



October 2016

# The Vine

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

## Politics and Faith in Christ

I've heard it said that if you don't want to offend anyone you should steer your conversation away from both religion and politics. Oops! Looks like I'm going to tackle both this month, but hopefully in a way that will focus on Jesus and his Word and not polarizing politics.

What political party did Jesus belong to? Was he a Pharisee, Sadducee, Essene, Zealot, Herodian, Roman citizen? Jesus was not a firm supporter of any party. He did say, "My kingdom is not of this world" (John 18:36). What was important to Jesus was not blind loyalty to a particular political party, but loyalty to God's Word. The "issues" were important to Jesus. Critiquing unbiblical behavior of both liberals and conservatives was important to Jesus. Loving God and loving your neighbor was important to Jesus.

As followers of Jesus, I believe it's important to follow in the footsteps of Jesus, to not blindly follow a political party, but to stay focused on the issues from a biblical perspective, and to continue to love and respect those with whom we disagree. At the local and national levels, what are some of the "issues" which Holy Scripture addresses?

**Creation Stewardship** – "The LORD God took the man and put him in the Garden of Eden to work it and take care of it" (Genesis 2:15).

**Debt** – "...the borrower is slave to the lender" (Proverbs 22:7); "...And you shall lend to many nations, but you shall not borrow" (Deuteronomy 28:12).

**Marriage** – "...he who created them from the beginning made them male and female, and said, 'Therefore

a man shall leave his father and his mother and hold fast to his wife, and the two shall become one flesh'? So they are no longer two but one flesh. What therefore God has joined together, let not man separate" (Matthew 19:4-6).

**The Poor** – "Whoever is generous to the poor lends to the Lord, and he will repay him for his deed" (Proverbs 19:17); "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).

**Wages** – "You shall not muzzle an ox when it treads out the grain," and, "The laborer deserves his wages" (1 Timothy 5:18).

**Work** – "... If anyone is not willing to work, let him not eat." (2 Thess. 3:10); "Whoever works his land will have plenty of bread, but he who follows worthless pursuits lacks sense" (Proverbs 12:11).

Are there other substantive issues? Many. As you consider candidates and referendums, as you approach the voting booth this November, come from a biblical perspective. Weighing the issues from a biblical perspective will take lots of time and study. May our faith truly influence every area of our lives, including how we vote.

As citizens of heaven (Philippians 3:20) it is important to remember that Jesus is our King and that our ultimate hope is in Him, not earthly politicians. Now and always, Jesus is Lord!

### 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](http://www.faithanglicanchurch.org)), or calling the church office (755-4848).

## Grow Group Information

The Sunday Night Grow Group, who meets at 4:00 PM, is primarily for parents of students in Awana and Youth Crew, but is open to all. Leader: Fr. Herb Hand



## Life Choices

Praying to End Abortion is the mission of the 40 Days for Life campaign. It began in 2004 in Bryan-College Station, Texas. It has grown to 238 locations around the world. The campaigns are held for 40 days in the spring beginning on Ash Wednesday and again in the fall.

This year the 40 Days for Life fall campaign begins on September 28. During this period of time devoted Christians pray outside the Planned Parenthood facility on Poplar Ave. Volunteers stand on the sidewalk praying and hoping to help these desperate women who feel that their only choice is an abortion. Sometimes the women will ask questions or accept prayers. The offices of Life Choices and Christ Community Health are right across the street. On most abortion days, (Tuesday's and Friday's ) the Life Choices mobile unit is also there to offer free testing and ultrasounds. Volunteers invite women into the mobile unit or the offices to hear about the free services and alternatives to abortion.

For more information go to their web site: [40days-forlifememphis@gmail.com](mailto:40days-forlifememphis@gmail.com) or call Annette Kersting (382-4696).

## The LEM's are Coming!

No, it's not an attack by a horde of lemmings, our LEM's are Lay Eucharist Ministers. It is the duty of the LEM's to take Communion to our homebound members on a regular basis. It is our hope that this can occur on a monthly basis, but is often "as requested". So, how does this work? Once home Communion has been requested, at the next Sunday, you would see the Eucharist "kit" on the altar-table during the blessing of the elements, so it is consecrated at the same time. At the processional, the lay Eucharist minister will process out with the elements for the home-bound member. This process connects the homebound to our service as an extension of worship. Essentially, our Sunday worship has not concluded until communion has been delivered that week, preferably on Sunday afternoon. Currently, our Lay Eucharist Ministers are: Mary Pipes, Holly Naufel, and Fred Ellrich. If you would like to request home Communion or know someone who should be included, please contact the church office or Fred Ellrich at: 901.218.8767 or [fdellrich@yahoo.com](mailto:fdellrich@yahoo.com).

## Operation Christmas Child

Collection Week for Christmas Child is November 14-20. As you gather items for your box remember that the box you hold in your hand will be held in the hands of a child who has never heard the gospel message. The box and prayers you send open the doors for them to begin a course called "The Greatest Journey", a 12 week study which teaches them about the love their creator has for them and the sacrifice made for them by Jesus. Copies of those lessons will soon be available for you to see in the Narthex.



## Birthdays

Jill Amos	10/01	Genaro Mejia	10/14
Kirk Tarver	10/02	David Hightower	10/15
Grace Forsdick	10/03	James Zachary	10/16
Lance Forsdick	10/05	Keith Satchfield	10/18
Holly Naufel	10/05	Katie Jacobs	10/24
Jean Thomas	10/05	Sudy Fisher	10/26
Charles King	10/09	Jocelyn Lurry	10/29
Tanya Ellrich	10/13		

## Anniversaries

James & Christina Zachary	10/09
Edward & Jill Amos	10/24
Bob & Rita Barnett	10/30

## Prayer Corner

Dee Dee Ritchie  
Mansell Lancaster

Lauren Hintz  
Hallie Crawford  
Jack Childers  
Noland Pipes

Gail Hightower  
George Conner  
Martha Crawford



## Window Boxes

The Parish Council has voted to approve the use of wooden window boxes to be placed inside the sanctuary on both sides of the altar. The boxes will be stained to match the cross, altar and pulpit and filled with carefully chosen artificial plants. This was determined to be the most cost-effective and aesthetically pleasing approach given various options. It is hoped that these boxes will serve to screen those windows from passing traffic on Walnut Grove, allowing members to more readily focus on the service.

Jill Amos, Senior Warden

## Joyful Sacrifice

*<sup>17</sup> Even if I am to be poured out as a drink offering upon the sacrificial offering of your faith, I am glad and rejoice with you all. <sup>18</sup> Likewise you also should be glad and rejoice with me. – Phil 2:17-18 (ESV)*

While awaiting trial in Rome, Paul reached out to the church in Philippi to encourage the new believers. A drink offering was wine poured over an animal or grain offering that was on the altar. In this case it is an illustration of life “poured out” for God’s service. Although Paul was willingly sacrificing his time, his belongings, or other material goods for God’s Kingdom, eventually he would sacrifice his life.

Such devotion is something we come to know about Paul as we read his letters, but it is even more remarkable when Paul is quick to point out that he makes this sacrifice gladly and with rejoicing! However, he is not done. He calls the Philippians to rejoice with him AND to be a sacrificial offering as they emulate Paul’s joyful service to the Lord.

As we enter our stewardship season, let us seek the Lord’s favor and His will as we consider our “sacrificial offering” for God’s work in our church and our community. Let us do this with “joy”!

Fred Ellrich, Stewardship Chairman





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Service Times:

**Sunday:**

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

Sunday School .....9:30am

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

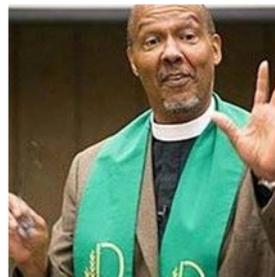


The Jesus Loves Memphis projects will be posted along with the sign-ups early in October for those wishing to serve on a Jesus Loves Memphis project. We were hoping to do a project at Cordova Elementary, but they do not have one for us this year.



Proudly promote Faith Anglican Church! Car window stickers are now available in the Narthex. Please take one!

## Local Missions Sunday October 23<sup>rd</sup>



Our Local Missions team shares the tangible love of Jesus through partnering with local missional organizations, such as 8th Street Mission for Jesus Christ, Monthly Food Offering, Life Blood, Life

Choices, and Teen Challenge. On our Local Missions Sunday you will hear more about each ministry. Our Local Missions team is led by Chuck Glover. Our Local Missions Sunday guest preacher will be Sam Murrell, who worshipped at Faith when he was the director at the *8<sup>th</sup> Street Mission for Jesus Christ* in West Memphis. Sam currently resides in Little Rock where he teaches at a Christian school.