

Vicar

The Rev. Sharon Sheffield

Bishop's Committee

Sue Williams, *Bishop's Warden*

TBD, *People's Warden*

Andrea Utzman, *Clerk*

Lynne Richmond, *Minutes*

Secretary

Lance Brooks, *Treasurer*

John Mitchell, *Bookkeeper*

Shelley Arnold

Rick Fridrick

Jane Gordon-Topper

Camelia Jolly

Rosemary Sissons

Minister of Music & Organist

Editor of Canterbury Tales

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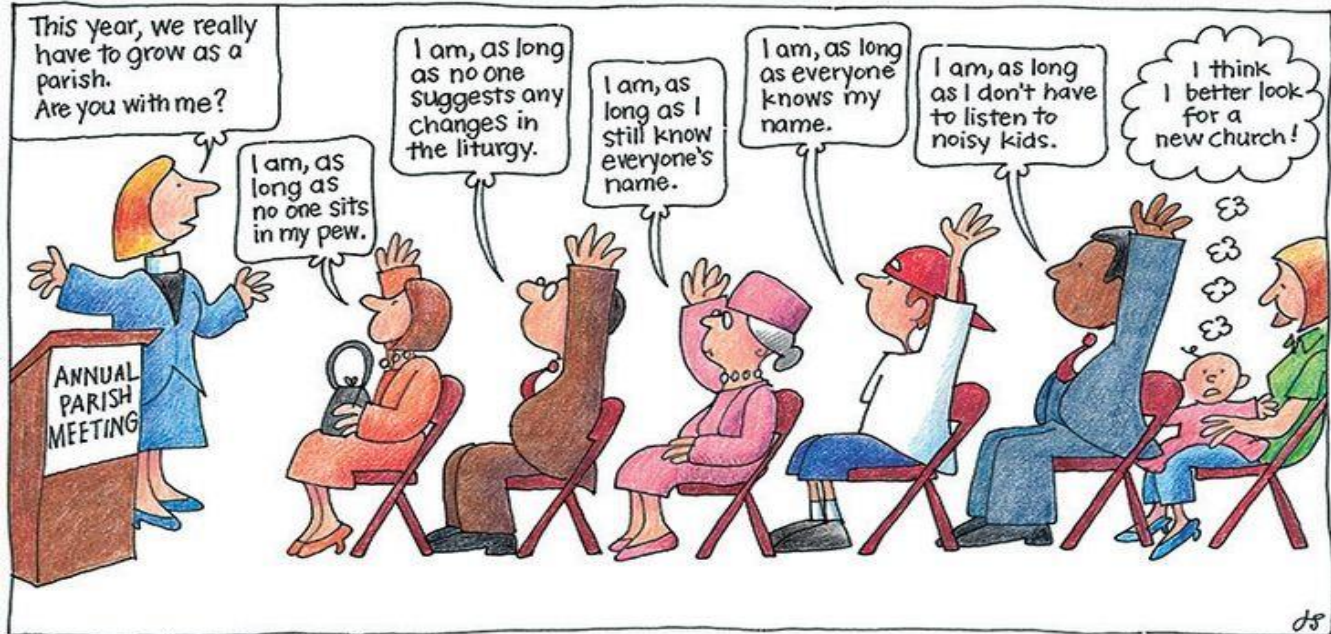
CANTERBURY TALES

FEBRUARY 2024



LENT BEGINS FEBRUARY 14

Annual Meeting Recap



Our Annual Meeting on February 4 was well-attended and fruitful, as was the combined service beforehand. Allen Stout and Jeremy Richmond were thanked for their service as they rotate off the Bishop's Committee for a well-earned break. Jane Gordon-Topper was re-elected to serve a two-year term, and Rosemary Sissons and Rick Fridrick were elected to three-year terms. Sue Williams will be the Bishop's Warden for the year, and the People's Warden will be elected by the Bishop's Committee this month. Sue Williams will also be the delegate to Diocesan Convention, and Jane Gordon-Topper and Mike Sheffield were elected to be the alternates to Convention.

The budget was discussed and approved. We are looking at a deficit of close to \$18000 right now, but that does not take into account planned new fundraisers and possible new renters. We really are not that far away from a balanced budget, despite how it looks; if every pledging unit could give an extra \$65/month, we wouldn't have a deficit. As we know that's not possible, the next best thing is to increase our pledging units and to bring in more money from events. So please, everyone, find a way to bring friends and neighbors to our church services and our events. The more, the merrier in

terms of both our Sunday attendance and our fundraising income. Please think and pray about what you might do this year, and talk with Mother Sharon and the rest of the Committee with ideas, suggestions, and questions.

Copies of the Annual Meeting booklet and the 2024 working budget are available in the church office, and can also be sent electronically.

LENT BOOK STUDY



This year we will be reading and using the spiritual practices in *A Different Kind of Fast: Feeding Our True Hungers in Lent*, by Christine Valters Paintner. This is a brand-new book and is available from Barnes & Noble, bookshop.org, Broadleaf Books, and Amazon. Each week we will explore a different kind of hunger and a different way to live in the world, using practices such as *lectio divina*, contemplative walking, journaling, and imaginative prayer. While many of our book studies work well if you can only attend occasionally, this is definitely a book study that asks for intentional participation and consistency.

Our study will begin with an introductory session on Wednesday, February 7 from 7-8pm in Larkin Hall. We will then meet weekly at the same time from February 21 through March 27 (we will not meet on Ash Wednesday because of the evening service). If you plan on attending class, please buy the book and read the introduction before the first class.

The class will meet in person, but please let Mother Sharon know if you'd like to attend via zoom. A hybrid class is possible, if a bit tricky. We'll set up zoom if we have enough interest in it.



Our Annual Shrove Tuesday Pancake Supper February 13 from 5-7pm.

We'll have pancakes with the option of adding ham, fruit, or both, along with drinks. You can dine in or take your dinner to go, but please note that since we have renters who need to use the hall starting at 7, anyone arriving at 6:45 or later will be a to-go order. (Our renters have kindly agreed to meet later than usual to accommodate our dinner, so let's be kind to them in return!)

Reservations are due by February 8.



Ash Wednesday Services

We are coordinating services with St. Gregory's again this year, so that as many people as possible in our community can attend.

We will have an 8:00am in-person service at St. Thomas, and a 7:00pm hybrid service at St. Gregory's, 6201 E Willow St. Please contact the church office if you would like ashes delivered to your home during the day; we will accommodate as many people as we can. Please mark your calendars and let's all make a holy start to our Lenten journey. **Note: there will be no Morning or Evening Prayer on Ash Wednesday.**

LENTEN PILGRIM BAGS

We continue our tradition of having Pilgrim Bags to use on our **Lenten Journey**. Each bag will contain a **Lenten devotional booklet**, a **candle**, and a **prayer card**, wrapped in a muslin bag that you can decorate for the journey.

Unfortunately, we can't offer Lent Madness books, as everything is digital this year, but we will let everyone know the link for Lent Madness booklets when we know it. We will have 110 bags available on a first-come, first-served basis at the Shrove Tuesday dinner and the Ash Wednesday services. If you would like a **Lenten Pilgrim Bag** but are unable to attend the Shrove Tuesday dinner or Ash Wednesday services, please notify Mother Sharon.

LENTEN STATIONS OF THE CROSS



Diane Silk will be leading the Stations of the Cross at noon on Fridays during Lent. You are invited to take this time to walk with Jesus and fellow members of the community. No RSVP is necessary – just come as you have the time.

St. Thomas Supper Club

Monday, March 4th, 2024
in Larkin Hall

5:00 - Socializing

5:30 - Dinner

6:00 - Fun & Games



Please bring a friend and come join us for the first ever “St. Thomas Supper Club”. This is a *no fee* event.
ALL ARE WELCOME!

RSVP to John Hannan at hannanjth@gmail.com so we have an idea of how many are coming.

St. Patrick's Party

Come join us on Saturday,
March 16th 6:00-9:00 pm

We'll have some tasty Irish food & drink.
Maybe you'll be the *Lucky One* as we will
be playing Bingo.

Cost is \$20 for dinner
Bingo cards \$1 each.

This is a "Raise the Roof" Fundraiser Event



News from our St. Gregory's Siblings

MUSIC AT FOUR

ON SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 25TH AT 4:00 PM, ST. GREGORY'S MUSIC AT FOUR CONCERT SERIES PRESENTS THE **BRIDGE CREEK BAND**, A DIVERSE GROUP OF MUSICIANS ON GUITAR, BANJO, BASS, PERCUSSION, AND VOCALS, IN A CONCERT OF AMERICANA, BLUEGRASS AND GOSPEL MUSIC. A FREE-WILL OFFERING WILL BE RECEIVED AND A RECEPTION WILL FOLLOW THE CONCERT.

Thursday Soup Suppers and Compline at St. Gregory's – Feeding Body and Soul

On each of the Thursdays in Lent (February 22 and 29, March 7, 14, and 21), our St. Gregory's siblings will host a soup supper beginning at 6:00PM. Diane Kela and her team of cooks will feed us delicious meals of soup, salad, and bread. A free-will donation, as you are able, will help defray the cost of the food. There is no need to RSVP before the meals.

Following supper, at about 7:00pm, there will be a brief service of Compline in the church. See you there!



Birthdays

Rosemary Sissons 2/12

John Oppenheim 2/14

Ashley Sanchez 2/22

Jamie Garvin 2/23

Darlene Harrison 2/25



The world, especially the people of the United States, and for peace all over the world and wherever there is oppression or trouble.

Serving in the Armed Force at home and around the world: members of the U. S. Army: **Adam** and Boston; the U. S. Marine Corps: Sean, Adelangel and Jesse; the U. S. Air Force: Jordan, Joshua, and Carlos; the U. S. Navy: **Jonathan** and the U. S. Coast Guard: **Jennifer** and Corey.

The protection and guidance of Parishioners and Friends: Bertha, Ariana, Alyssa, Ana, Deb, Joey and his mothers Beth and Jan, Penny and her family, Chris and his family, Daniel, Becky, Sandra, Alex, Josef, Brandon, Rosie, Nathan, Paul, Gayle's doctor, Patricia's children, Sarah S., Ginny, Charlene, baby Jordan's family, Melissa, Doreen, Pam, Irma, and Joy,

The healing of Parishioners and friends: **Karen, Liz, Carlene, Samantha, Patrick, Allyson, Allen, Joanne, Rosie, Jim, Bill, Lillian,** Linda M., Diana, Susanne, Ana, Rae Ann, Kathy, Linda O., Gingi, Becky, Michael, Kathryn, Asgeir and Rosa, Eric, Mary Ellen, Beverly, Paige, Diane, Toni, Pat, Harper, Lessa, Becky, Jane, Laura, Tori, Lance, Karen, Terry, Jared, Scott, Jeff, Jim L., Lu, Richard, Cindy, Jason, Gayle, Lori, Nancy W., Janice, Patricia B., Carolyn, Carmen, Ruben, David F., Melanie, David, Jessica, Patrick, Patricia, Russ, Amanda, Father Michael, Vivian, Kenobi, Eduardo, Bishop Curry, Stacey D., Wilver, Belinda, Will, Bill, Jace, Rick F., Larry F., Suzanne M., Antoinette, Ron, Jean H., Susan K., Daren, Marty and support for all families and friends caring for loved ones, the people of Ukraine, India, Vietnam, Peru, Nigeria, Haiti, Ethiopia, Afghanistan, Sudan, Myanmar and all parishioners and friends with health problems.

Homebound and Special Needs: **Karen, Samantha** and the homeless, the poor and the unemployed, affordable housing for families, the end of COVID-19, Ebola, AIDS, and Cancer in the world, and for those suffering from mental illness.

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