

The Anglican Parish of Holy Cross

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Happenings around Holy Cross ~ June 2019

From the Rector's Desk:

What does it mean to evangelize? We have talked consistently about the call to share our faith, to invite others to church, and to reach out to others in tangible acts of Christian love. And while all of this speaks of activity to which we are called, the act of welcoming others into the reality of Christ's kingdom on earth is more than simply an outward activity. That is to say, evangelism is to be a spiritual attitude flowing through our lives.

The late Jean Vanier said once, "To welcome is not just something that happens as people cross the threshold. It is an attitude, it is the constant openness of the heart; it is saying to people every morning and at every moment, 'come in', it is giving them space; it is listening to them attentively." The welcoming of others is the Christlikeness of the community expressed outward.

Given this, evangelism is to become a fundamental part of our expression of faith. We are called to welcome others into this community. Yet welcome must lead to invitation. As Michael Harvey reminded us when we was with us several years ago, "how welcoming can we be if we are not inviting?" Welcome and invitation, then, are not merely tools to bolster church attendance numbers, they are expressions of our transformation toward Christlikeness.

In this way, evangelism, like all matters of communal faith-embodiment, is formative precisely because it is a discipline embodied by the community. Community consultant Peter Block has a helpful word regarding this. He writes, "Invitation is not only a step in bringing people together, it is also a fundamental way of being in community." Evangelism is the church being the church. Just as the community of faith cannot be rightly understood without engagement in disciplines such as the apostles' teaching, fellowship, breaking of the bread, and prayer, so too the community of faith cannot occur without an engagement in the discipline of evangelism.

Ultimately, the movement toward outward expressions of Christlikeness is a necessary part of our spiritual formation. Without such an outward expression, our spiritual life can easily become separated from the call to be the body of Christ in the world. Thus, the inward reality of our life together (our engagement with the apostles' teaching, the fellowship, the breaking of bread, and the prayers) is not simply for our own edification, but serves as the grounding for our own missional and evangelistic witness.

We have actually seen this take place in our midst. Our mission-drives have been a wonderful place of ministry and advocacy, yet beyond that, they have been an outworking of our very formation as a community of faith. The parish's embodiment in the apostles' teaching, the fellowship, the breaking of the bread, and the prayers has formed us into a body of people that naturally wish to engage in evangelistic mission. Today, the mission drives are an important expression to the very identity of Holy Cross as a community of Christ's followers. So important has this become that the very mission of Holy Cross has been described as "serving the members of our community through tangible acts of Christian love." This has been exciting to witness, and I cannot wait to see where God leads us in the future.

Check out our website: www.holycrosscalgary.org. We are also on Facebook and Twitter.

Going to the hospital? Please identify your religion as Anglican as this places your name on the Anglican list at Spiritual Care Services. Please let the church office know if you are in hospital. If you do not inform the office or the clergy, we will not know that either you or your loved one is in the hospital.

Please submit articles for the July newsletter by June 15, 2019.

Parish Mission Drive for January through June 2019 - St. Edmund's Food Bank We encourage you to bring a non-perishable food item with you each Sunday when you attend services if you are able — there is a collection box in the narthex. To donate financially, please make your cheque payable to Holy Cross Church, and indicate **St. Edmund's Food Bank** in the memo section. Your donation will be included in the Holy Cross tax receipt at the end of the year. If you have any questions, please speak to a warden or a parish council member.

Lectio Divina: Tuesday, June 11 at 6:30 pm in the St. Michael room. Lectio Divina, i.e. divine reading, is a practice deeply rooted in Christian history. In Lectio Divina, we sit with a Biblical text for the purpose of discerning the voice of Jesus as He speaks into our lives. For more information, please speak to Reverend Kyle. Lectio Divina will not be held during July and August, and will resume on September 10.

ACW: end of the year potluck dinner will be held on Monday, June 3, 2019 at 6:00 pm. All women are welcome. Any questions, please contact Lisa.

Carmen's Ordination: Please mark your calendar! Carmen will be priested on June 22 at 11:00 am at the Cathedral Church of the Redeemer. She will celebrate her first Eucharist here on June 23 at 8:00 am and 10:00 am.



Celebrated on the seventh Sunday after Easter, Pentecost commemorates the descent of the Holy Spirit upon the Apostles and other followers of Jesus while they were in Jerusalem celebrating the Feast of Weeks. This event empowered the early Christian community to share the good news of Jesus' resurrection with others. We celebrate Pentecost as a way to remind ourselves that we have that same ministry.

When the day of Pentecost had come, they were all together in one place. And suddenly from heaven there came a sound like the rush of a violent wind, and it filled the entire house where they were sitting. Divided tongues, as of fire, appeared among them, and a tongue rested on each of them. All of them were filled with the Holy Spirit and began to speak in other languages, as the Spirit gave them ability. (Acts 2:1-4)

The term "Pentecost" comes from the Greek Πεντηκοστή (Pentēkostē) meaning "fiftieth". It refers to the Jewish festival celebrated on the fiftieth day after Passover, also known as the "Feast of Weeks" and the "Feast of 50 days."

My Resurrection Story: Clare Westbury

I have been living with cancer since 1992 and had another cancer in 2002 and a third in 2011. I would never say I was "battling" cancer, I certainly did not welcome it, but learned to live with it presuming it was just something that was planned for me. In 2012 after more major surgery, I had three rounds of chemotherapy, which often left me thinking death would be a happy release. I was diagnosed with Stage IV metastatic cancer, for which there was no treatment as I declined any more chemotherapy. I felt I was just putting myself in the hands of God and would accept whatever happened. After that, I went into remission for three years, and, after a short relapse, I am once again in remission.

I have been on the prayer list at Holy Cross, on and off, for some years. I have numerous people praying for me on both sides of the Atlantic. I pray a lot myself, and make any sleepless nights an opportunity to pray. I feel really supported by this and am so grateful to everyone who includes me in their prayers.

I am sure that the support and prayers of so many people must have had an effect, as for me it really is a miracle. I know it can reverse at any moment, but am enjoying each day as it comes, and filled with gratitude for all the medical profession who are researching and working towards a cure. I cannot thank enough those who have supported me and continue to do so with their prayers and am convinced that I have been upheld by them.

Curate's Corner: The Rev. Carmen Maier

Creation is a book, inscribed by the hand of the Creator. That's what the early Christian writer, Evagrius, said. If I might expand, we have just turned, once again, to the chapter of "Spring." What are your favourite parts about this chapter? Is it the warmth of the sun, the songs of the birds, the young leaves on the trees, the flowers, the rain...?

What might these parts reveal to you about its Author? All of creation has the potential to function in a sacramental way for us by pointing us to the Creator. The Psalmist writes that all creation sings God's praise (Psalm 66:4).

Perhaps no matter what season we are walking through currently in life, we can find a few moments in coming weeks to enter Spring with the rest of creation by singing God's praise.

Alpha is coming!

Alpha will start in the fall.

Stay tuned for more details!



Ice Cream Sunday
June 30th after the 10:00 am service

Book Club: This past month our book club chose to read something a little different. We chose to read a book of the Bible, specifically "Romans" – the letter of Paul to the Romans (that is, to the Christian churches in Rome). Paul writes to the Roman Christians to explain his intent to visit them after he has been to Jerusalem. His intention also was to explain his understanding of the gospel; he describes first the world's need of redemption, he discusses God's saving act in Christ – its nature and the new life which it has made available. There is a section dealing with the role of the Jewish nation in God's plan, and then some ethical teachings and some personal remarks. (The above description is taken from the Introduction to Romans from the New Revised Version of the Bible)

There was a lively discussion! Each member read a different translation of the Bible and some even read more than one translation. We found that reading the Biblical text and then discussing it in a group setting was very enlightening and beneficial. We found new ideas, more depth, better understanding, and a more positive opinion of Paul. One of the main themes discussed was the tension between struggling with sin and accepting grace.

Would we recommend Romans to read? Of course we would to ALL people, but if you have done very little Bible reading, or perhaps had not previously read the Bible, then we suggest you read one of the gospels to begin with – the gospel of Mark is a good starting place. Romans is a dense book and can be complicated to understand. If by chance you do not have a Bible, there are a number of them in the church library. Feel free to borrow one! The book club were very fortunate and grateful to have Reverend Kyle with us at our discussion as well. Thank you Kyle.
Submitted by Marlene Stevenson.

June 2019

June 2019							July 2019						
Su	Mo	Tu	We	Th	Fr	Sa	Su	Mo	Tu	We	Th	Fr	Sa
2	3	4	5	6	7	8	1	8	9	10	11	12	13
9	10	11	12	13	14	15	14	15	16	17	18	19	20
16	17	18	19	20	21	22	21	22	23	24	25	26	27
23	24	25	26	27	28	29	28	29	30	31			
30													

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
May 26	27	28	29	30	31	Jun 1
8:00am Holy Eucharist 10:00am Holy Eucharist	9:30am Morning Prayer 1:30pm Craft & Quilt 6:00pm ACW dinner	9:30am Morning Prayer 7:00pm Tone Chimes 7:30pm GTAA	9:30am Holy Eucharist	9:30am Morning Prayer 7:00pm Choir Practice 7:30pm AA	9:30am Morning Prayer	
2	3	4	5	6	7	8
8:00am Holy Eucharist 10:00am Holy Eucharist	9:30am Morning Prayer 1:30pm Craft & Quilt 7:00pm Book Club	9:30am Morning Prayer 6:30pm Lectio Divina 7:00pm Tone Chimes 7:30pm GTAA	9:30am Holy Eucharist	9:30am Morning Prayer 7:00pm Choir Practice 7:30pm AA	9:30am Morning Prayer	
9	10	11	12	13	14	15
Day of Pentecost 8:00am Holy Eucharist 10:00am Holy Eucharist	9:30am Morning Prayer 1:30pm Craft & Quilt 7:00pm Book Club	9:30am Morning Prayer 7:00pm Tone Chimes 7:30pm GTAA	9:30am Holy Eucharist	9:30am Morning Prayer 7:00pm Choir Practice 7:30pm AA	9:30am Morning Prayer	
16	17	18	19	20	21	22
Trinity Sunday 8:00am Holy Eucharist 10:00am Holy Eucharist	9:30am Morning Prayer 1:30pm Craft & Quilt 2:00pm H of Newport 6:30pm Craft & Stitch	9:30am Morning Prayer 7:00pm Tone Chimes 7:30pm GTAA	9:30am Holy Eucharist	9:30am Morning Prayer 7:00pm Choir Practice 7:30pm Scouts (library)	9:30am Morning Prayer	11:00am Carmen's Ordination
23	24	25	26	27	28	29
8:00am Holy Eucharist 10:00am Holy Eucharist	9:30am Morning Prayer 1:30pm Craft & Quilt	9:30am Morning Prayer 10:15am Fanning Centre 7:00pm Tone Chimes 7:30pm GTAA	9:15am Statesman 9:30am Holy Eucharist	9:30am Morning Prayer 10:00am Boardwalk 7:00pm Choir Practice 7:30pm AA	9:30am Morning Prayer	
30	Jul 1	2	3	4	5	6
Ice Cream Sunday 8:00am Holy Eucharist 10:00am Morning Prayer						