



*Ron Plunkett is honored for his many years of service as our Charter Rep for Troop 519.*

*Congratulations to Ron!*

Hey everyone!

I hope you have had a good week. We had a great start to the week here at Church of the Holy Cross, Daniel Island, soon to be Church of the Holy Spirit, Daniel Island! Our Parish Meeting this past Sunday had approximately 90 adults and children in attendance and after a delicious meal prepared by our own James Hoftiezer. We got down to business and covered a great deal in the remaining 75 minutes. I won't share everything but here are the main points.

### **FINANCIAL UPDATE**

Some points that were shared concerning our finances:

**1. Do not stop giving/pledging** - As of January 1 we have been financially responsible for our budget. Some of you spoke of withholding your pledge or plate giving but this actually harms us and doesn't help us. Please give as you have always given. Every penny goes towards helping our Daniel Island congregation succeed in this transition time. Currently we are falling significantly behind in our budgeting at a time when we normally have a healthy cash balance. We will carry forward this negative balance when we completely separate on March 31.

**2. If you are pledging send this email now** - During this next two months of February and March there will be lots of communication about transitioning giving to our new church management software, but there is one thing that, if you make a pledge to Holy Cross, you can do right away and that is to send an email to Elizabeth Tezza (Holy Cross Financial Comptroller) at [elizabeth@holycross.net](mailto:elizabeth@holycross.net) stating the following:

*"Elizabeth, with the launching of the Church of the Holy Spirit effective April 1, 2024, we have been advised to notify you to please stop our monthly pledge effective March 31, 2024. We will be redirecting our pledge to Church of the Holy Spirit on Daniel Island. If you need anything further, please advise. Please confirm that you have received this request. Thank you."*

If this is you, right now would you simply copy and paste the above text, add your name(s), and send it.

**3. If you are not pledging, and you can, then begin now** - we will be making a new budget for April-June soon, and then in May, our annual budget for July 2024-June 2025 (our budget will follow the school calendar). Only pledges really help us in making financial plans, so if you give regularly but don't pledge please consider make a pledge [here](#). Also, remember that the standard God gives us in scripture is a tithe, 10% of all of our income. We ask our Vestry and Staff to set an example in doing this, but I would encourage all of you to join me and them in giving as God asks us to, and to be regular, generous and joyful in our giving.

## **BYLAWS & VESTRY**

1. New Bylaws put in place - the bylaws for our new parish were unanimously passed. These we will help us govern our church effectively.

2. New vestry selected - our first ever vestry was selected in elections held according to our new bylaws: Senior Warden - Chris Hamlin, Junior Warden - Carl Wist, and Members - Nick Pappas, Frank Taylor, Terence Jenkins, Kirsten Meade, Sarah Lynch, and Rusty Seymour were all chosen by a quorum of those eligible to vote to help me lead Church of the Holy Spirit in the upcoming year.

3. Lay Delegates Selected - four people were also elected to attend our Annual Diocesan Convention with me in March, at Church of the Cross in Bluffton, and to represent our church. Here we will officially be received as a new parish in the Anglican Diocese of South Carolina. The delegates are Chris Hamlin, Terence Jenkins, Lisa Barrington and Frank Taylor. Two alternates were also selected: Steve Williamson and Nick Pappas

## **FINALLY, SOME AMAZING NEWS...**

I was able to share some incredible news concerning God's provision. One of the concerns about separating from Church of the Holy Cross, Sullivan's Island, is that we will still not

fully own our property as we will take 30%, or \$600,000 of Holy Cross' overall debt remaining from expanding the Sullivan's Island campus in 2002, and building the Daniel Island campus in 2006. However, in September of 2023 I met with our brother and dear friend, Mitch Petersen, who died three weeks ago of brain cancer at the age of just 42, and he shared with me that upon his death he would like for Church of the Holy Cross to receive a gift of \$600,000 from his estate, which would pay this debt completely. It was a bittersweet conversation as I knew this would be an incredible blessing for our church, but I also knew that this would mean that he would no longer be with us. But Mitch loved Holy Cross and he loved all of you and the warm welcome and loving friendship you gave to him and his mom Wanda in the last year of his life and so he was committed to helping Church of the Holy Spirit begin well and launch into our next phase of expanding our buildings unencumbered by this financial burden. After I announced this at the parish meeting there were tears, but we stood and sang the doxology together, "Praise God from whom all blessings flow...", because even though Mitch is no longer with us his generosity will have a lasting impact for many generations to come, and we know that he is in a place where he is no longer suffering and that we too will one day see him again and walk with him in the new heaven and the new earth.

#### **MITCH PETERSEN'S TESTIMONY**

If you haven't had a chance to read Mitch's testimony yet then just click [here](#) and take the time to read it all. It is an incredible testament to God's faithfulness, and a bold call to follow him.

#### **ELECTRIC GRIDDLES NEEDED**

Our Pancake Supper is fast approaching (Tuesday, February 13th, 6-8pm) and we are in need of electric griddles. Do you have one we could borrow? If so, please email Andrea Price at [andrea@holycross.net](mailto:andrea@holycross.net).

#### **DADDY DAUGHTER DANCE IS SOLD OUT!**

Our inaugural Daddy Daughter Dance is totally full! This dance is for fathers and daughters (or grandfathers, uncles or godfathers!) to celebrate the love we have for each other. We are so excited to have such excitement for our first year!

#### **AND FINALLY...**

As always, let me know if you'd like to get together for coffee or lunch sometime. It would be great to catch up!

See you on Sunday!

Jonathan<sup>+</sup>

*More News - Click any image below for more information regarding an event.*



**SHROVE TUESDAY**  
**PANCAKE**  
**SUPPER**

FEB. 13 FROM 6-8PM



**ASH WEDNESDAY**

February 14th at 8 AM and 6 PM  
[Click here for more details.](#)



**LAMB MISSION TRIP**

SAT, AUG 3 - SAT, AUG 10

Information Meeting: Sunday, Jan 21st at 11:45AM in the Parish Hall



  
**DANIEL ISLAND**  
**LAUNCH UPDATES**





## **SEVEN FARMS FOOD DISTRIBUTION & COOKOUTS**

Our food distribution with our neighbors at Seven Farms Apartments and Village (across the street from the HCDI campus) continues each month, every three weeks on Tuesday afternoon, beginning January 23rd. If you are interested in serving, please contact Carl Wist at [carl@wist.us](mailto:carl@wist.us). It's an easy way to love our neighbors, and usually takes just under an hour. Let Carl know you're coming and he will text you any last minute updates.

## **HCDI Calendar at a Glance**

Sun, Feb 4 - Spiritual Parenting class begins, 12 PM - 1:30 PM

Thu, Feb 8 - Prayer and Worship Night, 7:30 PM

Fri, Feb 9 - Daddy Daughter Dance, 5:30-8 PM

Tue, Feb 13 - Seven Farms Apts Food Distribution

Tue, Feb 13 - Pancake Supper, 6-8 PM

Wed, Feb 14 - Ash Wednesday Services at 8 AM and 6 PM

Wed, Feb 21 - Theology on Tap, 7:30-9 PM, New Realm