



St. James Episcopal Church

Restoring people to God & each other in Christ

THE EPISTLE

La Grange, Texas

March, 2007



From the Rector

On Ash Wednesday, we were all invited "to the observance of a holy Lent, by self examination and repentance; by prayer, fasting, and self-denial; and by reading and meditating on God's holy Word." This means participating in certain practices that direct us to the examination of our lives in relation to God's word to discern whether we are fulfilling God's purposes in our lives.

The First letter of Paul to the Corinthians offers us guidance on what is most important in our Christian life. Paul says to the church at Corinth that they are, "the body of Christ and individually members of it." He tells them that within the body of Christ people are appointed with different ministries: apostles, prophets, teachers; some have gifts for deeds of power; others in healing; some in assistance, leadership, and various kinds of tongues. Everyone has their ministry in the body of Christ, but, he says, "there is still a more excellent way." That is the way of love. Paul goes on with the words that we often hear read at weddings: "If I speak in the tongues of men and of angels, but have not love, I am a noisy gong or clanging cymbal. And if I have prophetic powers, and understand all mysteries and all knowledge, and if I have all faith, so as to remove mountains, but have not love I am nothing. If I give away all I have, and I deliver my body to be burned, but have not love, I gain nothing." All the ministries within the body of Christ in which people participate in are insufficient without love. All the things we do as a church have no vitality and are empty without love.

Paul then describes the nature of love, "Love is patient and kind; love is not jealous or boastful; it is not arrogant or rude. Love does not insist on its own way; it is not irritable or resentful; it does not rejoice at wrong, but rejoices in the right. Love bears all things, believes all things, hopes all things, endures all things." That is love and the animating principle of all the activities of the Church.

Paul closes this great testament on the relationship between love and the church by saying, "Love never ends; as for prophecies they will pass away; as for tongues, they will cease; as for knowledge, it will pass away." Faith, hope, and love are the things that will abide, but the greatest of these is love.

Paul reminded the church at Corinth of this more excellent way of love, the greatest of those things that abide. This Lent let us accept the invitation of Ash Wednesday and examine our lives as individuals and as a congregation as to whether we are pursuing the more excellent way of love as Paul describes it: patient, kind; not jealous, boastful, arrogant or rude; not insisting on its own way; not irritable or resentful; rejoicing in the right; bearing all, believing all, hoping all, and enduring all. If we are at the root of our life together and all our ministries we do not have love for God, one another, and the world we in the end have nothing. This Lent let us renew our journey on this more excellent way.

—Daryl Hay



Looking Ahead

- Mar 2 World Day of Prayer —
St. Paul Lutheran Church
- Mar 4 —
- Mar 7 Altar Guild Retreat
- Mar 6 Daughters of the King
- Mar 10 Men's Club BBQ
- Mar 12 ECW Meeting
- Mar 12 Men's Club Meeting
- Mar 12 —
- Mar 16 Spring Break
- Mar 24 Supper Club
- Mar 31 Trinkets & Treasures Sale
- Apr 1 Palm Sunday
- Apr 5 Maundy Thursday
- Apr 6 Good Friday
- Apr 8 Easter Day
- Apr 5 —
- Apr 9 Preschool Closed for Easter
- Apr 9 Parish Office Closed

Daughters of the King to Meet

The Daughters of the King (DOK) plan to start their regular meetings again on Tuesday, March 6.

DOK is an order of the Episcopal Church established more than 100 years ago. The complete program is prayer and Bible study. We will study, "What's So Amazing About Grace?" by Phillip Yancey.

Please call Charlotte Hillbolt at 249-5732 or Vera Zitterich at 968-5769 for more information. DOK meet in the Parish Hall on the first Tuesday of each month at noon. Bring a sack lunch--drinks will be provided. Everyone is invited. Hope to see you then!

—Charlotte Hillbolt

The Order of the Daughters of the King



Empowered by the Holy Spirit, our vision as Daughters of the King is to know Jesus Christ, to make Him known to others, and to become reflections of God's love throughout the world.

Who We Are

The Daughters of the King is an Order for women who are communicants of the Episcopal Church, or churches in communion with it, or churches who are in the Historic Episcopate. Members undertake a Rule of Life, incorporating the Rule of Prayer and the Rule of Service. By reaffirmation of the promises made at Confirmation, a Daughter pledges herself to a life-long program of prayer, service and evangelism, dedicated to the spread of Christ's Kingdom and the strengthening of the spiritual life of her parish.

Mission of the Order

The object of this Order shall be the extension of Christ's Kingdom through Prayer, Service, and Evangelism.

The Motto of the Order

For His Sake . . .

I am but one, but I am one.
I cannot do everything, but I can do something.
What I can do, I ought to do.
What I ought to do, by the grace of God I will do.
Lord, what will you have me do?

From the Order of the Daughters of the King website
<http://www.dok-national.org/>

Birthdays

- Mar. 1 Karen Kennard-Gordon
- Mar. 2 Daryl Hay
- Mar. 6 Greg Northrup
- Mar. 10 Tom Jones
- Mar. 12 Larry Kahanek
- Mar. 17 Cara Kahanek
- Mar. 18 Julie Holmes
- Mar. 21 Bill Rogers
- Mar. 24 Grover Hillbolt
- Mar. 31 Carolyn Bailey



Anniversaries

- Mar. 13 Justin & Corrie Jones
- Mar. 17 Dan and Karen Kennard-Gordon

If we have missed a birthday or anniversary, please contact the Parish Office.

March Supper Club

The St. James monthly Supper Club provides a monthly opportunity for members to share good food and interesting conversation with fellow parishioners and guests. Guests should RSVP with the number attending and the dish they will provide. The themed dinners at members' homes have been a popular activity for many years.

Date: Saturday, March 24

Time: 5:45 p.m.

Hosts: Gerald & Ann Campbell
Jim & Julie Holmes

Theme: Tex-Mex on the Table

Location: Gerald & Ann's Home
1107 CR 223, Giddings, TX

Maps are available in the Church Office

RSVP: Campbells: 979.542.9465 or big_daddy@verizon.net
Holmes: 979.278.3834 or rockingh@industryinet.com



Altar Guild Workshop/

Spiritual Enrichment Retreat

Sunday, March 4-Wednesday March 7

The Annual Altar Guild Meeting is open to all groups and persons with an interest in Liturgical Arts. Those participating have the opportunity to learn a craft that they can enjoy for years to come; they also have the pleasure of creating beautiful works of art for their parishes. The setting is the lovely grounds and conference center of Camp Allen.

Workshop fees are separate from the conference fees. Spouses are encouraged to attend. For more information, contact Katrina Packard at 979.743.4574.

Trinkets & Treasures

Under the able leadership of Sandy Northrup and Justa Helm and the talents of Suzanne Batchelder, plans are well underway for our 2nd annual Trinkets and Treasures sale on March 31. Continue to locate and collect usable items and deliver them to the Holts' barn. Contact Sandy if you are interested in helping to price items; she is planning a pricing workshop for those who want to participate. Also, in addition to all the workers during the sale, volunteers will be needed on Thursday and Friday before the sale. Please contact Sandy to let her know when and how you might help.

At our February meeting, we continued our yearly project of making Valentines to deliver to three area nursing homes. The parish hall was filled with ribbons, stickers, scissors, and a lot of laughter as we decorated the pink and red hearts. Thanks, ladies, for your labor of love.

Those who attended the retreat in February found it quite inspiring. We want to thank Daryl for recommending Leslie Hay, Episcopal spiritual director from Austin, as our retreat leader. We will try to plan another retreat for the fall.



2nd ANNUAL*2007
**TRINKETS
 & TREASURES**
SALE
 St. James Episcopal Church
 156 N. Monroe at E. Travis
 (Across from HEB grocery)
La Grange Texas
Saturday March 31
7 a.m. - 3 p.m.

ECW Calendar

- Mar 2 **World Day of Prayer**
 Noon at St. Paul Lutheran Church
- Mar 31 **2nd Annual Trinkets & Treasures Sale**
 7:00 a.m. - 3:00 p.m. on the St. James grounds
 Everyone's help will be needed to make our sale successful, not just on Saturday but also on Thursday and Friday as we set up for the sale.

—Ann Rogers, President

From the Preschool



The preschool class and teachers want to congratulate Matt and Heather on their new arrival. We will miss Mrs. Heather while she is on maternity leave and we look forward to her return.

The month of March will be busy for the school as we observe Lent and prepare for Easter. It will be exciting to share with our children that Jesus lives forever in heaven and awaits us there. The Preschool Class will be learning shapes, colors, farm life and plants. Our PDO Class will be learning about stars, wind and butterflies. We do have spring break the week of March 12.

Again, thank you to all the volunteers who worked at our spaghetti supper fundraiser. Without your care and support we would have had such a successful year. We had 430 plates picked up and our net income was approximately \$2200. I would also like to acknowledge Jim Holmes for being such a dedicated volunteer for the past five years. Jim, we appreciate all that you have done for us. We are thankful, so very thankful for such wonderful people and for such a wonderful day that we had.

In God's love,
 Lana Swearingen

Treasurer News

John Bradley served as the church Treasurer for the past two years, and we would like to thank him for his dedication and faithful service.

Sue Holt has accepted the position of Treasurer, and we would like to welcome her and thank her for taking on this important role in the church.

Holy Week Services

Palm Sunday, April 1

8:00 & 10:30 a.m.

Maundy Thursday

6:00 p.m.

Good Friday

12:00 p.m.

6:00 p.m.

Easter Day, April 8

8:00 a.m. Holy Eucharist: Rite One

10:30 a.m. Festival Eucharist

Worship Schedule

Sundays:

8:00 a.m. Holy Eucharist, Rite One
 8:45 a.m. Breakfast/Fellowship
 9:30 a.m. Church School
 Bible Study
 Choir Rehearsal
 10:30 a.m. Holy Eucharist, Rite Two
 11:30 a.m. Coffee/Fellowship

Child care is provided on Sundays from 9:15 to 12:00 for children ages two to five years. The nursery is located in the Preschool Building.



Parish Staff

The Rt. Rev. Don A. Wimberly, Bishop
 The Rev. Daryl T. Hay, Rector
 Heather Herschell, Head of St. James Episcopal Preschool
 Heidi Ullrich, Parish Administrator & *Epistle* Editor
 Evelyn Grant, Financial Administrator
 Elva Ulbrich, Music Director
 Jim & Julie Holmes, Organists
 Penny Sengler, Church School Teacher

Vestry and Officers

Helen Hays, Senior Warden
 Greg Northrup, Junior Warden
 Dianna Berg
 Paul Crain
 Gene Holt
 Matt Herschell
 Lil Landry
 Bill Rogers
 Penny Sengler
 Sue Holt, Treasurer

Ministry Chairs

Acolytes & LEMs: Suzanne Batchelder
 Altar Guild: Suzanne Batchelder
 AMEN: Alfred & Suzanne Artz
 Building & Grounds: Greg Northrup
 Christian Education: Penny Sengler
 Communications:
 Daughters of the King: Charlotte Hillbolt
 ECW: Ann Rogers
 Endowment: Joe Bailey
 Finance: John Bradley
 Invite a Friend: Gene Holt & Justa Helm
 Kitchen: Helen Hays & Dianna Berg
 Long Range Planning: Bob Hays
 Men's Club: Ken Berg & Gerald Campbell
 Outreach: Dianna Berg
 Pastoral Care: Vera Zitterich
 Second Chance: Frances Stepchinski
 Stewardship: TBD
 Supper Club: Ann Campbell
 Ushers: Suzanne Batchelder

St. James Episcopal Church

156 N Monroe St., PO Box 507
 La Grange TX 78945
 Church Office: 979.968.3910
 Fax: 979.968.1557
 Preschool: 979.968.9501
 Email: st-james@cmaaccess.com

St. James' Mission

Our mission is to restore people to God and each other in Christ.

Our Core Values

Christ-centered worship in the Episcopal Church tradition
 Our caring relationships and fellowship
 Our historical presence in the community
 Our involvement in community outreach
 Our growth in spirituality, service and size

DEADLINE

Deadline for articles for the April Epistle is 3/15.

If possible, please submit your article via email to st-james@cmaaccess.com. Please report errors and omissions.

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