

THE EAGLE'S QUILL

ST. JOHN'S NEWSLETTER MARCH 2009



"... THOSE WHO HOPE IN THE LORD WILL RENEW THEIR STRENGTH. THEY WILL SOAR ON WINGS LIKE EAGLES; THEY WILL RUN AND NOT GROW WEARY, THEY WILL WALK AND NOT BE FAINT." *ISAIAH 40:31*

ST. JOHN'S EPISCOPAL CHURCH
MARLIN, TEXAS
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We are a church community rooted in Anglican traditions and committed to sharing the Gospel of Jesus Christ through faith, prayer, compassion, and encouragement.

"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." *Book of Common Prayer, page 265, Liturgy of Ash Wednesday*

Beloved in Christ,

The Book of Common Prayer exhorts us at this time in the Church year to enter into the passion of our Lord, to commit to the thought, work, and discipline necessary for spiritual growth.

The Church Calendar gives a year long schedule for spiritual growth. Lent is the time to turn to God in prayer for help with self-examination, for help reading and meditating on God's Holy Word, for help reviewing our relationships with others, our truthfulness with God and ourselves, and reviewing our relationship with God.

Let us set aside these 40 days of Lent to renew our relationship to God through Jesus Christ. Come to the Wednesday services, dinner and study. Attend church each Sunday. Stay for the Lenten programs after church. Find time each day for the discipline of prayer, scripture reading, and reflection. To find daily Bible readings for Lent, in your Book of Common Prayer, follow the Daily Office, Year One Lectionary on pages 952, 954 and 956.

May all of us grow in Christ in this season, in body, mind and spirit, and may each of us observe a Holy Lent.

In His love,
Judy

SUNDAY SERVICES 9:30 a.m.

WEDNESDAY PRAYER AND HEALING SERVICES 5:00 p.m.

LENTEN SCHEDULE:

March 4 – Lenten Study and Soup Dinner following Prayer Service at 5:00 p.m.

March 8 – Lenten Study

March 11 – Lenten Study and Soup Dinner Prayer Service at 5:00 p.m.

March 15 – Lenten Study

March 18 – Lenten Study and Soup Dinner Prayer Service at 5:00 p.m.

March 22 – Lenten Study

March 25 – Lenten Study and Soup Dinner Prayer Service at 5:00 p.m.

April 1 – Lenten Study and Soup Dinner following Prayer Service at 5:00 p.m.

April 5 – Lenten Study

April 9 – Maundy Thursday at 6:00 p.m.

April 10 – Good Friday at 12:00 Noon and 6:00 p.m.

ABOUT LENTEN DISCIPLINES AND FASTING:

The purpose of choosing a Lenten discipline is to deny the body *in order* to grow the spirit. In the early church, fasting began after a light meal at sundown and ended with a meal at sundown the next day, giving up two meals, not three.

Today, the church doesn't focus as much on fasting, but does suggest that you give something up for Lent, as a discipline, *and/or* add something in, also as a discipline. For instance: you could give up candy as a bodily discipline; or you could give up anger or hopelessness as a spiritual discipline. You could add something in, such as daily prayer, daily Bible study, or even service to a neighbor or organization—something that you don't normally do. You could concentrate on remembering to say thank you or I love you or just to smile at people. The church in its wisdom is urging you to actions that are good for your body and soul, such as working through anger issues. The discipline that you choose should be personal and something that you know is good for you. Remember that the point of the discipline is spiritual growth. Remember to approach this decision with humility and prayer.

If you decide to fast during Lent, be a good steward of your body. Here are some guidelines: Observe the discipline only once a week. Drink plenty of water. You can also add in fruit or vegetable juice. Avoid serious fluctuations in blood sugar levels. Giving up more than two meals is not suggested. You can instead replace two meals with fruit or vegetables and juices. Another possibility is to eat lighter than usual for two meals. Lenten disciplines should bring growth in health overall, and especially in your spirit.

Add in to your disciplines to attend the special Lenten services at St. John's and to participate in the Lenten studies. There will be studies on Sunday mornings and on Wednesday evenings following the services. Wednesday evening will include a light soup supper. Our theme this year is *"To love as I have loved you: What does that mean to us today?"*

As the Book of Common Prayer reminds us: *"May you with great devotion observe the days of our Lord's passion and resurrection."* (BCP 264) May we grow closer to our Lord during this Lent 2009.

LENTEN BLOG

The Division of Christian Formation will offer a blog Bible Study during Lent. The theme for the study will be forgiveness and reconciliation. Each week a different Bible passage will be posted to the blog and participants can choose how often or how many studies they would like to do. Please check out <http://edotchristianformation.blogspot.com/>.

WARDENS AND VESTRY CONFERENCE

A Wardens and Vestry Conference will be held at St. David's in Austin on March 7th. A final Wardens and Vestry Conference will be held at St. Cyprian's in Lufkin on March 21st. All vestry members are encouraged to attend one of these workshops.

VESTRY MEETING

The Vestry will meet at 11:00 a.m. on Sunday, March 22nd.

MINISTRY OPPORTUNITIES

CURSILLO

If you are interested in attending a Cursillo weekend, please contact either Polly Geake (584-4464) or Kyla Smith (584-4464 or 721-7409). Applications to attend Cursillo can be obtained on the Diocesan Cursillo website at www.texascursillo.org.

2009 CURSILLO WEEKENDS

#224 June 18-21

#225 August 27-30

226 November 5-8 (campsite)

ULTREYA

Ultreya meets at 4:00 p.m. on the following Sundays:

March 8 – To be announced

April 19 – St. Christopher's, Killeen

May 17 – St. John's, Marlin

June 14 – To be announced

July 12 – All Saints, Cameron

August 9 – To be announced

September 13 – St. Christopher's, Killeen

October 11 – St. Paul's, Waco

November 15 – St. John's, Marlin

DAUGHTERS OF THE KING

Daughters of the King will continue their study of "St. Benedict's Tool Box" at 11:00 a.m. on Saturday, March 28th.

The DOK Province VII Assembly will be held on March 6-7 in San Antonio.

ALTAR GUILD

The Altar Guild Retreat is scheduled for March 18-21 at Camp Allen. Information is posted on the bulletin board.

ALTAR GUILD – WISH LIST

1. Sharp Cordless Sweeper Deluxe 2-speed (\$49.88 at Wal-Mart on I-35 in Waco) or Sharp VX3 Cordless Sweeper (\$69.00 at Kohl's in Waco)

2. Small electric heater for Sacristy

CENTERING PRAYER

The 7-Session Program of Centering Prayer continues at St. Paul's from 6:30 p.m.-8:00 p.m. on

the next six Tuesdays: March 3, 10, 17, 24, 31, and April 7.

ECW

A 2009 Spiritual Growth Retreat, "Getting Closer to God Through Trials" is scheduled for March 13-14 at Camp Allen. Rev. Bobbie Knowles is the guest speaker. The cost is \$100 for single occupancy, \$90 per person for double occupancy, \$45 for Saturday only. There are 7 scholarships available through the Diocesan ECW. For a scholarship, contact Ginny Reinhardt at 903-581-0283.

CHRISTIAN FORMATION

There will be Christian Formation Spring Workshops on March 21 and March 28 at Camp Allen.

OUTREACH

SAMARITAN HOUSE

Please join us at the Samaritan House on Wednesday, March 11, at 10:00 a.m. as we help Kenneth Drews and the staff of Samaritan House. Come for all or part of the time as you can. Of course, you can volunteer at the Samaritan House on any day that you are available. This is a great opportunity for service and outreach in the community.

FOOD FOR MARCH

Please bring macaroni and cheese, rice, beans, pasta, spaghetti sauce, Ramen noodles, and canned goods for our food outreach ministry to Faith, Hope & Charity.

"For I was hungry, and you gave me something to eat . . ." Matthew 25:35

ANGEL FOOD MINISTRIES

Angel Food Ministries provides healthy, nutritionally balanced food to feed a family of four for a month. The cost for the Regular Box is \$30.00, which is a great savings over grocery store prices. The cost for the Senior/Convenience Box is \$28.00. Orders may be paid for by Food Stamps or cash. There are no qualification requirements to participate in Angel Food Ministries. The deadline to order through Angel Food Ministries is March 14, 2009. Orders may be placed at the Salvation Army. Pick up will be March 28, 2009 between 11:30-12:30 at Zion Hill Baptist Church.

The March Menu is posted on the bulletin board in the Parish Hall.

FAITH, HOPE & CHARITY FUNDRAISER

Faith, Hope & Charity will be hosting a Spring Fundraiser – turkey and dressing dinners – on Friday, April 3, from 11:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m. Tickets are \$7.00 each. No tickets will be sold at the door. The dinners may be picked up at the Parish Hall on April 3rd. If you would like to purchase tickets or sell tickets for this fundraiser, please contact Shirley at either 883-3004 or 804-0196 or contact the church office.

EVENTS AND INFORMATION:

Church History/Archives Project

The Church History/Archives Project will be suspended during Lent and will resume on April 15.

Abundant Living Conference – Camp Allen

The Abundant Living Conference, “Staying Well – Living Longer” will be March 2-4 at Camp Allen. The double occupancy rate is \$200; the single occupancy is \$245. You can register online at www.campallen.org or by contacting Lauren Day at 936-825-7175.

MEN’S ASSOCIATION

The St. John’s Men’s Association will meet at 6:00 p.m. on Thursday, March 26th.

YOUTH INFORMATION

Youth Ministry Conference – April 17 thru 19 at Camp Allen

2009 Christian Leadership Conference – June 22 thru 27 at St. Stephen’s Episcopal School, Austin
Fliers are posted in the Parish Hall. Encourage the youth in your family to be a part of one of these events.

NEWSLETTER DEADLINE: 25th of each month

1Those for Whom our Prayers are Requested:

Gary Evans, Alice Ferda, Horace Goodrich, Alice Madsen, Ronnie Oltorf, Steve Price, Te Andria Mason, Connie McLelland, Merrit Schumann, Iris Schumann, Mel Rodgers, Nina Leeth, Betty Maxey, Willie Null, Paula Wade (Polly Gaeke’s daughter), H.T. Torgerson, Betty Goodrich, Dr. Harold and Margaret Clifton, Mena Nichols, Mary Winters,

Marilee Painter, Dick Lewis, Louis Polchinski, Jack Wagner, Loretta Bird, Felma Branch, Mike Nehring, Billie Maxwell, Shirley King’s sister, Robbiette White, Carla Collier, Joe Trice, Rev. David Kirkaldy, Samantha G. Tatum, Priscilla Feuerbacher, Anne Burrough, Helen Marsh, Nancy Davis, Sandy Kleckner, Helen Erskine, Geneva Hughes, Charlise Brown, Vestal Cook, Betty Ramey, Bonnie Crothers, Dana Jones, Elridge Norman, Faye Lombardo, Deacon Michael Jackson, Corlie Jackson, Jared Jackson and Imani Jackson, Helen Appleberg, Clint Hegefelf, Sandra Goldsby, Rev. Bill Carroll, Ed Visser, Frank Goodrich, Linda Langley, Stella Cathy, Wanda Cole, Norman Erskine, Loretta Wiebusett, Elizabeth Bales, Dyan Shelander, April Sammons, Kailen Harris, Pattie Pletzke, JoeAnn Kalmbach.

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Please pray also for these who serve in our Armed Forces: Lyle Holley, John W. Sadler, Nicholas Tobias, Matthew Pyland, Brandon Henderson, Jarrod Means, the 126th Forward Surgical Team, Connor Owen, Jordan Gorraiz.

ENTERED INTO LIFE ETERNAL:

Charissa Goodrich, Tommy Goodrich, Mike Norlie, Corinne Patterson Delleney

May their souls and the souls of all the departed, through the mercy of God, rest in peace. We offer our deepest sympathy and prayers to family and friends.

MEMORIALS:

Anyone wishing to make a memorial should contact Jean Trice, chairperson in charge of memorials, 883-2611.

COFFEE HOSTESS

March 1 – Cathy Owen

March 8 – Sherri Patterson

March 15 – Antonette Peterson

March 22 – Diana Miles

March 29 – Libby Price and Pattie Bosnack

MARCH BIRTHDAYS and ANNIVERSARIES:

March 5 – Jakoby Bledsoe

March 15 – Sammy Bosnack

“Grant, O Lord, 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*

St. John's Leadership

Rector: The Rev. Judy Filer

Vestry: Senior Warden, Joseph L. Owen
Junior Warden, Bill Forson

Mark Patterson

Louise Burton

Mary Smith

Cathy Owen, Clerk and Treasurer, Ex-Officio

Minister of Music: Sue Visser

Parish Administrator: Cathy Owen

Altar Guild Chair: Molly Walker

Altar Flowers Chair: Polly Gaeke

Memorial Chair: Jean Trice

ECW President: Pattie Bosnack

Cathy's Corner:

"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." (BCP 265) We have entered the season of Lent. This is a time for personal reflection, repentance, prayer and meditation.

Personal reflection – something to be avoided? If I truly examine myself – my past words and actions – that can be a frightening aspect, something I may not want to see. Yet, we are invited each year to do just that. It is so wondrous to me that God would love me – with my flaws, my sharp words, my "feet of clay," – and that He would forgive me. It humbles me. This year I will accept the invitation to observe a holy Lent. I have no doubt that I will not be able to do it on my own, but "I will with God's help."

Note new hours: Beginning Ash Wednesday, Rev. Filer will be in the office from 1:00 p.m. through dinner and the Lenten Lesson. You can also reach Judy at 254-776-4815 or 254-722-2013 or by email at jwfiler@aol.com.

LEADERSHIP:

The following is from Richard Rohr's *Daily Meditations*. "As Mother Teresa loved to say, 'We were not created to be successful [even spiritually successful!] but to be obedient.' True obedience to God won't always make us look or feel right. Faith is dangerous business!"

MARCH 12009

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
1 8:30 am Choir 9:30 am HE I Rev. Linscott	2	3 6:30-8:00 pm Centering Prayer St. Paul's	4 1:00 Rev. Filer in office 5:00 pm Lenten Service	5 11:00 am Clericus Holy Spirit Waco <i>Jakoby Bledsoe</i> <i>B'day</i>	6 DOK Province VII Assembly San Antonio	7 8:00 am Wardens & Vestry Conference Austin 8:00 am Marlin Ministerial
8 8:30 am Choir 9:30 am HE I Lenten Study 4:00 pm Ultreya	9	10 6:30-8:00 pm Centering Prayer St. Paul's	11 10:00-12:00 Samaritan House 1:00 Rev. Filer in office 5:00 pm Lenten Service	12	13 ECW Spiritual Growth Retreat Camp Allen	14 ECW Spiritual Growth Retreat Camp Allen
15 8:30 am Choir 9:30 am HE I Lenten Study <i>Sammy</i> <i>Bosnack</i> <i>B'day</i>	16	17 6:30-8:00 pm Centering Prayer St. Paul's	18 1:00 Rev. Filer in office 5:00 pm Lenten Service Altar Guild Retreat	19 Altar Guild Retreat	20 Altar Guild Retreat	21 8:00 am Wardens & Vestry Conference, Lufkin Christian Formation Spring Workshop Altar Guild Retreat
22 No choir practice 9:30 am HE I Lenten Study 11:00 am Vestry	23	24 6:30-8:00 pm Centering Prayer St. Paul's	25 1:00 Rev. Filer in office 5:00 pm Lenten Service Altar Guild Retreat	26 6:00 pm Men's Association	27	28 Crosspointes Module Servant Leadership Austin 8:30 am Kairos Christian Formation Spring Workshop
29 8:30 am Choir 9:30 am MPI	30	31 6:30-8:00 pm Centering Prayer St. Paul's				

MARCH LAY MINISTRY SCHEDULE

March 1, 2009:

1st Lesson and Psalm: Jean Trice
2nd Lesson: Kyla Smith
Intercessor: Pam Williams
Chalice: Louise Burton
Crucifer: Dub Wagner
Acolyte: Kate VandeVeegaete
Ushers: Troy Henderson and Sam Bosnack
Altar Guild: Louise Burton and Mary Smith
Hostess: Cathy Owen
Flowers: Lent
Children's Ministry Workers: Shaina Henderson and Desiree Smith

March 8, 2009:

1st Lesson and Psalm: Mark Patterson
2nd Lesson: Polly Gaeke
Intercessor: Kate VandeVeegaete
Chalice: Jean Trice
Crucifer: Dub Wagner
Acolyte: Joe Owen
Ushers: Mike Ferda, III and John Hall
Altar Guild: Molly Walker and Pat Smith
Hostess: Sherri Patterson
Flowers: Lent
Children's Ministry Workers: Shaina Henderson and Desiree Smith

March 15, 2009:

1st Lesson and Psalm: Cathy Owen
2nd Lesson: Pat Smith
Intercessor: Bobby Peterson
Chalice: Diana Miles
Crucifer: Dub Wagner
Acolyte: Kate VandeVeegaete
Ushers: Mike Meyer and George Wilson
Altar Guild: Kate VandeVeegaete and Cathy Owen
Hostess: Antonette Peterson
Flowers: Lent
Children's Ministry Workers: Shaina Henderson and Desiree Smith

March 22, 2009:

1st Lesson and Psalm: Bobby Peterson
2nd Lesson: Jean Trice
Intercessor: Megan Henderson
Chalice: Polly Gaeke
Crucifer: Dub Wagner
Acolyte: Joe Owen
Ushers: Bill Forson and Steve Price
Altar Guild: Molly Walker and Libby Price
Hostess: Diana Miles
Flowers: Lent
Children's Ministry Workers: Shaina Henderson

March 29, 2009:

Leaders: Louise Burton and Mark Patterson

1st Lesson and Psalm: Diana Miles
2nd Lesson: Kyla Smith
3rd Lesson: Mark Patterson
Crucifer: Dub Wagner
Ushers: Troy Henderson and Sam Bosnack
Altar Guild: Molly Walker and Louise Burton
Hostess: Libby Price and Pattie Bosnack
Flowers: Lent
Children's Ministry Workers: Shaina Henderson and Desiree Smith