



# GOOD NEWS LETTER

Dear Friends,

*Create in me a clean heart, O God; and renew a right spirit within me.*  
*Psalm 51:10*

David's petition to God is our petition too. We are about to begin Lent, the season of our Church Calendar when we draw ever closer to God, the Cardiologist. We clamor for a renewed Spirit – a heart transplant. It's the time when we take stock, honestly, of our sins and shortfalls. We redirect our attention once again towards God and drink from His well of mercy and grace.



God as a Divine Cardiologist is such an apt metaphor because it tells us that our hearts have, like sheep, gone astray from the love and purity of God. That God is not concerned with our outward works and accomplishments or our shortfalls; no, God is concerned with changing our hearts. He wants to redirect our hearts to Him. He wants to clean us up and renew our Spirit so that we will then do "those works that thou has prepared for us to walk in."

An illustration: Over the last year, Property Manager extraordinaire Peter Howarth and the Vestry have invested money and time into replacing the Quest Piping in the Ministry and Youth Center buildings. Quest Piping ceased to exist in the early 1980s after it was found to be faulty because of spontaneous pin hole sized leaks. After years of chronic leaks, we replaced the inner pipes and we are not leaky anymore! The Good News for you and me is that God is constantly renewing our inner pipes – the valves in our hearts – and giving us a renewed Spirit full of His grace and mercy.

Peace

Willis

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## A LOOK AHEAD

April 2019						
S	M	T	W	T	F	S
	1	2	3	4	5	6
7	8	9	10	11	12	13
14	15	16	17	18	19	20
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28	29	30				

# Dorcas Needlework Guild

Every Thursday from 1:00 to 3:00, interested stitchers gather in the needlework room of the Youth Center to work on projects. Recently, we donated one of our comfort robes to someone with serious medical issues – and that’s what it’s all about: sharing the love of Christ through lovingly-made stitches that build a quilt or a baby blanket or a lap robe of some kind. Would you like to join us? Drop by one Thursday afternoon to see what we do. Or stop one of us when you see us on the church campus! Good folks to ask about the Dorcas Needlework Guild include Sally Field, Carole Geiger, Gret Kidd, Emily Moore, Frances Mounfield, Patti Suite, Trudy Trammell. Come for a half-hour or stay longer; bring your own project or work on one of ours or take something home to work on. Welcome!!!



## SUNDAYS IN MARCH

Chuck Geiger will finish up the series on First Corinthians on March 3rd and then he and Willis will do Lenten Collects through April 14th.

3/3 -- 1 Corinthians 15:51-58  
“EVERLASTING LIFE”

3/10 through 4/14 - Chuck and Willis will lead a study through the Lenten Collects. These Prayers are poignant and deeply theological. They will guide our discussion and they serve as a wonderful place of reflection for Lent. Adult Education/Fellowship Time meets at 9:15 on Sunday mornings in the Ministry Center Library.

## Episcopal Church

### Women NEWS

Please mark your 2019 calendar. St Mark’s will celebrate the coming of Christmas at the Glebe on Wednesday, December 11th at 11:00 AM. Over 50 members and guests enjoyed the Christmas luncheon at the Glebe on December 3, 2018. Five past and present ministers blessed us with their presence. Lisa Uotinen helped us celebrate with her beautiful classical and Christmas music on the Boston piano.

Thanks to our St. Mark’s Kroger card fundraiser Trudy Trammell was able to send all of our college students a gift certificate in November. In December donations were made to the Fincastle Fire Department, Fincastle Christmas lights and summer flowers, the Boys Home in Covington, and the Honduras Mission trip in honor of Charlie and Judy Echols.

Please renew your St. Mark’s Episcopal Kroger membership card to allow the church women to receive money from your Kroger purchases. This is our only fundraiser. Our Kroger identification number is MC103060 and be sure to specify you are with St. Mark’s EPISCOPAL church, since there are other churches called St Mark’s. Thank you!

## 12<sup>th</sup> Night Thank You

The Botetourt Food Pantry thanks St. Mark’s once again for your generous support with the 12th Night Charity Concert. Your thirty-five years of ongoing support have been vital to our mission to help end hunger in Botetourt County.

The dream of a community supported food pantry has long been a reality, but we couldn’t do all that we do without St. Mark’s: not just food, but help with rent, utilities and fuel assistance. Our children and the elderly are especially vulnerable in Botetourt County and your generosity and hard work on 12<sup>th</sup> Night make a big difference in their lives. You are taking care of your community! Thank you!

*The Botetourt Food Pantry*

## Vestry Musings

By Carole Geiger

Have you ever paused after reading a Bible passage and wondered to yourself, *how on earth does anyone keep all these rules and regulations and LAWS straight?!* I surely have...and sometimes I've also wondered how on earth Old Testament peoples coped under the weight of all those laws!

But Christ took it all, distilled it all, and gave us "GPS directions" to define our relationships with God and our neighbors. In our *Book of Common Prayer*, we repeat it in our services, this Summary of the Law:

You shall love the Lord your God with all your heart,  
with all your soul, and with all your mind. This is the  
first and great commandment. And the second is like  
it: You shall love your neighbor as yourself.

Against this rubric, each of us can judge our own actions in living the Gospel: Are my words, my actions, my thoughts loving of and to God? By saying, doing, thinking this way, am I loving my neighbor?

Our blessed church community offers us many ways to live out this Great Commandment every day and week. Each time we do a service within our church family, we're living The Great Commandment: singing in the choir, ushering, bringing food for coffee hour or to a reception or into the home of someone housebound, helping out in the nursery or Sunday School, folding programs, sending a greeting or condolence, knitting or quilting or ironing or sorting with the Dorcas Needlework Guild, cleaning up after Twelfth Night or the Spaghetti Supper or an event on our campus – and on and on goes the list of the loving and serving ways we can live out the Gospel in our church community and then extend those services into our daily lives and wider communities.

Jesus's Summary of the Law simplified it for us. Let us know Him and go forth to make Him known by living out this Great Commandment!



The 12th Annual Mockingbird Conference

# BEYOND DESERVING

Hope in a World of Performance

APRIL 25-27, 2019 | NEW YORK CITY

VISIT [MBIRD.COM](http://MBIRD.COM) FOR MORE INFORMATION + TO REGISTER.



# **Lenten Suppers and Historical Theology Series**

## **How we read the Bible - Past, Present and Future**

### **with featured speakers**

Wednesdays in March and April -- 6:00pm to 7:30pm in the Ministry Center

#### **March 13: “Reading Scripture Behind Bars”**

**Rev. Lynn Litchfield** is the Director of Development for GracelInside. She began her journey with prison ministry in 1997 as the original and sole chaplain to Fluvanna Correctional Center for Women, Virginia’s maximum-security women’s prison. Under Lynn’s care more than 15,000 women cycled through FCCW where they had the opportunity to participate in the most developed religious program in any state penal institution. For six of eleven years, Lynn served the only woman on death row. Lynn continued to advocate for her care even after ceasing her job at FCCW. Lynn’s work for “the least of these” was interrupted by a deeply personal tragedy, the death of her beautiful and precocious ten year old daughter, Alyssa Grace Divers. Lynn returned to work for GracelInside in 2013 knowing the value of God’s grace to the broken hearted. She travels and works tirelessly to raise awareness, friends and funds for GracelInside – a ministry whose work is too often “out of sight, out of mind.”



#### **March 20:**

**Not Confirmed .**

#### **March 27: “Reading the Hebrew Scriptures”**

**Rabbi Kathy Cohen** was ordained from the Hebrew Union College in Cincinnati, Ohio, in 1988. She holds a Masters in Hebrew Letter from Hebrew Union College – Jewish Institute of Religion, as well as Bachelor of Arts, Magna Cum Laude, from Brandeis University. Immediately following ordination she served as the Assistant Rabbi at Rockdale Temple in Cincinnati. **Rabbi Cohen’s** tenure as the spiritual leader of Temple Emanuel began in May 1996. During her years with Temple Emanuel, she has spearheaded the creation of a Jewish Preschool program, aided in a campaign for the restoration of the congregation’s Torah Scrolls, and was instrumental in the renovation and enlargement of Temple Emanuel. Under her guidance, the congregation formed both a Youth Group and a Brotherhood, as well as greatly expanding the variety of adult education courses offered to the community. As the Rabbi of Temple Emanuel, she has strongly promoted diversity within the public school systems.



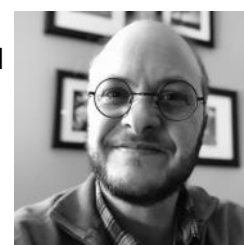
#### **April 3: “Reading Scripture with a Disability”**

**Darla Schumm** is the John P. Wheeler Professor of Religion at Hollins University. She received her B.A. in interdisciplinary studies with concentrations in history, psychology, and women’s studies from Goshen College, her M.A. in social ethics from the Pacific School of Religion in Berkeley, CA, and her Ph.D. in religion, ethics, and society from Vanderbilt University. Schumm’s current research focuses on intersections between religious studies and disability studies. She is the coeditor of *Disability and World Religions: An Introduction*, a textbook on world religions and disability. She has several published articles in this area. She enjoys traveling, knitting, reading fiction, and playing with her son in her free time.



#### **April 10: “Reading Scripture with Saints”**

**Riley Chattin** is a certified Spiritual Director and Intuitive. As a Spiritual Director he draws upon a background of diverse experiences and training, to help navigate unique spiritual paths. Riley says: “I am able to recognize that we may have our spiritual home, but we also have our own journey. While we may know that we have the opportunity to strengthen our spiritual lives, we may not know how. This is where a trained Spiritual Director can be of benefit, to expand the opportunities of spiritual growth. In addition to Spiritual Director training at the [Spiritual Direction Institute](#), I am also a certified Reiki Master, and Reflexology practitioner, which all aid in recognizing our physical, mental and spiritual needs.”





# 2019

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
<p><b>3</b></p> <p>8:00am Holy Communion I 9-15am Adult Edfellowship Time 9:30am Choir Rehearsal 10:30am Children's Chapel 10:30am Holy Communion II</p>	<p><b>4</b></p> <p>2:30pm Homework Helps</p>	<p><b>5</b></p> <p>12:00pm Batetourt County Clergy Meeting 8:00pm Open AA meeting</p>	<p><b>6</b></p> <p>12:00pm Ash Wednesday Service of Holy Communion 2:30pm Homework Helps 7:00pm Ash Wednesday Community Service at Church of Transfiguration</p>	<p><b>7</b></p> <p>12:00pm clericus 1:00pm Dorcas Needlework Guild in the Youth Center</p>	<p><b>1</b></p> <p>Office Closed 8:00pm Open AA</p>	<p><b>2</b></p> <p>8:30am Episcopal Men's Fellowship 9:00am Altar Guild 9:30am Food Pantry 8:00pm Open AA</p>
<p><b>10</b></p> <p>8:00am Holy Communion I 9-15am Adult Edfellowship Time 9:30am Choir Rehearsal 10:30am Holy Communion II 10:30am Children's Chapel</p>	<p><b>11</b></p> <p>2:30pm Homework Helps</p>	<p><b>12</b></p> <p>8:00pm Open AA meeting</p>	<p><b>13</b></p> <p>Roanoke Valley Gives Day - support for Finastle Homework Helps 2:30pm Homework Helps 6:00pm Lenten Supper</p>	<p><b>14</b></p> <p>1:00pm Dorcas Needlework Guild in the Youth Center</p>	<p><b>15</b></p> <p>Office Closed 8:00pm Open AA</p>	<p><b>16</b></p> <p>Wills on vacation 9:00am Altar Guild 9:30am Food Pantry 8:00pm Open AA</p>
<p><b>17</b></p> <p>Wills on vacation 8:00am Holy Communion I 9-15am Adult Edfellowship Time 9:30am Choir Rehearsal 10:30am Holy Communion II 10:30am Children's Chapel 4:00pm Appalachian Vespers at Emmanuel Chapel, Eagle Rock</p>	<p><b>18</b></p> <p>Wills on vacation 2:30pm Homework Helps</p>	<p><b>19</b></p> <p>Wills on vacation 8:00pm Open AA meeting</p>	<p><b>20</b></p> <p>Wills on vacation 2:30pm Homework Helps 6:00pm Lenten Supper</p>	<p><b>21</b></p> <p>Wills on vacation 1:00pm Dorcas Needlework Guild in the Youth Center</p>	<p><b>22</b></p> <p>Office Closed Wills on vacation 8:00pm Open AA</p>	<p><b>23</b></p> <p>Wills on vacation 9:00am Altar Guild 9:30am Food Pantry 8:00pm Open AA</p>
<p><b>24</b></p> <p>8:00am Holy Communion I 9-15am Adult Edfellowship Time 9:30am Choir Rehearsal 10:30am Children's Chapel 10:30am Holy Communion II</p>	<p><b>25</b></p> <p>Wills - Continuing Educ. Day 2:30pm Homework Helps</p>	<p><b>26</b></p> <p>11:30am Holy Communion at The Glebe 5:00pm Vestry Meeting 8:00pm Open AA meeting</p>	<p><b>27</b></p> <p>2:30pm Homework Helps 6:00pm Lenten Supper</p>	<p><b>28</b></p> <p>1:00pm Dorcas Needlework Guild in the Youth Center</p>	<p><b>29</b></p> <p>Office Closed 8:00pm Open AA</p>	<p><b>30</b></p> <p>9:00am Altar Guild 9:30am Food Pantry 8:00pm Open AA</p>
<p><b>31</b></p> <p>8:00am Holy Communion I 9-15am Adult Edfellowship Time 9:30am Choir Rehearsal 10:30am Holy Communion II 10:30am Children's Chapel</p>						

<u>DATE</u> <b>MARCH 2019</b>	<u>LEM</u>	<u>LECTOR</u>	<u>ACOLYTE CRUCIFER</u>	<u>ALTAR GUILD</u>	<u>USHERS</u>	<u>YOUTH CHAPEL/ NURSERY</u>	<u>COUNTERS</u>
3-3	J. Howarth Emily T.-G.	D. Collins	LEM	T. Trammell S. Loeschen	K. Cahoon P. Neil	T. Trammell A. Caldwell	G. Sydnor P. Howarth
3-6 ASH WED noon			Emily T-G				
3-10 LENT 1	C. Geiger K. Cahoon	G. Sydnor	Gabriella B.	S. Hays K. Beasley	M. Dudding S. Waid	A. Palmer A. Caldwell	L. Uotinen P. Garrison
3-17	P. Garrison B. Wilsie	J. Gordon	Ana U. Lauren U.	E. Moore P. Gordon	W. Michael S. Frechette	Emily T.-G. A. Caldwell	D. Beasley S. Diez
3-24	W. Michael P. Mahony	G. Simcoe	Mark P.	P. Garrison TBD	B. Heartwell S. Field	T. Trammell A. Caldwell	R. Manley K. Beasley
3-31	J. Howarth R. Hagan	E. Moore	LEM	TBD	J. Gordon TBD	Emily T.-G. A. Caldwell	M. Parish C. Geiger

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## DUTY ROSTERS

<u>DATE</u> <b>APRIL 2019</b>	<u>LEM</u>	<u>LECTOR</u>	<u>ACOLYTE CRUCIFER</u>	<u>ALTAR GUILD</u>	<u>USHERS</u>	<u>YOUTH CHAPEL/ NURSERY</u>	<u>COUNTERS</u>
4-7	C. Geiger W. Michael	S. Field	Ana U. Lauren U.	T. Trammell S. Loeschen	C. Echols J. Echols	T. Trammell A. Caldwell	P. Suite J. Gordon
4-14 PALM SUN.	P. Garrison P. Mahony	A. Layman	Gabriella B.	S. Hays K. Beasley	D. Collins K. Beasley	A. Palmer A. Caldwell	G. Sydnor B. Heartwell
4-21 EASTER	W. Michael Emily T-G	J. Gordon	Mark P.	E. Moore P. Gordon	G. Sydnor S. Sydnor	TBD A. Caldwell	L. Uotinen P. Howarth
4-28	J. Howarth K. Cahoon	P. Gordon	LEM	P. Garrison	J. Gordon M. Parish	T. Trammell A. Caldwell	D. Beasley P. Garrison

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ASH WEDNESDAY

## Ash Wednesday Schedule March 6

- ~ 11am Imposition of Ashes with Prayer at The Glebe (w. Fr. Bob)
- ~ Noon Service of Holy Communion with Imposition of Ashes at St. Mark's
- ~ 7pm Community Service of Imposition of Ashes at Church of the Transfiguration

## Upcoming Events

Lent Collect Adult Education Class with Chuck and Willis. More info to come.

March 16 - 23 --- Willis on Vacation

March 17th --- First Vespers. The Rev. Stephen Stanley will lead services today.

March 25th --- Willis Continuing Education Day at Duke Divinity School

March 26th --- Holy Communion at The Glebe - new time of 11:30 a.m.

### Support Our Homework Helps Ministry!

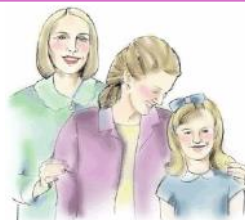
March 13th is Roanoke Valley Gives day and your donation to Orchard Hills Achievement Center will help our Fincastle Homework helps program!



Donate any time at [www.ohacenter.org](http://www.ohacenter.org) or on Facebook

\*\*Gifts must either be given on March 13 or scheduled to be processed on March 13 to count towards the RVG Day total\*\*

More questions? Contact: [lisa@ohacenter.org](mailto:lisa@ohacenter.org)



### Mother-Daughter Banquet

Mark your calendars for Wednesday, May 6 for our Mother-Daughter Banquet to be held at the Ministry Center at 5:30 P.M.

Need a mother or daughter for the evening? Many of our parishioners are available. More details to come in the April newsletter.

## We Care Ministry

From loved ones – family, friends, and strangers alike – come thanks beyond measure for the prayers, cards, calls, and other loving services in their times of need. We've had several funerals in

### Thanks for Caring



our church family recently: We showed up. We've had medical crises one right after another: We went to our knees in prayer. We've grieved with the grieving, sat with the waiting, listened and dried

tears and laughed together with joy when God's Loving Hand brought light out of darkness.

Please join us: Each person on the We Care Team serves anonymously and only as Called by God to perform a variety of services. The one thing we share in common is prayer: We all pray. To receive the bcc email requests and updates, contact Carole Geiger at [geiger.caroleb@gmail.com](mailto:geiger.caroleb@gmail.com) or 540.473.2033.

From a church newsletter:

nappelling this week

Loins Club meets Monday at 7 p.m.

Prayer Breakfast is Tuesday at 6:30 a.m.

These Lions must have meaty meetings!



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# Heavenly Humor



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**MARCH BIRTHDAYS**

3-4 Robin Collins

3-5 Patty King

3-7 Channing Preston

3-14 Sally Waid, Tom Edwards

3-17 Robert Bowman

3-19 Gret Kidd

3-24 Ross Wilsie

3-26 Stan Diez

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