



Grace Notes

The mission of Grace Episcopal Church is:
To know Jesus Christ, proclaim His Word,
and live His teachings.

Volume 2019 No. 4

April 2019

Published monthly in the interest of Grace Episcopal Church, Ponca City, Ok.



From Fr. Bill's Desk:

“Faith without Pathos”

During Lent our Adult Christian Formation (i.e., Sunday school) class has been reflecting on Holy Week, day-by-day, leading up to Easter Sunday. When we began to look at the events of Maundy Thursday (the first day of the “Triduum”—in my opinion, the three most consequential days in the history of the universe— including Good Friday and Easter Day), it was striking how much “pathos” there is. The American Heritage Dictionary defines “pathos” as the feeling of sympathy or pity. I think it also means emotional energy.

On Maundy Thursday as Jesus ate his last supper with his disciples, he said, “One of you is going to betray me.” Just imagine the angst his followers felt as they wondered, “Is this me? Am I going to let down my master in some moment of weakness?” Later that night Peter would hear the rooster cry, after denying Jesus three times. Do you think he felt pathos? By the way, if you would like to try to recapture these intense, faith-related feelings, please join us for Maundy Thursday services.

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After Jesus had been arrested, flogged, and tried in a religious kangaroo court, he was forced to carry his cross to Mount Calvary, where he would be crucified. Along the “Via dolorosa”, numerous followers would experience pathos as they watched and ministered to Jesus in his agony. One way of patching into their deep feelings of faith would be to walk the Stations of the Cross offered by Grace Church during Lent. A word of warning: that may infuse your faith with life-changing pathos.

Our faith—yours and mine— is like a giant firecracker, just waiting to explode. Pathos is the “punk”, ready to light it. Right now during Lent, let’s ignite our faith with pathos—deep feeling, deep commitment, deep remembrance of Christ’s sacrifice for us on the cross.

With love and blessings for each of you~

~Fr. Bill+

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APPRECIATION DINNER
For Father Bill And Carole Martin
Saturday April 6th, 2019
6:00 p.m.
Grace Episcopal Parish Hall

Please bring a dish to share
Last name beginning with:
A-L Casserole dish
M-Z Salad/Vegetable dish
Drinks and dessert are provided



CHRISTIAN EDUCATION AT GRACE

THE ADULT FORUM (Sundays at 9:00 a.m.)

- April 7 TBA.....Fr. Bill Martin/Deacon Steve Mallory
April 14 TBA.....Fr. Bill Martin
April 21 TBA.....Fr. Bill Martin/Deacon Steve Mallory
April 28 TBA.....Deacon Steve Mallory
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WEEKDAY BIBLE STUDY

The Tuesday morning Bible Study will be reading scriptures pertaining to the life of Jesus during the Lenten season. Please join us and all are welcome on Tuesday mornings in the Christian Ed Building.

Contact Jane Simmons at 918-557-0553 or the church office if you have any questions. Thank you.

~Jane Simmons

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CHILDREN'S SUNDAY SCHOOL

Youth Sunday School is under the direction of Judy Branch and Marsha Orr and is held in the Education Building as follows:

*Youth Pre-K through 1st grade will be from 9:30-10:00 downstairs in the Education Building.

*All other youth will be from 9:00-9:30 upstairs in the Education Building.

We are looking forward to exploring Christ's journey and the connections we can make together. Hope to see you all each Sunday.

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NURSERY

We are in need of volunteers to assist in the nursery at the 10:00 service on Sundays. If you would be willing to help please contact Nadine Frisby at 580-761-0213. Thanks.

WEBSITE NEWS

A page has been created on our website for obituaries. If anyone has an obituary for a church member not already listed and you wish it added, please forward to Tom Yant at tdyant@suddenlink.net with subject "Obit." To send it snail mail we are listed in the church directory. Of particular interest is an obit for Fr. Moehle. I would like to add his and any others the parish wishes to see. If I have added any obit the family wishes to have removed please let me know that also. The idea for the page is to remember those who made us the parish we are today. The link is at <http://www.gracechurchponcacity.org> and click on "Requiescat."

~Thanks – Tom Yant

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GIFT SHOP NEWS

Come by our corner –

Look over the selection of beautiful and thoughtful Easter cards and also a variety of little items that could be tucked into an Easter basket for a loved one. All cards sell for only \$1.00 unless marked with a lower price. Some smaller cards sell for 75 cents.

It's not too soon to think about a gift for your special spring graduate. This will allow time for special orders to be received if we do not have your choice in stock. Also, you are welcome to browse through our catalogs for additional ideas.

If you miss us after services on Sundays or Wednesdays you may phone Joan or Jane to arrange a special time to shop. We are here to serve you.

~Joan Dick (762-2514) or Jane Worstell (762-3467)

JUNIOR WARDEN'S REPORT

As your Junior Warden, I'm so happy to be moving into spring. Our grounds are so beautiful during the growing season!

I know there are many of you with very green thumbs. If you or a family member felt called, you could pick a flower bed, or an area of one, to help exercise that green thumb. Tidying up a small area every few weeks during the season would be a great way to offer your talent to God and Grace Church. And please let me know what area you'd like to look after to avoid duplication of effort.

We are so grateful to Steve Scott. He is putting together proposals for a new sound system. You'll be "hearing" more about that soon- sorry for the pun.

Thanks to all of you for your continued help and support to keep our church home clean, safe, and beautiful!

~Marsha Moore

Friendship Feast Annual FUNDRAISER

FRIDAY, APRIL 12, 2019

4:30 - 7:00 p.m.

Spaghetti – Salad – Bread – Dessert

FIRST CHRISTIAN CHURCH

210 N 5TH, Ponca City

Tickets

Children - Ages 4 thru 10 - \$3.00

Children 3 & under - Free

Adults - \$8.00 in advance, \$10.00 at the door

(Take Out Available)

HYMN OF THE MONTH

Hymn 179, “Welcome Happy Morning” (or “Fortunatus”) is well known to us all. The words, translated from the poem by Venantius Fortunatus (circa 546-600), were written in honor of the baptism of the newly converted Saxons by Felix, Bishop of Nantes, at an Easter Vigil. They speak of the celebration of the awakening of nature in Spring, welcome to the Easter Day, and prayer to Christ. This text, paired with music by Arthur Seymour Sullivan (1842-1900), was the traditional Easter opening hymn for many Episcopal congregations until replaced by the setting by Vaughan Williams with a later translation (hymn 175, “Hail Thee Festival Day”).

(Interesting note: Arthur Sullivan, in collaboration with W. S. Gilbert, wrote many operettas, including “The Pirates of Penzance”.)

“Welcome, happy morning!” age to age shall say;
hell today is vanquished, heaven is won today!
Lo! the dead is living, God for evermore!
Him their true Creator, all his works adore!
“Welcome, happy morning!” age to age shall say.

Earth her joy confesses, clothing her for spring,
all fresh gifts returned with her returning King:
bloom in every meadow, leaves on every bough,
speak his sorrow ended, hail his triumph now.
“Welcome, happy morning!” age to age shall say.

Months in due succession, days of lengthening light,
hour and passing moments praise thee in their flight.
Brightness of the morning, sky and fields and sea,
Vanquisher of darkness, bring their praise to thee.
“Welcome, happy morning!” age to age shall say.

Maker and redeemer, life and health of all,
thou from heaven beholding human nature's fall,
of the Father's Godhead true and only Son,
mankind to deliver, manhood didst put on.
“Welcome, happy morning!” age to age shall say.

Thou, of life the author, death didst undergo,
tread the path of darkness, saving strength to show;;
come then, true and faithful, now fulfill thy word,
'tis thine own third morning! Rise, O buried Lord!
“Welcome, happy morning!” age to age shall say.

Loose the souls long prisoned, bound with Satan's chain;
all that now is fallen raise to life again;
show thy face in brightness, bid the nations see;
bring again our daylight: day returns with thee!
“Welcome, happy morning!” age to age shall say.

2019 Holy Week Services

Please watch your email and weekly bulletins for service times.

Palm Sunday:

Palm Sunday, in the drama of lessons and ritual takes us from shouts of welcome and praise to those of betrayal and desertion. Its observance sets the tone for the week ahead. The procession of the palms brings us together.

Maundy Thursday:

In addition to all of the special liturgical ceremonies that make up the Maundy Thursday observance, (foot washing, altar stripping, anniversary of the Eucharist, etc.), the vigil at the Altar of Repose is one of our special acts of devotion on that day. That night Jesus asked his disciples; could you not wait with me for an hour? That question becomes ours to answer as this day approaches. Can you wait on the Lord for an hour? If so, please contact the parish office and sign up to participate in this year's vigil at the altar of repose on Maundy Thursday.

Good Friday:

Good Friday is the Friday before Easter Day, on which the church commemorates the crucifixion of Jesus. It is a day of fasting and special acts of discipline and self-denial. With a reading of the Stations of the Cross at 12:00 noon and an evening service that includes the Veneration of the Cross, it's a time of meditation and contemplation.

The Easter Services:

Easter Eve Vigil, Saturday, April 20 at 6:00 pm

Easter Day Services, Sunday, April 21:

Early Easter Mass 8:00 am

Principal Easter Mass 10:00 am

(Easter Egg Hunt follows)

Speaking of the Easter Egg Hunt.....

There will be busy hands working to fill hundreds of eggs for the annual Easter egg hunt. Donations of wrapped candy would be greatly appreciated and can be left in the church office.



PERIPATETIC PARISHIONERS

Worship bulletins have been received from:

Steve & Judy McGuire

Trinity Episcopal Church by-the-Sea
Kihei, HI

*Remember to take your
bulletins to the Parish Office.*

*Thanks for sharing your travels with us.
Thanks for always coming home.*

ALTAR FLOWERS

One of the things we miss during the Lenten season, along with Alleluias (and for some folks.....chocolate), is flowers on the altar. This is in keeping with the more somber nature of our services and the veiled crosses. In celebration of Jesus' triumphant resurrection, the church will be decked out in Easter lilies and at Easter mass the children will participate in the flowering of the cross. At that time we will also see the return of flowers to their place behind the altar.

You can be part of the altar flower ministry by paying for either one or both vases of flowers for a given Sunday. They may be given in memory of a loved one or in celebration and thanksgiving. All of the flowers are given to the glory of God and you can find names of donors in Grace Notes each month and in the weekly bulletin.

There are still numerous dates to choose from in 2019 and you can find those listed toward the back of this edition of Grace Notes. Please consider being part of this important ministry at Grace Church.

Thanks.

ECW NEWS

- ❖ Nadine Frisby is supervising the ECW sponsored bridge lessons held in the Parish Hall every Friday from 1:00 to 3:30 p.m. We are grateful to Janis Stover for teaching these people who are interested in improving their bridge playing skills. This event is open to the public and attendance has varied from 26 to 34 guests.
- ❖ ECW's newest outreach project is bringing newspapers to the Humane Society. Please bring your newspapers to the labeled box in the church entry near the office. ECW is also collecting aluminum cans and depositing them in the container near Sears which also benefits the Humane Society. Please join us in donating for these projects.
- ❖ The ECW Spring Rummage Sale was held March 22-23 and 29-30 in the Parish Hall and church garage. A big thank you to all who donated items, prepared for and worked during the sale.
- ❖ ECW is looking for ideas for our July outing. Please let me know your suggestions.

Thanks!

~Marcia Davis

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DOK

Blessings to you from your Daughters of the King,

We thank you for your generosity through your donations. Giving non-perishable foods for those in need in our community has been an on-going and successful program at Grace Church. You have also given stuffing for Hospice bears.

During April, we are collecting items for the Marland Children's Home. Even though they are now a Foster Care facility, they still need items from time to time. We will be posting a current list in the weekly Grace Church emails.

Thank you for helping us show others they are not forgotten.

~Cheryl Happ

APRIL ALTAR FLOWERS

The altar flowers will be given to the glory of God by:

- Apr. 7 **LENT** - no flowers
- Apr. 14 **PALM SUNDAY** - no flowers
- Apr. 18 **MAUNDY THURSDAY** - White Flowers given by members of St. Martha's Guild in loving memory of departed members.
- Apr. 21 **EASTER** - Lilies donated by the congregation
- Apr. 28 **Marsha & Jerry Orr** in thanksgiving for the birthday of their granddaughter, Gracie Ann Orr; and by **Lynda & Guy Clark** in thanksgiving for the birthdays of their grand-daughters, Peyton & Kate.
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APRIL SANCTUARY LAMP CANDLE

The sanctuary lamp candle will be given to the glory of God by:

- Apr. 7 **Linda & Glenn Cassity** in thanksgiving for their grandchildren.
- Apr. 14 open.
- Apr. 21 **The McNeese Family** in loving memory of Ruby McNeese
- Apr. 28 **Ann Armstrong** in thanksgiving for the birthday of her daughter, Ashley Armstrong.
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Available dates for the altar flowers are as follows:

May 12, 19 & 26, June 2, 9, 16 & 30, July 28,
August 4, 11, 18 & 25, September 8
November 17 and December 29.

Available dates for the sanctuary lamp are as follows:

April 14, November 17 & December 22

To request an available date for 2019 for the flowers or lamp, or to make any changes in the current schedule, please contact Cynthia Winterrowd at: cynthia.winterrowd@gmail.com or 580-761-0415.

Dates to Remember

APRIL

BIRTHDAYS

- 6 Al Moore
- 7 Emmi Lockard
- 9 Sharla Lambring
- 10 Marjorie Dew
- 17 Jackie Saylor
- 19 Kenny Hines
- 22 Jennifer Swords
- 23 Jaclyn Stevenson
- 26 Gracie Orr
- 28 Ashley Rumford
- 29 Raegan Bennett
- 29 Bien Wells
- 30 Linda Yant

ANNIVERSARIES

- 20 Justin & Jamie Wohletz
- 27 Fr. Doug & Sue Johnson
- 30 Jim & Kelly Foster

APRIL 2019						
SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
	1	2	3	4	5	6
7	8	9	10	11	12	13
14	15	16	17	18	19	20
21	22	23	24	25	26	27
28	29	30				

*If your name is missing from the birthday or anniversary list,
please call us at 765-7609 so we can update our records.
We do not want to leave anyone out!*

Corporation Board meeting will be
April 24, Wednesday, at 8:00 a.m.

If you have items for Grace Notes, please email them to:
TL@standingbearpark.com.
The deadline for Grace Notes is the 15th of each month.