



THE CLOAK

A monthly publication of

St. Martin's Episcopal Church

March 2016

Easter is not a Day!

Contrary to what is generally thought, Easter does not come and go on a particular Sunday. Easter only begins on Easter Sunday.

Easter lasts for 50 days, from Easter Day until the Day of Pentecost. These days are sometimes called The Great Fifty Days, designating the days during which we celebrate the resurrection of Christ.

No longer are our Sundays numbered *after* Easter. They are now Sundays *of* Easter. The resurrection of Christ is central to Christian belief and Christian life. We believe that Jesus of Nazareth was and is the One sent by God to be The Way, The Truth, and The Life, and that he is resurrection, and he is life for us today because he rose from death itself.

Our faith is rekindled as we celebrate his resurrection for the Great Fifty Days and know his presence with us through the Holy Spirit as we live in the Church.

Since the early Church we are encouraged to stay for prayer to symbolize our joy in believing that God has made us a new people through baptism. We sit at the heavenly Banquet and live now in eternity.

These fifty days are great indeed!

~ The Rev. James M. Barnett

What does it mean to you to be one of the Easter People?

Join us in Worship

- ✦ **Palm Sunday**, March 20 – 10 am - Celebrate HE with The Rev. Karen Tiegs
- ✦ **Maundy Thursday**, March 24
 - 6:00 pm - Agape Meal potluck with foods suitable to Jesus' time.
 - 6:30 pm - Traditional Foot Washing Service with The Rev. Mark Bringman.At the conclusion, the all-night Vigil begins.
- ✦ **Good Friday**, March 25 – noon- Ecumenical service with Our Saviour's Lutheran
- ✦ **Easter Sunday**, March 27 – 10 am - High Festival Mass, with The Rev. Mark Bringman

From The Deacon's Desk

Why Palm Sunday?

Since palm branches are mentioned in only one of the four Gospels, why do we call it "Palm" Sunday?

Tradition plays an important part in the role of the church, and one of the traditions during the time of Christ when Rome was the leading power in the Mediterranean World was that whenever the Romans were victorious in battle, the way of the returning heroes was strewn with palms.

This was the accepted custom of reception. So when Jesus rode into Jerusalem, it was only right that he be given a hero's reception. The crowds expected him to become King. And he did, though not as they imagined at first – he became victorious over death.

~ Adapted from *Our Church Times*

How meaningful to you in Palm Sunday Pageantry?

Search Committee Progress Report

The vestry presented the Profile Report to Canon Neysa Ellgren on Sunday, January 31, and Bishop Hanley accepted it on Feb 10.

The Search Committee met on Wednesday Feb 24 and drafted a Job Description Advertisement and sent it to Bishop Hanley for approval.

Once it is approved, it will be posted on the new St. Martin's website along with the profile report. The job will also be posted to the Diocese website.

Search Committee: Larry James, chairman; George Hamilton, chaplain; and members Sue Coakley, Patty Linn, Carolyn Brown, Jim Rutledge, Roger Munk, Florence Christ, and Dena Losier.

Helen's Health Corner- You are invited to dinner!

You are what you eat! We hear that said a lot, often in connection with encouragement to eat a healthy diet.

But it is also true for us, as members of Christ, eating the spiritual food and drink in Holy Eucharist, as we share the wine and wafers.

It's also recommended that families share dinner together to strengthen their bonds, and that is just what we do as the family of Christ, in recreating the Last Supper, which was the Passover meal that Jesus ate with his disciples.

For the Last Supper, many Episcopal congregations participate in an AGAPE Meal, as we have done at St. Martin's in the past.

AGAPE is a Greek word meaning "love" and that is what we strive for. The meal can be fancy or potluck, which is what we will do on Maundy Thursday, March 24 at 6 p.m.

Bring foods that are typical of Jesus' time such as

- Flat pita bread and crackers
- Nuts of various kinds
- Dried fruit – including dates
- Fresh fruit
- Olives
- Hummus
- Lentils
- Hard boiled eggs
- Grape and apple juice



Why a Watch?

It has been our tradition to have a "watch with Jesus" through the night from the end of the Maundy Thursday service until 8:00 am Good Friday morning.

Why a watch? It is symbolically a watch with Jesus as he prays in the Garden of Gethsemane and asks his disciples to keep awake as they wait while he prays about the passion he is experiencing.

There will be a sign-up sheet marked in hour-long blocks. It is nice if you can do the watch at church, but if that isn't possible for you, you can sign up to do your hour at home. We are few, so there will be "holes" that we cannot fill. That will be fine.

We need to consider keys, as the watcher will be safely locked in.

Easter Wings

BY [GEORGE HERBERT](#)

Lord, who createdst man in wealth and store,
 Though foolishly he lost the same,
 Decaying more and more,
 Till he became
 Most poore:
 With thee
 O let me rise
 As larks, harmoniously,
 And sing this day thy victories:
 Then shall the fall further the flight in me.

My tender age in sorrow did beginne
 And still with sicknesses and shame.
 Thou didst so punish sinne,
 That I became
 Most thinne.
 With thee
 Let me combine,
 And feel thy victorie:
 For, if I imp my wing on thine,
 Affliction shall advance the flight in me.

[George Herbert](#) 1593–1633

Lessons for March Read Along and Think

March 6

Joshua 5:9-12
 2 Corinthians 5:16-21
 Luke 15:1-3, 11b-32
 Psalm 32

March 13

Isaiah 43:16-21
 Philippians 3:4b-14
 John 12:1-8
 Psalm 126

March 20 Palm Sunday, Passion Sunday

Isaiah 50:4-9a
 Philippians 2:5-11
 Luke 22:14-23:56
 or Luke 23:1-49
 Psalm 31:9-16

March 24 Maundy Thursday

Exodus 12:1-4, (5-10),
 11-14
 1 Corinthians 11:23-26
 John 13:1-17, 31b-35
 Psalm 116:1, 10-17

March 27 Easter

Acts 10:34-43
 or Isaiah 65:17-25
 1 Corinthians 15:19-26
 or Acts 10:34-43
 John 20:1-18
 or Luke 24:1-12
 Psalm 118:1-2, 14-
 24 Acts 10:34-43
 or Isaiah 65:17-25
 1 Corinthians 15:19-26
 or Acts 10:34-43
 John 20:1-18
 or Luke 24:1-12
 Psalm 118:1-2, 14-24

JOIN the Easter Choir



Our wonderful musician, Ray Hendricks,
 will lead us in worship through song.

Choir practice **after morning worship** on
 Sunday March 6
 Sunday March 13
 Sunday March 20

To get us ready for Easter Sunday, March 27

We need voices! All are welcome. No
 auditions!

Making Palm Crosses

Saturday March 19 at
 10 -11 am

A wonderful prayerful
 way to get into the
 spirit of Palm Sunday –
 Passion Sunday – is to
 participate in the
 folding of the palm
 crosses. Deacon Helen
 will lead us.



Lutherans and Episcopalians: Called to Common Mission

The Church of England is the established Christian church in England and the mother church of the worldwide Anglican Communion. The Church of England dates back to the 6th-century commission of Pope Gregory to led by St Augustine of Canterbury who founded the Christian church in England. In the 1530's, the English church renounced papal authority when Henry VIII sought to secure an annulment from his wife Catherine of Aragon. The Act of Supremacy in 1558 and the Elizabethan Settlement established that the English church was to be both Catholic and Reformed:

- ✦ Catholic in that it views itself as a part of the universal church of Jesus Christ in unbroken continuity with the early apostolic church. This is expressed in its emphasis on the teachings of the early Church Fathers, as formalized in the Apostles', Nicene, and Athanasian creeds.
- ✦ Reformed in that it has been shaped by some of the doctrinal principles of the 16th-century Protestant Reformation. We find these affirmed in the Thirty-Nine Articles of Religion and the Book of Common Prayer, and other places.

About this same time, Lutheranism arose in Germany with the theology of Martin Luther (1483-1546) — a German friar, ecclesiastical reformer and theologian. Luther's efforts to reform the theology and practice of the Catholic Church launched the Protestant Reformation in the German-speaking territories of the Holy Roman Empire, beginning with the Ninety-Five Theses, first published in 1517.

Lutheranism advocates a doctrine of justification -- "by grace alone through faith alone on the basis of Scripture alone" -- the doctrine that scripture is the final authority on all matters of faith.

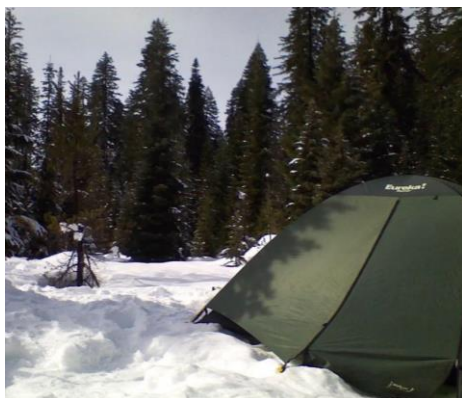
The 1999 Concordat between the Episcopal Church in America and the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America affirms their Call to Common Mission and Agreement of Full Communion. This is the latest stage in a long history of ecumenical dialogue between the two churches. Although the issues that gave rise to the Protestant Reformation in England and on the European continent were dissimilar in some respects, Anglicans and Lutherans have long recognized something of themselves in each other, and our churches have never issued condemnations against one another. Liturgical and sacramental worship has always figured largely in the identity and character of each tradition. Moreover, the architects of reformation, both in England and on the continent, were concerned to uphold the catholic faith. Thus it is no surprise that official ecumenical conversations between Lutherans and Anglicans date back to the late nineteenth century.

It is due to this close relationship between The Episcopal Church and the Evangelical Lutheran Church, that we worship with Our Saviour's Lutheran Church here in Lebanon, and that our Lutheran Pastors – the Rev. Mark Bringman and the Rev. Wally Gustav -- have celebrated Holy Eucharist with us at St. Martin's and have nourished us with the Body and Blood of our Lord Jesus Christ.

Quotes and information adapted from various Wikipedia pages

and from <http://www.episcopalchurch.org/page/agreement-full-communion-called-common-mission>

CUB SCOUTS / BOY SCOUTS TROOP / VENTURING CREW 420



Doug Young, Scoutmaster, Troop 420
Assoc. Crew Advisor, Crew 420
Christina Young, Scout Master, Cub Scouts 420

This year our scouts learned how to make their own snowshoes by warming and bending PVC pipe and lacing the webbing so they could get around for their snow camping outing at Klondike. Thanks, scoutmasters, for teaching so many science and practical skills along with leadership, fitness, and fun.

Easter Flowers

We always want to beautify the sanctuary for the glory of our risen Lord.

LILIES -- Envelopes for donations to the flower fund will be in the pews soon. Please indicate if anyone's name is being honored. The funds are used to purchase lilies and other flowers.

FLOWERING PLANTS -- Also, traditionally parishioners bring flowering plants and pots of bulbs to beautify the altar area, and then take them home later. Please deliver by Saturday March 26 10 am so that the Flower Committee can arrange them.

FLOWER CROSS – On Easter morning, please bring small cut flowers to decorate our traditional flower cross in the parish hall before the service.

March Birthdays

3 - Helen Richard &
 Don Myrtue
 6 - Jean Abbott
 14 - Jim Tingler
 15 - Hayden Davis &
 Pat Hendricks
 21 - Lyola Mechals
 26 - Alexa Carroll &
 Sarah Munk
 29 - Bev Smallman

Anniversary

March 1 – Jim & Lyola Mechals

Birthdays & Anniversaries

Please **help us update** our Birthday and Anniversary list by sending your special days to the office.





ECW Brief Notes:

At the **February 29** meeting we made plans for our Spring Tea which is our largest fund raiser. Dena is coordinating the tickets, so please check with her.

Please volunteer to bring cookies and other treats, and check with Lorna.

The Feb 29 minutes have a detailed overview of who is doing what. Minutes were emailed, posted in the parish hall, and printed for distribution.

By Jeanne James , ECW President

Personal Care Kits

Thanks to everyone for the many donations for our **Feb 26** visit, where over 90 people attended! Special thanks to those who helped assemble the kits and give them away.

Next visit is **April 29**. Watch for SUDSY SUNDAYS in April! Donations can be made at any time.

Please fill out an "in kind" donation form so we can demonstrate how the parish supports this outreach ministry.

THANK YOU!



St. Martin's Annual High Tea

Sunday April 3, 2016 ~ 2 – 4 p.m.

With style show from Christopher & Banks in Albany and active wear from Fashion Sense in Monmouth

Enjoy many fine treats and teas, good company, and elegant designs

Wear your Easter Bonnet

And listen to music from our Ray Hendricks

Exciting Raffle Baskets and Door Prize
See Dena Losier for tickets~ \$12



Proceeds support the ECW community outreach and St. Martin's activities

Help support St. Martin's work in the parish and the world

Vestry Snapshot by Vestry Clerk, Jennifer Munk

The next meeting of the vestry for St. Martin's is scheduled for March 23. Members did not hold a February meeting because of Jim Johnson's condition. Senior Warden Kathy Johnson says that meeting will not be made up.

When meetings resume, the vestry will be working in a different configuration. At the annual meeting Jan. 24, members agreed to amend the church's bylaws to reduce vestry members from nine to six.

Three people will be elected each year to serve two-year terms. Jim Rutledge was unanimously elected to fill the one year left in the term vacated by Bill Clark, who has moved.

Also, meeting times and dates have changed to 6:30 p.m. the fourth Wednesday of every month.

Doug Young Sr. has agreed to remain treasurer for 2016, Jennifer Munk will remain vestry clerk, and Kathy Johnson will be senior warden. Roger Munk agreed to be junior warden, but Roger Clark will continue to take the lead on issues involving the building and grounds. Roger Munk's role will be to sign legal paperwork for the diocese, report on Roger Clark's issues, and run meetings if Kathy cannot be present.

A stronger emphasis on community outreach is part of the vestry's charge for 2016.

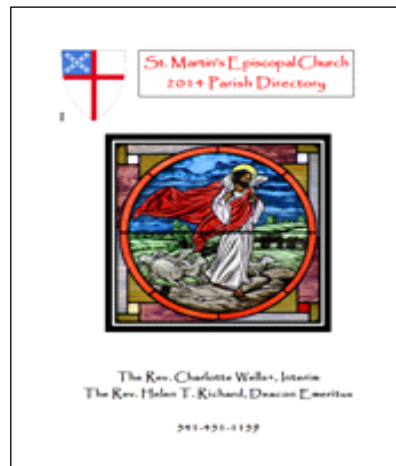
Treasurer's financial snapshot

For the figures on the 2015 calendar year, please check the Annual Report. Donation reports for your taxes have been issued.

As of 2/21 (15% of the year)

- Pledges & donations = \$10,270 = 13% of budget
- Expenses paid \$4,252 = 5.19% of budget

Doug Young, Sr., Treasurer



The 2014 Parish Directory is being updated. Please let us know about any additions or corrections so the directory can be up to date.

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Newsletter Submissions

The deadline for the March 2016 newsletter is **Friday, March 18**. Sending your information in by e-mail helps reduce our workload. Please send your submissions to: stmartinslebanon@gmail.com. It is helpful for you to call the church office (541-451-1159) to let us know you have made a submission.

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