



JULY 2020

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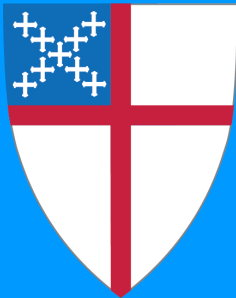
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The Chalice

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The Chalice

Theology of Scarcity/Theology of Abundance

by Father Al Jewson

Scarcity is a basic principle of economics and is defined as not having sufficient resources to produce enough to fill unlimited subjective wants; for instance, there is not enough gold available for everyone in the world to have gold jewelry. Economic scarcity drives the availability, production, and price of something. On the other hand, artificial scarcity assures that product will remain in production; for instance, Nike purposely does not manufacture an unlimited supply of tennis shoes.

The current pandemic of COVID-19 has dramatically changed the availability of products, resources, entertainment, and access to health care. In addition increases in cost of living coupled with insufficient pay raises, increase cost of food, gasoline and other goods, health insurance and medical costs rising, etc. all add to the notion of scarcity in our society. Unfortunately, this way of thinking has a way of permeating all aspects of our lives. While scarcity is a neutral economic principle, a

theology of scarcity is not and does not have to permeate our lives and thought. It seems to me that there are two theologies present in the Church today: scarcity and abundance.

The theology of scarcity counters the biblical truth about God and God's ways. It leads us to believe that God is not really as forgiving as we have been told, and that there really isn't enough love and grace to go around in the world. A theology of scarcity

view of scarcity, but we must fight against such views, because they do not represent the ultimate truths presented to us in Sacred Scripture. A theology of scarcity lives on the assumption that resources are limited, the economy is bad, the world is pressing in, and the limits of resources should determine the mission of the Church. In short, the theology of scarcity is incapable of living up to the faith of Abraham because it does not trust God.

A theology of abundance believes that God can provide and that the resources are available. All that is waiting is for the people of God to release the resources in response to the mission and the call. It is as simple as that – God provides, and we muster up the resources available to us!

The psalmist writes, "How precious is your steadfast love, O God! All people may take refuge in the shadow of your wings. They feast on the abundance of your house, and you give them drink from the river of your delights. For with you is the fountain of life; in your light we see light" (Psalm 36:7-11).

causes us to hoard rather than to share. It keeps us fearful and angry. It leads us to doubt that God is good and that we are loved just for who we are. A theology of scarcity can grip us unaware and is fostered by experiences of impoverishment—some medical, some economic, some emotional, and some spiritual.

At times like these it is easy to get drawn into society's



9, *New Revised Standard Version*).

The Prophet Habakkuk understood the theology of abundance even in economic scarcity, “Though the fig tree does not blossom, and no fruit is on the vines; though the produce of the olive fails, and the fields yield no food; though the flock is cut off from the fold, and there is no herd in the stalls, yet I will rejoice in the LORD; I will exult in the God of my salvation. GOD, the Lord, is my strength; he makes my feet like the feet of a deer and makes me tread upon the heights” (Habakkuk 3:17-19, NRSV).

St. Francis’ Church is a mission outpost. Its work is to spread the Good News, to provide a haven of safety and rest, refreshment and renewal, creativity, and challenge. Through the Church we experience sacrament and grace, community of sisters and brothers, peace, and comfort. However, the Church – that is, all of us cannot begin to work at its work when it is confronted and bogged down by a theology of scarcity.

This is not to say that there are not reasons for an appropriate level of fear today, but fear has a way of driving us to extremes and can become our greatest enemy. Fear causes us to hunker down and cover our heads. It can make us too afraid to move forward, too afraid to trust and to hope. Fear can ultimately drive us to no action.

St. Paul was not driven by fear or scarcity, “And God is able to provide you with every blessing in abundance, so that by always having enough of everything, you may share abundantly in every good work” (2 Corinthians 9:8, NRSV). In spite of hardship, beatings and imprisonment he continued to live the words taught by Jesus, “I came that they may have life, and have it abundantly” (John 10:10, NRSV).

We, the members of St. Francis’ Church are doing our best to remain a family, even if its members are una-

ble to come together to celebrate God’s love and our love for each other. We want to grow beyond just family and continue to welcome new members. Some of our success in this area has been dramatically hampered by the pandemic, social and political unrest. My prayer is that you continue to trust in the abundance of God, center your trust and peace in Christ and rejoice in the Lord always.

“Now to him who by the power at work within us is able to accomplish abundantly far more than all we can ask or imagine, to him be glory in the church and in Christ Jesus to all generations, forever and ever. Amen.” (Ephesians 3: 20-21, NRSV).

A New Era

by Archdeacon Rebecca Barger

Oh! Happy day! And, “Thanks be to God I have lived to see this day.” Aside from the “thin” group gathered (total of 25) to witness and ordain our 11th Bishop of the Episcopal Diocese of Missouri, it was a beautiful and emotion-filled service. I was so blessed to be present. I felt an utmost sense of honor and privilege to take in this historic moment in the life of our diocese.

It was very much a time of mixed feelings and emotions. Although all of us understood that the current pandemic had forced such a modification of this service, I was still saddened by the absence of many individuals, and in particular, the community of deacons. Before COVID-19, the initial service included all the deacons of the diocese, each with a distinct and meaningful role that represented the special relationship between the bishop and the deacons. When Bishop Smith appointed me to serve as archdeacon last fall, I knew I would have a role in this service, but it never occurred to me that I would be the sole representative of our order and community. I allowed myself to feel that



The Rt. Reverend Deon K. Johnson and Archdeacon Rebecca Barger

weight and conscientiously visualized and named each deacon in our diocese in hopes that their spirit and character would be present and felt. Still, all things considered, I was very aware of the disappointment they were experiencing. Another group not present were the 30ish individuals tasked with the burden of searching for bishop candidates and the transition committee who struggled with the ever-changing restrictions caused by COVID-19. All these individuals were committed and dedicated to the work of making this historic event possible. Those who developed and revised the service were not even there in person to witness this event. They deserve our deepest gratitude.

When asked what stood out the most to me about that day’s event, I said there were many moments. Standing at the table during the eucharistic prayer as the word of invocation of the spirit upon us and the elements, I was struck by the timeliness of “*Grant that we ... may be a people of hope, justice and love*” following the bishop’s public letter of response to racism and violence currently confronting our society. In the days following the service, the memory that continually returns is at the conclusion of the service, when Bishop Deon gave me a blessing. We both had tears running down our faces—tears of joy as we began this new era in our lives. Needless to say, I am very excited about working with Bishop Deon and serving as archdeacon in his tenure.

Preach the Good News

by Father Al Jewson

At the heart of my priestly ministry is the call from the Holy Spirit to preach the Good News of the Gospel. The "Good News" is not always news that is appealing for it also calls each of us to examine conscience and the direction in which we find ourselves moving. The "Good News" reminds us to reexamine those areas of our personal lives that are not in sync with the teachings of Jesus and challenges us to realign ourselves with our Lord. It also looks at the society in which we live and calls us to work at changing those aspects of societal practice that do not conform to the principle of loving our neighbors as ourselves.



One such societal norm is white supremacy. In its own way it is as deadly as the health pandemic we are currently facing; however, it has lasted far longer and been accepted as the way society exists. White supremacy forces people of color to live as second-class citizens and denies such persons of rights that they have under the Constitution and especially rights as fellow sisters and brothers in Christ.

When I preach about such sinful norms of society, I preach strictly from the perspective of the teachings of Jesus Christ which are binding on anyone who has been baptized into his

death and resurrection. Such preaching is not politically motivated. A preacher should not cast blame for this inequality or any other depravity on conservatives or liberals, Republican or Democrat, nor should blame be cast on any one group. All of us are responsible for this false allusion that skin color makes the difference. When we can acknowledge this then, as followers of Jesus Christ, we have to engage in whatever activity we can to help correct it.

Food Pantry Donations Needed

By Laurie Dailey

While there is always a need for non-perishable food donations at the Eureka Food Pantry, the demand is even greater due to COVID-19. Please consider picking up some items for the pantry on your next shopping trip. Items such as canned pasta, canned fruit, soups, jellies (a variety of flavors), canned chili and beans, spaghetti sauce, pasta, canned chicken and dumplings, canned stews, canned vegetables such as carrots and potatoes, boxed cereals, rice and rice mixes, instant potatoes, or other potato side dishes are very much appreciated.

If you are able to donate, place the items in a convenient area of your car that volunteers can easily access. Do



not get out of your car; a volunteer will

gather donations. Donations may be dropped off Tuesdays and Thursdays from 9-11:30 a.m. or Wednesdays from 6-8 p.m. Thank you to everyone who can help. Your generosity makes a big difference to people in our area who are in need. For more information, please contact Laurie Dailey.

Face Mask Donations

by Donna Bernert

The end of May marked the last delivery of face masks to St. Luke's Hospital, bringing the total donated to 3,100. After that Sally Hader suggested we make masks for the parishes in the state of Missouri. Debbie Caby, the president of the ECW, sent a notice stating St. Francis and the ECW would donate face masks to any parish requesting them. We have sent out over 500 masks to ten churches. Barbie Click at Trinity will be getting a regular supply as her need is ongoing. Sally Hader has made 25 face masks with a clear plastic center for The Reverend Emily Hillquist Davis who works at Grace Church with the deaf. Sally's masks allow people to be able to see people's mouths in order to read lips.

Discernment Team Members

Paul Jokerst, Chair
Mike Rohan, Liaison to the BC
Michael Booker
Barb Sacco
Suzanne Jones
Jack Laules
Marsha Smith
Jerry Smith

Women's Group

by Kathleen McDonald

If you miss the monthly get-togethers of the Women's Group, you are not alone! But there's a small alternative for you, following guidelines and providing an opportunity for chatting with friends.



For the time being, several women are meeting weekly for BYO lunch at Drewell Park, Eureka, at 11:30 each Wednesday.

Bring lunch, your face mask, and a lawn chair. After lunch, switch to your lawn chair and make a socially distanced circle. All are welcome.

Garden Talk: Church Garden

by Marsha Smith

If you have driven by the St. Francis Church building in the past few weeks, you may have noticed that work is being done on the landscape of the front garden. Changes are being made to alleviate water problems and to improve the soil and drainage for the plants growing there.

The water problems were caused by the two downspouts that empty into the front garden but which were not connected to the yard drain (blue pipe) located in the center of the garden. During any significant rain, the water from one downspout caused the washing of mulch from the garden onto the front walk. The water from the other downspout emptied onto the sidewalk on the community room side of the building which resulted in ice forming on the sidewalk during the wintertime. To



The landscaping in front of the church is being modified to allow for better water drainage, illustrated in the before and after photos above.

solve these two problems, the yard drain pipe was cut to ground level and a grate placed on top of it. A dry creek bed is being built to direct the flow of water from both downspouts to the drain.

In order to provide better soil and drainage for the plants in the garden, garden soil was added to the garden, raising the level of the soil and also adding some dimension to the garden. This process required removing the existing plants, raising the soil level and then replanting the plants.

This renovation should be completed in the next couple of weeks, although some plants will be added this fall when the weather is more favorable for planting.

If you are interested in helping with the maintenance of the church grounds, please let me know either via email at marsha.hobbs@att.net or by phone at 314-607-2887. There is always much to do on the grounds and fortunately, it can be done while social distancing.

Building Maintenance

by Donna Bernert

Repairs are being made on the sewer grinding station. The pump/grinder had an alarm light that came on due to the failure of a relay switch. A replacement part has been ordered and will be installed when it comes in. Hopefully, there is a warranty on the part. Our plumber has said that

we should NOT be putting any wipes or sanitary products in any of the toilets. Only toilet paper is acceptable.

A replacement water filter has been installed at the water heater after a crack developed and leaked water in the janitor closet, women's restroom, and the restroom in the childcare area. The wall in the childcare restroom has been replaced due to water damage.

Trinity Hot Lunch

by Donna Bernert

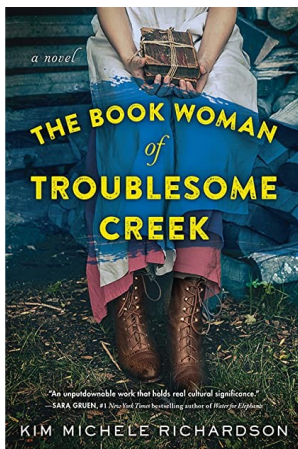
St. Francis Church provided a sack lunch for the guests at Trinity Church on Sunday, May 31. Several people volunteered to help prepare the sack lunches for Trinity, but because of the pandemic, Sally Hader and I shopped for the food and assembled the lunches. Suzanne, Katie, and Abby generously made bags of baby carrots to add some healthy food. The lunches consisted of fried chicken, potato chips, a snack, Crystal Light to add to bottled water, and a fruit cup. One hundred lunches were given to Barbie Click and Debbie Caby to hand out to the guests. Our next lunch date is August 30. We will know if we will provide a sack lunch or a traditional lunch as the date gets closer.



Book Group in July

by Kathleen McDonald

This month's book selection is a short but powerful read and should lead to some great discussion. We will be discussing *The Book Woman of Troublesome Creek* by Kim Michelle Richardson. Inspired by the true blue-skinned people of Kentucky and the



brave and dedicated Kentucky Pack Horse library service of the 1930s, *The Book Woman of Troublesome Creek* is a story of raw courage, fierce

strength, and one woman's belief that books can carry us anywhere—even back home (www.amazon.com).

Bring your own beverage and snack. The Zoom meeting learning curve is flattening, and this month's meeting should flow much more smoothly with plenty of time for lively book talk. We will meet online from 6:30 to 8:00 p.m. on July 13. Please email Kathleen McDonald if you would like an invitation to the meeting. It's open to all and is a good way to get together.

Information Literacy

by Caitlin Selle

Over the last few weeks, I've seen a lot of information shared on Facebook about current events. It's nearly impossible to escape the onslaught of information available at our fingertips ready to share, like, and make a point with, and while much of the information available online is well-sourced and informative, not all of it is. In fact, a lot of the information available online, ESPECIALLY through

social media, is not only biased but is designed to be actively harmful or self-promoting. With that in mind, I thought it might be beneficial to share some of the information and pointers I give to my students when we discuss information literacy.

1. Be aware of a source's bias! Having an identifiable bias or side of the political aisle does not automatically make a source or piece of information invalid, inaccurate, or incorrect. Bias does, however, act as a "Reader Beware" and should tell you that you need to proceed with caution and questions. Not sure how to identify bias in writing? You can always start by looking for words that can be associated with being "good" or "bad," or are designed to shape your opinion of the topic. You can also find an event in the news (there's a LOT in the politics section!) and read about it from three sources: one left, one center, one right. Some sources will even STATE THEIR BIAS on their website if you can find the "About Us" section.

2. Ask yourself: Is this good writing and reporting? You do not have to be a language and grammar nerd to know good writing when you see it! Even the best news sources may have one or two errors, but if the writing seems like it is written at the same level a high school freshman would write at, proceed with extreme caution and a dash of skepticism. Are the ideas unclear or are the statements emotionally charged? Not only is this poor writing, but you may need to ask yourself one of the most important questions when evaluating information, and that is...

3. What is the purpose of this piece? Whether it is a video, news article, or social media post, material is pub-

lished with a specific purpose in mind. Does the article you are reading seem somewhat dry and stick mostly to verified facts? You are probably reading something designed to inform. Does that video you watched on Facebook make you feel attacked, feel like the world around you is falling apart, or elicit some other strong emotional response from you? Beware! This is likely a persuasive piece that may be omitting information, cherry-picking, or bending the facts to make you feel a specific way or make you believe a certain idea. This happens across the political spectrum, so do not let someone make you think this is only a Left/Liberal or Right/Conservative phenomenon. One of the most dangerous purposes published information can have is to be counterfactual, an extreme form of persuasive publishing in which information is presented in a way that hooks you

into reading it and is very convincing but is designed to share misinformation and material that,

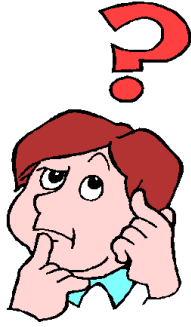
CAUTION

with a little research, can easily be invalidated.

4. Know your source! When finding information, whether that is researching for a large project or simply seeking out the evening news, be familiar with the source your information comes from and know that convenience is not always the best route. Read about the sources and publishers you get your information from, and if possible, learn what the publishing process is like for them. Can anyone in their organization publish work, or does a piece have to be read, proofed, and approved at multiple levels before hitting the internet?

5. References, Sources, and Citations, oh my! Good research and writing will include appropriate references and sources, such as DIRECTLY

quoting people involved in an event rather than only paraphrasing them (or the piece will quote bona fide experts in the case of historical events) and, most importantly, the piece will tell you where the information came from! If you see a video shared on social media that is someone spouting off contradicting statements, sharing their opinion in a low-key recording, or sharing a meme/info WITHOUT saying where the ideas came from or where they found their information, the piece may be some food for thought but should not be taken as fact or reliable information unless you verify the information.



There is a lot that can be discussed with information literacy that, for time and space sake, I will not include here. Libraries often have great sources and information about information and media literacy, so I encourage you to look there if you want to learn more about it or, if you proceed cautiously, to research it more online. I've included the link to a media bias graph that is used by several college libraries and some other resources below, but my last comment on information literacy is this: If a piece validates your own personal opinions completely or makes you feel vindicated at the expense of another group, that is a red flag! You may agree with most of the information you read in a piece, but good information should make you ask questions and, ideally, want to learn more about a topic.

The library at Eastern Washington University has a good starter list for fact-checking sites: <https://research.ewu.edu/journalism/factcheck>

Media Bias Chart: <http://libraryguides.library.clark.edu/news-media-bias/media-bias-chart>

Mexican Lasagna

(submitted by Charley Coleman)

Ingredients

1.5 lbs lean ground beef
12 oz beef chorizo, uncooked
2 bell peppers (any color)
31 oz can Old El Paso refried beans
10 oz can Ro-Tel diced tomatoes & green chiles
4 oz can diced green chiles (medium or hot)
12 Lasagna noodles
12 oz shredded pepper jack cheese (more if you prefer a cheesier lasagna)
Shredded lettuce
2 tbsp chili powder
12 oz can tomato sauce
24 oz salsa (any variety)
12 oz sour cream
16 oz can diced tomatoes
12 oz can sliced black olives

Instructions

1. Core and seed the peppers; coat with oil then roast to char the skins. Remove the skins and dice the onions. Set aside.
2. In a large skillet fry the ground beef and chorizo until fully cooked. Drain excess grease and return meat to the skillet. Add the tomato sauce, Ro-Tel tomatoes, diced peppers, can of green chiles, and 1 tbsp chili powder. Set aside.
3. In a medium sauce pan cook the refried beans till soft, adding in 4 oz salsa, 1 tbsp chili powder, and 4 oz sour cream; mix until fully warmed. Set aside.
4. Cook the lasagna noodles until al dente. Set aside.
5. In a standard size loaf pan, put a small amount of salsa followed by lasagna noodles. Put generous amount of refried beans followed by a generous amount of the meat mixture followed by a coating of pepper jack cheese. Repeat process till approximately 2" from top of pan. Coat top layer with extra cheese.
6. Place loaf pan in pre-heated 350 degree oven covered with foil for 30 minutes.
7. Remove from oven and let cool before cutting. Serve with shredded lettuce, diced tomatoes, black olives, and sour cream. Enjoy!



2019	Average Sunday Attendance (Livestreaming)	2020*
57	Pentecost	47
66	Trinity Sunday	50
61	2nd Sunday after Pentecost	35
79	3rd Sunday after Pentecost	49
66	4th Sunday after Pentecost	
*These 2020 figures take into account those who tune in via Zoom as well as those who view services on our Facebook page.		

Send-off Party

Please join us on the church parking lot on Saturday, July 25 from 11 a.m. to 1 p.m. for a cookout and picnic to celebrate Caitlin Selle's move to Waynesville, MO. Bring your masks, lawn chairs, and beverages!



July 2020 Ministry Schedule

	Lector 1	Lector 2	Intercessor
July 5	Sheila McCart	Paddy Wrob	Tracey Oswald
July 12	Della Thompson	Joe O'Reilly	Bob Smith
July 19	Jackie Selle	Michael Booker	Kathleen McDonald
July 26	Janet Houseman	Kathleen O'Reilly	Barb Sacco



Donation of empty prescription bottles (collected by Sylvia Ahmad for Doctors Without Borders) is temporarily suspended. Thanks!



July 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	4 Independence Day 
5 10:15 am Holy Eucharist (Livestream on Facebook) The 5th Sunday after Pentecost	6 8:30 am Morning Prayer	7 8:30 am Morning Prayer	8 8:30 am Morning Prayer 11:30am Women's Lunch @Drewell Park	9 8:30 am Morning Prayer 10:00 am Chalice Meeting	10 10 am Bible Study	11
12 10:15 am Holy Eucharist (Livestream on Facebook) and parish visit from Bishop Deon Johnson The 6th Sunday after Pentecost	13 8:30 am Morning Prayer 6:30pm Book Group	14 8:30 am Morning Prayer	15 8:30 am Morning Prayer 11:30am Women's Lunch @Drewell Park	16 8:30 am Morning Prayer	17 10 am Bible Study	18
19 10:15 am Holy Eucharist (Livestream on Facebook) The 7th Sunday after Pentecost	20 8:30 am Morning Prayer Chalice deadline	21 8:30 am Morning Prayer	22 8:30 am Morning Prayer 11:30am Women's Lunch @Drewell Park 6:30 Bishop's Committee St. Mary Magdalene	23 8:30 am Morning Prayer	24 10 am Bible Study	25 11am—1pm Sendoff barbecue for Caitlin Selle St. James the Apostle
26 10:15 am Holy Eucharist (Livestream on Facebook) The 8th Sunday after Pentecost	27 8:30 am Morning Prayer	28 8:30 am Morning Prayer	29 8:30 am Morning Prayer 11:30am Women's Lunch @Drewell Park	30 8:30 am Morning Prayer	31 10 am Bible Study	