



THE FOURTH EPISTLE SAINT JOHN'S EPISCOPAL CHURCH MOBILE, ALABAMA

The Reverend Thomas Heard, Rector
The Protestant Episcopal Diocese of the Central Gulf Coast
The Right Reverend Philip Duncan, Bishop

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June 2014

FROM THE RECTOR:

Dear Ones,

As I write, we have almost come to the end of the Fifty Days of Easter. The Pascal Candle has burned each day since the Great Vigil of Easter and will continue to burn through Pentecost, the 8th of June.

In our tradition, the only mandatory Old Testament Prophecy reading is that of the Exodus story. It figures very prominently in Judaism, and is commemorated in the Festival of Passover, or Pesach. Passover is the commemoration of the Israelites being freed from their enslavement to Pharaoh. Passover is the first of three annual pilgrimage festivals in Judaism. The other two are Shavuot and Sukkoth.

Exodus 23:14-17 says this about them:

Three times in the year you shall keep a feast to me. You shall keep the feast of unleavened bread; as I commanded you, you shall eat unleavened bread for seven days at the appointed time in the month of Abib, for in it you came out of Egypt. None shall appear before me empty-handed. You shall keep the feast of harvest, of the first fruits of your labor, of what you sow in the field. You shall keep the feast of ingathering at the end of the year, when you gather in from the field the fruit of your labor. Three times in the year shall all your males appear before the Lord GOD.

Passover is also called the Feast of Unleavened Bread, or Matzos. Torah sometimes repeats its instructions. Here is another citation, this time from Deuteronomy:

Observe the month of Abib, and keep the passover to the LORD your God; for in the month of Abib the LORD your God brought you out of Egypt by night. ... You shall count seven weeks; begin to count the seven weeks from the time you first put the sickle to the standing grain. Then you shall keep the feast of weeks to the LORD your God

with the tribute of a freewill offering from your hand, which you shall give as the LORD your God blesses you; ... You shall keep the feast of booths seven days, when you make your ingathering from your threshing floor and your wine press; ... Three times a year all your males shall appear before the LORD your God at the place which he will choose: at the feast of unleavened bread, at the feast of weeks, and at the feast of booths. They shall not appear before the LORD empty-handed;

Fifty Days might seem like an arbitrary number, but I don't think it is. We all remember that the first Easter coincided with Passover. Fifty days after Passover is the festival of Shavuot. Shavuot or the Festival of Weeks is the commemoration of receiving the Torah from God and committing themselves to God's service. The Hellenist Jews called it *πεντηκοστή*, or in English, "Pentecost".

It seems somehow appropriate that the Christian Pentecost, the fiftieth day after Easter, when Jerusalem was full of people making pilgrimage, would be the moment when the Holy Spirit would light upon the apostles, carrying the Good News to all corners of the known world.

The parallels are striking: The Passover of the Lord in Egypt freed the Israelites from slavery to Pharaoh. The Passover of the Lord in Palestine freed all mankind from slavery to sin and death. The giving of Torah at Sinai marks God's covenant with the Israelites. The giving of the Holy Spirit marks God's covenant with all believers.

As we embark on the Season after Pentecost and explore life with Jesus, may the Holy Spirit find a place in your hearts to bring you to a deeper understanding of the message of the Gospel of Jesus Christ.

--Thomas

HIGHLIGHTS OF THE JUNE LITURGICAL CALENDAR

Saint Barnabas the Apostle

On Wednesday, 11 June, we will observe the **Feast of Saint Barnabas the Apostle** as part of our regular Wednesday Eucharist at 10:00AM. Our first knowledge of Barnabas comes from Acts 4:36-37:

“Thus Joseph who was surnamed by the apostles Barnabas (which means, Son of encouragement), a Levite, a native of Cyprus, sold a field which belonged to him, and brought the money and laid it at the apostles’ feet.”

His missionary efforts earned him the title of Apostle. Barnabas was from Cyprus, a Jew of the Diaspora. It was Barnabas that brought Paul to the Apostles in Jerusalem, testifying to Paul’s experiences. He later settled in Antioch and sent for Paul to assist in leading the church there. Paul and Barnabas appear several more times together in missionary excursions to Cyprus, Lystra and other places in Asia Minor. Over a dispute about Mark, Paul and Barnabas went separate ways, but we know of Barnabas’ continued work for the church through mentions of him in the Pauline letters.

Bernard Mizeki

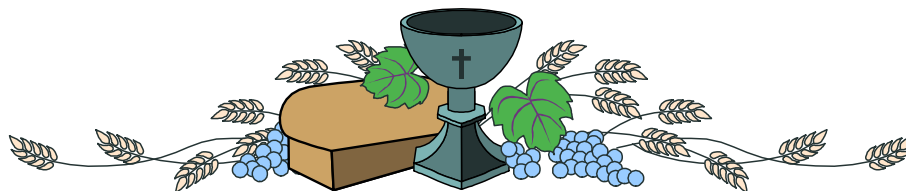
On Wednesday, 18 June, we will observe the **Feast of Bernard Mizeki** as part of our regular Wednesday Eucharist at 10:00AM. Bernard Mizeki was born around 1861 in what is now Mozambique. He escaped from his native Portuguese East Africa as a teenager and found his way to Capetown, South Africa. Christian missionaries took him in; he was baptized on 9 March 1886. Mizeki took on the role of catechist for a mission to Mashonaland in Rhodesia. An uprising of the native peoples against the Europeans and their African associates in June of 1896 focused on Mizeki. Though encouraged to flee to safety, Mizeki refused to desert the mission. Reliable sources reported that he was stabbed to death and his body taken away. A shrine commemorating Bernard Mizeki’s martyrdom stands where he died as a symbol of his witness to the Gospel in Central and South Africa.

The Nativity of Saint John the Baptist

On Tuesday, 24 June, we will observe the **Feast of the Nativity of Saint John the Baptist** at a Mass at 12:10PM. John the Baptist, one of the “Johns” commemorated in our main window in the chancel, is chronicled in all four of the Gospels. The son of Elizabeth and Zechariah, John was destined to be the herald of Jesus’ ministry. John had his own crowd of disciples that followed him, calling people to repentance and baptizing them as a symbol of their new lives. John is remembered in Advent as Prophet and in Epiphany as the baptizer of Our Lord. In the Gospel of John, John the Baptist is the figure who declares Jesus to be “The Lamb of God”. We remember John also for his ascetic ways, dressing in camel’s hair and eating wild honey and locusts, as well as his denunciation of Herod.

Saint Peter and Saint Paul

On Monday, 30 June, we will observe the **Feast of Saint Peter and Saint Paul** at a Mass at 12:10PM. Arguably Peter and Paul are the greatest leaders the church has ever known. We celebrate the Confession of Saint Peter on 18 January and the Conversion of Saint Paul on 25 January. These two feasts bracket the Week for Christian Unity every year. It seems somehow ironic that we commemorate their martyrdom together because Peter and Paul had their moments of opposition. One of those issues was over the mission of the church: Peter believed the mission was in Jerusalem; Paul believed the mission needed to also include the Gentiles. Peter and Paul were very much alike in their zeal for the Gospel and both met their ends in Rome, executed for what they held most dear. Through their years of ministry, there seems to have been a bit of competition between them. While we might eschew that today, the result of their mission work spread the Gospel to the ends of the world as they knew it.



ST. JOHN'S ECW

APRIL MEETING RECAP

President Bootsie Cieutat opened the April 27th meeting of St. John's ECW with a prayer and Paula Ross gave the Thought for the Day.

The Minutes of the March 30th meeting were approved. Several pieces of correspondence were read by Secretary Paula Ross. Bootsie gave the Treasurer's Report in the absence of the treasurer.

It was announced that there would be no 4th Sunday luncheon in May because of the annual parish meeting and luncheon on May 4th and that the parish picnic would be in July, possibly July 27.

Janet Buckley advised that \$375 was collected from the Lenten dinners, and the ECW voted at a previous meeting to match that amount, with the proceeds to be sent to McKemie Place.

Various committee reports were given and activities were discussed. Tina Cieutat reported on the cards that she had sent out from the Sunshine Committee, and Donna Waites spoke on the UTO ingathering, which will be held Mother's Day, May 11th.

Old Business: The new proposed By-Laws were discussed and approved.

Janet Buckley told the group about the boxes of food that were distributed to 12 families before Easter.

The group decided to start a prayer shawl knitting/crocheting class, beginning Wednesday, May 7th, right after church.

-Paula M. Ross, Secretary

STILL NEED RECIPES...

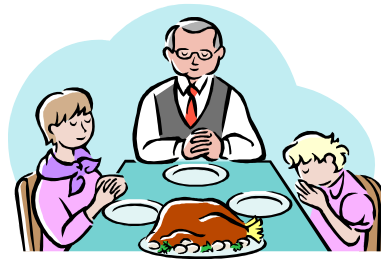
Our cook book project is underway BUT we still need more recipes: our goal is a nice sized recipe book of about 100 pages: if you picture two recipes in a page—that makes **200 recipes!!** Yes you can submit more than one..or two..or three..



So pull out your recipe cards, recipe books, scraps of paper, or your memory and start thinking about which of those “best-ever” recipes you want to contribute.

We have a template to use for writing out your recipe—you can pick it up in the office or email Janet Buckley (janet.buckley@wku.edu) if you want the computer version. If you just want to Xerox the recipe and give it to us: don't worry, we have plenty of volunteers to get the recipes into a common format. If your recipe has a “story,” share that too; we want our cookbook to reflect all of our interesting information.

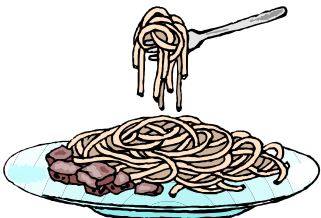
COLLECTING “GRACES”



As part of the cookbook project we want to include the prayers we say before meals: they can be the special ones you say for special occasions, the everyday prayer we mumble before eating our

lunch sandwich, or one that you found and have always wanted to share.

ECW CARRY OUT LUNCH



Mark your calendars now. The ECW will be selling carry out lunch on Sunday, June 29. Ashley Garris is preparing a delicious homemade spaghetti served with salad, bread and dessert. Tickets are \$6 a plate or two for \$10. Please get your tickets early...see Irene Yeager, Bootsie Cieutat or Connie McLean. We hope to see you in line!

JUNE 2014 AT SAINT JOHN'S

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
1 Easter 7 9A SS 10A HE	2 Martyrs of Lyons 830A MP 6P Gloria Dei	3 Martyrs of Uganda 830A MP	4 830A MP 10A HE+Unction 7P Choir	5 Boniface of Mainz 830A MP	6 830A MP	7
8 Pentecost 9A SS 10A HE	9 Columba of Iona 830A MP 6P Gloria Dei	10 Ephrem of Odessa 830A MP 630P Winning Solutions	11 Saint Barnabas 830A MP 10A HE 7P Choir	12 Enmegabowh 830A MP	13 1 st Book of Common Prayer 830A MP	14 Basil the Great
15 Trinity 9A SS 10A HE	16 Joseph Butler 830A MP 6P Gloria Dei	17 830A MP	18 Bernard Mizeki 830A MP 10A HE 7P Choir	19 830A MP	20 830A MP	21
22 Corpus Christi 9A SS 10A HE	23 830A MP 6P Gloria Dei	24 Nativity of St. John the Baptist 830A MP 1210P HE 630P Winning Solutions	25 830A MP 10A HE 7P Choir	26 830A MP	27 830A MP	28 Irenaeus of Lyons 9A-1P Gloria Dei
29 Pentecost 3 9A SS 10A HE Carry-Out Sunday 3P Gloria Dei Concert	30 St. Peter & St. Paul 830A MP 1210P HE 6P Gloria Dei	HE = Holy Eucharist MP = Morning Prayer SS = Sunday School				

LECTIONARY AND ROTA FOR JUNE 2014

Date Service	1 June HE II, EP-B	8 June HE II, EP-D	15 June HE II, EP-B	22 June HE II, EP-B	29 June HE II, EP-A
Lectionary Day	Easter 7 A Easter 7 RCL	Pentecost A Pentecost RCL	Trinity A Trinity RCL	Corpus Christi Corpus Christi	Pentecost 3 A Proper 8 RCL
Color	White	Red	White	White	Green
Lessons	Acts 1:6-14 Psalm 68:1-10, 33-36 1 Pater 4:12-14, 5:6-11 John 17:1-11	Acts 2:1-21 Psalm 104:25-35, 37 1 Corinthians 12:3b-13 John 20:19-23	Genesis 1:1-2:4a Psalm 8 2 Corinthians 13:11-13 Matthew 28:16-20	Deuteronomy 8:2-3 Psalm 116: 10-17 Revelation 19:1-2a, 4-9 John 6:47-58	Jeremiah 28:5-9 Psalm 89:1-4, 15-18 Romans 6:12-23 Matthew 10:40-42
Greeters	Paula & Bob Ross	Irene & Butch Yeager	Connie & Bob Anderson	Thelma Lomers	Melissa Brown
Lectors	Mary Sheffield Ron Waites	Ron Brown Eugene Johnston	Ron Waites Denise Dunham	Eugene Johnston Janet Buckley	Budd McLean Mary Sheffield
Intercessor	Pat Fulford	Ron Waites	Eugene Johnston	Cheryl Winters-Heard	Geri Moulton
Eucharistic Ministers	Eugene Johnston Paula Ross	Butch Yeager Mary Sheffield	Ron Brown Geri Moulton	Connie Anderson Ron Waites	Connie McLean Ron Waites
Eucharistic Visitor	Ron Waites	Ron Brown	Paula Ross	Eugene Johnston	Ron Waites
Altar Guild	Donna Waites Irene Yeager	Donna Waites Irene Yeager	Pat Fulford Cindy Gass	Pat Fulford Cindy Gass	Connie Anderson Jennifer Tarantole
Vestry Teller	David Jones Connie Anderson	Cindy Gass Janet Buckley	Connie McLean Jim Hayward	Connie Anderson Bootsie Cieutat	Janet Buckley Jan Dabney
Nursery	Jennifer Tarantole Connie McLean	Marie Brown Cindy Gass	Butch Yeager Jessica Dennis	Andrew Lee Connie Anderson	Cheryl Winters-Heard Nikki Shaw



Vestry

The regular meeting of the Vestry and Wardens of Saint John's Church was held on Sunday, May 11 beginning at 11:30AM.

The minutes of the 13 April meeting were approved as submitted.

Cindy Gass, standing in for Connie McLean, reviewed the parish financial performance for the month of April, noting that we continue to have expenses outstrip income.

The ECW has a couple of projects brewing. They are beginning to collect recipes for a Saint John's Cookbook. They hope to have the cookbook ready for sales by September. They have set 29 June as "Carry Out Sunday". Ashley Garriss has agreed to be the chef and will work out the menu.

Outreach is working on a couple of new projects; details will be coming in the future.

Fr. Heard asked the Vestry to remember its conversation concerning the "ask" from the diocese to offset the expenses of the Bishop Search. He asked them if their position last month had changed and if so, how had it changed? The vestry stood by its earlier position and asked the rector to write to the bishop and the president of the Standing Committee to convey its wishes.

Fr. Heard announced that Wilmer Mayson has resigned from the vestry, effective 21 April. He reported that he had a brief conversation with Wilmer and will attempt another one to try to uncover the issue.

The meeting adjourned with prayer at 12:10PM.



Saint John's wishes to extend a sincere thank you to those who made donations in memory of the following:

Helen Clements
John Christiansen

Lois Hamby
Eugene & Emily Johnston
Bud & Connie McLean
Bob & Connie Anderson
Mike & Fran Barbour
James Christiansen
The Meador Family

Mark Alan Smith
Alberta Cieutat
Bud & Connie McLean
Eugene & Emily Johnston
James Christiansen

A SUMMER SUNDAY SUNDAY CONCERT



Gloria Dei Chorale, under the direction of Louis F. Daniel, will present "*A Summer Sunday Sundae Concert*" on Sunday, June 29, at 3:00 PM at St. John's Episcopal Church, Mobile. The program will include some of our favorite pieces, and will be followed by an ice cream social in the Great Hall. All donations received at the door will go toward funding the Chorale's 2014-15 season.

-Marian Boykin





David & Kim Partsch	06/06
David & Mary Jones	06/12
Art & Becky Youngblood	06/20
Bob & Mary Sheffield	06/28
Neil & Marie McPhail	06/30



Corinne Faust	06/01
Sam Escobio	06/02
Connie Anderson	06/03
Neva Bache	06/05
Joan-Marie Elam	06/05
Jerry Fulford	06/07
Emily Johnston	06/10
Ron Waites	06/12
Matt Mattoon	06/14
Gavin Dunham	06/16
Connie McLean	06/16



For healing grace and continued strength, we pray for our members:

Donna Waites, Bill Sundie, David Rich, Andrew Lee, Ben Schmerbauch, Lorraine Murray, Matt Mattoon, Bud McLean, Ashley Garris

For our Homebound:

Ray Campbell, Doris Cunningham, Mae Dunn, Corinne Faust, Nell Kirk, Violet Kosko, Margie Mattoon, Jane Moore, Bessie Southall, Mary Lou Varnes, Catherine Warren, Chick Wohler

For victims of war and their families, and members of our Armed Forces and their families:

Eric Mattoon, Cheryl Garner

For our Friends and Family:

Herbert West, Frances & Sonny Bridges, Sheila Gerhardt, Bill Jones, Jeffery Garner, Ann Hall, Susan Lloyd, Evia Daniel, Dennis McCants, Angela White, Sandy & Ray Michel, Preston Stevens, Carol Hubbard, Emily Steiner, Larry Kent, Warren Bishop, Robby Shelton, John & Pat Cranton, Dot Trehern, Gabe Pippin, William & Barbara Dorsey, Steven Garner, Andrea Murray, Anna Marie Brown, Betty Chenoweth, Mark Stiber, James Henry LeBatard [*deacon*]

Contact Us

Staff:

The Reverend Thomas Heard, *rector*
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Louis Daniel
 Organist & Choir Director
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Lella Lowe
 Financial Secretary
finance@stjohnsmobile.org

Jack Ruppe
 Sexton

Vestry:

Connie Anderson

Janet Buckley

Bootsie Cieutat

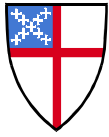
Jan Dabney, *clerk*

Cindy Gass, *senior warden*

Jim Hayward, *junior warden*

David Jones

Connie McLean, *treasurer*



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8:30AM Morning Prayer

Sunday:

9:00AM Adult and Youth Christian
Formation

10:00AM Holy Eucharist

Wednesday:

10:00AM Holy Eucharist;
Healing on the 1st
Wednesday of the month.

Other Feasts and Holy Days are
observed throughout the year; please
see our website for the latest schedule.

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to be the hands of Our Lord.