

The Anglican Parish of Holy Cross

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Happenings around Holy Cross ~ September 2019

From the Rector's Desk: The Rev. Kyle Norman

660 Curries: That is the cookbook I have on my shelf at home. Several times per month, I take that book out in order to prepare a (hopefully) yummy curry for dinner. I measure all the ingredients; I stand at the stove and follow the step-by-step guide.

The Tarbell Course in Magic: I would refer to this book almost on a daily basis as I was learning how to be a budding magician. The pages systematically unfolded the intricate workings of sleight of hand, illusion, and mysterious effects. I would follow the detailed instructions as best I could and (hopefully) come out with a masterful illusion at the other end.

Instructions are important as we learn to navigate the intricacies of life before us. The more detailed the instructions, the more we are able to fully enter the reality of that which we are exploring, whether it be cooking, learning a musical instrument, or taking up magical illusion. The same is true for the church. God has given some "instructions" on how we are to live as a community of faith. The more we follow these instructions, the more we are able to experience the wonder of God's presence in our lives. These instructions can be found in Acts 2:42. "They devoted themselves to the Apostles' Teaching, The Fellowship, The Breaking of the Bread, and The Prayers." These four disciplines became the benchmark for how the community of faith acted. Isn't it great that God has provided a step-by-step guide to how to be the church! This can also be a great way to assess how our own life in Christ.

The Apostles' Teaching: Am I learning more about my faith? When is the last time that I read the Bible? Do I have questions that I need to explore in order for my faith to grow?

The Fellowship: Have there been times when I have missed gathering with the community of faith? Do I get together with other Christian people? How do I support others in their faith? How do others support me in the growth of my faith?

The Breaking of Bread: When is the last time that I took communion? When I take communion, do I desire to meet the risen Jesus? How can I be more attentive to God's presence at the altar rail?

The Prayers: What is my prayer life like? Are there days that I do not pray at all? What might need to change in order to be more prayerful in my life? Whom might I be called to pray for?

These four disciplines became the foundation for Christian life for the early Christian community. These were not activities performed haphazardly, but became the constant activity of the Christian community. What might it look like if we allowed these four disciplines to be the core expressions of our own Christian life, and our own part of the Christian community? This is not as hard as it sounds. For example, could we commit to engaging in each discipline once per week? When we look at our schedule, can we see where we learn from the apostles' teaching, enjoy the fellowship of other Christians, partake in communion with Jesus, or focus on intentional prayer? And if, for example, one week means we can't meet with other Christians, might we turn to an extra moment of prayer, or a deeper time of scriptural study?

Instructions can seem daunting, but when we take them slowly and methodically, they lead us into wonderful experiences and delights. Over time, instructions become habits that form our lives. May we all be blessed as we engage in the disciplines of Christian life.

Lectio Divina: will resume on Tuesday, September 10 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 Rev. Kyle.

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 October newsletter by September 15, 2019.

Nursery: the nursery is located upstairs next to the upper hall. Adult parishioners are welcome to volunteer in the nursery, from time to time, during 10:00 am Sunday services. A sign-up sheet is in the foyer. For further information, please contact Janice Bauer at 403-288-0345.

Sunday School: please consider being involved as a teacher in Sunday school this year. For more information, speak to Shane Noble.

ACW: Our next meeting will be after the 10:00 am service/coffee on September 15, 2019 (later than usual due to Labour Day weekend and welcome back barbecue). All ladies are welcome and encouraged to join us.

Holy Cross Theology Group will meet in the fall on one Sunday per month, following coffee time, in the lower hall. We will continue our look at the Psalms as they are used in liturgy, music, and personal prayer. Each date will look at the Psalm used in the Sunday service of that day. Here are the dates: September 22, October 20, November 17 2019, and January 19, 2020. No December meeting.

What happens after January? We're planning a new program starting in February that should interest Theology Group people, so stay tuned for more information in the fall. As always with Theology Group, anyone is welcome to attend. Background material will be sent out to people on the mailing list a week or so in advance, but you can come even if you haven't read it. If you would like to be on the email list, or want more information, please contact Mryka Hall-Beyer at church or email mhallbey@ucalgary.ca.

Theological Education Trust Fund: Barrie Griffiths, Elected Trustee

This is a short review and update to keep parishioners aware of this unique Diocesan fund.

In 1975, four members of the parish of St. Cyprian Anglican Church decided to commemorate the 50th anniversary of the church by creating a trust fund for the prime objective to offer cash gifts towards expenses of students working towards ordination into the ministry of the Anglican Church of Canada. A legal agreement was finally drawn up in January 1977. When St Cyprian amalgamated with St. Michael and All Angels and became Holy Cross in 1998, the legal costs etc. of changing the name of the charity were considered excessive and so vestry at the time elected to keep the original name.

It is a registered charity and, therefore, any donations are tax deductible by individuals. It is also a registered society in the province of Alberta. Trustees of the fund are the People's Warden, the Rector's Warden and one parishioner elected at the annual meeting.

A specific amount was targeted to form the capital fund which, when fully invested, would provide income and this would be the amount available to gift each year to qualified students. The intention is to retain a minimum amount in the capital fund to ensure that it is in a position to help the maximum number of approved candidates for many years. It is held by the Diocese and has been invested wisely in secure funds. Due to the initial and continual generous donations by parishioners and through a few estate bequeathals, financial support has been made to many theological students. The fund has also made gifts for expenses to ordained priests who were continuing their theological education. Currently more than 30 gifts totalling more than \$25,000 have been distributed.

The fund currently stands at more than \$60,000, so it is still in a good position to grant assistance to approved applicants. Not surprisingly, total annual donations from parishioners have dropped considerably since the fund's early years, however, the fund is very fortunate to have many regular givers.

I have been in contact with the Diocese, and specifically the Bishop, reminding them that we would be happy to have applications or recommendations that the trust fund could consider. There has been only one in the last 12 months.

I would like to ask for input from parishioners on how best our fund could assist with theological teaching.

- Should we consider making a regular donation towards a "chair" at one of the training colleges?
- Shall we continue with our current arrangement?
- I could contact Calgary Diocese priests of all churches and make them aware that our fund is available to all candidates.
- I placed an article in the "Sower" a while ago. Is it time to place another promotion? The first one did generate interest.

These are just a few thoughts. Please let me know if you have any others. Oh, and by the way I have acted as Trustee for the last 14 years. Anyone want to take over and maybe approach the management of the fund in a new and different way? I would be very happy to explain how the fund operates and time etc. required. Thank you

Holy Cross Music Program: Doug Spreeman, Music Director

As an illustration in a sermon I heard this summer, the speaker played “The Lord’s Prayer” sung by Andrea Bocelli, with the Mormon Tabernacle Choir. It was a very moving experience! He used it to illustrate how different kinds of music can help us enter into the presence of God.



I was reminded of the worship that happens at Holy Cross through our congregational singing, choir anthems, handbell and instrumental music, and solos, etc. We are blessed to have much music in our services; all presented to help us worship and move our hearts and minds closer to God. Everyone is involved in singing hymns and saying responses. Some use their God given talents to sing special songs or sing in the choir, play handbells or piano.

As we begin a new season of music making at Holy Cross, I would invite anyone who would like to join any of the music groups in the church to speak to me about where you could fit in. Choir will begin rehearsing on September 5 at 7:00 pm. Handbells will meet on September 10 at 7:00 pm. I look forward to another year of music making with some new members.



The Season of Creation: Christians around the world are invited to give particular attention to praying and caring for God’s creation as part of the global Season of Creation, observed from September 1 to October 4 every year. General Synod 2019 passed a resolution adopting the Season of Creation in the Anglican Church of Canada as a time of prayer, education, and action and encouraging dioceses and parishes to participate.

There are many ways your community can participate in the Season of Creation. Hold an ecumenical or interfaith prayer service; worship outdoors; go for a hike with members of your parish; work to reduce your plastic or energy consumption; or advocate for stronger environmental policy. For more information, go to <http://seasonofcreation.org/about/> or to <https://www.anglican.ca/publicwitness/season-of-creation/>

Curate’s Corner: The Rev. Dr. Carmen Maier

Besides the liturgical year, our yearly rhythms at the church are arguably most affected by the school year. It’s September. Young people return to their classes. Families return to the pews from their vacations. The pace is quicker, more steady, less sporadic, less laid back. These are welcome rhythms for our lives both in church and at home. Fall is a time in particular to focus on the young people as they re-enter the routine of study — often among a host of other things!

Think of the young people you may have in your life. Pray for them. Consider asking God for an opportunity for conversation with them about what they think about God. Maybe you will be surprised at their willingness to engage the question...

Welcome Back Barbeque is on September 8 following the 10:00 am service. Burgers, hotdogs, and the fixings will be provided; please bring a salad or dessert to share. Archbishop Greg Kerr-Wilson will preside at both services.



A Call for Volunteers

For many years, Holy Cross has had the blessing of individuals who were long-time members of various ministry programs and activities. They were the unsung heroes of funeral receptions, altar guild arrangement, flower deliveries, and countless other endeavours. Such volunteers are important, for they allow the pastoral staff to focus on the tasks before us, knowing that the details of services and receptions are in good hands. Some of these people were Eleanor Chmilar, Terri McRoberts, Jack Cooke, Wendy and Mark Dickin . . .well . . .the list could go on. You will notice that the people mentioned above are no longer here with us. Some have died, some have moved away.

The absence of these past stalwarts of the church means that every ministry of our church could use some fresh faces. Joining a ministry not only provides extra hands for needed duties or tasks, but it is actually a great way to experience rich fellowship within the church. In addition, there is the satisfaction of knowing that you are tangibly serving, not just your church, but the Lord as well. So, where might you be called to volunteer within the church? Did you want to try your hand at reading, or being a sidesperson? Could you try one task for a two month time to see if it “fits”? Please speak to Rev. Kyle about how you might support the ministry of Holy Cross.

September 2019

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

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
Sep 1 8:00am Holy Eucharist 10:00am Holy Eucharist	2 Labour Day	3 9:30am Morning Prayer 7:00pm Tone Chimes 7:30pm GTAA	4 9:30am Holy Eucharist	5 9:30am Morning Prayer 7:00pm Choir Practice 7:30pm AA	6 9:30am Morning Prayer	7
8 8:00am Holy Eucharist 10:00am Holy Eucharist 11:30am Welcome Back BBQ	9 8:30am Montessori Hospitality 9:30am Morning Prayer 1:30pm Craft & Quilt 7:00pm Book Club	10 8:30am Montessori 9:30am Morning Prayer 6:30pm Lectio Divina 7:00pm Tone Chimes 7:30pm GTAA	11 9:30am Holy Eucharist	12 9:30am Morning Prayer 7:00pm Choir Practice 7:30pm AA	13 9:30am Morning Prayer	14
15 Newsletter deadline 8:00am Holy Eucharist 10:00am Holy Eucharist 12:00pm ACW	16 9:30am Morning Prayer 1:30pm Craft & Quilt 2:00pm H of Newport 6:30pm Craft & Stitch	17 9:30am Morning Prayer 7:00pm Tone Chimes 7:30pm GTAA	18 9:30am Holy Eucharist	19 9:30am Morning Prayer 7:00pm Choir Practice 7:30pm AA 7:30pm Scouts (library)	20 9:30am Morning Prayer	21
22 8:00am Holy Eucharist 10:00am Holy Eucharist 12:00pm Theology	23 9:30am Morning Prayer 1:30pm Craft & Quilt	24 9:30am Morning Prayer 10:15am Fanning Centre 7:00pm Tone Chimes 7:30pm GTAA	25 9:15am Statesman 9:30am Holy Eucharist 10:00am Diocesan Council	26 9:30am Morning Prayer 10:00am Boardwalk 7:00pm Choir Practice 7:30pm AA	27 9:30am Morning Prayer	28
29 8:00am Holy Eucharist 10:00am Morning Prayer	30 9:30am Morning Prayer 1:30pm Craft & Quilt	Oct 1	2	3	4	5