



APRIL 2019

# The Vine

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

## *A Table in the Presence of My Enemies*

Lieutenant Carey Cash was a Marine chaplain during the second Gulf war. He didn't huddle within the relative safety of their base camp in Kuwait. No. He was embedded with the troops he served. They had been in the desert waiting for their orders for over a month wondering if Saddam would launch nerve-gas-laden Scuds at them. Just before the troops entered Iraq, "With a portable pulpit containing a cross, a goblet and communion bread, he moved from Humvee to AAV using a tailgate, an ammunition box or meal ration box as platforms for worship services." For these courageous yet scared troops, God provided, "a table ... in the presence of [their] enemies" (Psalm 23:5).



Three thousand years earlier King David experienced this type of fear, yet was confident of God's provision and presence in the midst of his enemies. In Psalm 23 he said of God, "You prepare a table before me in the presence of my enemies. You anoint my head with oil; my cup overflows." This theme has been repeated throughout history for every repenting "son" and every welcoming "father." Here are a few examples:

In Jesus' Parable of the Prodigal Son (Luke 15:11-32), the people in the community were highly offended by this rebellious ungrateful son. They became the son's enemies. If his father had not come running out to greet and protect him, the people would have run him out of town with beatings. The father prepares a feast before the son's enemies. As Kenneth Baily said, "The celebratory party that evening is *not a gesture of welcome to the return of the prodigal*. It is a celebration of the success of the costly efforts of the father in reconciling his son to himself." The father prepared a feast for his son in the presence of his enemies.

We see something similar with Zacchaeus the Tax Collector. Due to his greed, traitorous behavior, and disregard for the financial needs of the people, he was clearly the enemy of most of the residents of Jericho. Yet Jesus, to the shock and disdain of the crowd, told him, "Zacchaeus, hurry and come down, for I must stay at your house today." Zacchaeus was thrilled! Can you imagine the overflowing feast that night?! A feast in the presence of Jesus, surrounded by murmuring enemies. Now Zacchaeus' enemies have become enemies of Jesus.

When you welcome outcasts with feasting generosity, you will be sure to make some enemies! Just a few decades ago you would have made enemies if you invited someone of a different race to dinner. Fr. Noland even had a cross burned in his yard for embracing civil rights for all. Modern-day Pharisees will be sure to become your enemies when you befriend sinners of various stripes, yet how will they come to love and serve the Lord unless you learn to love them and care for their souls! When you lavish a feast of generosity, God is sure to show up with His lavish presence.

Fr. Herb highly recommends Lt Carey H. Cash's book *A Table in the Presence* and Kenneth Baily's *The Good Shepherd: A Thousand Year Journey from Psalm 23 to the New Testament*.

### 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](http://www.faithanglicanchurch.org)), or calling the church office (755-4848).

## Bishop Frank Lyons to Visit Faith – April 7<sup>th</sup>



Bishop Frank Lyons, our diocesan Assisting Bishop, will be with us on April 7<sup>th</sup> at both services. He will preside at our 10:30 Confirmation service. Bishop Frank is a graduate of Wheaton College and holds degrees from Wheaton Graduate

School, Nashotah Theological Seminary, Fuller Theological Seminary, and Carey Theological College. He and his wife served as overseas missionaries for 25 years with the Society of Anglican Missionaries and Senders (SAMS), and was consecrated a bishop in Bolivia. He began serving in the Anglican Diocese of the South in January 2015. Please come support those being Confirmed and hear Bishop Frank share God's Word!!!

### It's Time to Sign-up for the Ladies Retreat

Our annual ladies retreat is coming up soon. Join us on April 26 and 27 at Our Lady Queen of Peace Retreat Center for a wonderful time studying God's Word, and drawing closer to Him and to each other. It will be a time of fun, fellowship, and renewal. The theme for this year's retreat is "Sowing Seeds of Kindness."



The cost is \$85 for a double occupancy room and \$100 for single occupancy. There are only 7 double occupancy rooms. They will be allotted on a first-come basis. If finances are a problem, scholarships are available.

There will be a sign-up sheet and application forms in the Narthex. Make your checks payable to Faith Anglican Church, but give them to Sudy Fisher.



### Bottles for Life

Don't forget to return your bottles filled with coins, cash, or check to Faith by April 14th. Thank you for helping.

## Creative Giving

When we give gifts to God through His Church, most of us write checks or give cash, which is a good thing. Some creative giving ideas may end up yielding a double blessing, either additional tax benefits or freeing you from unnecessary clutter. Here are some creative giving possibilities: stocks, bonds, IRA transfers, life insurance, annuities, charitable trusts, land, homes, cars, boats, gold, jewelry, coins, collections, etc. Many, including your pastor, also remember the church in their will. How might you creatively give to the Lord's work?

## BAPTISMAL DATES

Baptism is for those adults and older children who have made a commitment to Jesus Christ as their Savior and Lord. Baptism is also for infants and younger children of parents who intend to raise their children to serve Jesus Christ as Savior and Lord. Those who intend to be baptized need to attend worship regularly. If you or your child is ready for baptism, please plan to be baptized on one of the following dates: **April 28<sup>th</sup>** (2<sup>nd</sup> Sunday of Easter) and **June 9<sup>th</sup>** (Pentecost Sunday). If you are interested please contact Fr. Herb.

### Birthdays

Herb Hand	01	Larry Wilkes	14
Bill Gresko	05	Emily Johnson	18
Josh Tarver	08	Laurabel Hearne	21
Elkins Crawford	09	John Lucas	23
Vicki Deason	09	Fred Ellrich	26
Chris Mark	11	Melisa Knirr	27
Jacob Trippel	13	Janice Badgett	29

### Anniversaries

Larry and Sherry Wilkes	09
Greg and Rhonda Follis	16
John and Maureen Howard	17



### Prayer Corner

Nancy Ebbing	Robin McCray
Mansell Lancaster	Andy Chadwick
Eli Ritchie	Sharon Ward
Erich Emison	



**Palm  
Sunday**

**April 14<sup>th</sup>**

At the 10:30 service we will gather outside for the *Liturgy of the Palms* and process into the church. At both services we will enjoy a dramatic reading of the Passion Gospel. The donkey will be here for the second service, so come a little early with the kids to see him. Be sure to invite a guest for this moving service!



**Maundy  
Thursday**

**April 18<sup>th</sup> at 7:00 pm**

We will commemorate our Lord's Last Supper through foot washing and Holy Communion. Foot washing is not required, but available to all who would like to participate. It is a powerful act of servanthood, which can have a powerful affect for your daily life as a believer. Childcare is available.



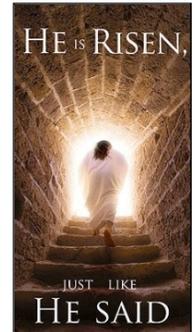
**Good  
Friday**

**April 19<sup>th</sup> at 7:00 pm**

We will meditate on the meaning of the cross of Christ, hear the Good Friday Good News proclaimed, and enjoy a special outdoor *Station of the Cross* presentation. Bring a flashlight. Seating will be available for those unable to walk the path. Fasting and extended prayer is encouraged on Good Friday.

## **Easter Sunday Celebration – April 21<sup>st</sup>**

Easter is our most important celebration of the year. We celebrate Jesus' bodily resurrection. Jesus' resurrection validates His sacrifice on the cross and foreshadows our future natural, yet supernatural, resurrected bodies. Alleluia! Alleluia! Christ is risen! Be sure to invite family members and friends for Easter Sunday!



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### **National Day of Prayer**

The 2019 National Day of Prayer theme this year is LOVE ONE ANOTHER. The actual day is May 2, however, in preparation for that day, we will pray as a congregation on Sunday, April 28th. As in the past, we will distribute pamphlets that will be helpful in reminding us of prayer points as we lift up our voices and join masses of people all over the country for this one theme. There has never been a prayer more needed for our nation as this.

★ PRAY FOR AMERICA ★

**LOVE ONE ANOTHER**  
NATIONAL DAY OF PRAYER

### **Parish Work Day**

Saturday April 7th is an All Church Work Day from 9:00 to 12:00. Help us get Faith cleaned up and spruced up. Let's put our best face on for those guests we are inviting for Holy Week and Easter Sunday. See Bill Fisher if you have suggestions, etc. Sign up in the narthex for your special task.

### **Youth Crew**

April 28th is coming fast! What does that mean exactly? Of course, another **Youth Sunday**! If you have a youth that is interested in being involved in the service that day or if you are a youth that is interested in being involved, please contact me.

Chris Mark

## Daughters of the Holy Cross Host Three Out Reach/ In Reach events .....and Invite You All to Join in by....

1) participating [in 40 Days](#) for Life Campaign. You can volunteer to join Annette Kersting as she stands in the public right of way, outside of Planned Parenthood ([2420 Poplar Avenue](#)). Or you can pack a small bag that will help encourage a conversation to begin. These bags often attract the young women to be approached and then love, prayer, concern and a conversation can begin. She can then walk across the side street to get a free ultrasound and hear about options. We have all heard that 90%+ of the time after a woman has an ultrasound, she chooses life for her baby. Fill a little Dollar Store bag with a few goodies and save a life!!!!!! Pick up some hard candy, a small stuffed animal that peeks invitingly over the bag, some body lotion, tissues, hair product, juice, etc. Get these bags to Annette ASAP

2) picking up a baby bottle and adding your spare change for supporting Life Choices. Easter is all about life and you can show your love of God's children by either filling a bottle with change, cash or checks (made out to Life Choices). Make sure you sign up for your bottle and return by April 14th. See Janie Adkins if you have questions.

3) sharing in our newest initiative.....Pastoral Care- Just One. So often in our busy lives, we think about someone and fully intend to give them a call. Let's stop the "I should have" and replace it with " I did it". Think of at least ONE person that God has put on your mind and CALL, EMAIL, TEXT or SEND A CARD, letting them know you were thinking about them and that they are loved. We can turn this from just good intentions into a habit in no time. You know how God works, if He has placed someone on your mind, they need to hear from you! What are you waiting for? Go for it!

### **The Daughters of the Holy Cross- it's not just food!!!**

The Order of the Daughters of the Holy Cross was founded to give women an opportunity to respond to their Lord's call to grow in their faith through Prayer, Service, Study and Evangelism."



**John 13:34 "A new commandment I give to you, that you love one another: just as I have loved you, you also are to love one another."**

Chris Shields, President

## **2019 Leadership Retreat Report Out**

As most of us know, the Lord put on Father Herb's heart to hire an outside consultant to help us better answer God's charge to spread the Good News. Tom Herrick, of Titus Institute was chosen to help lead us in this effort.

At our annual Leadership Retreat on March 8th-9th, the data that you all provided (from SWOT forms and questionnaires) proved invaluable. It helped give us a real picture of our current state. The Retreat was an uplifting experience of a unified effort led by our Consultant. Now the Parish Council is forming God's Vision for our church and will be establishing priorities/strategies to accomplish our purpose. It will require thought and careful planning and will take time. There are eight characteristics of healthy churches. As we work toward making our Worship Service even more inspired and later creating more manageable ways to do Need Oriented Evangelism, let us celebrate in the fact that our highest scores came from Passionate Spirituality, Loving Relationships and Gift Based Ministry!

Chris Shields ,

Mission Focus Team Chairman

All articles for The Vine are due in the office the *second Monday* of the month, send to: [laqueta@faithanglicanchurch.org](mailto:laqueta@faithanglicanchurch.org)

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Service Times:  
**Sunday:**  
 Holy Eucharist .....8:10/10:30am  
 Sunday School .....9:30am

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***Discovering Faith Workshop: For Those Considering Membership***

*Discovering Faith* is a two part workshop designed to help you grow in your relationship with Christ and find out how you can become a member of this community of faith. You will also get to know our pastor and others who are new to Faith. This workshop is offered two or three times a year. If you are new to Faith, we would love for you to attend our next *Discovering Faith* workshop. The first part is on Sunday, **April 28<sup>th</sup>**, from 4:00 to 7:30 p.m. in the home of our pastor and his wife, Herb and Mary Hand at 8293 Montego Place North, Cordova. Dinner is included. Sign-up is easy, you can call the Hands at 381-1172 or e-mail Herb at [herbhand@faithanglicanchurch.org](mailto:herbhand@faithanglicanchurch.org). The second part is held one week later at the same location on Sunday, **May 5<sup>th</sup>**, from 4:00 to 7:30 p.m. Attending the workshop does not require a commitment to join, but will give you the opportunity to learn more about Faith and meet some wonderful people. At the first meeting we will explore Faith Anglican’s history, an overview of the Anglican Communion, the focus of our parish, and God’s gift of salvation. At the second meeting we will explore the importance of Holy Scripture, the basics of Anglican worship, and the ministries of Faith Anglican Church.

***Annual Egg Hunt...***April 21 at 12:00. We need donations of candies and egg size treasures. (Please no chocolates that might melt). Place your treats in the labeled basket in the narthex. Then we will need help stuffing the plastic eggs. On Easter Sunday, volunteers are needed to hide them and guide the children during the hunt. We eagerly look forward to this fun event and welcome all children, neighbors, grandchildren, friends and family. Contact Lauren Hearne if you would like to help.

