



Providing for the Poor Responsibly

Last month as I was reading through the Psalms I was struck by how often "the poor" were mentioned. "The poor" are mentioned 117 times in the Bible and 14 times throughout the Psalms. Different cultures have different attitudes toward the poor. In middle class American culture, people tend to look down on the poor as lazy and irresponsible. In Native American culture, the poor are seen as trustworthy for it is assumed they have been generous towards others and not kept anything for themselves. In Lakota/Daokta culture it is not unusual for the poorest person to be made tribal chief. These are two very different attitudes toward the poor. But what does God's Word have to say of the poor?



1. There will always be poor people. Jesus said, "For you always have the poor with you, and whenever you want, you can do good for them. But you will not always have me" (Mark 14:7). Due to our fallen sin nature, some will be oppressive to the poor and greedy and others will be lazy. Until Jesus returns, we will always have poor among us.

2. God's people must not oppress the poor. "Whoever oppresses a poor man insults his Maker, but he who is generous to the needy honors him" (Proverbs 14:31). "Behold, the wages of the laborers who mowed your fields, which you kept back by fraud, are crying out against you, and the cries of the harvesters have reached the ears of the Lord of hosts" (James 5:4). God's people must not withhold the wages of their workers and they must pay a fair and generous wage.

3. God's people must provide for the poor in a way that encourages them to work. The best example of this is God's

Gleaning Laws. Here are two examples:
 a. Vineyards "And you shall not strip your vineyard bare, neither shall you gather the fallen grapes of your vineyard. You shall leave them for the poor and for the sojourner: I am the Lord your God" (Leviticus 19:10).
 b. Fields "And when you reap the harvest of your land, you shall not reap your field right up to its edge, nor shall you gather the gleanings after your harvest. You shall leave them for the poor and for the sojourner: I am the Lord your God" (Leviticus 23:22).
 Most of us don't own vineyards or fields, so how might you responsibly provide for the poor? For me it is often providing work for others when I could do it myself.

4. God's people must teach the poor how to provide for themselves. The biblical Book of Proverbs is not just a book of wise sayings, it is a parenting and discipleship manual. Hear what Solomon told his sons: "He who gathers in summer is a prudent son, but he who sleeps in harvest is a son who brings shame" (Proverbs 10:5). "Whoever is slack in his work is a brother to him who destroys" (Proverbs 18:9). Some parents don't teach their children a good work ethic and they end up in poverty. When you interact with the poor, take time to teach them to work hard.

5. God blesses those who bless the poor. King David said, "Blessed is the one who considers the poor! In the day of trouble the Lord delivers him" (Psalm 41:1). The psalmist said, "Blessed is he... who executes justice for the oppressed, who gives food to the hungry" (Psalm 146:5-7). King Solomon said, "Whoever is generous to the poor lends to the Lord, and he will repay him for his deed" (Proverbs 19:17).

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), 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.

Youth Crew

Mission Trip to Gallup, NM

The Youth Crew Mission Trip to Gallup, NM is almost upon us! We will depart June 6th early in the morning for Gallup, and we will return late in the afternoon on the 14th. This trip is designed for High School Students (9th-12th Grade), College Students., and Adults that participate in the Youth & Family Ministry. We will be hosting a Vacation Bible School for the children of the Ianbito Chapter of the Navajo Nation, and we will be feeding the homeless in downtown Gallup. The cost for the Mission Trip will be \$200 per person. The deadline for signing up, medical release forms, and tuition is Sunday May 17th. However, please do not wait to register so that we can settle details in advance. If you have any questions please contact Fr. Cameron.



Library Corner

Book Borrowers: Get Right with the Library!

Is this you?:

I wonder where I put that book I borrowed from Faith Library . . . gee, it's been awhile now. I still want to read it. I guess it will be okay to keep it until I have time to read it (and, uh, find it). They won't mind. They will trust me to bring it back when I can. Now that I think about it, I'm not sure I even filled out the borrower's card. Oh, well, it will be okay.



Well, Dear Well-Intentioned Borrower, it's time to get right with your conscience and with Faith Library. Our annual inventory check is in progress, and we need all those overdue books back on the shelf. **Please. Now.**

Our Faith Library collection has grown over the past few years so that we have a wide range of excellent books that can nourish and strengthen your daily walk in Christ. But we need your personal commitment to honor our simple rules:

Always fill out a borrower's card, including your name and a contact number.

Return books after three to four weeks. If you need more time, pull your borrower's card from the file and renew it by drawing a line through your name and signing the book out again.

If you lose a book, notify us and offer to pay for it.

Following these rules will prevent the imposition of fines and stricter procedures.

Thank you for your support of Faith Library. Contact Eve Settles, eve@backinrivercity.com, for questions or suggestions about Faith Library. Eve Settles

Children's Ministry

Vacation Bible School: Camp Discovery

Do you love Vacation Bible School? Do you love Camping? The theme for Vacation Bible School this year is Camp Discovery! We will learn important truths about Jesus while having all the fun of camping. Vacation Bible School will be Monday July 13th through Thursday **July 16th** from 6:30 PM to 8:15 PM.



Sunday School Breakfast May 17th

Beginning at 9:30 AM the Sunday School Breakfast will be held in the Ministry Center to celebrate the conclusion of Sunday School for the Spring. The Breakfast shall conclude at 10:15 AM. This is also the day set aside each year that we celebrate the graduation of High School and College Seniors during announcement time in worship.

Tutoring at Cordova Elementary Year in Review

The purpose of Faith's adoption of Cordova Elementary School is to establish a long term presence of outreach into the community of Cordova. Through the various ways that we as a church have and will serve the community at the school, it is our prayer that God will provide opportunities for the gospel to advance among our neighbors. As we come to the conclusion of the 2014-2015 academic year, it is helpful to take a step back to look at what we accomplished through the tutoring program. The Fall of 2014 was marked by the process of laying the groundwork. Our volunteers, as well as the Administration of Cordova Elementary took the time to discern and understand the process of bringing our volunteers into the school. In the spring we got the ball rolling and started using the Team Read tutoring program and began weekly tutoring in the school. Our first few weeks were exciting, but exhausting. We learned what works and what doesn't work. We learned how to be guests in the school, and the teachers and faculty quickly became happy having us around. Not only do the children that we tutor smile big when they see us each week, but so do the other children that we don't yet know. Every one of the children I tutor is excited to tell me about their week, and they always tell me they are looking forward to seeing me next week. I will confidently say that God is blessing our presence in the school. I encourage everyone who is interested in being part of this mission to ask me more about what a joy it has been to be part of this exciting endeavor. Fr. Cameron

Prayer Corner

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

Dee Dee Ritchie	Lance Forsdick, Sr.
Mansell Lancaster	Faye Holder
Lauren Hintz	Ann Reynolds
Hallie Crawford	Carlton Fuller
Dawne Ellard	Dale Deason
Oma Harrison	



Birthdays

Jeremy Franks	02	Henry Booth	25
Betty Ellard	05	Alexis Tarver	25
Kevin Crocker	11	Don Harrison	29
Jessie Lurry	11	Mary Forsdick	31
Julie Bourie	12	Mary Hand	31
Rhonda Thornley	15	Zach Naufel	31
Matthew Brewer	18		

Anniversaries

John & Cathy Evans	01
Peter & Aphra Claverie	05
Elliott & Kathy Overton	11
Darryl & Melisa Nowag	19
Al & Rosemarie Graskey	23
Dale & Julie Bourie	25
Ron & Patty Kirby	30
Bill & Lynda Zachry	30

Creation Care

We hear a lot about saving the earth, some as an act of stewardship to God, some as an end in itself, bordering on earth worship. From the beginning, way before the modern environmental movement, God put Adam in the Garden of Eden to “work it and take care of it” (Genesis 2:15). Biblical creation care is not worshipping God’s creation (as some extreme environmentalists do); it is being a good steward of it. Creation care is taking care of God’s creation for the sake of this generation and generations to come. Ultimately, as Anglican author John Stott said, “God intends...our care of creation to reflect our love for our Creator” (*The Radical Disciple*). How might you care for God’s creation? Some ideas: reduce consumption and waste, properly dispose of chemicals, continually give thanks to God for “this fragile earth, our island home” (Book of Common Prayer).

Holy Yoga Workshop

Saturday, May 2 from 9:30 to 11:00 AM. Faith will host a workshop in the children’s ministry center for a Christ Centered yoga exercise class. No cost for the class led by certified holy yoga instructor, Mindy Johnson. We will worship God, meditate on His word, and get our bodies fit for His service. Wear comfortable clothing if you plan to participate in the class. Q & A after the demonstration and refreshments. Please sign up in the narthex or call the church office at 755-4848 so we have a head count. Questions, call Becky Conner at 409-7702.



Dean Herb Hand

Archbishop Foley Beach writes, “A big thank you to **Keith Allen** for his service as dean of the Mid-South Convocation!! He has done a great job of pulling the convocation together and organizing some tremendous events. In the middle of the a big building campaign with his parish, Holy Trinity, Madison, MS, he has stepped down as dean. Thank you, Keith, for a job well done, and for your continued presence in the Mid-South convocation! After prayer and consultation, I have asked **Herb Hand**, rector of Faith Anglican in Cordova, TN to serve as the next dean. Let’s keep Herb in our prayers.”

What will this mean for Faith Anglican Church and Fr. Herb’s role here? Fr. Herb will continue as Senior Pastor (Rector) of our church. Most people will not notice a notable change in his responsibilities. However, he will lead the Mid South Anglican Convocation and will occasionally be asked by Archbishop Foley to assist when a crisis or transitional issue arises in another parish within our convocation.

Fr. Herb’s new form of address is The Very Rev. Dr. Herb Hand. “The Very Rev” is a form of address given to deans of seminaries, cathedrals, and the subsets of dioceses (deaneries or convocations). The form of address simply signifies his position and does not require changing how you address him.

Mother’s Day – May 10th



Mother’s Day in America was not invented by Hallmark. The modern Mother’s Day we celebrate had its origin in the Church, dating back to 1908. Anna Jarvis was its primary proponent. Her intention was not for Mother’s Day to become a commercial holiday, but a day to honor your mother (Exodus 20:12). Honor your mother at Faith this year!

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Sunday:
Holy Eucharist 8:10/10:30am
Sunday School 9:30am

Wednesday:
Supper 6:30pm
Supper Programs 7:15pm

All articles for The Vine are due in the office the
second Monday of the month, send to:
newsletter@faihanglicanchurch.org



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

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

6 th	<i>God Heard Their Cry</i> <i>How Big is Our God?</i>	Two worldviews collide: The mighty, majestic, sophisticated, and pagan empire of Egypt and that of the Hebrew slaves in Egypt who worshipped the Lord God. Our study includes a video presentation by Ray Vander Laan and time for teaching and discussion.
13 th	Ascension Eve Worship 7:00 PM	Ascension Day, which is 40 days after Easter, is one of the seven principal feast days of the church year. It is the annual remembrance of Jesus' ascension into heaven, after 40 days of appearing to His disciples. Come celebrate our risen and ascended Lord Jesus!
20 th	<i>God Heard Their Cry</i> <i>Israel in Bondage: God Heard Their Cry</i>	The Hebrew slaves had no earthly way to escape their Egyptian taskmasters. Yet, the God of heaven and earth hears the cry of His people! Our study includes a video presentation by Ray Vander Laan and time for teaching and discussion.
27 th	<i>God Heard Their Cry</i> <i>Finger of God: The Plagues</i>	Pharaoh thought he was a god and wielded oppressive power over his subjects. The true God shows those drunk with power that He is the one and only God. Our study includes a video presentation by Ray Vander Laan and time for teaching and discussion.

