

Anglican Church Good Shepherd

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

AGNUS DEI

May 2016

"...the promise of my Father..." Acts 1:4

"…the

promise of my Father..."

Acts 1:4

"...you will receive the gift of the Holy Spirit..."

Acts 2:38



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Send articles, announcements and feedback to secretary.acgs@suddenlinkmail.com "...you will receive the gift of the Holy Spirit..." Acts 2:38

Brothers and sisters,

Rudi recently had cataracts removed from both eyes. After the second surgery he came by to share his joy at the outcome of the surgeries. He said: "I expected improvement. The outcome exceeded my expectations!" He shared that he could see brilliant colors and facial expressions clearly. Previously he was unable to do that. He can do his professional work with ease since his vision is so remarkably improved. "Everything looks different. Everything changed!" Halleluiah!

In the Book of Acts three verses describe the Holy Spirit. The first description is "the Promise." The other two are "the Gift." The Greek word for gift means gratuity. A gratuity is something given over and above the price paid for a service or meal. Apostle Peter tells us: "... you know that it was not with perishable things ... that you were <u>redeemed</u> ... but with the precious blood of Christ..." (1 Pt. 1.18-19). Apostle Paul tells us: "Do you not know that your body is a temple of the Holy Spirit, who is in you, whom you have received from God? You are not your own; you were bought at a price" (1 Cor. 6.19-20). Jesus redeemed and purchased us through His death on the cross. Jesus gives us the *gratuity* for His rendered service. That would be like the doctor giving us a gratuity after she performs our surgery, or a server giving us a gratuity after he marvelously cared for our needs while dining in his restaurant. Jesus pays the price, and then gives the *gratuity*, the Holy Spirit, to us who receive the benefits of Jesus' sacrificial service. And the Holy Spirit changes everything. Not only are our sins forgiven; now we are filled with the Holy Spirit who informs, transforms and conforms us to be like Jesus! The Holy Spirit opens our hearts and eyes to see more clearly the plan and purpose for which Jesus purchased us.

On Pentecost Sunday, May 15, the Church celebrates our Baptism with the Holy Spirit. (Acts 1.5) Jesus makes it clear to the disciples and to us that without the indwelling presence and work of the Holy Spirit we are powerless to live for Jesus. Beginning on Ascension Day, May 5, we will begin a ten day prayer vigil asking the Lord Jesus to revive each and all of us, and the world-wide Church, through the Presence and Power of the Holy Spirit. Prayer guides will be available in the Narthex. Pray alone. Pray at home. Pray in groups. Pray for the Holy Spirit to revive us and His Church. Apostle Peter says: "*Repent and be baptized, everyone of you, in the Name of Jesus Christ so that your sins may be forgiven. And you will receive the <u>Gift of the Holy Spirit. The Promise</u> is for you and your children and for all who are far off -- for all whom the Lord our God will call." (Acts 2.39)*

Come Holy Spirit, fill the hearts of your faithful, and kindle in us the fire of your love.

Praying with you and for you,

Stan Burdoch +

Father Stan

NEWLY BAPTIZED AND COMFIRMED MEMBERS OF THE CHURCH

On Sunday, April 24, Erica Flores received the Sacrament of Holy Baptism and was admitted to the Holy Eucharist, and Paul and Denise Hatcher, and Jaron and Meagan Yarbrough were confirmed in the faith once delivered to the saints. Bishop Mark presided at the service.



COLLECT FOR COURAGE IN DISCIPLESHIP

O Jesus Christ, the Lord of all good life, who calls us to help build the city of God; enrich and purify our lives and deepen our discipleship. Help us daily to know more of You, and through us by the power of the Holy Spirit, show Yourself to others through us. Make us humble, brave and loving; make us ready for adventure. We do not ask that You keep us safe, but that You keep us loyal; who for us faced death unafraid, and lives and reigns with the Father and the Holy Spirit, God for ever and ever. Amen.



BANNS OF MARRIAGE

Joshua Stephen Weber and *Erica Marina Flores* will be united in Holy Matrimony according to God's Holy Word and the Texts for Common Prayer of the Anglican Church in North America on Friday, June 10, 2016.





PASTOR'S HOLIDAY

Fr. Stan and Eileen will be on holiday at the end of May and first week of June participating in the Wedding of our great niece.

ROC MEETING

Fr. Stan serves as the chair of the Reception and Ordination Committee (ROC) of the Anglican Diocese of the Southwest. The ROC conducts twice annual meetings and interviews aspirants for Holy Orders. Fr. Stan will be participating in the ROC meeting May 15-18 in Cloudcroft, NM. Please remember in your prayers Committee members and those who are being interviewed.

ASCENSION DAY

Forty days after His resurrection, our Lord Jesus ascended to His Father and ours in the sight of His disciples. We celebrate His Ascension to Heaven on Thursday, May 5, with <u>Morning Prayer</u> at 8:00 AM and <u>Holy Eucharist</u> at Noon. The Lections for Ascension Day: <u>Morning Prayer</u> - Psalms 24, 25, 26, 2 Kings 2.1-15 and John 17; <u>Evening Prayer</u> - Psalms 17, 28, 19, Daniel 7.9-10, 13-14. <u>The Holy Eucharist</u> - Acts 1.1-11, Psalm 47, Ephesians 1.15-23, and Luke 24.44-53.

NEW LECTIONARY FOR THE ANGLICAN CHURCH IN NORTH AMERICA

The Lectionary is an ordered pattern for Bible Reading throughout the year used by the Church for millennia. Beginning on May 1, 2016, we will begin using this Lectionary for all services. There are two Lectionaries: one for Sunday, and Red Letter Days (Christmas, Epiphany, Ascension etc.). The Sunday Lectionary is arranged in a three year cycle, A, B and C. The Daily Lectionary lists readings for ordinary days. Each Lectionary also contains the history of the Lectionary, and it's intended purpose, and it's adaptation and use in the Anglican tradition. There are copies of the Daily Office Lectionary available on the Bible helps shelf in the Narthex. The Lectionaries are also available for downloading at the Anglican Church in North America Provincial website, the link is below; http://www.anglicanchurch.net/?/main/texts_for_common_prayer

ALL EUCHARISTIC MINISTERS AND LAY READERS

Beginning Sunday, May 1, 2016, we will be using the new ACNA Lectionary for all Scripture readings for worship services in the parish. The May ministry schedule will reflect this change. LEMs and **LRs** will meet for an Orientation on the new Provincial Lectionary during the Christian Formation Hour on Sunday, May 15 at 9:15 AM. We will meet in the Library. Each minister will receive a copy of the Sunday Lectionary for home use and reference, be oriented on how to determine the proper Sunday lections, as well as go over the protocol for ministering the Word of God at the corporate worship of the Church. There will also be a copy of the Sunday Lectionary posted in the Vesting Room. Please do not remove that copy from the room. If you are unable to participate, please contact the pastor.



CHURCH WORK DAY SATURDAY, JUNE 4! 9AM—2PM. LUNCH WILL BE PROVIDED.



BABY CLOTHES - BLANKETS - TOWELS

We are currently receiving donations of baby clothes for the Emmanuel Development Center in Costa Rica which serves the Cabecar people through our mission partners Drs. Alekcey and Judith Murillo, and blankets and towels for the Navajo people in NE Arizona served by a mission team from San Angelo area churches. Large boxes are marked for those purposes in the hall outside the church office. Please drop the items off no later than Memorial Day weekend.





FALL WEDNESDAY EVENING STUDY - WHEN GOD WEEPS

If God is loving, why is there suffering? What's the difference between permitting something and ordaining it? When bad things happen, who's behind them--God or the devil? When suffering touches our lives, questions like these suddenly demand an answer. From our perspective, suffering doesn't make sense, especially when we believe in a loving and just God. After more than thirty years in a wheelchair, Joni Eareckson Tada's intimate experience with suffering gives her a special understanding of God's intentions for us in our pain. In When God Weeps, she and lifelong friend Steven Estes probe beyond glib answers that fail us in our time of deepest need. Instead, with firmness and compassion, they reveal a God big enough to understand our suffering, wise enough to allow it—and powerful enough to use it for a greater good than we can ever imagine. The study is thoroughly Biblical and painfully transparent. Prayerfully consider participating in the study. Some comments on the book:

'...a remarkable book for a world that rarely deals with the whys and wherefores of suffering....This is practical theology at its best.' -- George Grant

'The Tada-Estes team gives us a God-centered analysis of God's purposes in the pains and grief's of his human creatures. This book packs a tremendous punch, and you do not have to be in distress when you read it to be mightily enriched and encouraged.'-- J.I. Packer

'Trouble has a way of damaging our perception of and appreciation of God. But never again - not after reading this book. By two who have cut through the fog to see God clearly even when it hurts, we are led to know his love, tears, and ultimately, his joy.' -- Dr. Joseph Stowell

We will register folks for this study in late August, and there will be an opportunity to order the book through the church. If you wish to order the book before hand, the information on the book is below. When God Weeps - ISBN-13: 9780310238355; Publisher: Zondervan; Publication date: 10/01/2000

ROGATION DAYS OF PRAYER FOR THE HARVEST, APRIL 23-25

The beauty of God's creation explodes in the spring with new growth, new birth, and the return of migratory birds with warmer weather. In His goodness, we are privy to bluebonnets, cardinals, tanagers, purple martins, vermillion flycatchers, mourning dove and more. We are blessed to hear Bobwhite quail and an ordinary house wren stake claim to nesting territory. Fiery sunset orange cactus flowers dot the pasture, now green after recent rains. Once again we renew our duties and obligations with respect to raising cattle and goats.

The January nightmare haunts me: 3 heifers dying in childbirth with too-huge calves. Despite our best efforts, we lost too many. One is too many. We cried and mourned the life that might have been and thanked God for those who made it. The Lord giveth and the Lord taketh away; blessed is the name of the Lord.

"What's this mess in the hay shed," my husband asked, referring to the bales laying akimbo, thrown to the ground from his neatly stacked arrangement. I had climbed over a 5' high pole fence from one pen to toss bales into my work area. There I had 2 carts and wire clippers to break up hay squares for the penned goats. My methods are crude and sometimes risky, but when working alone, they are necessary. "Well," I said slowly, "I was waiting for Prince Charming to come along and help me move bales, but he hasn't shown up yet." He didn't get the hint, nor appreciate my sense of humor. He said something like, "Humph," and went on his way. Three weeks ago I slipped through the bales and wedged one leg up to my hip. It took 5 minutes of wiggling, squirming and praying to free myself. That is a hazard of hay stack climbing.

Newborn goats arrived in February and April, a total of 17 kids who are curious, frisky and full of life. They hop sideways from a stand-still position. They play follow-the-leader and forget who's leading. They butt heads and vie for dominance at an early age. New mothers have committed to feed offspring, all but Dorothy. She decided not to feed the runt of her litter, a little doe with green ear tag #6. I penned Dorothy alone with her 3 kids to help them bond and assure that she can't get away from #6. I milked her colostrum and fed all 3 newborns with a syringe. I collared Dorothy and chain her to a fence so that all 3 of her kids can nurse, but she kicks #6 away.

My constant companion is a Himalayan cat named Earl, aka The Big Fuzzy One. He, the alpha male, and his sister Bonnie the alpha female, fight over sleeping rights in the hay stack. By the tufts of his fur laying around each morning, I'd say she's winning. When I'm there, night or day, he's by my side. He sat with me while I worked to get #6 to nurse. Bent over while pressing Dorothy's body against the fence for control, I struggled three times a day so #6 can nurse swallows of life giving milk. How can a mother reject her newborn, I asked myself. Is something wrong with it, or is it her? Earl couldn't tell me. He met #6 nose to nose, steadily purring as they discovered each other. "Dear Lord, please don't let us lose another baby. Please."

God is good, all the time. Dorothy's triplets are alive, although #6 is the tiniest of all 17. She runs and jumps sideways, oblivious to the struggle keeping her alive. She teaches me, again, that this is God's world, His creation, and His domain. This is my prayer:

Holy Elohim, strong Creator God, we rejoice in the newness created each spring. Thank You, Lord God, for appointing us Your stewards of the earth, and for the joy renewed each morning in Your wonder. Forgive us, Abba Father, when we forget this is Your world, Your creation, and we but Your humble servants. Come, Holy Spirit, equip us with patience and acceptance to receive the blessings You have for us. Precious Jesus, You hold life and death in Your hand; Thy will be done. In Your mighty name we pray. Amen Jean Stinnett

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 Women's Monthly Luncheon

ACGS women now meet once a month for lunch and fellowship. Please join us on Thursday **May 12th**, 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.

THE VESTRY MEETING

The Vestry will hold its regular monthly meeting on Monday, **May 23**, 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."



The next meeting of the Rod and Gun Social Club will be Thursday, May 26th @ 6:30 at the church.

NOTE FROM THE JR. WARDEN

The Vestry voted to replace the carpet in the Library. We will be doing this soon. To go along with this, the Vestry would also like to replace the chairs in the Library. A fund has been set up to offset the cost of the chairs. If you would like to help with this project please donate to the "Chair Fund". Make sure your donation is marked for this fund. Thank You.



ACGS Men's Monthly Breakfast

The Peppercorn Restaurant will be the venue for the Monthly Men's Fellowship Breakfast on Saturday, **May 21** from 8-9:00 AM. Please reserve your place by calling or emailing Jenny at the church office no later than noon, Thursday, April 14th.



<u>ANNOUNCEMENT &</u> <u>ARTICLE DEADLINES</u>

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, secrtary.acgs@suddenlinkmail.com or drop it off at the church office Monday-Friday, 9-11:30AM or Noon-2:00PM. Thank you.

Monday, May 25th is the Federal Holiday which commemorates all those who have fallen in the armed services of our nation. While all of our service men give some, some give all. All are encouraged to remember the sacrifices men and women make for our freedom. There are services at Fairmount Cemetery and the Vietnam Veterans' Memorial near the airport. The church office will be closed in observance of Memorial Day.



WOMEN'S KOINONIA BIBLES STUDY DISCERNING THE VOICE OF GOD

Wednesday June 8th at 10:00 AM - Mark the Date - for this exciting new Bible Study by Priscilla Shirer. We have learned and applied so much from our last study, The Amor of God, that we have decided not to break for the summer, but to continue on the path God has placed before us in the wonderful study of His Word. Please join us if you are able. Contact Eileen at 325-944-9831 or Nan Barber at 325-374-4598 if you interested. Child care will be provided, just let Nan Barber know so arrangement can be made.

Details on study books and other information will be provided in the next newsletter and soon in the weekly bulletin.

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 <u>june.smith@angelo.edu</u>.

Wednesday Night Study - Immersed in the Book of Revelation REVELATION - THE TRIUMPH OF CHRIST

Wednesday, April 3 we began the concluding third of our yearlong study in the Book of Revelation with Revelation, The Triumph of Christ by Dr. John R. W. Stott. A few Bible Study books are available on a first come, first served basis. Suggested donation for the books is \$10.00. Please make checks out to the ACGS, and put Revelation Study in the memo.

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 <u>tonybartl@gmail.com</u>.

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 your 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!

May Bible Readings

	New Testament		Old Teslament	
	► MARK	►2 COR.	► PSALMS	► 1 SAMUEL
].	9:33-50	0 1:1-11	D 95	□ 1-2
2,	10:1-16	1:12-24	D 96	🖸 3-5
3.	□ 10:17-34	2	CI 97	6-8
4.	10:35-52	03	C) 98	D 9-10
5.	□ 11:1-11	04	CJ 99	🖸 11-13
6.	11:12-26	D 5	D 100	CI 14
7.	□ 11:27-33	06	🗆 101	🖸 15-16
8.	12:1-12	07	□ 102	□ 17-18
9.	12:13-27	08	CI 103	□ 19-20
10,	12:28-34	09	□ 104	□ 21-23
11.	12:35-44	CI 10	□ 105	24-25
12.	🗋 13:1-13	□ 11:1-15	□ 106:1-23	□ 26-28
13.	🗆 13:14-31	11:16-33	🗋 106:24-48	🗆 29-31
				►2 SAMUEL
14.	□ 13:32-37	I] 12:1-10	□ 107	□ 1-2
15.	□ 14:1-11	12:11-21	□ 108	🖸 3-4
16.	🗋 14:12-31	C 13	□ 109	🖸 5-7
		► GALATIANS		
17.	14:32-42	\square 1	🖸 110	0 8-10
18.	□ 14:43-52		🖸 111	🔲 11-12
19.	14:53-65	D 3:1-14	D 112	C 13
20,	14:66-72	□ 3:15-29	CI 113	🖸 14-15
21.	□ 15:1-15	C) 4:1-20	🗆 114	16-17
22.	[] 15:16-32	□ 4:21-31	C) 115	🗀 18-19
23.	🗍 15:33-41	C) 5:1-12	□ 116	□ 20-21
24.	() 15:42-47	5:13-26	□ 117	□ 22
25.	🗆 16	06	🗆 118	□ 23-24



June Agnus Dei Deadline is May 20



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