

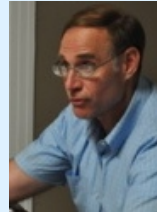
St. Mary's Messenger

From the Pew...

Every new beginning comes from some other beginning's end.
(Seneca)

Brothers & Sisters of St. Mary's:

The only constants in life are our God and change. We, at St. Mary's, have many blessings - and yet we are in a transformation as Father Reid and Marie depart and we begin the process of where we, as a Parish, will go next. Your Vestry has had many sleepless nights and prayers about our future.



Several weeks ago we met with Reverend Ann Normand of the Diocese Transition Office. She has been our spiritual "angel" guiding us through this process. Although it may appear that the Vestry is continually meeting in Executive Session, we are following the Canons of our Church. We, the Vestry, have decided - with the Diocese's strong support - to pursue a "Priest in Charge" option. This choice allows us to remain a Parish, still have a dedicated Rector, and fit our current budget and membership goals. (A new full-time Rector is not an option that the Diocese will support at the present time. However, in the future, we might be able to have a full time Rector again.) So, what exactly is a "Priest in Charge"?

A "Priest in Charge" is simply a "3/4 time" Rector. He (or she) will do all the Sunday services and spend two days a week at the Parish with one day working at home. This Rector would still be on call to handle any emergency.

At this point in time, your Vestry feels a "Priest in Charge" is the right option for St. Mary's. In the upcoming weeks (with the oversight from Reverend Normand as our angel) we will interview possible candidates. We may call upon members of the Parish to help in this process. If your assistance is requested, I'd like you to keep these interviews in the strictness of confidence until we have made a decision.

It is truly awe inspiring with the many e-mails, messages, and phone calls I have received from the members of St. Mary's offering their help as we transition. Coupled with the many volunteers we have in our Parish already answering the call, I'm confident that we will move St. Mary's into the next chapter of our rich history. I'd ask your prayers and support as we move into the next chapter of our spiritual journey. Bless all your families and loved ones!

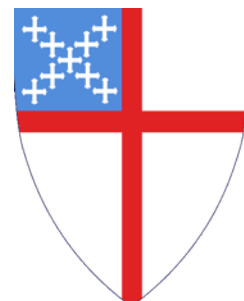
Your Brother in Christ,
Bill Adams

Who Are We?

An Episcopalian website (www.episcopalchurch.org/page/studying-your-congregation-and-community) wisely notes: "In order to know who you are, you need to examine where you are and where you have been."

During this time of transition, we might be well-served to spend some time examining our parish family, identifying our mission, and clarifying our goals. We might also want to review how we worship, identify roles and responsibilities, and - finally - how St. Mary's fits into the greater Lampasas community. Undoubtedly our history has impacted all these topics.

For this reason, this month's issue will concentrate on some basics - "Episcopalian 101" if you want. Like it? Send some ideas or feedback our way!
Tom and Mary



THE MISSION OF THE EPISCOPAL CHURCH

To “restore all people to unity with God and each other in Christ” (BCP, p. 855).

DO YOU KNOW THE FIVE MARKS OF MISSION OF CHURCH (adapted in 2009)?

1. To proclaim the Good News of the Kingdom;
2. To teach, baptize, and nurture new believers;
3. To respond to human need by loving service;
4. To seek to transform unjust structures of society;
5. To strive to safeguard the integrity of creation and sustain and renew the life of the earth.

DO YOU KNOW OUR PARISH MISSION?



Our mission at St. Mary's is to be faithful people of God, true followers of his Son, Jesus Christ, and good

examples of the power of the Holy Spirit.

(from our website)

HOW DO WE FULFILL OUR MISSION?

St. Mary's parishioners truly strive to spread God's word in every aspect of our lives and in our community. Some ways that we show we are “faithful people of God” is by:

- attending services regularly
- participating in Bible study
- trash Pick-up (care of environment)
- welcoming newcomers
- His Kids
- Prayer Shawl Ministry
- Renaissance Coffee
- ECW involvement
- Scouts, AA, AIA non
- Outreach Programs
- Volunteering in Community
- Participating in Church Programs (Youth Group, Acolytes, Eucharistic Ministers, Lay Readers, Ushers, Altar Guild, etc.)
- Relay for Life
- Nets for Life
- UTO
- Cursillo
- Music Ministry
- Capital Campaign
- Community involvement



Church isn't always “serious” and “deep” - sometimes it's silly and fun!

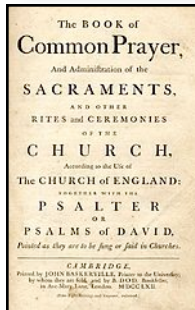


WORSHIP SERVICE

How we worship, united by a Prayer Book

All Episcopal services whatever their style—and they vary from simple spoken ceremonies to elaborate sung ones—follow those laid out in the 1979 Book of Common Prayer.

(www.epicenter.org)



At the heart of all Episcopal worship is the Book of Common Prayer (aka BCP), and within it the principal weekly service is the Holy Eucharist—also known as Holy Communion, the Lord's Supper or Mass.

For each Christian season, the Book of Common Prayer lays out the form that the service should take, and provides the text for most of the prayers. A calendar of readings

from the Scriptures, called the “Lectionary,” lays out which biblical passages should be read each day. Typical services will mix readings, prayers, hymns and a sermon. In every case, while a priest leads the service, the congregation participates extensively—singing hymns and speaking or singing prayers, the creed (statements of our beliefs), responses and psalms (sacred poems).

(www.epicenter.org)

BOOK OF COMMON PRAYER *(adapted from The Book of Common Prayer, Forward Movement)*

A mixture of “prayers, hymns, biblical passages, and other texts” divided into sections - each with 2 versions (traditional and contemporary). The first section is the **Daily Office** (morning and evening prayers for private or public use). This is followed by “**seasonal texts**” which fall into 3 categories: *Great Litany* (p. 147-155), *Collects* (p.157-261) and *Proper Liturgies for Special*

Days (p. 263-295). Next is the **Pastoral Office** (p. 411-507) for special occasions and people, **Episcopal Service** (p. 509-579) (mostly led by a bishop), and finally, a hodgepodge of material (p. 581-934) consisting of a Psalter - Book of Psalms, prayers, catechism, historical documents, tables for finding holy days, and lectionaries.

HOLY COMMUNION vs. ANGLICAN COMMUNION

The BCP (p. 859) states that Holy Communion is “commanded by Christ for the continual remembrance of his life, death, and resurrection, until his coming again.” It is also known as the Holy Eucharist, Lord's Supper, Divine Liturgy, the Mass, or the Great Offering. Regardless of terminology, this sacrament involves offering (and receiving) sanctified bread and wine during the church service. At St. Mary's we typically approach the altar and kneel (or stand) to receive communion. Other parishes might distribute communion a little differently (for example, at stations located throughout the church building).

The phrase “Anglican Communion” should not be confused with Holy Communion. This

term is a historical reference to the common heritage shared by (English) Anglican Church and the (American) Episcopal Church. The Episcopal Church took form in the 1780's after Samuel Seabury, William White, and Samuel Provoost returned from being ordained in Scotland (they travelled there rather than to England because in Scotland they would not have to swear allegiance to the king). It was impractical to travel by boat all the way to the UK just to be ordained - so in 1789 the first General Convention in Philadelphia was held, the Book of Common Prayer was adopted and...you know the rest! (*The Episcopalian Handbook*, p. 88, 90)



Episcopalians invite all baptized Christians to receive communion during the service.

VESTRY 101: VESTRY GOALS, ROLES, AND RESPONSIBILITIES

The Episcopal Church's structure mirrors our national government framework:

"Each self-supporting congregation (parish) elects its lay governing board (vestry) for temporal affairs and its rector as spiritual leader." (www.episcopalchurch.org)



In other words, we elect the Vestry to run the "business" side of St. Mary's (bills, books, building, bodies) and to assist the priest in his/her efforts to provide spiritual guidance, support, and focus to our parish and community. Our St. Mary's website says:

"The St. Mary's Vestry consists of nine members elected by the parish members at the Annual Parish Meeting in January of each year to serve three year terms of office. Vestry members must be regular in attendance at divine

worship, able to attend monthly vestry meetings, not be related to any other members of the vestry; express Christian stewardship by being a pledging and fulfilling member of the parish; and actively support the policies and programs of St. Mary's.



The Vestry meets on the 2nd Wednesday of each month at 6:30 PM in the Parish Hall and decides issues relating to the business and financial matters of the parish, establishes written operating policies for the church, employs and periodically evaluates the Rector, and ensures compliance with Diocesan policies.

A Senior Warden is selected from the Vestry members at the first meeting of the year. This person serves as the chief administrative officer of the parish and is the primary advisor to the Rector in parish matters.



Our Vestry consists of the following members (their term expiration dates are also listed)

(Senior Warden) Bill Adams (2012)

Lola Cureton (2012)

Jan Denson (2014)

Sue Zane Faulkner (2013)

Tom Hart (2013)

Judy Hetherly (2014)

Robert Oliver (2013)

Victor Reed (2012)

Brian Williams (2014)

This Vestry is supported by two additional people: a "clerk" (or secretary) and a finance treasurer. These positions are currently held by Tami Martin and Tulisha Carson respectively.



(photos provided by Jack Newsom - thanks, Jack!!)

ST. MARY'S BIDS FR. REID AND MARIE A FOND FAREWELL

St. Mary's turned out in style on July 1 to celebrate the Eucharist together and enjoy a GREAT Parish Picnic together as we bid a fond farewell to Fr. Reid and Marie Morgan.

Fr. Reid and Marie are moving south to LaPorte, Texas (south of Houston) to take over St. John's Episcopal Church (<http://www.stjohns-laporte.org/>) where they have bought a pretty brick home. I



believe they will be making the actual move around July 11. Alena Morgan will stay here in Lampasas (with Tulisha Carson); Alena currently works part-time at a local winery as well as writes for LCHEC.



The Vestry supplied some pretty amazing brisket, chicken, and other meat

dishes while the congregation served up the rest (deviled eggs, a variety of salads, some great mac-n-cheese, and wonderful desserts). Judy Lansford did a GREAT job decorating the



parish hall with white table-coverings, flowers, and red-n-white checkered napkins.



Marie and Reid were presented with some going-away gifts from St. Mary's - including a ceramic chalice and paten. The Vestry presented Reid with a hand crafted, wood-turned A&M pen, while ECW gave Marie a Kindle touch (which she does NOT have to share!!). A few thoughtful (and some gag) gifts rounded out the presentation....(check out the fishing hat that Bonilee gave Reid, along with some "liquid sustenance" - for medicinal purposes only of course!)



SATURDAY MORNING COFFEE - THE PLACE TO BE!

Do you like a good cup of coffee and conversation? Then come to the Beanery (next to Alfredo's on 281) every Saturday at 9am. We laugh, joke, discuss movies, books, and solve all the world's problems. The group consensus was that we needed a name - and someone (Linda?) suggested the "Renaissance Coffee Group". *All are invited!*

A ROSE BY ANY OTHER NAME...

(How well do you know your titles? Answers on back page...adapted from The Anglican Digest, Summer 2012)

- | | |
|-----------------------------|--|
| 1. ____ The Most Reverend | A. Anglican Deans and Provosts of Cathedrals |
| 2. ____ The Right Reverend | B. Priests and other ordained clergy with a Doctorate |
| 3. ____ The Very Reverend | C. Anglican archbishops, primates, presiding bishops |
| 4. ____ The Venerable | D. Anglican priests |
| 5. ____ The Reverend | E. Anglican Archdeacons |
| 6. ____ The Reverend Canon | F. Abbesses, some female Anglican priests |
| 7. ____ The Reverend Doctor | G. Anglican bishops |
| 8. ____ The Reverend Father | H. Ordained ministers |
| 9. ____ The Reverend Mother | I. Anglican Canons (member of a diocesan chapter) |

SPEND IT - WISELY?

Imagine winning the following prize in a contest: Each morning your bank deposits \$86,400.00 in your private account for your use. However, this prize had two sets of rules.

The first set of rules is:

1. Every penny that you do not spend during each day will be taken away from you.
2. You may not transfer money - only spend it.
3. Each morning upon awakening, the bank deposits another \$86,400.00 for that day.

The second set of rules:

- I. The bank can end the game without warning;

2. It can close the account and you will not receive a new one. What would you do? Of course you would buy anything and everything you want - not only for yourself, but for all people you love. Every day you would try to spend every cent, and use it all.

ACTUALLY This GAME is REALITY!

Each of us possesses this magical bank - the bank is **TIME!** Every morning we receive 86,400 seconds as a gift of life, and when we go to sleep at night, any remaining time is NOT credited to us. What we haven't lived up that day is forever gone. Each morning the account is

refilled, but the bank can dissolve your account at any time...WITHOUT WARNING. SO, what will YOU do with your 86,400 seconds?

Those seconds are worth so much more than the same amount in dollars. Think about that, and remember: Enjoy every second of your life, because time races by so much quicker than you think. So take care of yourself. Be Happy. Love Deeply and enjoy life!

Here's wishing you a wonderful and beautiful day...start spending!

(Thank you, Barbara Racino)

Pepper-Mint Limeade

Prep Time: 5 Minutes

Ready In: 8 Hours 5 Minutes

Servings: 8

"This homemade limeade puts the 'pepper' in peppermint limeade. Sweet, but with a touch of jalapeno heat that surprises, it's ideal for hot summer days."



INGREDIENTS:

4 limes, juiced
1 cup white sugar
2 sprigs fresh mint
1/2 gallon water
1 fresh jalapeno pepper, sliced

DIRECTIONS:

In a large pitcher, stir together the lime juice and sugar until dissolved. Stir in mint sprigs, and mash with a wooden spoon to release some of the oils. Pour in water, and mix well. Mix in jalapeno slices. Put a lid on the pitcher, and refrigerate 8 hours, or overnight.

This recipe comes from a terrific website (and phone app) - www.allrecipes.com.

MY EPISCOPAL EXPERIENCE...

You know that saying "I wasn't born in Texas, but I got here as fast as I could"? That's how I feel about becoming an Episcopalian. If anyone ever asked me if I have any regrets about becoming a member of the Episcopalian Church, I would probably say that my one regret is that I didn't get here sooner.

Our church is just like a family. I am not saying that in loose, general terms just because it sounds good or is what one is supposed to say. I really mean it. Think about it - just like a family, we care for each other, have fun times together, have some disagreements, and share a common tie. We all love and believe in the Holy Trinity. We know that God wants us to love one another. Sometimes that is not easy to do. But, like the relatives we see on rare occasions, we know that he, she, we are all important in the eyes of God.

I feel very secure these days because of Saint Mary's in all its aspects - Saint Mary's the church, religion, and the people. We have a church family that is filled with talent and a good balance of knowledge needed to keep our family strong. We have someone who has an amazing talent working with budget and numbers, an experienced leader who is making our present transition go smoothly, and others with an array of knowledge in diverse areas that we need to keep our family strong.

Yes, I am glad that I am part of the Episcopalian "family". I know that no matter what it takes, we will continue to have a safe caring Church Family to help us walk through the difficult times and celebrate the good times.

Tom Hart

ROLLINS BROOK NEEDS VOLUNTEERS!

Barbara Racino wants our parish to know that **Rollins Brook Hospital needs ladies or men to enlist as volunteer angels.** The work is not hard - and it doesn't require a huge time commitment. This is a ministry that St. Mary's can fill according to each individual's time and inclinations - and it is VERY much needed.

I called Barbara to get a better idea of what a volunteer does. She explained that there are many different "jobs" to choose from and that each has unique responsibilities. One task that Barbara is most familiar with involves manning the front desk. This rewarding post requires the volunteer angel to provide directions to visitors or patients, calm nervous or anxious guests, or alert doctors and nurses if an emergency situation arrives in the front waiting area.

Barbara said that other floors (or areas) might have the volunteer angel deliver magazines, fellowship with patients, or run small errands. No prior experience is needed, and Barbara stressed that volunteers never have to assume nursing or medical responsibilities.

A four hour training is required before an angel volunteer is put to work. You can schedule your training by contacting Nance Travis in Killeen at [254-519-8147](tel:254-519-8147). Once this is completed, the hospital requires a minimum of 4 hours each week (they would love you to work more than 4 hours).

Questions? Ask Fay Mullins, Ann Gilmore, or Barbara Racino.

THE LAST WORD...grandkids, free offer, answers, and more!

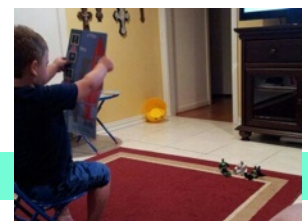
If you haven't seen it already, **The Anglican Digest** is worth a gander. Recently I came across this publication in the parish office. It looked interesting, so I borrowed it. Reading it made me more curious, so I called Tom Walker (General Manager) and spoke to him about this publication. He confirmed that the magazine is published 4 times a year and is supported by donations. Mr. Walker graciously volunteered to send each of us a free copy for examination. I'd like your permission (or Vestry blessing) before responding. If you'd like to check it out yourselves, call Mr. Walker at 479-253-9701 or go online to anglicandigest.org

Answers to "A Rose by Any Other Name": 1-C, 2-G, 3-A, 4-E, 5-H, 6-I, 7-B, 8-D, 9-F



Camille just celebrated her "lucky 7" birthday! Here she is with Grandpa...in matching turtle shirts.

Hope you enjoyed this month's newsletter. Send some feedback, articles, photos, or op-ed pieces. Tell us about your favorite book, give a movie review, share a recipe, or vacation news!



Sue Faulkner's grandson, Mac, is spending his summer teaching his toys how to read and write!