



JANUARY 2023

The Vine

Jesus said, "I am the vine; you are the branches..." John 15:5

A Famine of *Hearing* the Words of the Lord

Famine is a humanitarian catastrophe which we read about from time to time, which I doubt any of us have ever experienced or personally witnessed. Last year millions in the Horn of Africa were threatened with starvation due to drought conditions and lack of grain coming from Ukraine and Russia. I can't imagine suffering through a famine and I don't really want to!



Yet, an even more horrifying famine is affecting much of the world, especially the United States, "a famine of hearing the words of the Lord." There is no famine of God's Word. There's a church on just about every corner. Most homes have more than one Bible. Biblical sermons are available in person, online, on the radio, and on TV. However, there is a famine of *hearing* the words of the Lord (Amos 8:11-13), and where there is no "hearing," there is no "faith" (Romans 10:17). And where there is no faith, there is no faithfulness! The prophet Amos went so far as to say: "The days are coming," declares the Sovereign Lord, "when I will send a famine through the land—not a famine of food or a thirst for water, but a famine of hearing the words of the Lord." (Amos 8:11). Why would God send "a famine of hearing the words of the Lord"? Why did Jesus say:

This is why I speak to them in parables, because seeing they do not see, and hearing they do not hear, nor do they understand. Indeed, in their case the prophecy of Isaiah is fulfilled that says: "You will indeed hear but never understand, and you will indeed see but never perceive." For this people's heart has grown dull, and with their ears they can barely hear, and their eyes they have closed, lest they should see with their eyes and hear with their ears and understand with their heart and turn, and I would heal them.' But blessed are your eyes, for they see, and your ears, for they hear. (Matthew 13:13-16)

Unlike famines of food caused by drought, war, or corruption, famine of *hearing* the words of the Lord is self-inflicted, "for this people's heart has grown dull." Either we don't really want to hear the words of the Lord or Satan distracts us from hearing the words of the Lord (Mark 4:15).

After Sunday worship a parishioner told the pastor, "That was a wonderful sermon!" The pastor said, "That remains to be seen." Think about it! Did the parishioner truly *hear* the word of the Lord to the point of changing their life and actions?

Jed Harris, Austrian-born American theatrical producer and director in the mid-20th century was convinced that he was losing his hearing. He visited a specialist, who gave him a thorough exam. The doctor pulled out a gold timepiece and asked, "Can you hear this ticking?" "Of course," said Harris. The specialist walked to the door and held up the watch again, "Now can you hear it?" Harris concentrated and said, "Yes, I can hear it clearly." The doctor walked out the door into the next room and said, "Can you hear it now?" "Yes." "Mr. Harris," the doctor said, "there is nothing wrong with your hearing. You just don't listen." Sadly, the same can be said about many of us when it comes to "the words of the Lord." In this New Year, with God's help, let us be break the devastating famine of *hearing* the words of the Lord. Let us have open ears to the life-giving words of the Lord!

Our Path of Christian Maturity

Worship  Grow  Serve

The Faith Flash

Are you receiving our email newsletter, *The Faith Flash*? *The Faith Flash* comes out weekly with timely information and reminders. Sign up today by going to our website (www.faithanglicanchurch.org), or calling the church office (755-4848).

Children and Youth Ministry News

January 1 - AWANA, Happy New Year
 January 8 - AWANA,
 January 15 - AWANA, Pajama Night
 January 22 - AWANA
 January 29 - AWANA, Winter Fest



January 1 - **Youth Group** Sunday Funday
 January 8 - Youth Group
 January 15 - Youth Group
 January 22 - Youth Group
 January 29 - Youth Group (7th - 12th Grade)

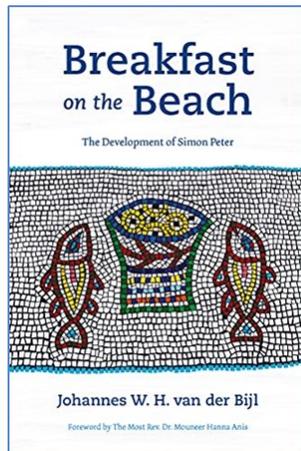
New Sunday Night Grow Group!



Starting **January 8th** Fr. Herb will begin a Sunday night Grow Group during the same time as our Awana and Youth meet. We will meet at 4:00 pm in the Narthex. This new group is for

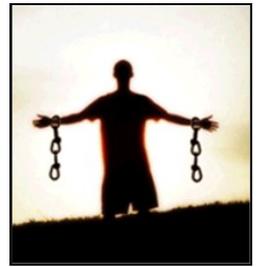
adults of all ages. If you have kids in Awana or Youth, why not stay and study?! We will spend time in Bible study, prayer, and fellowship.

Fr Herb highly recommends *Breakfast on the Beach*. Archbishop Foley Beach said, "My perspective of the Apostle Peter will never be the same after reading this inspirational and deep reflection of the life of Peter and the teachings of Jesus. It is a masterly woven account of the gospel through Peter's eyes bringing his life experience to a most helpful application in today's world." Fr. Herb said, "*Breakfast on the Beach* reads like a novel. It's hard to put it down. It weaves together the gospel accounts with insightful background commentary."



Freedom from the Bondage of Debt

In American culture we tend to see debt as helpful, a way to get more goods and services more quickly, and a way to get ahead. However, biblically, we must remember that debt can be dangerous. More often than not, debt becomes a cruel task master, which begins to slow us down.



What's the solution? Simply put, reduce spending and/or increase income. Some simple ways to cut expenses and eliminate debt are: replace your car less frequently, be satisfied with a smaller house, eat out less, and pay cash instead of using a credit card. Both Dave Ramsey (www.daveramsey.com) and Crown Financial Ministries (www.crown.org) offer proven plans on getting out of oppressive debt. When you are free from the bondage of debt, you will be more at peace, have less marital tension, be more able to help those in need, and more able to fulfill God's command to tithe.

New to Faith? Come to the Discovering Faith Workshop

Discovering Faith is a two part workshop designed to help you grow in your relationship with Christ and learn about membership in this community of faith. You will also get to know our pastor and others who are new to Faith. This workshop is offered two or three times a year. If you are new to Faith, we would love for you to attend our next *Discovering Faith* workshop. The first part is on Sunday, **January 15th**, from 4:00 to 7:30 p.m. in the church Narthex. The second part is on Sunday, **January 22rd** from 4:00 to 7:30 p.m. at Fr. Herb and Mary's home (8293 Montego Pl N, Cordova). Attending the workshop does not require a commitment to join, but will give you the opportunity to learn more about Faith and meet some wonderful people. At the first meeting we will explore Faith Anglican's history, our Anglican heritage, our church's path to Christian maturity, and God's gift of salvation. At the second meeting we will explore the importance of Holy Scripture, the basics of Anglican worship, and the ministries of Faith Anglican Church. Dinner is included. To sign-up e-mail Herb at herbhand@faithanglicanchurch.org.

Birthdays

Cathy Evans	01	Janie Adkins	10
Olivia Budreau-McCall	02	Christina Zachary	29
Alana Ifedili	06		
Candi Brown	09		

Anniversaries

Esco & Ann Satchfield	03
Bob & Jennifer Bostick	05



Prayer Corner

John White	Jim Lancaster	Jim Johnson
Mansell Lancaster	Bill Walsh	Stan Bond
Jonathan Hays	Janie Beth Covington	
Eli Ritchie	Bob Barnett	Sherry Wilkes
Joyce Hall	Mary Ellen Bryan	

Family Ministries

Scavenger hunts, costume contest, service projects, Operation Christmas Child, St. Nicholas Day, Christmas parties - Awana and Youth have had an exciting, rewarding, and fun-filled Fall semester. All of that goes along with the study of God's Word. The number of children attending Awana and Youth Group has increased. Family ministries also provides Youth Sunday School and Children's Church. Thank you to those who have volunteered to serve in these areas. Our children and youth are the future of the church. Volunteers are always needed. Please Contact Jessica Hearne or Amy Trippel to see how you can help. You will be blessed in so many ways.

Grow Group Leaders Meeting

The leaders of our small groups will meet on Tuesday, January 24 at 6:15 p.m. at the church. We will share our successes, our needs, and our prayer concerns. A meal will be provided. Please mark your calendar and plan to attend.

As you plan your service to Christ for the coming year, please consider doing the social interaction for our facebook live streaming once a month. Our current media folks have been doing it for almost 3 years without a break. Please pray about your involvement in this important service. Candi Brown

Need Prayer? Please Ask!

Prayer ministry is available every Sunday in our Prayer Corner. You may also contact Rita at rhwbarnett@bellsouth.net or Chris at inotterwords@yahoo.com to be added to be prayed for on an ongoing basis. "Is anyone among you sick? Let him call for the elders of the church, and let them pray over him, anointing him with oil in the name of the Lord" (James 5:14). "For everyone who asks receives, and the one who seeks finds, and to the one who knocks it will be opened" (Matthew 7:8).



8th. Street Christmas Toy Run

Our annual toy collection went very well. We delivered the toys Sunday. Thank you so much for those who helped with the toys and decorations.

Esco Satchfield

8th Street Dinner

We need volunteers for the up-coming dinners for the third Thursdays of the month starting in January. Cooks for main dish, salads, bread and deserts are needed as well as delivery.

Thanks, Esco Satchfield

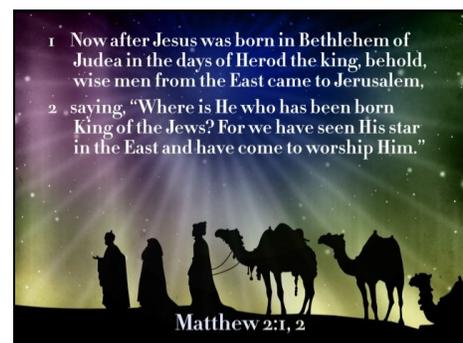
HUG/PRAYER BUTTON CORNER

You are encouraged to share your experiences with giving out Hug buttons in our Hug Button Corner in the Vine. Take a card from the box in the Narthex, briefly share who you gave a button and how they reacted. Did it lead to a conversation about Jesus? Put your notes in the larger box with the daisies on it and we will put them together for an article in our Button corner. Our article is due the 2nd Tuesday of each month, so you have plenty of time to get it to us. If you wish to share without any editing, you can always send directly to Laqueta. We are making plans for next year. Give us your thoughts on how to reach people for Christ. Evangelism team.

Faith Anglican Church Mortgage Paid in Full

On Wednesday November 30, 2022, Father Herb, Jill Amos, and I met with Jayme Beck at Renasant Bank in Germantown and made the final payment on the mortgage of Faith Anglican Church. Jill handed Jayme a check for \$41,000.00. We must first give thanks to God for blessing us here at Faith Anglican. Thanks also to the faithfulness and generosity of the good people of Faith Anglican we can move forward doing God's work here and throughout God's Kingdom.

Karl Badgett



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

Service Times:
Sunday:
 Sunday Worship 10:00am
 Holy Communion every Sunday

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Celebrate Epiphany Sunday!!!

The Feast of the Epiphany immediately follows the 12 Days of Christmas on January 6th. We are transferring our celebration to Sunday, **January 8th**, so we can all celebrate The Feast of the Epiphany. Come celebrate the revealing of Christ to the Gentiles as we remember the Wise Men coming to worship Jesus!

Annual Parish Meeting & Lunch – Sunday, January 29th

On Sunday, January 29th, immediately after our **10:00 am** service, we will hold our Annual Parish Meeting and heavy Hors d'oeuvre luncheon. The lunch should start around **11:15 or 11:30**, followed by our Annual Parish Meeting. We will see our annual parish video, reflect on our life together in 2022, receive the 2022 financial report and the 2023 budget, hear about our plans for 2023, and our members in good standing will elect new Parish Council Members. Our Parish Council will present a slate of nominees. Our bylaws also allow for members of the congregation in good standing to make nominations from the floor. All are welcome and encouraged to attend!

BAPTISMAL DATES

Baptism is for those adults and older children who have made a commitment to Jesus Christ as their Savior and Lord. Baptism is also for infants and younger children of parents who intend to raise their children to serve Jesus Christ as Savior and Lord. Those who intend to be baptized need to attend worship regularly. If you or your child is ready for baptism, please plan to be baptized on one of the following dates: **January 15th** (Baptism of Our Lord) or **April 16th** (The Sunday after Easter). If you are interested please contact Fr. Herb (901-755-4848).

