

Holy Trinity Riverbend

WHAT'S THE BUZZ! HERE'S WHAT'S HAPPENING!

March 29, 2020

This Week's Bible Quote –Matthew 25: 42-43; 45 - "I was hungry and you gave me nothing to eat, I was thirsty and you gave me nothing to drink, I was a stranger and you did not invite me in, I needed clothes and you did not clothe me, I was sick and in prison and you did not look after me.... Truly I tell you, whatever you did not do for one of the least of these, you did not do for me."



Upcoming for next Sunday, April 5, 2020:

The Sunday of the Passion: Palm Sunday

Readings:
Is 50:4-9a
Phil 2:5-11
Mt 27:11-54

In support of the COVID-19 restrictions, **all regular services have been suspended until further notice.** Once government agencies inform us it is safe to gather again in larger groups, we will let you know. In the meantime, **Holy Trinity Anglican Church in Strathcona live streams a service** which can be viewed using the link below:

<https://www.facebook.com/holytrinityanglican/>

Additional Resources: If you are on Facebook, check out **Worship Resources YEG**, a collection of online worship opportunities in the Edmonton area to support prayer, learning, and virtual community in this season of social distancing due to Covid-19. <https://www.facebook.com/Worship-Resources-YEG-107229007574628/>

Inspirational Thought:
"The first question which the priest and the Levite asked was: 'If I stop to help this man, what will happen to me?' But the good Samaritan reversed the question: 'If I do not stop to help this man, what will happen to him?' ... Martin Luther King Jr.

'Faith is not about everything turning out okay. Faith is about being okay no matter how things turn out.' ... Unknown Author



A message from **Rebecca.** We are now into our third week of physical distancing and life is feeling a bit strange for all of us. We thought this pandemic might peak and pass within a short time, but it will likely be with us for much longer. As each of

us adjusts to this new normal, I thought it was **especially important to keep our spirits up and stay in touch with one another.** One way we can do this is by **sharing what we are doing to fill the long hours at home.** You may not think you are doing anything special, but it may be just the thing someone else is encouraged by. Please **share your stories** with me so I can put them in our weekly newsletter. Maybe you are teaching yourself to play a musical instrument during this time. Or you have decided to learn a new language. If you are a reader, share some book titles with us. Perhaps you have decided to tackle all those old photos and put them in albums, along with dates and names. Let me start us off by sharing what one of our oldest members is doing. Every day our beloved Win stands on the balcony of her retirement residence and waves a scarf at her fellow residents to let them know she is well and thinking of them. Along that line, maybe we could all place a big heart in our windows to let the world know we are thinking of them. Building on something Bishop Jane mentioned a few weeks ago, we can **place a candle of hope in our window each evening at 8:00 p.m. so as darkness falls, light will shine out - let's light a**

candle of hope and look out for one another.

And for those of you with children at home, this issue of our newsletter includes a number of links to ideas just for our younger members. **Let's share our ideas and spread some much-needed joy!** I look forward to seeing what everyone is doing.

Food Bank Sunday.

Sunday, April 5 is our monthly Food Bank donation day.

Rebecca will be in the church parking lot on April 5 from 10:00 a.m. to 10:30 a.m. to accept your food donations, and of course, we will maintain the appropriate 'social distancing'. Most needed items are: Beans, canned fish/meat, baby formula, peanut butter, healthy school snacks (100% real juice boxes, granola bars, fruit cups), soup, canned fruit and vegetables.



Palm Sunday. If you would like a palm, they will be available from Rebecca at the same time as the Food Bank Donations are being accepted.

A Lenten thought from the author Henry Nouwen:

"God's mercy is greater than our sins. There is an awareness of sin that does not lead to God, But rather to self-preoccupation. Our temptation is to be so impressed by our sins and failings and so overwhelmed by our lack of generosity that we get stuck in a paralyzing guilt. It is the guilt that says: 'I am too sinful to deserve God's mercy.' It is the guilt that leads to introspection instead of directing our eyes to God. It is the guilt that has become an idol and therefore a form of pride. Lent is the time to break down this idol and to direct out attention to our Loving Lord."



Our HTR cleanup day, originally scheduled for Saturday, April 4, is being postponed until a later date to be announced.

Thank You! On March 31, Greg Thiessen steps down as our Treasurer. We would like to thank him for all his incredible hard work in managing our financial matters over the past year.

Vestry Updates. With Greg completing his term as our Treasurer, we wanted to express our **thanks to Grant Kvemshagen for agreeing to take over the duties of Treasurer.** We would also like to express our gratitude to Grant for all the support he provided as Rector's Warden. With Grant moving to the Treasurer role, we are pleased to announce **Steve Johnson will be taking over the role of Rector's Warden.**

Church of England Videos. The COE have produced several short and interesting videos which are captured in their series, 'Our Faith'. The topic selected for today's newsletter is ***"How should Christians respond to evil and injustice?"*** The link is: <https://www.churchofenland.org/our-faith/our-faith-videos/how-should-christians-respond-evil-and-injustice>

Giving. This week we received a call from a parishioner who normally places their offering in the collection plate. They were inquiring how they could continue to give while the church is temporarily closed. Following are 2 suggestions:

-The **preferred method is to sign up for PAG (pre-authorized giving)**, which automatically deducts your donation from your bank account, similar to how many of us pay our regular utility and other bills. PAG can be cancelled at any time. The form can be accessed at the link below, or by calling Rebecca. She will email you a copy of the form. Once completed, please mail it HTR and we will work with the Diocese to have the PAG started. http://edmontonanglican.hurchos.ca/df_media/W1siZiIsIjIwMTcvMDMvMjMvMTQvNDUvNTUvNTBjMWNkZDEtOGFiNy00YzA2LTlhYWYtYWRjYTNiMjAwZTZjL1BBRyBSZWdpc3RyYXRpb24gVXBkYXRIZC5wZGYiXV0/PAG%20Registration%20Updated.pdf?sha=d506efa67fe0fa14

-The second method is to simply **mail a cheque** to the church and it will be given to our Treasurer to deposit.

Vestry –
 Steve Johnson – Rector's Warden
 Suzanne Pearson – People's Warden
 Grant Kvemshagen – Treasurer
 Sarah Alexander – Music Director
 Maureen Bantle
 Vince Tejada

On behalf of all of us we would like to take this opportunity to **express our**

gratitude to our Vestry for their dedication in continuing to serve the church, our community and the parishioners at HTR.

School age children activities. For all parents, with schools and most recreation outlets closed, having children stuck at home full-time is creating additional work and stress. It's not easy finding **new and creative ways to keep them engaged.** In fact, it is likely that most parents are really bending their rules around how much screen time they are allowing each day just to ensure some peace and quiet. Why not direct them to some great **on-line learning opportunities?**



Listed below are some sites and channels that are kid tested and parent approved (we borrowed that from a 1980's Kix cereal slogan). **Interactive Websites:** -Scholastic has created a free learn-from-home site with 20+ days of learning and activities. <https://classroommagazine.scholastic.com/support/learnathome.html>

-Pretend to travel the world. Go on a virtual tour of these 12 famous museums.

<https://www.travelandleisure.com/attractions/museums-galleries/museums-with-virtual-tours>

-A free curriculum guide with everything from preschool activities to 12th grade are here!

<https://allinonehomeschool.com/>

-Find games, videos, quizzes and more at National Geographic Kids:
<https://kids.nationalgeographic.com/>

-Thinking games by grade:
<https://allinonehomeschool.com/thinking/>

YouTube Channels:

-Discovery Education:
<https://www.youtube.com/user/DiscoveryEducation>

-Geek Gurl Diaries:
<https://www.youtube.com/user/GeekGurlDiaries>

Apps:

There are also some great free Apps out there that will track progress and serve up the right level to your children Some favourites are:

-Khan Academy (All ages):
<https://www.khanacademy.org/>

-Khan Academy Kids (Age 4-6):
<https://learn.khanacademy.org/khan-academy-kids/>

-Prodigy Math Game:
<https://www.prodigygame.com/>

More free learning websites:

<https://www.starfall.com/h/>

<https://www.abcya.com/>

<https://www.funbrain.com/>

<https://www.splashlearn.com/>

<https://www.storylineonline.net/>

<https://pbskids.org/>

<https://www.highlightskids.com/>

<https://www.coolmath4kids.com/>

<http://www.mathgametime.com/>

<https://www.uniteforliteracy.com/>

<http://www.literactive.com/Home/index.asp>

<http://www.sciencekids.co.nz/>

<https://www.switchzoo.com/>

<https://www.seussville.com/>

<https://www.turtlediary.com/>

<https://www.e-learningforkids.org/>

CBC recommendations:

<https://www.cbc.ca/parents/learning/view/curio.ca-a-teacher-resource-is-now-free-for-families-to-use>

<https://www.cbc.ca/parents/learning/view/covid19-gift-idea>

<https://www.cbc.ca/parents/play/view/indoors-activities-for-kids-2020>

Steve, we thought you would like this one:
<https://www.cbc.ca/parents/play/view/how-to-plant-a-small-space-garden>

<https://www.cbc.ca/parents/play/view/printable-spring-scavenger-hunt>

Parents, we hope you find these sites useful and your children enjoy them. And grandparents, these are great sites to use when your grandchildren are visiting after the current COVID-19 situation improves.

Clergy:

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Rev. Dan Wold – Deacon

Rev. Dr. Elisabeth
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