

A word from the Vicar

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O heavenly Father, who has filled the world with beauty: Open our eyes to behold your gracious hand in all your works; that, rejoicing in your whole creation, we may learn to serve you with gladness; for the sake of Him through whom all things were made, your Son Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen. (Collect for Joy in God's Creation, BCP p. 814)

Signs of spring and new life abound. The birds seem to be making their presence heard, the crocuses are up in the flowerbed at the front of the church and the grass is looking greener every day. Holy Week and Easter are soon upon us, which provide us with many opportunities to cultivate tender new shoots in our spiritual lives as well. Developing our spiritual life involves all things spiritual of course and there are an extensive number of services listed elsewhere in this newsletter that can enable us to do just that.

In addition, tending to our spiritual life can take the form of service. Eda has outlined a number of ways you might consider

working with the Soup Kitchen. Some of them are small and can be done early in the day, others take more time and still others do not begin until after the meal is served. Your own imagination and particular gifts are the basis of many other ways to serve.

If you would like to have a conversation about the ways in which the Holy Spirit is nudging you, please feel to give me a

call or pull me aside on Sunday morning. I am always more than willing to listen.

Blessings,




The Senior Warden

As you may recall, I wrote an article a few months back seeking information re: the now "closed" Calvary Protestant Episcopal Church in Townville, PA. I asked if anyone out there had any information on the history of the Church. I was lucky enough to have two of our parishioners respond to my request. Peggy Williams made an inquiry to one of the reporters at the Titusville Herald. Dell Hutchinson let me borrow her centennial book of Townville from 1867-1967. I am so excited to provide you with the history of the CPE Church.

Mr. Peter Rose along with his wife and children moved from Philadelphia and settled near Townville in 1857. Mr. Rose made arrangements with a minister from Meadville by the name of Rev. Lord to offer monthly services in Townville. The Congregational Church allowed the Episcopal service to be held in their church. The first service was held on Jan. 29, 1862. Rev. Charles R. Bonnell of Philadelphia

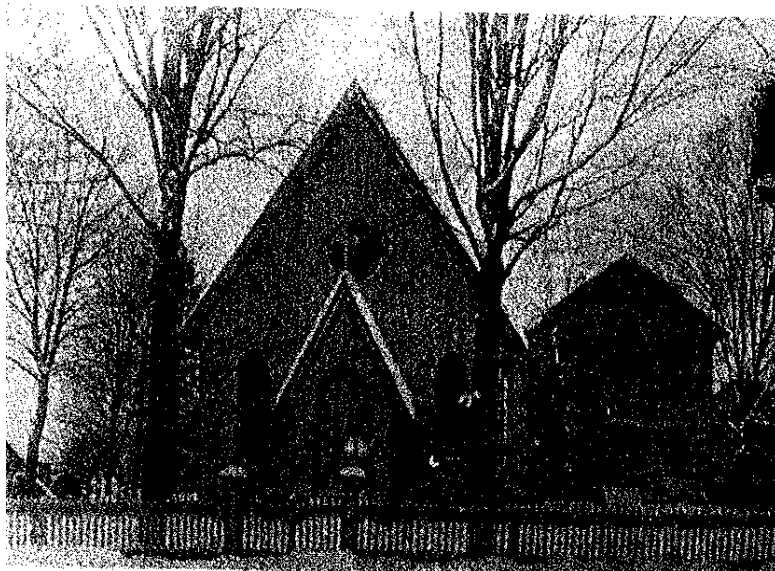
also offered church services while visiting the Rose family. There were nine members of the church when the services were first offered. The membership began to grow. A small house was purchased in June of 1864 for \$200 to be used as a Sunday school. Mary Rose (daughter of Peter Rose) was the superintendent of the Sunday school along with 17 scholars and four teachers.

The building of the church began on E. Freemont Street in Townville in 1867. Bishop Kerfoot held the first church services on Apr. 29-30, 1869 even though the building was without windows and plaster! The church was completed and consecrated in 1873 at a cost of \$5,000. The Parish was admitted to convention in the Diocese of Pittsburgh on June 15, 1870. Work on a church bell was begun in May 1875 in memory of Mr. John Boyer (Mrs. Rose's father). He had died in 1874 and was buried in the churchyard. The first time the bell was rung was for

Sunday school on Easter morning 1876. A day school to the right of the church was opened on Sept. 6, 1880. There were two teachers at the time. Miss Mary and Miss Emily Rose whom I believe were children of Peter Rose. The Ladies Aid Society was responsible for furnishing the school house, which later became known as "Rosedale Academy." Miss Mary Rose continued her teaching responsibilities until ill health. Mary Rose's funeral service was conducted at the church on May 25, 1907. She is buried in the churchyard. I am planning a visit to the church and graveyard this Spring and will place flowers at the grave sites.

I will continue the article about the Calgary Protestant Episcopal Church in the May newsletter. I find the historical information regarding the CPE Church fascinating. I hope you do too.

Love, Noni



NEWS to share

SOUP KITCHEN

The old adage "many hands make light work" is very true for the Soup Kitchen. Every week approximately twenty people will volunteer, some for an hour, others for six hours or more. There are many opportunities to serve on Tuesday and throughout the week. The kitchen crew arrives first at 8:30 or 9 to start food prep and some times the day before. Others will cover the tables and set out salt and pepper. Coffee pots are readied for the two hundred cups of coffee needed. One or two head down to Giant Eagle to pick up donated baked goods and meat. Breads and sweets will then be set on a table for people to take home as needed. Meat is put in the freezer to be used for future meals or given out on Bag Day.

A small group gathers in the Mackie room to wrap the individual table services. By 10:00 people are already arriving to find a seat and drink coffee with friends. Volunteer servers keep an eye open for folks as they sit down and get them their beverage and table service. The "coordinators" check the mail, pay bills, and orient new volunteers. By 11:30 the volunteers are in full swing, with servers and food preppers busy at their tasks. The first round of pots and pans are washed. Servers chat with the patrons, finding out what is new in people's lives and welcoming the newcomers. At noon, the meal is served and each table is waited on. After dessert, clean up begins. Dish washing starts with a vengeance. By 2:00 things have wrapped up for the day. Volunteers take turns washing the towels and aprons. Later in the week there may be more trips to pick up food or unload the shipments from Second

Harvest. Twice a month bags are packed for food give outs and the Food Cupboard is restocked. Help is always needed, especially at clean up and when shipments come in. Most of all, we need people to be present for those who come to share our Tuesday meal; to be part of the conversation, to listen and be welcoming and extend the gift of hospitality. What is your opportunity to serve? Come and see.

Dates and stats:

Next Bag Days: April 11 and 25
Next visit by Barb Ives to help with VA, SSA, Medicare and housing: April 4 and 18

Submitted by Eda Scales



Holy Week Services

What makes Holy Week holy? As the week begins, Palm Sunday is a mind-bending juxtaposition of Jesus' raucous last entry into Jerusalem with the sober reading of the Passion. Monday and Tuesday provide a quiet opportunity to reflect on a few less familiar events of the week. On Wednesday betrayal and forgiveness come to the fore. Maundy Thursday, Good Friday, Easter Vigil and Easter Day always stretch our visceral emotional/spiritual response way beyond what we ordinarily experience.

However, neither the actions of Jesus nor our responses are by themselves, what makes Holy Week holy. The simple definition of holiness is to be set aside. What makes the week holy is that we set aside the time to fully enter into these last events of Jesus' life. We do this not as an escape from the world but rather as a decision to be open to the Holy Spirit and the Word in a conscious way. It is a decision to engage the world, to engage our daily lives through the lens of this last week of Jesus' life. It is in this intersection that holiness emerges. As a way of facilitating that intersection we offer the following schedule of services. Please participate, as you are able.

Palm Sunday—Jesus' final entry into Jerusalem
 10:30 AM Holy Communion and the reading of the Passion
 Monday and Tuesday—The week begins
 3:30 PM Holy Communion in the Parish Hall (Mackie Room)
 Wednesday—Betrayal
 7 PM Holy Communion and healing service
 Maundy Thursday—Jesus' last supper with his friends
 7 PM Holy Communion, foot washing and stripping the altar
 Good Friday—Jesus is nailed to the cross, dies and is placed in the tomb
 7 PM Retracing Jesus' last day No communion
 Saturday—Jesus is raised from the dead
 7 PM Holy Communion, the first service of Easter
 Easter—Alleluia! He is Risen!
 9 AM Breakfast

The Great Vigil of Easter

The Vigil begins with the blessing of the new fire and the recounting of the sacred story through the Exultet. It is followed by readings from Scripture, which tell the story of God's unabated love for us down through the ages. Hearing the salvation story, we are then given the opportunity to renew our baptismal promises. For those not yet baptized, it is an excellent time to make that decision. The Vigil then culminates in the first service of Easter Day! The alleluias ring out; the organ, silent since Maundy Thursday, bursts forth and the choir leads the assembly in glorious songs of praise. Everyone is encouraged to bring a bell to ring!

If you have not experienced the Vigil recently, join us. You will be blessed.

From "A New Dictionary for Episcopalians" The Rev. John N. Wall, Jr.

Easter Vigil: The central rite of the entire Christian year and a marvelously rich service which begins in darkness (any time convenient between Saturday sunset and Sunday sunrise) with the lighting of the new fire, from which the Paschal candle is lighted. A procession of clergy and servers follows this single light into the darkened church, pausing three times to chant, "The light of Christ." The Paschal candle is placed in its stand and, standing near it a deacon or other person sings or says the Exsultet. The service continues with lessons which trace the history of God's people in the Old Testament; baptisms (or renewal of baptismal vows if there is no baptismal candidate); confirmation; and the first Eucharist of Easter. The Vigil Service is especially impressive when it can include the initiatory rites, a deacon

chanting the Exsultet, and a bishop celebrating the Eucharist with lay and clergy participating fully. Recovering the Easter Vigil in its full significance is one of the greatest achievements of the modern liturgical movement.

Good Friday: Friday before Easter, on which we remember the crucifixion of Jesus with a day of fasting, abstinence, penance, and special devotion. Special rites for the day include a reading of the passion narrative from John's Gospel, a lengthy period of intercessory prayer called the Solemn Collects, and the recitation of anthems recalling the significance of the cross. No Eucharist is celebrated this day; the altars were stripped at the end of the Eucharist on Maundy Thursday and any immovable cross where shrouded. In some places a cross is brought forward during the Good Friday liturgy to serve as a focus for devotions. Communion may be part of the Good Friday liturgy, but it is administered from the reserved

sacrament. No celebration of the Eucharist, in fact, takes place from Maundy Thursday until the celebration at the Easter Vigil on Easter Eve.

Exsultet: Song of rejoicing and giving thanks for "this night" and remembering central moments in the history of God's people, sung or said by a deacon or other person appointed after the lighting of the Paschal candle and procession into the church during the Easter Vigil.



Liturgical Participants' Schedule

	ALTAR GUILD	ACOLYTES	LECTOR	EM	USHERS	COFFEE
Apr 2	Karen Erickson	AJ Scott Virginia Ives Briana Ives	Barb Davidson	Dona Clendenin	Barry and Lisa Kellogg	Courtwright
Apr 9	Karen Erickson	Aaron Scott Ava Hartshorne Adeline Hartshorn	Gloria Baker	Noni Stanford	Mark Conrad Dave Gagnon	Scott Beck
Apr 12	Lori Powell Barb Davidson	Andrew Scott Kylee Propheter Seth Propheter	Carol Courtwright	Randy Galmish	Richard Orner	
Apr 13	Lori Powell Barb Davidson	AJ Scott Briana Ives Virginia Ives	Barb Ives	Eda Scales	Dona Clendenin Richard Orner	
Apr 14	Lori Powell Barb Davidson		Terry Kerr		Dave Gagnon	
Apr 15	Kim Mott Mary Barker	Noni Stanford Kylee Propheter Seth Propheter	Andrew Scott	Dona Clendenin	Richard Orner	
Apr 16	Kim Mott Mary Barker	Andrew Scott Virginia Ives Seth Propheter	Jan Carr	Noni Stanford	Barry and Lisa Kellogg	Easter Breakfast
Apr 23	Dona Clendenin	Noni Stanford Ave Hartshorne Adeline Hartshorne	Dave Gagnon	Randy Galmish	Jan Carr Nancy Brown	Karen Erickson
Apr 30	Dona Clendenin	AJ Scott Kylee Propheter Briana Ives	Richard Orner	Eda Scales	Nancy Brown	

COUNTERS

Apr 2: Noni Stanford- Kenny Beatty
Apr 9: Lynn Gagnon- Lori Powell
Apr 16: Terry Kerr- Dave Gagnon
Apr 23: Richard Orner- Noni Stanford
Apr 30: Kenny Beatty – Lynn Gagnon

APRIL CALENDAR

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
						1
2 10:30am H.E. 5 th Lent	3 Girl Scouts 6:00pm	4 Noon – Soup Kitchen Youth Christian Education 3:30pm 7:00pm- AA	5 Choir Practice 7:00pm	6 5:30 Community Conversations: Cultivating Our Shared Humanity	7	8
9 10:30am H.E. Palm Sunday 	10 Holy Communion 3:30pm Girl Scouts 6:00pm	11 Noon – Soup Kitchen. Holy Communion Youth Christian Education 3:30pm 7:00pm – AA	12 7:00pm 	13 7:00pm 	14 7:00pm 	15 7:00pm 
16 10:30am H.E. Easter 	17 Girl Scouts 6:00pm	18 Noon – Soup Kitchen Youth Christian Education 3:30pm 7:00pm - AA	19 Choir Practice 7:00pm	20 5:30 Adult Education	21	22
23 10:30am H.E. 2 nd Sunday of Easter	24 Girl Scouts 6:00pm	25 Noon – Soup Kitchen Youth Christian Education 3:30pm 7:00pm - AA	26 Choir Practice 7:00pm	27 5:30 Adult Education	28	29
30 10:30am H.E. 3 rd Sunday of Easter						

We're on the Web!

See us at:

www.stjamestusville.org