



THE VINE

JULY 2009

Healing Your Image of God

Faith E-News

Are you receiving our email newsletter, Faith E-News? Faith E-News comes out a couple times a month with timely information and reminders. If you are not receiving Faith E-News please go to our website (www.faihanglicanchurch.org) today to sign up, or call the church office (755-4848).

Inside This Issue

Youth News	02
Information	03
Announcements	04
Work Day	05

OUR VISION:

A Christ Centered Community Growing in Faith.

OUR PURPOSE:

The purpose of Faith Anglican Church is to proclaim the Good News, make disciples, and serve our neighbors.

OUR GUIDING PRINCIPLES:

- We equip lay people for ministry
- We provide biblically centered instruction
- We minister to people where they are
- We welcome all God's children
- We are theologically traditional
- We provide meaningful worship services
- We lead others to Christ.

At the 2008 Anglican Mission Winter Conference, I had the privilege of hearing Judith MacNutt, from Christian Healing Ministries in Jacksonville, Florida. She spoke about how each of us has an image of God in our hearts and minds. Some of us have healthy, true, biblical images of God. Others have distorted and damaging images of God. Even those who have a truly biblical image of God in their minds, sometimes have a very different image in their hearts. In other words, our intellectual beliefs about God may not agree with how we truly feel about God. MacNutt admitted, "The longest journey I've ever made is the 18-inch journey from my head to my heart."

Our image of God is formed from childhood by the influence of our parents, the teaching and preaching we are exposed to, and from how we respond to various crises throughout our lives. When we face a crisis, we either get better or bitter. When C. S. Lewis was going through a particularly difficult time in his life he said, "I am tempted to believe God is a sadist." He was tempted by Satan to acquire a twisted image of God, but thankfully Lewis rejected this unbiblical image of God.

Can my image of God be healed? Nicodemus, who secretly met with Jesus in John chapter three, was a Pharisee. Pharisees were often out of balance legalists who believed you earned your salvation by obedience of the Law and the traditions – a twisted image of God and His demands. When Jesus met with him that night, Jesus gently challenged Nicodemus' presuppositions. His image of God wasn't 100% healed that night, but over time his image of God was gradually healed.

When I was a young teenager, I was anything but a Christian. I thought I was a Christian because I was an American. In the eleventh grade I came to a true relationship with God through His Son Jesus Christ. My life changed radically, from a partier to a one who was in love with Jesus. I was saved by God's grace as I responded by faith. My image of God began to heal in so many ways! Unfortunately, within a year I was exposed to a twisted gospel of legalism. My diligent nature ate it up. I loved it! But my new found legalism began to eat me up! I even began to have migraines. My twisted image of God and His demands was not only damaging to my soul, but to my body as well. A few years later, I began to truly understand God's grace and love. Over the years, as I've studied Holy Scripture, worshiped God, spent time with other believers, and been prayed for, God has been healing my image of Him.

Several of our members have attended an "Ancient Paths" seminar which brought them substantial inner healing. May we not only seek to have our image of God healed, made whole and holy, but may we guard our actions and words, that what we say and do will not distort other's image of God, but bring truth and healing!

See Christian Healing Ministries at:

www.christianhealingmin.org

Find an Ancient Paths seminar at:

www.familyfoundations.com

Youth Crew News

Relevance in the Church: a topic that is debated by many young (16-30 year old) people in our culture today. If you were born post 1980, you may or may not have been aware of the turmoil that happened in the Church that led to the downfall of many famous televangelists and leaders of prominent Churches. In the 1990's, you and your parents were subjected to the "prosperity Gospel" and positive ways of thinking to achieve all God wants you to be. You saw many Church leaders grow wealthy with huge mega-Churches, book deals and major conferences. "Christian" music artists exploded on the scene—mimicking the world in many ways, yet delivering a message we could listen to.

With all of this departure from what Jesus intended when He built the Church on the Rock of St. Peter. It is no surprise that in the 21st century in America, there are many who are confused at what the Church really is. Why is it important? And, how can we trust those in authority in the Church? Why even have anyone in authority in the Church? To answer this, I strongly believe there is a need for repentance and reality in America's Church today. I don't want to live a life before you that is built on false principles. I don't want you to think I don't struggle with sin just like you, and that I don't have a need for the *absolute, undeserved* saving grace of my Lord and Savior Jesus Christ! I DO struggle with sin! I DO have to battle each day to live my life, and I stumble along trying to grasp the hand of my Lord and follow Him!

Once, I heard someone say that the very best thing that could happen to you and I, is if our deepest, darkest sin were broadcast on the 5:00 news. So everyone knew, and we could get on with being real with one another; confessing and repenting (turning away) from our sin. That is the real purpose of the Church. Jesus gave us a community of faith to allow us to live as real people—corporately together as a family. We are to help each other stumble along, grasp the hand of our Savior and follow Him. Our Pastor, Father Hand, is there to help lead us to confess our sins and understand how to repent and live our life more abundantly in Christ. We aren't on TV, and I don't think we'll have a major book deal anytime soon. But, I do know if we stay with our brothers and sisters and are REAL with each other, loving one another and reaching outside of ourselves to serve those in need (spiritually and physically) we WILL find relevance in the Church today.

Random News

Happy Summer! Wow, what a trip to Standing Rock this year. Four of us students from Faith and five students from All Saints went and experienced the awesome power of God. Can't wait to see Zach (as Dan) and Michaela in "Joseph and the Amazing Technicolor Dreamcoat" this summer! We'll go together like last year, so be on the lookout for dates.

Come Join Us!!! Sunday School every Sunday at 9:30 in the Youth Crew Room. (Jr. and Sr. High combined).

Wednesday Bible Study, 7:00-8:00PM in the Youth Crew Room:

July 1st: "How Great is our God"

July 8th: "Hope: When Life Hurts Most"

July 22nd: "Fruitcake and Ice Cream"

Sunday, July 26th: The Youth Crew Games! 4-9 at All Saints, Jackson!

Tuesday, July 28th: Ministry to children at Tennessee Baptist Children's Home. 3:15-5:30!

In Christ Alone, Susan Blackburn

Vacation Bible School Galilee by the Sea

Come visit Galilee by the Sea at Faith Anglican Church with Memphis Mandarin Baptist Church. Walk in Jesus' footsteps at this exciting program. See, hear, touch, and taste what it was like in Bible times. 6:15 to 8:15 except Thursday (6:00pm).

Families are invited to the Fish Fry on Thursday evening at 6:00pm at the Mandarin Baptist Church across the street from Faith.

FROM THE MOUTHS OF BABES

Dear God,
I am American
What are you?
Robert

Special Thanks to...

Paul White for agreeing to serve on the Mission Council and overseeing our Adult Discipleship ministries.

Kim Hightower for chairing our Finishings and Furnishings Committee this past year. Please welcome Fred Robertson as he takes on this leadership role.

All those who served so faithfully at our May 30th moving day/work day!

MISSION & OUTREACH

8th Street Mission – An Opportunity for Men

The Men of Faith Anglican, spearheaded by Ed Nilson and Lance Forsdick have committed to prepare and serve one dinner a month at the 8th Street Mission. The approach is to have a three man team plan, prepare, travel together and serve the meal to individuals (primarily men) at the mission. As you contemplate this opportunity to serve, consider that it will require a time commitment of approximately two to three hours for travel and serving time. To simplify the purchase and preparation of the meal; spaghetti, bread, salad, green beans and a dessert is the meal that will be consistently prepared. A sign up sheet can be found in the narthex or if you have questions contact Ed Nilson (Ed.Nilson@usda.gov) or Lance Forsdick (Lance @graceconstructioncompany.com).

The 8th Street Mission provides programs and services to the homeless in Eastern Arkansas. Services include: emergency shelter, a long-term addiction recovery program, healthcare / counseling, educational / occupational training, and other vital human services.

Memphis Union Mission – Food Offering Reminder



The third Sunday of every month, we will collect and distribute to them the following week canned and/or dried food. Please place your food offering in a food basket located near the double glass doors in the Narthex. The food collection dates for the remainder of the year are: 6/21/09, 7/19/09, 8/16/09, 9/20/09, 10/18/09, 11/15/09, and 12/20/09.

Prayer List

Please keep the following persons in your daily prayers, asking God to heal, comfort and protect.

Mansell Lancaster	George Narsico	Jan Butcher
Ruby Stephenson	Karen Nichols	Sarah Salter
Lauren Hintz	Harvey Andrea	
Celeste McCullar	Maryann & Stephanie	

WILL YOU SURRENDER

Surrender to God - A Choice for All of Us

Adam and Eve were given a choice to surrender to God when He said, "you *shall not*" as opposed to "you *cannot*." The fruit of this tree is not something we're likely to find in the produce section of our supermarket, but rather it represented the alternative God offered. Should Adam and Eve trust and obey Him for a greater reward down the road, or should they give in to the momentary desires of their hearts? Had they chosen to surrender the longings of their hearts to God, it's possible that we may all be living eternally on a perfect earth, right here and now. Tragically, Adam and Eve did not choose that path. And because of that first act of disobedience, our hearts have become more and more prone to selfishness with each generation. (Consider the evidence presented in chapter 4 of Genesis - when Cain, the very first human born to a woman, murdered his own brother. How quickly the corruption occurred!)

Before you decide to blame every problem throughout history on Adam and Eve, ... it's important to consider that we are all given the same choice they were given. It's just that they were the first ones to blow it.

Surrender to God -

Why it's the Superior Choice

So, what's the point of surrendering to God? If we've already blown it so badly, what's the point of choosing God's way now? After all, the Bible tells us that the world we live in is lost and perishing. This is where the good news comes in! Because God loves His creation, He hasn't cast us from paradise forever. He continues to give us a choice. The world around us may be suffering the results of sin, but each person -- you, I and everyone we encounter -- still has the opportunity to choose to obey God. As long as we have breath, we have that choice. **What choice will you make???**

Author unknown

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Men's Retreat

Our Men's retreat this year is scheduled for Sept. 25th and 26th. Men Mark your Calendars. Details to follow.

Many Thanks, Doug

WEDNESDAY NIGHT GUEST SPEAKERS:

Alex and Valerie Garza

Deborah and Chuck Glover's daughter Valerie and their son in law Alex Garza started and serve the Lord through a truly fascinating ministry called The Isaiah Institute. The Isaiah Institute provides education and family support services to some of the poorest children in Sri Lanka. Four years after the devastating tsunami in Dec. 2004, there are still children & families in Sri Lanka who are in need of education, shelter, medical support, and love. Having done much in the past, The Isaiah Institute's current goal is to create and ship container schools/houses to refuges, tsunami camps, or tea plantation workers. These populations have a desperate need for proper houses and schools. Also in the works is a pilot project of low cost containers to be used for a community center providing classroom, living, clinic, toilet, and meeting spaces which are sorely needed. Do come on **July 8, 2009** to hear Alex and Valerie Garza share. Covered dish dinner is at 6:30P.M. and The Garza's should speak from 7:15-8:00P.M.

Faith's New Web Page

The Faith web page has a new look and much more substance to it. From the pull downs you may retrieve information about all the activities, groups, and events at Faith, many with pictures or on-line forms. There is a link to our Google Calendar where you can look ahead for upcoming events, find out if dates are available, etc. There is also a feature, when you click on an event, where you can click on a pop up map to show you where the event is located. We will strive to keep this calendar updated and as current as possible. You will find this new web site easy to navigate and so interesting that you will encourage your friends to log on. We thank Joe Matesich for his dedication and work in getting this new look up and running.

For His Sake, Laqueta Ferguson

Beautiful One Liners

A lot of kneeling will keep you in good standing.
 Don't put a question mark where God puts a period.
 Suffering from truth decay? Brush up on your Bible.
 Nothing else ruins the truth like stretching it.
 Compassion is difficult to give away because it keeps coming back.



JULY BIRTHDAYS

Emily Jordan	03	Esco Satchfield	17
Kathy Tenison	03	Ron Kirby	18
Sarah Jordan	07	Scott Davie	19
Trudy Guthrie	08	Derrick Ulander	19
Chris Booth	09	Don Tredway	20
Ginger McDowell	09	George Ellard	21
Fred Robertson	09	Christine Shields	21
Alexa Tutor	09	Parker Hemphill	23
Jim Johnson	12	Curt Crocker	24
Joseph Matesich	12	Knox Cleveland	28
Paul White	12	Diane Pfohl	28
John Mahaffey	13	Jim Nichols	29
Joe Laura	14	Anita Harrison	30
John Scott	16		
Pervis Milnor	17		

JULY ANNIVERSARIES

Herb & Mary Hand	03
Douglas & Rebecca Conner	04
Mike & Carye Herbert	06
Jim & Emily Johnson	06
Pervis & Vonda Milnor	12
Paul & Connie White	14
Chris & Stephanie Cramer	18
Charles & Koren Birkby	20
Charles & Barbara King	21
George & Betty Ellard	25

All articles for The Vine are due in the office the *second Monday* of the month, send to: newsletter@faithanglicanchurch.org

Service Times:
Sunday:
 Holy Eucharist 8:10/10:30am
 Sunday School 9:30am
Wednesday:
 Covered Dish Supper 6:30pm
 Adult Bible Study 7:15pm

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Thanks to Richard Swinburne - Rev. Jonah L. L.

IT JUST SAYS "DON'T"

WORK DAY

Chores

- General Cleanup
- Clean outside windows
- Build Drainage by Storage Unit
- Fill in dirt on tree on east side
- Plant remaining day lilies and irises
- All come help clean Faith.

Saturday, July 11

9:00 to 12:00