



# From the Rafters

Vol. XI  
Issue 10  
October  
2024

## Our Mission

We are a people rooted in worship, branching out into the world.

### Dear Church of the Resurrection Family,

One of my favorite traditions of the Episcopal Church is the Blessing of the Animals. It is a wonderful day to celebrate God's creation and of course St. Francis. On October 6<sup>th</sup> we will have Morning Prayer at 8:30 (in the church) and 10:30 (the outside altar). After the 10:30 service, we will have a litter pickup in our neighborhood. This is a part of our Season of Creation. At 7:00 p.m. that evening, we will gather for the Blessing of the Animals and Eucharist at our beautiful outdoor altar. Please bring your animals and make sure they are on a leash or in a crate.

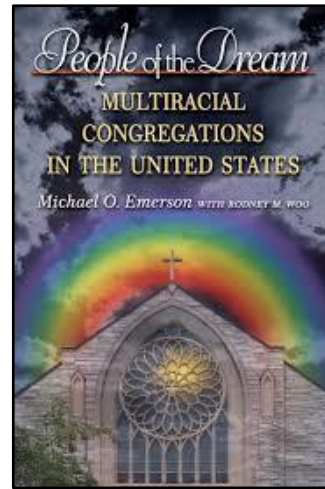


On October 27<sup>th</sup>, we will celebrate 20 years of our beloved Denise Brown. Denise has served gracefully and faithfully as our administrative assistant. She has served three Rectors and an interim priest. She has taken your phone calls and emails, cared for all of us, and has shown God's love. Denise is not going anywhere, but 20 years of service is certainly something to celebrate! Please join us on October 27<sup>th</sup> to celebrate Denise!

Remember to be faithful, come to church, say your prayers, receive the love of your church family, bask in God's love for you. We are family, we are united in Jesus, and we are here for each other. You are loved beyond measure!!!

Love, Mary Balfour+

### Becoming Beloved Community Book of the Month:



"It is sometimes said that the most segregated time of the week in the United States is Sunday morning. Even as workplaces and public institutions such as the military have become racially integrated, racial separation in Christian religious

congregations is the norm. ... *People of the Dream* is the most complete study of this phenomenon ever undertaken. Author Michael Emerson explores such questions as: how do racially mixed congregations come together? How are they sustained? Who attends them, how did they get there, and what are their experiences? Engagingly written, the book enters the worlds of these congregations through national surveys and in-depth studies of those attending racially mixed churches. Data for the book was collected over seven years by the author and his research team. It includes more than 2,500 telephone interviews, hundreds of written surveys, and extensive visits to mixed-race congregations throughout the United States."

*People of the Dream* is available for borrowing, along with many other titles, from our Becoming Beloved Community Library in the Gathering Space!

## United Thank Offering – In Gathering



Have you been collecting coins for your UTO box? We hope so. Last winter we provided boxes for everyone to use as a way of expressing gratitude

for our many blessings. Whenever you find yourself feeling thankful, you can drop a few coins or dollars into your United Thank Offering box and pay that blessing forward. All donations to the UTO will support the ministries of the Episcopal Church. If you misplaced your UTO box or would like a second one, we have extra available on the buffet table in the Gathering Space!

We will hold an in-gathering for our UTO boxes on Sunday, November 10. Watch the email announcements for more details! For more information about how the Episcopal Church uses the UTO offerings, visit:

<https://www.episcopalchurch.org/wp-content/uploads/sites/2/2024/04/2024-UTO-Grant-Brochure.pdf>

## Being Christian in a Divisive Election Season

Has it been difficult for you to watch the news lately? Perhaps that's tough for you year-round. But particularly now, as we approach the presidential election, watching the news and all the political advertisements can be disheartening, to say the least. The behavior of the political pundits and candidates is not exactly a model for good Christian values. I've been told by my husband many times that today's political climate is no different than election seasons of American history. Seems American politics has always been ugly and divisive. In fact, even before the U.S. Constitution was ratified, a major concern of James Madison was the "mischiefs" of factions, which he defined in such a way as might evoke our modern perception of political parties. Madison feared factions would be the downfall of our nation if their influence was left unchecked. Was Madison right? Perhaps. But we

must still survive *this* election season, and knowing how to do that without compromising our integrity is the present challenge. So how do we respond, as a Christian community, to the negativity of the political climate today? Should we even bother to be politically active? The response to those questions, indeed the response to any conundrum that a Christian faces, is to look to Jesus. Ask yourself the million-dollar question: What would Jesus do? Or perhaps, what did Jesus do? We are taught that Jesus was fully human and experienced all the things that humans experience, including the onslaught of political pressures. His world was one in which the political authorities were unjust, brutal and oppressive of non-Romans. Even among the Jewish community, there were "factions" of a sort – Pharisees, Herodians, Zealots, etc... . We can learn a great deal from how Jesus navigated these dangerous waters.

Recall the exchange between Jesus and the Pharisees and Herodians about paying taxes. "Give to the emperor the things that are the emperor's and to God the things that are God's." (Matthew 22:21; Mark 12:17; Luke 20:25) There are many commentaries about Jesus' statement. Those I've read agree that Jesus used this confrontation to affirm the legitimacy of secular government, as well as to limit it. That is what Paul seems to think as he writes to the Romans, although Paul takes it a step further: "Let every person be subject to the governing authorities; for there is no authority except from God, and those authorities that exist have been instituted by God." (Romans 13:1) Considering what I've been reading about the Roman government in our Adult Forum, I'm not sure I agree with Paul here. But I do agree that we can interpret these bits from the Bible as reason at least to *not avoid* political engagement. Compliance with civic duty seems to be Jesus' assumption. It is our civic duty to be informed voters, at a minimum. So let us do so.

Yet even in our observance of civic duty, remember that Jesus didn't stop with "give to the emperor the things that are the emperor's." He also reminded his audience to "give to God the things that are God's." What are the things

that are God's? Everything. We owe God everything, even our very lives. We are the people of God. Foremost, then, our political behavior must be a reflection of our identity as God's own people. So with every word, social media post and vote, ask yourself, "Would God be honored by this?"

Jesus' juxtaposition of "things that are the emperor's" with "things that are God's" reminds his audience also of who was really in charge. Jesus limits the secular government's authority to just the temporary arena of secular life. God's authority is greater than any secular government's authority, greater than any American president's authority. Ultimately, all are accountable to God. Take heart in that and let God have his turn at showing who is boss. We don't have to do that for him.

From what I can see in the gospels, Jesus didn't delve into politics very often, at least not directly. Countering the expectations of the Jewish tradition, Jesus was not the political hero of the oppressed. He did not usher in a new kingdom of God on earth by the might of the sword. Perhaps the lack of political lessons by Jesus is itself a lesson. Should politics be so important that we should spend so much time and energy debating it with one another? How much time do you spend fretting over the politics of those in power, venting your political opinions on social media?

In Jesus' famous Sermon on the Mount, Matthew quotes him, "And which of you by worrying can add a single hour to your span of life... do not worry about tomorrow, for tomorrow will bring worries of its own. Today's trouble is enough for today." (Matthew 6:27, 34) Jesus seems to know that fretting over politics and the state of the nation (or fretting over anything at all) accomplishes little. We can be politically active without letting our thoughts be consumed by it.

There are other recurring themes that Jesus taught and choices that Jesus made which we can apply to our political lives. As we all know, Jesus prayed ... often. Amidst all the political forces swelling around his testimony, Jesus made time to seclude himself and pray. We can only guess what his actual words were, but considering his teachings, I'd wager that he

prayed for all of the political parties and authority figures of his day. So let's do that too; let's remember to pray for our nation, for its leaders, and for all citizens, regardless of their political affiliations.

When he wasn't praying, Jesus focused his time and attention on mostly just one thing – relationships, the way we relate to one another and to God. What is the Great Commandment, after all? Love God and love one another. So there is our most important lesson. No matter how politically active we choose to be, through it all, we first must love one another. The "us vs. them" mindset has to go. The other political party is still made up of people – made in the image of God – just as worthy of grace and kindness as you are. Many members of the other political party worship next you on Sunday morning. They are your brothers and sisters in Christ. Love them.

One final theme to make note of, the pinnacle of Jesus' activity on earth, was utter humility. That aspect of human relationship is the very essence of Jesus' command to love and serve others. As the gospel according to John quotes Jesus, "No one has greater love than this, to lay down one's life for one's friends." There's a great children's storybook in our parish library called *The Tower*. It tells the story of a young man who is seeking greatness. He tries many ways to raise himself higher than others by building and rebuilding an ever higher platform so that he is always noticed and so he is always able to look down on those around him. But all that accomplishes is isolation. One day he happens to confess his frustration to a wise woman who tells him, "'To be great,' said the woman, 'is not to be seen by, but to truly see, others.' ... 'To be great is not to be higher than another, but to lift another higher.'" I think that just about nails the Great Commandment. That was what made Jesus great. It was his sacrificial love for humanity that defined his greatness. Truly seeing others, serving others, raising others higher, should be a part of a Christian's political activity as well. We should behave in the political world just as we should behave anywhere, with selfless kindness. Being right, convincing others that they are wrong, venting our political

frustrations, all this accomplishes is isolation and hurt feelings. So instead, let's just be humble. To steal a line from Mary Balfour's wonderful sermon last Sunday: Even in your political activity, "give up your place in line."

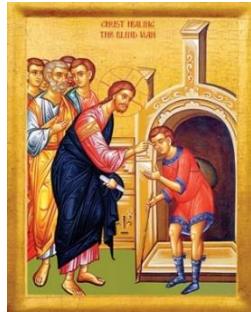
~ Elizabeth Floyd

## Upcoming Events and Opportunities for Ministry

Our monthly service of Holy Eucharist and Healing will be held on Wednesday, October 2, at 12 noon.

Our monthly service of Holy

# WESLEY COMMONS



Eucharist at Wesley Commons will be on Tuesday, October 8, at 11:00 am. You are welcome to attend even if you don't live there!

**26-27** OCTOBER  
MIDDLE SCHOOL CONVERGE  
@ ST. JOHN'S COLUMBIA

**8-9** NOVEMBER  
DIOCESAN CONVENTION

**22-24** NOVEMBER  
HAPPENING #91  
FOR 10-12 GRADES

**31-2** JAN-FEB  
HIGH SCHOOL EVENT

EDUSC  
YOUTH EVENTS

Visit [edusc.org/formation](http://edusc.org/formation)  
email [formation@edusc.org](mailto:formation@edusc.org)

**Blessing of the Animals**

Sunday, October 6  
7:00 pm  
in the Prayer Garden behind Church of the Resurrection  
700 South Main St.  
Greenwood, SC

St. Francis of Assisi by Michelangelo Voronkov, 2012

Please join us for a special outdoor service to honor God's creatures great and small!

Bring a chair or blanket and your pets to worship with you and receive a blessing.

## Adult Forum Book Study

JOIN US IN THE EMMAUS HALL

Sundays at 9:30  
Starting September 8

"Exciting and revolutionary, After Jesus Before Christianity provides fresh insights into the real history behind how the Jesus movement became Christianity."

Please join us!

PLEASE JOIN US!

## YOUTH SUNDAY SCHOOL

STARTING  
SEPTEMBER 8

9:30 TO 10:15 AM  
in the Youth Room

Second Sunday  
October 13, 2024  
Supporting ...

give

<p><u>Pet Food</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>9-Lives or Friskies Canned Cat Food</li> <li>Purina Dry Kitten Chow</li> <li>Pet Ag Kitten Milk Replacer</li> <li>Pedigree Canned Dog Food</li> <li>Pedigree, Purina Dry Puppy Food</li> <li>Dog and cat treats</li> </ul> <p><u>Cleaning Products</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Trash bags (all sizes)</li> <li>Paper towels</li> <li>Sponges</li> <li>Hand sanitizer</li> </ul>	<p><u>Office Supplies</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Copier paper</li> <li>Highlighters</li> <li>Sharpies</li> <li>White-Out tape</li> <li>Masking and Scotch Tape</li> </ul> <p><u>Other</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Puppy Pads</li> <li>Any size metal bowls</li> <li>Pet carriers or crates</li> <li>Towels, Fleece blankets</li> <li>Dog harnesses (all sizes)</li> <li>Leashes and collars (all sizes)</li> <li>Cat and dog toys</li> <li>White rice</li> </ul>
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**Thanksgiving Day  
Race to be Thankful  
5K Run / Walk**

Organized by the Episcopal  
Church of the Resurrection

**November 28, 2024 at 8:00 AM  
Gatewood Subdivision**

**Race starts at the clubhouse:  
114 Club Drive, 29646**

Cost to participate is \$25.00 if you  
sign up by 11/24 at 6 PM; \$30 on race day - cash or check

Register now using this QR code:

**100 % of the proceeds  
are donated to local  
charities!**



**Altar Arrangements:**

**October 6** – The altar arrangements are given to the glory of God and in memory of Carroll and Anita Brooks, E. Loudon and Myrtle Brooks, and Palmer H. and Maude R. Brown by Karen and Mike Whitfield.

**October 20** – The altar arrangements are given to the glory of God and in memory of Cliff and Sally Betts by Summer Booker.

**October 20** – The altar arrangements are given to the glory of God and in memory of their fathers, John R. Hawthorne and Leonard Juul Merrill, and in thanksgiving for their mothers, Leslie Lusk Hawthorne and Carolyn Pratt Johnston Merrill, by Albert and Jane Merrill.

**October 27** – The altar arrangements are given to the glory of God and in memory of Ailene L. Byers, Deaver O. Byers, Myrtle Feller Brooks, and E. Loudin Brooks by Edie and Emmett Brooks.

**The Presence Candle for the month of September** is given to the glory of God and in memory Carrie and Braxton Wallace, Abney’s grandparents, by Susu and Abney Wallace.

**Parish Connections:**

Music	Donna Brooks 992-3738 dbrooksgwd@gmail.com
Altar Guild	Beverly Wilson 374-3507 bhallwilson@gmail.com
Acolytes	Mary Balfour Dunlap 615-900-6191 marybalfour@episcopalgreenwood.org
Christian Formation	Elizabeth Floyd 223-5426 elizabeth@episcopalgreenwood.org
Daughters of the King	Summer Booker (512) 417-5897 summer.b.booker@gmail.com
Readers/EMs/Ushers	Denise Brown 223-5426 denise@episcopalgreenwood.org
Giving Records	Laurie Smith 223-5426 finance@episcopalgreenwood.org
Columbarium	Dean Faden dfaden@hotmail.com
CO3R Tutoring	Elizabeth Floyd 223-5426 elizabeth@episcopalgreenwood.org
Online Directory	Jo Ann Brewer 941-7199 joannbrewersc@gmail.com
Youth Group	Mary Balfour Dunlap 615-900-6191

### October 2024 Ministry Schedule

If you cannot fill the position assigned, please make arrangements for your replacement,  
and let the Parish Office know of the change. Thank you!

	<b>October 6 The Twentieth Sunday after Pentecost Proper 22</b>	<b>October 13 The Twenty-first Sunday after Pentecost Proper 23</b>	<b>October 20 The Twenty- second Sunday after Pentecost Proper 24</b>	<b>October 27 The Twenty-third Sunday after Pentecost Proper 25</b>
<b>Vestry of the Month</b>	Salley Cathcart and Dawn Puderbaugh Hodges			
<b>Altar Guild</b>	Connie Hammett (Chair), Jennifer Little, Margaret Conrad, Sue Moore, Cathy Robertson, Marilyn Bennett			
<b>Readings</b>	<b>Job 1:1; 2: 1-10 Psalm 26 Hebrews 1: 1-4; 2: 5-12 Mark 10: 2-16</b>	<b>Job 23: 1-9, 16-17 Psalm 22: 1-15 Hebrews 4: 12-16 Mark 10: 17-31</b>	<b>Job 38: 1-7, 34-41 Psalm 104: 1-9, 25, 37b Hebrew 5: 1-10 Mark 10: 35-45</b>	<b>Job 42: 1-6, 10-17 Psalm 34: 1-8, 19-22 Hebrews 7: 23-28 Mark 10: 46-52</b>
<b>8:30 Holy Eucharist, Rite I</b>				
<b>1<sup>st</sup> Lesson and Psalm</b>	Dean Faden	Josie Ryan	Stephen Tucker	Chuck McDonnell
<b>2<sup>nd</sup> Lesson and Prayers</b>	Mary Van Ellenberg	Deryl McGuire	Mary Bright	Dick Daffin
<b>Eucharistic Minister</b>	Chuck McDonnell	Deryl McGuire	Gerald Normandt	Tom Rohrer
<b>Usher</b>	Phil Ellenberg	Stephen Tucker	Walker Moore	Deryl McGuire
<b>10:30 Holy Eucharist, Rite II</b>				
<b>1<sup>st</sup> Lesson</b>	Ashley Woodiwiss	Jon Newlon	Celie Mescall	Mary Charles Haigler
<b>2<sup>nd</sup> Lesson and Prayers</b>	Shana Southard-Dobbs	Dawn Puderbaugh Hodges	Jane Merrill	Ryan Floyd
<b>Eucharistic Ministers</b>	Frank Wideman Karen Whitfield	Cindy Hughes Connie Hammett	Norm Fawcett Trisha Craven	Eddie Barber Beverly Wilson
<b>Crucifer</b>	Samantha Hasting		Samantha Hasting	
<b>Book Bearer</b>	Carolyn Hasting		Carolyn Hasting	
<b>Torchbearers</b>	Margaret Ann Hasting Susie and Maggie Rochester		Margaret Ann Hasting	
<b>Acolyte Leader</b>	Sarah Hasting	Jennifer Little	Sarah Hasting	Adrian Little
<b>Ushers</b>	Eddie Barber Tom Cobb	Helen & Jim Nazzaro	Al Merrill Rebecca Merrill	Diana Carver Gracey Montag
<b>Nursery</b>	Mary Bright Hope Scurry	Delaney Floyd Rebecca Long	Mary Bright Delaney Floyd	Delaney Floyd Cindy Hughes
<b>Hospitality</b>	TBA	Edie Barber Chris Locklear	Marilyn Bennett Billy DuPre	Fellowship Committee
<b>Blessing Box</b>	Haigler Family	Haigler Family	Haigler Family	Haigler Family
<b>Flower Guild</b>	Barbara Cameron	Carla Hobbs	Ginger Long	Marilyn Bennett
<b>Flower Delivery</b>				
<b>Laundry Love</b>	Beverly Wilson	Susie Hinkle	Sandy Moore	Sarah Contakos

## RESURRECTION CELEBRATES WITH YOU

BIRTHDAYS	ANNIVERSARIES	
1 – Patricia Davis	19 – Claire Gillespie	11 – Katie and Patrick Craven
1 – Jane Merrill	19 – Tom Rohrer	23 – Jennifer & Adrian Little
2 – Marilyn Bennett	19 – Michael Whitfield	26 – Grace & Gerald Normandt
2 – Phil Ellenberg	20 – Terri Bacon	
2 – Sandra Kern	20 – Joel Cleland	
7 – Amy Alley	22 – Bob Brewer	
7 – Jan Puzar	23 – Benjamin Dobbs	
7 – Sherri Ward	23 – John Hinkel	
8 – Lisa Wideman	24 – Lattie Gillespie	
9 – Susan Wash	25 – Nan Hines	
11 – Mary Bright	26 – Laura Beth Brooks	
12 – Carmen Kinney	26 – Helen Nazzaro	
13 – John Park	27 – Erich Normandia	
14 – Jackie Ridings	28 – Craig Church	
14 – Shana Southard-Dobbs	29 – G. Walker Moore	
16 – Walker Whitehead	30 – Anna Burns Padgett	
17 – Keith Kampert	30 – Caroline Newlon	
18 – Henry McMillan	30 – Anna Lee Padgett	

**Your prayers are asked for these members of our parish and members of our immediate families:** Bill Arnold, Dan Bacon, Julia Ball, Jo Ann Brewer, Libby and Larry Carson, Bruce Craven, Paul Criswell, Steve Driskell, Joe Ferguson, Anne Marie Glawe, Jim Gobble, Nan Hines, Bev and David Joosten, Diane Lawson, Bill Lewis, Mirta Lindsey, Rebecca Long, Rita Marshall, Marion Mescall, Mary Jane Mobley, Helen Nazzaro, Erich Normandia, Bette and Burl Ricker, Domer Ridings, Lee Roper, Eddie Sanders, Mary Jo Tolbert, Shirley Walker, Jimmy Arthur (Shannon Jones' father), Bryan Biggart (Karen Whitfield's son), Linda Criswell (Paul Criswell's sister), Chris Eaddy (Karen Bright's nephew), David Hammett (Connie Hammett's brother), Vanita Hunt (Dawn Puderbaugh-Hodges' mother), Cheri Hutchison (Jo Ann and Bob Brewer's daughter), Tammy Kelly (Michael Whitfield's niece), Jeanette Little (Adrian Little's mom), Tommy Morgan (Robin Lanford's brother), JoAnn Lindsey Myers (Mirta Lindsey's daughter), Carol Ann Pry (Susie Hinkel's niece), Jerry Ross (Ross Ann Steifle's uncle), Mason Shirley, Stacey Spillum (Jo Ann Brewer's niece), and David Walker (Hope Scurry's brother).

**And for these persons:** Durst Confer, Nannette Earnest (Karen Bright's cousin), Sam Livingston (Karen and Michael Whitfield's friend), Nancy May (Cindy Hughes' friend), Desmond Melville (Dean Faden's friend), and Jenny Perkey (Cindy Hughes' friend).

Please send additions/deletions to the prayer list or family news and prayer concerns to Denise at [denise@episcopalgreenwood.org](mailto:denise@episcopalgreenwood.org) or call 223-5426.

	Pledges (Actual)	Pledges (Budgeted)	Unpledged/Plate (Actual)	Unpledged/Plate (Budgeted)	Expenses (Actual)	Expenses (Budgeted)
<b>Month as of 8/23/94</b>	\$20,323	\$36,188	\$408	\$1,433	\$9,523	\$40,635
<b>Year as of 8/23/24</b>	\$295,192	\$289,500	\$17,791	\$11,514	\$272,690	\$299,120



*From the Rafters*

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## Church of the Resurrection

### **Vestry Members**

Jim Nazzaro, Senior Warden  
Charlie Long, Junior Warden  
Eddie Barber  
Diana Carver  
Salley Cathcart  
Mary Charles Haigler  
Deb Maschoff  
Dawn Puderbaugh Hodges  
Jean E. Shirley  
Stephen Tucker  
Kelly Wiseman  
Beverly Wilson  
Adrian Little, Vestry Clerk  
Archie Booker, Treasurer

### **Clergy and Staff**

Mary Balfour Dunlap, Rector  
Al Hipp, Deacon  
Donna Brooks, Director of Music Ministry  
Denise A. Brown, Administrative Assistant  
Elizabeth Floyd, Associate Lay  
Minister for Families and Outreach  
Cox Accounting, Financial Contractor  
Mary Bright, Nursery Attendant  
Catherine Brooks Sexton, RN, Parish Nurse