



June, 2017
Anglican Church of the Holy Trinity
Christ-centered, Biblically grounded, worshiping in the Anglican Tradition



Newsletter

The Way, the Truth and the Life

The Rev. Rob Hartley



Years ago I heard a sermon delivered by the Rev. Dr. John Quest at All Saints Anglican Church in Pawley’s Island. The sermon was on “True American Pluralism.” True Pluralism in the American sense is not having to abandon one’s understanding of truth, of God or of this world for the sake of being inclusive. True pluralism is respecting other’s beliefs, choices and where they are in life, without the necessity of either agreeing with them or having them agree with you.

This understanding of pluralism is foundational to a true understanding of the 1st Amendment. In today’s culture, however, religious inclusivity has become the cultural goal, and any claims of an exclusive understanding of Truth are met with resistance and even hostility. Religious Pluralism today has come to be defined as all religions being valid and true, and any thinking contrary to this is considered arrogant and bigoted.

But Christians understand Jesus as “The Way, the Truth and the Life;” that is to say, Jesus is uniquely the Way back to the Father, the embodiment of the full Truth of God, and the source of Life, both the abundant life in this world and eternal life in the next. To have more than a superficial understanding of what God has done in Christ is to know that Jesus is unique and Christianity is unparalleled among all the man-made religions of this world. This is true whether the world likes it or not. It is true whether we like it or not.

There are mainline denominations today who have effectively backed away from what they see as the scandalizing uniqueness of Jesus, and some have picked up a new gospel, the Gospel of Inclusivity. But as John C. Richards writes, “The Gospel is an exclusive message in an inclusive society.”¹ All of us who have received Jesus into our hearts know Jesus to be God’s ultimate and unique act of love and grace toward us. This uniqueness of Christ is what St. Paul in 1 Corinthians calls “...a stumbling block to Jews and foolishness to Gentiles.” It is this Truth, however, that you and I are called to share with a world that is perishing under the ugly lies of Satan.

In the footnote below I have listed a web address for John Richards article on this topic. I commend it to you.

Fr. Rob

¹John C. Richards, <http://www.christianitytoday.com/edstetzer/2017/may/one-path-evangelism-scandalizing-exclusivity-of-jesus.html>

News from the Vestry

Operating Account year-to date (as of 5/20/2017)

Building/Grounds Improvement Fund

Tithes and Offerings (Income)	\$ 52,540.99
Operating Expenses	\$ 45,903.62
Outreach Expenditures	\$ 4,407.36

Balance	\$ 37,459.00
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There are a number of projects this year that have either been completed, are being pursued, or in the process of being considered for this year:

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| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Kneelers, sound system enhancements and upgrade of our website (ACHTNA.org). Completed • Connector road from Walnut Lane to Merovan Drive. • Hiring a pianist. • New Parish Treasurer. • Update of background checks-those working with children. • Review and update of our property/liability insurance. • Asphalt resealing of our parking lot. • Emergency Plan Review. | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Explore building a baseball field across the street. • Landscaping of the Walnut Lane side of the building. • Pressure washing of the stucco below metal roofing. • Installation of railings on the ramp at the main entrance. • Completing our insurer’s Annual Fire Safety Report. |
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The Feast of Pentecost, Sunday June 4

The Christian celebration of Pentecost occurs 50 days after Easter Sunday. It therefore always occurs on a Sunday. It is also the tenth day after Ascension, which is 40 days after Easter. The Feast of Pentecost is a celebration of the descent of the Holy Spirit upon the Apostles and other followers of Jesus, as described in the Acts 2:1–31.

Lay Ministry Chart

2017	Day of Pentecost June 4	Trinity Sunday June 11	2 nd Sun. after Pentecost June 18	3 rd Sun. after Pent. June 25	4 th Sunday after Pent. July 2
Euch. Min.	Jerry N	Rosemarie	Mike S	Paula W	Sandra S
Ushers / Greeters	Bobbie R Monte S Sue J	Margaret W Joseph A Bill B	Judy C Deborah K Donna L	Wayne L Richard M Jason N	Bobbie R Monte S Sue J
Presenting Bread/Wine	Darren & Bonnie N	Susan P Tracy P	Joanne R Bobbie R	Mike & Sandra S	Caleb & Linden
Prayer Team	Ginger H Monique T	Nancy H Wayne L	Rosemarie Margaret	Ginger H Monique T	Nancy H Wayne L
Lector-OT	Sue J	Wayne L	Richard M	Annette M	Jason N
Lector-NT	Mike S	Sandra S	Margaret	Jackie F	Avery S
Altar Guild [week of]	Ginger H Monique T Terry N	Annette M Myle W Donna L	Rosemarie JoEllen B	Virginia F Marguerite	Ginger H Monique T Terry N
Acolyte Guild	Avery S	Jackie F	Sandra S	Oke I	Avery S
<i>If you are unable to fulfill your ministry obligation, please find a replacement and let Fr. Rob know.</i>					

North Augusta Prayer Rally

Saturday, June 24, 10:00 to 11:00 am

Wade Hampton Veterans Park, Georgia Ave,
All at Holy Trinity are invited to participate

Purpose

- As our nation's 4th of July celebration approaches, the intent of this prayer rally is to gather together the churches in the North Augusta as a visible witness to our faith and dependence as a nation upon the providence of God.
- Our desire is to pray in solidarity for the governance, well-being, and future of this nation. We will pray for our local, state, and national leaders. Our prayers will be that God will bless our leaders with wisdom and character pleasing to Him.
- We will express repentance and seek God's forgiveness for the ways we as a nation have drifted away from the Godly foundations and moral underpinnings upon which this great nation is founded.
- Finally, we will pray for true pluralism, where Christians and the Christian worldview can stand as a counter-voice to secularism, providing a Godly voice in the marketplace and in our political system.

Wednesday Evenings in June

June 7

Wayne Lowe- OT Overview- The Prophets.

June 14

Father Rob- **History, Theology, & Biblical Foundations of the Eucharist.**

June 21

Father Rob- **An Instructed Eucharist:
How we worship and why?**

June 28

Father Rob- **Telling Your Story.**

Always be prepared to give an answer to everyone who asks you to give the reason for the hope that you have." 1 Peter 3:15

"Many of the Samaritans from that town believed in him because of the woman's testimony." John 4:39



A joyful and blessed time carrying Communion to Dee Duckett. (Myrle, Bobby, Virginia)

Religious and Moral Foundations of Our Nation

The Rev. Rob Hartley

America is being re-defined as a nation in which there is no place for religious ideas or influences in the public square. Religion (particularly Christianity), if it must be exercised at all, is to be a private matter kept out of all public discourse and decision-making.

This movement is called Secular Progressivism. Among other things, Progressivism preaches that religion is a drag on progress, at least progress as Secular Progressives define it. Historical revisionism coming out of this movement suggest that the separation of church and state has always been defined as keeping religion out of public discourse. This is, however, very different from the intent of our Founding Fathers. The intent of the Religion Clause in the 1st Amendment is to keep religion free from state interference or preference, and assures the right of people to exercise their faith as they desire, including in Democratic processes and decision-making.

Expressing religious convictions was the practice of the great majority of the founders of this nation. They did not hide their light under a bushel when it came to the influence of Christianity over their lives. George Washington said, "The propitious smiles of heaven can never be expected on a nation which disregards the eternal rules of order and right which heaven itself has ordained." And, in Washington's famous farewell address, he said, "Of all the habits and dispositions which lead to political prosperity, religion and morality are indispensable supports."

To be guided by one's Christianity in our democratic processes is to strive to assure the ethical character of our leaders is aligned with our Christian Worldview, and that our nation reflects the Judeo-Christian values we hold dear. U.S. president James A. Garfield (a minister of the Gospel himself) stated, "Now, more than ever, the people are responsible for the character of their Congress... If



next centennial [century] does not find us a great nation, it will be because those who represent the enterprise, the culture, and the morality of the nation do not aid in controlling the political forces." George Washington and James Garfield are not isolated examples of the "Faith of Our Fathers."

The great harm of the Progressive Movement is the jettisoning of things that have made our country uniquely successful among the nations of the world. Among the things leading to the greatness of this country is the religious, moral, and ethical underpinning of our democracy and economic system. What is, in fact, happening is that traditional religion and values are being replaced in the public square with the dogmatic religion of Secular Progressivism.

My life, and I suspect your life also, is governed and shaped by a relationship with God and the moral and ethical implications of that relationship. As citizens of this democratic nation, it is surely appropriate for us to articulate our Christian Worldview when participating in the political directing of this country; therefore, never be silent!

Father Rob

"Ask the Lord of the harvest to send out workers into his harvest field."

After this the Lord appointed seventy-two others and sent them two by two ahead of him to every town and place where he was about to go. ² He told them, "The harvest is plentiful, but the workers are few. Ask the Lord of the harvest, therefore, to send out workers into his harvest field. Luke 10:1-2

You too, by virtue of your baptism, are an ambassador of Christ appointed and sent out by the Lord of the Harvest, Jesus. This summer we are going to focus on two simple ways in which you can participate in the Lord's harvest and bear fruit for the Kingdom of God. They are 1) simply inviting others to "Come and See" for themselves, and 2) being able to tell your story of how and why Jesus has become your Lord and Savior. As is written in 1 Peter 3:15, "Always be prepared to give an answer to everyone who asks you to give the reason for the hope that you have."

A third way we have talked about recently is "Relational Evangelism," also known as "Friendship Evangelism." Hopefully we can revisit this topic this summer also.

"Telling Your Story" will be our Wednesday evening study for June 28. Enclosed in this newsletter is a worksheet on writing out and developing your testimony. I hope everyone will work on this in advance of June 28. **Fr. Rob**

June, 2017

<i>Upcoming Events</i>				1	2	3
<p>June 24 North Augusta Prayer Rally July 16 Member classes begin- Sundays-4 pm Check our website (ACHTNA.org) for upcoming Wednesday evening programs and teachings.</p>					<p>7:00 pm Friday Night at the movies</p>	<p>9:00 to 10:20am Men's Breakfast & Bible Study</p> <p>6:00 pm Service of Prayer & Praise</p>
4	5	6	7	8	9	10
<p>Feast of Pentecost 8:00 am Eucharist 10:00 am Eucharist/Baptisms 11:20 am Coffee 11:30 am Christian Ed <i>Nursery available</i></p>		<p>10:00-11:30am Women's Bible Study</p> <p>6:00 pm Choir</p>	<p>6:00 pm Fellowship Supper & Study "OT Overview The Prophets" <i>Nursery available</i></p>		<p>7:00 pm Friday Night at the movies</p>	<p>9:00 to 10:20am Men's Breakfast & Bible Study</p>
11	12	13	14	15	16	17
<p>Trinity Sunday 1st Sunday after Pentecost 8:00 am Eucharist 10:00 am Eucharist 11:20 am Coffee 11:30 am Christian <i>Nursery available</i></p>	<p><i>St. Barnabus, Apostle</i></p>	<p>10:00-11:30 am Women's Bible Study</p> <p>6:00 pm Choir</p>	<p>6:00 pm Fellowship Supper & Study "The Holy Eucharist" <i>Nursery available</i></p>		<p>7:00 pm Friday Night at the movies</p>	<p>9:00 to 10:20am Men's Breakfast & Bible Study</p> <p>6:00 pm Service of Prayer & Praise</p>
18	19	20	21	22	23	24
<p>2nd Sunday after Pentecost Proper 6 8:00 am Eucharist 10:00 am Eucharist 11:20 am Coffee 11:30 am Christian <i>Nursery available</i></p>		<p>10:00-11:30 am Women's Bible Study</p> <p>6:00 pm Choir</p>	<p>6:00 pm Fellowship Supper & Study "The Holy Eucharist" <i>Nursery available</i></p>		<p>7:00 pm Friday Night at the movies</p>	<p><i>Nativity of St John, the Baptist</i></p> <p>No Men's Breakfast & Bible Study</p> <p>10:00 am North Augusta Prayer Rally</p>
25	26	27	28	29	30	
<p>3rd Sunday after Pentecost Proper 7 8:00 am Eucharist 10:00 am Eucharist 11:20 am Coffee 11:30 am Christian Ed <i>Nursery available</i></p>		<p>10:00-11:30 am Women's Bible Study</p> <p>6:00 pm Choir</p>	<p>6:00 pm Fellowship Supper & Study "Telling Your Story" <i>Nursery available</i></p>	<p><i>St. Peter and St. Paul, Apostles</i></p>	<p>7:00 pm Friday Night at the movies</p>	

Holy Trinity is a congregation of the Anglican Church in North America
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Bishop: The Rt. Rev. Steve Wood, Rector: The Rev. Rob Hartley

Assisting Clergy: The Rev.'s Dan Brown and Theophilus Iwuji

Vestry: Jennifer Dorn, Jerry Nault, Larry Pettinato, Mark Watkins

Senior Warden: Mike Fekula; Junior Warden: Darren Newman