

THE BELL TOWER

March- 2010

Yet even now, says the Lord, return to me with all your heart, with fasting, with weeping, and with mourning; rend your hearts and not your clothing. (Joel 2.12)

The above passage was read on Ash Wednesday as we began the season of Lent. It reminds us that this season of preparation is not so much about our acts of discipline and sacrifice as it is about opening our hearts to God. We take on a discipline or give something up in order to be better reminded that all that we have comes from God, and to hopefully be more intentional about our relationship with our Lord and Savior.

At the start of each Lent, I update my list of things that I want to try to remove from my life – my fasting list. And I also think about its counterpart – the good habits that I hope will replace them. The following list comes from my sermon of February 21. I hope that you will be inspired to come up with your list during your Lenten meditations.

Fast and Feast

Fast from trying so hard to be in control . . . *Feast* on the efforts of others.

Fast from being too busy to be bothered . . . *Feast* on the blessing of interruption.

Fast from feeling self pity . . . *Feast* on the blessings of my life.

Fast from anger . . . *Feast* on patience.

Fast from feeling resentful of others . . . *Feast* on grace and forgiveness.

Fast from being discouraged about life . . . *Feast* on the promise of
life everlasting.

Fast from greed and self-indulgence . . . *Feast* on the smiles of gratitude from
those I help.

And finally,

Fast from being smug about being right . . . *Feast* on encouraging others

Blessings,
Fr. Paul+





Friday, March 5– Graceful Gatherers at Don and Nancy Mafrige’s home.

Sunday, March 28– Palm Sunday; Holy Week begins.

Thursday, April 1 @ 6:00 PM– Maundy Thursday service, followed by all-night prayer vigil in the Chapel.

Friday, April 2 @ noon– Good Friday service at 12:00 noon with Stations of the Cross

Sunday, April 4– Easter Sunday! Services at 8:00 AM and 10:00 AM. Rite I with music and incense at 8:00; Rite II Festival Eucharist at 10:00.

Friday and Saturday, April 23-24 —7th Annual Discovery Weekend at Grace.

Lenten Prayers at St. Vincent’s House

Please join us for Morning Prayer in the Chapel at St. Vincent’s House, 2817 Alfreda Houston Pl (Postoffice St.), every Monday - Friday beginning at 8 AM, February 22nd. Prayer leaders will be:

Monday The Rev. Paul Wehner, Grace Episcopal Church

Tuesday - The Rev. John Riley UTMB Chaplain

Wednesday - Pastor Derrell Dwayne, Galilee UMC

Thursday - Guest Speaker

Friday - Michael Jackson, St. Vincent’s

There will also be a Quiet Time Out (QTO) on Saturday’s from 3:00 PM - 4:00 PM.

QTO is a time of silent meditation and prayer. The Rite of Reconciliation will be offered as well.

For more details or to volunteer to lead Morning Prayer please contact Michael Jackson at 409 763-8521. Wishing you a blessed Lent.



Move your clocks forward 1 hour!
Saturday night, March 13th



PEALINGS

FRIDAY, March 5
Graceful Gatherers
 at Don & Nancy Mafrige's
 home from **7:00 PM—9:00**
PM

Come see all of the work that Don and Nancy have done to rebuild from Ike—it is beautiful!

Scout Sunday, Feb. 21 was our opportunity to recognize youth who participate in scouting activities. Grace Church is proud to sponsor Troop #177 and we are grateful to Scoutmaster Pete Rhymes and assistant scoutmasters John McCulley, Kirk Leissner, Beau Bossert and Steve Feldman for their efforts to bring scouting opportunities to young men who would not otherwise have that chance.

Lenten Series of worship began on Wednesday, Feb. 24 at 6:00. Fellowship and teaching every Wednesday through March 24. Service in the church is followed by a light supper and teaching in the Parish Hall.

Easter Sunday is coming!
 Remember to order your flowers to decorate our church and celebrate a person or event of importance in your life.



Daughters of the King:

Priest *Will you try to live as a Daughter of the King during preparation for membership by obeying a rule of daily prayer and seeking to do the will of God wherever you are?*

DOK Candidate *I will, with God's help.*

Three new candidates took the above vow with Fr. Paul at a recent Sunday service; Doris Nicolai, Judy Ricketts, and Nancy Wilkes have

begun their study toward being received as Daughters in a few months.

Cathy Smith.

Discovery Weekend

If you've wondered why we do things the way we do, what is the history of our beautiful church building, the history of the Anglican communion, what is contemplative prayer and how do we "do" it, then Discovery Weekend is for you. Whether you are a long time member or a newcomer, your questions will be answered at Discovery Weekend - a Friday night and Saturday full of great information, great food, and great fun with your friends!

Discovery Weekend is facilitated by a team of laity and clergy, each with a genuine interest to share of some aspect of being an Episcopalian. Wherever you are in your journey, you are sure learn something new. See Fr. Paul for more info. Dates are April 23 & 24, 2010.

Discovery Weekend also serves as preparation for being confirmed into the Episcopal Church.

2010 LENT PROGRAM

Please join us on Wednesday nights at Grace Church, beginning on Feb. 24, 2010. The evenings begin with the Stations of the Cross and Holy Communion at 6:00 PM in the church, followed by a meal in the Parish Hall at 6:45 and a teaching and discussion from 7:30 to 8:30 PM. The teachings will follow our Lenten devotional *Listening to Lent*, by Robert C. Hereth.

Feb 24, 2010	<i>Facing Our Sin</i>
March 3, 2010	<i>New Life in Christ</i>
March 10, 2010	<i>The Miracle of Forgiveness</i>
March 17, 2010	<i>Walking in the Light</i>
March 24, 2010	<i>Life After Death</i>

Presenters are Rev. Paul Wehner, Rev. Chester Makowski, and Fr. Peter Funk and Br. Michael Gallagher (of Holy Cross Monastery.)

**MEMORIAL SERVICE IN CELEBRATION
OF THE LIFE AND MINISTRY OF FR. BILL RUSSELL**
(December 16, 1931 – February 15, 2010)
(Ordained to the priesthood: December 17, 1955)

Light and airy – the way I felt following this service. I have never attended a memorial service that left me feeling so good, so positive, so right with the world, All of this because Fr. Bill was so positive; a man who took good fortune and bad in stride. –And was right with himself. He had lived many places and seemed to have enjoyed them all. He had preached, he had taught, he had led, he had followed. He knew who he was; he had been God's child from the beginning and he had grown into God's man.

*You who dwell in the shelter of the Lord
Who abide in this shadow for life,
Say to the Lord: My refuge,
My rock in whom I trust!
(from: On Eagle's Wings)*

The service reflected the words from this lovely hymn. From the amusing memories shared by family members, to the fond memories of shared ministry by a former priest colleague, to the more recent shared joy of Fr. Paul, it was all so complete, so natural. It was as though Fr. Bill had decided on one more journey, one more complete adventure, with choir and bishop and people and colleagues waving him along.

Sacred Places Tour a Big Success!

Grace Church was one of the historical churches selected by the Galveston Historical Foundation to be on their annual Tour of Sacred Places in Galveston on Saturday, February 27. The tour was not held last year, because so many buildings were still damaged from Hurricane Ike. We had more than 200 visitors, all of whom were in awe of the surprising beauty of our church. Even long-time area residents remarked that they had never before been inside our church and were amazed at what they saw and experienced. Our informal survey of our guests confirmed that Grace had the best cookies and the warmest hospitality on the tour! So thanks to all of you that provided cookies (we far exceeded our goal of 50 dozen.) A special thanks to Leslie Watts, our chairperson for the event and to all of the following who were hosts and tour guides on Saturday:

Pat Bevil, Margaret Cutrer, Barbara Falkenhagen, Anne Lett-Brown, Nancy Mafrige, Harriet Mitchell, Doris Niccolai, Dolores Paget-Clarke, Scott Pearse, Carol Ramirez, Gerald Richard, Vickie Robertson, Cindy Roberts-Gray, Bob Scott, Bill Watson Leslie Watts, Judy Webb, Kenny Wegner, David Wilkes. (our apologies to any who were omitted.)

We also want to thank Bert Hervey (organist Aaron Hervey's father) for playing the piano and providing wonderful background music for our guests.

Time to order flowers for the altar on Easter Sunday, April 4

We will be doing the flowers as we did last year...Along with the lilies there will be a variety of other plants (azaleas and caladiums). The cost will be the same \$15 per plant, but we will only have the exact number ordered and no extras will be ordered as we have in the past. You may take your plant home the week after Easter. The variety will be chosen based on the number of plants ordered. You will only be able to order a plant and not designate the variety, so that we can have an even distribution for the altar. **The deadline to order is Sunday, March 28**. It is important that you get your order in by this date so we can get the count to Galveston Wreath. Thank you. Below is the order form. You may drop this form with payment in the alms basin on Sundays or mail/deliver to the church office.

I would like to order _____ plants to the Glory of God and in

Thanksgiving _____

Memory of _____

Celebration of _____

Given by _____

2010 FOUNDATION BOARD

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Happy Anniversary!

3/17 Pat & T. W. Bevil

3/18 Denise & Jeff Graham

2010 VESTRY

SR. WARDEN: Ella Anderson

JR. WARDEN: David Wilkes

SECRETARY: Vickie Robertson

John McCulley

Dan Ricketts

Carol Ramirez

Derek Paget-Clarke

TREASURER- Marilyn Cooper

CHANCELLOR- Jeff Kilgore

RECTOR- Fr. Paul Wehner

Happy Birthday!

3/2 Martie Barillas

Juliet Russell

Ed Russell

3/3 Betty Bridges

3/4 Mildred Cain

3/5 Beth Anderson

Allison Bridges

3/8 Gary Auzston

3/11 Jim Havens

3/12 Nancy Provenzano

3/13 Richard Betts

3/15 Kyle Carranza

3/17 Jon Carman

Thea Everett

Holden Rhymes

3/20 Hannah Willey

3/27 Mary Jones

THE BELL TOWER

GRACE EPISCOPAL CHURCH
1115 36TH STREET
GALVESTON, TEXAS 77550
409 762-9676



DIOCESAN AND GRACE CHURCH MINISTERS

THE RIGHT REVEREND ANDY DOYLE - BISHOP OF THE DIOCESE OF TEXAS

THE REVEREND PAUL B. WEHNER - RECTOR

AARON HERVEY - ORGANIST

LAURA HYATT - CHOIR DIRECTOR

CATHY GOULD – PARISH ADMINISTRATOR

MARTINA AYALA - SEXTON

ELLA ANDERSON - SENIOR WARDEN

DAVID WILKES - JUNIOR WARDEN

MARILYN COOPER - TREASURER

LAY MINISTRIES COORDINATOR—JAYNE DAVIS

SILK PURSE THRIFT SHOP - SHIRLEY BRIDGES

DAUGHTERS OF THE KING - CATHY SMITH

ALTAR GUILD - SHUSHU CLOWERS, DIRECTOR

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