

ALLELUIA! CHRIST IS RISEN!

APRIL 2016

Happy Easter. As I write this, we are still in the middle of Holy Week, still focused on the stark reality of the cross and what it tells us

about God's costly love for each of us. Yet at the same time, the excitement is building as we anticipate the Pascal Mystery. There is a busyness around the Church as everything is being cleaned and preparations are being made for the Great Feast. Our collect for this Easter Sunday struck me as having everything to do with these activities:

forgiven people, a people who are loved beyond measure and who are saved and given eternal life. As we move into Easter, though, we cannot forget Holy Week's message that we must "die daily" in Christ in order to live in Him. There is an inseparable connection between Good Friday and Easter.

Our preparations around the church, much like the preparations we do during Lent in each of our lives, are like a liturgy of dying in order to live. Our joyful weeding and polishing were perfect symbols for the transition from Lent to Easter. The weeding we did in our lives during Lent was preparation for the flowers of new life to grow in us in Easter. The polishing and cleaning of the church and the flowers decorating it are a reminder of how we have been preparing the temples of our lives for Spirit of the risen Christ. At the Easter Vigil on Saturday night and at the services on Easter morning, our building and grounds, so lovingly cared for, speak as much as any sermon could about our celebration of the Resurrection.

"O God, who for our redemption gave your only-begotten Son to the death of the cross, and by his glorious resurrection delivered us from the power of our enemy: Grant us so to die daily to sin, that we may evermore live with him in the joy of his resurrection; through Jesus Christ your Son our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. Amen."

At first, it seems like a strange wording for our Easter collect. References to sin and death and reminders of our need to die daily to sin do not seem to be congruent with the joy of Easter. The collect, though, points us to the reality of our faith: We are an Easter people, a

This Lent, we have been buried in Christ so that now we can "evermore live with him in the joy of his resurrection."

So let us rejoice and be glad during these Great Fifty Days. The Lord is risen indeed! Alleluia, alleluia!

Joseph+

"We are an Easter people, a forgiven people, a people who are loved beyond measure and who are saved and given eternal life."

WEEKLY EVENTS

SUNDAY SCHOOL

Sundays @ 10 am

BIBLE STORY & CHILDREN'S CHAPEL

2 K & 3K, Downstairs

Teachers

Mary Robinson,
Walker & Tori Stewart

GODLY PLAY I

4K - K, Downstairs

Teachers

Suzanne Shippen and
Karen Baxley

GODLY PLAY II

1st - 3rd Grade, Upstairs

Teachers

Elizabeth McCain and
Helen Stewart

GODLY PLAY III

4th-5th Grade, Upstairs

Teachers

Laura Evans and Vicky Cork



CHILDREN'S MINISTRY

Wednesday, April 13
@ 6:30 p.m.



my
Bible

Does your child love Legos? Do you love them, too? People of all ages are welcome for this fun evening of faith formation in which we'll use those fabulous little bricks to build our knowledge of the Bible. Join us for dinner at 6, followed by an hour of storytelling and creative play at 6:30.



EPISCOPAL YOUTH COMMUNITY



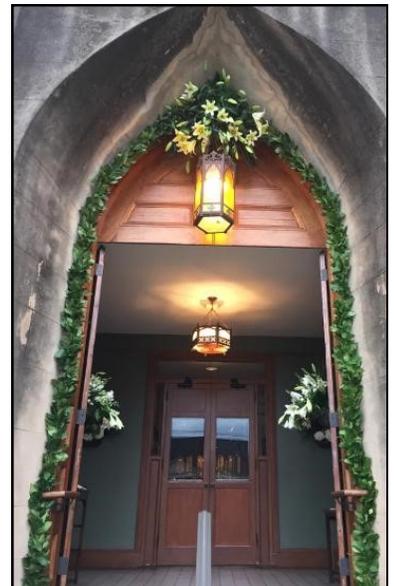
WAFFLE HOUSE WEDNESDAY: Wednesday, April 13, beginning at 6:30 am - All high school seniors are invited to meet at the Zebulon Road Waffle House for a special time with friends, food and prayer.

EYC SERVES WEEKEND LUNCH: Saturday and Sunday, April 16 and 17, 10 am - 1 pm, Jones Chapel- All students in grades 6-12 are invited to help prepare and serve meals for more than 150 guests of Weekend Lunch. Community service hours available.



HIGH SCHOOL SENIOR RECOGNITION: Sunday, May 1, 11 am -All graduating high school seniors are asked to send the following information to the church office: full name, high school, college/university and/or other plans for next academic year. Youth will take even more active roles in leadership during the services that day, and Senior Ginny Anne Pinson will preach.

NEW DRIVERS PRAYER: Sunday, May 1, 11 am - All new drivers are invited to join us for a special prayer and blessing as they take on the exciting responsibility of operating motor vehicles.



WEEKLY
EVENTS

SUNDAY
SCHOOL

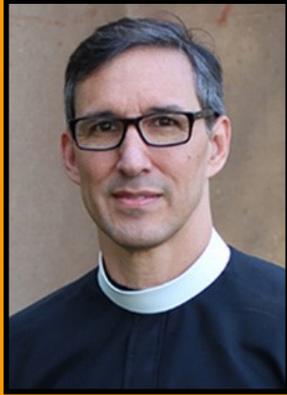
Sundays @ 10 am

Youth meet at 10 am in the EYC room to catch up, pray, share, and learn together. This is a great way to prepare for confirmation.

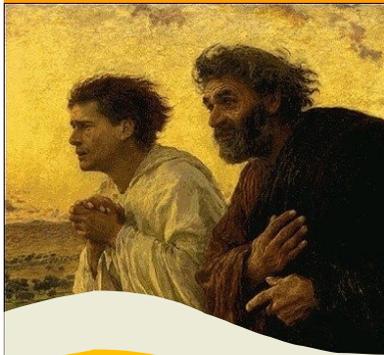
PRAYER
BREAKFAST

Tuesdays
@ Jittery Joe's
Mercer Village
7 am

Thursdays
@ Chick-Fil-A
on Zebulon Rd.
6:30 am



In John's Gospel narrative about the empty tomb, Peter and the beloved disciple, both, experience only the evidence of an empty tomb. But, it is clear that the beloved disciple believed this to be a sign of the resurrection; "he saw and believed".



*Eugène Burnand,
"The Disciples Peter and John
Running to the Sepulchre on
the Morning of the
Resurrection" (c. 1898),
Musée d'Orsay, Paris.*

FROM THE DEACON

"Other Disciple"

Now that Easter Sunday is behind us. I want to share a little of what may be next for us Easter folks. We can start with the frozen steps of John at the tomb. I would like to share my thoughts around the Gospel reading for this past Easter Day, John 20: 1 - 18. Actually, I would like to share my identification with the "other disciple"; commonly referred to as the beloved disciple, the one "whom Jesus loved."

While the other disciple ran faster than Simon Peter to arrive at the tomb first, he stopped in his tracks and hesitated to actually enter. When it comes to witnessing any unexplained human condition especially that of a loved one, I find myself much like the other disciple. Back when I was around eleven or twelve, we spent a lot of time with our Grandmother, "Abuela". She lived in a wonderful old two story farm house on Lake Lanier. She was a very active woman for her years. And, she loved to entertain us days on end on the lake. One day while I was out back heading down the hill toward the boat dock to catch up with the other kids, I heard what I thought was something heavy falling inside the house. Soon after, I heard Abuela yelling with all her might for help! I ran as quickly as I could back into the house. But, just as I was approaching the corner of the living room facing the stair way, where I thought I would find her, I slowed down. My body stopped. I couldn't move my arms or legs. The fear of what I would find over took me. It was as though all the love I had for her overpowered me and I could not bring myself to see my grandmother in pain. Much like the other disciple, I stopped in my tracks and hesitated to actually enter. My older brother, who was not far behind, passed by me as I just stood there frozen. I soon gained my strength and walked around through the living room and found her at the bottom of the stairs with my brother. While it seemed like a traumatic experience at the time, she only broke her arm. All was well and she didn't even have to spend a night in the hospital.

In John's Gospel narrative about the empty tomb, Peter and the beloved disciple, both, experience only the evidence of an empty tomb. But, it is clear that the beloved disciple believed this to be a sign of the resurrection; "he saw and believed". While I identify with the beloved disciple in hesitation, I sense that most of us struggle with living into a journey to understand the resurrection just as the beloved disciple did. I have a question I ask myself in this journey. How can the evidence of an empty tomb lead to faith? I have an idea that the beloved disciple believed because he already believed. The beloved disciple was in full relationship with Jesus. Whether or not he knew the form or shape of the resurrection, the beloved disciple trusted in Jesus' promises. The good news is that we have the gift to live into that promise as we journey together as Easter people to love and live into relationship and community with one another and the world we serve.

Grace and Peace
Deacon Arthur W. Villarreal



PARISH ANNOUNCEMENT

"Here I Am, Lord! Send Me!"

It is always joyous when one of the Body of Christ offers self and gifts to the Church to discern how God might use them to build the Kingdom. Our brother Jeff White has formally entered the discernment process to become a vocational deacon! A vocational deacon is also called permanent deacon. This is different from ordination of transitional deacons, who are on a path to ordination as priest. The order of deacons is also referred to as the diaconate.



Our tradition of deacons reaches back in scripture and tradition to the early church. The first work of the permanent diaconate according to the Prayer Book is to help the church in great detail, through firsthand knowledge, to know the state and condition of our most vulnerable neighbors, that the church might be better able to offer a Christian response. In this role deacons become a living icon of Christ the Servant within the church. A deacon's principal ministry is in the world, and deacons are expected to have a significant ministry to the poor and marginalized outside of the parish. The servant ministry of the deacon will be assigned by the bishop and may be carried out on behalf of either the local congregation or the diocese.

Potential deacons sense a call and offer themselves for community discernment. Jeff will begin a period of discernment in the parish, served and supported by a local Parish Commission on Ministry (PCOM). If Jeff and this committee agree there is a call to the diaconate, he will be offered up to the diocese for continued discernment with the Commission on Ministry, the Standing Committee, and the Bishop. If affirmation of this call continues, a period of formation begins, which then may lead to ordination.

At any step along the way, discernment may lead to a call other than ordination. We trust the Holy Spirit to preside and produce the outcome consistent with God's will. No matter the result, we celebrate and support our brother Jeff as he offers himself to God and Church to discern his particular call. Our call is to abide with him through this process, hold him up in prayer and love, and give thanks and praise for all the ways God is present and active in our world. Thanks be to God!

Respectfully Submitted by The Rev. Bryan Hinson, Curate

Dear Christ Church Parishioners,

I write this letter with a heart full of joy. To know that the Brotherhood of St. Andrew and my beloved church is sponsoring an entire cabin is amazing.

Take a moment to think what you have done, 16 boys or girls and some staff now can be at camp. Their time there will be filled not only with fun and games but classroom time as we continue their education on living with diabetes. We also will do our best to incorporate positive self-esteem and teach them the importance of giving to their communities as you have given to them.

So I thank you whole heartedly Brotherhood for believing in this ministry. Your hard work has not gone unnoticed.

I feel sure that when I stand in the street looking at the cabins early in the morning before the camp wakes up I will thank you again for your support.

Peace be with each of you.

In the spirit of Camp Little Shot,
Elizabeth Jones



MINISTRY OF THE MONTH



Daybreak is a day/resource center that provides Macon's homeless population with critical services, all in one place. Located in a 6,000 square foot former warehouse on the edge of the central business district in Macon, Georgia, Daybreak Center provides hygiene, health, education, and job preparation for the homeless population in the area. The Daybreak Center is supported by 10 local church communities of different denominations which converge on the common goal of supporting their community. Working together, people who are facing homelessness can move towards housing stability and lives of greater dignity.

During the month of April you can support this valuable community ministry by donating the following items: Family Size Bottles of 2-in-1 Body Wash/ Shampoo, Spray Deodorant, Gift Cards to Kroger or Publix, Canned Fruit, Juice, & Powdered Drink Mixes.

You can also visit their thrift store Wear located at 464 First Street to shop or to drop off gently used clothing donations. Thank you in advance for your support!

PRAYER REQUESTS



Alice, Andrew, Bailey, Barbara, Betty, Beverly, Bill, Bill, Bill, Carmen, Charlie, Cloyd, Crawford, David, Doris, Eddie, George, George, Jack, Jeffery, Joyce, Lynn, Malinda, Margaret, Mary, Molly, Nina, Paula, Pete, Ron, Russ, Sandy, Scott, Sparky, Susan, Alan, Colin, Ed, Gail, Henry, Irene, Josh, Lee, Lucille, Maddox, Matthew, Quinn, Ray, and Suzanne.



We pray for all those who serve in the military especially, Austin, Charlie, George, Owen & Terry. We pray for our Staff, Vestry, & Search Committee; and for those affected by severe weather, natural disasters, and civil unrest and violence throughout the world. We pray for the wholeness of the Anglican Communion. For the tired and lonely.

SEARCH COMMITTEE UPDATE

Dear Fellow Parishioners:

Your Search Committee has received 19 applications for our new rector from February 1 through March 15 of this year. The applications came from priests in the following states:

1. Georgia - 3
2. Alabama - 3
3. Texas - 3
4. Connecticut - 2
5. Mississippi - 2
6. South Carolina - 2
7. Arizona - 1
8. Florida - 1
9. Maryland - 1
10. New York - 1



Thirteen males and six females applied for the position of our new rector. They range in experience of one year to over twenty-five years.

The committee has begun the vetting process for these applications. Following a careful review of each resume and Office of Transition Ministry portfolio, we will schedule Askype@ conference calls with those candidates selected for further consideration. Once all Askype@ interviews are completed, the field of candidates will be evaluated for confidential visits by members of the search committee to observe the selected candidates during a worship service.

Next, the candidates and their spouses will be invited to visit us and learn about Christ Church and Macon, Georgia. Following these visits, Bishop Rob Wright will initiate background checks on the final candidates before names are sent to the vestry. At this point, the vestry will be provided a name or names of candidate(s) from which to make a final decision as to our next rector.

From my standpoint, the Search Committee has worked diligently and harmoniously to identify our next rector. We have received helpful guidance from our diocesan consultant, Father Tim Graham of Trinity Episcopal Church in Columbus, Georgia. We have also worked closely with the diocese, especially Canon Alicia Weltner, to ensure that we carefully adhere to the selection process protocol in order to identify that person who best fits our needs.

Your Search Committee is committed to a period of careful and patient discernment of the candidates. The process remains confidential, which restricts us from sharing a great deal of information. However, to the extent possible, I will be glad to answer any questions. Please continue to keep us in your prayers.

Faithfully,
Bill Buzzell

MUSIC MINISTRY

April 14 | 7pm Teodora Cîrciumaru, organ

April 15 | 5:30pm Morgan Ingleright, organ

Teodora sings in the Christ Church Choir and often assists me at the organ. She is currently completing her Artist Diploma in Organ Performance at Mercer University. Morgan, a senior undergraduate, also studies Organ Performance at Mercer University. Morgan currently assists with the music ministry at St. Joseph's Catholic Church. Both are students of Dr. Jack Mitchener and extremely talented musicians. I am delighted that they will be performing here at Christ Church.

The Christ Church Choristers will sing at the Ilam Choral Eucharist on May 8. During this service we will perform the Whiting Ceremony where each chorister who has completed their white level RSCM workbook will be awarded their cotta. Every chorister has made wonderful progress this year and I am very proud of their accomplishments. There will be more information about the Christ Church Choristers and other musical offerings for children in the May issue.

Some of you may have noticed we now have a Christ Church Schola Cantorum. This is an elite auditioned choir which consists of our current eight staff singers. This choir recently performed *O vos omnes* by Tomás Luis de Victoria at the noon Good Friday service. The repertoire for this group will be selected from the highest quality acapella motets ranging from Renaissance composers such as Byrd, Tallis, Palestrina, and Victoria to Modern composers like Pärt, Lauridsen, Nystedt, Taverner, and Whitacre.

Music is very much alive here at Christ Church and I hope you will continue to support this wonderful ministry. Feel free to contact me anytime for more information about our current and future musical offerings.

Soli Deo Gloria,

Jonathan Poe
Organist/Choirmaster

WONDERFUL WEDNESDAYS

Regular Wonderful Wednesdays will return in the fall. Meanwhile, check The Chimes for information about several special Wednesday evening programs this summer.

APRIL 13

Lego my Bible

(Description on page 2)



**CORDIALLY INVITES
ALL CHRIST CHURCH MEMBERS
TO ATTEND
A SPECIAL DEDICATION SERVICE
IN HONOR OF FOUNDING MEMBER
REV. OTIS A. GLAZEBROOK**

**THE HONORABLE NATHAN DEAL,
GOVERNOR OF GEORGIA,
WILL PRESENT
THE STAINED GLASS WINDOW AND
PLAQUE TO THE CHURCH**

On Saturday, April 23, there will be a dedication service in the Sanctuary for a window in the Jones Chapel in honor of Rev. Otis A. Glazebrook. He was the Rector of Christ Church from 1878 until 1881 and was the leader in building the Jones Chapel. He was a graduate of the Virginia Military Institute and started the Alpha Tau Omega fraternity his senior year. He was an Episcopal minister for 43 years. Upon his retirement, he was appointed by President Woodrow Wilson to be the Consulate to Jerusalem. This was in 1914. He remained the Consulate during WW1 and finally retired in 1930.

He began the ATO chapter at Mercer University in 1880, and the ATO pledges have been inducted into the Chapter at Christ Church since then. All members of Christ Church and the community are invited to the service at 11:30. Father Joseph Shippen will officiate.



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The Chimes

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LIVING THE RESURRECTION: EMBRACING HOPE IN AN AGE OF FEAR

New Sunday morning adult classes,
April 10 - May 8
10 a.m. in the Cloister Room

Each morning, we wake up to the news of more shootings, terrorist attacks, divisions within our nation, and problems facing our youth. In times such as these, it is easy to lose hope and succumb to anxiety and despair. Yet the Risen Christ's most persistent message to his followers is, "Do not be afraid." How can we better embrace this message and allow it to transform us, our families and our communities? Classes in this series will take the form of lectures, film clips, and panel discussions. Topics covered will include "Hope in Macon," "Hope among the Races," "Hope for our Country" and "Helping our Children Live in Hope."

