



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

July, 2015

RECTOR'S RAMBLINGS



Almighty God, who has given us this good land for our heritage. We humbly beseech thee that we may always prove ourselves a people mindful of thy favor and glad to do thy will. Bless our land with honorable industry, sound learning, and pure manners. Save us from violence, discord, and confusion; from pride and arrogance, and from every evil way. Defend our liberties, and fashion into one united people the multitudes brought hither out of many kindreds and tongues. Endue with the spirit of wisdom those to whom in thy Name we entrust the authority of government, that there may be justice and peace at home, and that, through obedience to thy law, we may show forth thy praise among the nations of the earth. In the time of prosperity, fill our hearts with thankfulness, and in the day of trouble, suffer not our trust in thee to fail; all which we ask through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

—The Book of Common Prayer





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.

Saturday, July 11 - St. Andrew's Guild (Andy's Bunch) Breakfast, Perkins Restaurant, 8:30 a.m.

Sunday, July 19 - Vestry Meeting, following 10 a.m. 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.



We all agree that the Clothing Closet is a vital ministry for our Church. However, this amazing program which provides free clothing to those in need, is struggling due to lack of volunteers. We are in desperate need of people willing to pick up clothes from Once Upon a Child on a weekly basis. Clothing can be picked up any time in the afternoon, then delivered to the church at your convenience. It is a relatively easy task, which most weeks takes as little as 30 minutes. Please prayerfully consider if you can spare a few minutes once a week to assist with this important ministry of our Church.

If you want to help, but feel the job of picking up clothing does not suit you, there are many other ways you can help, such as sorting and hanging up clothes during our weekly work sessions on Wednesday, donating clothing, assisting and visiting with customers when the Closet is open on Thursday and Saturday, laundering clothing, and, of course, donating money.

For more information, or to volunteer, contact Gayle Archey (452-9623 or 231-9445) or Mary Ann Cosgrove (452-4786 or 788-2606).

NewsLetter
DEADLINE

The deadline for the August *Messenger* is Monday, July 27. Please submit articles to Vi Stahlecker at vstahlecker@bresnan.net, by phone at 452-4209, or by mail at 3304 Arbor Way, Great Falls, MT 59405.

The Messenger is published monthly by the
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Vi Stahlecker, Editor

SAINT FOR THE MONTH OF JULY

ST. JAMES THE GREATER

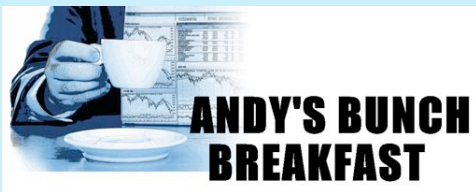
We celebrate St. James the Greater on July 25th. St. James was the son of Zebedee and Salome and the brother of St. John the Apostle. St. James is also the patron saint of Spain, Acoma Pueblo, Sahuayo, Santiago de Querétaro, Galicia, Guatemala, Nicaragua, Guayaquil and these professions: veterinarians, equestrians, furriers, tanners, and pharmacists. Due to the James's fiery tempers, St. James and his brother John earned the nickname of Boanerges which means "The sons of thunder."

James and John were with their father in a ship mending their nets when Jesus called them to follow him. St. James was one of only three apostles whom Jesus selected to witness the transfiguration. The other two apostles were St. Peter and St. John.

Traditionally, St. James is believed to be the first of the 12 apostles martyred for his faith. King Herod Agrippa the 1st had St. James executed with a sword in 44 AD. One of the Spanish traditions states that he miraculously appeared to fight for the Christian army during the battle of Clavijo and was henceforth called Matamoros (the Moor slayer).

St. James's emblem was the scallop shell (or "cocked shell") which the pilgrims wore on their hats or clothes while they marched on their way to his shrine.

A disciple of our Lord Jesus Christ,
Spero



Andy's Bunch, for the men and boys of the Church of the Incarnation, will meet for breakfast on Saturday, July 11, at Perkins Restaurant at the corner of Sixth Street and Second Avenue North. We will meet in the lobby of the restaurant at 8:30 a.m. Hope you can make it.

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



Look What's Coming up!

DAUGHTERS OF THE KING will be gathering at the river, Sunday, August 16, at 3 p.m., at the Quintero home in thanksgiving for the past year and in anticipation of what the Lord will be bringing in their "new beginnings" come September. Come! Bring a friend or a spouse! Share in fellowship, food song, and prayer.

ALTAR GUILD will gather at the Quintero home, Tuesday, August 18, at 6 p.m. Would you like to join a "behind the scenes" ministry that is filled with wonder? Come, gather with us and get to know us...and share in some good food and laughter too.



78TH GENERAL CONVENTION

The General Convention, the governing body of the Episcopal Church, is now in session. This is the 78th meeting of this body, which takes place every three years. This year's meeting is being held in Salt Lake City and runs twelve days, from June 22 to July 3.

Like the U. S. government, our legislative body has two houses. This is no coincidence, since many of the founding fathers of the United States were also Episcopalians and were involved in crafting the order of rules for both government and church. All bishops, whether active or retired have a seat in the **House of Bishops**. The bishops also meet regularly between General Conventions. Each diocese of the church may send four clergy and four lay delegates to the **House of Deputies**. This makes us unlike churches in which clergy make all decisions about church policy and direction. In the Episcopal Church lay people have a voice.

Changes in church policy and practice come from **resolutions** passed at General Convention. These may come from the House of Bishops or House of Deputies, but also arise from interim committees or from dioceses. Each resolution will pass through a committee and then must be ratified by both houses. Some of the issues before this year's convention are marriage theology, the Episcopal Church in Cuba, and the church's policy on drug and alcohol abuse.

Many **interest groups** take part in convention. The groups represented in this year's convention include Episcopal Migration Ministries, Episcopal Intercultural Network, Native & Indigenous Ministries, Episcopal Women's Caucus, Episcopalians Against Gun Violence, Episcopal Church Women, and Episcopal Relief and Development; there are many, many more. Current events mean there are many discussions taking place about racism and violence, informally as well as formally.

In the **exhibit hall**, many vendors, such as makers of vestments and church supplies, and special interest groups, such as seminaries or professional associations, have booths with information catalogs, gifts or samples, and products for purchase. The Verger's Guild has a wonderful booth, and its complimentary beverage cups that change color when a cold drink is added are very popular with delegates. As a Fellow of the Guild, I see frequent posts from vergers in attendance.

Each day includes worship. This is a real challenge with a group of this size; over 4,500 people registered before-convention, and past conventions have seen as many as

10,000 in attendance. The vergers have a key role in worship, as directing the flow of this many people is quite a challenge.

GC 78 has fully embraced technology. You can watch sessions streaming live online, through links on the national church website. You can also find posts to FaceBook pages, blogs, and Tweets from individuals or caucuses. Instead of working from the massive binders distributed to delegates in past years, this year each delegate received an iPad which included all documents and provided regular updates on proceedings. Informal updates from friends have been interesting. Priest Jean Collins of Lewistown reported that she was a work in the Environmental Stewardship Committee when the Supreme Court ruling on marriage equality was announced. She could hear rejoicing passing from room to room as the news spread.

Every nine years, a **new Presiding Bishop** is elected, and this is one of those years. Four candidates were selected by committee. After the announcement of candidates in May, the public had the opportunity to watch each of their online videos and submit questions to the candidates. Each candidate was given an opportunity to speak before a combined session of Deputies and Bishops. The bishops elected the new Presiding Bishop, who then had to be confirmed by the House of Deputies. This year's election took place on Saturday, June 27. Our new Presiding Bishop is the Rt. Rev. Michael Curry, bishop of North Carolina. He is the first Presiding Bishop ever to be elected on the first ballot. He has said his priorities are discipleship, service, and social justice. He will be officially installed at Washington National Cathedral in November.

The General Convention and the election of a Presiding Bishop are important to our life as Episcopalians. We owe the delegates our thanks, and our prayers continue for them and for the new Presiding Bishop.

Prayer for General Convention: *Almighty and everlasting Father, you have given the Holy Spirit to abide with us for ever: Bless, we pray, with his grace and presence, the bishops and other clergy and the laity now assembled in your Name, that your Church, being preserved in true faith and godly discipline, may fulfill all the mind of him who loved it and gave himself for it, your Son Jesus Christ our Savior, who lives and reigns with you, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. Amen.*



Volunteers from The Church of the Incarnation helped FISH distribute emergency food to 24 families of Great Falls, during the week of 8 - 12 June 2015. Those who helped with this heartfelt effort were: Bob Shanks, Lance Patton (an independent person who was our previous Sexton), Nona Munroe, Mary Lois Long, Cheryl Quintero, Gretchen Wilson, Jack Corcino; Chuck and Gerry Jennings; Sandy Jackman; Jerry and Roger Evans, Cliff and Jeanette Baird, and Norabeth Trinastich. A big thank you from FISH for a job well done!

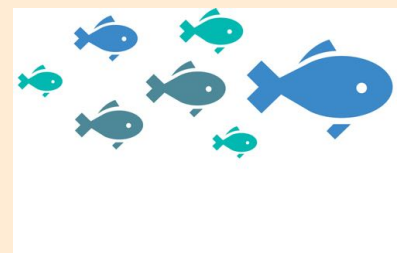
FISH DATA FOR MAY, 2015

The chart below is a comparison of those serviced by FISH between May 2014 and May 2015. As you can see there was a significant decrease in demand in 2015 compared to 2014. There was a decrease in the number of families, singles, adults, children, meals served, and pounds of food delivered; we were down 45.0%, 12.9%, 26.0%, 46.4%, 33.0%, and 26.7% respectively. And for the year-to-date (YTD) numbers there was also a decrease in the number of families, singles, adults, children, meals served, and pounds of food delivered; we were down; 13.7%, 1.6%, 6.4%, 25.8%, 12.9%, and 4.6% respectively. However, FISH still provided about 3.3 tons of emergency food to our community during the month of May 2015 and 20.4 tons for the months of January through May 2015 (that's 4.1 tons per month).

	May, 2014	2014 YTD`	May, 2015	2015 YTD
Families	80	403	44	348
Singles	70	321	61	316
Adults	196	1,008	145	944
Children	125	547	67	406
Meals	3,852	18,660	2,544	16,200
Pounds of Food	9,048	42,708	6,636	40,737

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
 Representing the Church of the Incarnation





SUMMER ON FLATHEAD LAKE AT CAMP MARSHALL

Do you want to go to Camp this summer? The Memorial Foundation is once again offering Camperships (your registration fee will be paid!) for any parishioner who wants to attend Camp Marshall. If interested, please contact Fr. Tim, or any member of the Memorial Foundation.

THE REMAINDER OF SUMMER 2015 AT CAMP MARSHALL:

July 12-17	Adventure Week for adults & young adults.
July 12-17	Wild Water Week for families.
July 19-25	Sr. High for grades 9-12.
August 14-16	Alumni Week for alumni of any age.
August 21-23	Young Adult Weekend.



Under the capable direction of co-chairs Geraldine deRooy Key and Ann Bartell, the "Incarnation Hotel" provided sanctuary and meals for homeless families in Great Falls twice this year. During the weeks of March 22-29 and June 14-21, members of our congregation, augmented by volunteers from the Society of Friends (Quakers) and Union Bethel AME church, provided dinner each evening and breakfast each morning as well as being hosts during the night. Their service also included cleaning the bedrooms and bathrooms, setting up and taking down beds, etc., laundering the bed linens, and volunteering time at the HUB. Many Incarnation members provided needed items, such as sheet sets, blankets, towels and wash clothes, clothing racks, and other items for the comfort of our guests.

Those from our congregation who provided meals, hosted during the day and through the night, helped with set-up and take-down, cleaned the rooms, etc., etc. are: Mary Ann Cosgrove, Jeff Brainard, Richard Pate, Doug Pate, Tom and Patti Liston, Charles and Gerry Jennings, The Rev. Tim Ljunggren, Gayle Archey, Rob and Gretchen Wilson, the Home Aloners, Andrew Sloan, Becky Workman, and last but not least, Geraldine deRooy Key and Ann Bartell who, in addition to coordinating the entire project, were hosts, meal providers, and volunteers wherever needed. **THANK YOU ALL!** Thank you too to those who provided bedding and other essentials needed by our guests. Others may have helped, but we do not have their names at the present time.

Family Promise is a year-long outreach to homeless families of our community sponsored by many Great Falls churches. We will host again August 16-23. If you would like to become part of this special outreach, please contact Geraldine deRooy Key (360-907-6987 or 406-736-5860) or Ann Bartell (453-0888). Many hands make light work!



CLOTHING CLOSET NEWS

This will be longer than usual to catch you up with the excellent progress at The Closet. We've got a wonderful group of volunteers all working toward a common goal: serving our ministry by providing for those who come to us needing clean, attractive clothing and shoes.

Most of our space is devoted to clothing for children and youth. We continue to be open Thursdays and Saturdays for shoppers from 10:00 – 1:00. Most Closet shoppers are from our community and come regularly/weekly. Each week we see others in on their first visit. We do have guests from small towns around Great Falls as well as Hutterite families who come from colonies near us occasionally when they're in town for doctors or other business. Newcomers who say they've "heard" about us from family and friends are very pleasantly surprised at our well-organized facility and the quality of the clothing we are offering free of charge.

For as many who are on the "receiving end" of this one-on-one interaction, there are as many on the "giving" end of this gift. Most of our volunteers are steady as bedrock, doing their bit week after week, sharing an opportunity to serve as the hands of Christ.

Donors, especially Once Upon a Child, make this process possible, and sometimes overwhelm us with their very welcome generosity. There are so many workers who each week bring in or pick up bundles of donations, or sort the items, checking the thousands of garments for launder and repair. I'm amazed at how well our crew keeps up with the donations. We have a great crew of volunteers. You are the backbone of this outfit.

Those doing one or many loads of wash each week give this ministry its good reputation. Providing clean items to people speaks volumes about our respect for the families and individuals we serve. Those who work directly with our public Thursdays and Saturdays each week are especially blessed. We have all found a blessing in our work at the Closet.

By the next Messenger, I'll try to get numbers around volunteer hours, etc. and some data on our "clientele" to share for general interest. At the present time, I can share these figures:

Numbers of Guests from January 1 through June 27, number of days/hours open:

January:	442 guests	8 days/24 hours
February:	350 guests	8 days/24 hours
March:	527 guests	8 days/24 hours
April:	446 guests	7 days/21 hours
May:	501 guests	8 days/24 hours
June:	523 guests	8 days/24 hours

As you can see, we're busy! I would like to especially thank all the ladies who volunteered to take a load of wash this past Sunday morning. That was splendid!

Mary Ann Cosgrove

A PRAYER FOR SUMMER: *May you walk with God this summer in whatever you do, wherever you go. Walking with God means...walking with honesty and with courage; walking with love and respect; and concern for the feelings of others.*

May you talk to God this summer and every day and in every situation. Talking with God means...praying words of praise for the beauty of creation; saying prayers of thanks for friends and good times; asking God's help in all your decisions; expressing sorrow when you have failed.

May you talk with God every day. Amen.

(Author unknown)



CONGRATULATIONS!

Bill and Joan-Nell Macfadden

Long-time Incarnation parishioners, Joan-Nell and Bill Macfadden, will receive the sixth annual Paris Gibson Award at a Municipal Band Concert on July 1. The award was established by the Paris Gibson Month Celebration Committee in honor of Great Falls citizens who embody the vision and excellence exemplified by city founder, Paris Gibson. It is based on service to the community, volunteerism, innovation/creativity, and leadership ability.

The couple will receive \$500 for the charity of their choice as well as having a tree planted in their honor at Elks Riverside Park.

In addition to his volunteer work in numerous civic and church activities, Bill helped establish and grow Eagle Mount in Great Falls. Eagle Mount is a non-profit organization that provides therapeutic and recreational activities for children and adults of all ages with physical, developmental, mental and behavioral challenges, striving to improve the quality of life for them and their families. Joan-Nell, also active in many community and church activities, has devoted her life to advancing mental health services in Great Falls and the state of Montana, including being co-chair of a \$2 million capital campaign that funded the Center for Mental Health.

Congratulations, Bill and Joan-Nell! We are so proud of you!

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).

Memorial Gifts, Thanksgivings, Honor Gifts, and Bequests received by the Parish during the month of June, 2015:

<u>In Memory of:</u>	<u>Given by:</u>	<u>Designated for:</u>
Bonita "Bonnie" Given	Ardelle Watkins	
Howard Bradley	Ardelle Watkins	
Howard Bradley	Charles and Gerry Jennings	
Howard Bradley	Mary Lois Long	
Howard Bradley	David and Norma Matejovsky	
Howard Bradley	Judy Klette	
Howard Bradley	Joan Bradley	