



MAY 2016

The Vine

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

The Lust of the Eyes

Your eye is a window to your soul. As Jesus said, "The eye is the lamp of the body. If your eyes are healthy, your whole body will be full of light. But if your eyes are unhealthy, your whole body will be full of darkness. If then the light within you is darkness, how great is that darkness!" (Matthew 6:22-23) What you see affects you in a positive or negative way. What you see enters your soul, and either does good or does damage. As the Apostle John said, "For everything in the world—the lust of the flesh, the lust of the eyes, and the pride of life—comes not from the Father but from the world" (1 John 2:16).

In strict Muslim lands women wear burkas, hijabs, or niqabis to protect men's eyes from lusting after their beauty. They correctly understand that lust begins with the eyes, lust for sex outside of marriage, lust for riches that do not belong to them. Lust inevitably leads to sin.



So how do we Christians protect our eyes? Well, God's word never prescribes burkas. I know my wife is glad! The first step is knowing what God tells us not to lust after (desire, covet). God's tenth Commandment is clear: "You shall not covet your neighbor's house; you shall not covet your neighbor's wife, or his male servant, or his female servant, or his ox, or his donkey, or anything that is your neighbor's" (Exodus 20:17). However, knowing what is right and wrong in no way guarantees you will be protected from falling into lust and then into sin.

The next step is to protect your eyes from that which you should not lust. So how do you protect your eyes without wearing a burka? Jesus said, "And if your eye causes you to sin, tear it out and throw it away. It is better for you to enter life with one eye than with two eyes to be thrown into the hell of fire" (Matthew 18:19). That sounds even worse than a burka! Clearly Jesus is using hyperbole, but His point is clear: whatever it takes to keep your eye from causing you to sin, do it.

Averting your eyes is the key, choosing ahead of time to not look at those things that can drag you into sin. As Job said, "I made a covenant with my eyes not to look lustfully at a young woman" (Job 31:1). Yes, she is beautiful, but I refuse to stare at her. Yes, the picture is alluring, but I refuse to click it. One man said when he rides the subway he takes an escalator to street level and often women's shapely rear ends, end up right in front of his face. He has chosen to quickly avert his eyes, knowing if he doesn't it leads to lust. The same is true with coveting houses, dresses, boats, jewelry, etc. Avert your eyes quickly; refuse to look longingly over something you don't really need and can't afford. It often leads to debt, bondage, hoarding, and sin. As the Apostle John said, "For everything in the world—the lust of the flesh, the lust of the eyes, and the pride of life—comes not from the Father but from the world" (1 John 2:16). Keep your eyes away from trouble and on Jesus (Hebrews 12:2)!

Our Path of Christian Maturity

Worship → Grow → Serve

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).

Youth and Children's Ministries

Children's Worship Leadership Transition

After many fruitful years of ministry as the Children's Worship Leader, Mary Hand is stepping down as the primary leader of Children's worship. Please thank her for her faithful service, and pray for her as she explores new opportunities for ministry. If you are interested in helping with Children's Worship, please contact Fr. Cameron.

VBS July 11-14

What is better than
Vacation Bible School?
Vacation Bible School



Underwater! This year Vacation Bible School will be July 11th through the 14th and the theme is Deep Sea Discovery. Look for more details coming soon.

Mission Trip

Mark your calendars because the Youth Crew Mission Trip to Gallup, NM is scheduled for June 4th through the 12th! This trip is designed for Senior High School Students (9th-12th Grade), as well as College Students. 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 \$400 per person for those who did not participate in the Garage Sale fundraiser, and \$300 per person for those who did participate in the Garage Sale fundraiser. The deadline to sign up, complete a medical release form, and pay tuition is Sunday May 1st. If you have any questions please contact Fr. Cameron.

Mother's Day – May 8th

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!

The Death and Resurrection of the Messiah

(Wednesday Bible Study)

Come grow in your faith by enjoying an evening of study and discussion under the leadership of our Pastor Herb Hand from 6:30-7:30 on Wednesday nights. We will study the death and resurrection of Jesus, the core of our Christian beliefs. In this 10 week Bible study we study the Holy Scriptures, while gaining a deeper understanding of the cultural, historical, and geographical context. Each study will include a Holy Land video presentation by biblical archeologist Ray Vander Laan and time for teaching and discussion.

BAPTISMAL DATES

Baptism is for those adults and older children who have made a commitment to Jesus Christ as their Savior and Lord. Baptism is also for infants and younger children of parents who intend to raise their children to serve Jesus Christ as Savior and Lord. Those who intend to be baptized need to attend worship regularly. If you or your child is ready for baptism, please plan to be baptized on one of the following dates: **May 15th** (Pentecost Sunday) and **August 14th**. If you are interested please contact one of our priests (755-4848).



Two Principal Christian Feast Days in May

In the Christian year we have seven principal feast days: Christmas, Epiphany, Easter Sunday, Ascension, Pentecost Sunday, Trinity Sunday, and All Saints'. All seven are crucial to our understanding of God and shape our worship. These are Sundays you should not miss! This year **Ascension Sunday** is on May 8th and **Pentecost Sunday** is on May 15th. Jesus' ascension into heaven and the Trinitarian Godhead with his human body and soul affects how we understand God. Jesus sending the Holy Spirit to dwell in our hearts and empower us to be faithful witnesses is crucial to our living out the Christian faith. Come!

Prayer Corner

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

Dee Dee Ritchie	Jack Childers
Mansell Lancaster	Bill Douglas
Lauren Hintz	Maryjo Gresko
Hallie Crawford	
Carlton Fuller	



Birthdays

Jeremy Franks	5/01	Matthew Brewer	5/18
Betty Ellard	5/05	Henry Booth	5/25
Kevin Crocker	5/11	Don Harrison	5/29
Jessie Lurry	5/11	Mary Forsdick	5/31
Julie Bourie	5/12	Mary Hand	5/31
Rhonda Follis	5/15	Zach Naufel	5/31

Anniversaries

John and Cathy Evans	5/01
Peter and Aphra Claverie	5/05
Al and Rosemarie Graskey	5/23
Dale and Julie Bourie	5/25
Ron and Patty Kirby	5/30
Bill and Lynda Zachry	5/30

Nursery Toys to Retire!

With the increased number of little ones playing in our Nursery, it is necessary to retire some of the toys that have faithfully served. The Children's Ministry and the Parish Council would like to invite you to bless our little ones with new items to enhance their nursery experience. We have put together a Baby Nursery at Walmart.com for your convenience, and guidance for what we are looking for. Go to Walmart.com and at the very top look for the word, "Registry" and open the link to, "Baby Registry." This will bring you to a page where you can search for the Faith Anglican Church Nursery Registry. In the Box listed first name, type in, "Faith Anglican," and in the last name box type in, "Church." For the state enter Tennessee. This will bring up the Faith Anglican Church Nursery Registry. Click on the registry name and shop away! Bring your donations and drop them off in the Youth Room. If you have any questions please contact Fr. Cameron.

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 worshiping 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).

Recycling at Faith



Are you passionate about caring for God's creation? Are you aggressive when it comes to recycling? If so, then you may have a practical ministry opportunity at Faith: recycling our Sunday bulletins and other excess office paper! If you are interested, please contact Laqueta at our church office 755-4848. The bin in the office needs emptying about once a month.



**Pentecost Sunday
Is May 15th!**

**Join us at Faith at the
8:10 am or 10:30 am service.**



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Cordova, TN 38018

901-755-4848

www.faithanglicanchurch.org

Service Times:

Sunday:

Holy Eucharist8:10/10:30am

Sunday School9:30am

Wednesday:

Bible Study6:30pm

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

Anglican Church Plant Plans in East Memphis

A big “hello” to members and friends of Faith Anglican Church from me (Wes Brown), Charlotte, Naomi, and Aubrey. I wanted to give a brief update on our work in East Memphis. Just so you know, we do miss seeing you all and worshipping with you. But we have been busy over here in East Memphis. I am filling in for at least 6 months at Lord of Life Lutheran Church as their interim pastor. They are a parish in the North American Lutheran Church which has a clergy sharing agreement with the Anglican Church in North America. But this time has not been a hindrance to our pursuing an ACNA church plant, it has actually been a time of blessing for us and the plant. This interim position is supplying us an income as well as a springboard to introduce some of the people interested in our plant to a liturgical service style. Even better, the church is only four minutes from our house and is in our target neighborhood for the plant. So it has helped us to get to know the community even better. Much of our free time has been spent getting to know our neighbors and community, and we are excited about what God is stirring up here in East Memphis. God has also brought us into a relationship with another church planter only three miles from our house who is interested in becoming an Anglican and joining with our group. We have been having dinners with a number of people (many unchurched), we have started a Friday night Bible study on I John to help prepare our core team, and have also been active in a Saturday breakfast at the other church planter’s house and are seeing many University of Memphis students coming with questions about Jesus.



On March 10-12 Charlotte and I attended a church planting Assessment and Training in Atlanta, GA with other ACNA planters and Canon Dan Alger. It was a profitable time of fellowship and assessment and I was recommended to move forward with the church plant. We really are excited about seeing another ACNA church here in Memphis and I would ask for your continued prayers for what God has in store for East Memphis and the growing of his kingdom through a new Anglican presence.