

Ministering God's Love



Cultivating Faith

THE KING'S VOICE

JUNE 2015

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The Reverend Carolyn Kirk Biggs

Hello to everyone at Christ the King Episcopal Church. My name is Carolyn Kirk Biggs. It is my privilege to serve as your Priest in Charge beginning June 1st. I received my Masters in Divinity from Seabury-Western in Evanston Illinois I also have a degree in Psychology from the University of Central Florida. I have been married to my husband David for thirty seven years. David is the Manager of Application Development for the Hillsborough County Sherriff's Office. We have two children, our daughter Jenna is thirty four and currently works at The Florida Aquarium as the Community Engagement Coordinator. My son Jason is thirty and is a stay at home dad. We have three grandchildren; Donovan and Patrick are identi-

cal 10 year old twins and Kaylee, a four year old princess.

In my former life, I was initially an office manager/bookkeeper, then a fulltime mom and eventually on staff as a Children's Choir director in Pennsylvania, and finally at Holy Child in Ormond Beach as the liturgical assistant, before attending seminary. My hobbies are music, genealogy, paleontology and rock collecting.

My passion in life is to love, nurture, train, and equip people to carry out the great commission. I envision my ministry as a Priest as one who teaches people that God loves them, and that they are uniquely designed and gifted to be a part of the body of Christ. I want to provide a place where people come to

Worship and learn about God, and grow in love and fellowship with one another. I want to offer opportunities for ministry through training and support. I believe that God calls gifted people together to form a body of Christ and that if the people understand their gifts, and are equipped to teach and lead others, with God's help there is no limit to the potential of the church. I look forward to getting to know and love each one of you over the next few years.

God's Peace and Blessings,

Mother Carolyn



Let It Go

By Dorene Royal

If you are a parent or grandparent with children under the age of ten, you are probably very familiar with the title of this article; it is the title to the song featured in the Disney movie "Frozen" and it has reached over 160 million views on YouTube. The context of the song is when the character Elsa breaks from the abandonment and hurt of the past and devotes herself to making the future better by letting go of her misery. Easy song to sing, but SO much harder to do in real life!

The story of Sampson in the Bible, Judges Chapter 14, gives a word picture of the value in the phrase, "let

it go." Sampson was walking through the vineyards of Timnah when a young lion ferociously attacked him. The Spirit of God came upon Sampson (this was the first time he had experienced this power) and he killed it with his bare hands. He left the carcass of the lion right where he killed it and went on his way, not telling anyone about it. Several days later he was in the area and made a detour to see what was left of the lion, and to his surprise a swarm of bees had settled in to the bone cavity and was making honey. He harvested the honey, took it to his parents, and they enjoyed it's sweetness and

sustenance. The Bible says Sampson still didn't tell anyone about the lion; he didn't even share with his parents where the honey came from.

What would have happened if Sampson put the carcass of the lion on his shoulders and dragged it around with him, telling everyone about the vicious attack. After a few days the carcass would begin to smell and people would start to avoid him as he talked about this confrontation! And of course, we know that bees won't begin honey-production in a place that is disturbed and stirred up; they found a quiet place in the carcass of

Whatever it is, **let it go**, then wait and see how He will transform your most difficult situation into sweetness that you can use to encourage and bless others!

the lion and began to generate their sweetness. Sampson "let it go" and because of it, he came back later and found something sweet and precious in the very place where there was destruction and death.

It is so easy when we are wronged, viciously attacked, abandoned, hurt, and unfairly treated to

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Don't let your worries get the best of you; remember, Moses started out as a basket case."

NOTES FROM THE OFFICE

Good Morning Everyone, I am on a mission to make sure ALL of the information in my database about each and every one of you is accurate and complete. One Sunday this month I am going to have the information sheets printed out and I will highlight any missing dates (like birthdays and anniversaries) and also ask you to look over the information I have to make sure it is accurate. Your cooperation with this is greatly appreciated.

I would like to say thank you to everyone who volunteers for Christ the King, without you, this church would not be as great as it is!!

Sincerely, Chris Benton

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Samson fought a fierce lion.

drag around the misery on our shoulders, telling everyone we know about how the situation tried to harm and wound us, looking for some sympathy, advice, and commiseration from others. Would you agree with me that it is against our human nature to just “let it go?” Am I the only one that finds it easy to “vent” (sputter and complain) when circumstances outside of my control bring frustration and pain?! I learned a life lesson long ago from the story of Sampson, if we drag the situation around with us everywhere we go, like the carcass, people will begin to avoid being around us and we carry that anger and bitterness into every relationship and new experience. On the other hand, if we can give the situation to the Lord, and leave it alone, we can come back later and realize that He has made something beautiful out of the circumstance – beauty out of the ashes.

I’ve seen the concept of “letting it go” in action at Christ the King. There are some who have fought with addictions and won. Instead of carrying the “chip on their shoulder” about how terrible their past has been, they have used it instead to help others – finding sweetness in encouraging others to find this same freedom! There are others who have been abused, rejected, abandoned, and we can also see them in action at Christ the King, not proclaiming their past misery, but comforting and holding the hands of others who are going through the same type of circumstance. They exemplify the words of Paul in his letter to the Church at Corinth (II Corinthians 1:3 and 4), “*God is our merciful Father and the source of all comfort. He comforts us in all our troubles so that **we can comfort others**. When they are troubled, we will be able to give them the same comfort God has given us.*” Often our deepest pain is a launching pad for our greatest calling, if we can “let it go.”

How can we “let it go?” Generally it takes an act of forgiveness. Mayo Clinic says “forgiveness is a decision to let go of resentment and thoughts of revenge...it helps you focus on more positive parts of your life...it leads to less anxiety, fewer symptoms of depression, stronger immune system, higher self-esteem, less stress and hostility.” It is healthy to “let it go.”

“But they don’t deserve to be forgiven!” I once said (vehemently). I instantly felt God speak to my heart, “But I forgave you” and I knew very well that I didn’t deserve to be forgiven. **With God’s supernatural help and power, we can forgive the person without excusing the act.** The bottom line is this, if we don’t forgive, the bitterness becomes like a jack-in-the-box, it just keeps popping up.

Anglican Bishop Desmond Tutu headed up the Truth and Reconciliation Commission in South Africa, hearing cases of crimes against humanity. He looked for others to serve on the commission, and the criteria was to find people who had been victims, but who had forgiven their oppressors. Bishop Tutu said these people are the most capable to help others heal because they have the education of empathy, they know what pain feels like and can guide the bitter into forgiveness and strength. He called these people *wounded healers*.

What attacks have you experienced? Whatever it is, **let it go**, then wait and see how He will transform your most difficult situation into sweetness that you can use to encourage and bless others!

We are looking for someone to take over the CTK Library. June Raymond used to take care of it, but as you know she moved to Connecticut last month. If you are interested, please see Mother Carolyn or call the office.

MY TRIP TO HONDURAS

By Dr. Joy Parker

Last year I had the honor, privilege, and pleasure of visiting Honduras. It was uplifting and life-changing. My heart will never be the same. I went as a member of a ministry called St. Martin de Porres, which though very small, accomplishes a lot. Our primary purpose is to help needy persons. Although I am the president, its most active member is Georgina Caso, who made her 26th trip to Honduras as I made this first trip there. While there I participated in our monthly medical clinic, visiting the sick and elderly, purchasing school supplies for all the children in the village, and distributing clothing. While there, we expanded our food program, providing food for ten families with extreme needs.

Thanks to the CTK Mission Committee for a gift of \$200 to help the St. Martin de Porres mission in Honduras.

It might be interesting to read about some of the things I learned when I was in Honduras last year.

I have been a member of the St. Martin de Porres Ministry for many years. Last year I was privileged to visit Honduras and visit the St. Martin de Porres Mission House, established by my friend Georgina Caso in the village of Muchelina, Honduras. Georgina had this house built so she could establish a mission there, so it is very much an American style house – located in Honduras. I wrote last year

about some of our activities. Now I would like to describe some of the things that I found unique when I visited there.

Muchelina's main street is a single-lane paved road leading off the main highway. At the main highway is a bus stop. The Seventh Day Adventist Church is on the main highway and the main street. The main street is then lined with homes, pulperias, and churches. There is an abandoned bread factory and a moto-taxi stand (with two moto-taxis). It culminates in a loop by the Bay of Honduras. In the loop area is the Episcopal Church, the school for grades kindergarten through six, the Roman Catholic Church center, and two restaurants on the waterfront. Located off an alley just before the loop area is the very large, beautiful Episcopal Conference Center with lovely yards, trees, and plants. Located on the main street is the Roman Catholic Church. There is also a Church of God in this little village. Our mission house is located down an alley off the main street but not far from the highway. The alley is "paved" with rocks and mud. A car can drive down the alley but then has to back all the way out. Most people walk or occasionally ride the little moto-taxis.

Because the home is located in a small village in Honduras, it is also a product of its environment. For instance, the house has an electric stove but also has a portable gas range to use when the power is off. Most people in Hondu-

ras, however, use a special kind of wood stove that was subsidized by the government. It is highly efficient, using only a small amount of wood. It has a small firebox but a large cooking surface. Often when the electricity was "off" and it was "off" often, our friends would prepare a meal for us. For instance, once we received a beautifully prepared lunch of cooked plantain, fried chicken legs, white rice, and sliced cucumbers with a drizzle of mayonnaise. It was most welcome and most delicious. All the food was cooked in the outdoor kitchen. Meals in their homes are eaten in an area near the stove, also outdoors. I asked Digna, a friend of the Mission, if I could take pictures of her kitchen, and she graciously let me.

In addition to losing electrical power almost daily, the water there is for cleaning purposes only. Everyone has to buy drinking water at the pulperia. Water, too, is often turned off. There were also occasions when the water was almost watery mud. On the other hand having said that, if we had electricity, we were able to watch many television stations, getting programs from all over Central America, South America, and even Arizona and Albuquerque, New Mexico. Other than an occasional American movie, all the television is in Spanish. I often read while Georgina watched an occasional show. On one occasion, I heard a familiar American voice and looked up to see Sheriff Grady Judd on the Albuquerque station.

Also interesting is that there is essentially

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no mail in the country area. The electric and cable companies come to your property. The electric company has meter readers who carry small machines that print out a bill, and the meter reader comes to the door and hand the bill to you. Bills are paid at the bank. Water is not metered and is paid only once a year at the bank. You just know you owe it and go pay it.

Visiting the large stores and banks in the nearby city was definitely a different experience. At these establishments, there were armed and unarmed guards who wanded us and checked our handbags. At the store, you could then enter the store, but at the banks it was a different procedure. After the unarmed guard checked us, he unlocked the door and let us into a small anteroom that was guarded by two armed guards. Georgina has business in the bank so she was allowed to go into the bank, but Fatima (another member of our mission) and I did not have separate business so we were not permitted to enter or stay in the anteroom. So back out into the hot sun we went to stand. It was interesting watching the people come up and be checked for entry, but very warm. After about thirty minutes, Georgina came to the door, said something to the guard, and he let Fatima and me in. We had to check our bags in a locker in the anteroom, but we were able to go in and sit down in the air-conditioned waiting room. Georgina said she was having troubles with her passport. We waited while she sat at a desk and talked to a special clerk who kept making copies of various papers. After about another half-hour Georgina went to the waiting line to see a regular clerk. After only fifteen minutes or so, Georgina came and got us and we departed.

Most of our travel there was by bus. One thing about the buses that is different is that they are on very strict time schedules. They have to stop at various intervals and the bus driver's "helper" runs to punch a time clock at the various locations on the route. Because of this requirement, the bus may drive at top speed to make up time or slow to a crawl to take up time before the next time clock. Very different, but it does keep the bus running on a fairly accurate schedule.

There is only one other person in Muchilena who speaks English. This gentleman, like Georgina, came originally from Cuba and had lived and worked in Indiana. We saw him on the street several times and he always spoke. I also met the only other person who lives in that area who spoke English. Her name is Juanita, and she lives about two villages over from Muchilena. She was born in Honduras but moved to the United States when she was seven. She had lived and raised a family in New York City but now lives in Honduras.

Most of the time we did our morning and evening prayers on the front porch. The yard has many beautiful flowers, bushes, plants, and trees. There are two water areas, so birds come by to drink and bathe. It is a very peaceful, calming setting. I cannot describe how lush and beautiful the setting is. Every day there was an adventure, and every day was busy from morning until night. I grew to love the people so much. Some of their circumstances were very sad, but they were all so very sweet.

I hope that circumstances allow me to return to see them, perhaps this fall. Georgina tells me they keep asking about me.



June 2015

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
	1	2	3	4	5	6
			Bible Study 7pm	B – Kate Yotter		
7	8	9	10	11	12	13
Christian Ed & Adult class 9am Holy Communion 10am	B – Susan Weaver		Bible Study 7pm	VESTRY MEETING 6:30 A – Rose & Mike Green	A – Ray & Roger Miller	
14	15	16	17	18	19	20
Christian Ed & Adult class 9am Holy Communion 10am Canterbury Cele- bration Dinner		B – Jack Dale	Bible Study 7pm		B – Neila Heist A – Jessie & Josh Beck	
21	22	23	24	25	26	27
Christian Ed & Adult class 9am Holy Communion 10am			Bible Study 7pm B – Debbie Dale			
28	29	30				
Christian Ed & Adult class 9am Holy Communion 10am						

Financials for April 2015

04/05/2015 - Sunday

General Fund	2,563.00
Flowers	90.00
Facilities Rental	175.00
Diocese Assistance	1250.00
Total for 04/05/2015	\$4078.00

04/06/2015 - Monday

Restricted	483.00
Total for 04/06/2015	483.00

04/12/2015 - Sunday

General Fund	2913.49
Restricted	50.00
Missions	50.00
Total for 04/12/2015	\$3013.49

04/19/2015 - Sunday

General Fund	1826.00
Flowers	30.00
Facility Rental	60.00
Restricted	635.00
Total for 04/19/2015	\$2,551.00

04/26/2015 - Sunday

General Fund	1,050.50
Flowers	30.00
Restricted payments	260.00
Total for 04/26/2015	\$1340.50

GRAND TOTAL FOR APRIL	\$11,465.99
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M I N I S T R Y S C H E D U L E

Ministry area	June 7, 2015	June 14, 2015	June 21, 2015	June 28, 2015
Celebrant	Mother Carolyn	Mother Carolyn	Mother Carolyn	Mother Carolyn
Deacon in Training	Bob Dinnerville	Bob Dinnerville	Bob Dinnerville	Bob Dinnerville
LEM2	Isabel Detringo	Jim Royal	Martha Griggs	Wade Girggs
Acolyte - Server	Elizabeth Hospedales	Neila Heist	Sydney Sharrow	Elvon Hospedales
Acolyte - Cross/bells	Elvon Hospedales	Mitchell Parrish	Jacob Heist	Clive Borden
Acolyte-Collection	Joey Beck	Alexander Parrish	Nathanial Heist	John Beck
Acolyte –Gospel	John Beck		John Beck	John Beck
Old Testament	Jan Dinnerville	Andrea Borden	Paige Sharrow	Jim Royal
New Testament	Susan O'Brien	Jim Royal	Martha Griggs	Wade Griggs
Prayers of the people	Bob Dinnerville	Bob Dinnerville	Bob Dinnerville	Bob Dinnerville
Greeters./ushers	Betty & Claire	Terry & Cheryl	Wade & Jack	Jack & Susan
Pre k SS (paid)	Debbie	Colleen	Debbie	Colleen
Elementary SS	Pam Sharrow	Andrea Borden	Pam Sharrow	Andrea Borden
Prayer Team	Lisa & Stacey	Isabel & Wade	Kathy & Isabel	Meghan & Marilyn
Altar Guild	Claire	Claire	Diane & Carolyn	Diane & Carolyn
Vestry Counters	Jack & Mark	Jack & Mark	Jack & Mark	Jack & Mark