



The Messenger

The Church of the Incarnation

600 Third Avenue North

Great Falls, MT 59401

”The Word became flesh and dwelt among us.” - John 1:14

September, 2015

RECTOR'S RAMBLINGS

What Makes us Episcopalian/Anglican?

Hallmarks of the Episcopal Church

The Episcopal Church, having its roots in the Church of England and the Scottish Episcopal Church, is also an Anglican Church. Like all Anglican churches, the Episcopal Church is distinguished by the following characteristics:

Protestant, yet Catholic

Anglicanism stands squarely in the Reformed tradition, yet considers itself just as directly descended from the Early Church as the Roman Catholic or Eastern Orthodox churches. Episcopalians celebrate the “Mass” in ways similar to the Roman Catholic tradition, yet do not recognize a single authority, such as the Pope of Rome.

Worship in one’s first language

Episcopalians believe that Christians should be able to worship God and read the Bible in their first language, which for most Episcopalians, is English, rather than Latin or Greek, the two earlier, “official” languages of Christianity. Yet the Book of Common Prayer has been translated into many languages, so that those Episcopalians who do not speak English can still worship God in their native tongue.

The Book of Common Prayer

Unique to Anglicanism, though, is the Book of Common Prayer, the collection of worship services that all worshipers in an Anglican church follow. It’s called “common prayer” because we all pray it together, around the world. The first Book of Common Prayer was compiled in English by Thomas Cranmer in the 16th Century, and since then has undergone many revisions for different times and places. But its original purpose has remained the same: To provide in one place the core of the instructions and rites for Anglican Christians to worship together.

The present prayer book in the Episcopal Church was published in 1979. Many other worship resources and prayers exist to enrich our worship, but the Book of Common Prayer is the authority that governs our worship. The prayer book explains Christianity, describes the main beliefs of the Church, outlines the requirements for the sacraments, and in general serves as the main guidelines of the Episcopal life.

(continued on page 4)



Happening This Month!

Holy Eucharist is celebrated each week:

Sunday at 8:00 a.m.

Sunday at 10:00 a.m.

Wednesday at noon

Recovery Service each Saturday at 6:00 p.m.

Clothing Closet is open Thursday and Saturday, 10 a.m.-1 p.m.

Sunday, September 6 - Home Aloners at Jean Evans' home, 3313 Wild Rose Lane, 2 p.m.

Wednesday, September 9 - Episcopal Church Women, Parish Hall, 1 p.m.

Saturday, September 12 - St. Andrew's Guild (Andy's Bunch) Breakfast, Perkins Restaurant, 8:30 a.m.

Saturday, September 12 - Incarnation Choir rehearsal, 2-4 p.m.

Sunday, September 13, and each Sunday thereafter - Choir rehearsal from 9-9:40 a.m., followed by Sunday worship service

Twelve-Step organizations meet in Gilliam Hall each week:

GA - Monday and Friday, 7 p.m. and Saturday, 1 p.m.

GA and Gamanon - Wednesday, 7 p.m.

AA - Wednesday and Saturday, 7:30 p.m.

Men's CODA - Tuesday, noon

CODA - Thursday, noon

Alanon - Friday, 12:15 p.m.

'HOTEL INCARNATION'

i spent a night last week with the homeless. Many of you will know where I was when I say that I slept in the Saint Francis room. Some of you have actually slept there too: Chuck, Gerry, Mary Ann, Ann, Jeff, Richard, Doug or, more likely, you've been in the room to practice some music with Lana on the piano in there, or participated in some kind of devotional, more "church" like stuff. But because it's the Saint Francis room, you also know the room has an altar, and there is a big cross on the wall. Add the shelves of church literature, minus a Gideon Bible, and Motel 6 meets church and church trumps.

I am not homeless. I have a bed somewhere else. I'm staying at the church in a room that is definitely not a bedroom because there are people there who don't have a bed. There is no "other place" for them. I'm there to try to convince them that this is okay, this basement. Yes, it's a church. I go here on Sundays when it's "officially" God's house, but He is willing to share. All of this talk is only marginally successful.

Details emerge. In one of the former Sunday school classrooms there was a family that had migrated from a tent, with their children parceled out to relatives, to the church. They're getting past shame, past how this could have happened to them and on to tomorrow. They are celebrating being together as a family again. Mom was eager for me to meet her children, anxious to somehow let me know that even though this doesn't look good, this being homeless, to: I am a good parent; my kids are okay, and things will get better. I believed her. A church had become a home for them, a sanctuary, and that is just what they needed...

We said good night.

On Behalf of Family Promise,
Geraldine

ROOMS AT HOTEL INCARNATION
Ready for our guests



RECTOR'S RAMBLINGS (continued)

Scripture, Tradition, and Reason

The Anglican approach to reading and interpreting the Bible was first articulated by Richard Hooker, also in the 16th Century. While Christians universally acknowledge the Bible (or the Holy Scriptures) as the Word of God and completely sufficient to our reconciliation to God, what the Bible says must always speak to us in our own time and place.

The Church, as a worshiping body of faithful people, has for two thousand years amassed experience of God and of loving Jesus, and what they have said to us through the centuries about the Bible is critical to our understanding it in our own context. The traditions of the Church in interpreting Scripture connect all generations of believers together and give us a starting point for our own understanding.

Episcopalians believe that every Christian must build an understanding and relationship with God's Word in the Bible, and to do that, God has given us intelligence and our own experience, which we refer to as "Reason." Based on the text of the Bible itself, and what Christians have taught us about it through the ages, we then must sort out our own understanding of it as it relates to our own lives.

WHO'S WHO

Bishop: The Rt. Rev. Dr. C. Franklin Brookhart
Assistant Bishop: The Rt. Rev. Carol J. Gallagher
Rector: The Rev. Timothy M. Ljunggren
Deacon: The Rev. Marcia Lauzon
Verger: Kevin Williams

The Vestry

Senior Warden: Richard Pate
Junior Warden: Gretchen Swift
Treasurer: Beth Baker
Jeff Brainard
Jack Corcino
Geraldine deRooy
Lana Furdell
Nona Munroe
Ed Neste
Andrew Sloan
Kevin Williams

The Staff

Organist/Choir Director: Lana Furdell
Secretary: Becky Workman
Sexton: Doug Pate
The Messenger Editor: Vi Stahlecker



Home Aloners will meet Sunday, September 6, 2 o'clock, at Jean Evans' home, 3313 Wild Rose Lane. Desert and coffee/tea will be provided.

Please remember to bring women's underclothing for the Clothes Closet. Contributions for the pizza and pop provided for Family Promise are due.

NewsLetter
DEADLINE

The deadline for the October *Messenger* is Monday, September 28. Please submit articles to Vi Stahlecker at vtahlecker@bresnan.net, by phone at 452-4209, or by mail at 3304 Arbor Way, Great Falls, MT 59405.

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The Rev. Tim Ljunggren, Rector
Vi Stahlecker, Editor

Saints for the Month of September
Saint Matthew the Apostle and Saint Michael the Archangel

We celebrate St. Matthew the Apostle and Evangelist (one of four) on the 21st of September. St. Matthew the apostle was one of Jesus' twelve apostles, who preached the Gospel to the Hebrews in Alexandria as well as in Ethiopia and Persia. He was also called Levi the son of Alpheus.

St. Matthew was a former tax collector who worked for Herod Antipas, the tetrarch of Galilee. His tax office was located in Capernaum. As a tax collector he was despised by the Pharisees (an ancient Jewish sect that emphasized strict interpretation and observance of the Mosaic Law) and as such was considered an outcast.

When Jesus saw St. Matthew sitting at the receipt of custom post, He said unto him, "Follow me." He then arose and followed him. St. Matthew had many useful skills for his up and coming ministry. He was well versed in the Greek and Aramaic languages and he also wrote in Hebrew. His Gospel is called the Gospel according to the Hebrews or sometimes the Gospel of the Apostles.

St. Matthew was one of the apostles who witnessed the Resurrection as well as the Ascension of Jesus Christ. Additionally, he is the patron saint of accountants, Salerno, Italy, bankers, tax collectors, perfumers, and others.

St. Michael and all Angels are celebrated on the 29th of September. He was called an Archangel because he is considered to be the prince of all the angels in heaven. St. Michael is famous for leading an army of angels into battle in heaven against Satan's forces (the dragon in heaven). He defeated Satan and his forces which were kicked out of heaven and forced to live on earth. St. Michael is viewed first as a healing angel and then as a protector and leader of an army of God's angels against the forces of evil.

St. Michael together with St. George became the patron saint of chivalry and has been the patron saint of Brussels since the middle Ages. And is one of the three patron saints of Cornwall. The other two saints of Cornwall are St. Petroc (a British prince) and St. Piran (a Cornish abbot). The country of Ukraine and its capital Kiev, considers St. Michael to be their patron saint and protector. St. Michael is also the patron saint of police officers, paramedics, and the military, as well as; grocers, mariners, paratroopers, and of the sick and suffering.

A disciple of our Lord Jesus Christ,
Spero



I would like to thank all the ladies of the ECW, for purchasing a new sound system for our church. We can now hear Fr. Tim clearly, even in the back row. The old system was beyond repair and the ECW stepped up and took care of the problem.

Take a minute and thank them for their generous donation.

**Richard Pate
Sr. Warden**



An organ recital will be held Sunday, September 20, at 3:00 p.m. at First Congregational United Church of Christ, 2900 9th Avenue South. The artist, David Bond, grew up in Great Falls, studied music with local teachers and graduated from Great Falls High in 1970. He currently serves as Organist/Choirmaster at First Presbyterian Church in Buffalo. His repertoire for this recital will include works by J.S. Bach, Cesar Frank and other notable organ composers.

There is no charge for attending the recital, but donations will be accepted. The Congregational Church presents an organ concert every other year to showcase their recently renovated instrument.

A free workshop will be held by Dr. Bond on Saturday, September 19, 2:00-4:00 p.m., for organists and others interested in church music. See Lana Furdell for more information.



The next time The Church of the Incarnation is scheduled to support FISH is the week of 8–11 September 2015. Thank you to all those who have volunteered for this effort.

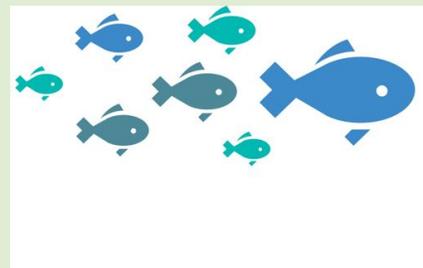
FISH Data for July 2015

The chart below is a comparison of those serviced by FISH between July 2014 and July 2015. As you can see there have been some changes between the 2014 and 2015 figures. There was an increase in the number of singles, adults, meals served, and pounds of food delivered; we were up 8.1%, 0.9%, 20.3%, and 1.2% respectively. There was a decrease in the number of families and children served; we were down 6.1% and 10.8% respectively. The YTD numbers also experienced an increase in the number of singles and meals served; we were up 3.3%, and 12.1% respectively. The YTD numbers also experienced a decrease in the number of families, adults, children, and pounds of food delivered; we were down 15.8%, 2.2%, 24.4% and 5.6% respectively. However, FISH still provided about 4.8 tons of emergency food to our community during the month of July 2015 and 28.6 tons (or 4.1 tons per month) YTD for January through July 2015.

	July, 2014	2014 YTD	July, 2015	2015 YTD
Families	99	609	93	513
Singles	62	422	67	436
Adults	225	1,405	227	1,374
Children	148	816	132	617
Meals	4,476	26,652	5,385	29,865
Pounds of Food	9,417	60,576	9,533	57,197

Clearly, there is still a demand (in our community) for the emergency food we distribute through FISH. *Amen!*

Bob Shanks
Member of the FISH Board of Directors



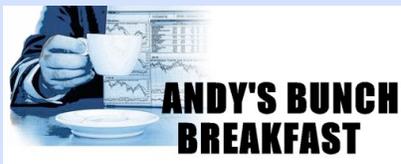


During the week of August 16-23, The Church of the Incarnation, with help from other churches, has once again hosted community families needing shelter and food. And, again, members of our congregation have graciously given of their time, treasure, and talent to make our guests welcome.

A special THANK YOU is due our co-chairs Geraldine deRooy Key and Ann Bartell for the countless hours they have spent making our week of hospitality such a success.

A heartfelt THANK YOU goes to our parish volunteers: Jack Corcino, Gretchen and Rob Wilson, Tom Dohrman, Doug Pate, Patti Liston, Gayle Archey, Chuck and Gerry Jennings, Jean Evans, and the members of Home Aloners.

Our next week as hosts for Family Promise is November 1-8. Again, we will be asking for volunteers to help set up the rooms and provide dinner during that week. Please ponder prayerfully how you might be able to give a little of your time to help needy families in our community. If you would like to help, please let Geraldine know by calling her at 360-907-6987 or 406-736-5860.



Andy's Bunch, for the men and boys of the Episcopal Church, will meet for breakfast on the second Saturday for the month of September. The breakfast will be held on September 12th at Perkins Restaurant located at the corner of Second Avenue North and Sixth Street. We will meet in the lobby of the restaurant at 8:30 a.m. Hope you can make it.



We will welcome back our beloved Incarnation Choir on September 13th!

A rehearsal session will be held Saturday, September 12, 2:00-4:00 p.m. All returning choristers and any interested new singers are urged to attend. Weekly rehearsals resume at 9:00 a.m. on Sunday, September 13, followed by the regular Sunday 10 o'clock Eucharist.



I hope everyone is enjoying the new sound system at Incarnation, especially those of us who are hard of hearing. The sound system was made possible by ECW funds. The total cost was \$1,095.22. Scott of Electric City Sight and Sound did the work. Thank you to Richard Pate and Gretchen Swift for working with Scott to get the job done.

Our first fall ECW luncheon will be September 9th in the parish hall at 1 p.m. More information will be forthcoming.

This year we would also like to have ECW evening meetings for the women who work or women who would find it more convenient to come in the evening.

Jeanette Baird
ECW President



THE MEMORIAL FOUNDATION

The Episcopal Church Memorial Foundation serves as a thoughtful way to honor loved ones and friends by receiving memorials, thanksgivings, honors and bequests. For information about the Foundation, contact Wayne Linnell (788-9834), Ardelle Watkins (788-5676), or Gayle Archey (452-9632).

To: Episcopal Church Memorial Foundation
P. O. Box 3046
Great Falls, MT 59403-3046

The enclosed gift in the amount of \$_____ is given

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by _____

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