



# TIDINGS



Saint Elizabeth of Hungary Episcopal Church

December 2011

*The mission of Saint Elizabeth's Church is proclaiming God's Word, celebrating God's love, and sharing God's gifts.*

## RECTOR'S REFLECTIONS

*But, in accordance with his promise, we await for new heavens and a new earth, where righteousness is at home.*



This is a reading from 2 Peter appointed for Thursday of Advent 1, today as I am writing this column beyond the deadline, poignantly beyond the deadline. Waiting for the fulfillment of God's promise, that is living in hopeful expectation, is not a season; but it is the life of faith par excellence. Margo awaits this column; thus far in four years I have not let her down.

I notice in my in-box a PDF file from Margo dated Today 1:01 a.m. Margo has not been sitting idly by as she has been awaiting my contribution. She has been working around the delay of my article. Tidings is complete except for what is expected from me. She knows my ways and so her anxiety level is, I suspect, not too high, though there may be some irritation in the wait.

Waiting for and hastening the coming of the day of God.... Waiting has become a virtue of faith. But the waiting of faith is not pacing before the living room window anxiously awaiting a delayed guest. The waiting of faith has become imbued with ethic, with doing, with hastening. The gift of the ethic-imbued waiting has a name. The gift was given to us by the one for whose return we await, and whose return marks the day of God, the perfection of human history. The name of the waiting is sacrificial love. It is how we are called to live moment by moment in every season. It is the way of an at-peace heart.

In 24 days we will reenact again the faithfulness of God through the satisfaction of Isaiah's prophetic vision that God would rend the heavens and come down. God did this in an event that certainly was and is missable. God did this through the birth of Jesus of Nazareth, an event we call Incarnation. The reenactment of this event of profound innocence of God's sacrifice of love toward all humanity is to bolster us in our waiting.

Bwana asifiwe  
Come, Lord Jesus

Faithfully  
Albert †

## Thursday Holy Eucharist services added

Every Thursday during Advent a Holy Eucharist will be held at 8:30 a.m. There has been a desire from some to reinstate a midweek Holy Eucharist. The advent services began Dec. 1 and will run through Dec. 22.

Altar guild effort, readers and servers are needed. Please let Annette know if you will be willing to volunteer for one of these services.

A decision will be made later as to whether there is enough support to continue the approximately 30-minute weekday services into the new year.

### All are invited

## Christmas party set for Dec. 10

St. Elizabeth's Annual Christmas Party will be held at the home of Wilma and Dave Bammer on Saturday, Dec. 10, starting at 5 p.m. Please join us for food and fellowship as we celebrate the Christmas season.

Meat and libations will be provided. Please bring an appetizer or other covered dish. There is a sign up sheet in the Narthex, but please feel free to come whether or not you are signed up.

Because of the remote location and limited parking, participants are encouraged to meet in the church parking lot to carpool. There is a sign up sheet in the foyer for both the party and carpooling.

**Directions:** Take GA. Hwy. #60 North toward Suches. Watch for Yahooola Road about 1/2 mile past the 17 mile marker and turn left. Go 2.5 miles and turn left onto Pat Gooch Road; cross the little white metal bridge. Go to Lucy Lane, turn left and go up the hill. Bammers are the second drive on the right. Feel free to park on the lawn. 166 Lucy Lane, 706-864-1824

## Changes for Christmas Eve service

This year's Christmas Eve candlelight service will be slightly different from the past few years.

The service proper will begin at 10:30 p.m with Lessons and Carols and move directly into Holy Eucharist without a break. For the past three years we have had a musical prelude that preceded the service but was not a part of the service.

Please plan to join us at this very special holiday tradition at St. Elizabeth's.



# Evergreens brighten the December holy seasons

by Rosalie Jensen

## A GIFT THAT KEEPS GIVING

The year that we moved into our Dahlenega home we bought a live tree to decorate for Christmas. After enjoying the tree in our living room until January 1st, we planted it in the back yard. Several years later we built a deck on the back of the house. The tree had grown and was too large to move.

The tree that once brightened our living room is now taller than our two story house. A bird bath and feeder are located a few feet from it. Birds seek security in its branches before moving to the bath and feeder. Sometimes we see them resting just outside the windows of the sun room. A gift that we gave ourselves is now a haven for birds.

During the month of December the Advent wreath and the Christmas tree remind us of the beauty of the evergreens in our landscapes and forests. These gifts from the natural world are now symbols of the December holy seasons that celebrate the anticipation and fulfillment of the birth of Christ.

## ORIGINS AND MEANING OF THE ADVENT WREATH

Sources differ in their accounts of the origin of the Advent wreath that we use today. Most authorities agree that the ring or wheel of evergreens holding candles was a symbol in northern Europe long before Christianity arrived. There is evidence that people in Germany lit candles in wreaths as a sign of the future warm sunlit days of spring. In Scandinavia people used a wheel with lighted candles to accompany prayers to the god of light to turn the earth back toward the sun to bring back longer days of warmth.

By 1600 both Catholics and Lutherans had developed formal practices to prepare for the birth of Christ, the light of the world. Although the season of Advent has sometimes been a time of fasting and penitence, now it is more likely marked by a spirit of expectation, anticipation, and longing for deliverance from the evils of the world. Today Christians join those of the past in the hope that the reign of a Messiah will bring peace, justice and righteousness to the world.

This year the youth of our church sold Advent wreaths to benefit the Church of the Common Ground. Four candles, three purple and one pink were with this wreath, but four blue candles are sometimes used instead. According to one source, the candles which are lit on consecutive Sundays during Advent have the following meanings: first candle, hope; second, love; third, joy; and fourth, peace. A white candle, placed in the middle of the wreath, is lit on Christmas Eve and represents the coming of the true Light of the World. Since the symbolism for the candles is somewhat new, other versions exist.

## THE FIRST CHRISTMAS TREE: TWO STORIES

Folk legends about the Christmas tree are widespread. The central theme of most stories is Christ's gift to the world in the

form of a decorated tree. Using the tree as the focus, people in Europe taught their children to celebrate the birth of the Messiah. The two stories here were found in [www.eldrbarry.net](http://www.eldrbarry.net).

In one story from Northern Europe three virtues named Faith, Hope, and Charity were sent from above to locate a tree that was as high as hope, as great as love, and as sweet as charity. Moreover, the tree must have the sign of the cross on every bough. The search ended in the forests of the North when the virtues discovered the Fir. With the radiance of the stars as lights, they saw the first Christmas tree.

Another story tells of a woodcutter who befriends a small hungry child. The next morning the child, now revealed as the Christ child, appears to the woodcutter and his wife. Breaking a branch from a fir tree the child tells the couple that at Christmas time the tree will bear fruit. As promised the tree became loaded with golden apples and silver nuts.

The origin of the Christmas tree is less important than the fact that different Christian traditions have evolved using evergreens and their decorations to symbolize the truths that God sent his Son to save a fallen world. Along with Advent wreaths, Christmas trees symbolize the coming of the true Light from heaven to earth.

## THE YEAR OF FORESTS COMES TO A CLOSE

A resolution adopted by the United Nations General Assembly designated 2011 as the International Year of Forests. In so doing the Member Nations recognized that "forests and sustainable forest management can contribute significantly to sustainable development, poverty eradication and the achievement of internationally agreed development goals, including the Millennium Development Goals." The resolution called upon governments and organizations to support activities celebrating forests at the local and national levels. Recognizing that one nation cannot protect the world's resources alone, members were encouraged to form partnerships across countries and organizations. A long list of activities from many parts of the world can be found by writing International Year of Forests in your browser.

Looking back over the year, our Creation Keeper articles have focused on sustainability of natural resources and quality of human life. Themes have included the Chattahoochee National Forest, leaves, birds, butterflies, and wildflowers. The focus for Lenten Study was Sustainable Faith, and the related articles described sessions on planting, eating, architecture, and aid.

As we use our Advent wreaths and Christmas trees to light our lives in the month of December we should acknowledge that they are bringing the beautiful world of nature into our homes and our church. We hope that you enjoy the gifts of greenery as representatives of God's wonderful creation.



## Bake a batch of cookies, take home an assortment

The ECW will hold a cookie swap on Tuesday night, Dec. 20, beginning at 6:30 p.m. Bake a large batch of your favorite Christmas cookies and bring them to share. Take home a collection that your family and friends will certainly enjoy.

The ECW board will be providing hot drinks (hot chocolate, spiced cider and coffee) as well as egg nog.

To participate in the cookie exchange, sign up in the Foyer and list the kind of cookie you will bring so that there will not be any duplicates. Pick up a set of instructions next to the sign up sheet.

Bring six dozen homemade cookies and your recipe to the meeting. You are also encouraged to wear a Christmas outfit and a prize will be given to the "best outfit."

A cookbook will be compiled of the recipes. It will be distributed free to participants, and will also be available for purchase by anyone else.

See Linda Bunting if you have any questions.



## grace notes

by Warren R. Johnson,  
Organist-Choirmaster

### Singing carols



What Christmas be without the carols we love so much? Try to imagine a Christmas Eve service without any carols. Unfathomable! But what really is a carol? Do we sing these only at Christmas time?

The carol is generally considered to have originated in England in the 15th century, though there were other examples as early as the 12th century. The first carol was printed in the 16th century, after the invention of the printing press. It did not originally have a connection with Christmas, but was any joyful song that was thought of as a round dance or a song used in processions or at special events. These earliest carols were secular, not associated with the Church. They had a text in English, but often included a portion in Latin. Today, we will have Angels We have Heard on High with the refrain of Gloria in excelsis Deo.

The earliest carols had a set form: four lines rhyming AAAB with a common refrain rhyming BB sung after each stanza. With time, this form became less rigid and evolved into any strophic hymn, now with a religious connection. Therefore, carols are no longer relegated to Christmas but can be found in Advent and Easter. Non-religious carols can be used to celebrate any important day (May Day, July 4th).

The carol expanded to other countries and is known as Carole or Noel in France, Weihnachtslied in Germany and Villancico in Spain. Carols declined after the Reformation, as they were thought to be associated with the Roman Catholic Church. The Calvinists considered them nonessential. Fortunately, after the 19th Century, there came a carol revival and many composers wrote new carols and sometimes included these in larger works. At the same time, however, any Christmas hymn in strophic form came to be called a carol, so that the term now has a more fluid definition.

Let's enjoy our Advent and Christmas carols this year and look forward to identifying some Easter carols in the months ahead.

## CHP White Christmas needs toys, clothing, food, donations

The Community Helping Place (CHP) White Christmas is the annual Christmas outreach serving Lumpkin County residents in need during the holiday season. Last year CHP White Christmas served 280 households which included toys for a record-breaking 498 children. Not only does CHP White Christmas help our neighbors during the holiday season but it also provides emergency assistance throughout the year.

You can participate this year by donating new, unwrapped toys and non-perishable food items. Of course, financial contributions are always welcomed.

Toys and non-perishable food should be placed in the collection box in the Parish Hall. If you would prefer to make a monetary donation you may place a check marked CHP White Christmas in the collection plate, or send it directly to CHP at P.O. Box 712, Dahlonega, GA 30533. Deadline for donations is Friday, December 9.



### WHITE CHRISTMAS FOOD LIST:

For each family:

- 2-1 lb canned ham (type that does not need refrigeration)
- 1 can yams
- 2 cans green beans
- 2 boxes stuffing
- 2 packages instant mashed potatoes
- 1 can cranberry sauce

## A prayer for applicants, committee as the Bishop search moves forward

The application period for the position of the 10th Bishop of the Diocese of Atlanta has closed, and the candidates and the Nominating Committee have begun a time of mutual discernment. The review process is expected to end in February with the naming of three to five finalists. For more information, visit [www.atlbishopsearch.org](http://www.atlbishopsearch.org)

The committee asks that during the next several weeks, we hold the candidates and the committee daily in our prayers. Below is a prayer for this purpose written by the Rev. Deborah Silver, Nominating Committee Chaplain:

*O God, we lift up each candidate for 10th Bishop of the Diocese of Atlanta as well as each member of the Nominating Committee for your blessing. Open all hearts and minds to the guidance of your Holy Spirit.*

*For the candidates ...*

*Be with them in their waiting and wondering.  
Guide them in their ongoing discernment.  
Give them courage to seek and do your will.*

*For those on the Nominating Committee ...*

*Grant them wisdom in their discernment.  
Calm their anxious moments with the reassurance of your presence.  
Give them courage to seek and do your will.*

*Uphold us all by your grace and power. Give us faith in you and trust in one another and ourselves.*

*We pray all of this and more in the name of Your Son, Our Lord, Jesus Christ, Amen.*

## Kiwanis Holiday Dinner will feed 150; Dyann asks for help

by Dyann Beaty

Lumpkin County Kiwanis is planning to hold a holiday dinner Saturday, Dec. 17, from 11 a.m. to 2 p.m. at the Lumpkin County Parks YMCA. Our goal is to provide a holiday meal for 150 disadvantaged families. We are hoping to have Santa and the Chick-fil-A cow.

We are looking for anyone who would be interested in purchasing and/or cooking a turkey and/or a side dish (green beans, mashed potatoes, stuffing or rolls), or a dessert. We are also looking for help with the set up (which will happen that morning beginning at 8:30 a.m.), serving, and clean-up. Anyone who is interested in volunteering or donating to this community effort should contact me at 813-230-4096.

This will be a great opportunity to give back to the less fortunate. Community Helping Place and Dahlonega Baptist Church are helping to identify and invite families to our party. If anyone in our congregation knows of a family they think should be invited, please contact me.



Mary Wetzel, left, leads a procession through the streets of Atlanta following a Palm Sunday worship service. Photo courtesy of Bill Monk

## Learn about Church of the Common Ground Dec. 11, tube socks appreciated

The Rev. Mary Wetzel, Vicar, Church of the Common Ground, will be our guest on Sunday, Dec. 11. She will teach our children, preach, and present to all of us following church about this important Diocesan ministry. The Church of the Common Ground is an inner-city ministry that serves the city's homeless population.

The Church of the Common Ground offers Sunday services and weekday prayer and Bible study, as well as other services such as a foot clinic, art program, an afternoon at the movies, medical clinic and recovery meetings.

Church of the Common Ground seeks to create a worshipful, safe space where anyone can gather and experience the unconditional love of God and through that love, perhaps find the strength to heal.

St. Elizabeth's youth have been raising funds for the church this holiday season through the sale of the advent wreaths they made. On December 11 they will present Rev. Wetzel with Harper's Study Bibles.

If you would like to contribute a package of white tube socks, please feel invited to do so. It will be appreciated by Angie, Myia, Will and Caleb.

Come meet Vicar Wetzel and learn more about the mission and activities of this special ministry.

## Hard cover Tinai picture book coming

A professionally produced, hard cover, mostly picture book—though with some narrative assembled by Fr. Albert—will soon be available for about \$35. The book, entitled *Separating the Waters* (proposed), will depict the Tinai water project and the larger trip to Tanzania including the day trip to Mikumi National Park.

It is hoped that this book will be available by December 21 but this is not a guarantee. You can order a copy for yourself or for a gift through Annette in the church office. Watch for details as they become available.

If there are any proceeds—and if there are they will be small—they will become part of the Tinai Water Project fund.

## Nominations open for vestry positions

Two new Vestry positions will be open in January and will be voted on at the annual congregational meeting Jan. 15.

If you would like to nominate yourself, or someone else (with their approval), please give that information to Martha Roberts, senior warden. Deadline for nominations is Jan. 8.

The nominee must be authenticated by the Treasurer and other by-law requirements. To be qualified for election to the Vestry the individual must

- 1) Be a confirmed member of the Episcopal Church, be a member of the parish and be 18 years old or older.
- 2) Have been regular in attendance at the services of the church in the year preceding election.
- 3) Made and maintained a financial commitment to the parish, known to the treasurer, in the year preceding election.

Duties of a vestry person include, but are not limited to, the following: attend the annual planning conference in January, attend monthly vestry meetings, serve as vestry person of the day on a rotating schedule, attend training sessions required by the parish, serve as liaison for one or more ministry team(s) or committees, share responsibilities with the Rector for planning and for decisions that affect our corporate life. In general, carrying the mission of the Parish into action: "Proclaiming God's Word, celebrating God's love and sharing God's gifts."

## Nursery volunteers needed

by Susan Richtarcik

Volunteers are needed to assist in our nursery on Sunday mornings—two people each Sunday.

We would like to have six to eight people who would be willing to work in the nursery with a paid staff member on a rotating basis, and a list of substitutes we can call on when needed. If we can get six to eight permanent volunteers and a substitute list we would only need to sit in the nursery once every six to eight weeks.

Everyone who volunteers will need to take the Safeguarding God's Children Class, which should be offered in January. If you have already taken this class, please let me know if you would be willing to be put on the rotation or substitute list.

Please email me at [suerichtarcik@gmail.com](mailto:suerichtarcik@gmail.com) if you can help staff our nursery. For more information you can talk to Betty Green, Rita Chanell or me. Thank you for your willingness to serve the church in this way.

## Some people have everything they need . . . other people don't!

If you have people on your Christmas list who seem to already have everything they want, consider something that doesn't come from a store at all. Episcopal Relief and Development has over 40 gift ideas that will make a real difference in the lives of people living in extreme poverty around the world.. Some examples are listed below. To learn more about these offerings log on to [www.er-d.org](http://www.er-d.org).

**Clean Water:** Your gift will provide clean water, basic hygiene and nutrition education. \$35 per person

**Micro-Credit Loans for Women:** The gift helps women receive small loans and the essential tools and training to start small businesses, become independent and earn enough money to support their families. \$200 per loan

**Flock of Chickens:** A gift of a flock of chickens is far more than some hens, a rooster and a daily supply of fresh eggs. Your gift provides training for families to raise poultry and sell surplus stock and eggs in the marketplace. \$135 per flock, \$25 per share

**Solar Energy System:** Provide a free alternative to wood energy that is healthier for families and the earth. As the only proven sustainable means of providing electricity to the rural populations of the developing world, your gift will extend the time for nighttime activities and help families emerge into the modern world. \$200 for a family

**Community Garden:** Grow a healthy diet and a source of income. Create a parish-to-village connection by helping a hungry community sustain a nutritious food supply. Your gift will provide the funds to purchase land for small-scale farming that will feed an entire community. Training, techniques, seeds and basic tools are included. \$175 for a family share, \$35 for an individual share



## Donate a poinsettia to beautify the church

Every year we celebrate the Christmas season by filling our church with a festive array of greenery and poinsettias. We depend on your generous donations to make this happen.

To donate a poinsettia in memory of or thanksgiving for someone or an event, sign up on one of the slips in your Dec. 4 service bulletin or on the sign-up sheet on the table in the narthex. We will match your check to the sign-up sheet(s) when we purchase the plants, so please designate "poinsettias" on your check written to Saint Elizabeth's, and print your memorial gift designation on the slips. The cost is \$11, and deadline for ordering is Dec. 18.

You may drop the checks and the slips in the collection plate during the service or give them to Robbie Niles.

## ANNOUNCEMENTS

### NO LINES, NO HASSLE SHOPPING

The ECW has placed a display cabinet in the fellowship hall. It is stocked with hand-made items and other gifts, including the few remaining St. Elizabeth's cookbooks. What could be easier!

### BOOK CLUB

The book for November-December is *My Grandfather's Blessings: Stories of Strength, Refuge, and Belonging* by Rachael Naomi Remen, M.D. Copies are now available at the Lumpkin County Library. Our next meeting will be Dec. 12 at 6 p.m. at Gustavo's on the Square. *John Ackermann*

### PIECEMAKER'S LUNCHEON

The Piecemaker's Christmas Party luncheon will be Wednesday, Dec. 14 at the home of Donna Wright. All members, past, present and future, are invited. Please sign up on the sheet in the narthex if you can come and if you will bring a salad or dessert. The main dish will be provided. *Donna Wright*

### ONE DATE LEFT FOR FLOWERS

Only one date remaining! Only one date remains this year for offering flowers for the altar. If you would like to have flowers on the altar on Sunday, Dec. 11, please contact me or sign the sheet in the Narthex. *Robbie Niles*

### DUMC SOUP CAFÉ NOW OPEN

The Dahlenega United Methodist Church's 1st Monday Soup Café will be held from 11 a.m.-12:30 p.m. on Monday, Dec. 5 All you can eat soup and cornbread, and dessert, are available for a \$5 donation, and all proceeds benefit the Community Helping Place and Family Connection. The café will continue on the first Monday of the month through spring, with January's soup being served on the second Monday. Location: DUMC Fellowship Hall, which is connected to the new sanctuary building, on the main level.

### COMMUNITY ADVENT SERVICES CONTINUE

The annual community-wide Dahlenega-Lumpkin County Ministerial Association-sponsored Advent services are being held on Tuesdays of Advent at St. Luke the Evangelist Catholic Church, across from Hancock Park. The service begin at noon, and a snack lunch (for a donation) is served at 12:30 p.m. in the fellowship hall. The schedule of preachers is as follows: Dec. 6, Dr. McCay Caston, Creekstone Church; Dec. 13, Fr. Neil Dhabliwala, St. Luke the Evangelist Catholic Church, Dec. 20, Rev. Christy Greenwald, Dahlenega United Methodist Church.

### CHP COLLECTORS ORNAMENT AVAILABLE

Issued exclusively by the Community Helping Place of Dahlenega, this year's official Christmas in Dahlenega ornament depicts the Holly Theatre. The ornaments, handcrafted in the USA, are available for \$20 (cash or check only) at The Fudge Factory, West Cleaners, the CHP Thrift Shop and Continuing Education at NGCSU. All proceeds benefit the Community Helping Place Medical Clinic, Thrift Stores, and Food Pantry.

### VIRTUAL SHOWER FOR OUR NURSERY:

Our nursery is in need of pack & play sized sheets, diapers in all sizes, baby wipes and receiving blankets. Donations gratefully accepted. *Susan Richtarcik and Rita Channell*

### CHP FOOD PANTRY

Please remember to pick up items for the Food Pantry when you are shopping. Please check the weekly Thursday email update for current pantry needs. Thank you for your support. *Suzanne Ryerson*

### ALUMINUM PULL TABS

St. Elizabeth's collects aluminum can pull tabs to benefit the Ronald McDonald House. The house is used to temporarily house families of children being treated for cancer or other serious illness at medical facilities. Please save your drink can tabs and drop them in the basket in the foyer.

## IN OUR MAILBOX

### FROM NANCY MCCLARY

November 13, 2011

Dear Friends,

I wish to thank you all for your support and prayers as we began our journey to Lake Placid, Fla. Marilou Kinney did a wonderful job of having folks bring meals to us on that last weekend. The food was delicious and the portions huge.

Tom Roberts and Dave Bammer gathered up willing hands to send much of our furniture to the Community Helping Place, and more helping hands to load up the rest of our belongings in the trailer. A special thanks to Mollye Farmer for keeping Mitch company while I still had to go to work at Dollar General.

Mitch is now seeing doctors and therapists at the VA Clinic in Sebring. He is steadily improving though his medications make him dizzy and drowsy.

I miss the choir, the music, and the many happy faces I had come to know while serving you.

It took some doing to get things fixed up in our new home, since it had been vacant for three years. We find much comfort and peace sitting on the patio in our back yard watching the canal, the water birds, the turtles, the butterflies, and the small birds and squirrels.

May you all have a Merry Christmas and Happy New Year and peace and joy in your lives each day.

Nancy McClary

### WRITTEN TO TOM ROBERTS

*by George Chomolla, Vicar General  
of the Diocese of Central Tanganyika*

Dear Tom.

Greetings.

It was so wonderful to go to Tinai and experience all the facts you covered in the report you recently emailed. I highly appreciate and endorse the report. I really congratulate you for the role you have taken and the bridging of information between Tanzania and our friends in St. Elizabeth's Episcopal Church. As it is set and accepted, Tinai Water project is a humane social need which is intending to give hope to the people. May I frankly express my concern and prayer to Father Tim who has worked tirelessly to accomplish this dream. Moreover, any project demands some fundings, of which our sisters and brothers of St. Elizabeth willingly have provided and supported this project, regardless of the economic recession throughout the World.

Greetings and regards to you and all our friends.

George

## SCHEDULE OF SERVICE

### DECEMBER 4

**READERS:** Robert Wright  
**CHALICE BEARERS:** Betty G/Jim O  
**PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE:** Robert Wright  
**CRUCIFER:** Angie Joaquim  
**SERVER:** Will Maybach  
**ACOLYTES:** Will L, Myia L, Caleb C  
**USHERS:** Bill H & Jocelyn J  
**GREETERS:** Dave & Wilma Bammer  
**ALTAR GUILD:** Pat H/Teresa H  
**FLOWER GUILD:** Donna Wright  
**REFRESHMENTS:** Susan Ory  
**BREAD MINISTRY:** Judy Ford  
**LAY EUCHARISTIC VISITORS:** Betty G  
**TELLERS:** Judy F/Chris C  
**VESTRY OF THE DAY:** Rick Wherry

### JANUARY 1

**READERS:** Teresa H/Wilma B  
**CHALICE BEARERS:** Martha & Tom Roberts  
**PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE:** Emile Foisy  
**CRUCIFER:** Angie Joaquim  
**SERVER:** Mollye Farmer  
**ACOLYTES:** Will L, Caleb C, Myia L  
**USHERS:** Mac & Sharon M  
**GREETERS:** Dave & Wilma B  
**ALTAR GUILD:** Pat H/Teresa H  
**FLOWER GUILD:** TBA  
**REFRESHMENTS:** Jackie P/Robbie N  
**BREAD MINISTRY:** John Eke  
**LAY EUCHARISTIC VISITORS:** Mollye F, Betty G  
**TELLERS:** Judy F/Chris C  
**VESTRY OF THE DAY:** Martha Roberts

### CHP FOOD PANTRY SCHEDULE

Dec 2 Frank & Trina Pellegrino, Lloyd Cupp  
 Dec 9 Martha Roberts, Buzz & April Comstock  
 Dec 16 Judy Ford, Ginny Ingram, Suzanne Ryerson  
 Dec 23 closed  
 Dec 30 closed

### ANNIVERSARIES

Dec 3: Rick & Susan Richtarcik  
 Dec 6: Alex & Marjorie Garner  
 Dec 12: John & Annette Barber  
 Dec 22: Wendel & Helen Long  
 Dec 23: Pat & David Hughes  
 Dec 29: Albert & Pat Daviou

### DECEMBER BIRTHDAYS

5 Carol Nielsen	20 Jocelyn Joaquim
8 Larry Channell	22 Tim Singleton
Chet Barger	23 Katherine James
9 Dyann Beaty	31 Lilac Myia
14 Marjorie Garner	Will Maybach
15 Cheryl Jones	
Michael Bunting	

#### Known Birthdays & Anniversaries

*We endeavor to make sure all information is correct in our parish data base. If your information is not listed or is incorrect, please contact the church office.  
 Annette Barber*

### DECEMBER 11

Margo B & Emile F  
 Deborah S/Robert W  
 Wilma B  
 Myia Lilac  
 Mollye Farmer  
 Will L, Caleb C, Angie J  
 Sharon & Mac McWhorter  
 Rick & Susan Richtarcik  
 Pat H/Teresa H  
 Cathy Ritch  
 Mike & Linda Bunting  
 Susan Ory  
 Annette B/Mollye F  
 Lloyd C/Larry C  
 Emile Foisy

### DECEMBER 18

Marjorie G/Betty G  
 Janet B/Lloyd C  
 Annette Barber  
 Mollye Farmer  
 Angie Joaquim  
 Will L, Myia L, Caleb C  
 Will M/Jocelyn J  
 Robert & Donna W  
 Bill & Carol Maybach  
 Robbie Niles  
 Kathleen Childs  
 Judy Ford/TBA  
 Betty G/Martha R  
 Alex G/Deborah S  
 Teresa Hughes

### DECEMBER 25

Lloyd C, Pat H  
 Robert Wright  
 Lloyd Cupp  
 Robert Wright  
 Robert Wright  
  
 Bill H, Charlie K  
  
 TBA  
 Donna Wright team  
  
 Susan Richtarcik  
  
 Pat H/Eric D  
 Eric Daly

### CHRISTMAS EVE, DECEMBER 24 (SERVICE BEGINS AT 10:30 P.M.)

**READERS:** Betty G, Myia L, Margo B, Angie J, Emile Foisy, Teresa H, John B  
**CHALICE BEARERS:** Annette B/Robert W  
**PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE:** Teresa Hughes  
**CRUCIFER:** Mollye Farmer  
**SERVERS, ACOLYTES & TORCHES:** Will L, Myia L, Caleb C, Angie J  
**USHERS:** Ben W, Suzanne R, Sharon & Mac M  
**GREETERS:** Stella & Chris C  
**ALTAR GUILD:** TBA  
**FLOWER GUILD:** Donna Wright team  
**TELLERS:** Tom R/Lloyd C  
**VESTRY OF THE DAY:** Rick Wherry

### CALENDAR

Note: The following have regular meeting times, and only changes are included in the calendar below:

**SUN** 9 a.m. Sunday School  
 10:00 a.m. Holy Eucharist (Nursery open)  
 11:00 a.m. Coffee, followed by adult discussion  
**TUE** 11 a.m. EFM  
**WED** 10 a.m. Piecemakers  
 10 a.m. Men's Only Bible Study (MOBS)  
 1 p.m. Dream Group  
 6:00 p.m. Choir Practice

11 Mary Wetzel will be our guest  
 11 Finance Committee meeting  
 12 Book Club, Gustavo's, 6 p.m.  
 14 Piecemakers Luncheon, Wrights' home  
 14 Executive Committee meeting  
 15 Holy Eucharist, 8:30 a.m.  
 18 Vestry Meeting, 8:30 a.m.  
 20 ECW Cookie Exchange, 6:30 p.m.  
 22 Holy Eucharist, 8:30 a.m.  
 24 Lessons and Carols/Holy Eucharist Service, 10:30 p.m.  
 25 10 a.m. service Christmas Day  
 26 Tidings deadline

### JANUARY

1 Acolyte Appreciation Sunday  
 8 Honor Martha Roberts for her graduation from EFM after 4 years of study  
 15 Annual Meeting/Luncheon  
 20-22 Vestry Work Weekend

### TRANSFER

Patricia Lee Berry  
 to St. Helena's,  
 Beaufort, South Carolina

### NOTICE

**TO ALL WHO SERVE ON SUNDAYS:**  
 If you switch with someone, whenever possible please email the office (annette@stelizabethepiscopal.com) so Vestry Person of the Day (VPOD), can check off participants in the service on Sunday morning.

### CONTACTS

**ACOLYTES:** Will Maybach  
**ALTAR GUILD:** Helen Long  
**SERVERS & CHALICE BEARERS:** Fr. Albert  
**BREAD MINISTRY:** Judy Ford  
**USHERS:** Bill Hartman  
**CONGREGATIONAL CARE:** Marilou Kinney  
**DAUGHTERS OF THE KING:** Susan Ory  
**REFRESHMENTS:** Robbie Niles  
**EPISCOPAL CHURCH WOMEN:** Linda Bunting  
**MEN'S CLUB:** John Ackermann  
**PIECEMAKERS:** Susan Ory  
**OUTREACH:** Teresa Hughes  
**CHOIR:** Warren Johnson

**JANUARY TIDINGS DEADLINE: MONDAY, DEC. 26**

# Bargers donate tree to Chamber to adorn Dahlonge's square

By Sharon Hall, *The Dahlonge Nugget*

Janet and Chet Barger didn't like the idea of cutting down the Carolina Sapphire Arizona cypress that has grown in their landscape for the past 10 years. But, Janet said, "I feel better about having to cut it down since we gave it to the Chamber to use as the Christmas tree. It's as much a gift for us as to the community."

The Bargers planted the tree about 10 years ago, one of two that would help define the perimeter of their property.

"We planted one near our driveway, and it must have been the perfect spot, because it got huge. The other one isn't nearly so big," Janet said.

The tree began hanging over the driveway, making it difficult for the Bargers to get their car in and out. They knew they would have to cut it down,



Janet said, but hated the idea. "It's such a beautiful tree," she said.

The arrival of the National Christmas Tree to Dahlonge last year gave her the idea of donating their encroaching piece of the landscape to the city a community Christmas tree.

"Our budget does not allow us to pay hundreds or thousands of dollars for a tree at our popular Visitors Center downtown, so we are very thankful for generous people in our community who are willing to step forward to donate a tree.

In the past

Marilou and Jim Kinney, Lynn and Mike Cottrell, Black Mountain Forest Christmas Tree and Blueberry Farm have all provided us with trees. This year we are so very grateful that Janet and Chet were willing to donate the spectacular cypress that has been a part of their family and home for the last 10 years,"

said Chamber President Amy Booker.

The Carolina Sapphire cypress is 25 feet tall, and required more strings of lights than ever used before, Booker said, and five separate power outlets.

"We thank the Bargers from the



bottom of our hearts for sharing this tree they have nurtured through the years. It will be enjoyed by many, and we look forward to lighting it on Saturday," Booker said.

"We already miss it," Janet said of the tree, "but it sure makes it easier to get in and out of the driveway."

*Reprinted with permission from the Dahlonge Nugget*

## Saint Elizabeth's Episcopal Church 1188 Hamp Mill Rd., Dahlonge, GA 30533



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*Merry Christmas*

