



AUGUST 2018

The Vine

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

COME BEFORE THE LORD WITH BOLDNESS AND RESPECT

Mark Zuckerberg is the chairman and CEO of Facebook. He is currently worth 73 billion dollars. Yet, his two year old daughter Maxima only knows him as "daddy." She boldly comes into her daddy's presence without hesitation. She doesn't have to make an appointment. She doesn't have to have to come through an intermediary. She boldly and joyfully comes into her daddy's presence. The famous, rich, and powerful Zuckerberg is overjoyed to have his toddler come to him, dirty diapers and all.



You have a Heavenly Father who desires you to come boldly into His presence! Yes, He is the Almighty God of the universe. Yes, He is the Creator and Sustainer of all that is. But He is also your Heavenly Father who delights in spending time with you, His precious child. Hebrews 4:16 reminds us to, "... come boldly to the throne of grace, that we may obtain mercy and find grace to help in time of need." Ephesians 3:12 says, "in whom we have boldness and access with confidence through our faith in him." God calls you unto Himself. Are you taking the time to come before Him like a child before its daddy?

When you come before your Heavenly Father, come with child-like faith, but come into His presence with admiration and respect. Surprisingly to most Christians, the Book of Leviticus helps us do just that. Most of us don't rank the Book of Leviticus as our favorite book of the Bible. Most of us wonder why a "New Testament Christian" would want to read this book at all. What might we learn

from the Book of Leviticus? Let's find out.

When the Levitical priests served the Lord, they were to come into His presence in holiness and awe, and in obedience to God's regulations. According to Leviticus chapter 10, the sons of Aaron, Nadab and Abihu, offered "unauthorized fire" (incense not in accordance with God's command). The fire of the Lord consumed them! What is the lesson here? Yes, come into God's presence with child-like faith, but don't come into the Lord's presence casually or flippantly.

Leviticus chapter 16 required the Levitical priests to wear specific clothes: "He shall put on the holy linen coat and shall have the linen undergarment on his body, and he shall tie the linen sash around his waist, and wear the linen turban; these are the holy garments." They were required to bathe before serving in the Tabernacle: "He shall bathe his body in water and then put them on." They were required to offer sacrifices in a certain manner: goats, bulls, lambs, incense, etc.

So, how is the Book of Leviticus relevant for us Christians today? Clearly we don't offer animal sacrifices. The real lesson from Leviticus is to not come casually into God's presence, but to come prepared and come with reverence. The General Confession we pray each Sunday reminds us of our need to come to Sunday worship, having confessed our sins, prepared to worship the Lord with clean hands and a clean soul. Let us come with child-like faith, but also with deep respect before our holy God.

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).

Deacon's Update (AKA the Treehouse Report)

At our last clergy retreat, I was describing to Bishop Frank Lyons how we had moved full-time to Pickwick Lake in response to God's calling to do "something" for the Kingdom. He suggested establishing a monthly communion service as a starting point. We held our first "Third Thursday" service June 21st with fifteen people and one German Shepherd Dog. It was a powerful time of worship and fellowship with believers of various backgrounds. July 19th will be our next celebration and we anxiously await those whom God sends our way. We are also supporting the congregation at St. David's Anglican Mission in Florence, AL by assisting Fr. Lanier Nail as needed. This group meets Sunday's at 3:00 PM for Bible study and prayer with monthly communion. Please keep both groups in prayer that we might reach those who have strayed from the Church or have never known the Lord Jesus.

A group of men from Faith have established a rotating weekly visitation schedule for men of the congregation who can no longer get to church. The intent is to let them know that we still care about them and want them to be a part of the Body of Christ. They receive communion once a month as well. Also, Rita Barnett and Christina Zachary join Mary Pipes as Lay Eucharistic Ministers who take communion to the home-bound. Please pray for the effective ministry of these servant leaders and those to whom they minister. If you know of someone in need of this outreach, please contact Deacon Fred or the Church office.

Of course, there is our time at Faith twice a month where we "energize" with worship and fellowship. Please keep Tanya and me in your prayers that we might be responsive to the prompting of the Holy Spirit.

Blessings,
Deacon Fred

Youth Back-to-School All Nighter



Hey guys! After school is back-in-session and you've had time to settle in, we are having our back to school all nighter on August 17! Please come on out and bring friends!! More info coming soon.

Helping the Poor God's Way

Throughout the Bible, God makes it clear that it's our responsibility to help the poor. For instance on the Day of Judgment the King (Jesus) will say to those who feed the hungry, invite the stranger in, clothe the naked, and visit the sick and those in prison, "whatever you did for one of the least of these brothers of mine, you did for me" (Matthew 25). Yet, how do we help the poor in a way that truly helps them? First, have an attitude of generosity and openhandedness, not hardheartedness or tightfistedness (Deuteronomy 15). Second, help the poor in a way that does not foster laziness or dependency, does not provide for illicit activities, and gives them love, honor, respect, and provision. Giving and lending (expecting nothing in return) to the poor is crucial in a crisis. However, in the long run applying the Gleaning Laws (Leviticus 19) to the poor is the best solution – "When you reap the harvest of your land, do not reap to the very edges of your field... Leave them for the poor and the alien." In other words, don't just give money to the poor, leave some work (home and business) for the poor to do.

August Birthdays

Jennifer Bostick	02	Kelly Shipman	14
Jessica Hearne	05	Jenny Ndaruhutse	20
Bob Barnett	08	Daniel King	24
Doug Conner	10	Chuck Glover	27
Bill Zachry	12	Sharon Mahaffey	28
Amy Trippel	13	Alex Garza	29

August Anniversaries

Noland and Mary Pipes	15
Mike and Pat Reese	16
Peter and Annette Kersting	31



Prayer Corner

Nancy Ebbing	Robin McCray
Mansell Lancaster	Andy Chadwick

Giving and Taxes

Sometimes, a donation can be less costly if you pay attention to which pocket the money comes out of. For example, this year I turn 70 and six months after this birthday, I will be forced to begin dealing with something called Required Minimum Distributions or RMD's for short. The federal government wants to make sure I spend down my tax-sheltered retirement savings (and they get their share of taxes on those funds) so they require that individuals 70 and ½ years old annually withdraw a percentage of their retirement funds from these tax-exempt accounts. I won't go into the mystifying vagaries of how RMDs are calculated. Simply stated what makes them important is the fact that they can affect your annual income and, accordingly, your tax rate. RMDs count as ordinary income and could increase your taxes. However, the government that "takes away" also has mechanisms that might ease this burden. For example, consider Qualified Charitable Distributions or QCD's for short. They allow you to take your RMD but send some or all of it to your favorite 501(c)3 charity, such as Faith. Working with the financial institution that holds your retirement account, you get them to send an amount you allot to your charity instead of you. This does not count as income to you nor do you pay taxes on it. The charity gets the money but you don't get to deduct the charitable donation. There is also a maximum annual QCD value of \$100,000 which doesn't affect me. Obviously as with all tax issues, it is a little more complex than I've explained here but your tax advisor or the institution holding your retirement accounts can give you a better and more complete explanation. I know several folks who use this method to give donations without having to deal with the issue of paying taxes on those funds. I think it may help me and I urge you to consider it.

Ron Kirby
Treasurer, Faith Anglican Church

August Monday Night Ladies Bible Study Movie Night

We will meet on Monday, August 20, at the Fisher's for our last movie night of the summer. Come at 7:00 p.m. for dinner and the movie. The title of the movie will be announced later. All ladies are invited.

Ladies Wednesday Morning Bible Study

Hi Ladies. Our Ladies Wednesday am prayer and Bible study resumes September 12. A great group of wonderful women who love the Lord, invite you to join us. 10:00 to 11:00 prayer time. 11:00 to 12 Noon study time. Our new study book is The Power of Your Words. "Words satisfy the soul as food satisfies the stomach, the right words on a person's lips bring satisfaction." Proverbs 18:20 If you are interested, talk to Christina Zachary at 901-337-2119.

Ladies- Strengthen Your Walk



The study that was originally developed for Daughters Candidates training has long been recognized as a powerful training for Anglican women, whether or not they have any interest in becoming a Daughter. You are invited to attend this training, and together we will share our love of the Lord. There are about a dozen short modules, and we can be pretty flexible with the schedule and make up sessions.

Here is a quote about this training/study from our own dear, Mary Hand: "The study guide and classes are one of the best training programs I have taken, to grow us into what a Christian walk with the Lord would look like through prayer, study, evangelism and service. Even if God does not call you to a commitment to be a Daughter of the Cross, He will raise you up to a greater devotion to our Lord, Jesus Christ."

If you are interested in using this summer to do something for yourself and for your love of God, contact Chris Shields (901-830-9542) or inotter-words@yahoo.com to reserve a spot. This is Anglican training but think about bringing a friend!

Monday Night Ladies Bible Study

The Monday night Bible study will begin on September 10. We meet from 7:00 to 9:00 p.m. each Monday night at the home of Bill and Sudy Fisher. We will be doing a study by Pricilla Shirer entitled *Breathe*. This study will help to free us from the bondage of busyness as we embrace the concept of the Sabbath as a precious gift from God. The cost of the book is \$10. Prayerfully consider joining us for prayer, study, food, and fellowship. All ladies are welcome. Contact Sudy Fisher at 901-299-4341.



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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

Archbishop Foley Beach to Chair the GAFCON Primates Council

Archbishop Beach will begin his new role in April of 2019. The “primates” are those archbishops who oversee their Anglican Provinces. “The GAFCON movement is a global family of authentic Anglicans standing together to retain and restore the Bible to the heart of the Anglican Communion. Our mission is to guard the unchanging, transforming Gospel of Jesus Christ and to proclaim Him to the world.” GAFCON represents the vast majority of Anglicans around the globe.



Called to the Quiet Retreat ~ August 25th, 9-Noon



Do you want to grow in your prayer life? Then come spend some quiet time with your Lord, a time of prayer, meditation, reflection, and hearing from God. From nine until noon at our *Called to the Quiet Retreat*, we will begin with Morning Prayer, have a time of directed prayer, meditation, and reflection, and conclude with Noon Day Prayers. A booklet is provided to help guide your time of prayer. You may enjoy walking the grounds or sitting in a lawn chair for a portion of your personal time of prayer and meditation. You may want to bring your Bible as well. Spiritual Direction and Reconciliation (Confession) will be available.

“When we all gather at the end to reflect on the morning, it's always surprising to hear what God has accomplished in just three hours of quiet community prayer and meditation. He uses the same guided retreat to work differently with each of us, according to our needs.” – Daniel King