



JULY 2017

The Vine

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

Wholeheartedly

In C. S. Lewis's classic book *The Great Divorce* he artistically describes hell as a place of isolation, loneliness, suspicion, and above all drabness. It's a monochrome world of grays—no greens, no reds, no blues—only hues of gray. The residents of hell are listless and unenthusiastic. The residents of heaven are the exact opposite. They serve the Lord joyfully, enthusiastically, wholeheartedly! I have to ask myself, "Am I more like Lewis's residents of heaven or hell?"



Over the past few weeks during my morning Bible readings, the phrase "with my whole heart" has leaped off pages. It seemed to be an almost daily occurrence. Here are some examples:

"I will give thanks to the Lord with my whole heart; I will recount all of your wonderful deeds." – Ps. 9:1

"With my whole heart I seek you; let me not wander from your commandments!" – Ps. 119:10

"With my whole heart I cry; answer me, O Lord! I will keep your statutes." – Ps. 119:145

"Yet for all this her treacherous sister Judah did not return to me with her whole heart, but in pretense, declares the Lord." – Jer. 3:10

Do I seek and serve the Lord with my whole heart? When I play Pickleball, I play wholeheartedly; I don't even realize I'm exercising. When I watch one of my favorite TV shows, I watch wholeheartedly; I really don't want to be interrupted. When we dine at

one of my favorite restaurants, I eat wholeheartedly; savor the flavor! But what about our Path of Christian Maturity: Worship, Grow, Serve? The truth is some weeks are better than others. Here are some things I have found that help me be more wholehearted:

Worship – On Sunday mornings, the first thing I need to do is to prepare for worship. Before worship I leave the TV, radio, and phone off. I give the Holy Spirit space to expose my sins so that I may confess them. I come with the intention of entering into God's holy presence in worship. When I sing, pray, and receive the Lord's Supper, I strive to stay focused on our Lord.

Grow – When I pray and study the Bible each morning, I leave all the electronics off until I have had time with my Lord. I found things like Facebook greatly distracted me. I also make myself read Morning Prayer and Scripture slowly. I found I was rushing through at times and getting nothing out of it. For my Faith Grow Group, I come prepared and ready to listen, not only to God, but to my fellow believers.

Serve – When serving others, I find I need to not just do the tasks, but open my heart to those whom I am serving, to be more concerned for their concerns, pain, and joys, than blabbing about mine.

Am I 100% wholehearted in my seeking and serving the Lord and His people? Not yet, but with God's help I am getting there. I invite you to join me!

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).

Prayer Scripture

Do you long for God's blessings on you and your family? Here is a scriptural prayer I pray every night for my family. Psalms 1:1-3,6 "Blessed is the man who does not walk in the counsel of the wicked or stand in the way of sinners or sit in the seat of mockers. But his delight is in the law of the LORD and on his law he meditates day and night. He is like a tree planted by streams of water which yields its fruit in season and whose leaf does not wither. Whatever he does prospers, For the LORD watches over the way of the righteous, but the way of the wicked will perish."

Dear Father in heaven, in accordance with Your powerful, life-giving Word, I ask You to help ___ to delight and meditate on Your Word day and night. Cause whatever we do to prosper for Your sake ONLY and watch over ALL our ways. Help__ to walk in the ways of the righteous and to trust YOU always in every area of our lives for Your Name's Sake.

Let us learn to pray this, then watch how God will answer us. Norma Pike

Monday Night Ladies Bible Study Summer Book Study, Part Two

Our study of the book *The Bait of Satan*, by John Bevere will continue on July 24. We will meet at 7:00 p.m. at the home of Bill and Sudy Fisher. This book deals with one of Satan's most destructive weapons - offense. He uses this weapon to destroy relationships, families, and churches. This book will show us how to recognize these traps and stay free from offense and its destructive power. All ladies are welcome to join us. For more information, contact Sudy Fisher at 299-4341 or maggie2643@aol.com.

A Patriotic Sing-Along

You are invited to a Patriotic Sing-Along immediately following the postlude after the 10:30 service on Sunday, July 2, 2017. We will take about 15 minutes and celebrate Our Great Country - One Nation Under God! *Invite a friend to join you on this day!*

July Birthdays

Chris Booth	7/09	Esco Stachfield	7/17
Ginger McDowell	7/09	Ron Kirby	7/18
Fred Robertson	7/09	Scott Davie	7/19
Alexa Tutor	7/09	George Ellard	7/21
Joyce Hall	7/10	Chris Shields	7/21
Jim Johnson	7/12	Stephen Wolfe	7/26
Rosemarie Graskey	7/15	Anita Harrison	7/30
John Scott	7/16	Danne Parham	7/30

July Anniversaries

Herb and Mary Hand	7/03
Doug and Becky Conner	7/04
Jessie and Jocelyn Lurry	7/04
Jim and Emily Johnson	7/06
Gordon and Norma Pike	7/15
George and Betty Ellard	7/25

Prayer Corner

George Conner
Noland Pipes
Mansell Lancaster
Emily Dalke
Fr. Horace Tipton



Altar Guild Seeks Servants

With Holly Naufel's move to Kentucky, Altar Guild will be missing her faithful service starting in July. We are inviting church members at the 10:30 worship service to fill this position for our church family and our Lord Jesus.* *The only requirement is that you are a member of Faith Anglican Church.* Duties are the breakdown of the Eucharist following the 10:30 service once a month.

For ease of serving on Altar Guild, linens are cleaned weekly by the Altar Guild director. Please speak to any of our Altar Guild members to find out what a blessing it is to serve: Tanya Ellrich, Beth Laquinta, Janice Badgett, Patty Kirby, Aphra Claverie, Betty Ellard, Cathy Evans, and Jennifer Bostick.

*this can be a team effort of 2 or more members

A Visit to the Holy Land

Some of you may know that I recently returned from a 2 week tour of Israel with Archbishop Foley and Allison Beach. We were joined with 26 other members that came not only from the Diocese of the South, but also Kansas City, Washington, DC, Fort Collins, CO, Seattle and New Zealand. It was simply the best experience I have ever had. Many of us are looking forward to the next tour to be held in 2019 and will hope we can be led again by our dedicated and very knowledgeable tour guide and bus driver. This was not their first rodeo and their expertise and professionalism was apparent throughout the trip.

In like many or even most tours of the Holy Land, ours was a Study Tour of the Old Testament led by Shoresh Tours, a part of CMJ Israel. CMJ stands for Christ's Ministry to the Jewish People and is nearly 200 years old. It is now headquartered at Christ's Church in Jerusalem not more than one half mile from Jaffe Gate across the street from the on the site of Herrod's Palace. Christ's Church will celebrate it's 200 birthday in 2020 and for nearly 200 years it has been a beacon of evangelism for messianic Jews, Christian Arabs and others in Israel who are turning to Christ as the true Messiah. This is the mission of Christ's Church and today there are more than 15,000 messianic Jews in Israel. As the name implies, Messianic Jews believe in Christ as the Messiah spoken of in the Old Testament. During our time in Israel we heard from 3 different messianic Jews about their witness. We first heard from Ziev, a young Israeli father of 5 would works for a high tech digital company that may have made the antennae that is in your cell phone. That's right; the integrated antennae within your cell phone was developed in Israel, not in Silicon Valley. Israel is also responsible for bar coding and many other digital age products. Ziev's company partner's with Charles Stanley Ministries to make high quality, low-cost solar powered electronic readers that are programed with the New Testament to provide free to the people of the Middle East so that they can experience the New Testament without having to purchase one from a book-seller that could bring harm to their family. This too is part of the mission of Christ's Church to spread the gospel of Christ to the people of the Jewish State and Arabs in nearby countries.

It is for this reason that I will ask the Parrish Council to consider a proposal to add CMJ to our list of outreach missions supported by Faith Anglican Church in Cordova, TN. I know that my request will be supported by Archbishop Foley and will be a great blessing both to our church and to the work of those at Christ's Church that labor daily to ring the word of Christ to the people of Jerusalem.

In His Name

David Hightower

Happy Fourth of July!!

The church office will be closed on Tuesday, July 4th, in observance of Independence Day.

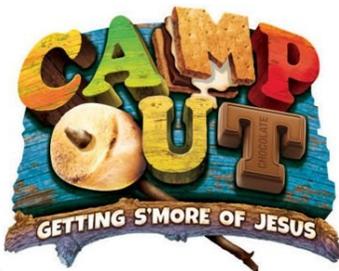


All articles for The Vine are due in the office the *second Monday* of the month, send to: laqueta@faithanglicanchurch.org

Service Times:
Sunday:
Holy Eucharist8:10/10:30am
Sunday School9:30am

www.faihanglicanchurch.org

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Save the Date for Vacation Bible School

July 18 & 19 from 6:00 to 8:30 PM at **Grace Celebration Lutheran Church** (Faith is partnering with Grace and Lively Stone Kingdom churches) at 8601 Trinity Road in Cordova. At **Camp Out VBS**, kids trek through an outdoor adventure—minus the bug spray and lack of sleep!

To register on line right click this link www.gracecelebration.org/vbs and click *open hyperlink or sign-up in the Narthex*.

