



FEBRUARY 2021

The Vine

Jesus said, "I am the vine; you are the branches..." John 15:5

Thy Kingdom Come!

CHRISTIAN Americans have dual citizenship. We are citizens of the United States of America, but more importantly we are "citizens of heaven" (Philippians 3:20). We are citizens here on earth for a short time. We are citizens of the Kingdom of Heaven forever! This past fall and winter it appeared that some Christians acted as if the kingdoms of this world were more important than the Kingdom of Heaven. When we put our hope in earthly political parties or politicians we will be bound to be disappointed, upset, disillusioned, and agitated. After much study and prayer, should we participate in elections? Absolutely! But where should our primary loyalty be?



What does Holy Scripture tell us? "One day Jesus was praying in a certain place. When he finished, one of his disciples said to him, 'Lord, teach us to pray, just as John taught his disciples.' He said to them, 'When you pray, say: Father hallowed be your name, your kingdom come'" (Luke 11:1-2). "Your kingdom come!" What if we Christians put as much energy (or more) into bringing the Kingdom of Heaven into our world as we do in earthly politics (watching news, Tweeting, Facebook posting, discussion, etc.)? Might Jesus' kingdom come? Might our church flourish and grow? I think so.

I encourage you to pray the prayer Jesus taught us in earnest. Pray for the Kingdom of Heaven to come and manifest itself on earth as it is in heaven. Ask our Father in heaven for King Jesus to rule the hearts of the

people you know. Ask our Father in heaven to give you a greater love for them. Ask our Father in heaven to open their eyes to the love and truth of God. Ask our Father in heaven to give you divine appointments to show them you care, to share your salvation testimony, and to share your faith.

Having dual citizenship means you are in the world, but ultimately not of it (John 17:14, 1 John 2:15). Therefore, I encourage you not to get too comfortable with any earthly loyalties (race, ethnicity, politics, ideologies, careers, even hobbies). Rather, get more and more comfortable with your heavenly identity! By the grace of God, get to a place where you become the ambassador for Christ God designed you to be (2 Corinthians 5:20)! As an ambassador, you will be engaging in cross-cultural relationships, that is, with people who are not like you. If they like Country music, you won't expect them to start liking Rock 'n Roll. If they are of African descent, you won't expect them to embrace European culture and linguistics. If they embrace a different political party, you won't expect them to embrace yours. Instead, you will introduce them to King Jesus and his Kingdom of Heaven. You will find common ground. As the Apostle Paul said: "... I have made myself a servant to all, that I might win more of them. To the Jews I became as a Jew, in order to win Jews. To those under the law I became as one under the law ... that I might win those under the law. ... To the weak I became weak, that I might win the weak. I have become all things to all people, that by all means I might save some." (1 Corinthians 9:19-22).

If you truly want God's Heavenly Kingdom to come, pray earnestly and become an active ambassador for the Kingdom of Heaven!

Our Path of Christian Maturity

Worship  Grow  Serve

The Faith Flash

Are you receiving our email newsletter, *The Faith Flash*? *The Faith Flash* comes out weekly with timely information and reminders. Sign up today by going to our website (www.faithanglicanchurch.org), or calling the church office (755-4848).

World Mission Sunday ~ February 7th

Each year World Mission Sunday is the Sunday before the Last Sunday of Epiphany. Why? To keep before us the vital need for world missions. Our preacher for World Missions Sunday this year will be our very own, the Rev. Dr. Brad Roderick, who spent 11 years planting churches in the United States and 19 years planting churches in India and Indonesia. Brad currently teaches Missiology at Mid-America Baptist Theological Seminary.



Executive Director of Anglican Frontier Missions at Faith February 14th

The Rev. Christopher Royer has been the Executive Director of Anglican Frontier Missions (AFM) since 2014. Chris was born and raised in Boulder, CO and graduated from Wheaton College with a double major in Biblical Studies and Philosophy. He went on to earn an M.A. from Wheaton in New Testament Studies. He then ministered in a Middle Eastern country from 1990-2006. In 2004, Chris earned his M.Div. from Denver Seminary and in 2007, a Diploma in Anglican Studies from Trinity School for Ministry in Ambridge, PA. Chris was ordained to the priesthood in 2009. From 2008-2014, Chris served in parish ministry until he was called to lead AFM. Chris and Grace have two daughters in college. Chris will preach at Faith Anglican Church on February 14th. Invite a friend!



What is "Tithing"?

Sometimes people call their offering their "tithe." This isn't always accurate. Tithing is acknowledging that God is your provider by returning 10% of your income to Him. Tithing levels the "giving field" for it is true proportional giving. When the one who makes \$500 a week gives the Lord \$50, in the Lord's eyes they are giving the same as the one who makes \$2,000 a week and gives the Lord \$200. Why give the Lord 10% of your income? God says, "Bring the full tithe into the storehouse, that there may be food in my house. And thereby put me to the test, says the LORD of hosts, if I will not open the windows of heaven for you and pour down for you a blessing until there is no more need" (Malachi 3:10). Tithing is how God expects us to show our trust in Him to provide for us abundantly, and He welcomes us to test His faithfulness!

February 17th (Noon and 7 pm)

The Ash Wednesday liturgy says, "I invite you, therefore, in the name of the Church, to the observance of a holy Lent, by self-examination and repentance; by prayer, fasting, and self-denial; and by reading and meditating on God's holy Word..." Please make plans to attend either our Noon or 7:00 PM Ash Wednesday service with the Imposition of Ashes and Holy Communion. Childcare is available at the evening service. The season of Lent begins on Ash Wednesday, February 17th and concludes on Good Friday, April 2nd. Lent begins and ends with our only two official **fast days** of the year. Please plan on beginning and ending this Lent with fasting and prayer. If you have questions or concerns about fasting, please contact one of our priests.



Quotable Quotes

"I'm not afraid of failure. I'm afraid of succeeding at something that doesn't really matter." – William Carey, Missionary to India

"Christianity is just one beggar telling another beggar where to find bread." – Sri Lankan evangelist D. T. Niles

"You don't realize Jesus is all you need until Jesus is all you have." – Tim Keller

"He is no fool who gives what he cannot keep to gain what he cannot lose." – Jim Elliot, 20th Century American Missionary to Ecuador and Martyr

"If your giving does not affect your lifestyle, you have not yet begun to give." – Bishop Steve Breedlove

Birthdays

Kenzie Hearne	01	Robin Richardson	14
Grace Parks	07	Norma Pike	16
Deb Jacobs	13		

Anniversaries

Chris & Alexa Tutor 14



Prayer Corner

Nancy Ebbing	John White	Ginger Webb
Mansell Lancaster	Bill Walsh	Kendall Horne
Eli Ritchie	Larry Wilkes	Susan Fones
Janie Beth Covington	Jonathan Hays	Larry Wilkes
Fred Robertson	Deb Jacobs	Sherry Wilkes

MINISTRY MOMENT ~

Operation Christmas Child Boxes Where Did They Go?

Even during a pandemic, Faith Anglican parishioners rallied together to support our OCC effort. Our total donation to this amazing cause was:

- 83 packed FULL boxes
 - \$486 postage
 - \$1,150 for building boxes online (46 boxes)
- \$709 contributed to The Greatest Journey Discipleship Program. In a year where everything was different, we still made a difference!

If any of you paid for postage online to track your box, it would be great to hear where it went. Chris Shields said that her boxes in 2018 went to Peru, the 2019 boxes went to Togo (west Africa, next to Ghana) and to the Philippines -December of 2020. Anyone else?

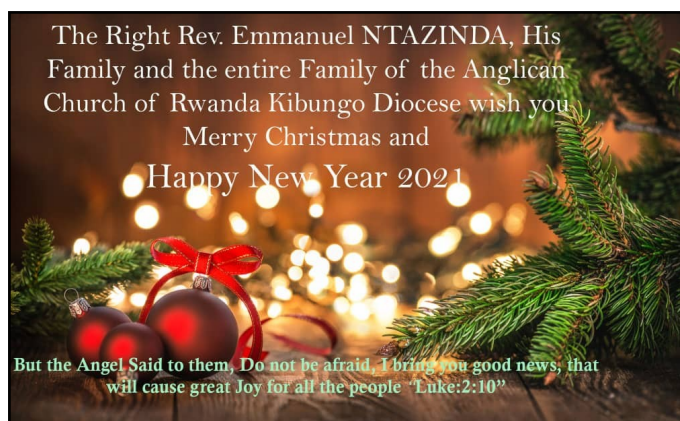


Pictured are some of the FAC boxes that went to Hope for distribution:

A Thank You From Rwanda

Greetings and praise Him!
Kindly receive our thank you letter 2020 for the appreciation of your continuing prayers and support. Please on our behalf extend it to all Parishes who supported us from the Diocese of the South.

Bless you, Merry Christmas and happy new year 2021



Bishop Emmanuel NTAZINDA

Confirmation Classes for Adults and Teens: *A Mature Commitment*

Confirmation classes are for those adult members and teens (9th grade and older) who would like to go a step further in their walk with Christ and make – what the Catechism calls – “a mature commitment to [your] baptismal covenant with God” and become Confirmed members. Confirmation goes a step further than the Discovering Faith membership process. Those wishing to reaffirm their faith are also encouraged to attend. **Confirmation classes begin February 7th.** To be confirmed, you will need to attend the nine week class on Sunday mornings in the Children’s Ministry Center at 9:25 a.m. (February 7th – April 11th), meet with Archbishop Foley Beach on Confirmation Sunday, May 2nd, and be prayed for by him in the Confirmation service. Students in ninth grade and older will also need to attend a Youth Confirmation Workshop. If you are interested, please call the church office (755-4848) to sign up or email Fr. Herb at herbhand@faithanglicanchurch.org. If you have questions please contact Fr. Herb.

Thank You

Thank you is such a common phrase to tell so many of our Church members how grateful I am for all the prayers, phone calls, and cards I have received since George’s admission to the hospital.

George loved God and all of His people. He particularly loved his family and his Church family. He would have been humbled by the large group of friends who gathered for his funeral.

We weren’t planning to stay outside in the cold, but no one left. We all stayed and were blessed by Father Hand’s heartfelt sermon.

The COVID-19 might have taken many lives such as George’s but it hasn’t taken the love that comes from God. Thank you all.

Love,
Betty Ellard
And Family

All articles for The Vine are due in the office the
second Monday of the month, send to:
laqueta@faithanglicanchurch.org

Service Times:
Sunday:
Sunday Worship 10:00am
Holy Communion 2nd & 4th Sundays

www.faitthanglicanchurch.org

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Youth News



Love is in the air. I know, I know, that is a somewhat cliché thing to say near St. Valentine's Day, but love really is all around us! The question is, have you taken the time to stop and see Him? As St. John, the mystic of the Apostles, so succinctly put it: "God Is Love," (1 St. Jn. 4:8 & 16). St. Valentine was a man who was keenly aware of this fact. Actually, there were three St. Valentines in the Early Church (it was a common name at the time), all of which were martyred for ministering in God's Love to those in need. These three men all share the feast day of February 14th, which delighted Medieval Christians. Why? February 14th was believed to be the date that birds would begin their pairing and would cling fast to their partner. The Medievals no doubt saw symbolism in this: it was fitting that on the day birds go to cling to their beloved, that St. Valentine went, through the death of martyrdom, to cling to his Beloved. The one whom he preached Is Love Itself and partnered with this Love to bring Love to others. The

takeaway here that I will teach the youth, and wish to tell you also my brothers and sisters, is that Love is so much more than the shallow, selfish and emotional kind found in movies, music, etc. What does Love look like? It looks like giving all of yourself for the good of the "other," for the sake of the other. It looks like three men named Valentine pouring out their blood to Love Himself in martyrdom. It looks like Love Himself pouring out His Blood in martyrdom for all.

Tripp Bond