

NET WORK

The parish newsletter of St. Andrew's Episcopal Church

1502 Fourth Avenue
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February 2010

York, Pennsylvania 17403
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From the Rector's Desk



Jesus and Spirituality

Introduction

All too often in our hectic lives we rush. Some expressions of busyness we are styled as - blowing and going, plotting and planning, ducking and diving, running and gunning, and slamming and jamming. We sacrifice "being" for "doing." We need to give time to deal with ourselves, our issues, and issues of our faith and society.

We sometimes rush through personal issues. We often rush through local, national and international news. Many daily newspapers are closing due to the lack of readership. In addition, TV news, both local and national is also declining. Some blame internet news. Research indicates that people tend to give internet news glancing attention. As a consequence, the ability to access more information than any time in history, often gives matters scant attention.

We sometimes rush through issues without taking time to fully understand complex realities. This month I would like to look at Jesus and Spirituality. However, to properly understand this matter we need to look at a broad picture. We need to understand how we view the world before we can delve into matters of Jesus and spirituality.

The Reality of Global Change

In the last several years we have devoted much attention to the notion of the church and the changing world. We have discussed how human knowledge is growing. For example, more knowledge was created in the last decade than the rest of history combined! We have discussed how we are fulfilling Marshall McLuhan's, 1960 proclamation that we live in a

global village. Today, we are only a few internet clicks away from connecting with the world. In December 1995, 16 million people were on-line. In September 2009, 1,734 million people were on line. China is the populous nation with people on the internet. And, Bangalore, India is the most "wired" city in the world. The internet has crossed political and national boundaries and creating evolutionary ways of communicating and dealing with issues. These global social issues help us realize and deal with the evolving religious landscape that is also undergoing much change.

The Reality of Religious Change

The evolving religious landscape is a global phenomenon. In the last few decades, organized Christianity began declining in Europe while growing rapidly in Africa and South America. Some evidence suggests that within a very short time the principle religion in France will be Islam. In turn, within a single decade the Islamic faith grew from nominal numbers to being larger than the Presbyterian Church in America. The landscape of the 1950's and 1960's no longer exists.

Also, in the last fifty years, traditional and historical Christian denominations in America experienced a period of great growth (the post World War II baby boom phenomenon) which was followed by a period of slow decline. At first, this slow decline was caused by the growth of secularization and the ever increasing rise of public education. Increasing public education was and is part of the social shift in which people increasingly discover that they no longer depend upon organized religion managing their lives. More recently, the rise of mega-churches (which match the mega- box stores), and the evangelical right added to this decline. We might say that we

shifted from a model where the churches dominated and helped shape culture, to where culture shapes the church!

If we look at the broader picture, we can see that the cry of the reformation, “*ecclesia reformata, semper reformanda* - the church reformed, always reforming” is taking place. This reformation has many facets. For example, in the past, people largely attended the church of their parents (except brides who were often expected to join their husband’s church). Today, this situation is not as ingrained as in the past. Today, people attend a church where they feel welcomed and where they foster relationships. This is significant. In the past, change was often very slow in evolving. Today, churches “evolve” or change at varying speeds. Today, people are likely to attend church where they are comfortable with the level and speed of change. Given our society of much change, the new mega-church, the new denominations are more likely to adopt more quickly than historical churches who have ingrained and sometimes rigid structures.

Religious Change and Jesus

The reality of religious change and evolution is not new reality. Jesus was born at a time of much religious upheaval. The Roman occupation placed great pressure upon Jewish leadership. The Jewish leaders were Pharisees. These religious leaders were also the political leaders since the Jewish faith and political governance were one entity. Minor Jewish groups like the Sadducees, Herodians and Zealots also held sway. The Temple officials were yet another group vying for power and control at the time of Jesus. The Essene community, while not mentioned in scripture, was, we believe, a fairly new branch of Judaism. They had marginal religious or political power - basically, because they tried to distance themselves from these activities. The Pharisees, and others according to scripture in an effort to maintain religious standards (as they saw them) and to maintain a relationship with Rome, tried to use Jesus as a pawn, in a move for their own self preservation or advancement.

We are not entirely certain to which religious party Jesus belonged. We can safely eliminate him from some parties. Some evidence suggests that he was likely a Pharisee, however, we have many stories in

which he confronts the Pharisees on their thinking, on their interpretation of scripture, and their treatment of Jews and non-Jews.

Much evidence suggests that Jesus’ efforts were intended to have his disciples, and perhaps, the Pharisees and others engage in spiritual development. Thus to focus on spiritual growth rather than religious doctrine. Sadly, many failed to see this intention. Some of those who failed to understand this intention were so disturbed with Jesus’ effort to act and think in a new manner that they moved to have him crucified. After all, it is easier to eliminate a different point of view than to take time to weigh its merits. Sadly, the human condition has not changed.

Clearly, Jesus’ great challenge was for people to be transformed (hence the image: repent). Throughout the gospel accounts, Jesus asked people to change their thinking. He challenged people to move from excluding the differently-abled from being excluded from the community according to religious polity to being included in the community, in society as a child of God. Likewise, religious officials accused Jesus of working on the sabbath (he plucked berries!), of caring for the poor etc. Jesus countered with examples of bringing people into God’s love.

Jesus did not want to be the founder of a new religion. Instead, he wanted people to live into the love God gave to the world - to live into their neglected spiritual souls. This is still our task and mission. In order to fully live the gospel in the world, we need to explore ourselves and develop what it means to be a child of God. It means exploring and asking questions. It means being uncomfortable when answers are apparent or readily seen. Remember it took the Hebrew wanderers forty years to finally arrive at a space where they could hear God.

In this Lent, Holy Week and Easter season, attempt to add to your spiritual life. Take time to pray, to explore your faith, to try to comprehend the spirituality of Jesus.

As always,
David +

BIBLE 101

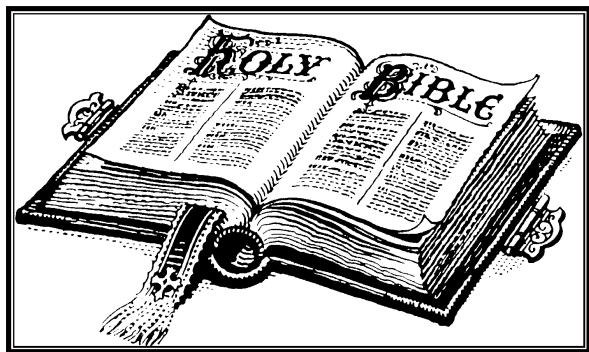
As a group we will look at the history, composition, translations, spirituality and theology presented in scripture. While we will hold to some basic structure, the primary focus of the evenings is to respond to the questions and needs of those gathered. Thus, instead of giving answers, our goal is to respond to questions. No experience is necessary. We are all pilgrims on the common journey of walking with God, and walking with ourselves.

In order to prepare for these evenings, every effort will be made to provide background information on the Sunday prior to the evening.

Please submit ideas for future evenings. For example, would you be interested spending several evening looking at the Dead Sea Scrolls?

The evenings begin at **7 PM**

- February 01** What does Isaiah 62 say?
Exploring various scriptural translations
- February 22** Topic to be determined by the group
- March 01** Topic to be determined by the group
- March 22** Topic to be determined by the group



Ash Wednesday

February 17th

10:00 AM

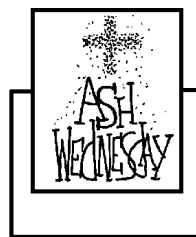
and

6:30 PM

In the Western Church, Ash Wednesday is the first day of Lent, the 40-day period of fasting before Easter. On Ash Wednesday, ashes are blessed, and imposed on the head with the sign of the cross. The ashes are made from burning palm branches blessed the previous year on Palm Sunday. When the priest imposes the ashes he says "remember man you are dust, and to dust you will return" (Genesis 3:19).

The ashes serve a dual purpose. First, as the above words imply, we are reminded of our mortality and humanity as we begin the Lenten Fast. Second, the ashes are a Biblical symbol of repentance, sorrow, and humility. There are many cases in the Scriptures of wearing ashes as a sign of penitence, often while wearing sackcloth. In 2 Samuel 13:19, Tamar puts on ashes and tears her clothes as a sign of sadness and repentance. In Esther 4:1-3, after learning of the king's decree to kill all Jews, Mordecai tears his garments, and puts on sackcloth and ashes. His fellow Jews do the same thing, as well as beginning to fast. The prophet Jeremiah (6:26) urges his readers to "gird on sackcloth and roll in ashes."

Fasting is a major component of Ash Wednesday, and Ash Wednesday is an official fast day of the Church, along with Good Friday. Fasting has a long history in the Church. In Acts 13:1-3, it was while "worshipping the Lord and fasting" that the Holy Spirit led the Apostles to set apart Paul and Barnabas for their work. In Matthew 9:14, Jesus assumes that after he leaves the earth his followers will fast. The history of the Church is filled with stories of fasting and its spiritual value. However, Jesus warns us not to be obvious about our fasting, or only fasting to impress others. Thus, Ash Wednesday is based on the biblical concept of repentance, and the ashes and fasting that are associated with repentance.



Ash Wednesday is a pivotal act that helps us put our faith and our lives in perspective.

Wednesday Evenings in Lent

The Episcopal Churches in York
2010 Theme

*The New Testament:
A Historical Introduction
by Bart Ehrman*

Bart Ehrman is a highly regarded academic who can convey complex thoughts and images in clear images and in common language. We will listen and react to five 30 minutes presentations.

**The Wednesday evening begins
at 6:30 PM with a light meal.
Soup is provided, bring a side dish.**

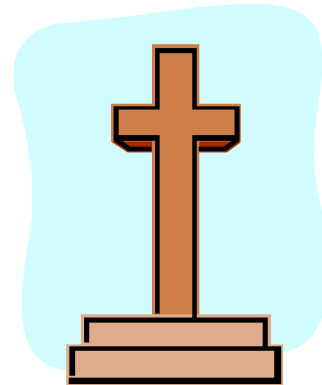
February 24 St. Andrew's
What is the New Testament:
The Early Christians and Their Literature

March 03 St. John the Baptist
The World of Early Christian Traditions

March 10 St. Andrew's
The Traditions of Jesus in Their Greco-
Roman Context

March 17 St. John the Baptist
The Christian Gospels:
A Literary and Historical Introduction

March 24 St. Andrew's
Jesus, the Suffering Son of God:
The Gospel according to Mark



STATIONS OF THE CROSS

In the Worship Survey we asked: *In Lent, when should we hold the liturgy of the Stations of the Cross?* There were many diverse responses. However, many leaned towards early Friday evening. In responses to these suggestions we will hold Stations of the Cross on

February 19

March 05

March 19

February 26

March 12

March 26

at 5:30 PM



Episcopal Relief & Development

Healing a hurting world

Dear Friends,

We need to respond to the catastrophic earthquake that took place in Haiti. They require immediate financial aid to purchase medical supplies, create temporary and permanent housing etc. This week, Bishop Nathan Baxter sent all congregations the following note:

Dear friends,

We need to respond to the catastrophic earthquake that took place in Haiti. They require immediate financial aid to purchase medical supplies, create temporary and permanent housing etc. This week, Bishop Nathan Baxter sent all congregations the following note:

In making your local appeal I ask that checks be made payable to The Diocese of Central Pennsylvania with a memo note "For Haiti". Our office will forward all gifts to ERD. This protocol will allow contributions to be recorded by ERD and Haiti as a diocesan response.

One note from the Presiding Bishop said that our Episcopal Church provides much ministry in Haiti. In turn, it is the largest diocese in the Episcopal Church. Please see below a further note from Presiding Bishop Katharine Jefferts Schori about the tragedy in Haiti.

My brothers and sisters in Christ:

We are all praying for those in Haiti who are suffering so deeply from yesterday's strong earthquake. I have made a statement to the Church, Episcopal News Service continues to issue news as it becomes available, and Episcopal Relief and Development has already made an initial emergency grant to the Diocese of Haiti.

I am certain that people in your own dioceses are already praying, and will want to know how best to respond. At present, these are the immediate needs:

1) Prayer, for those who have died, those who are injured, the grieving, the displaced, and all whose lives have been so grievously affected;

2) Financial gifts to Episcopal Relief and Development, marked for Haiti. These facilitate both the initial emergency response, in ways most needed by the people of Haiti, and eventually, the longer-term recovery response.

Your diocese may have interest in eventually assisting rebuilding efforts. Recovery and rebuilding will take years. Episcopal Relief and Development may be involved in rebuilding diocesan health and feeding ministries. If those are your interests, please contribute directly to ERD, and now. If your local interest is in rebuilding church buildings or providing funds for diocesan operations, I would encourage you to support such efforts, but for now, please collect and retain any funds and emerging assistance plans within your own diocese. The Diocese of Haiti will not be ready to respond to that kind of rebuilding help for some time, and when it is, the work will need to be prioritized and directed by Bp Duracin and his staff.

Please strongly discourage any who want to travel to Haiti. There is little or no ability to receive people, and those who travel there will only burden and endanger people already on the ground.

In the same vein, please ask concerned persons not to try to phone Haiti directly – the lines of communication are almost non-existent, and the lines that do exist are tragically overburdened by those seeking news of relatives. We will share any and all such information with the larger Church, as that information emerges and is verified.

Pray for those who walk through the valley of the shadow of death, and know that the Lord travels with them.

Katharine

ECW NEWS

The next meeting will be Wednesday, February 10th at 1:00

Mark Your Calendar

We will be having a special EVENING meeting in April so all of the ladies who still work can be with us. Did you know?? ALL ladies who are members of the church are also members of the ECW even if you cannot attend the regular meetings. So that all the gals can attend there will be a special meeting on Wednesday, April 14th at 7:00 pm. We will be having a unique program that evening called a "Chalk Talk" presented by a self-taught artist. This is a wonderful program and we hope to have a good turnout. So that we can plan refreshments, a sign-up sheet will be posted closer to the event, but be sure to mark your calendars NOW.

The Diocesan ECW Annual meeting is also being planned in a new format. There will be several workshops and a keynote speaker with a very short business meeting. The date is Saturday, April 24th and this year we will be at St. Edward's in Lancaster. More details will be posted soon, but reserve this date also so you do not miss this outstanding event. If there is interest, we are considering organizing a carpool, but it is not far to St. Edward's from York.

If you have questions about either of these upcoming events, be sure to see Alyce Peiffer.

Outreach News

If you have room in your car and want to share God's ministry consider joining the York College car pool team. Contact Leigh Dalton to get on the list.

An activity with the residents of Pleasant Acres is being planned for late March. Details will follow in future church bulletins.



**NOW OPEN AT NOON FOR LUNCH FRIDAYS, SATURDAYS,
SUNDAYS!!!!**

**OUTBACK STEAKHOUSE NEW HOURS
2496 EAST MARKET STREET
YORK PA 17402
717-757-4363**

**HOP IN FOR SOME GREAT FOOD AND DRINKS!
HOURS OF OPERATION
MON-THURS 4-9PM
FRIDAY AND SATURDAY 12-10:30PM
SUNDAY 12-9**

The J2A pilgrims cordially invite you and all your family and friends to the

Annual Shrove Tuesday Pancake Supper

Tuesday, February 16th, 2010

Doors open at 5:00 pm

Tickets are:

\$6 for adults

\$4 for seniors 65 and over

\$4 for children 4-10

Children three and under are free

Includes pancakes, sausage, fruit cup and beverages

For tickets see a J2A youth or contact the office

Proceeds will be used for the teens as they seek to trace their Anglican roots in Puerto Rico on a Holy Pilgrimage in June of 2011.

Youth Group News

Attention:

All Youth Group Members

Teams are forming now!

The 20th Annual

Tony Petraco Memorial Bowl-a-Thon

To Benefit the York County Blind Center

Sunday, February 21st

1:30 – 3:30pm at Suburban Bowlerama

Pizza at church prior to bowling

RSPV: Mrs. Rooney by Friday February 19th

The team with the highest cumulative score will win a prize! Send an email to Mrs. Rooney snowvetta@msn.com to let her know the names of all the members on your team. You want at least 4 people on a team. Please come out and bowl for the York County Blind Center! You will need to recruit sponsors for this event. Sponsor sheets are available from Mrs. Rooney or in the Church office. It is not too early to talk with family and friends about sponsorships.

Chili for the Soup Kitchen It's EASY!

Did you know that, for as little as \$13.00 and an hour of your time, you can help to feed approximately 20 hungry people right here in York? That's right, all by simply making 2 pans of chili, and the best part is, there's *almost* no cooking involved!

Our Daily Bread soup kitchen is located in downtown York on South George Street near East College Avenue. It serves over 300 meals a day, breakfast and lunch, to whomever shows up at their doors. Caring organizations throughout the York area, like St. Andrews, have signed up to provide specific food items (like chili) on a certain day every month. In this way, *Our Daily Bread* can reliably and dependably deliver hot, nutritious meals every week of every month, throughout the entire year.

It's easy to join the effort and help *Our Daily Bread* feed the hungry and the needy! Start by grabbing a pre-made "Chili Kit" from the church foyer (2 aluminum chili pans and a recipe). Then, the next time you are at the supermarket, pick up what you need for the recipe below:

NO-COOK* CHILI RECIPE

*Ok, so you have to cook the beef, but other than that there's no cooking.

- 2 packets of chili seasoning mix
- 1 large package of ground beef - approximately 4 to 5 pounds
Believe it or not, the cheaper the better!
- 2 large cans of kidney beans (drained)
- 2 large cans of tomato sauce or puree
- 2 large cans of chopped tomatoes (drained)

Cook the ground beef. While that's cooking simply dump one can of the drained kidney beans, one can of drained tomatoes, one can of puree or sauce, and one seasoning packet into each pan. After the beef is cooked (do not drain), divide it into the two pans. Stir each pan, seal with some aluminum foil over top, and freeze. That's it!

(The above recipe is just a suggestion, if you have a favorite recipe feel free to use it.)

The next time you come to church, walk back and put the pans in the freezer in the Great Hall's kitchen before the 2nd Monday of the month. Sunday afternoon the "Chili Team" will gather the pans of chili from the freezer and deliver them to the *Our Daily Bread* soup kitchen, where it will be served as lunch the next day.

Note: Plastic bags from Giant or Weis make carrying the frozen pans easy.

Chili Deadlines are:

Sunday February 7 2010	Sunday August 8, 2010
Sunday March 7, 2010	Sunday September 12, 2010
Sunday April 11, 2010	Sunday October 10, 2010
Sunday May 9, 2010	Sunday November 7, 2010
Sunday June 13, 2010	Sunday December 12, 2010
Sunday July 11, 2010	

Tax Tip: Remember to keep your grocery receipts for the above items; come tax time it is likely that you can deduct those expenses as charitable donations. Check with your tax advisor for details.



Change in Newsletter Deadline

At a recent staff meeting, it was decided to change the Newsletter deadline to the 15th of every month. This should make the due date easier to remember. It is very important that this deadline is met in order to allow time for preparing and mailing the Newsletter each month.



Postal Changes to Bulk Mailing

You probably noticed that your January issue of the Network arrived much later than usual. This was due to permanent bulk mailing changes made by the US Postal Service starting in January 2010.



HELP WANTED: COFFEE HOUR HOSTS

Seeking friendly, energetic, and fun-loving candidates to support fellowship ministry of St. Andrew's Church. No experience is necessary and **FREE** training is provided. There are several openings still available.

For more information on the exciting opportunity, please call Rosemarie Drusedum at 840-4104 (email: drusedum1@comcast.net) or Dan Rooney at 854-1860 (email danrooney33@msn.com).



MUSIC NOTES

Lent is coming! We will be using Rite I, and thusly, we will have different service music of a meditative nature. On that note, I have found some particularly somber anthems for the choir to sing.

Hymns are wonderful tools for meditation and contain great poetry from all centuries. I do encourage all non-singers to read the texts along with the singing. Hopefully, you will find a message that speaks to you that day.

Thanks to all the choir and bell quartet members who work hard and enthusiastically. You are appreciated!



ECW Benefit Yard Sale March 5th and 6th

Please mark your calendars now!

More information to come



Scripture Reading for February



February 7th	Isaiah 6:1-8, (9-13)	Psalm 138	1Corinthians 15:1-11	Luke 5:1-11
February 14th	Exodus 34:29-35	Psalm 99	2Corinthians 3:12--4:2	Luke 9:28-36, (37-43)

RECENT ATTENDANCE

January 3	8:00 a.m. - 26	10:30 a.m. - 86	10 a.m. - Wed. - 8
January 10	8:00 a.m. - 31	10:30 a.m. - 103	10 a.m.- Wed. - 15
January 17	8:00 a.m. - 35	10:30 a.m. - 122	10 a.m. - Wed. - 17

NET X WORK

A newsletter by and for the St. Andrew's community

Editors

Nancy Bush
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Gloria Moore
Stacy Sipe

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David Robson
Alma Rooney
Susan Stiller
Mary J. Watt
Steve Weinrich

**The Rt. Rev. Dr. Nathan D. Baxter,
Bishop of Central Pennsylvania**

Diocesan Mission Statement

We are partners in Christ with the love of God
on our lips and in our lives.

Diocesan Web Site - www.diocesecpa.org

St. Andrew=s Mission Statement

It is our purpose to serve Christ and his people
through faithful worship, study, ministry, and
mission, so as to reflect God=s love for all.

**St. Andrew's Web Site -
www.standrewsyork.org**

February Birthdays

If your birthday is not listed,
Please call the church office.

01 - Kellie Pison
03 - Jessie Rodowski
04 - Thomas Saxmann
04 - Stacy Sipe
06 - Leah Darr
06 - Adrian Stanciu
07 - Charlotte Kaye
07 - John Chamberlin
12 - Jeff Newman
12 - Katie Zinn
13 - Edna Douglas
14 - Charles Plummer
15 - Howard Rice
15 - Terrance Kline
16 - Bill Campbell
16 - Rosemarie Drusedum
16 - Ryan Welty
18 - Philippa (Pip) Hiden
19 - Lois Schetky
19 - Karl F. Rice, Jr.
20 - Thomas Dahl Duffy, Jr.
20 - Mitchell Rodowski
21 - Christie Bracher
21 - Gloria Moore
22 - Joan Ring
22 - Edward J. Peck, Jr.
22 - Ella Marston
24 - Lance Fimiani
25 - Nancy Whittles
25 - Funke Famuyiwa
26 - Richard Metzler
28 - Angela Lutz
28 - Maureen Ann Grinnel

February Anniversaries

If your anniversary is not listed,
please call the church office.

14 - Michael & Jill Fritz
18 - Jack & Arlene Schmitz

PARISH MILESTONES

Deaths

The Rt. Rev. Robert D. Rowley Jr.
July 6, 1941 - January 18, 2010

Mark Heller
May 23, 1953 – January 20, 2010

Parish Phone, Address, and email Changes:

Harry and Carol Snell
182 D Dew Drop RD
York, PA 17402
717-747-1822

Bert and Ann Myers
Phone: 1-717-826-5892
(They did not move)

ST. ANDREW'S EPISCOPAL CHURCH

The Rev. Dr. David J. Robson, *Rector*
The Rev. Charlene Leigh-Koser,
Pastoral Assistant
The Rev. Carol B. Snell, *Deacon*
Susan B. Stiller,
Interim Organist/Choir Director
Alma Rooney,
Christian Education Director
Magali Blount, *Nursery Attendant*
Gregory Sipe, *Sexton*
Nancy Bush, *Senior Warden*
Philip Blaker, *Junior Warden*
Andy Krebs, *Treasurer*
Al Hassett, *Financial Secretary*
Paula Beaver, *Church Secretary*

Vestry Members

Philip Blaker
Leigh Dalton
Jenn Fimiani
Lou-Rene Myers
Alyce Peiffer
Dan Rooney
Harry Snell, III
Ed Stegoski
Tom Watt

NOTICE: Bulletin Deadline
Each week is Wednesday – 8 a.m.

Deadlines for the NET X WORK

February 15th for March newsletter
March 15th for April newsletter

Please mark your calendars.



Please contact the office with any address or phone number changes.