



One God – One Family – One Table

The Outpost

March 2020

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March 2020

| Sun | Mon | Tue | Wed | Thu | Fri | Sat |
|--|---|--|---|---|---|---|
| <p>1</p> <p>8:00 am Holy Eucharist (I)</p> <p>9:00 am Coffee Hour</p> <p>9:30 am Sunday School Lenten Devotions</p> <p>10:30 am Holy Eucharist (II)</p> | <p>2</p> <p>6:00 pm SWAG Meeting</p> | <p>3</p> <p>11:00 am Priest's Bible Study</p> <p>7:00 BSA</p> <p>7:30 pm ALANON</p> | <p>4</p> <p>9:30 am Morning Prayer</p> <p>6:00 pm Lenten Soup: First Presbyterian Church</p> <p>7:00 pm Choir Rehearsal</p> | <p>5</p> <p>9:30 am Morning Prayer</p> <p>10:00 am to 1:00 pm Mobile Food Pantry</p> | <p>6</p> <p>9:30 am Morning Prayer</p> <p>6:00 Stations of the Cross</p> | <p>7</p> <p>2:00 pm Fran Van Winkle Memorial</p> |
| <p>8</p> <p>8:00 am Holy Eucharist (I)</p> <p>9:00 am Coffee Hour</p> <p>9:30 am Sunday School Lenten Devotions</p> <p>10:30 am Holy Eucharist (II)</p> <p>3:00 pm Grief Support All Saints' Episcopal</p> | <p>9</p> | <p>10</p> <p>11:00 am Priest's Bible Study</p> <p>7:00 pm BSA</p> <p>7:30 pm ALANON</p> | <p>11</p> <p>9:30 am Morning Prayer</p> <p>6:00 pm Lenten Soup: First Presbyterian Church</p> <p>7:00 pm Choir Rehearsal</p> | <p>12</p> <p>9:30 am Morning Prayer</p> <p>10:00 am to 1:00 pm Mobile Food Pantry</p> | <p>13</p> <p>9:30 am Morning Prayer</p> <p>6:00 Stations of the Cross</p> | <p>14</p> |
| <p>15</p> <p>8:00 am Holy Eucharist (I)</p> <p>9:00 am Coffee Hour</p> <p>9:30 am Sunday School Lenten Devotions</p> <p>10:30 am Holy Eucharist (II)</p> | <p>16</p> | <p>17</p> <p>11:00 am Priest's Bible Study</p> <p>7:00 pm BSA</p> <p>7:00 pm Vestry Meeting</p> <p>7:30 pm ALANON</p> | <p>18</p> <p>9:30 am Morning Prayer</p> <p>6:00 pm Lenten Soup: First Christian Church</p> <p>7:00 pm Choir Rehearsal</p> | <p>19</p> <p>9:30 am Morning Prayer</p> <p>10:00 am Grace Guild ***speaker***</p> <p>10:00 am to 1:00 pm Mobile Food Pantry</p> | <p>20</p> <p>9:30 am Morning Prayer</p> <p>6:00 Stations of the Cross</p> | <p>21</p> |
| <p>22</p> <p>8:00 am Holy Eucharist (I)</p> <p>9:00 am Coffee Hour</p> <p>9:30 am Sunday School Lenten Devotions</p> <p>10:30 am Holy Eucharist (II)</p> | <p>23</p> | <p>24</p> <p>11:00 am Priest's Bible Study</p> <p>7:00 pm BSA</p> <p>7:30 pm ALANON</p> | <p>25</p> <p>9:30 am Morning Prayer</p> <p>6:00 pm Lenten Soup: Grace Episcopal Church</p> <p>7:00 pm Choir Rehearsal</p> | <p>26</p> <p>9:30 am Morning Prayer</p> <p>10:00 am to 1:00 pm Mobile Food Pantry</p> | <p>27</p> <p>9:30 am Morning Prayer</p> <p>6:00 Stations of the Cross</p> | <p>28</p> |
| <p>29</p> <p>8:00 am Holy Eucharist (I)</p> <p>9:00 am Coffee Hour</p> <p>9:30 am Sunday School Lenten Devotions</p> <p>10:30 am Holy Eucharist (II)</p> | <p>30</p> | <p>31</p> <p>11:00 am Priest's Bible Study</p> <p>7:00 pm BSA</p> <p>7:30 pm ALANON</p> | <p>1 April</p> <p>9:30 am Morning Prayer</p> <p>6:00 pm Lenten Soup: First Christian Church</p> <p>7:00 pm Choir Rehearsal</p> | <p>2 April</p> <p>9:30 am Morning Prayer</p> <p>10:00 am to 1:00 pm Mobile Food Pantry</p> | <p>3 April</p> <p>9:30 am Morning Prayer</p> <p>6:00 Stations of the Cross</p> | <p>4 April</p> |

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| <p>Priest in Charge The Reverend Suzanne Smith rev.suzanne@gracechurchalvin.org</p> | <p>Community Missioner/Planter Ed Carrette edcarrette@gracechurchalvin.org</p> | <p>Organist & Music Director Paul Humphrey Gphumphrey@yahoo.com</p> |
| <p>Children & Youth Minister Aubrey Smith aubreysmith@gracechurchalvin.org</p> | <p>Nursery Attendant Claudia Pouncey 281-840-3547</p> | |

Mobile Food Pantry

The mobile food pantry will be open each Thursday in March from 10:00 am until 1:00 pm. If you'd like to help, please be in the church parking lot at 8:30 am for set up activities. We have lots of hospitality and registration assistance jobs that don't require lifting in addition to distributing fresh produce. We'll also need your help with tear-down tasks upon conclusion of hand out activities.

Please contact Ed Carrette by text (832.244.1084), email (edcarrette@gracechurchalvin.org), or phone (281.331.5657), to volunteer. This is intended to be a community event, so feel free to invite neighbors and friends to join us. ❖

Stations of the Cross

Held every Friday at 6:30 in the sanctuary nave.

Reconciliation

Reconciliation by Suzanne will be given by appointment during Lent.

Lenten Soup Supper

We're hosting on Wednesday, March 25. Please sign up to bring a soup, salad, or dessert on the provided sign-up sheets in the narthex. See you there!

Grief Support Group

Do you need help working through the loss of a loved one? Come meet new friends with similar needs at the Grief Support Group at All Saints' Episcopal Church, 10416 Highway 6, Hitchcock, Tx, 77563 to work through your grief with community support and understanding.

Meetings are held monthly at 3:00 pm, the second Sunday of each month. For more information, contact Mary Jean Carlisle, Grief Support Coordinator at 409-925-2544. ❖

Grace Guild

To continue our guest speaker series, we will have another speaker, Jocunda Husband, at our meeting on Thursday, March 19. Jocunda is the District Homeless Liaison for Alvin ISD. She will speak on the homeless children being served by the district and how the community can help. Please bring a package of socks, underwear, or washcloths to donate to the cause.

Also, please don't forget to pass your gently used children's books to a member of Grace Guild. These books are donated to the Community Health Network (CHN) in Alvin for children visiting the clinic. ❖

Lent

By Christopher Lo

On Ash Wednesday, February 26, 2020, we were marked in church with an ashen cross on our forehead. When this was imprinted, we were reminded that "Remember that you are dust, and to dust you shall return" (Ecclesiastes 3:20). In addition to imprinting foreheads within church walls, each year clergy from many churches throughout the world, including Grace Episcopal Church in Alvin, took to the streets during the lunch hour, looked complete strangers in the eye, smudged some ashes on their forehead, and told them that they will die!

On Wednesday, February 12, 2020, the Reverend Lindsay Harren-Lewis, Associate Pastor at Fairmount Presbyterian Church in Cleveland Heights, Ohio, preached during opening worship of the Presbyterian Mission Agency Board on the text of Micah 6:6-8, ("what God requires"). Pastor Lindsay reminded those gathered that "it's not their worship practices God cares about, but their relationships with others. And since God cares about those in the margin, we are to walk with God in a way that brings justice, humility and love for all others."

At this same Presbyterian Mission Board meeting, the Reverend Dr. Kathryn Threadgill, Associate for Vital Congregation for the Presbyterian Church (USA), spoke on Matthew 25:31-46 (the parable of the sheep and the goats). She likened it to the seven marks, defining what a vital congregation is and isn't.

- ◆ Lifelong discipleship formation vs. complacent "Christian" piety, simply teaching good morals or offering the latest programs.
- ◆ Intentional, authentic evangelism vs. "Jesus freaks;" "Christian" hypocrisy; a committee.
- ◆ Outward incarnational focus vs. inward institutional survival; closed communities of assimilation/exclusion.
- ◆ Empower servant leadership vs. the pastor's job; monopolized leadership; hiring the young, energetic pastor.
- ◆ Spirit-inspired worship vs. self-gratifying worship, stale ritual divorced of meaning, or consumer entertainment worship.
- ◆ Caring relationships vs. any other social club; façades, hypocrisy, and judgment of "church" and "religion."
- ◆ Ecclesial health vs. unhealthy dysfunction; toxic environments; obsolete and irrelevant buildings

"We believe that if we show these marks — like Thomas needed to see the marks of Jesus and feel them in order to believe that was the risen Christ — we believe that if people can see and feel these marks within their congregations then they will come to know and believe their Lord and Savior is in Jesus Christ," Threadgill said. "That's what we're after in congregational vitality."

Accomplish in us the work of your salvation, that we may show forth your glory in the world. Amen. ❖

The mark of SIN The mark of CHRIST



Remember that you are dust,
and to dust you shall return.
❖ Ecclesiastes 3:20 ❖

In an article in this February edition of the "The Bulletin," the Reverend Becky Zartman, the Canon for Welcome and Evangelism at Christ Church Episcopal Cathedral in downtown Houston, reminded her readers that "Yes, we will die. Yes, we screw up. And yes, God still loves us beyond all rhyme or reason, we frail mortals that we are. Declaring our frailty, declaring our dependence on God, declaring that our time is short all sets us free to recognize that we are always held in God's loving embrace, every day of our lives, no matter how we've failed, no matter how much or little time we've been given."