



COMFORTABLE WORDS

A Monthly Communication from

Holy Comforter Episcopal Church

Serving the Episcopal Community of Angleton Since 1897

www.holycomforterangleton.org

March, 2015

Sunday Worship Schedule

8:30 AM Holy Eucharist I

9:30 AM Christian Education

10:30 AM Holy Eucharist II
Sunday School

Mission Statement

“We are an Episcopal Community, called to be a loving refuge in Jesus Christ, welcoming and serving all.”

CORE VALUES: CARE

Children - nurturing the children of Holy Comforter and the community, through parish ministries and HCES

Action – serving one another and those in need, in Angleton and the world

Relationships – cultivating vibrant relationships among ourselves and the larger community, welcoming and affirming all in Jesus’ Name

Episcopal Worship – growing spiritually through liturgy, prayer and Sacraments

Lenten Offerings Continue in March



Bridge Tutorials – Sundays @ 6:30 – Parish Hall

Financial Peace University–Mondays in Nave @ 7

Healing Service – Tuesday, March 31 @ 7 – Nave

Morning Prayer – Wednesdays @ 7 AM - Nave

Lenten Supper – Wednesdays @ 6 – Parish House

Bible Study – Wednesdays @ 7 – Parish House

Bridge – Thursdays @ 10 AM – Parish Hall

Yoga – Thursdays @ 7 – Nave

Fish Fry – Fridays @ 5 – Parish Hall

March, 2015 Pastoral Letter

Fr. Travis gave up his pastoral letter for Lent!
Truthfully, the press of duties during Lent impeded his prose.
Editor

Annual Meeting Minutes

January 25, 2015

The Annual Meeting of the Holy Comforter Episcopal Parish was held on January 25, 2015, with Father Travis presiding. The meeting was opened at 11:50 am with welcome and then prayer led by Father Travis.

Members present were Ellen Eby, Barbara Marin, Allan Dinsmore, Kerry Payne, Penney Reed, Kandy Taylor-Hille, Ronnie Johnson, and Tom Long, as well as newly elected members Sciobhan Short, Kirsten Parks and Riley Mogford. Absent was Eric Herbst. Also present were Nancy Standlee, director of HCES, and Pam Massingill, clerk.

Information

Acknowledgement of persons in leadership roles – Father Travis

Recap of Highlights of the year – Ellen Eby

Explanation of routines- Father Travis - liturgical calendar, children's and youth programs, new youth minister to be shared with St. Timothy's (LJ), etc.

*Introductions – Nancy Standlee, Director of HCES, and Chris Holman – music director – music stipend given to allow music to change with seasons

*Newcomer program and stewardship program blending

*Explanation of *the Chart* – voluntary sign-up

*May 2016 – upcoming 50 year dedication of the current sanctuary – capital campaign fund for upgrades to facilities

Upcoming Lent Events- bible study & fish fries, yoga, Bridge, healing service, jam packed Holy Week, Lenten madness, square dancing.

*Standing water issues at Eric Smith's – Karen Barclay and Bonnie McDaniel getting this issue taken care of - no charge to church.

Introduce vestry and acknowledge off-going/on-coming members—Allan, Ellen, Penney, Kerry rolling off. Introduction of new vestry and leadership positions, including Tom Long becoming new Sr. Warden, Jr. Warden Ronnie Johnson, and lay rep to endowment fund – Kandy Taylor-Hille. Robert Munro will be assisting Ronnie with disaster relief preparations.

Father Preston – Ended 2014 in good standing, but Jan 2015 – had to transfer money from savings – reminded us to keep up with our stewardship obligations

Endowment Board intro and info – Tom Long – election results – lay representative on the endowment board – Dianne Kilgus

Financial - Allan Dinsmore, Treasurer- Explained the treasurer's report, budget and expenses, and need for our commitment.

With no further business, the meeting was closed at 12:41 pm with prayer led by Father Travis.

Respectfully submitted,

Pam Massingill

Clerk of the Vestry

Holy Comforter and Parish House historical tidbit.....

Originally built about 1909 by Charles Sweeny Bennett, our parish house was known as the Charlie Bennett House. Fascinating to me is that on the June, 1900 census for Angleton, Charles Bennett (spelled Binnett) is living in the household of Edward and Mary Delaney – two of the founding members of Holy Comforter. Also in the same household are Edward and Mary's daughter, Eliza Delaney and husband, Dr. Samuel Bell Maxey. Right next door is the boarding house of George and Mary Ida Sweeny Phillips- uncle and aunt of Charles Sweeny Bennett. Boarding with the Phillips family are the Faustino Kiber and Lewis Bryan families, also founding members as well as original donors of the land our beloved Holy Comforter Church is currently built on.

Isn't it interesting that nearly 100 years before acquisition of the Parish House, it had a tie to Holy Comforter Parish? And the story continues.....

Pam Massingill



PARISH HALL AND PARISH HOUSE RENTALS

The Vestry voted that all members in good standing (having a current pledge to the Church for the year) or Church-sponsored organization will not be charged a rental fee.

A deposit, however, of \$275.00 will be required at the time of the rental for all beginning January 1, 2015, which will be returned if the unit is deemed clean and in order by the Junior Warden or his designee.

Fish Fry-days



2015 Lenten Fish Fry Fridays

I am writing this on the Tuesday after our first 2015 Lenten Fish Fry Friday. It was a huge success with the best fish dinners and desserts. We have received lots of compliments about how good everything was. Unfortunately, we sold out by 5:50 and had to turn people away but after shutting down the drive-thru and ticket table we were fortunate enough to still be able to serve all those that were waiting in line. We are ready for the next five and will have more fish and an additional fryer hoping that the wait time will be shorter and that we will be able to have plates available up until 6:30. You may have to wait a few minutes but it will be fresh and it will be hot!

To all our wonderful volunteers, you did an awesome job and I can't thank you enough for your hard work and giving hearts. From the delicious desserts, the fantastic fish, fries and hush puppies to the best tartar sauce and coleslaw ever, everything was as close to perfect as you can get! Thank you, thank you, thank you! !! What more can I say other than you all are the best of the best!

To all of you that came out we thank you. We thank you for your patience, kind words and encouragement. We hope you will come back for one or all of the five remaining Fridays.

With this ministry we are able to do community outreach by inviting our family, friends and the community to come join us and by donating part of our proceeds to the local food pantry. We also have been able to provide meals to several families in need so you not only receive a wonderful meal but you also help us with our outreach ministry.

All of us that are volunteering are enjoying ourselves and are working hard. If you can spare an hour or two to help with set-up on Thursday, with prep and set up or with frying, serving or cleanup on Friday, or with the cleanup of the fryers and accessories on Saturday, please sign up on the sign-up sheets in the Parish Hall or contact me and let me know where you are willing to help.

Tickets are still available at both services on Sunday, at the church office and at the door. Dine-In, Take-Out or Drive-Thru will be available from 5:00 to 6:30 each Friday.

Blessings to all,

Barbara Marin 2015 Lenten Fish Fry Fridays Chair

Email: barbarajmarin@yahoo.com Cell: (979) 864-0403

Q&A: Why do we do that?

While for some the structure and deliberateness of our worship will feel like coming home, for many others *at first* it can feel like having one's shoes on the wrong feet. Here are a few explanations about why some worshipers use bodily gestures to express an awareness of God's presence and offer reverence and respect. These gestures enable us, in a sense, to have our bodies join in our prayer and praise. These motions include:

- Bowing one's head to the altar or genuflecting upon entering or leaving the worship space or leaving the pew to take communion. (Genuflecting is an act of reverence, in which the worshiper touches one knee to the floor.)
- Bowing one's head as the processional cross passes at the beginning and the end of the service.
- Bowing at the name of *Jesus* in the creed and in other places during the service.
- Tracing a cross on one's forehead, heart, and lips at the introduction of the Gospel.
- Making the sign of the cross at various times during the service. This action of tracing the sign of the cross on the body moves from the forehead to the chest, then from the left to right shoulder. The sign of the cross is made customarily at the absolution (asking for forgiveness of sins), at the words "Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord" during the communion prayers, before receiving the bread and wine, and at the final blessing. Making the sign of the Cross always returns us to our Baptism when we were signed with the Cross.

If you have questions about why we do certain things during the service, contact Paula Haenchen (newcomer@holycmforterangleton.org) and will try to answer them in the next newsletter.

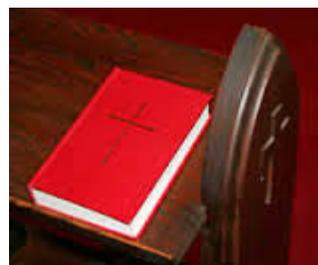
Genuflecting



Normally, one genuflects with the right knee to God – left knee to man or woman in Rome, Denmark, England, etc.

Making Visitors Feel Welcome During Worship

If you are sitting near a visitor during a worship service and you see them struggling to manage all the juggling of books and service bulletin, PLEASE offer to trade your Prayer Book and/or Hymnal opened to the correct spot with theirs and help them follow the service.



Endowment Fund Report

Your Endowment Fund Board of Directors met on Sunday, Feb. 22, 2015.

Board members for 2015 are Dianne Kilgus, SuZan Carpenter, Cindy Stevens, Penny Reed, Kandi Taylor-Hille, and James Northrup. James will serve as chairman, SuZan as vice chairman and Dianne as sect/treas.

Jim Clem, certified public accountant and parishioner, presented the 2014 year end financial report. As of December 31, 2014 the net assets of the Endowment Fund (EF) was \$615,533. The board voted to allocate \$32,858 as funds available to grants in 2015. Upon approval by the Vestry, the grant recipients will be announced.

In 2013 the Vestry agreed to purchase the house adjacent to the Parish House on Arcola St. and asked the Endowment Fund to provide the funds for the purchase of the property. The property at that time was to be used as rental property. The EF, in early 2014, asked the Vestry to begin repaying the EF a portion of the monthly lease proceeds as a repayment of the funds used to purchase the property.

At our meeting the Vestry notified the EF that the property was no longer leased and the monthly portion of the rental income would not be available to repay the agreed monthly payments and asked for a grace period on repayment until the status of the property could be determined. Upon that request, the EF discussed the wisdom of “loaning” ourselves money and taxing the Vestry with the obligation of a loan repayment. Holy Comforter Church and Holy Comforter Endowment Fund are one and the same. We as a board felt that the Vestry should not be in a position to determine how to best use the property with the obligation of “loan” repayment.

The Endowment Board voted to “forgive” the “loan” from the EF to the church which will free up the Vestry to use the property as it sees fit. However the Vestry decides to use the property going forward is in God’s hands and thanks be to God that the Vestry can now plan the best use of the property for ministry without the burden of financial obligation.

James Northrup



*Please join us for a baby shower in honor of Suzanne Smith
March 21st at 3:00
Holy Comforter Parish Hall*

Please contact Sciobhan Short or Kelsey Payne with any questions

Being blessed with two wonderful boys already Fr. Travis and Suzanne are asking that any gifts you wish to give be in the form of diapers (variety of sizes), wipes, and other consumable baby items.

Favored brands: Diapers & Wipes – Huggies, Pampers, & Target

Rash cream – Desitin

Bottles - Medela

March Birthdays

- 2 John Anderson
- 7 Paula Haenchen
Jackie Warren
- 9 Cody Payne
- 11 Chip Cole
- 16 Micah Hanson
- 22 Donna Lewis



Wednesday Night

Bible Studies in March Momentous Mountains in God's Redemptive Story



- March 4 Mount Sinai (Moses)
- March 11 Mount Carmel (Elijah)
- March 18 Mount Zion (Solomon)
- March 25 Mount Olivet (Jesus)

Yoga

Thursdays

7:00 P.M.

Molly LeBeouf – Instructor

Bring \$ 5.00

&

Your yoga gear



Parish Particulars...

FYI: Vestry Contact Information

Riley Mogford

rileyandbetty@embarqmail.com

Allan Dinsmore allan_becky@live.com

Ronnie Johnson cjrj1987@att.net

Tom Long tomlongiv@yahoo.com

Kirsten Parks kirstenparks@comcast.net

Sciobhan Short snshort80@gmail.com

Kandy Taylor-Hille kandyt@bcls.lib.tx.us

Eric Herbst eric.herbst@eurocopterus.com

Barbara Marin barbarajmarin@yahoo.com

Donna Trusty drummom7@yahoo.com

Hosts for March

If you would like to serve,
contact

Betty Mogford

rileyandbetty@embarqmail.com

Evidently, we gave up hosting for
Lent

If, however, you would like to serve,
please sign the list in the parish
hall



Sermons



*Edgar did not anticipate Fr. Smith's
reaction to his threat to leave the
parish because of a sermon*

Examine the Resources

Section of our website

**for copies of
each week's sermon**

COMMITMENT – 2015

As of this writing, we have
Received 50
commitment cards in support of
God's work at Holy Comforter
in 2015 totaling
\$141,686.00

You may submit your
commitment card at any time

MARCH, 2015

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday																																																																													
<i>1</i> 830 Rite I 930 Bible Study 1030 Rite II 630 Bridge	<i>2</i> 6 Financial Peace University	<i>3</i>	<i>4</i> 7 AM Morning Prayer 6 PM Lenten Supper 7 PM Bible Study	<i>5</i> 10 AM Bridge 7 PM Yoga	<i>6</i> 5 PM FISH FRY	<i>7</i>																																																																													
<i>8</i> 830 Rite I 930 Bible Study 1030 Rite II 630 Bridge	<i>9</i> 6 Financial Peace University	<i>10</i>	<i>11</i> 7 AM Morning Prayer 6 PM Lenten Supper 7 PM Bible Study	<i>12</i> 10 AM Bridge 7 PM Yoga	<i>13</i> 5 PM FISH FRY	<i>14</i>																																																																													
<i>15</i> 830 Rite I 930 Bible Study 1030 Rite II 630 Bridge	<i>16</i> 6 Financial Peace University	<i>17</i> 6:15 PM VESTRY	<i>18</i> 7 AM Morning Prayer 6 PM Lenten Supper 7 PM Bible Study	<i>19</i> 10 AM Bridge 7 PM Yoga	<i>20</i> 5 PM FISH FRY	<i>21</i> Baptismal Practice																																																																													
<i>22</i> 830 Rite I 930 Bible Study 1030 Rite II 630 Bridge	<i>23</i> 6 Financial Peace University	<i>24</i> 7 PM SCHOOL BOARD	<i>25</i> 7 AM Morning Prayer 6 PM Lenten Supper 7 PM Bible Study	<i>26</i> 10 AM Bridge 7 PM Yoga	<i>27</i> 5 PM FISH FRY	<i>28</i> 9 AM All Parish Workday																																																																													
<i>29</i> 830 Rite I 930 Bible Study 1030 Rite II 630 Bridge	<i>30</i> 6 Financial Peace University	<i>31</i> 7 PM Healing Service	<div style="display: flex; justify-content: space-around;"> <div style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 5px;"> <p style="text-align: center;">Feb 2015</p> <table border="1" style="width: 100%; text-align: center;"> <tr><th>S</th><th>M</th><th>T</th><th>W</th><th>T</th><th>F</th><th>S</th></tr> <tr><td>1</td><td>2</td><td>3</td><td>4</td><td>5</td><td>6</td><td>7</td></tr> <tr><td>8</td><td>9</td><td>10</td><td>11</td><td>12</td><td>13</td><td>14</td></tr> <tr><td>15</td><td>16</td><td>17</td><td>18</td><td>19</td><td>20</td><td>21</td></tr> <tr><td>22</td><td>23</td><td>24</td><td>25</td><td>26</td><td>27</td><td>28</td></tr> </table> </div> <div style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 5px;"> <p style="text-align: center;">Apr 2015</p> <table border="1" style="width: 100%; text-align: center;"> <tr><th>S</th><th>M</th><th>T</th><th>W</th><th>T</th><th>F</th><th>S</th></tr> <tr><td></td><td></td><td></td><td>1</td><td>2</td><td>3</td><td>4</td></tr> <tr><td>5</td><td>6</td><td>7</td><td>8</td><td>9</td><td>10</td><td>11</td></tr> <tr><td>12</td><td>13</td><td>14</td><td>15</td><td>16</td><td>17</td><td>18</td></tr> <tr><td>19</td><td>20</td><td>21</td><td>22</td><td>23</td><td>24</td><td>25</td></tr> <tr><td>26</td><td>27</td><td>28</td><td>29</td><td>30</td><td></td><td></td></tr> </table> </div> </div>				S	M	T	W	T	F	S	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	25	26	27	28	S	M	T	W	T	F	S				1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	25	26	27	28	29	30		
S	M	T	W	T	F	S																																																																													
1	2	3	4	5	6	7																																																																													
8	9	10	11	12	13	14																																																																													
15	16	17	18	19	20	21																																																																													
22	23	24	25	26	27	28																																																																													
S	M	T	W	T	F	S																																																																													
			1	2	3	4																																																																													
5	6	7	8	9	10	11																																																																													
12	13	14	15	16	17	18																																																																													
19	20	21	22	23	24	25																																																																													
26	27	28	29	30																																																																															

Vestry Synopsis

January 13, 2015

The regularly scheduled meeting of the Holy Comforter Episcopal Parish Vestry was held on, January 13, 2015 with Father Travis Smith presiding. The meeting was opened at 6:15 pm with prayer.

Members present were Ellen Eby, Kandy Taylor- Hille, Allan Dinsmore, Ronnie Johnson, Barbara Marin, Eric Herbst, Penney Reed, and Kerry Payne. Newly elected members present were Riley Mogford, Kirsten Parks, and Sciobhan Short. Also present were Reverend Travis Smith and Pam Massingill, clerk. Absent were Tom Long and Donna Trusty.

Formation

Father Travis – Deuteronomy 6:1-9 Discussion about the vision of our roles in 2015.

Minutes –Kandy made a motion to accept the minutes as written and Penney seconded the motion. Motion passed.

Rector’s Report – The Chart – beginning at our birthday – Pentecost- of our individual activities within the church – ex- Blue Grass, Fish Fry, etc. Asking for a youth person to share with St Timothy’s in LJ

Senior Warden’s Report – Thanks to all for support, piano to be delivered on Friday. Cost of \$900 does not include moving the other piano out. Paper work signed for the city for the shed. Spoke to Mr. Greek, but has not heard back.

Junior Warden’s Report -

PARISH HALL

Herbst Hall has been repainted by Master Touch. They used an oil based primer and the latex paint that was decided on. They also sanded and repainted much of the trim. I think it looks great, and I have heard several positive comments from folks and no negative comments. Thanks to Pam Massingill and Sciobhan Short (with some help from Father Travis) for the color suggestion.

FLOORING

Refinishing of the flooring for the raised areas in the sanctuary, including the choir room and vesting room, should commence around mid-February. This was approved by the vestry in November 2014.

PIANO

I understand that the piano may be arriving this week. I plan to be at the church to observe its arrival, unloading, and placement in the church.

ANGLETON SQUIRREL REVIVAL

ABC Home and Commercial Services was contacted about our squirrel problem in the attic above the Sacristy. They inspected and either sealed or screened any perceived gaps on the outside of the church building. They also baited three live traps in the attic above the Sacristy. These went un-sprung for more than a week.

However, evidence of squirrel activity was discovered in one of the storage rooms on the second floor of the classroom portion of the building. I moved one of the live traps to the attic above the storage room, next to the opening the squirrel was likely using to get into the storage room. This trap went un-sprung as well, and no more evidence of the squirrel was seen or heard.

Then I found a squirrel, dead, in one of the traps still above the Sacristy when I was removing them from the attic so ABC could just come pick them up. So it appears that a rodent can indeed move from one section of the building to the other.

I called ABC to send a tech to retrieve their traps and to look at one potential opening I think they missed. Their work is under warranty; I believe it is for one year. We can, if we so choose, sign up for basically a “rodent maintenance contract” at some point. No other animal activity has been reported to me at the time of this writing.

BUILDING INSPECTION

Last March I reported on the estimated cost of having the church building inspected. I would again strongly recommend we do this. We have an older building, and I would hate to have to re-do any maintenance or upgrades for the building due to something an inspection would have warned us about. I think then we could better prioritize our funds and have a better view of costs we might be looking at in the future.

Given the size of the building (Sanctuary, Parish Hall, classrooms, everything) an inspection would run in the neighborhood of \$4,000. The inspection I inquired about would deal with electrical, plumbing, HVAC, roof, structure, gutters, etc. I do not believe it would cover ADA compliance or security systems (which we do not have). Kandy made a motion to have an institutional inspection done and Ellen seconded the motion. Motion passed.

New officers – Sr. Warden will be Tom Long, Jr. Warden will be Ronnie Johnson, and Eric made a motion to begin the prep work for piano arrival, Kerry seconded. Motion passed.

HCES – Upcoming Open House and Book fair.

Financial report – Allan explained the financial report. Ellen made a motion to accept the budget and Eric seconded the motion.

Motion passed. Finance committee ok with going in on new youth minister for 2015. Ellen made a motion to set aside \$15,000 for a strongly vetted individual for youth minister. Eric seconded the motion.

For IRS purposes to allow Travis to declare 60% housing and 40% salary for the 2015 year. Allan made motion. Eric seconded.

Motion passed.

Compline

NEXT Vestry meeting: Tuesday, February 17th @ 6:15

With no further business, the meeting was closed at 9 pm with prayer.

Respectfully submitted,

Pam Massingill

Clerk of the Vestry

Financial Report

General Fund

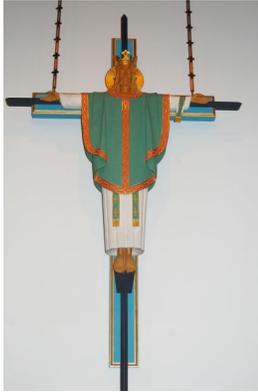
Tithes and Offerings
Expenses and Outreach

Jan.	YTD
12,894	12,894
32,283	32,283

Friends of Holy Comforter Endowment Fund: Balance as of 12/31/2014 - \$486,942.75

Value of mineral properties and other assets is in addition to this amount.

Holy Comforter Episcopal Church
227 S. Chenango
P.O. Box 786
Angleton, TX 77516



Return Service Requested

Holy Comforter Episcopal Church

Sunday Schedule

8:30 AM Holy Eucharist – Rite I
 9:30 AM Adult/Youth Christian Education
 10:30 AM Holy Eucharist – Rite II
 Children’s Sunday School

Infant and Toddler care is provided from
 8:15 AM until Noon

Bishop Episcopal Diocese of TX
 Rector
 Head of School
 Parish Administrator / Theologian
 Minister of Music
 Children’s Ministry Director
 Newcomer Ministry Coordinator

The Rt. Rev. C. Andrew Doyle
 The Rev. Fr. Travis Smith
 Nancy Standlee
 Fr. Preston Weatherly
 Christopher Holman
 Kelsey Payne
 Paula Haenchen

Contact Information

Parish Office: 979-849-1269
 Parish Fax: 979-849-4361
 Email: info@holycomforterangleton.org
 Web Address www.holycomforterangleton.org
 Parish Day School 979-849-4602
 Extended Day School 979-849-1672
 Diocesan Center 1-800-318-4452
 or www.epicenter.org
 Fr. Travis 979-849-1260 or 254-644-4268

Vestry 2015

Ronnie Johnson	Kirsten Parks	Tom Long
Donna Trusty	Riley Mogford	Kandy Taylor-Hille
Sciobhan Short	Barbara Marin	Eric Herbst
	Tom Long IV,	Sr. Warden
	Ronnie Johnson	Jr. Warden
	Pam Massingill	Clerk
	Allan Dinsmore	Treasurer