I recently read some of the details of the various tragedies that have happened around the world that continue to hit the news on a daily basis, and I continue to be in dismay. From the tragic bombings, terrorist attacks, shootings, and even the more local news of suicide and murder, I have to admit it is difficult in these times to have joy when all around seems devoid of such an idea. I then take a 180 degree turn to see my one-year old literally laughing hysterically at the dog who is sitting in front of him while my son repeatedly throws a spoon from his high chair to see if the dog might catch it in mid-air. Then I see hope! I see a child who is full of overwhelming joy and fulfillment over the smallest things you can imagine. I find my mind wanting to go back to a time of childlike mentality. This scenario is not uncommon. As I read in Acts, after Jesus left the disciples to return to his rightful seat on the throne, they are left wondering how they are to experience joy and fulfillment in a world that is filled with turmoil around them. Jesus had set into motion the Kingdom of God and then left them! Those who didn’t trust in Jesus were after those disciples and had a real desire to take their lives. Saul of Tarsus was hot on the heels of believers of “The Way.” They were unsure if they could actually carry out the task that Jesus had commissioned them to do - “to make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit.” The task seemed impossible and indeed it was, if left to their human ability, but what happened next would astonish and amaze even the unbelieving Jews. The Helper, the Holy Spirit, was about to change everything! They were about to experience Joy and Fulfillment, something they had never experienced, and it would change their lives and the lives of so many others on that day and for years to come. The reality for us is this, that we have the same Holy Spirit that literally changed everything living within us as believers. The Spirit that gives power, hope, joy and fulfillment and is longing to lead us into a deeper relationship with the Lord. We can’t stop the tragedies from happening around the world, but we can know that joy and fulfillment can come in spite of those things that take place around us. The Holy Spirit longs to be active and alive in you today. Prayerfully and boldly ask, in the same way the disciples did on Pentecost, to be filled with more of the Holy Spirit, and then expect God to do great things in and through you.
“SERVING YOU” MISSION TRIP

Holy Cross will join with other area churches for a local family mission trip this summer to the Woodlawn area of Birmingham, July 24th-27th. This opportunity allows your whole family to serve the Lord through various ways. The mornings, beginning at 8:00am, will consist of manual labor ranging from yard work, scraping and painting houses, to light carpentry and other such tasks. The afternoon sessions, beginning at 1:00pm, will give the opportunity to join backyard Bible clubs, prayer ministry, or prayer walking. Serve all week, just one afternoon, or anything in-between. Monday and Thursday nights will include a community-wide worship time for all surrounding areas. Sign-up sheets are in the Narthex.

ECW

ECW’s Mary and Martha of Bethany Guild will hold an evening meeting this month, in an effort to include women who are unable to attend midday meetings. We will meet on Wednesday evening, June 28th at 6:30pm in the Genesis Room. Dinner will be provided.

CONGRATULATIONS!

The Cahawba Art Club held its Members’ Show at Seafood & Chicken Box during the month of April. Patrons voted for their favorite work. The votes were tallied, and first, second, and third prizes were awarded. Our very own Gloria Smith won the first place blue ribbon for her painting titled ‘The Flute.’

Jesus said to the Samaritan woman, “But those who drink of the water that I will give them will never be thirsty. The water that I will give will become a spring of water gushing up to eternal life.”

The Episcopal Church Women of Holy Cross Episcopal Church are hosting an open meeting on Wednesday, July 26th at 11:45am. We will have a guest speaker from the WellHouse, a place of grace for trafficking victims. The speaker will be Carolyn Potter, Executive Director of the WellHouse. We will meet in the Genesis Room. A light lunch will be served and all are welcome. Join us to learn more about helping these victims in their quest for the living water. For more info, contact Joanne Carnes at cjtcarres@gmail.com or call 655-7656. For information about The WellHouse, visit their site at www.facebook.com/thewellhousesaves.

CHILDREN’S CHURCH

All children, ages 5 through 12, are welcome to attend Children’s Church. We will meet in the Genesis Room at the beginning of the 10:30 service. We will conclude and join our families at the Peace.

ARMOR OF GOD

Cindy Wester will be leading a group at the Lovelady Center in the Bible study, “Armor of God,” beginning in June. Many of you participated in that study here at Holy Cross last fall. We now have the opportunity to “pay it forward” and help those ladies receive the many blessings that we received. With funding being almost non-existent for this project, Holy Cross is willing to place an order for about 20 books at a cost of $12.95 each. If you would like to “pay it forward” e-mail Karen Mann (karen.mann1957@gmail.com). You may place your check for the purchase in the offering plate or hand it to Cindy Wester.

We would also like you to consider writing an anonymous note to the Lovelady resident who receives the book. This note could be a word of encouragement, a prayer, or just a thought, a way of letting the recipient know what the program meant to you.

In addition, we would like to help Cindy out with some refreshments. If you are interested, please contact Karen Mann.

JUNE BIRTHDAYS

John Franks  4
Harry Amberson  9
Jacob Brannon 10
Stuart Turner 11
Tom Scarborough 11
Casey Stark 15
Janet Prewett 17
Jean Barron 17
Joseph Adamson 17
Sharon Morse 19
Jordan McQueen 20
Michelle Hall 20
Duke Rildophi 20
Derrick Willis 22
Noah Johnson 25
Nick Bramlette 28
Jane Kerr 29
Jason Brannon 30

Please inform the church office if your name does not appear in the month of your birthday.

SHOWER

All ladies of Holy Cross are invited to attend a Baby Shower honoring Justin & Susan Finch on Sunday, June 25th following the 10:30 service. Susan and Baby Girl Finch are registered at Target and Amazon.com. A light lunch will be served.

ATTENTION: LADIES’ NIGHT OUT

We will meet this month at Ruby Tuesday in Trussville on Thursday, June 22nd at 6:30 pm. All ladies of Holy Cross are invited. Please sign-up on the list in the Narthex.

ORGANIZATIONAL NEWS

EYC News

EYC Sponsoring "Happy Hour" 245-345pm for Special Session at Camp McDowell: Session II - Wednesday, June 21st. We will provide drinks and snacks for about 110 special session participants and counselors.

EYC Participating in GraceWorks: From 9:00am-2:00pm Monday, July 17th and on Wednesday, July 19th. We will join GraceWorks this summer in creating an outdoor mural at Grace Episcopal Church in Woodlawn. All supplies are provided.

The parish is invited to attend each event. Please contact Susan Caraway at 999-1346 or susancaraway@hotmail.com to volunteer.

You do have an extra two or three hours you could devote to Holy Cross every four weeks? If so, we need you on Altar Guild! This is a church ministry that requires great devotion and dedication; but is probably one of the most rewarding of all ministries. Setting the Lord’s Table for the Sunday and mid-week services can give you great peace; with this simple action, you are doing something for the Lord.

Please consider this ministry and if you are interested, contact Cindy Cole at 205-902-3569 or ccole80@charter.net . We work on teams so you would never be left on your own until you were trained and felt confident.

For information about The WellHouse, visit their site at www.facebook.com/thewellhousesaves.

The June Vestry Meeting will be held on Monday, June 26th at 6:00 pm in the Genesis Room.

Food Donations Needed

We are in need of food donations for VBS. Please place your donations on the designated table in the Genesis Room. We will need all donations brought to the church by Sunday, June 11th.

- Juice boxes
- Individually bagged: Chips, Cheez-Its, or Goldfish
- Granola bars
- Bottled water

We can never have enough bottled water!

The Cahawba Art Club's Members' Show was a success with patrons voting for their favorite work. Congratulations to the winners, including Gloria Smith's first place painting titled 'The Flute.'

EYC Sponsoring "Happy Hour" Session II - Wednesday, June 21st.

EYC Participating in GraceWorks - July 17th and July 19th.

Altar Guild Meeting - Monday, June 19th.

The WellHouse is looking for donations to support their work in the community. For more information, visit their Facebook page at www.facebook.com/thewellhousesaves.