

# The Chant

## St. Gregory's Anglican Church

*Making Disciples of Jesus Christ for the Transformation of the World by Knowing, Loving and Serving God.*

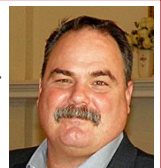


*Fat Tuesday  
March 1st  
Pics by Cindy Bloomfield*

### *Sr. Warden's Report*

When the vestry met for our annual planning meeting we decided to change the roles and duties within our team. We discussed the changes that we have seen over the past several years, the current needs of the parish, and the focus we need to have in the coming year. The Senior Warden and Junior Warden roles and responsibilities will remain the same. We will have an Outreach team and an In-reach team. Outreach will continue to oversee our participation and efforts in the local community and abroad. In-reach will focus on Parish Life and Pastoral care. Our In-reach team is Kathy and Beth and our outreach team is Theresa and Angie. Father Horton will assume responsibilities of Christian Education. I look forward to working in the new structure with the focus it will help us achieve.

In Christ, *Tim*







As I mentioned in my article last month, I was inspired at our recent Men's Conference by Fr. Jerry Kramer to take on prayer and fasting in preparation for discerning where it is that God is leading St. Gregory's. I have been doing this on my own for the past month and now I am inviting the parish to join with me. In order for everyone to participate to some degree, I would like to propose a few different options. The first would be the fully communal option. I have set aside Monday from sunrise to around sunset (I have to make some adjustments to accommodate for family life) as a time of fasting and have been spending my lunch hour praying in the church. The invitation would be for you to fast during this time as well and join with me at the church at noon for a time of prayer each week. We would begin with noonday prayer and then enter into a time of directed prayers for our community, our nation, and the world, with an emphasis on discovering where God is leading us to be active and then close with an opportunity for any to offer their own prayers. I would love if everyone chose this option and we had a large group praying together every week, but I completely understand that this may not be feasible for many various reasons which brings me to options 2 and 3.

The second option would be for you to join with us in prayer and fasting alongside but on your own. This would mean that you would commit to fasting on Monday during the same time period and take your usual lunch break and devote that time to prayer. This would be a good choice for those who want to join in the communal aspect but who are physically unable to be with us in person due to work or other obligations. And the final option would be to participate as much as you are able. If you are unable to fast for whatever reason but can join us for prayer, do that. If Monday is just not a good day for you or the time doesn't work out, choose another day/time to fast and/or pray. The point is that I want the entire parish to be involved in some way as we seek the direction that God is leading us into the future.

To assist us in prayer for whichever of these options you may choose, I have attached an outline. These will be printed up on cards as a resource for us to use on Mondays during our corporate prayer time as well as for you to use on your own. I sincerely hope that everyone in our parish will heed this call to prayer and fasting for the sake of discerning where God is leading and pray that God will continue to build us up as we respond in faith to that call.

#### **Prayer Outline for Discernment (ACTS model)**

##### Adoration

Acknowledge God in his holiness, righteousness, perfection, goodness, wisdom, etc.

##### Confession

Focus especially on personal and corporate (*the Church and St. Gregory's*) failures to advance the Kingdom of God.

##### Thanksgiving

For all our blessings.

For the Church.

For the opportunity to participate in his saving work.

##### Supplication

Personal and corporate (St. Gregory's) growth in love for God's Kingdom and a desire to advance it.

Growth in personal and corporate spiritual maturation – including the Gifts and Fruits of the Holy Spirit.

Wisdom and inspiration for Fr. Horton and our vestry.

Revelation of who Christ Jesus is calling us to reach for Him and enlightenment on how best to do so.

For God's will to be done in our homes, St. Gregory's, the Diocese of Fort Worth, our community, the city of Mansfield, the state of Texas, the nation, and the world.

For the poor, sick, and lost around us, including friends and family.

Faithfully, *Fr. Alan Horton+*



## *April Birthdays*

04~ Paige Cannon  
06~ Walter Bradburn  
07~ Sharon Holcomb  
10~ Hannah McDuff  
14~ Jacob Mowrer  
22~ Thomas Hightower

## *April Anniversaries*

11 ~ James Wilbern & Brenda – 30 yrs

## *Mark Your April Calendar*

01~6:30pm Stations of The Cross  
02~ 8am Men's Group @ Rosa's  
03~9am Eucharist 10am Sunday School  
05~ 9:30am Women's Bible Study  
06~ 6:30pm Eucharist followed by Bible Study  
07~ 6pm Bridge Group  
10~ 9am Eucharist 10am Sunday School  
12~9:30am Women's Bible Study  
13~ 1pm Watercrest Eucharist  
6:30pm Eucharist followed by Bible Study  
14~Maundy Thursday @ 6:30  
15~ Stations of the Cross @ Noon  
& Good Friday Service @ 6:30  
16~ Holy Saturday Liturgy @ 9am  
Easter Vigil @ 8:00pm  
17~ Happy Easter! Join us for the 9am  
Eucharist followed by our  
Annual Easter Egg Hunt.  
19~9:30am Women's Bible Study  
20~ 6:30pm Eucharist followed by Bible Study  
21~ 6pm Bridge Group  
23~ 10 DHC Meeting, 11am Healing Ministry  
24~ 9am Eucharist 10am Sunday School  
26~ 9:30am Women's Bible Study  
27~ 1pm Watercrest Eucharist  
6:30pm Eucharist followed by Bible Study  
28~ 6pm Bridge Group



## *Jr. Warden's Report*



With Easter on the horizon we will have a couple of work days to spruce up the church. Work days are scheduled for April 9 and 13. We will begin each day at 9 am. Work will include weeding flower beds, reworking the prayer garden, cleaning up the playground, a little painting and freshening up the sanctuary, doing some tree trimming and possibly some lawn (weed) mowing and/or trimming. Bring your work gloves and some good weather. And it was greatly appreciated last time, if anyone wants to bring some sandwich lunch stuff I know that would be appreciated again.

Well the numbers are in. I have solicited firm bids from a couple of recommended companies for the following items. These are the same work scope activities that you've seen last year but I have some firm numbers to plan for. All of these are for both the sanctuary as well as the parish hall.

To make needed repairs to all of the fascia wood and replace the parish hall siding will be \$24,975.

To paint the exterior of both buildings after repairs are made will cost \$21,950.

To remove and replace roofs on both buildings will cost \$62,236. However our insurance will pay for the balance of this after we pay a \$10,000 deductible.

The total cost (at this date) of all three of these comes to \$56,925. This is more than what we have in the capital account for these types of things. In this case the vestry will be entertaining some options. We can prioritize and do this work in phases but the total cost will be greater. And the quality of the repairs could be compromised.

An alternative to doing the work in phases and paying as we go we could borrow the money but going into debt for these repairs that don't all need to be done right away is not something the vestry is excited about. Especially since we just last year finished paying off the parking lot loan. A capital campaign to raise the funds is a good and likely alternative. That option is currently being explored. More to come on that.

Know however that none of these repairs items have to be performed right away. There is no great risk requiring immediate attention. These are all normal type activities that property the age of our church would normally be looking at about this same time. Remember too that over the last number of years we weren't entirely confident that we would still be owning this property. Now that we know that repairs will be to our own property it is appropriate that we take care of what we have.

With your help we will continue to remain good stewards of all He has provided us.

In Christ, *John*

## *St Clara's Guild*



The St. Clara's Guild meeting scheduled for April 9 has been cancelled. We will meet again on June 11 at 9:00 in the Parish Hall.

*Barbara Edwards*



## St. Gregory's Genealogy Research Group

As our world begins to return to the old "normal" we will be having our group meetings soon. There has been a suggestion from a member of the group that a topic of discussion be the features of Family Tree Maker since most of us currently use it for our family trees. We



Trice, 1951

all have our regular features that we use but we all probably use different elements of the software. I'm sure that Barbara and I do! The thought is to start at the beginning so anyone that's a beginner can benefit from the review and to discuss the advanced features as well. If anyone is interested in joining the meetings let us know. We'll set a date for the next meeting soon and get the word out to all.

*Trice*



The camera that is built into the modern smartphone has many uses that a genealogist will find both helpful and convenient. You can use it to take digital photographs of original records when visiting a local county courthouse. You can also take pictures of pages in a book while at the library. Even better, you can find several OCR (optical character recognition) apps for iPhone and Android phones that will convert the text in those images into computer-readable text.

The 1950 Census will be released in April, in accordance with the 72 year requirement.

## Order of St. Luke

Sabbath Blessing

Once a man gave me a loaf of bread and told me, "Eat this bread, slice by slice as you need it, and it will fill you up." So I did. And it did! But I wanted to improve it, to have a 'better' experience of eating it. So I spread thick butter all over it. Edge to edge. Crust to crust. Lost sight of the bread altogether. Later I added a layer of strawberry jam. Even later I tried raspberry jam instead and then honey and even lemon curd, perhaps cheese and chutney until I eventually had a huge variety of snacks available to me and I could ring the changes as the mood varied. Horses for courses is how I justified this trend.



In a very short time I found myself making my snack eating decisions entirely on the topping rather than on the original substance, the original loaf of bread.

The day came when, enjoying the latest topping of choice, I realised I wasn't being reliably and consistently filled any more - just enjoying the sweet flavours of the spreading on top. Had need changed to greed? A day came when I remembered that the man had only asked me to eat and to share the untampered-with bread. So I went back to doing just that. Guess what? From that moment on tums were reliably and consistently filled. Oh, what wasted years! I had been defining and enjoying the slices for the taste of the topping, chasing the taste that suited me best. My focus was squarely on the topping, not on the bread anymore! What a complete mess Christianity has made of the examples of Jesus' earthly ministry time! He simply proclaimed the nearness of the kingdom as a piece of good news. He taught his trainees to do the same. That's it! No further training in healing ministry was deemed necessary. Proclaim the kingdom's nearness and see the sick healed. It worked, for them and for God, reliably and consistently. Why were no further training and consequent controls required? Because it just doesn't matter how we go about the detailed practice of the healing ministry, (the selected toppings), as long as this one single rule is stuck to; proclaim the kingdom as a piece of Good News and actively keep our own skills and personalities out of the way. Make straight the way of the Lord and move over! Thus it was that Grace flowed comparatively un-hindered by human cleverness, into the lives and bodies of those whose trust was sufficiently lifted by that proclamation."

A quote from Mike Endicott, Founder of the Order of Jacob's Well. Heinz John 14:12,13

*Heinz Liedke*



## Pro-Life Ministry

Saint Gregory's had a very successful diaper drive. Over 100 packages and boxes were donated, with half going to Metroplex Women's Clinic in Arlington. The remainder went to First Look Waxahachie. Both of these are pro-life clinics we support.

Thanks to everyone for their donations and support.

*Theresa*

Theresa & John Hamaker



## Daughters of the Holy Cross

The Daughter's of the Holy Cross are keeping busy with several projects. In our monthly meeting, Candace Griffin shared her story of Chloe, her great niece. This strong child of God has been through many difficult times but keeps her faith and wants to share God's love. She is the head of Chloe's Foundation, that bring backpacks fill with necessities and God's word to the homeless in the Sour Lake (TX) area. Members decided to give monetary gifts to help her with supplies because storage is in short supply.

Suzanne Daughtery is guiding the study of the book, *His Way To Pray* by W. Phillip Keller. Members are focusing on how we can improve our prayer lives. This week was about taking time to listen to God.

Also the Daughters are training new members Cindy Bloomfield, Susan McDuff, Dee Lemser, and Bonnie Winters on the Order. Installation is planned for July.

Upcoming events for the Daughter's will be the Easter Egg brunch to worship on Holy Saturday at 9:00 and then fill Easter Eggs for the children of the Church. Easter Morning will be helping with the hiding of the eggs and a brunch for the church. During May 20-23, Cheri Davis and Kathy Walker will be attending the Provincial Assembly in Scottsdale, Az. Pray for safe travels and hearing of God's word. June 11, the DHC is hosting an English tea at the home of Barbara Hanson, for all the ladies of the church. The DHC will honor the men in our church on June 19th by hosting a brunch and beverages for Father's Day. January 27 & 28, 2023, the DHC will be at Camp Crusis for a retreat.

Finally, it is with grateful hearts to all parishners that bring the can goods and diapers when asked. Your giving lets our parish bless many others.

Continuing prayers for all those in need, known and unknown to us. Let us know, if you have any special needs that you would like us to pray for, please let us know. Thanks to Rick and Terry Black for sharing with us the cards and other products from their store.

In God's name, *Kathy Walker*

**Sunday Delights** will be in busy mode for the month. Easter is rapidly approaching and there are many ways to get involved at the church. Easter candy will be accepted until April 16th to fill the Easter Eggs for the children. If you like to clean and organize, then you can join us on Tuesday, April 5, and April 12th, from 1:00 - 4:00. It is our goal to clean the inside of the church and the windows and organize and label the drawers in the kitchen. You can come when convenient for you and stay as long as you like. The men of the church will be working on the outside of the church on April 9th and 13th.

Saturday, April 16th the DHC will be celebrating Holy Saturday at 9:00 AM. After the service, then we will be having a pot-lunch brunch. After brunch then we will enjoy filling the eggs for the Easter Egg Hunt after service on Easter morning. Easter morning will be another pot-luck brunch for all to enjoy while the children hunt for eggs. There will be a sign-up sheet for Easter morning if you would like to sign up.

May will be the honor of the men of the church celebrating Mother's Day. They always do such a good job and is very enjoyable.

Thank you to all people that help each Sunday for you giving and serving hearts.

In Christ's love, *Kathy Walker*



## Our Clergy and Staff

“Truly, truly, I say to you, a servant is not greater than his master, nor is a messenger greater than the one who sent him”  
John 13:16

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