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St. Philip's Church

*Rector's
Message*



Rev. Kathryn Boswell
Rector

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CommonLife

June & July 2017 Volume 8 Issue 6 & 7

Welcoming the weary, dedicated to discipleship

"Come to me, all you who are weary and burdened, and I will give you rest. Take my yoke upon you and learn from me, for I am gentle and humble in heart, and you will find rest for your souls." (Matthew 11:28-29)

Dear brothers and sisters,

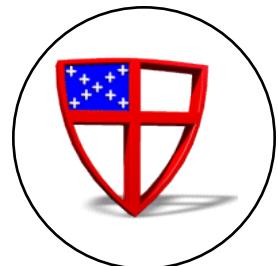
I have just returned from my almost-annual trip to North Carolina to visit the Southern colony of Boswells who have settled in and around the Chapel Hill area. This year my journey happened to be timed in a most interesting way: I left Norwood in the chilly dawn of springtime, with the maple leaves just unfurling and beginning to cover the bare branches with a haze of yellow-green, and dark-purple clusters of tight buds on the lilac bushes promising the approach of fragrant blossoms. But within a few hours I was landing in North Carolina, where the magnolia trees were covered with huge, waxy flowers and rose bushes everywhere bore a profusion of fully-open blooms, red and pink and yellow and ginger and white. And it was deliciously hot!

Not everyone enjoys the heat, I know, but for me, it was pure bliss to shed my layers of sweater and jacket and long pants and warm socks that I had been wearing against the cold and damp for ever so long. I could move so much more freely without the heavy weight and confinement of thick fabric. And the feel of hot sun and warm, kindly, sweet-smelling air on my skin was just absolutely heavenly.

In a small, imperfect way, this experience of sudden and glorious summer reminded me of the incredible joy we find when we experience the love of God. Life in this world is so full of burdens and demands, and so often lacking in warmth. We wrap ourselves thickly and carefully to protect ourselves from unkindness and loss. We plod along under the weary weight of all the guilt and shame we carry with us wherever we go. We pull our pride and self-righteousness tightly around us to keep out the cold winds of condemnation. Until one day: "the sun of righteousness rises, with healing in his wings" as Malachi writes, and suddenly we find ourselves blinking in the bright warmth of God's love, where there is no condemnation, no guilt or shame, no fear, no burden at all, but only the sweet-scented breeze of the Spirit and the welcoming voice of the Son and the shining and loving face of the Father. What unspeakable delight is there for all who seek him!

And now I am twice (or thrice? Or more?) blessed, because when I returned to the North Country, and home, this past Saturday evening, I found

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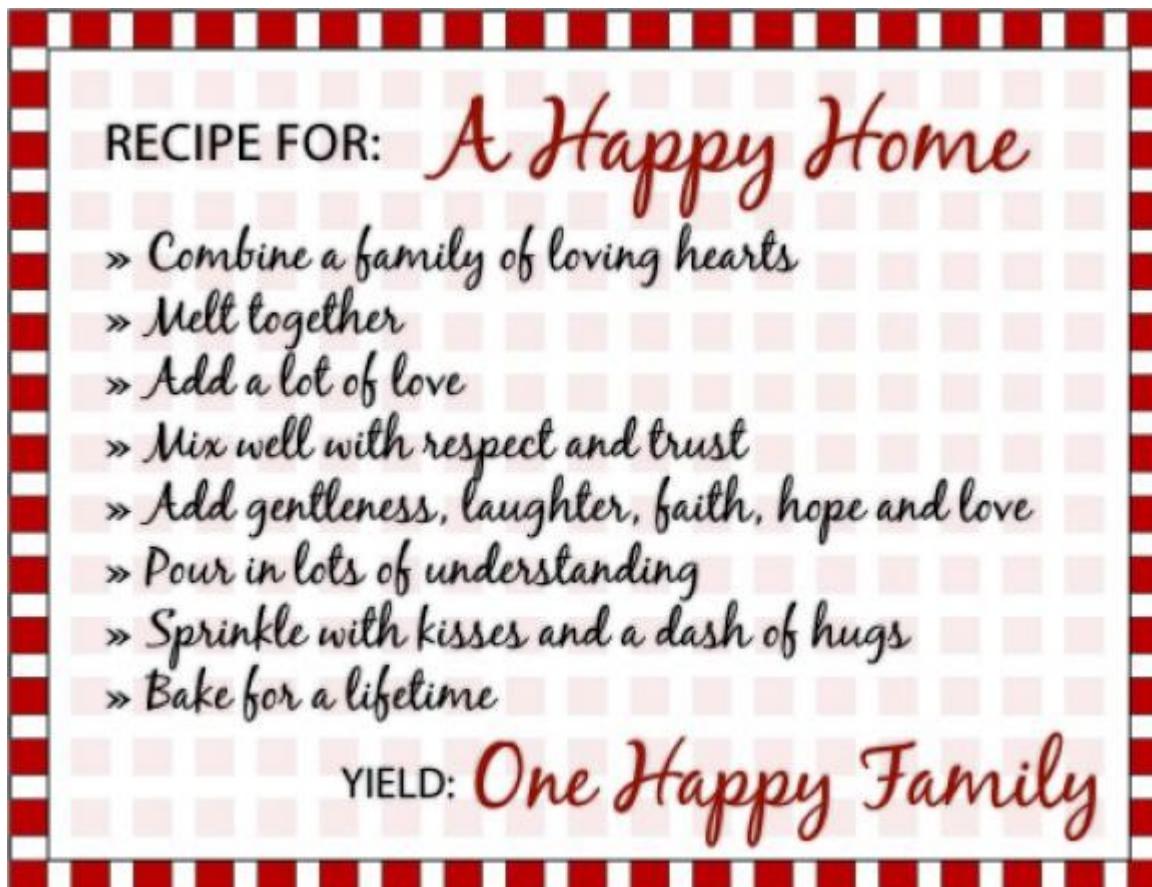
TO:

that spring had not been idle while I was gone. The lilacs have bloomed and the maples are fully-clothed in real green and the peas and spinach and lettuce we planted before I left have broken out of the earth and begun to stretch up and seek the light and warmth of the springtime sun. I get to experience the coming of spring and summer all over again – this time, at its proper pace instead of in a single day!

It is always good to be home. No matter where we are, north, south, east or west, the love of God is all around us.

And I am so very thankful to be back among you all,

love, Kathryn+



July 2017

Sunday	Mon	Tues	Wed	Thurs	Fri	Sat
						1 Common Cents 10-Noon
2 The Fourth Sunday after Pentecost Proper 8 10 am Holy Eucharist	3	4 Common Cents closed 	5	6 Common Cents 10-2pm	7	8 Common Cents 10-Noon
9 The Fifth Sunday after Pentecost Proper 9 10:00 am Holy Eucharist	10	11 10:00am Bible Study Common Cents 10-2pm	12	13 Common Cents 10-2pm	14	15 Common Cents 10-Noon
16 The Sixth Sunday after Pentecost Proper 10 10:00 am Holy Eucharist	17	18 10:00am Bible Study Common Cents 10-2pm	19	20 Common Cents 10-2pm	21	22 Common Cents 10-Noon
23 The Seventh Sunday after Pentecost Proper 11 10 am Holy Eucharist	24	25 10:00am Bible Study Common Cents 10-2pm 	26 Community Dinner 5-6:30pm	27 Common Cents 10-2pm	28	29 Common Cents 10-Noon
30 The Eighth Sunday after Pentecost Proper 12 10 am Holy Eucharist						

June 2017

Sunday	Mon	Tues	Wed	Thurs	Fri	Sat
				1 Common Cents 10-2pm 2:30 CLPK Mtg. Norwood Library	2	3 Common Cents 10-Noon
4 The Day of Pentecost Whitsunday 10:00 am Holy Eucharist Coffee Hour 	5	6 10:00am Bible Study Common Cents 10-2pm	7	8 Common Cents 10-2pm	9 Convention	10 Common Cents 10-Noon Convention
11 The First Sixth Sunday after Pentecost 10:00 am Morning Prayer Coffee Hour	12	13 10:00am Bible Study Common Cents 10-2pm	14	15 Common Cents 10-2pm	16	17 Common Cents 10-Noon
18 The Second Sunday after Pentecost Proper 6 10:00 am Holy Eucharist Coffee Hour Father's Day 	19	20 10 am Bible Study Common Cents 10-2pm	21	22 Common Cents 10-2pm	23	24 Common Cents 10-Noon
25 The Third Sunday after Pentecost Proper 7 10:00 am Holy Eucharist Coffee Hour	26	27 10 am Bible Study Common Cents 10-2pm	28 Community Dinner 5-6:30pm 	29 Common Cents 10-2pm	30	

As Eastertide comes to glorious completion with the inrush of the Spirit at Pentecost – one last Easter reflection:

"It is I myself! Touch me and see; a ghost does not have flesh and bones, as you see I have."
Luke 24:39 (NIV)

How many Christians settle for worshiping a mere ghost at Easter?

We followed the real, solid, human body of our Lord through the sorrow and agony of the Passion in the days leading up to the celebration of the Resurrection. We washed the bare feet of our brother or sister, remembering Jesus, towel around his waist, kneeling at the feet of his astonished disciples. We kissed the rough wood of a cross, painfully calling to mind the vicious reality of nails piercing flesh, of blood flowing freely from many wounds. We went home in hushed silence from the services of Holy Week, the weight of death heavy on our shoulders.

But in the joyful dawn of Easter morning, despite our lilies and trumpet fanfares and Alleluias – or maybe because of them – is it possible that the Risen Christ, radiant in celestial light, somehow lacked the palpable heft, the reassuring warmth and solidity, of the man of Galilee: companion of fishermen, hugger of children, the man who wept at his friend's graveside? In the exaltation of our victorious theology and festive liturgy we are sometimes in danger of leaving the homely, tangible humanity of our Lord behind in the tomb.

We are in good company. The disciples, huddled together fearful and heartbroken in Jerusalem, babbling about the proliferation of baffling rumors like so many hens in a henhouse, hardly knew what to make of the Risen Jesus when he appeared among them. Disbelieving the evidence of their eyes for sheer joy and wonder, they were sure they must be seeing a ghost. It was too good to be true that the battered, lifeless body of their Lord now stood among them more full of life than ever. He spoke to them. He invited them to touch him. And then, in an act most gloriously and wonderfully mundane he chewed and swallowed a piece of broiled fish. "See! It is I myself!"

This is the truth we proclaimed at Easter: that God entered into the tortured humanity of our world as a Savior who is more solidly real and human than ourselves, not less: Divine Grace clothed in living flesh, Forgiveness with bones that bear real weight, Perfect Love through whose veins runs human blood, warm and red, to this day, and forever. The Good News of the Resurrection is joy beyond belief, but thanks be to God, it is not too good to be true. The Risen Lord of our Easter jubilation is both God and man still, only-begotten Son of the Father and Rabbi Jesus of Galilee, joyfully and tangibly and everlastingly alive in the Presence of Almighty God.

Mtr. Kathryn+



DINNERS

“Summertime, and the livin' is easy” - or it should be anyway. We'll be keeping our summer menus as light and easy as possible, so we can enjoy the warmth of fellowship and not the heat of the kitchen!

June 28

Cold cuts and sliced cheeses

Sandwich rolls

Chips

Fruit

July 26

*Build your own salad,
from a selection of fresh vegetables, meats, cheese, and more*

Crusty bread

Cookies



“Common Cents” Thrift Shop is

2!

June Birthdays

July Birthdays:

1st—Jorji LaBarge
7th—Helen Harris
10th—Ann Crump
12th—Irene Hargrave
13th—Anneke Chudzinski
14th—Victoria Boswell
14th—Brooklyn Moses



June Anniversaries

2nd Carroll & Rev. Kathryn Boswell
25th—Chris & Rev. Margaret Theodore
29th—Lynn & Loyd Howe



A Song of the True Motherhood

God chose to be our mother in all things
and so made the foundation of his work,
most humbly and most pure,
in the Virgin's womb.

God, the perfect wisdom of all,
arrayed himself in this humble place.

Christ came in our poor flesh
to share a mother's care.

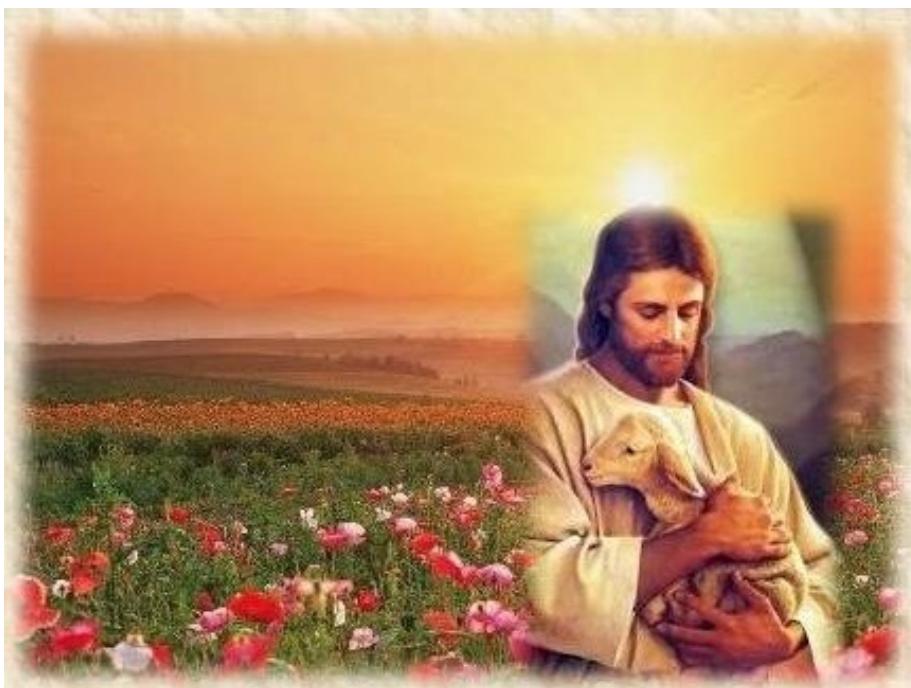
Our mothers bear us for pain and for death;
our true mother, Jesus,
bears us for joy and endless life.

Christ carried us within him in love and travail,
until the full time of his passion.

And when all was completed
and he had carried us so for joy,
still all this could not satisfy the power of his
wonderful love.

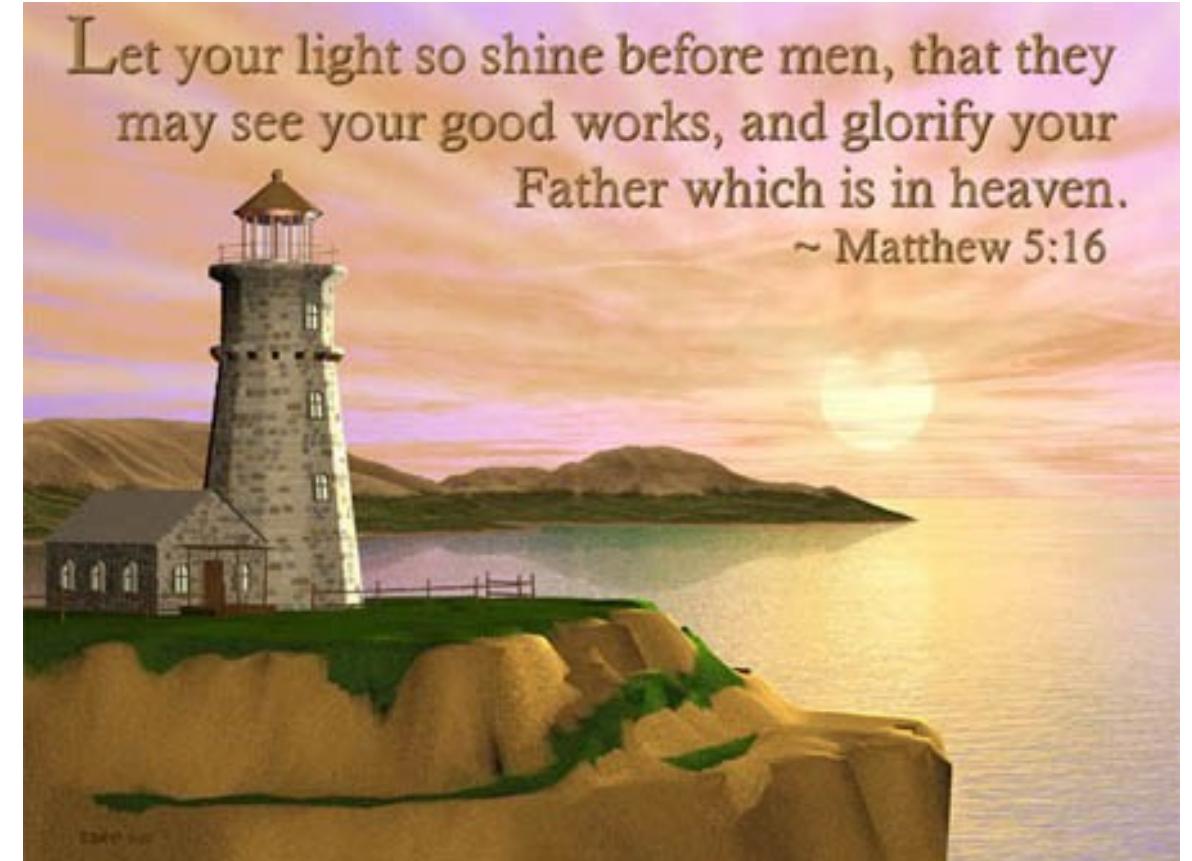
All that we owe is redeemed in truly loving God,
for the love of Christ works in us;
Christ is the one whom we love.

-Julian of Norwich

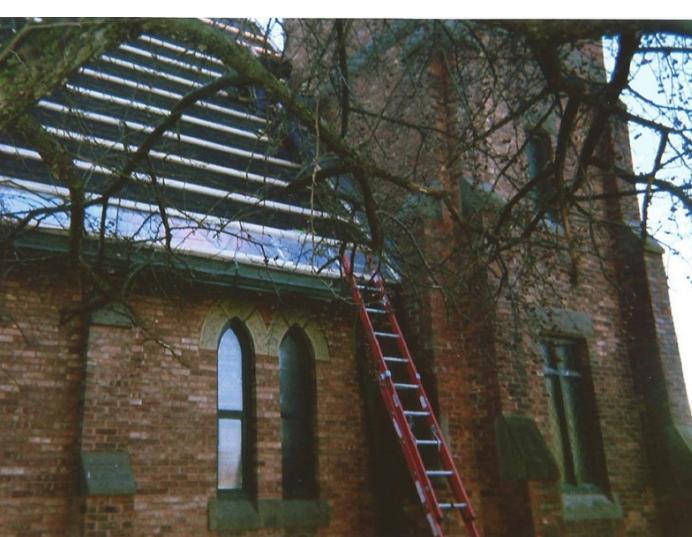
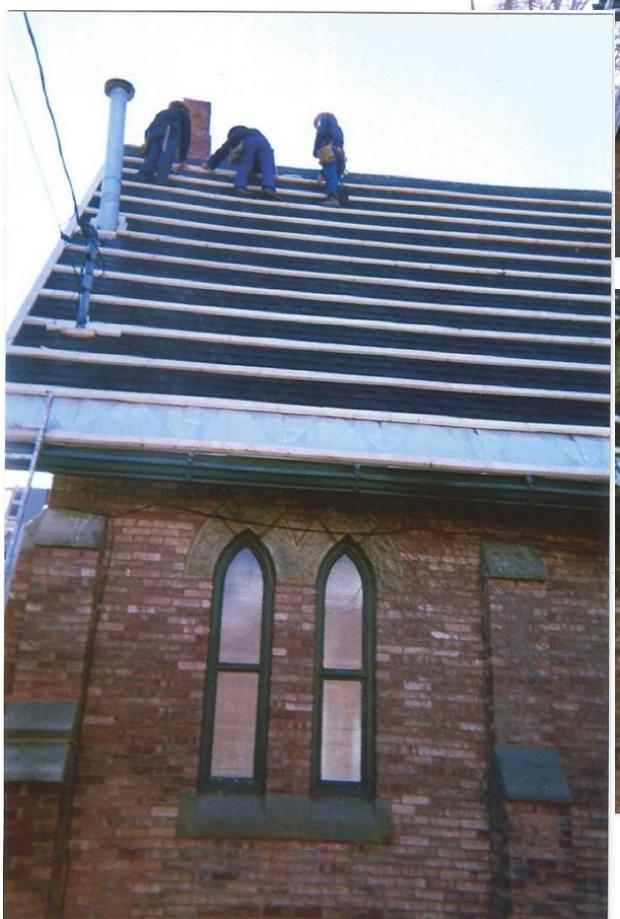
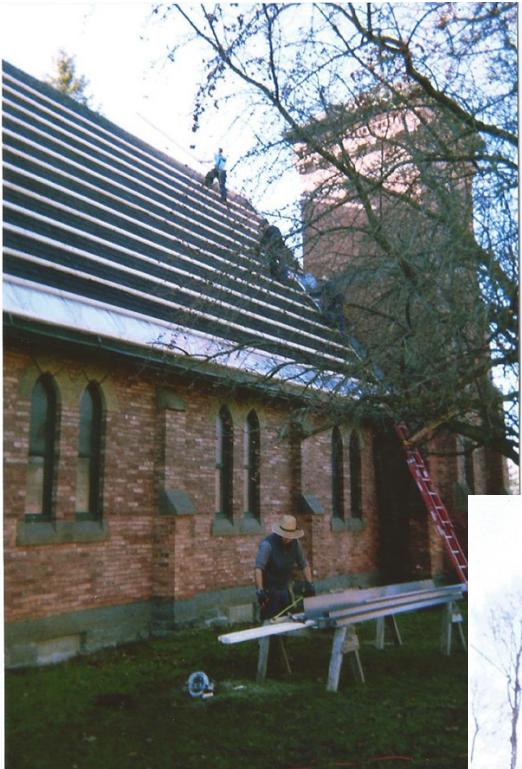


"Let Your Light Shine"
149th Convention of the Diocese of Albany
June 9-11

Let your light so shine before men, that they
may see your good works, and glorify your
Father which is in heaven.
~ Matthew 5:16



In Brief

Raising the Roof at St. Philip's!*Seven new Daughter of the King*

*The St. Philip's Chapter of the Order of the Daughters of the King
St. Philip's Episcopal Church, Norwood, NY
Province II, Albany, NY Diocese*

The St. Philip's Chapter of the Order of the Daughters of the King received seven new members at a Service of Admission on Sunday, April 23, 2017 – Thomas Sunday.

The new members are: front row L – R: Irene Hargrave, Cheryl Woodward, Mildred Weaver. 2nd Row L-R: Anna Crump, Romi Sebald, Helen Harris, Lynn Howe. 3rd Row L-R: Karen Morgan, Daughter of the King since 2002 and Mtr. Kathryn M. Boswell, Daughter of the King and St. Philip's Chaplain.

