

Saint James' Episcopal Church
"Enter as strangers, leave as friends."

THE EPISTLE

...to sit by the pool...

A few years ago Terri and I were planning to spend a weekend with some friends near Concan on the Frio River. It was to be a reunion of people with whom Terri had worked at the Laity Lodge Youth Camp in 1984. While planning the reunion one of Terri's friends, who had three-year old twin boys shared one of her expectations for the weekend. She told Terri, "I just want to be able to sit by the pool with my eyes closed." It may sound like a low expectation, but sitting by the pool with her eyes closed symbolized for her an opportunity to step out of the regular routine of minding her children, and enjoy a weekend of refreshment and recreation in the company of good friends.

We all need opportunities to just sit by the pool with our eyes closed.

We had our Ministry Fair on Pentecost Sunday giving everyone the opportunity to learn more about the ministries that support the congregation's life and through which we engage the larger community of La Grange and Fayette County. Until they are gathered into one place it is easy to forget all the things we do: Saint James' Preschool, AMEN, Second Chance, Altar Guild, Lectors, Ushers, Acolytes, Intercessors, Choir, Children and Youth, Episcopal Church Women, Daughters of the King, Men's Club, Saint James' Endowment. All these ministries were represented in the ministry fair and are a testimony to the vitality of our congregation.

But that is not all. Members of Saint James' also participate in a variety of organizations and community activities including Lion's Club, Rotary, the Saint Mark's Hospital Auxiliary, and the Farm Bureau.

But that is not all either. Since moving to La Grange in 2005 I have learned how vital and vibrant this area is. There is always something going on whether it is the MS 150, the Round Top Fourth July parade, the County Fair, or a drive through dinner fundraiser.

On top of all these ministries and activities some people try to earn a living or simply enjoy their retirement.

In order to be effective ministers and members of our community we need to take the time to just sit by the pool with our eyes closed sometimes. It is the simple biblical idea of Sabbath. Sabbath was the weekly day of rest observed by the people of Israel. Sabbath observance was a primary marker of identity in the Israelite religion. In the Christian tradition Sabbath observance took on a variety of forms, but the general principle is that we all need a time of rest and renewal. We may not need to rest on Saturday or Sunday, but the principle is there that periods of rest need to be built into our lives. Sometimes we need to take a step back from our busyness in order to refresh ourselves so that we can engage again more fully in our lives and the activities that make this area such a great place to live.

So this summer I hope we all can take some time to just sit by the pool with our eyes closed in whatever form that may take for each of us.

Daryl T. Hay +

Meetings

Daughters of the King will meet on Thursday, June 3rd at 11:00 a.m. at the church.

The Episcopal Church Women - will not have a formal meeting in June however a special event is planned. We will meet at the Church at 8:45 a.m. on Thursday, June 3 and carpool to the Antique Rose Emporium in Brenham, Texas. Afterwards, we will have lunch at the Southern Flyer, an airport cafe that resembles the 50's complete with poodle skirts, ponytails, saddle oxfords and a jukebox to listen to the oldies. PLEASE RSVP to Fran, by June 1, if you plan to take the trip, so she can make reservations at the cafe. All the ladies are invited to join us for our first summer outing.

The Vestry will meet on Thursday, June 10th at 6:00 p.m. in the Parish Hall.

Men's Club will meet on Monday, June 14th at 6:00 p.m. at the home of Joe Bailey.

Outreach

A.M.E.N. Sunday - is June 6th. Suggestions for the month: Mixes - Corn Bread Mix, Biscuit Mix, Pancake Mix, Jello & Pudding (regular & sugar free) You may drop your items off at the Parish Hall anytime during the week.

Second Chance Emporium - the Second Chance Board of Directors voted to donate \$1219.50 to the La Grange Citizens' Police Academy annual training conference; \$3000 to the American Red Cross; \$1000 for fans for AMEN (if needed); and \$5000 to the La Grange ISD summer lunch bag program. Thank you to all the Saint James' volunteers who help make these donations possible. Please also note, our clean up day is Tuesday, June 1st. All volunteers are welcome! Please contact Vera Zitterich or Carol Crain.

Men's Cook - Saturday, June 12th, from 11:00 a.m. - 1:00 p.m. benefiting the Habitat for Humanity. There will also be an ECW Bake Sale in conjunction with the cook.

Patriots' Project - we will pack boxes for our soldiers in Afghanistan at 3 p.m. on the afternoon of June 9th in the Parish Hall. A list of desired items has been attached to the collection box in the Church Office. Items from the list include: books and magazines (for 20 yr. old male) hand held games, protein bars, gum, hard candy, vacuum packed cookies, socks, good pens, mechanical pencils, sketch pads, good t-shirts, and packaged drink flavorings (sugar free such as Crystal Light). We've also been asked to add soccer balls and small stuffed animals to our list for injured children that our military hospital cares for. Anyone who would like to help on the 24th is welcome. For more information, contact Suzanne Batchelder.

<p style="text-align: center;">Vision Goals</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Pay off the Lumberyard debt Improve and expand church facilities</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Increase number of young families Increase Christian education opportunities</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Engage in more hands on ministry</p>

Children & Youth Ministry

Vacation Bible School

Date: June 7 - 11

Time: 9:30 a.m. - 11:30 a.m.

Place: First Presbyterian Church

"Egypt: Joseph's Journey from Prison to Palace"

Presented by St. James' Episcopal Church and the First Presbyterian Church

Imagine living and working in a dusty, bustling, noisy city along the Nile in ancient Egypt...hearing the hubbub about what was happening in Pharaoh's palace...working with people who followed countless gods—and perhaps hearing about someone who follows the one true God. Perhaps you'd wonder about the new guy Pharaoh has put in charge of storing and distributing food. Some say this former prisoner has the gift of interpreting dreams!

At Egypt, you'll be immersed in Bible-times culture. You'll explore what it might have been like to live in a culture that had never heard of the one true God. You'll experience new traditions, taste new foods, try new arts and crafts projects, and discover that God never leaves us alone through life's trials and triumphs.

To learn more about "Egypt: Joseph's Journey from Prison to Palace" or to register or volunteer visit our website: <http://www.groupvbspro.com/vbs/hl/LaGrange>

Supper Club

It's Roundup Time! Our June Supper Club will be on Friday, June 18th beginning at 6:00 p.m. at the EH Building located at the Fayette County Fair Grounds. Hosting the event will be Helen and Bob Hays, Carol and Jimmy Helms, Sue and Gene Holt, Nancy and Weldon Koenig, and Sharon and Mike Turner. Texas Barbeque will be served including ribs, sausage and brisket. Guests are invited to bring their favorite beverage, dessert, potato salad, pickles, onions or beans. This is a parent's night out event. Please RSVP by signing up on the sheet in the Parish Hall, email granholt@verizon.net or by calling Sue at 979-968-6414. See y'all there!

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

06/04	Spencer Hay	06/15	Mary de Kok
06/06	Railla B radley	06/20	Gerald Campbell
06/06	Lauren Laigle	06/22	Pete Hamel
06/07	Carolyn McInturff	06/24	Georgina Hudspeth
06/08	Joe Bailey	06/24	Casey Shaw
06/12	Katie Burger	06/25	Bob Hays
06/13	Ken Berg	06/25	Emily Van Duyn
06/15	Suzanne Batchelder	06/30	Eva Shaw

Happy Anniversary

06/03	Carol and James Helms
06/03	Emily and Casey Shaw
06/04	Carolyn and Joe Bailey
06/06	Anne and Stewart Chuber
06/09	Vera and Danny Zitterich
06/10	Donna and Tom Jones
06/13	Judy and William Balch
06/15	Susie and Mel Glasscock
06/17	Helen and Bob Hays
06/20	Julie and Jim Holmes
06/24	Fran and Guy Mason

Breakfast Donuts - we have begun serving pastries from Weikel's Bakery on Sunday mornings following the services. The cost remains \$30.00 per week. If you would like to cover the cost of the pastries for a week, several weeks or an entire month it would be greatly appreciated. Several months in 2010 are still available for families to sign up. The sign up sheet is posted on the bulletin board in the Parish Hall. You will NOT be required to pick the pastries up from Weikel's on Sundays if you are making the donation for that week. Thank you.

La Grange Lunch Bag - starts up June 9th and runs until Aug. 6th if you are interested in volunteering; they are still accepting donations but could use the volunteers as well. The distribution sites will be at St. Paul's, AMEN, Swimming Pool and Rec. Center, five days a week from 11:30 am-1:00 pm. Volunteers are needed at all locations throughout the summer so anyone that is interested can contact www.lglunchbag.com Noreen Dopslauf (979) 247-4255 and/or Vicki Watson (979) 968-6907.

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.

Rectory Work Day

The Hay family thanks the Men's Club for their work at the Rectory on Saturday, May 22nd. Thank you for making the Rectory such a great place to live!

Safe Church Moment

Churches can be easy prey to those who would take advantage of their open and inviting environment. Please do not leave valuable items out in the open because they, unfortunately, can easily "walk away." We can inoculate ourselves against such activity by not leaving unsecured valuables around the church.

Vestry

- Meeting opened with Fr. Hay leading the Vestry in the Evening Prayer Service
- April minutes were approved as presented
- Fr. Hay reported on Bettye Allen's funeral, the Outreach Survey, continuing education in Nashville, attendance and networking endeavors with the Chamber of Commerce & LCRA, procedural changes in communion lines to improve flow and time required, work on the Endowment brochure, upcoming Pentecost services, and pastoral visits to parishioners, and possible sabbatical leave in 2011. Also proposed was the formation of a worship committee to discuss the needs of the 8:00 a.m. service.
- Senior Warden, Pinky Wilson was unable to attend but relayed through Fr. Hay her sense of urgency in painting the church.
- Junior Warden, David Laigle reviewed multiple repairs made to the church and one bid was discussed for painting the church.
- Treasurer, Eric Batchelder noted that April expenses were below budget and income was positive. He also announced members to serve on the Audit Committee are Betty Cook, Helen Hays & John Zeuner.
- In Old Business, Vestry Restructuring was announced as following:
 - Ministry: Nancy Koenig, Jimmy Helms, and Pinky Wilson
 - Administration: Betty Cook, Bob Hays, and Sue Holt
 - Property: Dick Frenzel, David Laigle, and Guy Mason
- In New Business, financing the painting of the church was discussed with a decision being postponed until the next vestry meeting, tentatively set for May 27th. The Rectory Work Day was also discussed.
- Fr. Hay announced that Weikel's Bakery will be providing the baked goods for Sunday refreshments.
- Fr. Hay closed the meeting with a prayer.

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