

COMFORTABLE WORDS

A Monthly Communication from

Holy Comforter Episcopal Church

Serving the Episcopal Community of Angleton Since 1897

www.holycomforterangleton.org

SEPTEMBER, 2014

Sunday Worship Schedule

8:30 AM Holy Eucharist

9:30 AM Christian Education

10:30 AM Holy Eucharist

Children's Church

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

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OUR NEW RECTOR

THE REV. FR. TRAVIS SMITH

HIS FIRST SUNDAY WILL BE OCTOBER 19

September 2014 Pastoral Letter

Dear Friends at Holy Comforter,

How exciting that you will soon be welcoming your new rector, the Rev. Travis Smith and his family to Holy Comforter Episcopal Church. There is much a congregation can do – or avoid doing – to help welcome new clergy leadership. I want to share with you a handout I gave to the Vestry last month called “The 10 Commandments of Welcoming a New Pastor.” It is a bit tongue-in-cheek, but pay attention to the details. Enjoy!

- I. Thou shalt not compare the old Pastor and the new Pastor, for the Lord thy God has made each person unique and wishes you to appreciate each original creation.
- II. Thou shalt not expect everything to stay the same when the new Pastor arrives. Nor shalt thou resist change, nor assume that change is bad, but thou shalt trust that the Lord thy God isn't finished with your church yet and is bringing change for your good and the good of your mission.
- III. Thou shalt not make graven images of thine old grudges, nor shalt thou keep stale disappointments in the temple of thine heart, but thou shalt forgive and move on in the grace of the Lord thy God, for how can thou ask God for mercy unless thou give mercy from thine heart?
- IV. Thou shalt not commit gossip, nor shalt thou fearfully complain, nor shalt thou listen to those who do, but instead thou shalt entreat them to adjust their attitudes and lighten up, for everything shall be alright, and in fact, shall turn out very well indeed – better than you can even imagine.
- V. Thou shalt not commit nostalgia or say that the old days were better, for in so doing thou shalt make thy judgment come true. Be assured that the Lord thy God is not falling asleep at the wheel, but will be with thee and surprise thee with abundant blessings, more than thou canst contain or count.
- VI. Thou shalt not factionalize nor create “us-them” divisions, but thou shalt unify with thy brothers and sisters even when they annoy or confuse you.
- VII. Thou shalt not come to the new pastor with your demands, pressure, complaints, bad reports, manipulations, threats, agendas, unsolicited advice, or snide comments. But thou shalt say, “Welcome! How can we help you? We love you! We would like to increase our giving significantly. We're praying for you and your family. Welcome to our community! We baked you some cookies!” And each week, thou shalt do so again and again until the new pastor begs you to stop.
- VIII. Thou shalt increase thy giving, and not withhold thy tithe, but invest thy money and thine heart in the future of thy community of faith and mission.
- IX. Thou shalt not come to thine old and former pastor with anything but praise for the new pastor, but thou mayest bring thy concerns to God in humble prayer, and if thou must, thou may also share concerns with the duly appointed leaders of the church.
- X. Most important, thou shalt trust God, and stay connected to God, and draw strength from God, staying deeply rooted in the message of God's grace. For God is good, and God will never leave you nor forsake you. You can count on that for sure!

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Brian McLaren

Faithfully in Christ,

Rev. Carol+



A Message from Our Senior Warden

Dear Holy Comforters,

It is with enthusiastic gratitude that I write for this newsletter entry. Holy Comforter Episcopal Church and School has a new rector!

Thank you to The Right Reverend Andy Doyle, Canon Ann Normand, Canon Kai Ryan and Mary McGregor for leading us through the process.

Reverend Carol and Fr. Preston Weatherly, you are our rock stars. Thank you for taking such good care of us all.

I would also like to say thank you to Reb Scarborough for helping us create a rector's profile.

Thank you, HCEC parishioners for your participation in that rector's profile.

Then a continued thank you for nominations submitted for the search committee and for your prayers throughout the process. For every hour the search members put in Bruce Taylor-Hille put in two. Thank you, thank you, thank you: Bruce Taylor Hille. Ouida Thomas, Andrea Coates, Donna Lewis, Robert Munro, John Minkert, Betty and Riley Mogford, Sciobhan Short, and Kerry Payne. Words fall short in expressing gratitude to you for your earnest search and hours of selfless work.

Thank you vestry for your leadership and support.

Finally, I thank-you, Fr. Travis Smith, for discerning God's will and answering the call to be our next rector. Thank you Suzanne, Luke, and Noah for being willing to move.

I look forward to sharing the next chapter in the annals of Holy Comforter with each of you.

Thanks be to God.

Humbly yours,
Ellen



WELCOME FR. TRAVIS, SUZANNE, LUKE AND NOAH

Through the grace of God and the faithful discernment of the Vestry and Search Committee, Holy Comforter is very pleased to announce that the Reverend Travis H. Smith has accepted our unanimous and enthusiastic call to become our next parish Rector.

The extensive search process began early this year with a parish survey, resulting in a rector profile which was used to develop probing interview questions. Candidates' answers were then scored against that profile. In this way, personal feelings about the candidates were balanced against actual numbers that reflected compatibility with the desired qualities and criteria identified in the survey. This scoring validated the Search Committee's belief that Travis Smith was truly the best fit for our parish. His ministry will start this fall; and Bishop Doyle will preside at the Celebration of New Ministry for Travis on the evening of Wednesday, December 10.

Travis is currently Curate at St. Mark's Episcopal Church in Austin, where he has served for two years. He has worked with a variety of ministries including fifteen years' experience in preschool/day schools, youth groups, a parish men's group, supervising a welcoming committee, as well as other ancillary duties.

A native Texan, Travis lived in Houston until age thirteen when his family moved to Phoenix, Arizona. He attended and graduated from Grand Canyon University, receiving a Bachelor of Arts degree in Biblical Studies in 1998. Travis went to seminary (the first time) at Truett Theological Seminary at Baylor University in Waco, where he met his wife, Suzanne. They both graduated from Truett with a Masters in Divinity in 2002, and were married in 2003. In 2005, Travis and Suzanne attended an Episcopal mission in Mexia, Texas. From the first moment he walked into the church, Travis knew he wanted to become an Episcopal priest. In 2012, Travis received his Diploma in Anglican Studies from the Seminary of the Southwest in Austin and was ordained a deacon in the Episcopal Diocese of Texas that June. Travis' wife Suzanne is also an ordained minister and currently works as a hospice chaplain. They have two boys, four year old Luke and two year old Noah.

Travis is well grounded in theology, from an academic perspective as well as in his personal life. He has a strong personal relationship with God and is perfectly at home describing his personal journey of faith. His sermons are warm and welcoming and seek to show how the scripture applies to our daily lives. He also has a very reverent approach to the liturgy and is comfortable with Rites I, II & III.

Holy Comforter extends a most gracious and grateful welcome to Travis, Suzanne, Luke, and Noah as they move to Angleton and become the newest members of our Church.

Paula Haenchen

Newcomer Minister

Ellen Eby

Senior Warden

If You Invite Them, They Will Come

Welcome your neighbors, friends and loved ones to church.

SEPTEMBER 21, 2014



Invitation Sunday throughout the Diocese of Texas



We have some exciting things planned for this fall! In Sunday School class the children are continuing to explore the Old Testament.

On November 7th we will have a family camp out at Brazos Bend State Park! Anyone is welcome to attend and camp with us. If camping is not your thing, but you would still like to join in on the fellowship, you are welcome to come out Saturday morning, November 8th, and for some hiking, fishing, and a picnic lunch. Please let me know if you are interested in attending.

**Blessings,
Kelsey Payne
Director of Children's Ministries**

September Birthdays

- 6 Brooklynn Short
- 10 Barbara Thomas
- 17 Shelley McCoy
- 20 Roland Johnson
- 23 Kyler Peltier
- 24 Barbara Marin
- 25 Emily Peck
- 26 Pam Massingill



(NOTE TO PARISHIONERS)

*If your birthday or anniversary
is not listed, please advise the
office!*

979-849-1269

info@holycomforterangleton.org

September Anniversaries

- 7 Bob & Kay Stawarczik
- 12 James & Patricia Arnold
- 19 Roland & Cecile Johnson



Hosts for SEPTEMBER
**If you would like to serve,
contact**

Betty Mogford

rileyandbetty@embarqmail.com

- 7 Neil Thomas
- 14 The Johnsons
- 21 The Trustys
- 28 The Coles



Parish Particulars...

If you are unable to attend church,
but would like to receive Holy
Eucharist, just contact the church
office at 849-1269 or

holycomforterangleton@gmail.com

or

newcomer@holycomforterangleton.org

One of these Lay Eucharistic
Visitors will be happy to bring
Eucharist to you!

FYI: Vestry Contact Information

Ellen Eby eeby08@yahoo.com

Allan Dinsmore allan_beky@live.com

Ronnie Johnson cjrj1987@att.net

Tom Long tomlongiv@yahoo.com

Kerry Payne kdp@yne.net

Penney Reed penney67@hotmail.com

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

Eric Herbst eric.herbst@eurocopterusa.com

Barbara Marin barbarajmarin@yahoo.com

**Holy Comforter
Rector Search Committee**

Andrea Demopulos-Coats

Donna Lewis

Betty Mogford

Riley Mogford

John Minkert

Robert Munro

Kerry Payne

Sciobhan Short

Bruce Taylor-Hille

Ouida Thomas

SAY CHEESE!

Every Sunday in September (7, 14, 21, 28) immediately following both worship services, Penney Reed and/or Paula Haenchen will be taking casual/informal photographs of individuals and families in order to make it easier for Travis and Suzanne to put faces to names.

Also, to update our membership records, we will have a draft membership list available for your review. Please check it to make sure we have:

- your contact information is correct and complete
- all family members listed and names spelled correctly
- correct dates for birthdays and anniversaries

Please make every effort to stop by the photo 'booth' before you leave the church after worship, because both of these projects are very





HCES
Meet The Teacher



Carole is the daughter of our Yvonne Warner



CAROLE WARNER COLLINS
COLON CANCER BENEFIT



All monies raised will help defray medical expenses

SHADY'S PORCH PUB
840E. Mulberry Street Angleton, Tx
SEPTEMBER 6, 2014

Pulled Pork Sandwich Plates Served 11 am - 2:00 pm
Tickets \$8.00 or \$10.00 at the door
T-Shirts \$20.00 each

PLEASE JOIN US!

Great Food...Live Auction...Silent Auction
Washer Tournament...Money Hat...50/50 Pot...Bake Sale...Lots of Fun!!!

For more information Call (979) 549-6076 or b_hlavaty@shadys.com



September, 2014

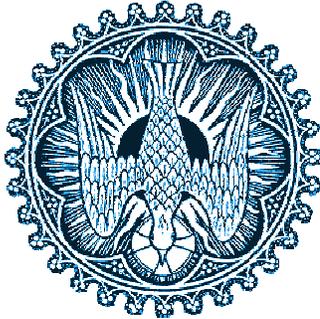
VESTRY SYNOPSIS

Financial Report

<u>General Fund</u>	<u>July</u>	<u>YTD</u>
Tithes, Offerings, and Grants	29,325	195,903
Expenses and Outreach	18,697	136,295

Friends of Holy Comforter Endowment Fund: Balance as of 7/31/2014 - \$474,389
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
9:30 AM Adult/Youth Christian Education
10:30 AM Holy Eucharist
Children's Church

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

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

The Rt. Rev. C. Andrew Doyle
The Rev. Carol Blaine
Nancy Standlee
Fr. Preston Weatherly
Yuri McCoy
(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

Vestry 2014

Ronnie Johnson
Tom Long
Penney Reed
Kerry Payne

Ellen Eby
Allan Dinsmore
Kandy Taylor-Hille
Eric Herbst

Barbara Marin
Ellen Eby, Sr. Warden
Tom Long IV, Jr. Warden
Pam Massingill, Clerk
Allan Dinsmore, Treasurer