to do.

I look forward to seeing you often at Epiphany this summer. And I pray for safe travel, rest and recreation, and an abundance of God's blessings to each of you.

Blessings and peace,

Mother Linda t

Grant from Episcopal Diocese of NC Instrumental to Establishment of Meals on Wheels

For 24 years, the Church of Epiphany has assisted in Rockingham County's Meals on Wheels program. Initiated in 1987 with a grant from the Episcopal Diocese of North Carolina, Epiphany has had an active part in helping to deliver meals to clients in Eden and throughout the county. Former church organist, Warren Coker, and former rector, Tom Garner, applied for and received the grant from the Diocese. At the time, Warren was also serving as director of the Council on Aging which has since undergone a name change to Aging, Disability & Transit Services of Rockingham County.

Beginning with one route in the city of Eden, Meals on Wheels currently has six routes in Eden, Reidsville, Stoneville, and Madison-Mayodan. There is also a frozen meal program for those living outside the city limits, in the more rural areas of the county. Peg and Don Margensey delivered frozen meals for several years.

Warren Wilson was one of the first volunteers to serve as a driver in the MOW program. Over the years, Dot McBride, Frannie Reid, Louise and Cabel Soyars, Pug and Tom Webster, Ruth Sherwood, Azile Lemons, Carmen Fix, Bonnie Enders, and Ginny and Ray Sharrow, have all assisted with the MOW program.

The Webster's and the Sharrow's continue to deliver meals one day each month as scheduled and may soon be assisted by Jill Dineen, Nash Tetterton, and the Rev. Linda Nye as each expressed an interest in the program at Epiphany's recent ministry fair. If you would like to participate in this rewarding outreach, please contact Ginny Sharrow at 627-9427.

Youth Bar-B-Q Fundraiser

On June 11th we had our Youth Fundraiser. It was a little later than usual this year, which slowed attendance a bit, but we were still able to raise almost \$400. This is always a fun get together to help raise funds for our Mission Trip and have good fellowship. Thanks to everyone who helped prepare food, set-up and clean up. These events could not take place without the help and support of all of you. THANK YOU to everyone who supports our youth group with funds and prayers! All of you help make our Youth Group successful!

Linen Collection for Disaster Relief

On June 5th we delivered the donated items of new linens to the disaster relief program in Raleigh. It was great to see our generosity at work to assist those in need in these grief stricken areas. Small things like clean sheets and towels are such a blessing to those in need. THANKS for all your support in this cause.

Many thanks to William Cox & Will Dallas

We would like to thank both Wills and congratulate them on their accomplishments. They are graduating this year from high school. Will Cox will be attending UNC-GSO and Will Dallas will attend UNC-Chapel Hill. We will miss them here at Epiphany; they will be retiring as acolytes. It's sad to see them go but it's good to see what great adults they are becoming. Congratulations again to both Wills.

Rockingham County Landfill

Nancy Garner wants to get the word out (she isn't able to sign the petition due to being out of state) opposing the proposed landfill for Rockingham County. This would be located on Harrington Hwy and too close to the Dan River. If you are interested, there is a petition located at the Shell Station on the corner of Harrington Hwy and Hwy 135, and at Twin Rivers Outfitters or Dan River Basin Association. This is too important to sit back and wait to see what happens. Please have a voice in this matter!

Missing Keys

We are missing an extra set of keys to the rector's office and also to the security and fire alarms systems. These keys were hanging behind the door to Betty's office. If you know the where a bouts of these keys please bring them back.

Mission Trip Update

Some of you may have heard that our plans have changed for the Mission Trip this year. We were originally scheduled to go to Greenwood, Mississippi. For a variety of reasons we have decided to not go on this trip. Instead we're planning two shorter trips. Tentative plans are to have one trip to assist with Disaster Relief in the Raleigh / Sanford area. The other trip would be to assist with the Farm Workers in our Eastern Diocese with a program they have in place. There are a variety of needs in both of these areas. Some required sweat and tears others only require clerical work or housekeeping. We are hoping by having these trips shorter and closer to home we may have more people from the church come and join us. As we define our dates and places we will let all of you know so you can make plans to go with us. It is always a lot of fun to hang out with our youth and very refreshing to see them work unselfishly to help others in these communities.

Memorials

*In memory of Tanya Woolridge by
Gary Fitts*

*In memory of Mr. & Mrs. Cresenzo, Sr. by
Mark Parker*

*In memory of Louise Soyars by
Mr. & Mrs. Frank Wheeler
Mary Tulloch
Mott & Joyce Price
Joe & Martha Hopper
Mr. & Mrs. Raven Ellis, III
Pug & Tommy Webster
Judy & Rex Rouse
Gloria & Mel Hall
Mike & Merle Gentry
Mr. & Mrs. Howard Mizell
Ginny Sharrow
Peggy & Buddy Bowers*

*In memory of Guy Buckle by
Carol H. Melvin
Mr. & Mrs. J.H. Blakely, Jr.
Ginny Sharrow
Mr. & Mrs. Howard Mizell
Pug & Tommy Webster
Mary Tulloch*

United Thank Offering

Thank you for your contribution to the Spring Ingathering of UTO.
Church of the Epiphany raised \$534.00 for this organization.

Again, thank you.

Sincerely,

Helen Frenette

UTO Coordinator

Lector & Layreaders Schedules:

7/3: Gene Burns

Ben Tucker

7/10: Wayne Seymour

Rob Martin

7/17: Charlotte Maness

Mack & M.J. McKinney

7/24: Mike Redman

Mike Redman

7/31: Susan Stone

Babby Dineen*

Acolytes:

7/3: Team 2

7/10: Team 3

7/17: Team 1

7/24: Team 2

7/31: Team 3

Cooperative Christian Ministry

(CCM)

CCM Food Bank is always in need of

Cereal

Crackers

Canned meats

Peanut butter

Jelly

Macaroni & Cheese

Cookies

Also donations either by check or cash are welcome.

Thank you for giving from the abundance of your blessings.

Punch on the Lawn schedule for July:

July 3rd - ECW - Kelly Horsley

July 10th – Evangelism Committee – Pug Webster

July 17th – Worship Committee - Mike Redman

July 24th - Wayne & Lyn Seymour

July 31st - Choir - Gene Burns

NAME THAT TUNE

During the month of August we're going to sing some of your favorite hymns. How will we know they're your favorites? You'll tell us! Throughout July we will "take requests" from church members and compile a list of your favorites. Then we will incorporate them into the services in August. They can be hymns from our hymnal or from other sources. As long as we have the music and lyrics, we'll consider them. Please email your requests to the church at epiphanydeden@embarqmail.com and include the page number (if from the Hymnal 1982) or name of the hymn (if from another source). If we don't have the music on hand, we may contact you to see if you have it.

Caring for Creation: Gardening for the Earth

Our gardens are producing tomatoes, squash, and all sorts of goodies. Here are some tips to keep weeds and pests away without using harmful pesticides.

Crowd out weeds. The best defense is often a good offense. This means keeping the lawn thick and healthy to keep weeds from having any room to grow. You can also add groundcover plants and other thick plantings to crowd out weeds in decorative beds.

Maintain healthy soil. Once you have put in desirable plants that crowd out weeds, keep your plants healthy with fertile, aerated and well-drained soil. Weeds can grow in virtually any soil, but soil improvements will at least create a level playing field with your plants.

Till the garden. Loosening and turning over the soil is useful for managing weed populations, but tilling should be performed with caution. It provides a clean start for the crop and simplifies weeding. It can bury a lot of seeds at depths where they are unable to successfully establish. But remember: tilling may simply rotate weed seeds.

Hoe the topsoil. Carefully hoeing the topsoil can effectively control some weeds but, like tilling, hoeing has its limits. It can be effective for controlling annual weeds. However, perennials often resprout from the roots after the tops are removed. Only the surface needs to be hoed to pull away young, small weeds.

Mulch garden beds. Mulch is the most important factor in preventing weed growth. Nearly any barrier that blocks light works as a mulch. Bark and other decorative mulches work, but dried leaves, cardboard and newspapers are also effective.

Landscape fabric. Landscape fabrics are thin barriers covered with tiny holes, typically made of plastic, burlap, other natural fibers, or recycled plastics. They are effective at blocking weed growth while allowing water and air into the soil. They should be used in conjunction with thick, effective mulch.

Plastic sheets. Solid plastic sheets are alternative for covering the ground and blocking growth of weeds (and other plants). The plastic blocks water and light penetration, killing the plants underneath. This is also known as solarization. It is a fast and effective way to kill grass before replacing it with a vegetable garden or different type of lawn.

Burn weeds. As a chemical-free alternative, though it still uses gas, one can torching weeds with small landscape flamers, which are hooked to standard propane tanks. He said this method is quick and effective for ridding weeds in sidewalk cracks and lawn edging.

Don't let weeds go to seed. No matter what you do, you will never completely prevent weed growth. However, you can keep them from getting deeply established and spreading. Keep an eye on weeds and pull them before they can go to seed. For many species, you have days or weeks of growth before weeds flower and distribute seeds.

Vinegar & other organic herbicides. Herbicides aren't all made of nasty chemicals. Organic soaps, plant oil blends and even common household products are all used as natural herbicides. Concentrated vinegar is perhaps the most common, though vinegar does not kill root systems or some larger weeds. Drenching targeted weeds with vinegar can kill them, without any risk of toxic runoff, but it may kill everything it strikes. Avoid eye contact and always follow label directions, even with natural herbicides.

And for bugs. You don't need chemical pesticides. Used coffee grounds can keep bugs away (Starbucks offers their old grounds for free.) And planting marigolds can deter some types of bugs.

Source: <http://coolpeoplecare.org>

Sunday, July 31st - Ice Cream Social
Sponsored by the Parish Involvement Committee
6:00 pm
at Epiphany

Altar Flowers for July 2011

3: OPEN
10: OPEN
17: OPEN
24: OPEN
31: Ruth Sherwood

Note: *The amount for altar flowers is \$58.50 if purchased through the church.*

If you would like to memorialize or honor someone, consider providing the Aumbry candle, which hangs over the altar. Call or email Betty in the church office 623-9410 if you are interested.

Please remember in prayer: The families of Louise Soyars and Guy Buckle, John & James Ivie, Patricia Foote, George & Jo Kissenberth, Allison, Victoria, Cheryl Robertson, Annie Maynor, Betty Weiss, Hannah, Jennie, Charlotte Tulloch, Ken Campbell, Melvin Garner, Deborah, Bob & Lu, Alice Morelli, Ridley Smith, Ann & Bobby Shelton, Jim Garner, Rosemary Miller, Betty Cruise, Robert, John & Judy Feeney, Nancy Martin, Sarah Devereux, Grace Atkins, Zane, Penny Horsley, Kathy, William, Jerry Garner, Joanne, Jeff & Anne, Cora, and all the men and women of our armed forces at home and abroad (especially Ed Wilson, David Kallam, Lloyd Payne, Eddie Sullivan, Charlie Fosbroke, Michael Sumner, Frank Caparulo, Jr.)

(Names will remain on the prayer list for 4 weeks, if they need to remain longer please call Betty in the office 623-9410 or email her to let her know.)

Also remember our homebound:

Grace Atkins (Well Spring, GSO), Rosemary Miller (home)
Charlotte Tulloch (home)

Prayer Chain

For Prayer Chain information or to put someone on the prayer chain, call Zane Mizell at 623-6631 or the church office: 623-9410 Thank you!

Altar Guild for July:

Susan Stone

Next Vestry Meeting is scheduled for Monday,
July 11, 7 pm

Meals on Wheels:

Epiphany is scheduled for July 11 & 12

Birthdays & Anniversaries

Carol Cockram	July 2
India Tisdale	July 3
Eddie Sullivan	July 4
Travis Martin	July 5
Rachel Wright	July 7
George Kissenberth	July 9
Brianna Byrd	July 10
Jill Dineen:	July 11
Barbara Hunnings	July 11
Nash Tetterton	July 14
Jessica Martin	July 14
Meg & Calvin McGuire	July 20
Todd Martin	July 21
Rex & Judy Rouse	July 24
John Stone	July 27
Whitney Vaughn	July 29
Will Dallas	July 30

If you don't see your name listed for the birthday / anniversary month or if it is listed incorrectly, please call Betty in the church office (623-9410) so we can correct our information.

The first and third Fridays of each month, meet at the Lord's Pantry on Bridge St., to unload a food truck. This is one easy way to help in your community. We meet at 4pm. Please help out!

The non-designated offering on the first Sunday of each month is given to the Rector's Discretionary Fund to help those in need in our community.

Epiphany is a sponsor of Cooperative Christian Ministry. Remember to bring non-perishable items on the first Sunday of each month and place them in the red wagon. Thank you for your contributions.

Upcoming events:

Men's Luncheon (first Friday of each month)
Whistle Jacket Grille 11:30am

July 4th = Independence Day
(Office Closed)

July 31st - Ice Cream Social 6:00 pm

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Epiphany Summer Schedule:

Sundays: 8:30 & 10 am service
(No Sunday school)
Wednesday: 6:00 pm Centering Prayer
Youth Group: 6:30 pm