



GOOD NEWS LETTER

Dear Friends:

What is the Jesus Movement? Many of us have heard the Episcopal Church's Presiding Bishop Michael Curry (of the Harry-Meghan wedding homily fame) describe the Episcopal Church as the Anglican Branch of the Jesus Movement.

What? Why? How?

What?

The what is reorienting our entire focus onto Jesus. It's Sunday and the days in-between. Jesus is the one who descended from Heaven to dwell with us, descended to Hell for our sins, and rose again for our new life. Jesus died for a healing world and not just any world, but you and me, too. The Jesus Movement sheds away the "extra" parts of Church and centers us squarely in front of our Savior.

Why?

On a deep level we all ask the same questions: Am I good enough? Will I go to Heaven? What about my mistakes? Who will be with me when I die? And Jesus answers each one: Yes, you are perfect the way you are. Yes, my death sealed your eternal life. You are forgiven. I will be with you until ends of the earth. Like all sinners we have gone astray, and we need reminding that Jesus died for us. It's the first and last stop on our lives. The changelessness of His grace and mercy is our life raft in this unforgiving world. He provides us with the ability to love our neighbor and integrate our lives, in other words he accepts you and me for who we are so that we are finally free to love our neighbors.

How?

Trust Jesus. He will provide.

It is a joy and privilege to be your Rector in our little corner of the Anglican Jesus Movement in Fincastle.

Peace,

Willis

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A LOOK AHEAD

October 2018						
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
21	22	23	24	25	26	27
28	29	30	31			

Cafe Italia Spaghetti Dinner Info

St. Mark's will hold its 23rd Annual Italian Night Spaghetti Dinner at the Fincastle Firehouse on Saturday, September 29, 2018. The dinner will take place from 4:00 p.m. until 7:15 p.m. The Italian Night theme will be portrayed in decorations.

The meal cost is \$10 for adults and children 12 and over. There is no charge for children under 12 years of age (tickets not needed for children under 12).

The meal includes a full portion of home-made spaghetti, salad, garlic bread, lemonade, ice tea, and a variety of home-made desserts. Meals will be available for take-out.



***** Sauce kits with recipes will be placed in the Narthex by Sunday, September 9th.**

***** Sauce should be brought to the Fincastle Firehouse on Saturday morning September 29, unfrozen.**

Tickets can be purchased in advance at the St. Mark's Episcopal Church Ministry Center office at 221 S. Roanoke Street in Fincastle and from church members or may be purchased at the door. Proceeds from the event go to outreach ministries in the local Fincastle and Botetourt County area. The event, which is put on by the Episcopal Men's Fellowship of St. Mark's, brings together a large part of the local Fincastle and surrounding community. The home-made desserts and spaghetti sauce are prepared by the St. Mark's Episcopal Church Women. Inquiries may be made at 473-2370 or details found at

www.stmarksfincastle.org



From a church newsletter in Indianapolis, Indiana:

HAPPY ANNIVERSARY!
Bob and Mary Smith are celebrating an anniversary! They've been married for 58 years. You're invited to a reception for the couple on Sunday at 1:00 p.m.

Surely, there must have been more than tears to stay together that long!

Confirmation Classes

Interested in Confirmation?

What's That?

Confirmation is the profession of our faith and symbolizes joining the St. Mark's community – the rite is administered by the Bishop during his visit in December.

Interested?

Call or email Willis! Anyone currently in seventh grade and up is eligible for Confirmation.

What about Reception and Reaffirmation?

Reception into the Episcopal Church is offered for confirmed members in Lutheran or Roman Catholic traditions. Reaffirmation is open to any previously confirmed Episcopalian who desires to stand before the Parish and profess their faith.

Classes?

Beginning in October, Willis will be teaching a six-part class called: Understanding our Faith. The class will be from 9:30am-10:15am on Sundays in the Library of the Ministry Center and will be open to the entire Parish.

Please contact Willis with any questions!

Here is the schedule:

October 21 - Class 1
Creation

October 28 - Class 2
Fall + Sin

November 4 - Class 3
Atonement/Cross

November 11 - Class 4
Resurrection/Redemption

November 18 - Class 5
The Episcopal Church I (Prayer Book)

November 25 - Class 6
The Episcopal Church II + Wrap Up



Vestry Musings

By Dan Beasley

Autumn is just around the corner - the next page on all our calendars. I have always loved autumn, the wonderful colors of the leaves; even Virginia creeper is beautiful in its autumn splendor as well as the lowly Paradise tree. The leaves turn a brilliant orange and red in the fall.

When I was in grade school, I could not wait for fall to come and go back to school. Not that I was so studious, but growing up in the country my only playmates all summer were my two brothers and a couple of cousins that we only saw maybe a couple times a month.

You have to remember I was in grade school in the 1950s. Only three channels on the television, no Sesame Street. What we had on weekday mornings was the Farm Report and then some local news and blue grass music with Don Reno and Red Smiley and the Tennessee Cutups.

Enough about that. Back to autumn and the fact that back to school meant new blue jeans, new shoes and a Roy Rogers lunch box. Could anything be better?

As I progressed to high school, autumn still held its magic. One of the highlights for me was the smell of a new text book. We rented text books and, if you were lucky, every now and then you scored a new book. You were the first to have it for a year; no torn pages, no pages missing; you felt like you had really hit the jackpot.

Autumn also promised the excitement of the World Series that was back then played during the day. We would hide our transistor radios with an ear piece in our desk and listen to the Yankees and the Dodgers fight it out while we were in study hall.

Now I am in the autumn of my life and I look back with such fond memories and savor every autumn day. We just had our grandchildren with us for 10 blissful days. I so envy them, for they have so many autumns in their future to enjoy.

Choir rehearsals at St. Mark's will resume on Sunday, September 9, at 9:15 a.m. The choir will robe and lead worship at the 10:30 service that morning.

If you enjoy singing, please pray about joining this ministry. We would love to have you join us.



Supporting our liturgy and the worship of God through the choir ministry takes less than three hours each week.

Actually, .017 of your week! And you are coming to worship anyway, so why not come a little early?! Curious? Questions? Call or e-mail Gret or call Willis.

Gret Kidd, Choir Director
touchofivory@juno.com

Dorcas Needlework Guild



As summer winds to a close, our time together to stitch with a purpose resumes a more normal schedule. You should treat yourselves to seeing the glorious RED lap robe Frances is completing right now! Gret's stitching panels for the next quilt and we could use another person-with-machine to help her, Trudy would welcome help on adult clothes protectors, too – we would like to ready a set for donation. We continue to sort and organize the latest batch of donations, so it's all-hands-welcome to play with fabric and press out the wrinkles! As the machine phase ends on the quilt, hand stitching commences. Are you handy with a needle that way?!

Our September Dorcas dates fall on the 6th and 20th. In October we'll meet on the 4th and 18th. Check your calendars and reserve time on those Thursdays at 1:00 for a couple of hours. Come early or come late; stay as long as you can.

The Homework Helps ministry will use the Youth Center classroom spaces on Monday and Wednesday afternoons. We will not be using the building at the same time as the students, although occasionally faculty and staff might be there.

For more information contact Carole Geiger at geiger.caroleb@gmail.com or Gret Kidd at touchofivory@juno.com.

Honduras Medical Mission Plans

Plans are in the final stages for the 24th Honduras Medical Mission, sponsored by St. Mark's, Fincastle, Church of the Good Shepard, Galax, and churches in Arizona, Alaska and Florida. We give thanks to the Lord for this opportunity to once again to serve and praise him in this way. Thanks to St. Mark's, the medical mission has been granted a Global Goals matching grant of \$2,000 from the Diocese of Southwestern Virginia to support efforts to improve the lives of women, children and families around the world. Thank you for your support!

The mission team of 17 medical professionals and other professionals volunteering in the pharmacy, vision clinic, water filter program and dental clinic are busy preparing themselves, getting inoculations, buying airline tickets and packing supplies for the mission. Supplies include medications, prescription eyeglasses, sun glasses, readers, Sawyer Water Filters, Bibles, Sunday School materials, toothbrushes, dental floss, finger nail clippers and coloring books and crayons to occupy the children while waiting to be seen or pick up their prescriptions. The Bishop of Honduras, Lloyd Allen and the priest and parishioners of San Marcos provide local support, and high school students from the Episcopal school in Puerto Cortes serve as interpreters. This year, for the first time, 2 dentists from Puerto Cortes will provide dental care for the patients. They will be assisted by a third year dental student who is the son of the Senior Warden at San Marcos. This cooperative plan of the mission team working with professionals of the community supports mission goals of helping women, children and families as well as the goal of the Diocese of Honduras to reach self sufficiency by 2019. With continued support of all kinds and prayers, we hope to assist them in that goal.

In addition to the various clinics provided by the mission, the team often provides assistance with construction and repairs. Having over 600 people use bathrooms and muddy sidewalks demands regular upkeep. This year the team hopes to repair the vanities in the 2 bathrooms.

Honduras is a beautiful, fertile country, but the 2nd poorest country in the Americas. People

can seldom afford medical care, if they can find it. This medical mission offers the only medical care available in the rural area of Omoa and San Marcos. Without this effort, there would be no care for hundreds of families.

Can you be part of this mission?

You can participate in St. Mark's mission to Honduras from Fincastle!

How?

First by praying for the team's safety and the success of this work of mercy.

Second, you can contribute toothbrushes, dental floss and fingernail clippers.

Third, write a check.

Thank you for your prayers and support. If you have any questions or want more information, contact Charlie or Judy Echols. jclejr@gmail.com





September

2018

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
<p>2 8:00am Holy Communion I 9:15am Adult Education/Fellowship Time 10:30am Children's Chapel 10:30am Holy Communion II</p>	<p>3 Office Closed - Labor Day</p>	<p>4 12:00pm Southern Botetourt Clergy Meeting 8:00pm Open AA meeting</p>	<p>5 12:00pm Meeting with Bishop Mark about Honduras Mission 2:30pm Homework Helps program</p>	<p>6 12:00pm Clericus 1:00pm Dorcas Needlework Guild in Youth Center</p>	<p>7 Office Closed 8:00pm Open AA</p>	<p>1 8:30am Episcopal Men's Fellowship at Greenwood Restaurant 9:00am Altar Guild 9:30am Food Pantry 8:00pm Open AA</p>
<p>9 8:00am Holy Communion I 9:15am Adult Education/Fellowship Time 9:15am Choir Rehearsal 10:30am Children's Chapel 10:30am Holy Communion II</p>	<p>10 HVAC replacement in Mtn. Ctr. through 9/21 2:30pm Homework Helps program</p>	<p>11 8:00pm Open AA meeting</p>	<p>12 2:00pm Meeting with Bishop Mark about Honduras Mission 2:30pm Homework Helps program</p>	<p>13 12:00pm Good News Letter Deadline 12:05pm Brown Bag Bible Study 1:00pm Dorcas Needlework Guild in the Youth Center</p>	<p>14 Office Closed 8:00pm Open AA</p>	<p>15 9:00am Altar Guild 9:30am Food Pantry 8:00pm Open AA</p>
<p>16 8:00am Holy Communion I 9:15am Choir Rehearsal 9:15am Adult Education/Fellowship Time 10:30am Children's Chapel 10:30am Holy Communion II 4:00pm Appalachian Vespers at Emmanuel Chapel</p>	<p>17 2:30pm Homework Helps program</p>	<p>18 5:30pm Vestry Meeting 8:00pm Open AA meeting</p>	<p>19 2:30pm Homework Helps program</p>	<p>20 October Good News Letter Deadline 12:05pm Brown Bag Bible Study 1:00pm Dorcas Needlework Guild in the Youth Center</p>	<p>21 Botetourt Young Life Golf Tournament Office Closed 8:00pm Open AA</p>	<p>22 9:00am Altar Guild 9:30am Food Pantry 8:00pm Open AA</p>
<p>23 8:00am Holy Communion I 9:15am Adult Education/Fellowship Time 9:15am Choir Rehearsal 10:30am Children's Chapel 10:30am Holy Communion II</p>	<p>24 2:30pm Homework Helps program</p>	<p>25 8:00pm Open AA meeting</p>	<p>26 11:00am Holy Communion at The Glebe 2:30pm Homework Helps program</p>	<p>27 12:05pm Brown Bag Bible Study</p>	<p>28 Office Closed 8:00pm Open AA</p>	<p>29 9:00am Altar Guild 9:30am Food Pantry 4:00pm Annual Spaghetti Supper, Fincastle Fire House 8:00pm Open AA</p>
<p>30 8:00am Holy Communion I 9:15am Adult Education/Fellowship Time 9:15am Choir Rehearsal 10:30am Children's Chapel 10:30am Holy Communion II</p>						

SAVE THE DATES!

Confirmation Classes starting on October 21
Fall Convocation meeting in Blacksburg on October 27th

<u>DATE</u>	<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>
SEPTEMBER							
9-2	L. Jacobi P. Mahony	G. Sydnor	Amy W. Stephen W.	T. Trammell S. Loeschen	G. Sydnor S. Sydnor	T. Trammell A. Caldwell	D. Beasley J. Gordon
9-9	C. Geiger W. Michael	K. Beasley	Gariella B.	S. Hayes L. Jacobi	J. Gordon K. Beasley	Emily T.-G. A. Caldwell	P. Garrison B. Heartwell
9-16	P. Garrison K. Cahoon		Mark P.	E. Moore O. Manley	M. Dudding S. Waid	Emily T.-G. A. Caldwell	P. Howarth K. Beasley
9-23	J. Howarth Emily T.-G.	G. Simcoe	Ana U. Amie U.	P. Gordon P. Garrison	J. Woodson W. Michael	T. Trammell A. Caldwell	M. Parish L. Jacobi
9-30	W. Michael R. Hagan	E. Moore	Lauren U.	TBD	K. Cahoon P. Neil	Emily T.-G. A. Caldwell	G. Sydnor S. Diez

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DUTY ROSTERS

<u>DATE</u>	<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>
OCTOBER							
10-7	C. Geiger W. Michael	S. Field		T. Trammell S. Loeschen	C. Echols J. Echols	A. Caldwell	D. Beasley C. Geiger
10-14	J. Howarth P. Mahony	A. Layman		S. Hays L. Jacobi	B. Heartwell S. Field	A. Caldwell	P. Garrison J. Gordon
10-21	L. Jacobi R. Hagan	J. Gordon		E. Moore O. Manley	G. Sydnor S. Sydnor	A. Caldwell	P. Howarth B. Heartwell
10-28	P. Garrison Emily T.-G.	P. Gordon		P. Gordon P. Garrison	J. Gordon K. Beasley	A. Caldwell	M. Parish K. Beasley

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Appalachian Vespers

Please join us for
Appalachian Vespers on
Sunday, September 16 at 4:00pm
in Eagle Rock at Emmanuel Chapel!

Musicians:

George Honeycutt, David Austin, and Leslie Dunbar

Refreshments afterwards at the Eagle Rock Firehouse

BROWN BAG BIBLE STUDY

The Brown Bag Bible Study will begin on September 20th with a study of Romans and continue through November with a couple of days off. It will pick up again in January.

9/20 - Romans, chapters 1-4 refresher

9/27 - Romans 5:1-11

10/4 - Romans 5:12-21

10/11 - Romans 6

10/18 - No study, Willis gone

10/25 - Romans 7:1-14

11/1 - Romans 7:15-25

11/8 - Romans 8

11/15 - Romans 9

11/22 - No study, Thanksgiving

11/29 - Romans 10

Study goes from 12:05pm to 1pm
Bring a bag lunch; coffee and water provided.

*Sessions are designed for drop-in, so come
when you are able!*

We Care Ministry

What a BUSY month of shared ministry for our parish and our wider church community! Volunteers have appeared just exactly when needed and where needed, for which we give great thanks. Thank you to Ola and Ron Manley for opening their home for the 2nd annual parish picnic and pool party – oh, the wonderful, wonderful food and even more wonderful fellowship! Thank you to Patti Suite for organizing the festive...really, really festive!...ice cream social after our Appalachian Vespers service in Eagle Rock: How many of us have sworn to follow a bread-and-water diet after this weekend!

We ALL are the We Care Team, with different gifts and different skills to share. No one does everything; each is Called by the Holy Spirit to serve in a different way. Periodic blind-copy emails keep an e-mailing list up-to-date on specific parish/community needs, especially an ongoing prayer ministry that touches individuals far and wide. Currently we're serving several individuals with a meals ministry and we have an ongoing call for help with that. Would YOU like to help with prayer, visits, meals, occasional rides to the doctor or airport (etc.), cards and calls? Contact Carole Geiger at 540.473.2033 or geiger.caroleb@gmail.com for more information.

To my St. Mark's Family:

I hope you are all doing well as the summer gives way to the fall. I've started back at Duke Divinity this week and it's going quite well (so far)! Summer Field Education placements are always difficult, because as soon as you get into the swing of things, you have to leave. That was certainly the case for me – our time together just flew by!

I wanted to send you all a collective note of thanks. You all received me with such warmth and grace and helped me to explore my call in a deeper way, while also challenging me to seek out further growth and development. I'm grateful that you gave me the chance to come into your family and serve as a minister to y'all and with y'all. It's an incredible privilege to be given the opportunity to speak into people's lives and relationships with God, and it's one I'm deeply thankful for.

This year I'll be working with the youth of one of the larger parishes in the area, while preparing for Commission on Ministry and Standing Committee interviews, and studying for the General Ordination Exams. Your prayers as I undertake all of that *and* finish up my courses at Duke will be greatly appreciated. Please know that you all remain in my thoughts and prayers.

*With Love and in Christ,
Bradley*



**Youth Center being transformed for
the Homework Helps Ministry!**

HOMework HELPS

There will be an open house for the Youth Center Homework Helps area on Sunday, September 16th during the adult education time! Lisa Miles will be here at 9:15 to talk about the ministry and take us on a tour! Come and see!

St. Mark's Episcopal Church
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GOD'S LEFT HAND

A 6-year-old and his grandma went for a walk one autumn day. "Look at the gorgeous leaves!" Grandma exclaimed. "Just think, God painted each one of them just for us!"

"Yep," said her grandson, "and he did it left-handed."

Perplexed, Grandma asked, "Why do you think God used his left hand to create all this beauty?"

"Because," said the boy matter-of-factly, "we learned in Sunday school that Jesus sits on God's right one."

SEPTEMBER BIRTHDAYS

- 9-1 Shirley Sydnor, Jim Johnston, Jessie Saunders
- 9-3 Mary Lou Mullis
- 9-4 Gabriel Uribe
- 9-5 Justin Frechette
- 9-6 Peter Howarth
- 9-7 Flash Reynolds
- 9-11 Bobbie Lou Bowman
- 9-13 Jesse Wood
- 9-14 George Logan, Piper Gaul, Charlie Webb
- 9-16 Jett Field
- 9-17 Buck Heartwell
- 9-20 Julian Plumb
- 9-23 Dan Collins
- 9-27 Abigail Swanson
- 9-29 Dave MacLeod, Anna Preston