Parish Life

40th Anniversary Celebration: Fall is upon us and so many new things are happening at the church. The first big event this year is the celebration of the church’s 40th Anniversary, Saturday, September 29th. The day will begin with Bishop Iker celebrating mass at 10:00 AM. Following that will be lunch and fellowship in the parish hall. The menu will be brisket with parishioner’s asked to bring side dishes or desserts. We have ice cream so we won’t need as many people to bring desserts. Please sign-up at the form on the credenza. It would also help to know how many people plan on attending to get an idea of the meat order. We have invited people and are receiving confirmations of past parishioners coming to join the fun. There will be games for the kids, a slide show of pictures from past and present, and a history of the church. Abby, Gayle and Connie have worked very hard to make this special for everyone.

Fall Festival: The next thing coming up is the Fall Festival, October 13, from 9:00 AM to 1:00 PM. We are looking for vendors that would like to share their crafts with the community. We also will need volunteers to help work some of the games, bounce houses and help with the raffle. We will be selling raffle tickets in a few weeks so be thinking of whom you might sell tickets to.

Pray for our church it’s growth and fellowship. Cool weather would also be wonderful.

Kathy Walker
It seems my article this month is a timely follow up to last month’s, in which I presented the importance of the office of bishop in the Church in anticipation of Bishop Iker’s recent parish visitation. As most of you know by now, late this past month Bishop Iker announced the timeline for his retirement, including the timeline for the election of a new bishop coadjutor who will be his successor. Now is a time to be in prayer for our diocese as we go about the process of discerning God’s call to choose who will lead us in the coming years. In a meeting with the clergy where the bishop disclosed his plan to us he reminded us that regardless of who we elect, the future is in God’s hands. It was a reassuring reminder that even in these uncertain times, unsure of the final outcome of our property dispute and in the midst of our faithful leader stepping down that no matter what, God holds the future. This is really all we ever have to keep in mind when doubt and worry begin to creep in. There is nothing that God does not know, up to and including the end of time as we know it and beyond. If we think of time as a giant map, we can chart a relatively small portion with varying degrees of accuracy of the roads that have already been travelled. God on the other hand has a detailed, perfect atlas of every single road, from major highways to seemingly insignificant country, dirt roads from where they begin through every intersection and to every endpoint.

Now, on a practical level, I’m sure many of you are wondering how this process will work. The following is from a diocesan communication;

A Nominating Committee for the selection of a slate of candidates is to be formed in October. Provisions for the process are set forth in diocesan Canon 40, which calls for two representatives (one lay, one clerical) to be elected from each of the six Deaneries. Eight additional members (four lay, four clerical) will be elected by the Executive Council, and the Standing Committee will elect a further eight committee members (four lay, four clerical) and a chairman. The Nominating Committee is expected to make a report to the Convention in November. The election will take place at a Special Convention on June 1, 2019; the consecration date is tentatively set for Sept. 21, the feast of St. Matthew.

So, as I mentioned prayer earlier, this information should help to guide our prayer. Pray for the selection of the nominating committee, especially Fr. Ed Kresowaty who has been elected chair and continue to pray for them once selected. Pray for potential nominees to be our next bishop, that they would have the courage and fortitude to serve as the shepherd of our diocese in such difficult times. And most of all, pray for the guidance of the Holy Spirit over the entire process. Yes, God holds the future, but it is still up to us to follow the signage in order to take the right roads and we can only do so with great wisdom and discernment. This will be an important election, not just for our diocese, but for the entire Anglican Church in North America as well as the global Anglican Communion. Fr. Alan Horton+

Sunday sermons are recorded, each Sunday. http://stgregorymansfield.org/sermons.

The Mansfield ISD had their annual Back to School Bash on August 4th. The event provides backpacks, school supplies and services to schoolchildren. St. Gregory’s parishioners were on hand to provide support and education.

September Birthdays
01 ~ Charlie Holcomb
05 ~ Candace Griffin
08 ~ Brenda Lee
09 ~ Rick Black
11 ~ Noah McDuff
12 ~ Bernice Baldwin & Freda Diz
13 ~ Hunter Holcomb
25 ~ Ryker Mowrer
30 ~ Linda Bass

September Anniversaries
16 ~ Tom & Anne Bressert ~ 35th
18 ~ Tim & Dot Cannon ~ 25th
26 ~ Jason & Meredith Melton, 3rd

September Memorials
Mack & Sharon Holcomb, thanksgiving
Kathy Walker, birthday thanksgivings
Cheri Davis, in Charlie’s memory
Dot & Tim Cannon, 25th Ann + Nick’s bd
Linda Bass, birthday thanksgiving

Mark Your September Calendar
01 ~ Men’s Group, 8 am
03 ~ Office closed, Labor Day
05 ~ Monthly Potluck
06 ~ Genealogy at the Bradburn’s, 9 am
09 ~ Sunday School begins
12 ~ Holy Eucharist at Watercrest, 1 pm
15 ~ Men’s Group, 8 am
18 ~ Vestry meeting, 6 pm
22 ~ Work day, 8:30 - 11 am
26 ~ Holy Eucharist at Watercrest, 1 pm
29 ~ St. G 40th Anniversary Celebration

DHC, Parish Hall, 10 am
Daughters of the Holy Cross met on Saturday, August 25, 2018, at St. Gregory's. Next month, we will have our DHC Provincial Assembly on September 13-16, 2018, at Church of the Holy Communion in Dallas. We will be taking our Banner with our name and Church Affiliation which will be displayed at the Assembly. We want to Thank Rick Black for helping in making our banner as well as Barbara Hanson, Cheri Davis, Anne Bressert and Candace Griffin. The DHC Annual Women's Silent Retreat will be held on February 8 & 9, 2019 at beautiful Camp Crucis, in Granbury, Texas. All of the women of the Church are invited to attend. Our next meeting will be on Saturday, September 22, 2018, at 10:00 am at St. Gregory's.

Bernice

---

Preschool Happenings

We are back into the swing of things here at the preschool. We had a great start to the year. We have 55 students currently enrolled, about half of those are returning students and about half are new to the school! Word of mouth still seems to be our best form of advertisement. The majority of families who have registered were referred to us by a friend or family member who attended.

The month of September will be time of adjusting to routines and getting acquainted with our program. We have lots of new students who are eager to learn! We will also begin some of our special enrichment activities this month. If you are interested in volunteering your time at the preschool, please contact Elizabeth. We already have Bernice scheduled to come read to the children and Abby comes with the dogs for a visit monthly. If you have any special talents you would like to share, we would love to have you. Specifically, if you can play an instrument for a special music time.

Pic # 1 Two year old’s music time. Pic # 2 Pre-K working on morning readiness skills.

Elizabeth Rivera

---

Jr. Warden’s Report

Preparing for the Fall Preschool semester we swapped some furniture and rearranged some of the rooms.

The big project was to remodel the nursery. With a lot of good help we striped the wallpaper, textured, sealed, and painted the room. Gayle cleaned the carpet before we put the furniture and toys back.

I would like to thank Walt and Gayle Bradburn, Robert Bloomfield, Bill Griffin from the Church,, Elizabeth and her husband, Sara and her husband, Lily and her boyfriend from the school.

Thanks to the good help for a job well done! I would like to thank anyone that I might have missed.

Monday the 20th we had the A/C’s checked and serviced. Some are working better and one is permanently out of service. I will provide a full report at a later date. I have provided a picture of a Parrish Hall system.

Trice

---

Daughters of the Holy Cross

Daughters of the Holy Cross met on Saturday, August 25, 2018, at St. Gregory's. Next month, we will have our DHC Provincial Assembly on September 13-16, 2018, at Church of the Holy Communion in Dallas. We will be taking our Banner with our name and Church Affiliation which will be displayed at the Assembly. We want to Thank Rick Black for helping in making our banner as well as Barbara Hanson, Cheri Davis, Anne Bressert and Candace Griffin. The DHC Annual Women's Silent Retreat will be held on February 8 & 9, 2019 at beautiful Camp Crucis, in Granbury, Texas. All of the women of the Church are invited to attend. Our next meeting will be on Saturday, September 22, 2018, at 10:00 am at St. Gregory's.
St. Gregory's Genealogy Research Group

September 6th meeting at 9:00 AM

We have a treat this month! Diane Dyess will be our speaker at the 9:00 a.m. meeting on September 6 at the Bradburn Farm. We met Diane at the Lineage Society Fair. She is involved with many of the different lineage societies.

Diane will discuss the meanings of the statues and symbols found in old graveyards to prepare us for our Field Trip to the Oakwood Cemetery for their Saints and Sinners Tour in October.

Oakwood Cemetery’s Saints and Sinners Tour

Walking Tours: Saturday, October 27 and Sunday, October 28 at 1:00 p.m. and 3:30 p.m. Cost $10.00 at the gate. There are tour guides that take you to the designated headstones where the reenactors portray the person that is buried there.

Twilight Tours: Friday, October 26 and Saturday October 27. Cost $20.00 – Reservations Required – It includes the reenactors and special music in the 100 year old chapel. Reservations available beginning September 17th. They usually sell out in 1 day.

We will need to decide soon which dates we want to go. If we want to do the Twilight Tour we need reservations.

Please join us for both of these events!!

Gayle Bradburn

Men’s Group

The men of St. Gregory's met on Saturday the 18th of August for a BBQ Bandwagon. Ten of us piled into the Horton's people-hauler and Father Horton drove us around to several different barbecue joints. We went to Heim’s in Fort Worth, then Longoria’s, and the Hickory Stick in Everman. We sampled chopped and sliced brisket as well as the sausage at each place. Everyone kept notes and gave scores while sampling the BBQ. Comments about the three places included:

- Black Pepper Sausage, Very Nice.
- Chop - Saucy and Sweet.
- Jerky Treats!
- Ribs were good (according to 2 other tables)
- Not My Favorite 😐
- Chop was minced too much.

Overall everyone agreed that Heim had the best BBQ. We waited in line for a few minutes, but ordered our food and were served relatively quickly. The other two shops were old school and off the beaten path but recommended by many people online. The service was quick and friendly, but we probably won't make another trip to them.

We learned some lessons for our next outing:

- Drink water, not Big Red. This maximizes room for BBQ.
- Go to the best place first. You will be full by the end of the trip.
- Make sure to leave time between each place. This lets everything settle.

It was a great day for a brisket adventure with fellowship fun. We discussed many finer points of BBQ, and Jake entertained us with stories of his DeLorean. We are all looking forward to the next one.

Tim Cannon
The kingdom of God is a healing kingdom. It heals people. When it comes near to sickness it flushes it out, moves it on and away.

We intelligent people very often have problems with this. We try to work it out in our minds instead of in our spirits. But we have been warned…Jesus warned us that we must look at the kingdom like children or we will miss the idea of it altogether.

If we don’t believe the kingdom heals then that may be the reason - using the wisdom of the adult to work things out rather than the wisdom of God. If we dismiss this by imagining that our common sense comes from God then we’ve got another think coming!

And the facts remain: The God of our Old Testament ‘heals all your diseases’ and the God of our New Testament ‘healed all those who needed healing’. Those parts of the church today who don’t believe this may well have been using their brains again, building a god out of their experience of life rather than out of the pages of the gospels.

And Jesus added that we should seek first the kingdom of God and his righteousness and what we need would fall off the back of the wagon. (my own bad translation!). Seeking the kingdom and seeking his righteousness are two very connected but very different things and we need very much to do both types of seeking to get near the kingdom.

This little thought concerns the seeking of righteousness. Modern Christianity doesn’t define this for us on the pews so we are left imagining that it’s something to do with being ‘nice’ or gracious, forgiving all and being gentle with everything and everybody we come across in life. Far from it…..

Abraham believed what God had said to him and then set out to live accordingly. That utter and complete, life-altering belief was credited to him as ‘righteousness’. So righteousness is attained through utterly believing and trusting in God’s word. And the Lord Jesus is, in truth, the Word made flesh.

If we want to see the kingdom come near to our friends, our families, ourselves then let’s get simple and seek his righteousness, a new sense of his utter trust in what the Father is doing?

Jesus healed everyone who came to him without any pre requisites at all and then said that he was only doing what he saw the Father was up to. Jesus says to us, “be merciful because your heavenly Father is merciful.”

In the Kingdom Movement today which is following God’s great dream among the nations, slotted in a host of other refreshing and life-changing Christianity is the need to watch our brains, our human wisdom that works things out all the time, that harbours doubt and unbelief. Let us throw off any traces of an unreliable, uncaring, untrustworthy god (even though we might call him Jesus) simply because such an untrustworthy person cannot be found in the gospels.

God doesn’t change. Jesus, in harmony with the Father, healed everyone who came to him for it. He is the King of the kingdom of God and, therefore, in simple logic terms, the kingdom heals. We bring it near by seeking it, by proclaiming its goodness and by seeking his righteousness, complete trust in his will to restore the world, that Will seen in the activities of Jesus.

That’s increasing our harmony with God, going somewhere deeper and deeper where we are ‘hidden in God with Christ’, merged with the kingdom that heals.

Be blessed in this seeking - Mike Endicott

Heinz Liedke
Our Clergy and Staff

“Truly, truly, I say to you, a servant is not greater than his master, nor is a messenger greater than the one who sent him”
John 13:16

Rector Fr. Alan Horton rector@stgregorysmansfield.org
Parish Secretary Connie Barker office@stgregorysmansfield.org
Organist Joshua Lang joshua.lang@tcu.edu
Preschool Administration Elizabeth Rivera, Director sgpreschool@stgregorysmansfield.org
Bookkeeper Doris Short sgfinance@stgregorysmansfield.org
Chant Editor Phil Hawkins phil_hawkins@sbcglobal.net
Webmaster/ Facebook Administrator Tim Cannon thetimcannon@gmail.com

© Material from this publication may be copied for personal use and for use in publications of non-profit organizations.

St. Gregory’s Anglican Church
1091 Country Club Drive
Mansfield, TX 76063