

# The Cock-a-doodle Doo!

Winter 2010

## Mark Your Calendars!

### February

7 - Sunday School  
14 - Sunday School - Send home Hope Chests for Haiti  
16 - Shrove Tuesday/Mardi Gras Pancake Supper -  
17 - Ash Wednesday  
21 - Sunday School - Lent 1 - New and Expectant Parent Coffee - Nursery Orientation  
28 - Sunday School - Lent 2

### March

7 - Sunday School - Lent 3 - Mother - Daughter Dinner  
14 - Sunday School - Lent 4 - Children's Ministry Committee - 6pm  
21 - Sunday School - Lent 5 First Grade Communion Celebration—9am; Reception following  
24 - Stations of the Cross for Children—4:15 in the Church  
28 - Sunday School - Palm Sunday - No Sunday School

### April

4 - Easter Sunday - No Sunday School  
Easter Egg Hunt between services (approx. time: 10:30)  
11 - Sunday School  
18 - Sunday School  
25 - Sunday School - last day of Sunday School

### May

2 - Spring Fling - Begin Summer Schedule  
Teacher Appreciation - during the 10:00 service - celebratory cake at Spring Fling  
Children's Ministry Committee - 6pm  
9 - Mother's Day  
14 - 16 - All Parish Weekend at Kanuga -  
23 - Confirmation

### June

6 - Graduation Sunday  
22-25 - Vacation Bible School  
27 - VBS celebration Sunday

## Children's Ministry Update

### Winter 2010

It is hard to believe that we are well into the second semester of our Sunday School year. We enjoyed a busy Advent, Christmas and Epiphany season and are now preparing for a holy Lent and joyful Easter despite the fact that the groundhog (in Pennsylvania...does that count?) saw his shadow this morning and predicted 6 more weeks of winter!

The first graders have been busy with their study of the Eucharist. The curriculum is designed to help the children understand a little more about why we go to church and what we do there, especially about the way we, as a congregation, join together in Holy Communion.

This study will culminate in a special first grade Communion Celebration at the 9:00 service on March 21. A reception will be held afterwards.

Our youngest members, 2 year olds - 4 year olds, are focusing on familiar New Testament stories of Jesus, such as; Jesus as a child, His baptism, His miracles and parables. 2<sup>nd</sup> - 5<sup>th</sup> graders lessons follow the Lectionary Year C with lessons focused on Jesus' temptation in the desert, His love for the people of Jerusalem (and us), the parable of the fig tree, Jesus' death and resurrection, and Jesus, the Good Shepherd.

We are also in the planning stages for the children's program for the All Parish Weekend at Kanuga, May 14-16, and Vacation Bible School, June 22-25. Mark your calendars!



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Thank you for sharing your children with us. We appreciate the opportunity of knowing them and sharing God's love with them.

God bless our children.  
God bless us all!

*Faithfully,*

## Holy Moses!!!

It's time for Vacation Bible School!

June 21 - 25, 2010

9am - 12pm

Join the Fun!!!

Call or email Anna or Carrie with questions: 843-6259 x119

[asmith@christchurchraleigh.org](mailto:asmith@christchurchraleigh.org)

[msscjohnson@earthlink.net](mailto:msscjohnson@earthlink.net)

• Registration forms will soon be mailed or will be available at church

• Please return your forms and sign up to volunteer on the Board outside of the Children's Ministry Workroom on

the lower level of the Baker Wing.

• Remember, volunteers are the heart of our VBS program

• Priority registration for Christ Church members through April 1

## Mardi Gras/ Shrove Tuesday



### Pancake Supper

Tuesday, February 16<sup>th</sup>

5:30 – 7:00 pm

St. Mark's Jazz Band

Crafts - Great Food – Parade

*Tickets: \$8.00/adults, \$5.00/children (4-12) and \$3/children 3 & under)*

*(family cap of \$30)*

**This is a fundraiser for the Youth Outreach Projects**



The season of Lent is a period of 40 days excluding Sundays, that begins on Ash Wednesday and ends the Saturday before Easter Day. Like Advent when we prepare our hearts for the coming of Christ, during this time we again turn inward to prepare for the death and resurrection of Jesus. In an effort to truly be ready for the glory of Easter many people give up something during Lent. These experiences help us turn our wills to God. For children they may give up a favorite tv show or a special snack. Or they may decide to take something on, like extra chores or writing letters to elderly loved ones.

This author looks at lent in a wonderful way. I liked it and thought you would too

## FASTING AND FEASTING

By William Arthur Ward

Lent should be more than a time of fasting. It should also be a joyous season of feasting. Lent is a time to fast from certain things and to feast on others. It is a season in which we should:

Fast from judging others; feast on the Christ dwelling in them.

Fast from emphasis on differences; feast on the unity of all life.

Fast from apparent darkness; feast on the reality of light.

Fast from thoughts of illness; feast on the healing power of God

Fast from words that pollute; feast on phrases that purify.

Fast from discontent; feast on gratitude.

Fast from anger; feast on patience.

Fast from pessimism; feast on optimism.

Fast from worry; feast on divine order.

Fast from complaining; feast on appreciation.

Fast from negatives; feast on affirmatives.

Fast from unrelenting pressures; feast on unceasing prayer.

Fast from hostility; feast on non-resistance.

Fast from bitterness; feast on forgiveness;

Fast from self-concern; feast on compassion for others.

Fast from personal anxiety; feast on eternal truth.

Fast from discouragement; feast on hope.

Fast from facts that depress; feast on verities that uplift.

Fast from lethargy; feast on enthusiasm.

Fast from suspicion; feast on truth.

Fast from thoughts that weaken; feast on promises that inspire.

Fast from shadows of sorrow; feast on the sunlight of serenity.

Fast from idle gossip; feast on purposeful silence.

Fast from problems that overwhelm; feast on prayer that undergirds.



## Hope Chests For Haiti

It has been a long tradition to offer Mite boxes for our children to use during Lent. A mite is a small copper coin or sum of money. This tradition comes from the story of the widow's offering.

Mark 12:41-44 says, "He sat down opposite the treasury, and watched the crowd putting money into the treasury. Many rich people put in large sums. <sup>42</sup>A poor widow came and put in two small copper coins (mites), which are worth a penny. <sup>43</sup>Then he called his disciples and said to them, 'Truly I tell you, this poor widow has put in more than all those who are contributing to the treasury. <sup>44</sup>For all of them have contributed out of their abundance; but she out of her poverty has put in everything she had, all she had to live on.'

This year we are offering **Hope Chests** from the Episcopal Relief and Development Fund as our Lenten outreach for Children's Ministry. The Hope Chest is a hands-on way for children, individuals and families to help those whose lives have been so devastated by the earthquake in Haiti. All of the money collected will be donated to the ERD fund for **Haiti**.

**Each child may present their offering during the Easter service. They may want to color the boxes or decorate them with spring flowers. A large white cross will stand in the crossing during the 9:00 and 11:00 Easter services. The children will "flower" the cross with mite boxes during the offertory at both services.**



Go to this web address to download a wonderful Lenten Giving Calendar for Children... "Healing a Hurting World"  
<http://www.myfaithmylife.org/images/HelpaHealingWorld.pdf>

### First Grade Communion Instruction

**First Grade Communion Instruction Begins January 10, 2010**

**Communion Celebration— March 21, 2010 at the 9:00 service – Reception Following**

As a parent you may wonder... when should my child take communion? How old should he or she be? Should he wait until he's confirmed as many of us did? Should she take communion with us as a family, even though she is only two? In the past, cradle Episcopalians did not take communion until after confirmation. Many of us grew up in other denominations and celebrated a "First Communion" at various ages. I grew up in the Catholic Church and remember my first communion when I was in the second grade. I wore a white dress and wanted to wear a beautiful long white veil (just like a bride!) but to my disappointment my mother would only let me wear a small white lace chapel cap. Times have changed in the Episcopal Church since children were asked to wait until after confirmation to participate in the Eucharist. Today *all* baptized Christians are invited to the communion table. There really is no right age. **All are welcome.**

We do however believe that, as more and more children are participating in the Eucharist, it is good to provide age appropriate instruction to familiarize them, as best we can, with the sacrament of Holy Communion. We at Christ Church have chosen to do this in the first grade. We culminate our instruction with a First Grade Communion Celebration and reception. For many of our children, this is not their "First Communion." No white dress or long (or short) white veil is necessary, but it is a special celebration to commemorate the end of their study of the Eucharist. Keep these children and their teachers in your prayers.

Please contact Anna Smith with questions, 834-6259 x 119 or [asmith@christchurchraleigh.org](mailto:asmith@christchurchraleigh.org)

### Stations of the Cross for Children

**Wednesday, March 24 4:15pm**

Ages 1st – 5<sup>th</sup> grade – Will meet in the church to learn about the Stations of the Cross and then will experience a short, age-appropriate version of the stations which depict Jesus' final hours as he went to die on a cross, was crucified, buried and rose again.

Ages 3 - kindergarten – Will meet in the Parlor to hear [A Resurrection Story](#), [Benjamin's Box](#). Accompanied with Resurrection Eggs, this is a wonderful way to tell children about the events of Holy Week.



During Lent and Holy Week especially, we remember the Last Supper. The Eucharist is celebrated to remember Jesus' sacrifice and triumph. Each Sunday we are called to the table to participate in this feast. You may want to take time to discuss with your children your feelings about the Eucharist and listen to questions and thoughts they have about it.

**THE COCK-A-DOODLE D00!  
A PUBLICATION FOR THE PARENTS AND  
CHILDREN OF CHRIST CHURCH, RALEIGH, NC**

Christ Church

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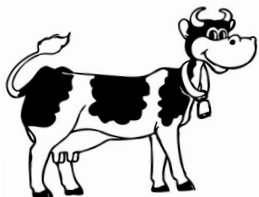
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**Heifer Project / Cows For Christmas Update: 2009**

*Those who are generous are blessed, for they share their bread with the poor.*

-Proverbs 22:9

I am happy to report that we raised almost \$6000.00 for Heifer Project International and Cows For Christmas. Of this amount, the children raised almost \$1000.00 in their coin banks! This year our funds will be divided. Half of the money will go to Heifer International to provide families and communities around the world with hardy, healthy animals that will “go forth and multiply” and improve more lives when they pass on the gift of offspring. The other half of our funds will go to The Hope of Jesus Children’s Home in Honduras, the orphanage started by our missionaries Kim and Mike Miller. They will purchase 3 pregnant cows to provide milk for the children of the orphanage and our children will get to name the cows!



*Maybelle, Bessie, Daisy? Start thinking of 3 good cow names! There will be a basket or jar decorated and placed in the lobby to collect your suggestions. The Millers will be at Christ Church in April and will pick the names during the 9:00 service!*

Thank you for your generous support of this wonderful program.

**Caring For Children at Christ Church—Coffee  
Sunday, February 21—10:00 AM in the Parlor**

Please join us for an information session about the Nursery and Sunday School Programs Meet the Children’s Ministry and Nursery staff and other parishioners who want to learn more about the Children’s Ministry Program.

Newcomers to the Nursery

We welcome these new babies and congratulate their parents and families!



Eva Elizabeth Lee Bahin, daughter of Beverly Bahin and Connie Marion

Ethan Thomas Warner, son of Jennifer and Brett Warner

Joseph Turner Seale, Jr., son of Caroline and Joe Seale

George Blount Cram, son of Johnny and Laurie Cram

Campbell McCallum Calvert, daughter of Mary Pat and James Calvert

Allison Anne Barzola, daughter of Carrie and Charlie Barzola