

Grace-filled Voices

May 5, 2015

A Challenge from the Search Team

By Trish Stewart

What an exciting few days we were blessed to spend with our Bishop Keith! As we sat and listened to him during his sermon, breaking bread with him, meeting with him or listening to his teaching on Tuesday evening, I could not help but be challenged! I am struck that Jesus must have challenged His flock in much the same way.

Did you notice how often the Bishop asked questions? This Grace Filled Voices will ask questions also, some of the same questions and some new ones. Prayerfully set aside time to allow the Holy Spirit to give you wisdom and discernment as you reflect on these questions. I would value your reflections should you want to share them with me as your Search Team Chairperson. (Email Patricia.stewart417@gmail.com)

Jesus said, "Go into all the world and preach the good news to all creation". What communities are "all the world" to the members of Grace Anglican Church? Who is "all creation"? This is The Great Commission. Whose job is that?

The church in the Acts of the Apostles was formed because the disciples were sent out by persecution. Bishop John Guernsey said, "God uses a crisis to get us back in line with His purposes". Is God trying to get His Church back in line and using crisis to do so? Is God trying to

get Grace Anglican Church back in line with His purposes? What is His purpose?

Bishop Keith noted that we are a church strong in Intercessory prayer. Ask yourself, for what areas are we usually praying? Healing? Safety? Are we praying specifically for the local community of non-believers?

What are some of the other things we do well at Grace Anglican Church? -----? How can we bring those areas to the unchurched? What gifts do we have at our disposal to help us do this?

We have a beautiful Anglican Liturgy filled with Scripture, music, preaching, prayers and Holy Eucharist. Many of us grew up in a Liturgical Church; some joined just a short time ago. Visualize yourself walking into a Sunday service at Grace Anglican Church. See yourself sitting down and the service beginning. The cross leads a group of people in robes down the aisle, followed by the choir. Would you be able to follow the service without help? What areas would be easiest to follow? When might you get lost? What could we do to make our Anglican Liturgy accessible to anyone who dropped into our service?

Following our recent study of the Revelation of Jesus Christ to John, we heard God's Exhortation to Grace Anglican Church: "I am not done

with you; you have work to do. Stay the course. Do this: Keep praying; keep coming together; move on. Learn to love those I love. Don't be wishy-washy. Be strong! Wake up! Don't be afraid of what is new IF it is of Me. Don't worry about the future." Was that just an exercise in Bible study? What do these exhortations from God mean for us?

Finally, as you sit in our worship service next Sunday, look around you. What will the faces in our sanctuary look like five years from now? Ten years from now? How do your answers to the questions above affect this vision?

Praise God we do not have to do all the things

we need to do alone! We have the Holy Spirit who deposits His Gifts within a community to accomplish His purposes. Jesus promised Grace the following: "I will be with you always. I will give you every good gift. No one can shut the door that I open. Keep your eyes on me and all will be well. I will provide for you a new Pastor. I already know who the new Rector will be."

God is good, all the time.

Blessings.

Trish

Evening Prayer

Tonight at 6:30 p.m.

Before the Tuesday Teaching Come early and get yourself in a proper frame of mind to study God's Word at the Tuesday night Teaching

The **7:30 a.m. Spoken Service** For those who want a quiet worship experience come to the spoken service at Grace at 7:30 a.m. on Sundays. We know there are people who are not able to come to the 9:30 service.

Prayers & Squares

Will meet on Saturday, May 9th
at 9:30 a.m.

Everyone who wants to sew quilts is welcome to come.

Senior Women's Bible Study

Thursday mornings at 10:30 a.m. at Grace Anglican.

Wednesday Mornings at 10:00

Join us for a service of
Holy Eucharist at Grace

Tuesday Night Teaching Series

Our Tuesday night teachings continue. Join us tonight for fellowship and a lively discussion on the Sermon Notes from last Sunday.

Mothers Day Brunch

Sunday, May 10, 2015

Presented by the men of Grace.

Men, please plan to come early to help set up or stay late to clean up after the
Brunch

Ladies' Luncheon

Ladies of Grace—Join Marie Fisher and other ladies of our church for a no-host lunch at Café Rosarita on the 2nd Thursday of each month. This month's lunch will be on May 14th at noon. Please sign up on the welcome table

This Week at Grace

April 28, 2015—May 5, 2015

Tues., April 28, 2015

11:30 a.m. Bible Study
 6:30 p.m. **Evening Prayer**
 7:00 p.m. Teaching

Wed. April 29, 2015

10:00 a.m. Holy Eucharist Service
 2:00 p.m. Teaching/Small Group
 3:30 p.m. Staff Meeting

Thurs. April 30, 2015

7:00 a.m. Bible Study
 10:30 a.m. Senior Women's Bible Study
 4:00 p.m. Choir Rehearsal

Fri. May 1, 2015

6:30 p.m. Evening Prayer & Healing

Sat. May 2, 2015

8:00 a.m. Men's Bible Study

Sun. May 3, 2015

5th Sunday of Easter

7:30 a.m. Spoken Eucharist Service
 9:20 a.m. Nursery opens
 9:30 a.m. Holy Eucharist Service
 9:30 a.m. Children's Church
 11:00 a.m. Coffee & Fellowship
 11:15 a.m. Church of the Advent

Mon. May 4, 2015

Tues. May 5, 2015

11:30 a.m. Bible Study
 6:30 p.m. Evening Prayer
 7:00 p.m. Tuesday evening teaching

Sunday Servers

May 10, 2015	6th Sunday of Easter	9:30 a.m. Service
First Reader		Kay Focke
Psalm Reader		Dick Phelps
Second Reader		Alfred Focke
Intercessor		Thor Strom
Acolyte		Kalani & Kai Clifford
Lay Euch. Ministers		Carolyn Blumberg, Paula Sholly
Sub-Deacon		Thor Strom
Early Intercessors		Jr & Ann Fox
Welcomers		Paula Sholly, Helen Reid
Ushers		Chris Corey, Dick Sholly
Vestry Person of Day		Dick Sholly
Healing Ministers		Kari Campbell, Jan Simon, John & Liz Gerhart
Counters		Cline Handy & Helen Reid

Bible Readings for May 10, 2015

Acts 10:44-48

Psalm 98

1 John 4:1-6

John 15:9-17

We are using the English Standard Version of the Bible and the Revised Common Lectionary (RCL) (Year B)

Grace Anglican Church

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