

ST. PAUL'S EPISCOPAL CHURCH



Children's, Youth & Family Ministries

*That which we have heard and known,
and what our forebears have told us,
we will not hide from our children.*

*We will recount to generations to come
the praiseworthy deeds and the power of God,
and the wonderful works God has done.*

Ur Psalm 78:3-4

May 11, 2014

Fourth Sunday of Easter

Vol. 6, Issue 24

From Mary Anthony

Today's lessons from the Lectionary in church are Acts 2:42-47, Psalm 23, 1 Peter 2:19-25, and the Gospel is John 10:1-10.

There is no Godly Play today as our children will be in church for our last Children's Service of this school year. Come join us as our children usher, read the Lessons, take up the collection and sing the Offertory. They have been working hard with Miss Melinda on their song. The children have also worked on a special project for Mom for Mother's Day.

This week in Youth Group we will begin with dinner at 6 pm provided by Polly Kordinak, followed by our lesson and then, an activity. The lesson from Making It Real and Relevant will focus on John 10:1-10. There are several Wednesdays left that need a parent to sign up to make dinner. Let me know if you can help out.

Our youth are holding an all day Scrapbooking CROP Fundraiser next Saturday, May 17 from 9 am to 9 pm. There is still time to sign up. The registration fee \$45 and includes breakfast snacks, lunch, afternoon snacks and dinner. There will be different vendors here also that day. The Vendor's fees and the total registration fees will go directly into the youth fund for this year's mission trip and for the youth attending EYE in July. Please help support our youth. If you do not scrapbook or make cards, let your friends who do, know about this event. Knitters are welcome to participate for the day too. Come spend a day knitting with your friends.

The Easter Egg Hunt is May 18. I am looking for donations of Easter candy to stuff the eggs. Please

leave candy donations in the box outside my office. Thank you.

Collect for Sunday

O God, whose Son Jesus is the good shepherd of your people: Grant that when we hear his voice we may know him who calls us each by name, and follow where he leads; who, with you and the Holy Spirit, lives and reigns, one God, for ever and ever. Amen.



☪ Sunday Schedule ☪

9:00am - Nursery opens
9:45am - Godly Play Choir
10:00am - Godly Play Class (Pre-K - 5th grade)
6th - 12th grades meet Wednesday evenings 6 - 9 pm
10:00am - Holy Eucharist
*Children join their parents in
Church at the Peace*
11:45am - Youth Choir

Nursery (Infants to age 3)

Unless otherwise noted, the Nursery is open from 9:00 am until the end of the 10am service. Please sign your child in and out, and remain in the building in by watching **Mickens**. Please come meet Cara.

Primary – (Pre-k – 2nd Grade)

The Godly Play classroom is located in Canterbury House, just inside the door on your left. The goal of Godly Play is to teach children the art of using religious language – parable, sacred story, silence and liturgical action – to help them become more fully aware of the mystery of God’s presence in their lives. The ideal Godly Play session has four parts- Opening, Hearing the Word of God, Sharing the Feast, and Leaving the Space. Led by **Storytellers Mary Anthony, Kathleen Chase, Heather Coyle, Linda Garman, Carol Goslee, Kim Hennigan, and Melinda Rucinski** and **Doorkeepers Tracy French, Michelle Meade** on a rotating basis. Visit them in the classrooms. If you would like to make a difference in the lives of some great children and have fun doing it, contact Mary Anthony about assisting on a rotating basis in the Godly Play class. See the sign-up calendar on the Christian Education Bulletin Board.

Intermediate (3rd – 5th Grade)

The Intermediate class is meeting with the Primary class in Canterbury during construction. The curriculum for this age level is also Godly Play. Led by **Heather Coyle, Kim Hennigan, Tracy French, Roanne Lisi and Melinda Rucinski** on a rotating basis.

Middle School & High School (6th – 12th Grade)

The Middle and High School Sunday School Class will meet every Wednesday evening at the beginning of Youth Group starting at 6:00 pm unless otherwise noted. The curriculum for this age level is Making It Real and Relevant, which is Lectionary based. Our teachers in this class are **Mary Anthony, Pam Ruesch, Barbara Michelson and Rosana Powell**.

Youth Group (6th Grade & Up)

The Youth Group meets at St. Paul’s on Wed. evenings starting with dinner at 6 pm. Led by **Mary Anthony, Pam Ruesch, Barbara Michelson and Rosana Powell**.

Children’s Ministry Committee

Fr. Eric Funston, Mary Anthony, Heather Coyle
Rosana Powell, Kim and Sean Hennigan and
Melinda & Steve Rucinski.

For Parents

THE BLESSING OF A B MINUS The Blessing Of Strange Fruit: You Reject Me? I’ll Reject You!

Dr. Wendy Mogul, PhD. writes; ““In the previous chapter I described *tzar giddul banim*, the pain of raising children. It’s supposed to be hard. But most parents are surprised at how painful it is when their teenagers--formally cuddly, adoring toddlers—begin the difficult work of separation.

To make this process of moving away and establishing their own identity more bearable, teenagers need to make you less attractive so that it will eventually be easier to leave you.

Just when it seems that their entire future is riding on their good sense and good behavior, they become rude, disrespectful, and ungrateful. Like the frustrating clients psychotherapists call “help-rejecting complainers,” teenagers ignore your advice. Through their words or their silence, they insult your choices, your point of view, your essence. They deftly attack whatever you hold most dear of feel most insecure about: *How can you stand living in a house decorated like this? You call this dinner? You call those friends? You call that a fun day?* They demean the pathetic contents of the refrigerator, the length of your jeans, or what they consider your eccentric pronunciations of common words. *No one says “WH-en” or “WH-ite.” The just say “wen” and “wite” like a normal person. WH-en are you going to realize that?* They turn away from you, from the cozy family cocoon you’ve spent so much money and energy to create, and form their own protective tribe. They develop convictions, intentionally unlike yours, about the only tolerable food, clothing, turns of speech, books, and music. They find humor in things you don’t. They are like rude lodgers who join with their clansmen, speak their own language, and leave you out. One reason parents are intolerant of their teens’ sullenness, their dismissal of wise parental counsel, and their loyalty to their awkward, unsteady friends is that they see it as rejection. It is rejection. And it hurts. ““

Next week “Meet Fear With Faith”!!!
From “The Blessing of a B Minus” by Wendy Mogul, PhD.



In Church School this week:

Each week, the children's and youth Sunday School classes focus on a passage from Scripture. These follow the same Revised Common Lectionary that provides readings for Sunday services. We use a curriculum, *Seasons of the Spirit*, to tailor a lesson for each class that is interactive, fun and age appropriate. This section features the Scripture learned that week in Sunday School, along with some questions to ask about during the week.

Focus Scripture: John 10:1-10

Jesus said, "Very truly, I tell you, anyone who does not enter the sheepfold by the gate but climbs in by another way is a thief and a bandit. The one who enters by the gate is the shepherd of the sheep. The gatekeeper opens the gate for him, and the sheep hear his voice. He calls his own sheep by name and leads them out. When he has brought out all his own, he goes ahead of them, and the sheep follow him because they know his voice. They will not follow a stranger, but they will run from him because they do not know the voice of strangers." Jesus used this figure of speech with them, but they did not understand what he was saying to them.

So again Jesus said to them, "Very truly, I tell you, I am the gate for the sheep. All who came before me are thieves and bandits; but the sheep did not listen to them. I am the gate. Whoever enters by me will be saved, and will come in and go out and find pasture. The thief comes only to steal and kill and destroy. I came that they may have life, and have it abundantly."

~From the Lectionary Page

What's it all about?

In Chapter 9, Jesus has raised the ire of some religious leaders by giving sight to a blind man on the Sabbath. Some of them have heard Jesus say "I came into this world for judgment so that those who do not see may see, and those who do see may become blind" (9:39). Some have asked him, "Surely we are not blind, are we?" (9:40), to which he has replied. "If you were blind, you would not have sin. But now that you say, 'We see,' your sin remains." (9:41) Thinking themselves worthy makes them unworthy in God's eyes.

Now Jesus uses a metaphor to expand on his point (but no metaphor works perfectly). In Palestine, sheep belonging to villagers roamed freely during the day but were confined to a common enclosure at night, to protect them from predators. Each

morning, each shepherd called his sheep who followed him to pasture.

While "this figure of speech" (v. 6) is hard for us to understand in detail (as it was for those who heard Jesus), we can get the drift. So irate does the metaphor make the leaders that they try to stone him (in v. 31) and, in v. 40, Jesus flees across the Jordan. As he explains (v. 7), he is the "gate" of v. 2, so presumably the thieves and bandits are the Jewish religious leaders. Jesus, both the "gatekeeper" (v. 3) and the "shepherd" (v. 2) is the true leader. He calls the faithful to follow him (v. 4); they don't follow a "stranger" (v. 5). The people listen to him and not to the "Pharisees" (9:40), "all who came before me" (v. 8). He is the only "gate" (v. 9) to eternal "life" (v. 10), to freedom ("come in and go out", v. 9, a Jewish idiom), and to nourishment beyond measure ("find pasture ... abundantly").

*~From Revised Common Lectionary
Chris Haslam 1996-2014*

Questions:

? Jesus is making use of one of his favorite forms of speech; he is using metaphors. What is the metaphor in this passage ?

? Jesus says there are other voices, thieves, who are trying to lead the sheep from the shepherd, but the sheep know the voice of their shepherd and will only follow him. Who could some of the voices be that Jesus is referring to ?

? Why do sheep follow the voice of the shepherd?

~From Making It Real And Relevant

Prayer:

Holy Shepherd,
you know your sheep by name
and lead us to safety through the valleys of death.
Guide us by your voice,
that we may walk in certainty and security
to the joyous feast prepared in your house,
were we celebrate with you forever. Amen.

~From The Revised Common Lectionary



Meditation

The LORD is my shepherd; *
I shall not be in want.

He makes me lie down in green pastures *
and leads me beside still waters.

He revives my soul *
and guides me along right pathways for his Name's sake.

Though I walk through the valley of the shadow of
death,
I shall fear no evil; *
for you are with me;
your rod and your staff, they comfort me.

You spread a table before me in the presence of those
who trouble me; *
you have anointed my head with oil,
and my cup is running over.

Surely your goodness and mercy shall follow me all the
days
of my life, *
and I will dwell in the house of the LORD for ever.
~Psalm 23

Happy Birthday...

None this week!!!



Planning Ahead

Sunday, May 11 - HAPPY MOTHER'S DAY!!!

- Nursery opens at 9 am
- Cherub Choir Rehearsal, 9:30 am
- Children's Service, 10 am
- No Sunday School 10 am for Pre-k - 5th grades

Wednesday, May 14

- Youth Group 6 - 9 pm

Saturday, May 17

- Scrapbooking CROP Youth Mission Trip
Fundraiser here at St. Paul's 9 am to 9 pm

Sunday, May 18

- Nursery opens at 9 am
- Cherub Choir, 9:45 am
- Godly Play class, Grades Pre-k -5th ,10 am
- Easter Egg Hunt
- Parent/Teacher Meeting following Easter
Egg Hunt

Contact Information

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Acolyte Reminders!

May 11: Dylan Ruesch (c), Nick Coyle,
Andrew Laub, Dylan Powell

May 18: Jessica Syme (c), Julia Syme,
Kirsten Lisi, Hannah Rucinski

Please remember to get a sub by the Wednesday
before you are to serve if you are unable to make your
commitment, and then let the office know no later
than that Wednesday before.