



JULY 2015

# The Vine

Jesus said, "I am the vine; you are the branches. . ." John 15:5

## The Steadfast Love of the Lord Endures Forever

Much of what passes for "love" in this world is not "steadfast love," rather it is self-serving love. If you do this for me, I love you, but if you don't, I won't. I love cookies because they taste good. I love my car because it makes me feel important. I love you because you make me happy. I love you until someone nicer, funnier, sexier, or richer comes along. We are so used to what is not steadfast love, that we come to expect love not to last. God has a better way.

Throughout the Psalms, over and over again, God's steadfast love is proclaimed. Not only is love how God expresses Himself, but as the Apostle John said, "God is love" (1 John 4:8). Throughout the ancient world the other gods were capricious and unpredictable, but not the one true God. His love for His people is steadfast, unchanging. As the Psalmist said, "Give thanks to the God of gods, for his steadfast love endures forever" (Psalm 136:2).

How does God express his steadfast love for His people?

He provides "this fragile earth, our island home." He provides the sun to keep us warm and grow our crops. As the Psalmist said, "the sun to rule over the day, for his steadfast love endures forever; (Psalm 136:8).

He helps us when we face a crisis. The Psalmist said, "I will rejoice and be glad in your steadfast love, because you have seen my affliction; you have known the distress of my soul" (Psalm 31:7)

He, the Holy One, forgives our sins. As King David said, after being confronted with the adultery and murder he had committed, "Have

mercy on me, O God, according to your steadfast love; according to your abundant mercy blot out my transgressions" (Psalm 51:1).

He is good, perfectly good. As the Psalmist said, "For the Lord is good; his steadfast love endures forever, and his faithfulness to all generations" (Psalm 100:5).

He is merciful. "The Lord is merciful and gracious, slow to anger and abounding in steadfast love" (Psalm 103:8).

To whom does He show His steadfast love? Those who fear Him. To fear the Lord is both to respect Him and to fear his wrath, much like a child does with a loving, yet firm father. As the Psalmist said, "For as high as the heavens are above the earth, so great is his steadfast love toward those who fear him" (Psalm 103:11)

As you come to grasp the amazing steadfast love of the Lord, what should be your response?

Meditate on his steadfast love. "We have thought on your steadfast love, O God, in the midst of your temple (Psalm 48:9).

Give glory to God! "Not to us, O Lord, not to us, but to your name give glory, for the sake of your steadfast love and your faithfulness! (Psalm 115:1)

Sing to the Lord! "I will sing of the steadfast love of the Lord, forever; with my mouth I will make known your faithfulness to all generations" (Psalm 89:1).

We serve a good God who loves us steadfastly! Rejoice! Proclaim! Imitate!

### The Faith Flash

Are you receiving our email newsletter, *The Faith Flash*? *The Faith Flash* comes out weekly with timely information and reminders. Sign up today by going to our website ([www.faithanglicanchurch.org](http://www.faithanglicanchurch.org)), or calling the church office (755-4848).



### OUR VISION:

A Christ Centered Community  
Growing in Faith.

### OUR PURPOSE:

The purpose of Faith Anglican Church is to proclaim the Good News, make disciples, and serve our neighbors.

### OUR GUIDING PRINCIPLES:

We equip lay people for ministry  
We provide biblically centered instruction  
We minister to people where they are  
We welcome all God's children  
We are theologically traditional  
We provide meaningful worship services  
We lead others to Christ.

## Children's Ministry

### Summer Sunday School Offerings

Beginning July 12th we will have a six week Summer Sunday School session.

**Children K through 5th Grade** will meet in the Children's Sunday School room and will continue in the Gospel Project curriculum. They will begin a new study that will examine the birth of the church in the Acts of the Apostles.

**The Youth, 6th through 12th Grade** will meet in the Youth Sunday School Space in the Ministry Center and will begin a yearlong study of the Catechism.

**Young Adults** will meet in the Youth Room and will study The Parable of the Prodigal Son as taught by Timothy Keller in his book *The Prodigal God*.

**The Adult Class** will meet in the Ministry Center and will study the attributes of God, discovering His inane character, qualities, and nature. As we come to know God better, it will positively affect our relationship with Him!

### Vacation Bible School: Camp Discovery

The theme for VBS this year is Jesus at work through us, and the Key Bible Verse is "We love because He first loved us (1 John 4.19)." Invite your friends to join us July 13th through the 16th. On Monday through Wednesday from 6:30 PM to 8:15 PM we will be at Faith Anglican Church hearing Bible Stories, playing games, making crafts, singing songs, and eating delicious snacks! We will then conclude VBS on Thursday night at the Mandarin Baptist Church across the street for a celebratory dinner from 6:00 PM to 7:30 PM. Be sure not to miss out on the prizes! Invite your friends to join us for Vacation Bible School: Camp Discovery!



**Monday July 13th through Thursday July 16th from 6:30 PM to 8:15 PM.**

### Summer Children's Worship (2nd Sundays)

For the months of June, July, and August, Children's Worship shall be on the Second Sunday of each month during 10:30 AM worship. On the Sunday's where there is not Children's Worship, the children are absolutely invited to join us in the Sanctuary. We understand that sometimes little hands need something to do, so Children's Worship Activity Bags will be available on the center table in the Narthex. Enjoy the contents, and then be sure to return the bags back to the center table so they may be replenished for the next week.. July 12<sup>th</sup> & August 9<sup>th</sup>

## Youth Crew

### July Lock In Retreat

The Youth will gear up for back to school with an end of summer Lock In! Beginning at 4 PM on July 31st, Middle and High School Students are invited to bring an overnight bag, air mattress, and sleeping bag to spend the night at the church. We will play games, watch movies, and eat plenty of food! We will end the evening on Friday with Evening Prayer, and begin Saturday morning with Morning Prayer and breakfast. The Youth will be dismissed at 8 AM on Saturday morning. The cost for this event is \$25 per person. Make checks payable to Faith Anglican Church with "Youth Lock In" in the memo, and drop the checks in the offering plate.

## SUMMER TITHING

As we move into the summer months, I ask you to continue to be regular with your support of the parish. We generally experience a summer shortfall in giving as people leave the area for summer fun. This presents a challenge for ministry leaders - the incoming funds slow down just as our busiest ministry season speeds up with Vacation Bible School and mission trips. So let me dutifully remind us also that Faith Anglican isn't on vacation, and we're here every Sunday, full of praise, prayer, and the fantastic summer music. We can't let our guard down, especially in July and August, which can be lean months financially when people are away. We've proven we can step up when the need is there, and now we need to keep gathering in summer, as the proverb says.

*Doug Conner, Treasurer*

## Clearly Defining Marriage to Avoid Lawsuits

Due to recent changes in secular definitions of "marriage," some churches may face lawsuits from same-sex couples or individuals if they don't clearly define what they believe marriage to be. Therefore, our Parish Council has approved policies which clearly define marriage from a biblical perspective. These policies are in four areas and can be found on our bulletin board. The four areas are: 1. Membership commitment. 2. Statement on Biblical Authority & Marriage and Sexuality. 3. Employee application. 4. Marriage Policy.

## Prayer Corner

Please keep the following persons in your daily prayers, asking God to heal, comfort, and protect them.

|                   |                |
|-------------------|----------------|
| Dee Dee Ritchie   | Dale Deason    |
| Mansell Lancaster | Carlton Fuller |
| Lauren Hintz      | Sloan Craig    |
| Hallie Crawford   | Ken Guess      |
| Dawne Ellard      | Neil Aird      |
| Peggy Tribble     |                |



## Birthdays

|                   |    |                 |    |
|-------------------|----|-----------------|----|
| Chris Booth       | 09 | Esco Satchfield | 17 |
| Ginger McDowell   | 09 | Ron Kirby       | 18 |
| Fred Robertson    | 09 | Don Tredway     | 20 |
| Alexa Tutor       | 09 | George Ellard   | 21 |
| Joyce Hall        | 10 | Chris Shields   | 21 |
| Sallie Tarver     | 10 | Stephen Wolfe   | 26 |
| Jim Johnson       | 12 | Anita Harrison  | 30 |
| Rosemarie Graskey | 15 | Danne Parham    | 30 |
| John Scott        | 16 |                 |    |

## Anniversaries

|                        |    |
|------------------------|----|
| Herb & Mary Hand       | 03 |
| Doug & Becky Conner    | 04 |
| Jessie & Jocelyn Lurry | 04 |
| Jim & Emily Johnson    | 06 |
| Gordon & Norma Pike    | 15 |
| Chuck & Barbara King   | 21 |
| Brian & Dawn Messer    | 24 |
| George & Betty Ellard  | 25 |



## Just so you know.....regarding donations to the Building Fund

As our building and property age - ever so gracefully - we must be cognizant of future renewal and replacement items that will inevitably occur, but which are not routinely budgeted items: things such as asphalt overlay, painting of the building, appliance replacement, etc. To that end, the Parish Council has prudently approved an allocation of any monies donated to the Building Fund as follows: 70% to mortgage reduction; 15% to accrue for renewal & replacement; and, 15% to accrue for future capital improvements. This will, over time, create a "pot" of money specifically earmarked for these maintenance and replacement items as they occur in order that we don't find ourselves "in crisis" every time a need arises. Routine maintenance such as grass cutting, light bulb replacement, HVAC service, etc. will continue to be funded through the annual budgeting process. Donations to the Building Fund will be allocated as indicated above unless specified otherwise by the donor on the check. Questions or comments? Please speak with Lance Forsdick at your convenience.

*Lance Forsdick*

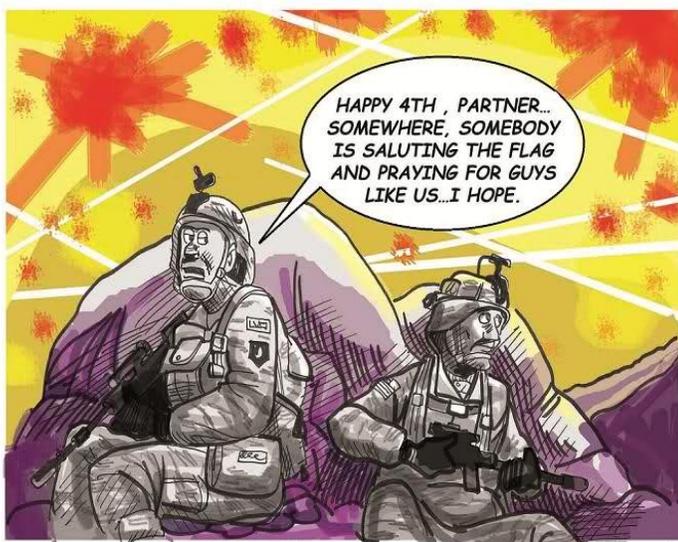
## You are an Ambassador for Christ

"The harvest is plentiful, but the laborers are few. Therefore earnestly pray to the Lord of the harvest to send forth laborers into His harvest. Behold, I am sending you out as lambs among wolves." Luke 10:2-3.

In America we are not in danger of our lives when we spread the gospel message, but might be scorned, mocked, excluded or disregarded by others -even by family members. Why should we be afraid that someone will be offended? Earth is not our home anyway. Paul calls us "ambassadors for Christ". Ambassadors do not live in their home country. They are sent out to conduct the business of their home country in a foreign land. They get out among the population, use their language, eat their food, listen to their discussions and engage them as a polite visitor.

The news we have is truly good news, but formality of scripture does not communicate to unbelievers. When we know about a great sale or health warning we share it on social media, tell our friends etc. In the same tone as that news, tell others about Jesus. If the message is rejected, just move on. "One plants and another waters", so someone else will come along to continue the work.

*Annette Kersting*



TERRAP@Wise 4th July 11

HAPPY 4TH, PARTNER...  
SOMEWHERE, SOMEBODY  
IS SALUTING THE FLAG  
AND PRAYING FOR GUYS  
LIKE US...I HOPE.

newsletter@faihanglicanchurch.org

All articles for The Vine are due in the office the *second Monday* of the month, send to:

Programs ..... 7:15pm

Supper ..... 6:30pm

**Wednesday:**

Sunday School ..... 9:30am

Holy Eucharist ..... 8:10/10:30am

**Sunday:**

Service Times:

www.faihanglicanchurch.org

901-755-4848

9555 Walnut Grove Road  
Cordova, TN 38018



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### Wednesday Night Bible Study – 6:30 to 7:30 PM

Come enjoy an evening of fellowship and spiritual nurture. Our July schedule includes:

|                  |  |   |
|------------------|--|---|
| 1 <sup>st</sup>  | <b>God Bless America</b><br>(Music Night)                            | Come Celebrate America on Wednesday, July 1st, as the Worship Team presents "God Bless America". This will be an interactive time of music and spoken word that will help us as we prepare for our nation's birthday. Come and bring a friend!  |
| 8 <sup>th</sup>  | <i>The Sabbath for Today's Christian</i><br>(Teaching with Fr. Herb) | The Sabbath is one of the most misunderstood topics among Christians today. It is clearly one of God's Ten Commandments, but is not meant to be kept in a damaging legalistic way. We will explore the purposes of the Sabbath from Deuteronomy 5 and Exodus 20, which include: 1. Living according to God's design. 2. Finding freedom from bondage. |
| 15 <sup>th</sup> | VBS  | No regular program. Support our VBS!  |
| 22 <sup>nd</sup> | No Program   | Summer Break  |
| 29 <sup>th</sup> | No Program   | Summer Break (In the Dust of the Rabbi begins on August 5 <sup>th</sup> .)  |