

Saint James' Episcopal Church

"Enter as strangers, leave as friends."

THE EPISTLE

On Sunday, April 4th we will celebrate the great feast of the Church, the Sunday of the Resurrection, also known as Easter Sunday. Before doing so though we first must walk the way of the Cross. Holy Week, the week preceding Easter Sunday, is an intense time of devotion to the Passion of Christ. It is a time to recall what Christ has done for us and for the world in his suffering and death by participating in the special liturgies of the Church.

The tradition of Holy Week developed in 4th century Jerusalem in which the scenes from the last week of Jesus' life were dramatically re-enacted: Jesus' entry into Jerusalem, the washing of the disciples' feet, the Last Supper, and his trial and Crucifixion. We include this time of devotion in our calendar through our services on Palm Sunday, Maundy Thursday, and Good Friday, all leading up to Easter Sunday.

On Palm Sunday, we gather with palms, re-enacting Jesus' triumphant entry in to Jerusalem, and we hear the Passion story read in its entirety. On Maundy Thursday we commemorate Christ's institution of the Eucharist, and also include the stripping of the altar. On Good Friday, we honor the anniversary of the Crucifixion by fasting, praying for the Church and the world, and venerating the Cross.

I encourage everyone to participate in these services during Holy Week. They are important in and of themselves, but they also add more meaning and significance to the celebration of the Resurrection on Easter Sunday.

Daryl T. Hay +

Special Worship Services

Holy Week

April 1st - Maundy Thursday - The Holy Eucharist: Rite One at 7:00 p.m.

April 2nd - Good Friday Service at 12:00 noon

April 4th - Easter Sunday Services: Rite One: 8:00 a.m. & Rite Two: 10:30 a.m.

Healing Service - Wednesday, April 28th beginning at 5:30 p.m.

Ascension Day Service - Thursday, May 13th beginning at noon.

Pentecost Sunday - May 23rd - The Holy Eucharist: Rite One at 8:00 a.m.

The Holy Eucharist: Rite Two at 10:30 a.m.

Yours, O Lord, is the greatness, the power, the glory, the victory, and the majesty. For everything in heaven and on earth is yours. Yours, O Lord, is the kingdom, and you are exalted as head over all.

1 Chronicles 19:11

Meetings

Daughters of the King will meet on Thursday, April 1st, at 11:00 a.m. in the Parish Hall.

Episcopal Church Women (ECW) will meet on Thursday, April 1st, at noon in the Parish Hall. You don't have to be Paula Deen to host an ECW luncheon. That's right, as a matter of fact our luncheon in April will be a Brown Bag! Bring your own lunch, leftover meatloaf, tuna, bologna, salad, whatever you like. Drinks and dessert will be provided. Our guest speaker is Beth Wiseman, a well-known author from Fayetteville who will share some of her experiences with the Amish as she researched their way of life for her five novels. Books will be available for purchase.

The Vestry will meet on Thursday, April 8th at 6:00 p.m. in the Parish Hall.

Worship Ministry - all acolytes, lectors, intercessors, and ushers are invited to attend a meeting after the 10:30 a.m. service on Sunday, April 11th.

Men's Club will meet on Monday, April 12th at 6:00 p.m. at the home of Ken Berg. Gerald Campbell will be co-hosting the meeting.

Everyone is invited to attend an organizational meeting for our joint **Vacation Bible School** with First Presbyterian Church. The meeting will be Tuesday, April 13th beginning at 6:00 p.m. at First Presbyterian.

Outreach Committee Meeting will be on Thursday, April 15th beginning at 6:00 pm in the Parish Hall.

Capital Campaign

MANY thanks to all of you who made the Capital Campaign such a great success, both through your donations and your efforts. We have now surpassed our original goal of \$200,000, including receiving over \$100,000 in cash to date, which has been used to reduce the Quin Foundation note as was planned. We have received total pledges and donations to date of over \$208,000. The Vestry will soon be deciding how and when to spend the remaining committed pledges as the funds are received, in accordance with the original objectives of the Campaign. Since you our Parishioners have been so responsive, we have decided to end the Capital Campaign on Easter Sunday, April 4, 2010, rather than Pentecost Sunday as originally planned.

THIS IS YOUR LAST CHANCE! If you have not made a pledge or donation, please consider pledging whatever amount is appropriate for you now, as we would like to have 100% participation in this Campaign from our Parishioners. If you have pledged, thanks again for your support.

Joe Bailey, Campaign Chairman

Vision Goals

Pay off the Lumberyard debt	Improve and expand church facilities
Increase number of young families	Increase Christian education opportunities
Engage in more hands on ministry	

Saint James' Episcopal Preschool

I cannot believe that we only have two months of school left before we have our summer break. That does not slow down our preschool! We stay busy, busy, busy!! Our themes for April are Plants, Seeds, Flowers, Farm, We Help the Earth and Butterflies. Our Bible Stories are: Parable of the Sower, Parable of the Mustard Seed, Jesus and the Fishermen and Thomas. We have two field trips planned for our preschool class. The preschoolers will be visiting Treeland Nursery and Jersey Barnyard. With warmer weather in place we will be doing some planting in our outdoor garden area too! Our Preschool Class had a visit from the Tooth Fairy (Dr. Bill Reeves Orthodontics-Brenham). The Tooth Fairy gave a very informative and fun presentation for dental care. She showed the proper way to brush teeth using an alligator puppet. Also, many, many thanks to church members who helped or gave donations for our Spaghetti Supper Fundraiser. We profited approximately \$1,350.00, these proceeds will buy items for classroom and the playground. Your care, help and love for our preschool is so appreciated!

Lana Swearingen, Preschool Director

Children & Youth Ministry

- ❖ **Happening at Camp Allen** for youth in grades 10-12 is April 23-25
- ❖ **Y.E.S. at Camp Allen** for youth in grades 7-9 is April 23-25

For more information go to www.epicenter.org or call Susannah Schorlemer

End of Year Party - the children and youth of the parish, along with their parents are invited to Lutherhill on Sunday, May 16th beginning at 3:00 p.m. There will be a cookout, ropes course, swimming and lots of other fun activities. Don't forget to bring your suit and towel! A sign up sheet is posted on the Parish Hall Bulletin Board. For more information contact Susannah Schorlemer.

Thank you!

I express grateful thanks for prayers and for kind, generous assistance and for offers of assistance related to my sister Shirley Schaefer's recent move from California to La Grange. The depth of caring in our St. James congregation is remarkable. May God continue to bless us all.

Virginia Schroeder

Our Core Values

Worship...creating a prayerful environment that touches every heart and enriches every soul.

Fellowship...providing social and spiritual interactivity, sharing the peace and love of Jesus Christ beyond the doors of our church.

Service...doing God's work in our community and the world.

Historical Presence...celebrating over 150 years of the Anglican tradition in our community and creating the spiritual foundation and means to ensure the future of our parish family.

Church Family...sharing a place where each individual's thread of life is welcomed to be woven into His Tapestry.

Happy Birthday

04/11	Martin Hay	04/27	Connie Janda
04/23	Fran Mason	04/27	Georg Ulbrich
04/25	Debbie Adkins	04/29	Byron Northrup
04/25	Terri Hay	04/29	Will Schorlemer

Happy Anniversary

04/14 Myrtis and Benno Vyvjala

Outreach

Outreach Opportunity in Galveston - a group of St. James parishioners will travel to Galveston April 30-May 1 to work on Dwight Nittsche's condo which was damaged by Hurricane Ike. Dwight needs to get the unit ready to sell and needs some help in getting that done. Work to be done includes some sheetrock replacement, install a new hot water heater and new door, small amount of trim work, and minor electrical and plumbing repairs. Most of the work will be repainting the inside. We will also haul back the last of Dwight's furnishings to Round Top. If you are interested in helping out, contact Bob Hays at romack625@gmail.com.

A.M.E.N. Sunday - is April 4th. Suggestions for the month: Canned or bottled juices such as apple, grape, grapefruit and orange juice. You may drop items by the church anytime during the week.

Second Chance Emporium - clean up day for St. James' is scheduled for Monday, April 5th at 10:30 a.m.. Please contact Vera Zitterich or Carol Crain for more information.

Men's Cook - Saturday, April 10th from 11:00 a.m. - 1:00 p.m. There will also be an ECW Bake Sale in conjunction with the cook.

American Red Cross Military Care Drive - is being sponsored by Fayette and Colorado counties for our troops serving overseas. These packages will provide our men and women with some of the comforts of home. All donations must be new and in packaging. See the list posted on the Parish Hall bulletin board for items needed.

**Church Office Hours are Monday - Thursday, 8:00 a.m. - 5:00 p.m.
(Closed Fridays)**

Mission Statement

Our Mission is to be a welcoming worship community where God's presence is felt and from which we are sent to proclaim Christ's love and serve others.

Vestry

- Meeting opened with Fr. Hay leading the Vestry in prayer
- February minutes were approved as presented
- Fr. Hay gave updates on his recent activities
- Ms. Wilson reported that she and Helen and Bob Hays attended the Diocesan Council. She also met with Fr. Hay several times during the month and attended Finance, Endowment & Outreach meetings.
- David Laigle sent a comprehensive report to vestry members and Fr. Hay prior to the vestry meeting discussing in detail issues related to the roof, church painting, signage, front steps, parking lot lighting, electrical maintenance, attic stairs and the rectory.
- Eric Batchelder reviewed the Profit and Loss Statement and noted that pledges were not being paid as budgeted but noted that they are predictably slow coming in at the first of the year.
- In Old Business, Bob Hays presented a review of a Facilities Report prepared in 2009 in which a Facilities Committee surveyed users of spaces in the church to determine which spaces met the requirements of its use and where deficiencies existed.
- In Open Forum, the Vestry discussed better communication with the parish. Suggestions to accomplish this included vestry meeting minutes in the Epistle, establishing a network to communicate important news to parishioners and including quarterly Treasurer's report in the Epistle.
- In New Business, vestry members discussed in greater detail the concept of vestry reorganization based on structuring the Vestry into smaller committees rather than a committee of the whole as introduced by Fr. Hay in the February meeting.
- Fr. Hay closed the meeting with a prayer.

Upcoming Events

Supper Club - The April Supper Club will be a "Spring Fling" hosted by Anne and Stewart Chuber and Charlotte and Grover Hillbolt on Friday, April 23rd at the Chuber Ranch, 4020 Seidel Road (near Schulenburg) from 6:00 pm to 10:00 pm. The main menu will consist of fish and shell fish. Guests are invited to bring their favorite side dish or dessert and beverage. This is a parent's night out event. Maps and a sign up sheet will be made available in the Parish Hall.

La Grange Area Chamber of Commerce and The Art Guild of Rural Texas is proud to present in concert, *Park Stickney, International Jazz Harpist*, Thursday, April 22, 2010 at St. James' Episcopal Church - the concert begins at 7:00 p.m. with doors open at 6:30 p.m. Be sure and order your tickets early. Seating is limited and we are indeed honored and fortunate to have Mr. Stickney in our community sharing his talents. Ticket cost is \$10.00 for early reservations, \$12.00 at the door. For ticket information call the La Grange Area Chamber of Commerce at 979-968-5756.

Dan Gilmore, La Grange Area Chamber of Commerce

This is a great opportunity to show La Grange our beautiful church and our welcoming church family.
Father Hay