



Light of Christ Anglican Church

THE BEACON

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February 2019

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Let your light so shine before men
that they may see your good deeds
and praise your Father in heaven.



Mike's Message

"I waited patiently for the Lord; he inclined to me and heard my cry." Psalm 40:1

"In the path of your judgments, O Lord, we wait for you; your name and remembrance are the desire of our soul." Isaiah 26:8

"so, Christ, having been offered once to bear the sins of many, will appear a second time, not to deal with sin but to save those who are eagerly waiting for him." Hebrews 9:28

"Since all these things are thus to be dissolved, what sort of people ought you to be in lives of holiness and godliness, waiting for and hastening the coming of the day of God, because of which the heavens will be set on fire and dissolved, and the heavenly bodies will melt as they burn! But according to his promise we are waiting for new heavens and a new earth in which righteousness dwells." 2 Peter 3:11-13

Most of those reading this article already know that I have had a few health issues since the middle of December. I have had 3 surgeries and spent a total of 4 nights in the hospital. In and of itself, this isn't really that remarkable or unusual. From time to time, most of us have to deal with health issues of varying degrees of seriousness. My issues, although painful and irritating are not that serious, but needed to be dealt with. I don't tend to ask questions of God like, "Why me Lord?" because I know that we all experience trouble in this life. It's not that I'm a fatalist or a stoic, but I am a realist. However, the timing of all this was terrible. It was right in the middle of Advent and then Christmas and I'm the pastor of a liturgical church. After Christmas we were planning on going to Colorado to spend a week with both our children and grandchildren. All of that had to be cancelled. On my doctors' advice, I had to cancel my trip to Israel in February, but I realized that things happen, "Deal with it". Teresa and I have been careful to thank God for all these things because they were a reminder the day is coming when Jesus returns, and all things will be made new (Rev. 21:1-8). There will be no more pain, suffering, sorrow or tears but everything will be restored. That's what all those who have surrendered their lives to Christ are waiting for- Right?

I was feeling proud of myself for having such a positive, upbeat attitude towards this sudden turn of events. The problem came when the pain and weakness continued without much relief and the initial infection returned again and I found myself back in the hospital recovering from another surgery. The doctor still didn't know the source of the problem but was only

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treating the symptoms. I knew many were praying for me and that Father Ed and others were filling in for me and doing a great job. I felt impatience building within me and even heard it in my prayers as I called out to God for understanding. It was in the middle of the night when I woke up that I struggled the most with depression and anxiety. I assumed that our enemy was attacking me, and I fought back with God's word and praise and it would relieve my distress for the moment. I wanted this to be over and I wanted to get back to work and I wanted God to speak to me as to the reason for all this... (Silence). I hated waiting for answers and did not have the time to lay around and do nothing... (Silence). It was in the silence that I began to understand what was a major problem in my relationship with God and with life in general. I don't like to wait. If you just give a cursory reading of the Scriptures, you will find that having a relationship with God and living in the hope of his promises means that you will spend a great deal of time waiting.

God promised Abraham that through his children all the nations of the earth would be blessed. He was childless and already 75 years old so you would assume that God would get right on it. Abraham waited 25 years before Isaac was born. Hebrews 11 reminds us that all the heroes of the faith had one thing in common- they learned to wait, and I mean wait a long time for God to fulfill his promises. In every circumstance, God eventually came through and their faith was made stronger in the waiting. As I confessed earlier, I hate to wait and I'm thinking that those that we read about in the Bible weren't crazy about it either, but they learned that this is how God teaches and builds our relationship with him. God has all the time in the world, as a matter of fact he isn't bound by time but created it for us. I just need to get used to it and learn to wait until he is ready to move or to speak. I think I'll sleep better if I do.

Blessings!

Message from the Senior Warden

Greetings from Ophelia and, in the words of the apostle Peter in his first letter, Grace and peace be yours in abundance.

The Vestry met this past Thursday, January 24, from 1:30 – 4:30; Minutes will be posted under separate cover. Items of special interest to me as Sr. Warden, are broadening communication channels between the Vestry and the congregation membership, lack of coffee hour hosts, supplementing Nursery attendants and apportioning administrative duties, to name a few.

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Recalling the weather impact on December 12-13, Pastor Mike and I sent out an email notice announcing church service cancellation to the congregation membership of record, including telephonic contact with those without email capability. Notice also suggested each recipient call the church office before ultimately deciding to travel Sunday morning, to verify, through a recorded message on the office telephone, that activity would/would not occur. Unfortunately, the message machine server was down. Additionally, some failed to read their email, compounding the effect.

Accordingly, the Vestry is addressing this communication problem to preclude a recurrence in the future. Using information at hand, the Vestry has devised a plan to contact the membership telephonically as a follow-up to future emergency email notifications. Redundancy should be the answer.

Should you have an observation, suggestion or "new idea" regarding parish activities, please don't hesitate to call a Vestry member. Of course, open communication with any Vestry member or clerical staff is always encouraged.

The Vestry and I look forward to an active year, serving the Lord, building the kingdom and strengthening each other in brotherly love.

Paul W. Lassanske, Senior Warden
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804-436-7141

LOC WOMEN'S HOSTESS TEAMS

Please note that we have updated the list of the ladies on the Hostess Teams. For the most part they have remained the same, but have added new ladies to each team. Each team currently has 20 ladies and each has a captain and co-captain in charge of their respective team.

Please check the list on the bulletin board in the Parish Hall to confirm your team. Your captain/co-captain will contact you when your team's turn is up. Usually, each team may be called upon two to three times a year, in rotation, depending on what events are scheduled.

This ministry is strictly volunteer and many are involved in other ministries that may prevent them from serving. Please let me know if you are unable to be a part of this ministry.

Thanks to all who serve this ministry.

Contact Marie Carstensen at 80-462-7728 or email: marievcar@gmail.com

Go Fishermen, i.e. Fishers of Men

Our men's group, "Fishermen", was formed approximately 18 years ago at the suggestion of the Reverend Tad de Bordenave, the founder of Anglican Frontier Missions. We began at St. Stephen's Episcopal Church, suffered the split with the Episcopal Church and have continued as Anglicans to the present day. We are an ubiquitous group of men pursuing our faith through collective study of scripture, books, and discussions. We seek to better understand the theology of God's grace. Why are we Christians and how are we to behave.

We have had as many as 26 participants and try many things to increase our knowledge of scripture and what we are to do as faithful disciples of Jesus Christ. We need you men. Currently, we meet at the home of Ben and Sandi Ward, at 8a.m., for an hour on Wednesdays. Sandi graciously has coffee and baked goods to give us energy and keep a smile on our faces.

We have no admirals or ensigns--it is rotation of gentlemen leaders to facilitate the session. Come on in, the water's fine and you are among friends. You may direct questions to me or any of the fishermen.

Howard York

To My Dear Church Family,

Thank you for all the beautiful cards and get well wishes you sent for my 98th birthday. Having such thoughtful friends is truly one of my greatest blessings.

Marion Mitchell



fellowship.

It is time to begin signing up for coffee hour once again. There are new lists on the table in the parish hall for the next couple of months, and you are encouraged to take a moment and sign up for an upcoming Sunday

Coffee hour plays an important role in our fellowship as a family of God, and hopefully the next couple months can be filled with willing volunteers to provide a table of simple fare to enjoy over coffee and conversation. The coffee is usually made, but if not, there are easy instructions on the inside door where the coffee is kept.



Meet Jeana Wood, the Thrift Shop's new Assistant to the Manager, who has taken over after Irene Haley's move to West Virginia.

Jeana was born in Washington, D.C. and grew up in Arlington. Three years ago, while working in Maryland, she broke her foot and came to her sister's home on the Northern Neck to recuperate. When she was healthy again, she looked around and decided she liked the area and decided to stay. She says she loves its history and laid back way of life.

Most of Jeana's career has been spent in the retail field. She has worked at Fine Things and Mosaic in Callao, and also she volunteers at the animal shelter thrift shop in Lottsburg.

Jeana has four children and two grandchildren who live in Maryland and Leesburg. She enjoys gardening, antiquing and old architecture in her spare time.

Welcome to the Light of Christ Thrift Shop, Jeana; we're happy to have you here.

Scheduling of Meeting Space/Time

Please let Joyce know when you plan to have a meeting at the church and where you plan to have that meeting. The dry erase wall calendar will be moved shortly to the church office wall, where you can check the times available and add your meeting times. Joyce will coordinate this. We most likely will not have a problem finding space to meet, but it will be very helpful to know who is coming and what to expect!

IN THE LORD'S SERVICE

Acolytes

Feb 3	Marie Carstensen
Feb 10	Hannah Hamlett
Feb 17	Constance McDearmon
Feb 24	Jane Wrightson

Lesson Readers

Feb 3	Jeanne Hickey (L) Frank McCarthy (P)
Feb 10	Tony Blackstone (L) Joan Blackstone (P)
Feb 17	Ed Feddeman (L) Bart Morrison (P)
Feb 24	Marie Carstensen (L) Frank McCarthy (P)

Eucharist Ministers

Feb 3	Tony Blackstone, Lucy Logan
Feb 10	Frank McCarthy, Suzy Norman
Feb 17	Harrison and Priscilla Williams
Feb 24	Bart Morrison and Constance McDearmon

Ushers

Feb 3	Howard York, Chris Cralle
Feb 10	Constance McDearmon, Doug Smoot
Feb 17	Dave Gwaltney, Ed Feddeman
Feb 24	Barbara and Dick Seed
Mar 3	Courtney and Doug Ludeman

Greeters

Feb 3	Cindy and David Peresluha
Feb 10	Marie Carstensen, Julie Pritchard
Feb 17	Doris Myers, Fred Wimberly
Feb 24	Fred Wimberly, Ernie Proctor
Mar 3	Lynn and Howard York

Altar Guild

February	Bill and Charlaine Andrulot
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Nursery

Feb 3	Julie Pritchard, Jeanette Cralle
Feb 10	Alison Kimmitt, Doris Myers
Feb 17	Saunee Hamlett, Alison Kimmitt
Feb 24	Jeanette Cralle, Doris Myers

Counters

February	Jan Beckett, Courtney Ludeman
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Coffee Hour

We need volunteers for 2019. Please sign up in the parish hall or call/email Joyce.

Altar Rail Ministers

Feb 3	Sam Marston and Marion Mitchell
Feb 10	George Beckett and Constance McDearmon
Feb 17	Sam and Gayle Marston
Feb 24	Jim Conley and Donna Soule

Vestry Person on Duty

Feb 3	Barbara Seed
Feb 10	Alison Kimmitt
Feb 17	Ernie Proctor
Feb 24	David Peresluha

Happy February Birthdays!

Feb 1	Lisa Nguyen
Feb 4	Wayne Hamlett
Feb 5	Lyn Neira
Feb 9	Joan Marie Parasine
Feb 11	Barbara Seed, Barbara Ressler
Feb 12	Judy Rasberry, David Gwaltney
Feb 14	Allen Haley
Feb 16	Randy Smith
Feb 21	George Beckett

Happy February Anniversaries!

No anniversaries for this month.

O God, our times are in your hand: Look with favor, we pray, on your servants named above, as they begin another year. Grant that they may grow in wisdom and grace, and strengthen their trust in your goodness all the days of their lives; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.



The Beacon

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February 2019

CHURCH & COMMUNITY NEWS

Calendar of Upcoming Events

Mark your calendars

February	1	WyldLife Club, 5 - 8 p.m.
February	2	WyldLife Leader Training, 10 a.m.-12 p.m.