



# CROSSWAYS

*"Making Christ Visible in His Community."*

The Reverend Michael P. Flanagan, Rector of Holy Cross Episcopal Church, Simpsonville, SC 864-967-7470

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## OUR RULE OF LIFE

### OUR PATHWAY TO A DEEPER RELATIONSHIP WITH CHRIST

We have been talking about the Rule of Life for several months, but as we begin a new year, I would like to propose an effort to live our Rule of Life together as a community for the year 2014. This is an opportunity to begin some new faith habits that will lead us to a deeper experience of God's love in our lives. On January 5, we will spend time together at our Adult Forum discussing the Rule of Life and its implications for our faith journey. Then, the following two Sundays will be dedicated to lessons on prayer – led by Louise Tadjuddin. The balance of our Adult Forum classes will revolve around the six rules of life.



At our Christmas services we handed out refrigerator magnets imprinted with the Rule of Life. Our hope is that those magnets will serve as a regular reminder to Pray Daily, Worship Weekly, Read the Bible, Serve Others, Share your Story, and Give Freely. As a means to assist us to accomplish these goals, we will also join in the diocesan program to read the New Testament in a year beginning in February and ending December 1. We will be providing

regular synopses of the books as we get to each one so that we can see some of the common themes in the individual books of the New Testament.

Life Groups provide an excellent means in which to Tell Your Story as you meet with other members and study the Sunday lessons and connect the biblical story with your life story. In the midst of a small group of folks you can trust, you are able to share on a deeper level the joys and struggles of your faith journey. The work we do in small groups prepares us for those moments in our lives when we are asked to tell another about our faith. It is evangelism practice. It also provides examples of faith, "The other day in our small group, a friend said ..." While it is important to maintain confidentiality in a small group, generic ideas and comments can help us understand our own faith journey and can be shared with others.

While many may say that worshipping weekly is difficult if not impossible with our full schedules these days, we sometimes forget that we have mid-week services here at Holy Cross. Every Wednesday night at 7 p.m. we celebrate Eucharist and offer prayers for strength and healing. Every Friday morning at 7:15 a.m. we celebrate Eucharist and gather afterwards for breakfast at the Coach House. Additionally, we have our four Sunday services at 8, 9, 11:15 and 1:30 (in Spanish). So there are six

opportunities for worship each week. As we say in our core values, "Sunday worship is the foundation of our community experience with God." There is something important about gathering with others for regular worship. It changes our perspective on God in a healthy way. Finally, Serving Others and Giving Freely are things in which folks here at Holy Cross excel. We love to give our time and finances to do God's work in the world. Our Women to Women, Pumpkin Patch. Project Host Soup Kitchen and Habitat work are only a few of the numerous ways we serve God in God's community.

Please join with me in consciously living out our Rule of Life this year, and we will reflect on how it has changed our hearts and souls as we enter into 2015.

(Note that our Rule of Life is also available on a card that can be taped up in a conspicuous place if you need a different way of being reminded.)

Peace and blessings for a faith-filled new year.

Mike+

[rector@holycrossep.org](mailto:rector@holycrossep.org)



Comfort those in any trouble with the comfort we ourselves have received from God.

2 Corinthians 1:4

## REFLECTIONS ON FAITH AND LIFE

THE REVEREND LINDA GOSNELL,  
ASSISTANT RECTOR FOR PASTORAL CARE

### PRACTICING THE FAITH — OUR 3<sup>RD</sup> HOLY CROSS CORE VALUE

Our Holy Cross Core Values are the guiding principles that define who we are as a community of faith. They are the values that guide our decision making, our daily actions, and our goal setting.

This month our focus is on our belief that "We are a community that serves one another, yet exists for the benefit of those who are not yet members."

In "An Outline of the Faith commonly called the Catechism" on page 855 of the Book of Common Prayer, we read "The mission of the Church is to restore all people to unity with God and each other in Christ. The Church pursues its mission as it prays and worships, proclaims the Gospel, and promotes justice, peace, and love. The Church carries out its mission through the ministry of all its members." This restoration of the unity of all people and God requires that we, members of Holy Cross, strive to work together to love and support one another in our daily walk with Christ, and that we seek intentionally to share God's blessings in our own lives, though fragile and shattered they may sometimes be, with the world about us. Our mission – Making Christ Visible in God's Community – is our best statement of this purpose.

William Temple, who was Archbishop of Canterbury from 1942 to 1944, is often quoted as saying, "The Church is the only organization that does not exist for itself, but for those who live outside of it." I'm sure he got some push-back for that statement. We church members receive many, many benefits from our participation in our church: uplifting and meaningful worship; support in our times of sickness, struggle, or loss; opportunities to grow in our lives in Christ; companions on the way; opportunities to serve; acceptance in our various differences. Sometimes we receive so much or our own needs are so great, that we forget we are being prepared to be sent into the world in Christ's name. The scriptures, however, are replete with sending and being sent for the purposes of God. Here are just a few examples:

**"WE ARE A COMMUNITY  
THAT SERVES ONE ANOTHER,  
YET EXISTS FOR THE BENEFIT  
OF THOSE WHO ARE NOT YET  
MEMBERS."**

In Exodus 3:10 God says to Moses, "So come, I will send you to Pharaoh to bring my people, the Israelites, out of Egypt."

Isaiah, in Isaiah 6:8, says, "Then I heard the voice of the Lord saying, "Whom shall I send, and who will go for us?" And I said, "Here am I; send me!"

Ps 82:3-4: "Give justice to the weak and the orphan; maintain the right of the lowly and the destitute. Rescue the weak and the needy; deliver them from the hand of the wicked."

In Matthew 10, Jesus gives his disciples authority over spirits, the ability to heal the sick, and in verse 7 instructed, "As you go, proclaim the good news, 'the kingdom of heaven has come near.'"

And in Matthew 28, Jesus said to his disciples, "All authority in heaven and on earth has been given to me. Go therefore and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, and teaching them to obey everything that I have commanded you. And remember, I am with you always, to the end of the age."

No one person, not even one community, can do everything, however we are all gifted in some way for the ministry of reconciling people to one another and to God, and (that's a big and) Jesus has promised to be with us in our ministry.

Holy Cross participates in this ministry in many ways. Here is a partial list (I know I'm leaving out some).

We serve one another:

- Christian Formation leaders and assistants – plan and implement formation classes, programs, and forums for all ages
- Hospitality – everything from coffee on Sunday mornings to receptions to all-parish social events
- Life Groups – support each other in spiritual growth through close community with one another
- Pastoral Care ministries within the church – provide prayers, cards, meals, home communion when needed, prayer shawls, flowers from the altar
- Various interest groups – share fellowship and fun as well as support one another in times of need
- Vestry and Program Council members – provide the necessary leadership for long-range planning, over-sight of our building and grounds, use of our financial support, and leadership of our day-to-day activities, programs, and ministries
- Worship leadership ministries – include acolytes, Altar Guild, choir, Eucharistic Ministers, greeters, office assistants, musicians, nursery workers, ushers
- Worship participation – are you aware that your prayers and "joyful noises," your passing of the peace, your very presence in worship serves others in a very meaningful and significant way? And, your greeting and reaching out to new faces in our pews before and after services is vital to their feeling welcomed and wanted.



We seek and serve Christ in all persons, loving our neighbor as ourselves, and we strive for justice and peace among all people, respecting the dignity of every human being. As a community we support:

- AA and Al Anon – meetings are held at our Meeting Hall Monday, Tuesday, Thursday, and Saturday evenings
- Project Host – adults and youth from Holy Cross serve at a soup kitchen in downtown Greenville on the 5th Sunday of the month four times each year
- Pumpkin Patch – provides financial support for Habitat for Humanity and a number of other local needs in our area
- Through the Sharing Tree we provide gifts for many children and adults in the area who are in need at Christmas
- Thanksgiving service collections – Canned goods go to the Center for Community Services, and financial contributions help support York Place, a psychiatric residential treatment facility for children and youth
- Women to Women – through several social fundraisers each year women of Holy Cross seek to empower women and children in poverty through financial support of specific international charities

Individual members and groups within the parish are engaged in fund raisers; collections of food, clothing, firewood; service on boards of local ministries; providing financial support to Episcopal Relief and Development, our missionaries Cameron and Roberto Vivanco in Ecuador and their ministry Education Equals Hope; and in so many other ways I'm not aware of to make Christ's love known in this world as they serve others.

In all the ways you live out the love and joy of your experience of and relationship with God, both within and outside the church, and invite others to participate in it, you are participating in God's mission for God's people.

May your faith be contagious, and may you receive many blessings as you go out to love and serve the Lord!

Linda+  
[assistantrector@holycrossep.org](mailto:assistantrector@holycrossep.org)

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*Our Holy Cross Core Values:*

- *Everyone matters.*
- *Every member is a minister.*
- *We are a community that serves one another, yet exists for the benefit of those who are not yet members.*
  - *Our Trinitarian God reminds us that differences are what make community.*
  - *Sunday worship is the foundation of our community experience with God.*
    - *The local church is God's best plan for transforming the world.*

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## CHRISTIAN FORMATION

**CHRISTIAN FORMATION, ADULT, CHILDREN, AND YOUTH**  
DIRECTOR OF YOUTH CHRISTIAN FORMATION – SUSAN LOUITT HARDAWAY  
[YOUTH@HOLYCROSSEP.ORG](mailto:YOUTH@HOLYCROSSEP.ORG)

DIRECTOR OF CHILDREN AND FAMILY MINISTRIES – SHELLEY ALLEN  
[ACADEMYDIRECTOR@HOLYCROSSEP.ORG](mailto:ACADEMYDIRECTOR@HOLYCROSSEP.ORG)

COORDINATOR OF CHILDREN'S MINISTRIES – LESLIE DONAHUE  
[CHILDREN@HOLYCROSSEP.ORG](mailto:CHILDREN@HOLYCROSSEP.ORG)

PROGRAM COUNCIL REPRESENTATIVE  
ADULT – DRAYTON GAILLARD [WHDGAILLARD@CHARTER.NET](mailto:WHDGAILLARD@CHARTER.NET)



## JANUARY YOUTH ANNOUNCEMENTS

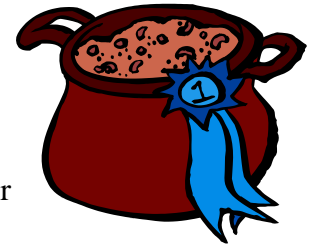
### WEDNESDAY NIGHT YOUTH GROUP

Youth in grades 6-12 are invited to participate in Wednesday night Youth Group meetings every Wednesday night from 6 – 8 p.m. in the Parish Hall. Dinner begins at 6 p.m., followed by Bible study and games. For more information, text or call Mother Susan at 483-2250 or email her at [susanhardaway@gmail.com](mailto:susanhardaway@gmail.com).

- Jan 8: Youth will meet for dinner in the Meeting Hall at 6 p.m. then we will attend the Epiphany Service led by Fran McKendree (musician/song writer) at 7 p.m. in the church. Drop off at Meeting Hall, pick up at Parish Hall.
- Jan 15, 22, 29: Regular youth group meetings in the Parish Hall from 6 – 8 p.m.

## THE ANNUAL CHILI COOK-OFF

The annual chili cook-off will follow the Annual Meeting on Saturday, Jan. 18. Three parents are needed to help plan the event. Let Mother Susan know if you are willing to serve. We will need all teens there to work during the chili cook-off. This is one of our major fundraisers for the year!



## MONTHLY ECUADOR MISSION TRIP MEETING

The monthly Ecuador mission trip meeting will be held during regular youth group time on Jan 15. Contact Mother Susan with questions: 483-2250, or [susanhardaway@gmail.com](mailto:susanhardaway@gmail.com).

*2<sup>nd</sup> Ecuador payment of \$650 is due Feb 12.*

*3<sup>rd</sup> Ecuador payment (TBD) will be due May 14.*

## CONFIRM NOT CONFORM CONFIRMATION CLASSES

On Wednesday, Jan 22, the 4<sup>th</sup> Confirm Not Conform confirmation class will be held in the Meeting Hall from 6:30 – 8 p.m. For more information, you may email Anne Smith at [bamaanne@aol.com](mailto:bamaanne@aol.com).

## YOUTH SUNDAY SCHOOL

Youth in grades 6-12 are invited to participate in Bible lessons/discussions during Youth Sunday School on Sunday mornings from 10:15 – 11 a.m. in the Meeting Hall. For more information, contact Bonnie Schmidt at 270-0341 or [bonnie1870@gmail.com](mailto:bonnie1870@gmail.com).

## YOUTH EMAIL ANNOUNCEMENTS/TEXT UPDATES:

If there is anyone that wishes to be added to or removed from the youth group email announcements and/or text announcement lists, please contact Sara Farley @ [safarley23@gmail.com](mailto:safarley23@gmail.com) or text at [864-230-6207](tel:864-230-6207).

## HELP WHILE YOU SHOP

Support our youth by shopping at BiLo! BiLo boostersplus cards are now available on the credenza in the Narthex. Take one card to your local BiLo store (even if you have done this in the past, please get a card because a new card needs to be scanned each year). The store needs to scan the card one time and then every time you use your regular BiLo card for the next year, the youth group will receive a donation from BiLo. For more information, email [youth@holycrossep.org](mailto:youth@holycrossep.org).



## LORD'S RESOURCES

### ADMINISTRATION, STEWARDSHIP, BUILDING & GROUNDS

SENIOR WARDEN – GREG FARLEY

[SRWARDEN@HOLYCROSSEP.ORG](mailto:SRWARDEN@HOLYCROSSEP.ORG)

JUNIOR WARDEN – JUDY WORTKOETTER

[JRWARDEN@HOLYCROSSEP.ORG](mailto:JRWARDEN@HOLYCROSSEP.ORG)

STEWARDSHIP – DAVE GEISLER

[STEWARDSHIP@HOLYCROSSEP.ORG](mailto:STEWARDSHIP@HOLYCROSSEP.ORG)

BUILDING AND GROUNDS – TOM JONES

[JONE63194@GMAIL.COM](mailto:JONE63194@GMAIL.COM)

## JANUARY BIRTHDAYS AND ANNIVERSARIES

1	Linda Clark Michael Fulton Sophie Kee	12	Tim Sullivan
2	Gary Dicer Daniel Leone	13	Pam Garrett Matthew Gilmour Patsy Gove
3	Keyla Rodriguez	14	Michelle Brewer Ralph Bush
5	Greg Christy		Kimberly Fields
6	Bill Wais	16	Nancy Matthews
7	Becky Hamor Michele Hawkins Mary Houtz Mark McGrail, Jr. Ryan McGrail Andrew Moore	17	Zoe Gallagher Paul Gunter
8	Charles Evans Greg Farley Bonnie Schmidt	19	Feliz Arrechavala Jackie Darrington
9	<i>Aziz &amp; Louise Tajuddin</i> Erin Busch Monte Drinan Jonathan Lisi	20	Jill Swinden
10	H.D. Blackwood Michelle Shadoan	22	Elinor Wicks
11	Brennan Licata Connie Rice Sue Whitmire	23	Dick Humphrey Annalyse Burgess
		24	George Bauer Abby Goodis Darlene Sullivan
		26	Megan Flanagan Samantha Rodriguez
		27	Karen Wareing
		29	Michael Aguilar
		30	<i>Tony &amp; Jeannie Grady</i>

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O, gracious and everliving God, look mercifully upon these your servants as they celebrate the anniversary of their marriages. Grant them your blessing, and assist them with your grace, that with true fidelity and steadfast love they may honor and keep their promises and vows; through Jesus Christ our Savior, who lives and reigns with you, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, forever and ever. *Amen.*



## FOOD FOR THE JOURNEY

*Whispers of Hope*

by Beth Moore

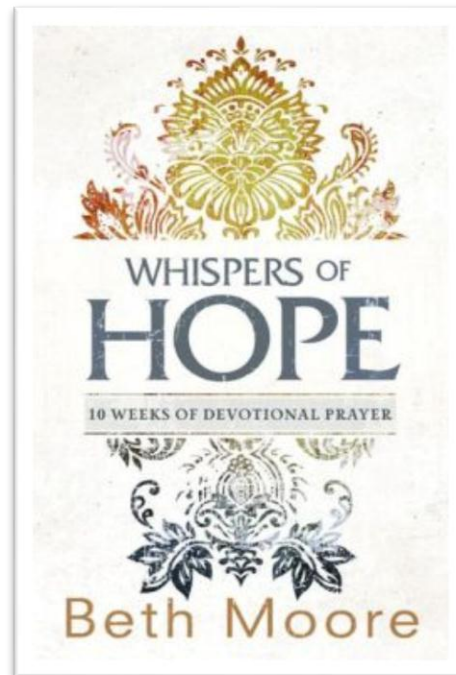
Scripture tells us to pray without ceasing, but how in the world do we do that?

Bestselling author Beth Moore walks readers of *Whispers of Hope* through an easy-to-remember and apply method of prayer, coupled with 70 daily devotionals and followed by prompts to put this prayer method into practice.

*Whispers of Hope* teaches the manifestation process of powerful Word-saturated prayer in response to a daily Bible reading. In turn, you will better understand how devotional reading and prayer are central to a stronger relationship with God.

[www.amazon.com](http://www.amazon.com)

Send an email to [kclconnor@gmail.com](mailto:kclconnor@gmail.com) if you have a book, music, or movie that has been a special part of your spiritual journey.



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## HOLY CROSS CONTACT INFORMATION

Items for newsletter:	<a href="mailto:newsletter@holycrossep.org">newsletter@holycrossep.org</a>
Bulletin announcements:	<a href="mailto:secretary@holycrossep.org">secretary@holycrossep.org</a>
Parish office	(864) 967-7470
Fax	(864) 967-0393
Mailing address	PO Box 187, Simpsonville, 29681
Holy Cross Academy	(864) 963-5986
Pastoral counseling	(888) 293-7585
Church website	<a href="http://www.holycrossep.org">www.holycrossep.org</a>
Diocesan website	<a href="http://www.edusc.org">www.edusc.org</a>
Office	<a href="mailto:secretary@holycrossep.org">secretary@holycrossep.org</a>
Rector	<a href="mailto:rector@holycrossep.org">rector@holycrossep.org</a>
Assistant rector	<a href="mailto:assistantrector@holycrossep.org">assistantrector@holycrossep.org</a>
Youth ministry	<a href="mailto:youth@holycrossep.org">youth@holycrossep.org</a>
Children's ministry	<a href="mailto:children@holycrossep.org">children@holycrossep.org</a>
Senior warden	<a href="mailto:srwarden@holycrossep.org">srwarden@holycrossep.org</a>

