

CHRIST EPISCOPAL CHURCH
A living Faith Community since 1876



*“Where All are Welcomed and
Fed at the Table.”*

Christ Church Chronicle

MAY 2023

Then he said, “The kingdom of God is like a man scattering seed on the ground and then going to bed each night and getting up every morning, while the seed sprouts and grows up, though he has no idea how it happens. – Mark 4:26-27

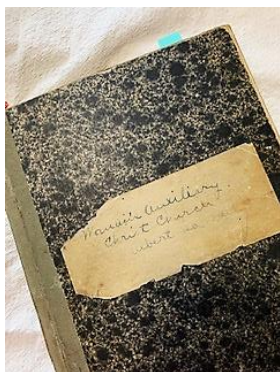


Our spring United Thank Offering is coming SOON. It will be on Sunday May 21. Are you ready? Have you filled your little blue box?

I am most grateful for having participated in the UTO’s Lenten journey, receiving by message on my phone a gratitude text for a particular thing to be thankful for each day. The items suggested for thanksgiving were interesting and were things not always remembered. They were simple things - sunshine, rain, a pet, a friend, I hope you were able to link up with my suggestion in the March newsletter and were able to receive them as well.

The Rev. Cannon Heather Melton, Staff Officer, United Thank Offering, writes in her monthly newsletter “For me, Easter is a reminder of the unity of opposites because the resurrection is a reminder that God is making all things new, and in making things new, things are changing. We see it happening around us, as trees blossom and bulbs sprout, and if we’re willing, we can see it in our own lives. - *Gail Thurnau*

Way back When...



Thank you to Tom Jones! As he has been going through papers and other treasures in his family home, now the home of Tom’s family, he has given a few of the historical church things to me and suggested that I might like to write something about them in the Chronicle. The photo is of a notebook for the Women’s Auxiliary, Christ Church, Albert Lea, MN.

The first meeting report in the book is dated Feb. 14, 1922. It said that the women of the parish met at the Parish House to organize a Woman’s Auxiliary which would meet every month, one month with the Ladies’ Guild and the other with St. Hilda’s Guild. Twenty two women attended. A letter was read requesting that the parish ladies send supplies for

children such as stockings as well as household supplies such as towels to an Episcopal mission in Spartanburg, South Carolina. The project was called “the missionary box work”.

The Women’s Auxiliary prayer always closed their meetings.

“Almighty God, our Heavenly Father, we pray Thee, bless our work for the extension of Thy Kingdom, and make us so thankful for the precious gift to us of thy beloved Son, that we may pray fervently, labour diligently and give liberally to make Him known to all nations as their God and Saviour. We ask this for his dear sake. Amen. - *Gail Thurnau*

It’s Greek To Me – *Take Hold!*

Fight the good fight of the faith; take hold of the eternal life to which you were called and for which you made^[a] the good confession in the presence of many witnesses. – 1 Timothy 6:12

The spiritual path is wholly dependent on God’s grace – without it, our efforts are in vain. But Jesus made it clear that God’s grace has already been made plentifully available to us. He speaks of the kingdom as a sumptuous feast that is already spread on the table and simply awaiting our arrival. But – we have to show up!

In the passage from Timothy, Paul is exhorting Timothy to ‘take hold’ of the eternal life which he already has been given, but which requires Timothy to make his own in daily experience.

The word that is translated ‘take hold’ is “επιλαβου” (epilabu). It is a strong term meaning to seize with one’s hands. It is the same word used when Jesus rescues the drowning Peter when he attempted to walk on the water with Jesus. This word is parallel to the Old Testament statement to love God with ‘all your strength’.

God respects our free will and has made our part in the salvation drama absolutely essential. We are not to be passive recipients of divine grace. We are to seize it with both hands and make it our own on a daily basis. This requires intentional and steady effort: in private prayer and meditation, in study of scripture and in fellowship with fellow disciples, and receiving of the sacraments.

St. Teresa of Avila, a great mystic who had many astounding spiritual experiences, was asked how she had attained such a deep communion with God. Her answer was, “I showed up!” Let us rededicate ourselves to ‘showing up’ for God on a daily basis, so he can make all his riches known to us. - *Rev. George M. Favell*

Formation for Priesthood Update

Here is the latest! I have been approved by the Commission on Ministry for Priestly Ordination. Next, the Standing Committee will meet with me. They then send their final recommendation to the Bishop. The plan at this point is for me to be ordained this coming June 17 at 10:30 am at St. Mark’s Cathedral in Minneapolis. I am hoping that a few from Christ Church Albert Lea can make it to the ordination. If not, I believe it will be live-streaming as well.

Meanwhile, I am finishing three seminary courses and am quite active in ministry at Christ Church in Austin. More to come later! - *Rev. George M. Favell*

Sunday Worship Schedule for May

Sunday, May 7, 2023 -The 5th Sunday of Easter
Holy Eucharist - 10:30am

Sunday, May 14, 2023 -The 6th Sunday of Easter
Morning Prayer - 10:30am

Sunday, May 21, 2023 -The 7th Sunday of Easter
Holy Eucharist - 10:30am

Sunday, May 28, 2023 -Pentecost: Whitsunday
Holy Eucharist - 10:30am

Strive not to be a success, but rather to be of value." - Albert Einstein

"Don't go through life, grow through life." - Eric Butterworth

"If there is no struggle, there is no progress." - Frederick Douglass

The American Legion Post 56 in Albert Lea is hosting a Fund-raiser Breakfast every 4th Sunday of the month, from 8am to 12:30 pm!

New Revised Common Lectionary Sunday Readings

Eucharist Lectionary - Year A - Daily Office Lectionary - Year 1

7-May	Acts 7:55-60	Psalm 31:1-5, 15-16	1 Peter 2:2-10	John 14:1-14
14-May	Acts 17:22-31	Psalm 66:7-18	1 Peter 3:13-22	John 14:15-21
21-May	Acts 1:6-14	Psalm 68:1-10, 33-36	1 Peter 4:12-14; 5:6-11	John 17:1-11
28-May	Acts 2:1-21 or Numbers 11:24-30	Psalm 104:25-35, 37	1 Corinthians 12:3b-13 or Acts 2:1-21	John 20:19-23 or John 7:37-39

Community Communication

Father Doyle

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Parish Office

The Parish Office is open on Tuesdays and Thursday from 10am to 2pm.

Office Phone: 507-373-3188

Office email: cecalmn@gmail.com

Website: christchurchal.org

Priest-in-Charge: The Rev. Henry Doyle

Senior Warden: Savile Lord

Junior Warden: Michael Murtaugh

Vestry: Jeff Shaft

Music Director: Gail Thurnau

Treasurer: Joy Shaft

Parish Administrator/Secretary:

The Rev. George M. Favell

Fr. Henry - Please keep me in the loop

Far too often, you might hesitate to inform me of your desire/need for pastoral care, because you do not want to bother me. On the contrary, you are not bothering me when you inform me of a major illness, yours or a loved one's illness. Because of privacy issues and regulations, staff at hospitals, nursing homes, and other health care facilities will not contact me. You, a family member, or a close friend must contact me, if you have a pastoral need.

Prayer Scripture

Is anyone among you in trouble? Let them pray. Is anyone happy? Let them sing songs of praise. Is anyone among you sick? Let them call the elders of the church to pray over them and anoint them with oil in the name of the Lord. And the prayer offered in faith will make the sick person well; the Lord will raise them up. If they have sinned, they will be forgiven. Therefore confess your sins to each other and pray for each other so that you may be healed. The prayer of a righteous person is powerful and effective. - James 13-16

Meditation Prayer

Book of Common Prayer, page 825 #34. For Towns and Rural Areas
 Lord Christ, when you came among us, you proclaimed the kingdom of God in villages, towns, and lonely places: Grant that your presence and power may be known throughout this land. Have mercy upon all of us who live and work in rural areas [especially Albert Lea]; and grant that all the people of our nation may give thanks to you for food and drink and all other bodily necessities of life, respect those who labor to produce them, and honor the land and the water from which these good things come. All this we ask in your holy Name. Amen.

Christ Episcopal Church May Birthdays

3 - Barb Trow

22 - Samuel Paulson

30 - Tucker George Bryant

Episcopal Church in Minnesota Cycle of Prayer

For the month of May - please pray for all academic graduates, for all educational institutions, and for the specialized chaplaincies in those institutions. Remember especially ECMN's School for Formation, Breck School and Shattuck-St. Mary's and their chaplains, Circle of the Beloved, University Episcopal Community and all those who work with campus ministries.

4 EASTER (April 30)

ST. PHILIP'S (Feast of Ss Philip & James, May 1)

Rice Lake

ANNIVERSARIES

5/1 Deborah Brown, p 1990

Johnson Loud, p 1988

5/5 Arthur Hancock, p 1991

5 EASTER (May 7)

ANNIVERSARIES: N/A

6 EASTER (May 14)

ASCENSION

Stillwater

ANNIVERSARIES

5/14 Devon Anderson, p 1998

Irene Gifford-Cole p 1989

5/18 Diane McGowan, d 2003

5/20 Kenneth Simmons, p 1964

ASCENSION (May 18)

7 EASTER (May 21)

LA MISION EL SANTO NINO JESUS

St. Paul

ANNIVERSARIES

5/22 Benjamin Scott, p 1961

5/25 Frank Wilson, Jr., p 1975

PENTECOST (May 28)

HOLY APOSTLES

St. Paul

ANNIVERSARIES

5/31 Graham Fenton, p 1975

6/1 Robert Lesch, p 1960

Katherine Reynolds, p 1983

6/3 Rob Roy, p 2000

Penelope Warren, p 1989

Anglican Communion Cycle of Prayer

May 2023

Monday 1 May 2023

Philip and James, Apostles

The Diocese of Sokoto – The Church of Nigeria (Anglican Communion)
(Kaduna Province)

Tuesday 2 May 2023

The Diocese of Central Solomons – The Anglican Church of Melanesia

Wednesday 3 May 2023

The Diocese of Soroti – The Church of the Province of Uganda

Thursday 4 May 2023

The Diocese of Southwark – The Church of England
(Canterbury Province)

Friday 5 May 2023

The Diocese of Southwell & Nottingham – The Church of England
(York Province)

Saturday 6 May 2023

The Reformed Episcopal Church of Spain – Extra Provincial to the Archbishop of Canterbury

Sunday 7 May 2023

5th Sunday of Easter
The Church in Wales

Monday 8 May 2023

The Diocese of Spokane – The Episcopal Church
(VIII (8) Province)

Tuesday 9 May 2023

The Diocese of Springfield – The Episcopal Church
(V (5) Province)

Wednesday 10 May 2023

The Diocese of Port Sudan – Province of the Episcopal Church of Sudan

Thursday 11 May 2023

The Diocese of Sul-Occidental (South Western) – Igreja Episcopal Anglicana do Brasil
(1 Province)

Friday 12 May 2023

The Diocese of Sunyani – The Church of the Province of West Africa
(Ghana Province)

Saturday 13 May 2023

The Diocese of Sur – Iglesia Anglicana de Chile

Sunday 14 May 2023

6th Sunday of Easter, Matthias the Apostle

The Church of the Province of West Africa

Monday 15 May 2023

The Diocese of Swansea & Brecon – The Church in Wales

Tuesday 16 May 2023

The Diocese of Swaziland – The Anglican Church of Southern Africa

Wednesday 17 May 2023

The Diocese of Sydney – The Anglican Church of Australia
(New South Wales Province)

Thursday 18 May 2023

Ascension Day
Thy Kingdom Come
The Diocese of Tabora – The Anglican Church of Tanzania

Friday 19 May 2023

Thy Kingdom Come
Te Pihopatanga o Tai Tokerau – The Anglican Church in Aotearoa, New Zealand and Polynesia
(Maori Tikanga)

Saturday 20 May 2023

Thy Kingdom Come
Te Pihopatanga o Tairāwhiti – The Anglican Church in Aotearoa, New Zealand and Polynesia
(Maori Tikanga)

Sunday 21 May 2023

7th Sunday of Easter
Thy Kingdom Come
The Church in the Province of the West Indies

Monday 22 May 2023

Thy Kingdom Come
The Diocese of Taita-Taveta – The Anglican Church of Kenya

Tuesday 23 May 2023

Thy Kingdom Come
The Diocese of Taiwan – The Episcopal Church
(VIII (8) Province)

Wednesday 24 May 2023

Thy Kingdom Come
The Diocese of Tamale – The Church of the Province of West Africa
(Ghana Province)

Thursday 25 May 2023

Thy Kingdom Come
The Diocese of Tanga – The Anglican Church of Tanzania

Friday 26 May 2023

Thy Kingdom Come
The Diocese of Central Tanganyika – The Anglican Church of Tanzania

Saturday 27 May 2023

Thy Kingdom Come
The Diocese of South West Tanganyika – The Anglican Church of Tanzania

Sunday 28 May 2023

Pentecost
Thy Kingdom Come
Anglican Communion Sunday
The Extra-Provincial Churches

Monday 29 May 2023

The Diocese of Western Tanganyika – The Anglican Church of Tanzania

Tuesday 30 May 2023

The Diocese of Tarime – The Anglican Church of Tanzania

Wednesday 31 May 2023

The Visit of the Blessed Virgin Mary to Elizabeth
The Diocese of Tasmania – The Anglican Church of Australia
(Tasmania Province)

May 2023

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
	1 THE APOSTLES SAINT PHILIP AND SAINT JAMES	2 Church Office – 9-1	3	4 Office closed	5	6 Retreat** - 9 - 12
7 5 th Sunday of Easter – Holy Eucharist – 10:30am	8 Yoga – 10am and 6pm**	9	10 Chair Yoga – 9am**	11 Church Office – 9-1	12	13 Healing Team – 9-10:30am**
14 6 th Sunday of Easter: Rogation Sunday – Morning Prayer – 10:30am	15 ROGATION DAY Yoga – 10am and 6pm**	16 ROGATION DAY	17 ROGATION DAY Chair Yoga – 9am**	18 ASCENSION DAY Church Office – 9-1	19	20 Healing Team – 9-10:30am**
21 7 th Sunday of Easter: The Sunday after Ascension Day – Holy Eucharist – 10:30am	22 Yoga – 10am and 6pm**	23	24 Chair Yoga – 9am**	25 Church Office – 9-1	26	27 Healing Team – 9-10:30am**
28 The Day of Pentecost: Whitsunday – Holy Eucharist – 10:30am	29 Yoga – 10am and 6pm**	30	31 THE VISITATION OF THE BLESSED MARY EMBER DAY Chair Yoga – 9am**			

****** Please check with Clemencia to confirm location and if class is full.

bebegu@live.com or 507-377-2718.

Vestry Minutes – March 2023

3/19/2023

Father Henry report – No update at this time.

Senior Warden Report – Acknowledgement that Clemencia has these wonderful retreats, she had another one at the end of the month.

Chronicle message this week. We have a note in the Chronicle of thanks. (Januarys retreat was a donation of \$1690)

Savile has reached out to Father John in Austin about how we can help with the Southern mission area and about San Jose Obrero.

Junior Warden – No update at this time.

Financials

The January and February was reported to us. There was \$1200 billed for work from last year on lights. Utilities is still high for Minnesota Energy. Savile approved the financial, Jeff seconded. All approved

Old Business

In the boiler room, we may need to have a valve replaced and an expansion tank and a sink added. We will ask George to call Christianson to come do that.

New Business

George's position – George will be leaving us soon to start his time as a priest. We will put the job description out and hopefully have someone hired by April so that they can spend a few weeks with George learning the ropes. Kenneth will work on updating the job description and will post the job.

Excess light bulbs – we have extra light bulbs to bring to Ace to recycle. Kenneth and Savile will bring a truck to haul away.

Bev Blakeslee birthday is on Monday. Happy 90th Birthday Bev!