



Anglican Church of the Good Shepherd

Reaching Individuals and Families of the Concho Valley with the Transforming Love of Jesus Christ!

AGNUS DEI

February 2016

*"Examine yourselves
to see whether you
are in the faith;
test yourselves.
Do you not realize
that Christ Jesus
is in you – unless
of course you
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2 Corinthians 13.5

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Brothers and Sisters in Jesus,

Our daily routine begins with examining our appearance. Before the mirror as we shave, brush our teeth, or comb our hair. Some of us go to great lengths to be sure that our hair "looks just right" and that our cosmetics are just the right shade and within the bounds we set for them. Periodically, we also visit our doctor for an examination, and at time, they discover something that has escaped our notice. Sometime the finds are minor and easily remedied, at other times serious or life-threatening. At times, self-exams can head off a more serious condition.

Lent begins Ash Wednesday, February 10. It's a period of 40 days (except Sundays) leading to the celebration of our Lord Jesus' passion, death and Resurrection. During Lent we examine our spiritual/soul's life. We ordinarily give so little attention to our interior life that a period of forty days of self-examination can seem overwhelming. Some reasons we avoid Lenten discipline may be: we don't have a spiritual life beyond Sunday worship; or we live distracted and superficial lives; or we make excuses for our laziness and seek to justify our behavior; or we may play the victim, never accepting responsibility for the condition of our soul, or considering how to deepen our relationship with the Lord Jesus and others. At the heart of our souls' health is our moment by moment relationship with Jesus.

This Lenten examination helps reassure us of the Lord's transforming and unconditional love. St Paul in 2 Cor. 13.8 explains the basis for self-examination: *"Do you not realize that Christ Jesus is in you – unless of course you fail the test?"* During Lent we note how He has transformed us up to now. We honestly appraise areas where we are resisting His transforming love in the present. We ascertain what we placed between the Lord and ourselves. We allow Him to direct and guide this process so that we don't engage in guilty 'naval gazing' but intentionally seek the Holy Spirit's power as we surrender more of ourselves to the Lord. Jesus love for us is the basis for spiritual growth. Others need to come to know His love through us. Purchase a notebook. Commit your thoughts and prayers to writing. Fast from food, TV, digital devices and invest that time instead to growing in your knowledge and love of the Lord Jesus. Share what you have with the needy around you as a token of your willingness to spend and be spent in the Lord's service.

There will be 'helps' available in the narthex of the church for daily study, meditation and prayer. I pray each of us will seriously examine our lives to see where they reflect the life and love of Jesus, and where they do not, to repent, ask the Lord's forgiveness and the presence, grace and power of the Holy Spirit as He informs us, transforms us, and conforms us to the image of Jesus.

We are securely Christ's own forever,

Stan Burdick +

Father Stan

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of the
Good Shepherd

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LENT

Lent is Forty Days, excluding Sundays, from Ash Wednesday to Holy Saturday, when Jesus' followers seek to deepen their relationship and commitment to the Lord through practicing the disciplines of serious self-examination, fasting, times of prayer and Bible study, spiritual reading and almsgiving.

FASTING AND ABSTAINING DURING LENT

The Biblical practices of fasting and abstinence are used to make us more aware of the Lord's presence and discipline our fleshly cravings and lusts. Traditionally, we fast as we are able on the week days of Lent. This may be reducing portions or eliminating a meal or two. One common practice is to fast until supper each day. In place of taking meals, we read and study Scripture, pray for ourselves and others. Abstinence is refraining from a particular food or beverage for a period of time. Traditionally, Fridays, commemorating the Lord's death, have been days when we abstain from meat. The price of the meat not eaten would then be donated to the poor. These practices of self-denial can help us realize how dependent and self-absorbed we are. Ask the Holy Spirit what special discipline you should embrace as you participate in this period of self-examination and repentance.

SHROVE TUESDAY

The practice of special observances to mark the day before the Lenten fast begins are numerous through Church history. The Tuesday before Ash Wednesday was the day when all the dietary fats were consumed or removed from homes. Mardi Gras, or Fat Tuesday, derives from this ancient practice. Shrove Tuesday in the English equivalent of Mardi Gras. Traditionally we have a pancake and sausage supper at the parish hall. It is prepared and served by the Vestry, and all are welcome to participate. Shrove is derived from the word shrive, which means to seek forgiveness. Come for supper and bring a friend, February 10 from 6:00-7:00 PM in the Parish Hall.

ASH WEDNESDAY

The Holy Eucharist will be celebrated at 6:30 PM on Ash Wednesday, February 10. Ashes will be imposed on the foreheads of those who desire during the service. The ashes are made from the palms of the previous Palm Sunday celebration which have been dried, burned and pulverized. The Anglican adage applies to the imposition of ashes: All may, none must, some should!

MORNING PRAYER

Monday through Friday during Lent, Morning Prayer will be celebrated in the chapel at 8:00 AM. If you are willing to lead Morning Prayer, please contact Father Stan. The service is about thirty minutes in length. Start your day with us praying Morning Prayer with the Church across the world. We will use the TEXTS FOR COMMON PRAYER.



National Prayer Breakfast San Angelo

Thursday, February 4, 2016

6:00 AM - 7:30 AM

One Nation Under God

Keynote Speaker: Carol Kent ~ Award Winning Author and Speaker

McNease Convention Center, 500 Rio Concho Rd.

For more information or for tickets call 325-653-5487

or stop by the Chamber of Commerce office, 418 W Ave B .

LIVING LETTERS

During the Sunday Lenten services we will hear from members of our parish family as they share what the Lord is doing in their lives. If you sense the Lord tugging at your heart to be a Living Letter, please contact Father Stan at 949-6260 or fatherstanb@hotmail.com.

LENTEN QUIET DAY

Saturday, March 12 we will hold a Quiet Day at the Church from 9:00 AM until 3:00 PM. Mark your calendar now and watch for details in the March Agnus Dei.

EASTER BREAKFAST

Easter Sunday, March 27, we gather for breakfast in the Parish Hall. Please prepare and bring your favorite breakfast foods, beverages will be provided. If you would like to help with the breakfast, contact Katie Harrison at 234-7401 or dearl320@verizon.net.

THE RESURRECTION OF OUR LORD JESUS CHRIST

Sunday, March 27 we will celebrate the Resurrection of our Lord Jesus Christ with The Festival Holy Eucharist beginning at 10:30 AM. There will be no 8:00 AM Service on Easter day.

HOLY WEEK SERVICES

Palm Sunday through Holy Saturday



Evening Prayer will be celebrated each evening of Holy Week beginning Palm Sunday, March 20 through Holy Wednesday, March 23. Maundy Thursday, March 24, we will celebrate the Lord's Supper and the Foot Washing ceremony. Good Friday, March 25 we will celebrate the Passion and Death of our Lord. Holy Saturday, March 26, we celebrate the Great Vigil of Easter. The Great Vigil is the first service of the Resurrection. All services will begin at 7:00 PM.

PRAYING THROUGH THE NAMES OF GOD

One Sunday my friend Anne asked an interesting question. Piqued by the morning's sermon on self sacrifice and service to others, she asked, "What do you think of personal giving, sacrifice, and when does one say yes or no in the spirit of Christ? What are our limits?"

This simple yet broad question with few particulars sparked a variety of responses as Anne posed this question to several gathered for coffee in the Narthex. One thoughtful response was, "You cannot give if the well is dry." Another profound statement was, "Follow the Holy Spirit and He will guide us through the situation." And a third: "What does Scripture say? We should follow Scripture."

Three diverse responses, and all are valid. Then Anne remembered the biblical story of Jesus with Martha and Mary (Luke 10:38-42).

"Are we, as women, to act as Martha or as Mary?" she asked many. Lively discussion followed, with no consensus. Our attentions were drawn away and, as many good discussions go, it ended without conclusion. So now, in retrospect, we reflect: Are we as women to be Martha or Mary?

Martha was the dutiful hostess, bound by her responsibilities to provide hospitality and food for Jesus and his disciples. Feeling the heavy role as provider, Martha expressed righteous indignation at Mary's not helping her. Mary was the curious woman, sitting enraptured at the Lord's feet, entranced by His every word. "Scold her," Martha said. "Mary made the right choice," Jesus replied, "and I cannot take that away from her."

In our generation are we women to be Martha or Mary, servant or student? I wondered this myself the very next day when my husband needed help unpacking from a camping trip but would not ask me for it. I had a free hour, and intended to spend it in devotional study. I still had incomplete homework for our ladies' bible study. I longed to sit down with my bible. But, I know my husband was weary yet determined to finish a tedious, time consuming job. The Holy Spirit led me to leave the house, comfy chair and bible behind, and offer my assistance.

"Thank you," he said, "I appreciated your help and moral support."

Perhaps the discussion of how to serve, when to sacrifice, and what to study will continue next Sunday at church. In the meantime, do we become servant or student, Martha or Mary? The answer is clear to me. We are both Martha and Mary. Here is my prayer:

Lord God, guide me to serve You boldly and study earnestly. Give me discernment to know Your will for me each moment. Open my eyes to see and understand Your plan for my life, how I might glorify You in both service and study with a loving heart. Give me a hunger for Your Word and a desire to put others before myself. Father, I thank You for loving me first. Jesus, thank You for every opportunity You give me to express Your love to others. Holy Spirit, inspire me with hope and courage. In Christ alone, amen.

Jean Stinnett



Meet Monday,
February 1,
at 6:00 pm in the Library.

Concert for Life

Thanks to our Brothers and Sisters in Christ @
Good Shepherd for providing the
wonderful facility and volunteers
for the Concert for Life!

With your help and support over \$8,000
was raised for the Pregnancy Help Center!!!

Sincerely, Friends of the PHC



Received Holy Baptism

Anne Michelle Miletic

Anne Miletic, daughter of Joy and Z Miletic
received the Sacrament of Holy
Baptism on Sunday, December 29, 2015.
Remember her in your prayers.




A CHURCH WORKDAY

is scheduled for Saturday,
March 12th at 9am. If you
are interested in helping
with general clean up and
fix up projects around the
church, inside and out.
Lunch will be provided.
Look for a list of work
items in the Narthex.

All Parish Retreat Scheduled

The Great House Retreat Center has been reserved as
the location of our ALL PARISH RETREAT. The dates are
April 8-10, 2016. Mark your calendars now so you
won't miss this special time together growing in our
knowledge and love of the Father through His Son
Jesus Christ in the power of the Holy Spirit.



A.C.G.S.
Rod & Gun
Social Club

The next meeting of the New Rod and Gun Social Club
will be on February 25 @ 6:30 at the church.



CHOIR REHEARSAL DAY

The musicians will meet at the Holik Farm in Wall for extended rehearsal of Lenten and Easter music on Saturday, February 6 from 1-7 pm.

THE VESTRY MEETING

The Vestry will hold its regular monthly meeting on Monday, February 22, beginning at 6:00 PM in the church library. This meeting is open to all members of the congregation, where you have “voice but not vote.”

DISCRETIONARY OFFERINGS

On the 1st and 3rd Sundays of each month, cash placed in the offering plates is designated for the Pastor's and Deacon's Discretionary accounts respectively. Checks may also be written payable to the church, with discretionary fund in the memo. Thank you for your generosity.

ACGS Annual Meeting

Sunday, January 31 we will hold our Annual Dinner and Congregational Meeting at Noon in the Parish Hall. Three new members of the Vestry will be elected, and the class of 2015 will be recognized for their service. We also hope to hear from each of our members what their hopes and dreams for ministry are for the next year, and where they see the congregation in five years.

ACGS Women's Monthly Luncheon

ACGS women now meet once a month for lunch and fellowship. Please join us the second Thursday of the month at the *RiverView Restaurant at River Terrace*, 800 W Ave D at noon to accommodate those who work. There is a buffet served or you may order from the menu. The buffet is \$12.00.

ACGS Men's Monthly Breakfast

The Peppercorn Restaurant will be the venue for the Monthly Men's Fellowship Breakfast on Saturday, February 20 from 8-9:00 AM. Please reserve your place by calling Jenny at the church office no later than Thursday, February 18.



ANNOUNCEMENT & ARTICLE DEADLINES

The deadline to place an announcement in the weekly bulletin is Wednesdays at Noon and the deadline for the Parish Newsletter is the third Friday of the month. Submissions should be sent to Jenny at the church office, secretary.acgs@suddenlinkmail.com or drop it off at the church office Monday-Friday, 9-11:30AM or Noon-2:00PM. Thank you.



DON'T FORGET...

PROJECT DIGNIDAD NEEDS

DONATIONS OF NONPERISHABLE

BREAKFAST AND LUNCH STAPLES :)

TO BE A CHRISTIAN, *An Anglican Catechism*

Deacon June Smith in the Library. This is essential and systematic study of the Biblical Foundation of the Christian Faith. Those who wish to become confirmed members of the Church are encouraged to participate, and all are welcome. For more information, contact June at 234-5014 or june.smith@angelo.edu.

Wednesday Night Study - IMMERSED IN THE BOOK OF REVELATION

This study is the classical understanding the Church has had since the time of the Apostles. It is a different take on The Revelation by the Rev. Dr. John Stott. This study highlights the Revelation of the Person of Jesus in the Book. All participants will use their own Bible and outlines or study guides for each person will be provided. This promises to be tremendously encouraging for all and it is strongly suggested that each person commit to participating in the entire series.

GENESIS, Continued...

This class is led by Tony Bartl in Classroom 1, which is near the Parish Hall.

For more info, contact Tony at 254-756-0576 or tonybartl@gmail.com.

Intercessory Prayer

Do you believe in the power of prayer? Does prayer really change things? Does God intervene in our lives today?

Every Thursday morning at 10:00 AM we meet in the chapel of Good Shepherd to bow before the LORD in adoration, thanksgiving and intercession. We come together and lift our concerns and petitions to the King of kings, and LORD of lords. We know that God is always with us, but when we do what He says, and gather in His Name, we are keenly aware that He truly is in midst of us and we are overwhelmed by His Holy Presence.

Sometimes we come in need of prayer ourselves, sometimes we come with heavy hearts and long lists of petitions, sometimes we pray out loud, and sometimes we are silent and open our hearts to receive. ALL THE TIME, God hears and answers.

We would love to have you join us on a regular basis, or just stop in when you are able. We will pray for you and your needs, and you can pray for us.

The answer to above questions is yes, yes, and yes!

Thanks be to God, Who gives us the victory through our LORD Jesus Christ, Alleluia, Alleluia!!!

Come and see!



February Bible Readings

	New Testament		Old Testament	
	► MATTHEW	► ACTS	► PSALMS	► EXODUS
1.	<input type="checkbox"/> 10:21-42	<input type="checkbox"/> 15:22-41	<input type="checkbox"/> 24	<input type="checkbox"/> 1-3
2.	<input type="checkbox"/> 11:1-19	<input type="checkbox"/> 16:1-15	<input type="checkbox"/> 25	<input type="checkbox"/> 4-6
3.	<input type="checkbox"/> 11:20-30	<input type="checkbox"/> 16:16-40	<input type="checkbox"/> 26	<input type="checkbox"/> 7-9
4.	<input type="checkbox"/> 12:1-21	<input type="checkbox"/> 17:1-15	<input type="checkbox"/> 27	<input type="checkbox"/> 10-12
5.	<input type="checkbox"/> 12:22-37	<input type="checkbox"/> 17:16-34	<input type="checkbox"/> 28	<input type="checkbox"/> 13-15
6.	<input type="checkbox"/> 12:38-50	<input type="checkbox"/> 18:1-17	<input type="checkbox"/> 29	<input type="checkbox"/> 16-18
7.	<input type="checkbox"/> 13:1-23	<input type="checkbox"/> 18:18-28	<input type="checkbox"/> 30	<input type="checkbox"/> 19-20
8.	<input type="checkbox"/> 13:24-43	<input type="checkbox"/> 19:1-22	<input type="checkbox"/> 31	<input type="checkbox"/> 21-23
9.	<input type="checkbox"/> 13:44-58	<input type="checkbox"/> 19:23-41	<input type="checkbox"/> 32	<input type="checkbox"/> 24-26
10.	<input type="checkbox"/> 14:1-21	<input type="checkbox"/> 20:1-12	<input type="checkbox"/> 33	<input type="checkbox"/> 27-29
11.	<input type="checkbox"/> 14:22-36	<input type="checkbox"/> 20:13-38	<input type="checkbox"/> 34	<input type="checkbox"/> 30-31
12.	<input type="checkbox"/> 15:1-20	<input type="checkbox"/> 21:1-26	<input type="checkbox"/> 35	<input type="checkbox"/> 32-33
13.	<input type="checkbox"/> 15:21-39	<input type="checkbox"/> 21:27-40	<input type="checkbox"/> 36	<input type="checkbox"/> 34
14.	<input type="checkbox"/> 16:1-12	<input type="checkbox"/> 22	<input type="checkbox"/> 37:1-22	<input type="checkbox"/> 35-37
15.	<input type="checkbox"/> 16:13-28	<input type="checkbox"/> 23:1-11	<input type="checkbox"/> 37:23-40	<input type="checkbox"/> 38-40
				► LEVITICUS
16.	<input type="checkbox"/> 17:1-13	<input type="checkbox"/> 23:12-35	<input type="checkbox"/> 38	<input type="checkbox"/> 1-4
17.	<input type="checkbox"/> 17:14-27	<input type="checkbox"/> 24	<input type="checkbox"/> 39	<input type="checkbox"/> 5-7
18.	<input type="checkbox"/> 18:1-14	<input type="checkbox"/> 25:1-12	<input type="checkbox"/> 40	<input type="checkbox"/> 8-10
19.	<input type="checkbox"/> 18:15-35	<input type="checkbox"/> 25:13-27	<input type="checkbox"/> 41	<input type="checkbox"/> 11-13
20.	<input type="checkbox"/> 19:1-15	<input type="checkbox"/> 26:1-18	<input type="checkbox"/> 42	<input type="checkbox"/> 14-15
21.	<input type="checkbox"/> 19:16-30	<input type="checkbox"/> 26:19-32	<input type="checkbox"/> 43	<input type="checkbox"/> 16-17
22.	<input type="checkbox"/> 20:1-16	<input type="checkbox"/> 27:1-26	<input type="checkbox"/> 44	<input type="checkbox"/> 18-20
23.	<input type="checkbox"/> 20:17-34	<input type="checkbox"/> 27:27-44	<input type="checkbox"/> 45	<input type="checkbox"/> 21-23
24.	<input type="checkbox"/> 21:1-11	<input type="checkbox"/> 28:1-16	<input type="checkbox"/> 46	<input type="checkbox"/> 24-25
25.	<input type="checkbox"/> 21:12-22	<input type="checkbox"/> 28:17-31	<input type="checkbox"/> 47	<input type="checkbox"/> 26-27

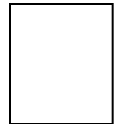


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March Agnus Dei
Deadline is February 13



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