

# The Sentinel

April 2017

## Priest's Ponderings

I know that in the past we have had winters far more harsh than this year, but I must say that for some reason this year's seemed particularly difficult for me.

In December there was less daylight as is usual, yet the days still seemed as if they would never end. The night time seemed to last continually. I know of several of us who celebrated the winter solstice as it meant that the daylight would slowly increase.

Last autumn the leaves did not fall from the trees until late November and early December, when such usually occurs in late October.

As spring time has arrived, we seem equally confused as some days are very cold, while others have temperatures in the seventies and eighties. Will April showers bring May flowers? I noticed recently that the flowers have already bloomed in the yard of one of my neighbors!

Fortunately, the seasons of the church year continue right on schedule and as anticipated. Over the past few months we have prepared for the coming of Christ. We celebrated his arrival at Christmas. We discerned his presence during the season of Epiphany. We have engaged in our Lenten disciplines, which draw us into deeper relationship with our Heavenly Father.

April brings us Holy Week and Easter. In our worship and life together, we shall contemplate the terrible acts that led to our Lord's crucifixion. Together we shall also celebrate his resurrection.

Mother Nature may be playing strange games with us this year. Fortunately, God's seasons remain reliable.....and abounding in hope and new life!

RSC+

## Lenten Programs

Our Lenten series, "Passion for Pilgrimage," with a soup and salad dinner is on Wednesdays from 5:30 pm to 6:45 pm. (Dinner is from 5:30 pm to 6:00 pm, and discussion follows.) Join us!

If you can't make the Wednesday meeting, then join us on Sunday morning for discussion using the same text materials in our Adult Sunday School class at 9:30 am.

## Easter Flowers!

A sign-up sheet for giving Easter flowers as a memorial or act of thanksgiving is on the bulletin board in the parish hall. Better hurry!

## The Saint of the Month

*Martin Luther King, Jr - Born January 15, 1928 - Assassinated April 4, 1968  
Civil Rights Leader and Martyr - Feast Day April 4*

The Reverend Doctor Martin Luther King, Jr. grew up in Atlanta, Georgia. He skipped the ninth and 11th grades in High School, and at the age of 15 passed the entrance exam, and entered Morehouse College. He later graduated Crozer Theological Seminary, and Boston University. At age 26 in 1954 King was called as pastor of the Dexter Avenue Baptist Church in Montgomery, Alabama.



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## Special Events Calendar

*Saturday, April 8th*

Youth Group - 5:00 pm

*Wednesday April 5th*

Lenten Soup & Salads - 5:30 pm - 6:45 pm

*Tuesday, April 25th*

Vestry meeting at 6:30 pm

*Friday, April 21st*

May Sentinel Article Deadline

Holy Week Observances

*Thursday, April 13th*

Maundy Thursday Liturgy - 7:00 pm

*Friday, April 14th*

Good Friday Liturgy - 12:00 pm

Stations of the Cross - 7:00 pm

*Sunday, April 16th*

Easter Day Eucharist - 8:00 am

Choral Easter Eucharist - 10:30 am

**Happy Birthday!**

Louise Jones	4/9
Jonathan Dupuy	4/11
Terrie Croxall	4/13
George Brummett	4/15
Natasha Reed	4/25
Megan Lane	4/26

*If we have failed to include your birthday this month, please let us know. Our list is continually evolving ☺*

**Lay Assignments!****April 2nd:**

Eucharistic: Jane Emery & David Gaines  
 Lector: Harry Spain  
 Crucifer: Jonathan Dupuy  
 Ushers: Don Denning & Mike Deweese  
 Altar Guild: Karen Cate & Joan Wells  
 Coffee Hour: The Lyons and Lanes

**April 9th:**

Eucharistic: Denise Kem & Cindy Reese  
 Lector: Denise Kem  
 Crucifer: Jonathan Dupuy  
 Ushers: Rick Webb & Don Jones  
 Altar Guild: Mary Elizabeth Womack & Betty Odom  
 Coffee Hour: Elizabeth Dupuy

**April 16th:**

Eucharistic: Tony McFarland & David Gaines  
 Lector: Tony McFarland  
 Crucifer: Jonathan Dupuy  
 Ushers: Larry Emery & Joe Reese  
 Altar Guild: Sandra Womack & Janet Deweese  
 Coffee Hour: The McFarlands

**April 23rd:**

Eucharistic: Rick & Cindy Webb  
 Lector: David Gaines  
 Crucifer: Erick Cate

Ushers: Don Denning & Mike Deweese  
 Altar Guild: Cindi Spain & Judy Stewart  
 Coffee Hour: The Reeces

**April 30th:**

Eucharistic: Denise Kem & Cindy Reese  
 Lector: Michael Mauk  
 Crucifer: Jonathan Dupuy  
 Ushers: Rick Webb & Don Jones  
 Altar Guild: Karen Cate & Joan Wells  
 Coffee Hour: Vestry Monthly Birthday Party

**The Saint of the Month Continued**

After Rosa Parks was arrested in 1955 for refusing to give up her seat on a public bus, the Montgomery bus boycott, led by King began and lasted for 385 days. The boycott resulted in the end of racial segregation on Montgomery buses. King's role in the boycott transformed him into a national figure and best known spokesman of the Civil rights Movement, and the Peace Movement.

King's life was devoted tirelessly to civil rights, justice and peace. His speeches resonated throughout the country, especially the "I Have a Dream" speech given in front of the Lincoln Memorial during the 1963 March on Washington for Jobs and Freedom.

. . . I still have a dream, a dream deeply rooted in the American dream -- one day this nation will rise up and live up to its creed, "We hold these truths to be self-evident: that all men are created equal." I have a dream . . .

Dr. King's life and work is honored in the United Kingdom. He is remembered in Westminster Abbey in a chapel set aside for prayer. This chapel is dedicated to the memory of Modern Christian Martyrs.

On the facade over the Great West Door of Westminster Abbey were 10 empty niches: empty since in the 1500s. HM Queen Elizabeth gave permission for them to be filled with statues of modern Christian martyrs. In 1998 HM Queen Elizabeth accompanied by HRH Prince Phillip and clergy from religions from all over the world unveiled them during a religious service. The martyrs chosen by the Abbey represent religious persecution and oppression in each continent. In one of the niches a life-size statue portrays Dr. King wearing a robe and preaching stole. His right arm is raised with his index finger pointing up, and his left hand is outstretched palm up. A young child is positioned at his feet gazing up at him.

Westminster Abbey is a Royal Peculiar meaning that the Abbey clergy report directly to the monarch, not to a diocese or province of the Church.

**Quote About Lent & Easter**

"Life is a precious gift, but we realize this only when we give it to others." -Pope Francis

**Recipe of the Month: Bruce's Redneck Caviar**

1 can tiny deveined shrimp  
 1 small can chopped black olives  
 2 hard-boiled eggs (chopped)  
 2 heaping tablespoons mayonnaise  
 Be sure to drain the shrimp and olives  
 Mix everything together and chill.  
 Serve as an appetizer and spread on Ritz cracker.  
 Not really fishy tasting.....Bruce Dobbs

**From the Loft**

The Stations of the Cross is a Good Friday evening service that has been a long tradition at St. James the Less. Because I am in the choir, I have participated in this service for many years. The program consists of 14 readings, prayers, and songs based on the events of Good Friday, beginning with Jesus appearing before Pilate and ending with His burial in a borrowed tomb. The entire service lasts about one hour.

Although the musical selections vary from year to year, the liturgy is always the same. So – why bother to come every year? After all, we know the story - the plot, the leading characters, even the ending. What's to be gained from showing up for the service yet again? Although the musical selections vary from year to year, the liturgy is always the same. So – why bother to come every year? After all, we know

### ***From the Loft Continued***

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As I've said, I have participated many times. I can honestly say that each year something new touches me, teaches me, or inspires me in some unexpected way. Just a few examples: 1) I remember feeling utterly overwhelmed by Mary's grief as she witnessed her son dying on the cross. 2) I have felt confused by the apparent randomness of selecting Simon of Cyrene to carry His cross, and have wondered if I could have done it 3) I have felt horror at hearing the words, "He was despised and we knew Him not", counting myself among the "we". So – while the story IS the same, the understanding of the story is always new. And Easter Day is so very joyful after having truly participated in the events of Good Friday.

Whether this will be your first, or a recurring visit, I hope you will come to the service this year and travel prayerfully to each of the 14 stations.

Finally, if you have never heard Rich Webb sing his a cappella version of "Were You There When They Crucified My Lord?", you don't know what you're missing!

*Submitted by JANE EMERY*

### ***Vestry News***

In March the Vestry:

- Reviewed Diocesan Minimum Clergy Compensation Requirements
- Adjusted Father Courtney's pension premium to match his compensation (adjusted \$108)
- Accepted a favorable bid from Covenant HVAC to service our units each year (cost = \$500)
- Approved purchase of 10 additional hymnals (cost = \$201)
- Evaluated charity programs we currently assist and will help in the future
- Decided to meet next the week after Easter (4/25)
- Began discernment about fellowship activities
- Enacted a new policy that refreshments for funerals and visitations will be provided by the Vestry (and other groups willing to assist) for members of the parish and their survivors.

Heard:

- Holy Water Font has been installed
- Clean-Up Day is on 3/25
- Partition Removal in Parish House and Repair of Walls is in process
- Sacristy is in the midst of remodeling
- New storm windows for Nave will be evaluated for bids
- Decay of Wood on Front Sign is occurring. Bid reviewed and tabled for one month for further assessment.
- Lighting Repairs for interior and exterior have been completed.
- Phone Line Repair is in process. Calls still forward to priest's cell. Security system calls are working as they should.
- NES Light Over Garbage Cans is out and will be repaired by end of March.
- A presentation from Ken Saefkow about the work of Martha O'Bryan Center
- Of Lenten & Holy Week programs
- The next Homeless Luncheon is on 4/30

### ***Outreach News***

Our monthly collection for Room in the Inn is disposable razors, toothbrushes, toothpaste, and shampoo. We have a volunteer willing to shop once a month for items. Jim Cate is willing to log donations for tax purposes. On checks just designate Room at the Inn. Dropoff is in the box by the piano in the church.

#### *Youth Ministry*

We have two programs for the youth of the parish.

Teenagers and middle schoolers join Father Courtney and Lacey Lyons for dinner and discussion on Saturday, April 8th at 5:00 pm at the church. We shall embark on a new video series about the trials and tribulations of being young. Join us for the fun --and pray for clement weather!

#### *Sunday School Lessons for Easter*

April 1 The Tomb Is Empty

April 8 Paul Changes

April 15 Paul Escapes

April 22 The Church Grows

April 29 Timothy Is Chosen

#### *Taekwondo*

Taekwondo is a Korean martial art that has strong traditional roots but also has some elements of science to it.

Taekwondo, at its heart, is a fighting system, but it has some strong sporting elements and it also has internal elements, which help to develop the mental strength and the ethics of Taekwondo practitioners. The Taekwondo spirit can be described by the 'do' part of Taekwondo. The 'do' involves the advancement of both your mind and your way of life, and includes the Taekwondo etiquette and mind training – the meditative aspects of the forms, and the way that people focus on developing concentration as well as physical strength.

**Contact Us**

St. James the Less Episcopal Church  
411 West Due West Avenue  
Madison TN 37115  
Phone: 615.865.4496  
Website: [www.stjamesmadison.net](http://www.stjamesmadison.net)

**Weekly Schedule**

*Saturday*  
Priest in Office - 2:30 PM to 5:00 PM  
Communion - 3:00 PM

*Sunday*  
Holy Eucharist – 8:00 AM  
Adult Sunday School – 9:30 AM (no class on 4/16)  
Choral Holy Eucharist – 10:30 AM  
Sunday School (ages 5-12) – 10:30 AM

*Wednesday*  
Priest on Premises 5:00 PM – 7:00 PM  
Choir Practice – 7:00 PM (except for April 19th)

*Monday & Thursday*  
Community Taekwondo – 5:00 PM

**St. James the Less  
Episcopal Church**

411 West Due West Avenue  
Madison, TN 37115

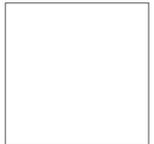
**News from the Diocese of Tennessee**

**Clergy Transitions**

The Rev. Rick Britton has announced his retirement. Rick has served as the Rector of St. Ann's, Nashville since August of 2008. Rick also served in the Diocese of Tennessee from 1980 - 1990. His last day at St. Ann's will be May 31, 2017.

Canon Pamela Snare has announced her retirement date as February 2018. I know the entire diocese joins with me in thanking Canon Snare for her service here in the Diocese of Tennessee. We are grateful for her ministry.

Bishop John is in the process of completing the search for a new Canon to the Ordinary. He hopes that there will be a period of overlap between Canon Snare and her successor.



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