St. Gregory’s Anglican Church

Making Disciples of Jesus Christ for the Transformation of the World by Knowing, Loving and Serving God.
Last year, in the August edition of The Chant, I discussed the role of the bishop in anticipation of our yearly visitation and in the following month announced the retirement of Bishop Iker and briefly laid out the process of electing our next bishop. On Easter Monday the candidates for our next bishop were officially announced and their profiles made public along with a short introductory video by each candidate. All of this information is available on the diocesan website www.fwepiscopal.org. I would encourage everyone to take a look at this material and familiarize yourself with the candidates. On May 11th, our convention delegate, Cheri Davis and I will attend a forum where we will have the opportunity to ask questions of each of the candidates and their wives as we move towards the special convention on June 1st where we will elect our next bishop coadjutor who will assume the role of diocesan bishop when Bishop Iker retires at the end of this year. Please keep us as well as our diocese and all of the candidates in your prayers as we discern the will of God for our future through the guidance of the Holy Spirit. If there are any questions that you would like posed to any or all of the candidates, let Cheri or me know and we will do our best to pose them at the forum. On a personal note, I am very comforted in knowing that any of the candidates that have been presented will be more than suitable in contending for the faith here in the Diocese of Fort Worth as our bishop. Three of them are currently rectors within the diocese and the fourth is the rector of an ACNA church in Georgia and has roots in our diocese, having been ordained by Bishop Iker and served at several Fort Worth congregations. I am confident of the orthodoxy of all the candidates and excited to see where God is leading us.

On another note, I would like to thank everyone who participated in our Lenten Bible study series on the Servant Songs of Isaiah. It was a wonderful way to connect Old Testament prophecy to our Lord and Savior and I always enjoy our lively conversations. We will be continuing Bible Study through the month of May following our parish potluck on May 1st before breaking for the summer. The book that will take us through the end of the school year will be Paul’s Letter to the Philippians. If you haven’t joined us for a study, this is an excellent opportunity to come for a few weeks and be able to work with us through a whole book of scripture.

And finally, thank you all for another wonderful Easter here at St. Gregory’s and a special thanks to everyone who donated candy and helped stuff eggs for our Easter Egg Hunt. I cherish these times in the life of our church and thank God for the wonderful families that He has sent to us as we continue to grow in numbers and in faith. Alleluia, Christ is Risen!!!

Fr. Alan Horton+

Sunday sermons are recorded, each Sunday. http://stgregorysmansfield.org/sermons.
Preschool Happenings

We are now into our final 3 weeks of the school year! A lot of events have transpired throughout the month of April. The Bloomfield’s have once again done an outstanding job with our Spring portraits as well as our Pre-K graduation portraits.

April 18th we hosted our annual Trike-a-Thon, benefiting St. Jude’s Children’s Hospital. We raised over $1,200 this year, which surpassed our goal! The rain didn’t stop us!

Our Easter egg hunts were rained on, but we just moved the hunt indoors and the kiddos had a great time.

Our younger classes presented our Spring Program, we had a great turn out and the students did a fantastic job.

May 16th will be our last day of preschool and we will host our Pre-K graduation that evening.

Pic #1 Trike-a-Thon, Pic #2 Trike-a-Thon, Pic #3 Egg hunts, Pic #4 Fish class Spring Program, Pic #5 Owl class Spring Program, Pic #6 Owl class Spring Program

Elizabeth Rivera
Daughters of the Holy Cross met on Saturday, April 27th, 2019, in the Parish Hall at St. Gregory’s.

We continued with our discussion on our book study, Intercessory Prayer by Dutch Sheets, Chapter eight. Our next meeting will be on Saturday, May 25th, 2019, at 10:00 a.m. in the Parish Hall at St. Gregory’s.

Bernice Baldwin

Order of St. Luke

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, uncarving, 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, buy 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

Daughters of the Holy Cross

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Bernice Baldwin

St. Clara’s Guild

The next meeting of the St. Clara’s Guild will be June 8 at 9:00 at the home of Barbara Hanson, 722 Danvers Lane, Mansfield. We will be starting a new quilt, so bring your sewing machines and other basic supplies (scissors, etc.) if you can. If you can’t bring your machine, come anyway and we will “press” you into service ironing seams. If you have any questions, contact Barbara Edwards at 817-729-4783 or bredwards51@yahoo.com.

Barbara Hanson, Barbara Edwards and Candace Griffin are shown with Sharon Holcomb and new grandson Christopher with a quilt made by St. Clara’s guild.

Barbara Edwards
Greetings All!!

The Genealogy Group’s April meeting was at Phil Hawkins’ house. Phil discussed DNA with us; it was very interesting. This was the first of several presentations on DNA.

I attended the seminar at the Arlington Family History Seminar April 13. The most valuable presentations to me were the FamilySearch WIKI and Family Tree Maker and the Great Things It Can Do. Hopefully, I can present this material to our group at future meetings. The syllabus’ for the sessions will be made available on the St. Gregory’s Genealogy Research Group Facebook Page soon.

Some of us attended the Fort Worth Genealogical Society’s Beginners Workshop Series Session 4 – Information in Libraries and Archives which was held on Saturday, April 27. We also attended the April Meeting on Tuesday, April 30. This program was presented by Bernard N. Meisner, Ph.D., on The Value of Collateral Line Research.

May’s meeting will be at the Bradburn Farm on Friday, May 3, at 9:30 A.M. We will continue our discussions about DNA.

Jr. Warden’s Report

April has been a busy month. Preparing the grounds for Easter and trying to complete four large projects at St. Gregory’s.

The grounds work was mostly completed with a good bit of help. We are still working on the flowerbed on the south side of the sanctuary.

We completed three of the projects and the fourth should be completed before the Chant is sent out. We replaced the carpet in the Parish Hall. We replaced the damaged facia board on the front of the sanctuary. We filled the holes in the Parish Hall parking lot. We repaired the lights in the sanctuary that were out.

The last project, the air conditioning in the sanctuary, is underway and should be completed before the fourth Sunday service. The two units at the back of the church have been replaced and the other two that keep Father Horton cool are being replaced as I write and are scheduled for completion before our next service.

Trice

Squaw Valley Golf Course / June 7, 2019

Last year’s Bishop Iker Challenge funded:
* 50 scholarships for kids who would not have been able to attend camp
* Replaced front doors
* Built a dining hall storage annex
* Put a roof on the new barn
* Upgraded the pool pump
* Begin the Friary Cottage remodel
* Made major repairs to several air-conditioning units

Contact Steve Hawkins
817-917-9671
for tickets & donations.

St. Gregory’s Genealogy Research Group

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Henry Tempel baptized April 28, 2019.

James, Elizabeth and Noah McDuff welcomed their newest blessing, Hannah Elizabeth Wednesday, April 10th at 1:53pm. Baby Hannah weighed 7 lbs, 13 ounces and was 20 inches long. We want to thank everyone for your prayers, well wishes and of course the food we received during this time!
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

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