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The

# Messenger

Of All Souls' Episcopal Church

April 27, 2017

*Let this mind be in you.*

This is written on Easter Wednesday, April 19<sup>th</sup>, the twenty-second anniversary of the bombing of the Alfred P. Murrah Federal Building. Rhea and I and our five sons had arrived at All Souls' Church in Oklahoma City forty-four days earlier on March 9<sup>th</sup>. It was all very exciting, a new church family, a new school for the boys, and a new community (not to mention having a paved driveway and living on a paved street!). April 19<sup>th</sup>, 1995 was also Easter Wednesday that year. We had just completed Holy Week and had the great Easter Day celebration of our Lord's victory over sin and death, and then the horrific reality of this fallen world hit home again.

A couple of days afterwards I was interviewed on the telephone by the CBC Radio Maritime Noon show from Halifax. Near the end of the interview I was asked what was the biggest difference I noticed between the people and culture of Oklahoma and that of Nova Scotia. The answer I gave was not especially remarkable. The proper response would have been how overtly religious the reaction had been here - prayer services, the call for chaplains to counsel and pray with survivors and rescue workers, and the office towers at night leaving their lights on in the sign of the cross. Perhaps it is the colder climate, but Canadian maritimers tend to clasp their religious coats rather tightly, whereas here the name of Jesus is easily and audibly invoked. The outpouring of help following the bombing was by so many in his name and service.

There was a palpable solidarity in that response and eventually a new phrase came into being. Former Governor Henry wrote, "Something called the 'Oklahoma Standard' became known throughout the world. It means resilience in the face of adversity. It means strength and compassion that will not be defeated." We saw that day, and in the days following, the truth of Judge Murrah's own words that "the greatest rewards in living come from living outside and beyond one's self."

At every service of Morning Prayer during the Collect for Peace we acknowledge God as the author of peace and say that in serving him perfect freedom is to be found. The late Peter Toon pointed out this prayer is based on an ancient Latin prayer which literally translates "to whom to be in subjection is to reign," meaning that to live as a servant of God is actually to reign with God and for God in this world and that world which is to come.

St. Paul, in his letter to the church at Philippi, famously writes, "Let this mind be in you which was in Christ Jesus; Who, being in the form of God... made himself of no reputation, and took upon him the form of a servant... and being in fashion as a man, humbled himself and became obedient unto death, even the death of the cross." (Philippians 2:5-8)

Our vocation, as individual Christians and as a parish, is to constantly seek the mind of Christ in service to one another, in service to all we encounter, and, of course, in service to our heavenly Father, to whom we pray daily "thy will be done."

In the passion narratives of Holy Week we see the profound and literal emptying of Jesus on the cross - out of love for us and in obedience to his Father. As we continue to celebrate his resurrection in this glorious season of Easter, may we also continue to present ourselves as "a reasonable, holy and living sacrifice" as members of his body and informed by his mind.

~Fr. Bright

### The Staff of All Souls'

The Rev. Patrick E Bright.....Rector  
The Rev. Dale A. Petley.....Assoc. Rector  
The Rt. Rev. Bruce MacPherson ... Asst. Bishop  
The Rev. James Easter.....Deacon  
The Rev. Mac Stewart.....Curate  
The Rev. John Marlin.....Asst. Priest  
The Rev. Charles Blizzard.....Chaplain, Casady  
Terry Prather.....Director of Youth Ministries  
Alicia Fay.... Coordinator-Children's Education  
Ken Casey.....Business Manager  
Lucy Covington.....Parish Activity Director  
Cindy Cross.....Receptionist  
James Hulsey.....Music Intern  
Jamie Keith.....CDO Director  
Tim Marek.....Assistant Organist  
Tammy Mass.....Administrative Assistant  
Aymondray Myers..... Sexton  
Anna Polk.....Parish Secretary  
Dr. Laura van der Windt.....Organist/Choir Dir.  
Kim Willison..... Housekeeper

### The Vestry

Senior Warden.....Joe Lewallen  
Junior Warden.....Ron Bradshaw  
Clerk of Vestry.....Jackie Fields  
Treasurer.....Jean Hartstuck  
Chancellor..... Michael Kirschner

### Vestry Members

Russell Crain, Brown Douglas, Susie Kemp, Kendall Phillips, Newt Brown, Kim Harry, Steve Knox, Jamie Lathrop, Dan Stuart, Mary Fitzsimons, Bill Fix, Jayne Henline, Caleb Hill, Andy Sullivan

### All Souls' Committee & Group Meetings

**Altar Guild** - 3rd Tuesday, 10:30am-Gallery  
**Bible Study**-Fr. Petley, Tuesday mornings 7 - 7:45am -Library  
**Bible Study** -Bishop MacPherson, Wednesday mornings 11am -Parish Hall  
**Bread of Life Study** - Every Wednesday except the first Wednesday of each month, 6pm Parish Hall  
**Brotherhood of St. Andrew** - 2nd Saturday at 8:30am - Chapel/Parish Hall  
**Daughters of the King** - First Wednesday at 6-7pm - South Lounge  
**ECW** - Board Mtg, Tuesday, May 9, noon  
**Grief Share Group Support** - Every Wednesday at 4pm - South Lounge  
**Guild of St. George** - Board Mtg. Third Wednesday at 5:30pm - Library  
**Ladies Morning Bible Study** - Every Thursday at 9:30am-South Lounge on break until June 8th  
**Senior Group** - May 7, Macaroni Grill, 3510 NW Hwy, after 11am service  
**St. Anne's Guild** - 4th Tuesday at 11:45 - Parish Hall  
**St. Paul's Guild** - 2nd Tuesday at 5:30pm - South Lounge  
**Stephen Ministry** - First and Third Tuesday at 6:15pm - Parish Hall  
**Vestry** - May 15th at 6pm - South Lounge

### Guild of St. George Food of the Month

April

Cereal of all Types

May

Canned meat or fish

*In addition to food items, donations of full sized toiletry items such as bar soap, toothpaste, shampoo and deodorant are needed.*

### Summer Service Schedule Begins Sunday, May 21st

8 a.m. Holy Communion  
10 a.m. Holy Communion  
10 a.m. Children's Chapel  
& Sunday School  
5 p.m. Holy Communion

## Daughters of The King

What a meaningful Lenten Season was experienced here at All Souls'. The Lenten Dinners, Stations of the Cross, Quiet Day and Daily Prayer gave us so many opportunities to remember and stay focused on the sacrifice Jesus made on the cross. Celebrating his resurrection on Easter with our All Souls' community is so joyful, beautiful and a wonderful reminder of his victory over Death. Hopefully, these experiences will continue to keep us connected to these beautiful truths and foundation of our faith throughout the year. The Daughters of the King are a group of women who dedicate themselves to sharing the message of Jesus and his love as well as praying daily for requests received for people both inside and outside of our All Souls' Community. The Daughters provided a prayer box in St. Mary's Chapel for people to place their prayer requests. These requests are then passed on confidentially to the Daughters for daily prayer.

If you would like more information about this group please contact Vicki Reynolds, Deborah Thompson or Suzanne Spradling.



## "Hero Central Vacation Bible School" is right around the corner!!!

Come join us **June 5<sup>th</sup> – 9<sup>th</sup> from 9:30-12:00 noon**, at the Christian Family Life Center (potty-trained 4-year-olds through 6<sup>th</sup> graders AND volunteers!!) **Register on-line at:** [www.cokesburyvbs.com/allsoulepisopalokc](http://www.cokesburyvbs.com/allsoulepisopalokc) ! We have numerous volunteer opportunities, both before and during VBS and would **welcome** your assistance! You **needn't** have a **child or grandchild participating** in order to volunteer (\*current "Safeguarding God's Children" certification required). Nursery care will be provided for younger children of VBS volunteers during VBS week! We are going to have a **SUPER** time! For more information, please contact Erin Heely ([theHeelys@gmail.com](mailto:theHeelys@gmail.com)); Susan Borgan ([susanborgan@gmail.com](mailto:susanborgan@gmail.com)); or Alicia Fay ([alfay@allsoulsokc.com](mailto:alfay@allsoulsokc.com)). **Power up!**

**\*"Safeguarding" training will be offered twice prior to VBS; there will be an on-line option for re-certification.**



## MORE VBS NEWS!!

While it is super-great that we have on-line registration again this year, it has impacted the ease with which participants are able to make a financial contribution to help defray the costs associated with this fun-tastic week in the life of our church!

Perhaps on-line giving will be available in the future, but for now we have *envelopes* in the pews for donations (or you may submit a check to the church with the designation "**VBS Donation**" in the memo; all donations are tax deductible!)



## UNITED THANK OFFERING SUNDAY, MAY 14, 2017

"In everything, give thanks: for this is the will of God in Christ Jesus concerning you." I Thessalonians 5:18.

The **United Thank Offering** is a personal and family devotional program of the Episcopal Church. When we place our donations in the blue **UTO envelopes** found in the pews, we express a visible sign of our thankfulness to God for our many blessings. Our donations, united with those of other thankful people, allow the church to reach out in love to others all over the world. Your contribution is important!

United Thank Offering emphasizes the strong connection between prayer and action. Grants are made to Episcopal churches throughout the world for new projects and programs, capital needs and development funds. Annual interest income from the fund supports the entire operating budget of the UTO committee. Because of this fund, **every cent you offer in prayer** is granted to help Episcopal missions.

Our youth will receive their blue **UTO Boxes** in Sunday School on April 30<sup>th</sup>. UTO boxes will also be available at the front desk. UTO envelopes may be found in the sanctuary pews on April 30<sup>th</sup>. Please place donations of thankfulness in a UTO box or envelope as you thank God for His many blessings. Boxes and envelopes should be returned to church on Sunday, May 14, 2017.

## Wednesday Morning Bible Study Bishop MacPherson

Following a two week break, the Wednesday Morning Bible Study with Bishop MacPherson resumed on Wednesday, April 26. We have embarked upon a new program with the study of "*The Gospel According to Saint Mark.*" Meeting in the Parish Hall, the classes are open to all and begin at 11:00 a.m. and conclude at 11:45 a.m.

**Please bring your favorite Bible and join us!**

## Library News

Below are some recent additions to the Parish Library:

### Anglican/Episcopal:

The Collect in Anglican Liturgy: Texts and Sources 1549-1989 – Martin R. Dudley

Hooker's Theology of Common Prayer – John S. Marshal  
The Living Liturgy – Massey Hamilton Shepherd

### Biblical Interpretation:

Biblical Interpretation Past & Present- Gerald Bray

### Biography:

100 Christian Women Who Changed the 20<sup>th</sup> Century- Helen Kooiman Hosier

### Oversize Shelf:

American Religions: An Illustrated History – J. Gordon Melton

### Preaching:

The Foolishness of Preaching: Proclaiming the Gospel against the Wisdom of the World – Robert Capon

### Theology:

Old Testament Theology: Volume One Israel's Gospel – John Goldingay

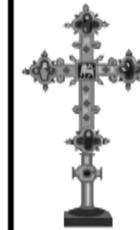
The Theology of St. Paul – D.E.H. Whitely

### Visiting Authors

Christianity for Modern Pagans: Pascal's Pensees Edited, Outlined & Explained- Peter Kreeft

Heaven: The Heart's Deepest Longing - Peter Kreeft

If you have questions or suggestions concerning the library or books you wish to donate to the library, please contact Phillip Parker at [phillip1552@msn.com](mailto:phillip1552@msn.com).



## St. Anne's Guild Speaker and Lunch

Tuesday, May 23rd  
11:45 a.m. Parish Hall

Guest Speaker: Fr. Petley

### Baptisms

*Taylor Sue Hill 3-26-17*

*Lauren Alice Hill 3-26-17*

*Kelsey Casey Hill 3-26-17*

*Gabriel Lewis Garcia 4-5-17*

*Samuel Patrick Anderson 4-16-17*

*Makenna Nicole Goldstein 4-16-17*

*Sofia Schwendenmann 4-16-17*

### Funerals

*Arline Parsells 3-24-17*

*William Phillips 4-3-17*

*Philip Hart 4-12-17*



## Sometimes It's Hard to Ask for Help

We're brought up to be strong, self-sufficient, independent people. We tend to think that if we ask for help, it is a sign of weakness. So we try to keep our struggles hidden, stuffed deep inside. However, that's not God's plan. Galatians 6:2 says, "Bear one another's burdens, and so fulfill the law of Christ." God wants us to care for others - and allow others to care for us in our time of need.

If you're struggling, don't suffer alone. Ask for help. We've got a team of Stephen Ministers, who are ready to listen, care, encourage, pray, and help you through a tough time. It's completely confidential! Find out more about Stephen Ministry by speaking with one of our clergy. Our Stephen Ministers are there when you need someone to care!

Since 1975, more than 600,000 people from more than 11,000 congregations and other organizations have been trained as Stephen Ministers. For almost 20 years members of All Souls' Episcopal Church have trained to serve out community!



**The Episcopal  
Church Women**

**ECW Luncheon  
May 2-noon**

**Speaker - Fr. Mac Stewart**

Please join us for the ECW Luncheon on Tuesday, May 2 at noon. Fr. Mac Stewart will be our guest speaker. May is traditionally recognized as Mary's month. He has entitled his talk, "**There's Something About Mary.**" Don't miss his wonderful and insightful speech.

We will also be raffling a beautiful Beatrix Ball salad bowl from BC Clark Jewelers and one set of 12 champagne glasses.

Raffle tickets are \$10 each or 3 for \$25; cost for lunch is \$10. Proceeds will benefit campers at Shiloh Camp.

Donations are welcomed, if you are unable to attend event. Please make your check payable to **All Souls' ECW** and write **Shiloh Camp in Memo.**

Checks may be mailed to **All Souls' Church with  
Attention: ECW**



***Evensong  
May 7th  
5pm in the Chapel***

***Reception following  
Parish Hall***

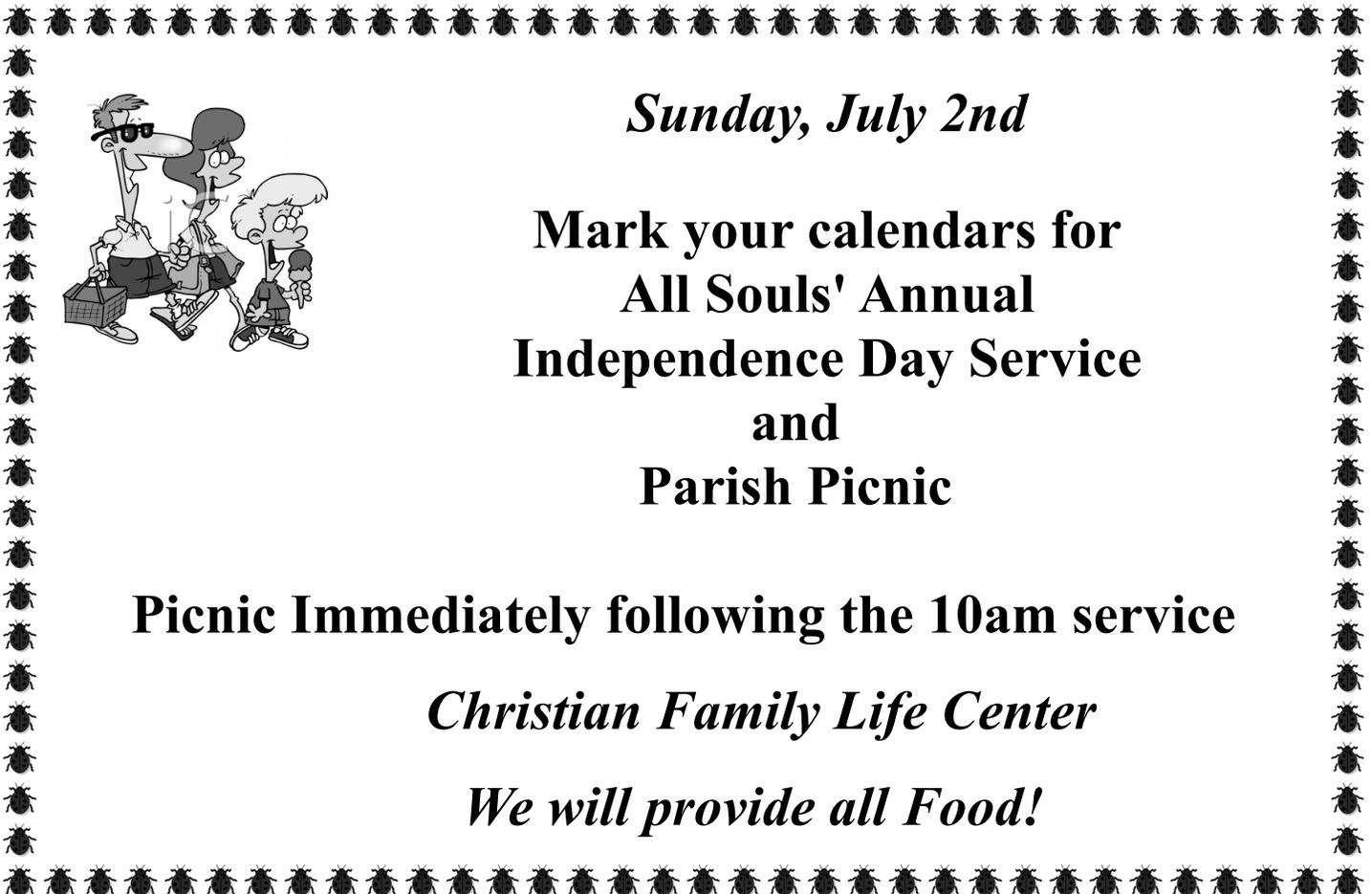
***Hosts: Senior Group and  
St. Anne's Guild***



**Chih-Long Hu, Piano  
Sunday, April 30  
2:30pm**

**Virginia Campbell, Piano  
Kyle Dillingham, Violin  
May 21st - 2:30pm**

**In the Church  
Reception following in the Parish Hall**



***Sunday, July 2nd***

**Mark your calendars for  
All Souls' Annual  
Independence Day Service  
and  
Parish Picnic**

**Picnic Immediately following the 10am service**

***Christian Family Life Center***

***We will provide all Food!***



Palm Sunday invoked many thoughts and feelings for me this year and on many levels. Hearing the readings, collect and sermon and listening to “Were You There” sung so beautifully and moving.

I took notes on the back of my bulletin and wrote some thoughts down as they came to me.

I have several bible hero’s; King David comes to mind or Timothy. I have always wanted to be a man after God’s own heart like David or to even in my youth set an example to the believers in speech, in life, in love, in faith and purity like Timothy. On the other hand, there are those I’ve denied being like... Judas for one or that I’d deny Jesus like Peter. During the reading, yesterday I was hit right between the eyes in a way that I’m like Judas. We know Judas to be the one who betrayed Jesus...but we also read that there obviously was a change of heart, a moment of clarity for him. Judas said to the chief priests and elders that he had sinned in that he betrayed the innocent blood. He cast down the pieces of silver in the temple. They would have no part of his repentance and recompense and replied, “What is that to us?” Judas obviously felt a deep sense of regret and had come to a place of conviction, awareness, enlightenment, awakening, epiphany...you choose the word. But we have all had those times when upon doing something that, in our hearts and minds, we know to be wrong or we even sense the slightest ‘knowing in our knower’ that we are crossing a boundary or are entering dangerous territory we go ahead anyway. I have done things in my life that treaded on that very grace our Lord has so freely given and I have approached the throne of grace with deep sorrow for betraying our Lord and what I know to be true in my heart. I realized yesterday that I like Judas, have betrayed my Lord and have had that deep conviction and awakening to my sinful ways.

At this point in my note taking we were at the Creed. Because of those times where I’ve identified with Judas or Peter in denying Christ...I just haven’t felt worthy or in the right place to say those words and mean them. I have felt distance between me and my God. Maybe I’m clinging to unconfessed sin, maybe I’m holding something against my brother or sister in the Lord...but for whatever reason I just don’t feel like saying the Creed and just don’t want it to be wrote. What came to mind in that moment was that those are the times we need to confess and say the Creed more. Keep repeating those words...over and over. We need, even though it may feel forced, to allow those words as they roll off our tongue to wash over us. As we hear the truth of those words and they enter our ears...our minds are transformed and renewed and our hearts will begin to soften. I’m not speaking to a feeling here...where we necessarily begin to feel different, but that the truth of those words spoken have an effect. For example, say Jesus is Lord out loud several times. It’s transformative. God’s word is alive and active...it is at work even to the degree beyond our ability to understand it. It’s the truth of God and He is faithful.

I’m reminded of a hymn...Jesus paid it all, All to Him I owe, Sin had left a crimson stain, He washed it white as snow. THAT IS THE TRUTH...not because of anything I’ve done or not done...but because of all that Christ has done on our behalf.

~Terry Prather

## Children's Education News



As our academic Sunday school year draws to a close, we are preparing to celebrate those who have given unselfishly of themselves on

Sunday mornings for the benefit of our children. Those being honored include: Our children’s chapel leaders-Kraettli Epper-son, Kent Hoffman, Jaime Maddox, Mike Shelby and Scott Spradling; children’s chapel pianists-Sody Clements, Jill Dobbins, Barbara Henry, Carol Johnson, Karen Luke, Cindy Marden, and Karen O’Bannon; children’s chapel teen helpers: Olivia Gross, Will Holleman, Natalie Hugos, Susanna Johnson, Isabelle Sears, Olivia Sears, Hayes Sullivan and Lucille Sullivan; Godly Play Storytellers/Door Persons (they switch off) Mary Michal Meade and Karla Stafford, and substitute for Godly Play Erin Heely; Shepherds-(for 1<sup>st</sup>/2<sup>nd</sup> grades) Grace Starr, (3<sup>rd</sup>, 4<sup>th</sup> and 5<sup>th</sup> grades) Rob Foley; Rotation Workshop facilitators-Jeff and Emily Blake, Chandra Boyd and Laura Cory, Adam and Ginny Evans, Stephanie Devero, Julie Ganter, Virginia Holleman (MJ and Will, too), Madison Jamison, Emily Johnson, Dinah L’Heureux, Dave and Becky Luke, Bobby and Libby Nelson, Emily McCann, Suzanne Reynolds, Lauren Sullivan and Cindy Thompson. Thank you to all of these folks for inspiring and leading our children and for their service to our church!

Many thanks also go to Susan Borgan and Erin Heely who are busily working on our upcoming Vacation Bible School!! Many opportunities exist for additional volunteers! If you have already said “Yes” to an opportunity to participate, thank you so much! If you have not registered your children, grandchildren, nieces, nephews, or friends’ children yet, please do so: Go to [www.cokesburyvbs.com/allsoulepisopaloc](http://www.cokesburyvbs.com/allsoulepisopaloc) to register children four-years-old through rising 6<sup>th</sup> graders, or to register as a volunteer! Look for additional information within this newsletter!

Our final unit for the academic year (for 1<sup>st</sup> through 5<sup>th</sup> graders) will culminate on May 14<sup>th</sup> (that day will also be the final “Shekel Shack” for this season). During the summer months, children’s Sunday school will have two age groups: “Godly Play” for the combined three/four-year-olds and Kindergarten, and first through fifth graders together. We will have teaching opportunities and ask that you please prayerfully consider being a facilitator when you are in town!

~Alicia Fay



Children’s Day Out  
Final Day for Spring Session - May 18th  
Summer Sessions begins - June 5th