



# COMFORTABLE WORDS

... *A Monthly Communication from Holy Comforter Church...*

*Serving the Episcopal Community of Angleton Since 1897*

**Holy Comforter**  
Episcopal Church

**MARCH 2011**

www.holycomforterangleton.org

## Sunday Worship Schedule

8:30 AM Holy Eucharist  
9:30 AM Christian Education  
10:30 AM Holy Eucharist

## Mission Statement

“All are welcome to grow with us through worship, prayer, fellowship, and service at Holy Comforter, a Christ-centered family Church.”

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## *The Season of Lent*

*March 9 - April 23*



## *Lent 2011: Let Your Life Speak*

### *Tuesday, March 8*

*5:30 - 6:30*

*Shrove Tuesday Pancake Supper  
Hosted by Boy Scout Troop 531*

### *Wednesday, March 9*

*Noon & 7:00 p.m.*

*Ash Wednesday Holy Eucharist  
and Imposition of Ashes*

### *3 Wednesdays of Soup & Bread Suppers*

*Childcare available by reservation*

*5:30 Soup & Bread, hosted by HCEC groups  
6:30 - 7:30 Program*

*March 16: Let Your Life Speak: Celebration!*

*Dr. Julie Fowler, Speaker. Supper host: Choir*

*March 23: Let Your Life Speak: Conversion*

*The Rev. Preston Weatherly, Speaker. Supper host: DOX*

*March 30: Let Your Life Speak: Transformation*

*Cisa Fitzpatrick, Speaker. Supper host: Ushers*

### *Each Friday throughout Lent, March 11-April 15*

*Centen Fish Fry*

*5:00 - 7:00 p.m.*

## MOTHER CAROL'S COLUMN



We are about to enter one of my favorite church seasons: **Lent**. Perhaps it seems odd that a season usually associated with penitence and sacrifice would be a favorite! If those were the only emphases of the season, it would indeed be odd; however, Lent is ever so much more than that! Lent is an opportunity for holy *reflection* and *remembrance*.

**Reflection:** The Lenten Season offers us 40 days to reflect with intentionality on our relationship with God. Our theme this year is **Let Your Life Speak!** Accordingly, we are invited to reflect on how God is revealed in and through our lives. What can we learn about God by listening to our lives? Our Lenten speakers at the three Soup & Bread Suppers (see pg. 5 for details) will guide us in considering this question.

Additionally, we are encouraged during Lent to simplify and de-clutter our lives so that we can focus on God, spending more time in prayer, reflection, and scripture reading. **Lenten Meditation Booklets** from the Episcopal Relief and Development Fund are available in the Narthex and the Parish Hall. You are encouraged to pick one up and commit yourself to the daily readings and prayers provided for each day of Lent.

**Remembrance:** Lent invites us to remember our own mortality, our sinfulness, and our complete need for God in this life. On the first Sunday of Lent we hear the Ten Commandments read aloud and we remember our inability to obey them completely. Lent is an entire season of opportunity to say “I’m sorry, God. Please change me that I might live in a way that pleases you.”

The Season of Lent officially begins on **Ash Wednesday, March 9**. The ashes on our foreheads remind us of the words of Psalm 103:15-16: *As for mortals, their days are like grass; they flourish like a flower of the field; for the wind passes over it, and it is gone, and its place knows it no more.* The ashes call us to “remember that we are dust and to dust we shall return.” Remembering this will surely impact the way we live out the days that we do have.

It is my fervent hope that each of us will choose to fully embrace the opportunities of this Season of Lent. May it be a time of holy reflection and remembrance for us all.

Carol



## Coffee Hosts for the month of February



6 King's Cake      13 The Briscoe Family

20 The Minkert Family      27 Ed & Sherry White

Please contact Betty Mogford at 979-345-2968 if you would like to sign up.



### Holy Comforter was well represented at the 162<sup>nd</sup> Diocesan Council at The Woodlands on February 11-12.

Delegates Tom Long, Lori Hawkins, Ed White, and Walt Kilgus attended with Mother Carol, along with alternates Sherry White and Dianne Kilgus. Highlights of council include: the Bishop's address, in which he outlined a forward vision for a new church economy (you can find the text of his address at [www.epicenter.org](http://www.epicenter.org)), the introduction of the new Canon for Lifelong Formation, The Reverend John Newton (who will visit HC on May 1!), and the celebration of the ministry of the Rt. Rev. Rayford High, who is retiring this spring.

**Thank you to  
our delegation!**



- 2 Kay Stawarczik
- 7 Jackie Warren
- 9 Cody Payne
- 11 Chip Cole
- 16 Thurman Green
- 22 Gwen French  
Donna Lewis
- 24 Sherry White
- 27 Bob Stawarczik



### "GREEN"

#### TIP OF THE MONTH

The federal EPA reports that trash produced in the United States is growing year after year. Now imagine the trash that doesn't make it to the landfill and isn't counted for – in other words, litter! Next time you come across a piece of litter that didn't quite make it home, help it out! Plus, your good deed might inspire your friends, colleagues, neighbors and even strangers who might be watching to do the same.

### Ash Wednesday

March 9

Imposition of Ashes &  
Holy Eucharist

Noon & 7:00 PM

### Baptism!



On Easter Sunday, April 24, we will celebrate the sacrament of baptism! Let Mother Carol know if you wish to be baptized!



This Lent the Holy Comforter Community is joining with other parishes and schools in the Diocese of Texas to purchase 30,000 mosquito nets for the prevention of mosquito born malaria. Nearly one million people, mostly young children, die each year from this preventable disease.

HC's day school children are going to help us meet the goal by collecting "Nickels for Nets!"

Check out the **Nets for Life** display in the Parish Hall. For each net purchased, a ribbon will be added to the net! Let's see how many \$12 nets the Holy Comforter Community can purchase... and how many lives we can save!

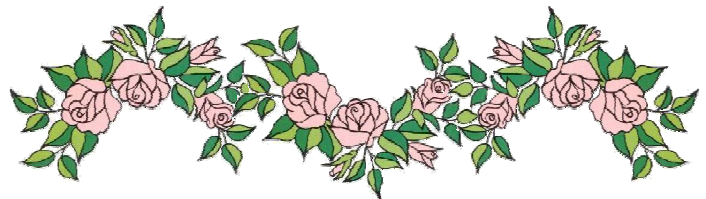
Visit [www.netsforlifeafrica.org](http://www.netsforlifeafrica.org) for more information



## *Holy Comforter Episcopal School Head of School Search Update*

*The Head of School Search committee is meeting regularly under the leadership of Chair Deborah Northrup. Well over a dozen applications have been received, and the committee has developed a structure for processing and interviewing applicants. Special thanks to Julie Fleet for her helpful consultation.*

*Members of the search committee and constituencies they represent are: Deborah Northrup, Parish; Paul Eby, School Board; Trent Thrasher, School Parents; Barbara Thomas, Vestry; and Cindi Hamilton, Faculty. The committee is doing a wonderful job and we are grateful for their service!*



*Flowers, flowers, flowers!  
The 2011 Flower Calendar is up in the Parish Hall.*

*All are invited to sign up to underwrite flowers in honor of/memory of/celebration of a special person or event! Donation needed is \$20 per vase. After Sunday worship, the flowers are shared with others so the gift keeps on giving!*

***The Holy Comforter Tradition continues.....  
Lenten Soup & Bread Suppers  
Please bring your favorite soup or bread to share!  
Supper 5:30-6:30 Program 6:30-7:30***

**Wednesday, March 16: Let Your Life Speak: Celebration!**



Dr. Julie Fowler

Julie, a longtime Episcopalian, made her way to the Episcopal Church after a winding journey of wandering through the wilderness in search of a spiritual home. She is a member of Trinity Church in Longview, where she has taught children and adult Sunday School, served as a Lay Eucharistic Minister, and been a member of the vestry. However, her favorite job is directing the acolytes, a duty she has performed for the last 15 years. She is the chief administrative officer of Kilgore College—Longview, which is a branch of the regional community college. She and her husband Gary live in Longview. They have been married 32 years and have one son Eric.

**Wednesday, March 23 Let Your Life Speak: Conversion**



The Reverend Preston Weatherly

Preston is a semi-retired Pastor of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America (ELCA) with whom the Episcopal Church is in full communion. He and his wife, Carolyn, are originally from Lufkin; they have two children and four grandchildren. Preston was graduated from Stephen F. Austin State University in 1964 with a BBA in Accounting and worked twenty years with Texaco Inc. until he resigned to attend Concordia Seminary. He graduated in 1988 with an MDiv and was ordained on June 26th. He has served parishes in Shreveport, Dallas, Odessa, and recently Saint John in Angleton.

**Wednesday, March 30 Let Your Life Speak: Transformation**



Lisa Fitzpatrick

Lisa taught English in junior high and high school, as well as literature and basic electricity at Brazosport College. She was raised in a different Christian denomination, but found a closer relationship with God in the Episcopal Church. She has been led by the Spirit through many changes, some difficult and some exciting, but each one has brought her closer to God. Now, she is on perhaps the most important journey of all—seminary. Last summer Lisa, along with her son, Patrick, took on the challenge of leaving their home and friends behind and moving to Austin, Texas to find an even deeper knowledge of God at Seminary of the Southwest.

## The Echo of Ashes

**“Remember you are dust  
and to dust you shall return.”**

**the large brown bowl  
rests on a purple cloth  
its roundness holding ashes  
freshly burned  
black and ready for wearing.**

**blackened thumbs  
press the ancient sign  
upon the waiting foreheads.**

**I hear the message repeated  
until it haunts and hunts me down:  
remember, remember, remember  
you are dust, dust, only dust  
someday only dust will remain.**

**the echo of the Lent-stained ashes  
speaks the truth of my humanity:  
the humbleness of my beginning,  
the simplicity of my departure.**

**A few wise words  
echoing through Ash Wednesday  
urge me to deeper things:  
renewed dedication,  
constant compassion,  
and mindful awareness.**

**I leave marveling  
at how simple and sublime  
is this envelope of the soul,  
which one day returns  
to dust, dust, only dust.  
---Joyce Rupp**



*Towards a more profound A\*\*\*\*\**

*Greetings Everyone.*

*This month we begin our journey through the season of Lent, what an exciting time! My excitement is somewhat ironic because historically people have viewed Lent as a time of “doom and gloom” and focused on how terrible and sinful we are. Thankfully it is no longer the Dark Ages and we do not fear the Black Death, so this view is a little out dated. A better way to think of Lent is a time in which we shift the focus and reexamine the content of our lives.*

*During the season of Lent the way we worship changes as well, with perhaps the most evident change being the removal of “Alleluia” from the service to create a more somber atmosphere. Even though the music during Lent is much simpler and soberer, fear not, there are still moments of joy! I invite you this Lent to bring fresh ears and a renewed voice to worship.*

**Daniel Russell**



## *Coffeehouse Theology*

*Parish Hall 9:30*

Our baptismal covenant invites us to "continue in the apostle's teaching and fellowship." Christian education is a part of the way we fulfill our covenant vows.

You are invited to join us every Sunday at 9:30 a.m. as we delve into scripture to consider the stories of our faith and apply God's word to our own lives.

We are currently enjoying the series:  
**The Jesus I Never Knew, by Philip Yancey.**

## **Fabulous Friday Fish Frys**

at

**Holy Comforter Episcopal Church**

**227 S. Chenango**

**5:00 – 7:00 PM**



Every Friday in Lent Holy Comforter will serve fish dinners to eat in the Parish Hall or to take out. At \$7.50 per ticket, it's a great meal!

**Tickets are available at the door or from any Holy Comforter Church member.**



## *Boy Scout Buzz*



Troop 531 is still working on their personal fitness badges. They are also backpacking this weekend at Buescher State Park. In January they camped at Austin Town where they learned axe skills and dutch oven cooking.

**Don't forget to join us on March 8th at 5:30 PM in the Holy Comforter Parish Hall as we prepare pancakes for the Shrove Tuesday Pancake Supper!**

# *Holy Comforter Episcopal Church Vestry Synopsis*.....

The regularly scheduled meeting of the Holy Comforter Episcopal Parish Vestry was held on January 11, 2011, with Rev. Carol Petty presiding. The meeting was opened with prayer led by Mother Carol at 7:00 p.m. Present were: Dianne Kilgus, Barbara Thomas, Ed White, Lola Kay Hood, James Northrup, Lori Hawkins, Trey Picard and Chip Cole. 2011 vestry members, SuZan Carpenter, Ellen Eby and Mike Hattaway were also present. Also present was Barbara Marin, Clerk of the Vestry.

Lori Hawkins presented a report on the Nov/Dec Vestry Papers. Mother Carol led the vestry in a review and discussion of the Jan/Feb. Vestry Papers article The End of Business as Usual.

The minutes of the December 14, 2010, regular vestry meeting were presented. James Northrup made a motion to accept the minutes as presented. Lori Hawkins made a second. The motion passed.

Mother Carol presented a written report from Lori Logsdon of HCES. Barbara Thomas gave a report on the search for a new Head of School for HCES. Sr. Warden, Lori Hawkins thanked James for the presentation on the campus development. James Northrup, Jr. Warden, presented a report on the HC Campus Expansion Cost Estimates.

Barbara Thomas, Outreach Committee Chair, reported on two upcoming outreach projects. One "Nets for Lives" and an Appreciation Luncheon for the teachers of HCES. Barbara Marin gave a final report for the Fall Festival. Approximately 350 meals were served. There was a profit of approximately \$5,250.00.

Mother Carol reported that she had appointed Dianne Kilgus, Treasurer, Lori Hawkins, Senior Warden, Jerry Powell, Jr. Warden, and the Clerk was TBA. She reported that a new committee has been formed to assist the Jr. Warden, the Operation Committee. George Zwicker has agreed to head up the committee to assist in the operation of the church campus.

The vestry voted to appoint Nissa Picard to fill the position on the Endowment Board vacant as a result of Lonnie Lostak's resignation. Mother Carol thanked James Northrup, Dianne Kilgus and Lola Kay Hood for their service on the vestry and welcomed Mike Hattaway, SuZan Carpenter and Ellen Eby.

Diane Kilgus presented the December financial report, reporting that the Financial Committee had reviewed it and recommended it be approved by the vestry. The vestry voted to approve it. There being no further business the meeting was adjourned at 8:40 p.m. with prayer led by Mother Carol.

Respectfully submitted,

*Barbara Marin*, Clerk of the Vestry

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## **Financial Report**

<u>General Fund</u>	<u>January</u>	<u>YTD</u>
Operating Income	14,084.50	14,084.50
Operating Expense	19,943.73	19,943.73
Surplus or (Deficit)	(5,859.23)	(5,859.23)
<u>Designated Gifts (Memorial, Disc. Fund, etc.)</u>		
Income	955.00	955.00
Expenditures	555.00	555.00

Endowment Fund Balance as of 1/31/11 was \$667,969.65

Value of mineral properties is in addition to this amount.

# HCES SPRING CARNIVAL

It's time again for our annual spring fundraiser. On April 9, 2011 we will host a community wide Spring Carnival Fundraiser to benefit HCES. It will be held at Westside Elementary from 11:30-2:30 and will include lunch, games, raffle, auctions, and a performance by the students.

We are asking that you consider supporting the school by helping us reach our goal of raising \$13,000. You can help by being an event sponsor or donating items for our silent auction. The success of our past fundraisers has been possible in part by the generous support of donors like you.

We appreciate your consideration of our request and look forward to hearing from you soon. If you have any questions or need more information, please contact the school office.

### EVENT SPONSOR

*Sponsor Levels*     *Gold* - \$ 200.00 +     *Silver* - \$ 100.00-199.00     *Bronze* - \$ 50.00-99.00

All sponsors will have their name printed on the 5,000+ raffle tickets that will be sold. Please mail or drop this form by the school office along with your donation or call and we will be happy to pick it up! *Sponsor donations should be made by March 4, 2011.*

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Donation Amount \$ \_\_\_\_\_ Sponsor Level \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_ Please print name here exactly as you want it to appear on ticket

Check here if you would like your donation to remain anonymous

### SILENT AUCTION

We are in need of items for the silent auction. *No item is too big or too small, variety makes for a successful auction.* All donor names will be recognized on bid sheets with the item to be sold. Please drop this form by the school office along with your donation or call and we will be happy to pick it up! *Items for the silent auction should be donated by April 6, 2011.*

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Donation item \_\_\_\_\_

Value \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_ Please print name here exactly as you want it to appear on bid sheet

Check here if you would like your donation to remain anonymous

*Thank you for helping us to enrich the lives of our children!*

# March 2011

## Monthly Planner

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday																																			
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