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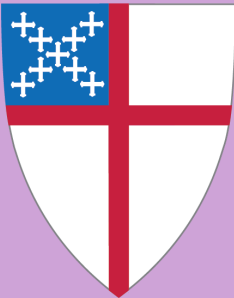
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### *The Chalice*

is published monthly by  
St. Francis' Episcopal  
Church. Submissions are  
due the 20th of each  
month prior to  
publication.

Submissions may be  
sent by email to  
[thesfchalice@gmail.com](mailto:thesfchalice@gmail.com)

**Publisher:**  
The Rev. Alfred Jewson

**Editor:** Jackie Selle

# The Chalice



APRIL 2020

## Easter Togetherness?

**by Father Al Jewson**

The holiest time in the church year is here! Nothing, not even the birth of Jesus compares to Holy Week and Easter. Christmas Pageants are rich with tenderness and warmth as we watch children sweetly portray the nativity panorama. Our liturgy at Christmastide is rich in imagery and many Christians would rather rest in the soft glow of the stable rather than be engulfed in the imagery that we face in Holy Week.

For the first three hundred years of the Church, Christ's birth was not celebrated as a special religious observance, if it was celebrated at all. In fact, January 6, the feast of Jesus' baptism by John the Baptist was celebrated long before the Church began to celebrate Jesus' birth.

From her earliest days the Church believed and taught that it is only through Christ's death and resurrection that our hope for eternal life rests. As liturgy developed the drama of Palm Sunday, Maundy Thursday and Good Friday grew into powerful and compelling Scripture readings and

ritual. These readings and ritual form our Holy Week and Easter liturgies of today.

Our path through the Season of Lent builds in anticipation of the drama and holi-



ness of the days preceding Christ's Resurrection on Easter Sunday. It is meant as a time for sober reflection and prayer that bursts into a type of springtime blossoming of faith and hope. As your priest and pastor I embraced this season with you as we gradually made our way from Ash Wednesday to Easter's resurrection and renewed spiritual life for each of us.

Once again, evil has crossed our paths, not in personal sin and neglect but in a vicious pandemic that continues to spread itself through many cultures and peoples. Where is the joy in celebration when

we cannot even gather together to celebrate our unity in Jesus Christ and hold each other as we make our way through the ignominy of Good Friday to Easter joy and togetherness? We cannot gather together as a believing and loving community of faith. We cannot hold each other through sorrow or embrace each other in joy. We believe in the miracle of Easter and yet must watch from afar as your priest and pastor along with Deacon Rebecca and a small supporting team celebrates for you from the distance of a video screen. I truly yearn for all of us to be together in the flesh as we celebrate the sacrament of Christ's Body and Blood on Easter Sunday.

The genuineness of our common life in Christ is present and true; and even though I cannot celebrate with you in the physical sense we are present in the spiritual sense not only during Holy Week and Easter Sunday but always. It is a work of evil that physically separates us, but even this evil cannot separate us spiritually.

At the Worship and Music

Committee meeting (Zoomed) on March 16 we discussed the possibility of providing “drive through Holy Communion” with bread consecrated at Holy Eucharist on Palm Sunday and Easter. Unfortunately, that is not possible. Last Wednesday in a Zoom meeting with clergy of the diocese it was decided that distribution of the Holy Communion in that manner did not fit the strict standards of the CDC. While we cannot be physically present with each other, nor each person be provided the possibility of receiving Holy Communion, we can all continue to be a spiritual presence to each other and spiritually receive the Body and Blood of Christ.

Keep your hope and spirits up, pray for each other and those affected by this horrible pandemic, and remember that we are one in Christ Jesus.

## The Archdeacon's Desk

by Archdeacon Rebecca Barger

In years past when crisis or tragedy struck, I recall being told, “*This is your new normal.*” “*WHAT!!! No way!*” Well, I think many of us can identify with this in one form or another. Is this the state that we find ourselves in today due to the Coronavirus pandemic? Is this to be our “new normal”? The answer varies based on which commentary you read or news

media you listen to. I can't say I have a good answer to that question, but I **hope** that it is temporary. The key operative word is **HOPE**.



I assume many of you are as inundated with updates about Coronavirus as are the clergy of this diocese. Some days it is difficult to sort through it all. I have to make an effort not to allow this flow of updates to rise to a level at which it is overwhelming. Couple that with the strange sense of isolation that comes from social distancing, and it makes it difficult for the majority of us. It is during times such as these that I must make the conscious efforts to fully trust in God's sustaining love and grace to hold me steady, which allows me to hold onto **hope**.

The leadership here at St. Francis' church is creatively working on ways to support the community as we navigate the months ahead. Members of our Bishop's Committee will be making regular calls to check in on our members to help alleviate feelings of isolation and disconnection. As always, if you are in need of pastoral care you can call Fr. Al or myself directly. However, as baptized members into the Body of our Lord, you are invited and strongly encouraged to reach out to those who are most isolated and in the highest risk category. A simple call that you make can truly brighten that person's day. Or send a note card to say, “I'm thinking of you. You are important to me. You are a beloved member of this community of

believers. And, I miss seeing you.” This may be that spark of **hope** that they need.

As you already know, we are live-streaming our worship services to bring the familiarity of our worship into your homes via the Internet. Hey, what's not to love about worshipping in your jammies, right? It's a work in progress and we are getting the kinks all smoothed out, and it's coming along well. Fr. Al and I are also talking of ways to do virtual Daily Offices during the week as an additional offering to keep our community spiritually connected and **hope-filled**.

Do you remember years ago the popular catch phrase, “Life is fragile, handle with prayer”? This seems quite timely to me now. Add this phrase with a similar line being said in our culture today, “Prayer, our first and best wireless connection with God.” Prayer is our most basic, intimate connection with our creator God. I encourage you to talk with God frequently through this present crisis. Use words, too, if necessary. Yes, silence works just fine for prayer comes from the heart. If I were to search for just one small benefit from the isolation and social distancing it would be the organic development of time gained that we can utilize to seek God's presence in the midst of this “new normal.” This is where I find **hope**. “Genuine hope is not wishful thinking, but a firm assurance about things that are unseen and still in the future” (Youngblood & Harrison, *Compact Bible Dictionary*, 2004). Hope comes only from God.

Pray for that hope that only God can give. Pray for patience. Pray for those afflicted with COVID-19 and for their healing. Pray for the medical teams on the frontlines. Pray for those whose livelihoods are in jeopardy. Start with these petitions. Add your own petitions, as they become known in your heart. Your list will surely grow and will be endless.

## Discernment Team Members

Paul Jokerst, Chair

Mike Rohan, Liaison to the BC

Michael Booker Barb Sacco

Suzanne Jones Jack Laules

Marsha Smith Jerry Smith

# Discernment Team Update

by Paul Jokerst

As many are aware, we are faced with many changes these days that are affecting our “normal operations.” And as each of us knows, it is no different here in the Episcopal Diocese of Missouri where St. Francis is now streaming our Sunday worship services.

It was only a matter of time that these changes were going to affect the search processes throughout the entire diocese. I recently spoke with Rev. Doris Westfall, the Interim Canon to the Ordinary, who had just finished a meeting with our Bishop-elect Deon Johnson. They have decided that in the best interest and safety of everyone, the search process currently underway in the Diocese are being put on hold. Some may feel upset or let down by this news, but under the circumstance, we all can truly understand and respect this decision. I know I do.

So how does this affect the search for our new Vicar here at St. Francis, well, it just extends the application process. The advertisement for our next Vicar is already posted and was originally scheduled to close on April 30. This closing date is just being extended approximately 3 to 6 months while the Country and the Diocese evaluate, and reevaluate, current situations.

God has helped this congregation by assisting us in calling Fr. Al to serve as our Interim Vicar. Graciously, and as I would have expected, Fr. Al has agreed to remain with St. Francis as we work through these difficult times. And by difficult times, I am not referring to our transition here at St. Francis, but what our country is currently facing. As a member of St. Francis and the chair of our Discernment Committee for our next Vicar, I am truly grateful for the leadership that Fr. Al has and is currently giving our parish family. I am thankful that he is such a great example of living a life of faith. Moreover, I truly believe that he is a blessing to St. Francis and each and every one of us as we continue to move forward.

So to Fr. Al, thank you for your continued support of St. Francis and to the Dio-

cese, to Rev. Doris Westfall, Bishop-elect Deon Johnson, and Bishop Wayne Smith, thank you for your loving guidance through these times.

## From the Bishop's Warden

by Jackie Selle

Thanks to current CDC guidelines for the health and safety of our parishioners, families, and neighbors, it's easy to feel cut off from everyone. While I think we would all agree that “sheltering at home” and “social distancing” are temporary but necessary strategies, we can quickly begin to experience a sense of isolation.

With that in mind, the Bishop's Committee and established a “shepherding program” to check in with each other and to share information. Each of you should be hearing from one of the BC



members every week to week and a half for a quick “hello” and to see how you are doing. We hope that this will help us maintain our sense of community during the period of time when we are unable to gather for common worship and fellowship.

While each group is assigned to check in on a particular group, this is only the beginning of how we can care for each other during this unprecedented and stressful situation. As Archdeacon Rebecca pointed out in her article, this is a great time to reach out to each other, find out if they need something, or simply to say hi and maintain those very special connections that unite us as a church family. This physical distancing is temporary, but our church family connection isn't.

# Stump the Vicar



**Q: Some of the Psalms are violent, so why do we use them in prayer?**

A: If you have ever participated in Morning or Evening Prayer or read the Psalter there are about 30+ psalms that speak of retribution and vengeance upon enemies. So, why do we pray them? They are part of the experience of the people of God that has been handed down to us. Jesus prayed the psalms and even quoted Psalm 22 on the cross, “My God, my God, why have you forsaken me?” Jesus knew that his mission as Messiah meant that he had to die on the cross, so his outcry is understood more from the core of the human condition rather than his conviction that he had to die to redeem us. The Psalms draw us away from concentrating only on our personal human condition and connect us with the whole experience of humanity which Jesus willingly entered, endured and redeemed.

## Father Al's Schedule

Fr. Al will work from home and go to the church office periodically. Currently, there is not a set schedule for the office – rather on an as needed basis. He will meet occasionally at the office with Archdeacon Rebecca Barger or Bishop's Warden, Jackie Selle or Junior Warden, Donna Bernert or Treasurer, Tracey Oswald. Possible other individual or small group meetings will be required. Please email [ajewson.stfranch@gmail.com](mailto:ajewson.stfranch@gmail.com) or cell: 314-560-1375 with questions and/or concerns.

# UPDATED GUIDANCE FOR CLERGY AND CONGREGATIONS IN THE DIOCESE OF MISSOURI

MARCH 19, 2020

*"Therefore, keep awake—for you do not know when the master of the house will come, in the evening, or at midnight, or at cockcrow, or at dawn, or else he may find you asleep when he comes suddenly. And what I say to you I say to all: Keep awake." (Mark 13:37)*

Dear friends in Christ,

"Keep awake!" We continue to adapt to a world in the midst of ongoing change and challenge, and yet we live in the hope and promise of Easter. As people of faith we know that even in the midst of the shadow of Good Friday, Easter is coming.

As you are well aware COVID-19 has changed our lives and our world at an almost unbelievable pace.

Information is shifting daily, at times almost hourly, and yet we are called to be the church, to be beacons of faith, hope, and love in the world. We are assured, as we follow the risen Christ in new ways that "to your faithful people O Lord, life is changed, not ended." (BCP 382).

The guidance that follows is intended to address this new reality in which we find ourselves and the practical reality of continuing the work of Christ in the world. These guidelines will be updated as needed and it is our plan to continue to communicate with you as things continue to evolve around us and to ensure that we are all, in this new and uncharted reality, safe and secure from all alarms. To

that effect clergy will gather each Wednesday at 1:00 p.m. CDT via video conference to check-in and offer updates as necessary.

At this time we are also extending the call for a fast from public worship in solidarity with the most vulnerable among us until **May 31, 2020**, at which time we will reevaluate the ongoing situation. We are aware that this will impact the celebration of Holy Week and Easter. Please be assured that we will communicate ways in which these sacred events in our Christian life may be celebrated in light of our new reality.

May God bless and keep you, those you love and those whom you serve, now and always.

The Rt. Rev. Wayne Smith,  
10th Bishop of Missouri

The Rev. Deon K. Johnson,  
Bishop-elect of Missouri

*O God, the protector of all who trust in you, without whom nothing is strong, nothing is holy: Increase and multiply upon us your mercy; that, with you as our ruler and guide, we may so pass through things temporal, that we lose not the things eternal; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. Amen.*

## PRAYER

Prayer changes things. Prayer changes us. Maintain a vibrant and lively prayer life. Ground yourself in daily prayer for your family, those whom you love, for your communities and for the world. Post prayers and reflections on social media and mail devotions to those who are not online.

## PUBLIC GATHERINGS

Ours is an incarnational faith and as such we are naturally inclined to gather with each other. For the foreseeable future, in compliance with the Centers for Disease Control and Department of Health, both outdoor and indoor gatherings must be limited to ten (10) people or less while conforming to the six (6) feet of physical distancing.

## BAPTISMS

Baptisms form the foundation of our faith in Jesus Christ and are full initiation into the body of Christ. While we desire to gather together to celebrate the beginning of the journey of faith, at this time Emergency Baptisms, when the pastoral need arises, are the only baptisms to take place.

## FUNERALS

Christians bury their dead. We are a people who believe that "through Jesus Christ our Lord; who rose victorious from



the dead, and comforts us with the blessed hope of everlasting life. For to your faithful people, O Lord, life is changed, not ended; and when our mortal body lies in death, there is prepared for us a dwelling place eternal in the heavens.” (BCP 382) While the prohibitions for gatherings of more than ten (10) people are in place, funerals involving a body are to be conducted at the graveside only with immediate family conforming to the physical distancing guidance distributed by the Centers for Disease Control and the local Department of Health. It is recommended that memorial services be scheduled at a later date for those who have been bodily interred.

Cremains can be held indefinitely until such a time as gatherings are allowed. Funeral services for those who have been cremated can be scheduled at a later date.

### **WEDDINGS**

The joining of two people in heart and mind in the bonds of Holy Matrimony is an expression and image of Christ’s love for the world. During this time of physical distancing, gathering to celebrate weddings is suspended until such a time as gatherings of more than 50 are allowed.

### **ORDINATIONS**

The conferring of Holy Orders has been a part of the life of the Church for centuries. The Canons of the Episcopal Church allow for ordinations to take place with a minimum of one bishop, two priests, and two lay persons. While this may not be ideal, it offers a possible way forward for the work of the Church to continue in these extraordinary times.

### **VESTRIES & BISHOP’S COMMITTEES**

In the Episcopal Church vestries and Bishop’s committees are responsible for the financial and legal continuance of congregations and missions. Although most vestries are comprised of fewer than ten (10) people, we strongly recommend that these governing bodies meet virtually by phone conference or video conference. Maintaining regular contact with wardens and vestry members, along with regular meetings, is essential during this time.

### **ACTIONS OF VESTRIES AND BISHOP’S COMMITTEES**

- Votes by email must be unanimous and should employ the “Reply All” feature in tallying the votes.
- Phone or video conference meetings follow the same rules as in-person meetings, provided that time is set aside from deliberation prior to a vote.

### **FOOD PANTRIES AND FEEDING MINISTRIES**

Jesus said, “For I was hungry and you gave me something to eat, I was thirsty and you gave me something to drink, I was a stranger and you invited me in, I needed clothes and you clothed me, I was sick and you looked after me, I was in prison and you came to visit me.” (Matthew 25:31-36) Caring for those who are unhoused and hungry in our community has been and continues to be a vital ministry in the Diocese of Missouri. To ensure the safety of our lay and ordained ministers and those whom we serve, the following procedures should be followed:

- No more than ten (10) people gathering to serve or prepare meals with the appropriate physical distancing.
- Wash hands, utensils, and surfaces with soap and water often.
- Do not cross-contaminate food items.
- Gloves are to be worn at all times.
- Masks should be worn, if possible and replaced every twenty (20) minutes.
- The Centers for Disease Control has issued an update that allows for bandanas and scarves to be used in place of face masks.
- All meals are to be served to-go and preferably outside or in large open indoor spaces with physical distancing guidelines in use.

### **PASTORAL VISITS**

Paul encourages us to care for each other in love and visit those who, because of infirmity or illness, are unable to be a part of the community. We are encouraging churches to find creative ways of staying in touch with those who are isolated and vulnerable and to give them spiritual support and also practical support as far as possible. At this time only clergy, or designated Eucharistic Ministers or Pastoral caregivers, are to make pastoral visits. The guidance on protecting yourself and others listed below is to be followed.

### **SOBRIETY SUPPORT**

Many of our congregations wish to continue to support those who rely on sobriety support groups. While these are important gatherings, it is recommended that members of these groups be directed to [onlinegroupaa.org](http://onlinegroupaa.org), which offers many resources during these times of physical distancing.

### **PROTECT OTHERS BY PROTECTING YOURSELF**

Wash your hands often with soap and water for at least 20 seconds, especially after you have been in a public place or after blowing your nose, coughing, or sneezing.

If soap and water are not readily available, use a hand sanitizer that contains at least 60% alcohol. Cover all surfaces of your hands and rub them together until they feel dry.

Avoid touching your eyes, nose, and mouth with unwashed hands.

Avoid close contact.

Especially avoid close contact with people who are sick.

Put distance between yourself and other people if COVID-19 is spreading in your community. This is especially important for people who are at higher risk of getting very sick.

Clean AND disinfect frequently touched surfaces **daily**. This includes tables, doorknobs, light switches, countertops, handles, desks, phones, keyboards, toilets, faucets, and sinks.

### **SUGGESTIONS TO PREVENT SOCIAL ISOLATION**

Christianity by its nature is a faith that centers on being social. Our Trinitarian creeds point us toward a God who is a three-personed community. Our most sacred act is at its heart a banquet which displays God's love for the world through Jesus Christ. For many in our communities gathering for church on Sundays is the highlight of their week. Since we are no longer able to gather for public worship, maintaining social connection is more important than ever.

Psychologists tell us that social isolation can lead to very serious mental and physical health risks. These recommendations encourage us to love our most vulnerable neighbors during a time of uncertainty made worse by an inability to gather with friends and neighbors. Consider the following:

- Pair members of a congregation with each other to regularly check-in with each other.
- Create a phone tree to ensure that those who may not be online can maintain connections.
- Find affinity groups that can meet virtually.
- Create a list of community and faith-based organizations that you or the people in your faith community can contact in the event they lack access to information, health care services, support and resources.
- Mail bulletins, newsletters and other means of communication to those who are without internet.
- For many of the most vulnerable in our communities, the telephone will be the easiest and most accessible way to keep in contact. Invite young people to contact the elderly and talk them through installing apps that allow wider social connections.

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## **Houseman to Serve as ECM Ambassador**

*by Janet Houseman*

"Yes – how can I serve?" was my answer to Father Al's request to accept the ministry of Episcopal City Mission (ECM) Ambassador for St. Francis' Episcopal Church. In a phone call, Angela Breecher, Development Assistant at ECM, shared with me the breadth of services for juveniles in detention in the St. Louis area and the work of the devoted chaplains who counsel youngsters from eight to 18.

In the near future I will share information about programs and ask for your help to support the endeavors of ECM. There are four annual "FUNraisers" with the next one coming in early summer, and until then I will share information about ECM

ministries and how our congregation will support the mission. For right now, I ask for your spiritual strength to fulfill this role.

## **Meetings, Groups, and Schedules**

Bishop's Committee will be on Zoom. Fr. Jewson will communicate with the regular participants to determine a time and date for the monthly meeting.

Bible Study will be Zoomed on Friday mornings at 10:00 A.M. If you would like to participate please contact Kathleen McDonald at [mrs.mcbooks@gmail.com](mailto:mrs.mcbooks@gmail.com) or at 636-667-6299.

Worship and Music Committee Meetings will be on Zoom on the first Monday of each month at 6:00 P.M.

Lay worship ministry schedules are

cancelled for the time being.

All meetings concerning the Young Adults LGBTQ group will be suspended until further notice.

Other meetings will be scheduled via Zoom or telephone.



St. Francis will provide Trinity a sack lunch. Sally Hader and Donna Bernert will be filling bags with fried chicken from Walmart along with fruit cups, pop tarts, potato chips, and carrot sticks in zip lock bags. The staff at Trinity staff will hand out the bags to the guests.

# Garden Talk: Seeds

by *Marsha Smith*

I recently read this quote attributed to Henry David Thoreau: "Though I do not believe that a plant will spring up where no seed has been, I have great faith in a seed. Convince me that you have a seed there, and I am prepared to expect wonders."

I think we can all relate to this feeling that a plant sprouting from a seed is a miraculous event and we expect a miracle to occur every time we plant a seed. So I always look forward to this time of year when I am planting seeds and expecting miracles.

Beyond the joy of watching seedlings emerge and thrive, growing annual flowers and vegetables from seeds has some advantages over purchasing them as plants at the nursery.

Growing plants from seeds is less expensive than purchasing them as plants. Although seed packets may contain more seeds than you need in one year, many seeds are viable for a number of years if stored in a cool, dry, and dark location. Sharing seeds with your gardening friends is also fun.

The seed catalogs that come in the spring offer a much wider variety of flowers and vegetables than are available at the nursery. Although most plants purchased at nurseries are healthy; growing your own tomatoes and peppers, for example, eliminates the risk of importing viruses and oth-

er diseases via nursery-grown plants.

In March and early April, I start a number of annual flowers, herbs and vegetables inside in order for them to be the right size to plant outside in May. At this time of being more isolated due to the COVID-19 pandemic and having more free time, perhaps you want to try growing plants from seeds. If you are new to this endeavor, here are some things to consider...

Start your seeds at the right time. Usually the seed packet will tell you how long ahead of the last frost you should start the seeds. The average last frost date in our area is about April 15<sup>th</sup>. I planted tomato seeds too early one year and had two-foot tall tomato plants that were way beyond ready to be planted while the weather outside was still too cold. Trying to keep those large plants in a well-lit environment for weeks was challenging to say the least.

I usually use regular potting soil to start seeds as it is less expensive than a seed-starting mix. Others swear by using seed-starting mixes.

Seeds need warmth, moisture, and oxygen for germination. Seeds are utilizing the energy stored in them and need oxygen in order to do this. Some seeds need light for germination, especially smaller seeds like lettuce so don't plant these seeds too deep. A good rule of thumb is to plant seeds to a depth of about twice their diameter or width. Again, the seed packet will usually tell you how deep



to plant them.

Seeds need to be kept moist. I use a gentle sprayer to water before the seeds germinate to avoid washing the seed around. After seeds germinate and start to put down roots, bottom watering promotes root growth.

Seedlings require bright light so you will need a light source such as a fluorescent light that can be placed several inches away from the uppermost leaves. If using a fixture with two bulbs, combine a white (warm) tube with a white (cool) tube in the same fixture to give the same result as grow lights. If your seedlings are looking leggy, the light source is probably not bright enough or not close enough. Having good air circulation around your seedlings encourages strong growth so I place small fans on my light stands. Good air movement also helps to prevent damping off.

Happy seed planting! I hope you are enjoying the first flowers of spring.

## Prayer Requests

by *Archdeacon Rebecca Barger*

I will continue to update and maintain our prayer lists, so remember to submit your prayer requests to me via phone, call or text (713)515-5676 or email [rsbarger@charter.net](mailto:rsbarger@charter.net). We will publish the list in the weekly bulletin that is posted online or sent out via email. Praying for those with specific needs and for each other helps to deepen and enrich our lives through our shared relationships with God and each other. We are all part of this beloved piece of the Kingdom that we call St. Francis' church. God is listening. God is waiting to hear from you!





## Book Group Update

by Kathleen McDonald

The best-laid plans of mice and men often go awry.

The saying is adapted from a line in "To a Mouse," by Robert Burns: "The best laid schemes o' mice an' men / Gang aft a-gley."

No, St. Francis' is not yet scheduled to read and discuss any of the works of Bobby Burns. We are scheduled for several months with delicious and varied books to read and discuss together. What's gone awry with our plans, of course, is the Covid 19 virus that's keeping us all socially distant.

So, to tweak our plans a bit, we'll skip our April 13 meeting and move

that book to May, and so on down the line. If we're still sheltering in place in May and June, we will try to set up a Zoom meeting via internet.

In the meantime, with the libraries closed, you can rely on [amazon.com](https://www.amazon.com) for delivery of these books. Here's the adapted schedule:

- May 11: *Pioneers* by David McCullough
- June 8: *Emma* by Jane Austen (the movie is available, too)
- July 13: *The Book Lady of Troublesome Creek* by Kim Richardson
- August 10: *The Girl He Used to Know* by Tracey Graves
- Sept. 14: *Eleanor Oliphant is Completely Fine* by Gail Honeyman.

## Friends of St. Francis

by Kathy Regnier

March was full of shamrocks and fun activities for our children at Friends of St. Francis. March 13 was Butterfly Day, so teachers Marsha and Herb came in to demonstrate the life cycle of a butterfly and brought in age appropriate crafts for the children to create. The kids were excited to learn about the butterflies and showed off their projects to their families.

The Covid-19 virus has temporarily shut Friends of St. Francis down; however, the children were able to sneak in one more project before we parted. They made cards for our senior members of our church and community.

We hope to be back stronger and healthier next month!

## Bible Study

by Kathleen McDonald

Friday morning Bible Study at St. Francis' usually means a group of ten or fewer around a table in the Community Room. The table is piled with Bibles, Concordances and reference texts, both print and electronic. We need all these goodies, plus maps of the Holy Land as well as needing one another's minds, spirits, and good questions in order to explore texts for the following Sunday.

For the foreseeable future, this picture will look almost the same. We'll continue to meet at our regular time of 10:00. Participants, however, will not be together over coffee and snacks in the Community Room. We'll each be at home with our own hot beverages and continuing the study together by using Zoom via the internet. This format allows us each to sign on from a home or computer and see one another as we 'listen, read, mark, learn and inwardly digest' \* one or more of the week's readings. (\* Proper 28, BCP).

Regular members will have received an email with Zoom information and time to practice. Neither high tech skills nor experience with scripture study are necessary. If you would like to join us in this venture, please give a call, text or email to Kathleen McDonald at 636-667-6299 or at [mrs.mcbooks@gmail.com](mailto:mrs.mcbooks@gmail.com).

### Bishop's Committee Members

Jackie Selle, Bishop's Warden

Donna Bernert, Jr. Warden

Caitlin Selle, Clerk

#### Class of 2021

Mike Rohan

Barb Sacco

Bob Smith

#### Class of 2022

Sylvia Ahmad

Donna Bernert

Jackie Selle

Herb Smith

#### Class of 2023

Mary Ann Kinder

Doris Schaefer

Bill Thompson

#### Delegates

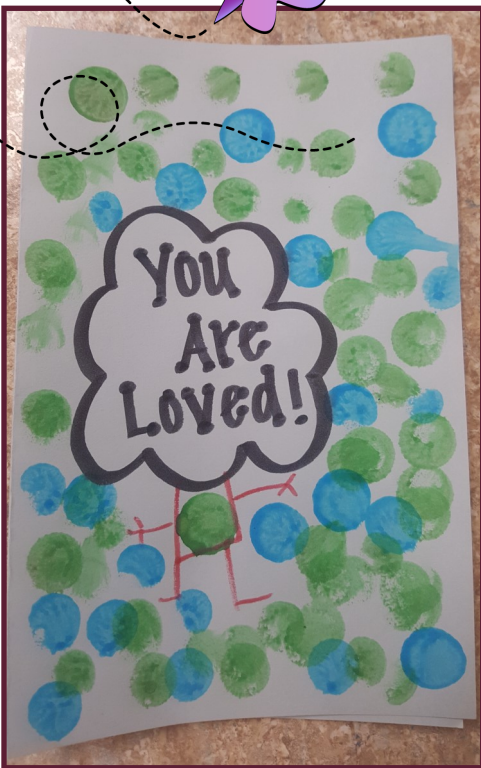
Max Starbuck (2021)

Paul Jokerst (2023)

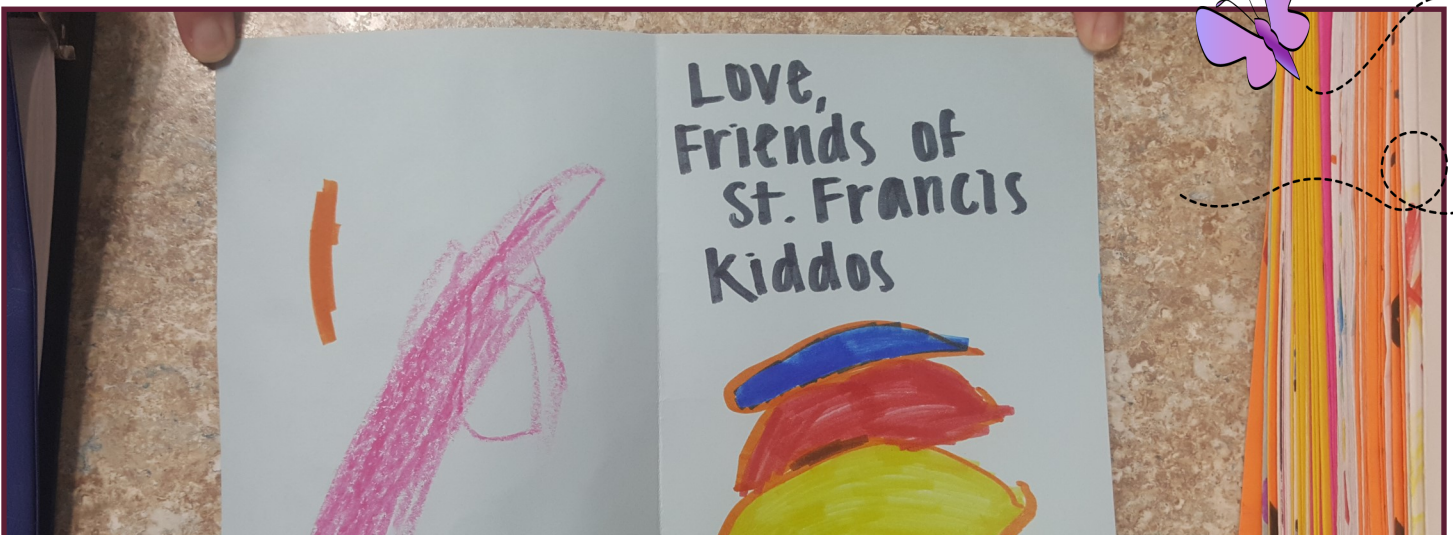
Michael Booker (2022),  
alternate







*Top left and right center: FoSF students learned about butterflies; top right: Troy and Paul change a bulb in the cupola; center left and below: FoSF staff and students made cards to share with others.*



**WEEKLY SUNDAY  
WORSHIP ATTENDANCE STATISTICS**

2019	SUNDAY ATTENDANCE	2020
0*	1st Sunday in Lent	60
71	2nd Sunday in Lent	58
63	3rd Sunday in Lent	46**
64	4th Sunday in Lent—Virtual Worship Facebook Viewers	6 19
<p style="text-align: center;"><i>*Cancelled services due to winter storm</i>  <i>**Coronavirus precaution</i></p>		

O God, the protector of all who trust in you,  
without whom nothing is strong, nothing is holy:  
Increase and multiply upon us your mercy; that,  
with you as our ruler and guide, we may so pass  
through things temporal, that we lose not  
the things eternal; through Jesus Christ  
our Lord, who lives and reigns with you  
and the Holy Spirit, one God, for  
ever and ever. Amen.

*Bishop Smith and Bishop-elect Johnson have offered this  
prayer as one for us all to pray daily.*





# Worship Services

*All worship services will be live-streamed*

**All Sundays** Holy Eucharist at 10:15 A.M.

*You can watch the FB video at this time or later in the day.*

**Palm Sunday** Palms blessed at worship will be placed on a table under the covered entrance at the front of the building. Please take a palm home with you and place it behind a cross or crucifix or behind an icon or sacred picture.

**Holy Week** Monday in Holy Week through Holy Saturday Morning Prayer will be offered at 8:30 A.M. and Evening Prayer at 5:00 P.M.

**Maundy Thursday** Holy Eucharist with Maundy Thursday liturgy will be offered at 7:00 P.M.

**Good Friday** Solemn Liturgy will be offered at 7:00 P.M.

**Great Vigil** *No Great Vigil liturgy this year.*

**Morning Prayer** Monday – Thursday at 8:30 A.M.

**Evening Prayer** Monday at 5:00 P.M.

*Additional Evening Prayer services may be offered.*





# April 2020

**Sun**

**Mon**

**Tue**

**Wed**

**Thu**

**Fri**

**Sat**

			1 8:30 am Morning Prayer	2 8:30 am Morning Prayer	3 10 am Bible Study via Zoom	4
5 10:15 am Holy Eucharist (Live- streamed on FB)  <i>Palm Sunday</i>	6 8:30 am Morning Prayer 5 pm Evening Prayer  6 pm Worship & Music via Zoom	7 8:30 am Morning Prayer	8 8:30 am Morning Prayer	9 8:30 am Morning Prayer  7 pm Holy Eucharist with Maundy Thursday Liturgy <i>Maundy Thursday</i>	10 10 am Bible Study via Zoom  7 pm Solemn Liturgy <i>Good Friday</i>	11  <i>Holy Saturday</i>
12 10:15 am Holy Eucharist (Live- streamed on FB)  <i>Easter Sunday</i>	13 8:30 am Morning Prayer	14 8:30 am Morning Prayer	15 8:30 am Morning Prayer	16 8:30 am Morning Prayer	17 10 am Bible Study via Zoom	18
19 10:15 am Holy Eucharist (Live- streamed on FB)  <i>The Second Sunday of Easter</i>	20 8:30 am Morning Prayer  <i>Chalice Deadline</i>	21 8:30 am Morning Prayer	22 8:30 am Morning Prayer	23 8:30 am Morning Prayer	24 10 am Bible Study via Zoom	25  <i>St. Mark the Evangelist</i>
26 10:15 am Holy Eucharist (Live- streamed on FB) Trinity sack lunches <i>The Third Sunday of Easter</i>	27 8:30 am Morning Prayer	28 8:30 am Morning Prayer	29 8:30 am Morning Prayer	30 8:30 am Morning Prayer		