

NEWSLETTER

Making Disciples | Raising Up Saints | Transforming Communities for Christ

News and Notes

Community Supper May 13th

Christ the King is hosting the Quincy Community Supper on Wednesday, May 13th at the Quincy Methodist Church.

We are looking for volunteers to help staff the food preparation, serve, and clean-up. Sign-up sheets are in the Narthex!

Mother's Day Service for All Women May 10th

It has become the tradition of Christ the King to offer special prayers for the scores of ministries undertaken by the women of our parish on Mother's Day.

Please join us May 10th for a special Mother's Day Service for All Women at 10am. The sermon will reflect on women's voices in our biblical and liturgical tradition, and we will offer prayers of thanksgiving for all the women in our lives.



Stewardship Q&A with the Vicar

Why begin a stewardship campaign in the spring?

For me, there are two reasons to change the “season” of stewardship: one practical, another theological.

On a practical level, it made sense to link the Pledge Drive with the Capital Campaign. As we approach parishioners about considering the gifts they would like to share with the Church, it seemed pretty straightforward that we would also ask parishioners to support the ministries in which we hope to engage once St. Giles' Hall is completed.

On a theological level, I'm absolutely convinced that Stewardship should take place within the context of the Easter season. In all four of the Gospels, Easter Sunday is about faith conquering fear. Yet, as I said in a sermon last month, when Stewardship rolls around, I, for one, immediately fall back into a state of fear. “Will I have enough?” is a very deep seated, almost biological response to Stewardship. Yet, when we ask these questions in the very midst of the Easter Season, I think it is easier to see God's Grace operating in our lives.

Fear seems like a strange place to begin a stewardship campaign.

It is! But if you don't start there, you'll never help people grow into mature practitioners of the faith.

Diocesan Book Read

Bishop Beisner hopes to engage the entire diocese in reading *The Agile Church: Spirit-Led Innovation in an Uncertain Age* during Eastertide. CTK will be hosting a book club review of the book on May 17th. Epilog Books in Quincy has several copies in stock, so be sure to support both the Bishop and local businesses!

Pledge Forms Requested by 5/31

We are kindly asking that pledge forms be returned to the church office by Sunday, May 31st. As part of Trinity Sunday, we will be offering a blessing over Stewardship pledges. Pledge Forms were sent out by email and physical mail. Additional copies are available in the Narthex or online.

Capital Campaign Underway!

Fr. Matt has been blown away by the remarkable generosity demonstrated by the early pledges to the St. Giles' Hall Capital Campaign. After 3 weeks, we are over halfway to our goal, having received over \$4000 in cash and in-kind services!

Thank you!!!

Say more about that.

Personally, I think the Church has done a great disservice by not acknowledging the role fear plays in our lives, especially around Stewardship and giving. Economists describe “opportunity cost” as money you can’t spend twice; i.e., money you spend on a vacation is money you can no longer spend on a home renovation. Stewardship involves a similar opportunity cost: when we ask people to give to the church, we must also realize that we are asking people to “give up” something else. If we don’t acknowledge this implicit second half of giving, we’ll never transform believers into disciples of Christ.

How are discipleship and stewardship linked?

I believe they both begin in fear and are transformed by the power of God’s Grace into faith. If you look at the disciples, there is a near-constant cycle of fear, promise, and faith. Easter morning begins in the terrible fear of Jesus’ missing body, but as the women and later disciples are reminded of God’s promise to resurrect Christ, their fear now manifests itself as faith.

Stewardship can follow a similar model. We can wonder whether or not we’ll have enough—that’s fear; or we can remember how God has blessed us with the riches of His Grace. It is precisely then that we begin to realize that we are not, in fact, “giving up” something when we make our offering to the church—we are merely returning to God.

Stewardship has often been considered a reflection of our spiritual maturity. As we grow in Discipleship, there is a natural growth in our stewardship of the Church, because we have a greater understanding of God’s grace in our lives and a reduced anxiety that God will provide for us. As Anne Frank reminded us, “No one ever became poor through giving.”

Where are you on the spectrum of fear and faith with regards to Stewardship?

I’m slowly but surely working *towards* faithfulness, but I’m not there yet.

I think clergy have to be honest in sharing their own fears and anxieties about giving. It is when we acknowledge these fears that we can begin to move past them. Resurrection happens only after death, not denial. We must allow our fears to die so that they can be raised as faith. That’s what the Easter season, and, by proxy, Stewardship is all about.

Prayer List

Birthdays:

Anniversaries:

For those expecting a child:

In thanksgiving for newborns:

For those in the hospital:

For those in need of healing:

- Chris
- Margaret
- Torrey
- Klytia
- Leila
- Quincy
- Robin
- Joseph
- Ian
- Betty

For those who have died:

For those in need:

For those who travel:

- Ken & Pat
- Emily

Special Concerns:

- Christians in the Holy Land
- Inquirer's Class

CTK Mission Priorities

St. Giles' Hall Renovations:

March saw our successful inspection of plumbing, electrical, and insulation work! Drywall was installed, and paint work has begun! We expect flooring to be installed soon.

Weekly Attendance:

Here is a comparison of our April attendance reports from 2014 and 2015:

Monthly Attendance	April 2015	Previous Year
Week 1	22	12
Week 2	16	10
Week 3	31	24
Week 4	7	11
Year to Date	263	216

**April Week 1 was Easter Sunday in 2015, it was Week 3 of April in 2014*

Anglican/Episcopal Brand Awareness:

Christ the King launched a new email service in April. We have begun to partner with MailChimp to provide more timely and attractive email updates to our parishioners and local partners. The service is free, and allows us to provide a consistent “brand” across our digital platforms.

Website usage is ticking up. We now average close to 28 page views per day!

Fr. Matt and Pat recently had a chance to review parish websites as a part of their College for Congregational Development, and they will be implementing a few changes to help make the site even better for parishioners and visitors alike.

May Worship Schedule

Date	Service	Reader	Coffee	Lessons
Sunday May 3 Easter V	Holy Communion Rite II	Batson	McNett	Acts 8:26-40; Psalm 22:24-30; I John 4:7-21; John 15:1-8
Sunday May 10 Easter VI	Holy Communion Rite II		Hood	Acts 10:44-48; Psalm 98; I John 5:1-6; John 15:9-17
Sunday May 17 Easter VII	Holy Communion Rite II	Way	Way	Acts 1:15-17, 21-26; Psalm 1; I John 5:9-13; John 17:6-19
Sunday May 24 Whitsunday/Pentecost	Holy Communion Rite II	Muñoz	Muñoz	Ezekiel 37:1-14; Psalm 104:25-35, 37; Acts 2:1-21; John 15:26-27, 16:4b-15
Sunday May 31 Trinity Sunday	Holy Communion Rite II	Gimbel	Warren	Isaiah 6:1-8; Psalm 29; Romans 8:12-17; John 3:1-17

June Worship Schedule

Date	Service	Reader	Coffee	Lessons
Sunday June 7 Pent. II, Proper 5	Holy Communion Rite II	Batson	McNett	Genesis 3:8-15; Psalm 130; II Corinthians 4:13-5:1; Mark 3:20-35
Sunday June 14 Pent. III, Proper 6	Holy Communion Rite II	Gimbel	Hood	Ezekiel 17:22-24; Psalm 92:1-4, 11-14; II Corinthians 5:6-17; Mark 4:26-34
Sunday June 21 Pent. IV, Proper 7	Holy Communion Rite II	Muñoz	Muñoz	Job 38:1-11; Psalm 107:1-3, 23-32; II Corinthians 6:1-13; Mark 4:35-41
Sunday June 28 Pent. V, Proper 8	Holy Communion Rite II	Way	Hood	Wisdom of Solomon 1:13-15, 2:23-24; Psalm 30; II Corinthians 8:7-15; Mark 5:21-43