



The Digital Dragon

The Season after Pentecost July 2010

St. George's Episcopal Church
950 Spruce Street
Riverside, CA 92507
951-686-9936
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No. 6

Upcoming Events

Latest News

Link: www.my.calendars.net/stgeorge

We've heard you!

Summer Worship

Congregational Doings

Sunday Summer Services
9:00 AM - Choral Holy Eucharist

Wednesday Service
Canceled July 21-August 11
11:00 AM - Bible Study
Noon - Holy Eucharist & Healing Service

Choir Practice - **Canceled through Summer**
Parish Work Day - Saturdays 8:00
(2nd Saturday)

Daughters of the King Meeting -
Thursdays 5:00 PM (3rd Thursday)

- ❖ **FOURTH OF JULY:** We will have our morning worship at 9 am and then will gather again at 8 pm to share desserts and watch the fireworks from our parking lot. The goal is to have a low maintenance evening with little set up, little clean up and just fellowship. To that end, please bring what you need, finger foods to share (or the plates, napkins, utensils to serve what you bring), lawn chairs and blankets.
- ❖ **SUMMER SUNDAY EVENINGS:** Remember, that there is no 5 pm service during July and August, but plans are in the works for some kind of casual fellowship events throughout the summer on July 18, August 1, 15, and 29. The August dates are still in the works, but July 18 we will have an Ice Cream Social, so dust off your ice cream maker and start practicing those wonderful ice cream recipes (or bring some ice cream or toppings!). The goal of Summer Sunday Evenings is to create low maintenance opportunities for all of us to get together. So as we go through the summer, we will ask that you bring your own chairs and blankets, dishes and drinks, and we'll usually ask that you bring something to share.
- ❖ **DAUGHTERS OF THE KING:** If you are interested in learning more about this organization, they are starting a study group for prospective members. Please contact Ann Rendon if you are interested at annrendon@earthlink.net or 686-7121.
- ❖ **OUTREACH:** Our outreach programs need your help during the summer. Many of them, like Project Food and the Blood Bank depend on volunteers and donors from local colleges. Please

Prayer Requests

For Jerry who is recovering from surgery; For Kirstin and Andee as Kirstin undergoes chemotherapy; Thanksgiving: that Gayla is greatly improved; For this congregation's generosity to Janis Taylor's students RIP: for Hilary and siblings who mourn the passing of Natalie;

Special Needs	Priest's Reflections
<p>Sherman Institute</p> <p>Art Supply Needs</p> <p>Oils</p> <p>Watercolors</p> <p>Brushes</p> <p>Canvas</p> <p>Beads</p> <p>Feeding America (formerly Second Food Harvest)</p> <p>Fruits and Green Vegetables (canned, fresh)</p> <p>Root vegetables (potatoes, turnips)</p> <p>Baby food</p> <p>Canned milk</p> <p>Protein (canned tuna, ham, beans)</p>	<p>Spiritual Disciplines - Benedictine Spirituality</p> <p><i>Part IV - Having a rule of prayer</i></p> <p>In my last article, I wrote about the Benedictine life of prayer. Benedictine life follows a “rule of prayer” set down centuries ago and includes a daily office that specifies their coming together in community some times as many as seven times a day.</p> <p>Monastic orders built around the Rule of St. Benedict certainly expect all in the order to come together at certain hours of the day to pray. They are also expected to pray through out the day as each member of the order does his or her work. Even those away from the community are expected to pray on schedule. This is how many of us see a ‘rule of prayer.’ In fact, I suspect that most of the time we think that those who have a rule of prayer must be people living in monastic communities. It seems easier for those whose job is just to pray.</p> <p>But we cannot think of a spiritual life as a second life or as something that somebody else does. As Christians committed to doing the work of Christ, we are expected to do those things he taught us. Prayer is one of those things. If you explore the New Testament, you will find many references to prayer, through the words of Christ, through the example of Christ and through the words of the Apostles.</p> <p>Prayer for Jesus was important. It was how he kept in contact with his Father in heaven. It was how he rested after teaching and performing miracles. It was how he prepared for the most excruciating tasks in his life.</p> <p>The Bible does not tell us that Jesus used centering prayer, <i>Lectio divina</i>, or Ignatian spiritual exercises. These came after the prayer Jesus taught to his disciples to pray. Styles of prayer are as different and various as there are people, and there are many ways of doing contemplative prayer. There are many different ways of praying—such as centering prayer-- and every Christian should explore. The one important thing that remains the same for all Christians is that we are to pray.</p> <p>The Book of Common Prayer provides us with a form of Daily Office to be said in the morning, noon, evening and night, before bed. This coupled with the daily lectionary in the BCP bring us a rich prayer experience that includes Bible study. But a rule of prayer without self examination does not allow God to work with us toward perfection. Even the members of a monastic community are expected to take time for regular silent prayer and time with their confessor. If we do not allow those times of silent meditation and contemplation, then we rob ourselves of God’s intimacy and love.</p> <p>Prayer can become a scary thing, especially prayer that involves silence. Yet through that silence we encounter God and we encounter ourselves. The mask we wear for others or hide behind is stripped away when we are silent. It is here where God works with us, to perfect us into the person he would have us become.</p>
<p>Quiz Time</p>	
<p>This is a test with no losers.</p> <p><i>“All mankind is of one author, and is one volume; when one man dies, one chapter is not torn out of the book, but translated into a better language; and every chapter must be so translated; God employs several translators; some pieces are translated by age, some by sickness, some by war, some by justice; but God's hand is in every translation, and his hand shall bind up all our scattered leaves again, for that library where every book shall lie open to one another.”</i></p> <p>Who wrote these words?</p> <p>Extra points if you know the following:</p> <p>What larger, more well-known text is this part of?</p> <p>What movie had a character read out this text as part of the story line? (It’s not what you think).</p> <p>Answer in the next Digital Dragon.</p> 	

Dear Church Mouse,
 What is the purpose of the three readings at service?



Thanks, your friend.

Dear Friend,

The readings are used to help us understand God's Word to the people. The Old Testament reading shows God in relationship with people. The Epistle reading helps us see the young church at work in the world and hear encouragement in ministry. The Gospel shows us Christ's work in the world and helps us to be Christ in the world to others.

We read most of the Bible over three years. Each year (A, B & C) we focus on a different Gospel (Matthew, Mark & Luke) and John is used during holy Days. The Epistles are read three times over the three years, and the Old Testament about 60%-70% is read over the three years.

The Old Testament reading can either reflect the Gospel or can be a continuous story through the year (like the story of David).

Chrys, The Church Mouse

With all new forms of personal prayer, it takes time to see the benefits. When we call upon God to change us, we have to be willing to change. Through time and practice we can see God working through our commitment to prayer and honoring that commitment as we move through our daily lives.

Peace,

Paul

Congregational Doings, cont.

consider assisting with meal preparation on Wednesdays at the First Congregational Church, or giving blood!

- ❖ RUMMAGE SALE: Remember, we are having a big yard sale on September 25. Please continue to bring items throughout the summer. Ann Rendon is organizing this, and needs help now sorting the donations we already have so that we have room for more. Please see her on Sunday if you can offer some help.

Thanks for the Memories [Future Past Lives]

MEMORIES OF BONNIE



I mostly knew Bonnie as the woman with the seemingly endless array of hats. I don't believe I ever saw the same hat twice. She didn't put a hat on just to put it on. The hat was an integral part of a carefully selected outfit. It was the finishing touch.

Not many people can pull off wearing hats these days. They are seen as an anachronism, something that went out of fashion in America years ago, and worn by the English only on special occasions.

But with Bonnie, the hat was not just for special occasions. It was a part of how she presented herself to the world, the way she viewed her place in it. There was no affectation, no intimation of being better or more sophisticated. Bonnie wore hats because she liked hats, because she liked the way hats looked on her, and because they completed who she was.

Who was Bonnie? As I said, I didn't really know her. But what I knew, or at least think I knew, was that she was a caring, loving individual, someone who believed strongly in what she believed, and was willing to say so. One of her strongest beliefs was that everyone has a rightful place in the world, that everyone was part of the larger Christian family, and everyone, no matter who, deserved consideration and respect. She had no truck with elitism or special treatment, and she expected none. Treat her fairly and with respect, and she responded with friendship and affection. That is what I remember about Bonnie.

Oh, and that she loved Gerald with all her heart.

Prayer Requests

Healing: Susan, Gail, Candy, Lorie, Joyce, Janet, Cheryl, Paul, Jerry, Elaine, Mary, Chris, Tracy

For those seeking employment: Martie, Phyllis, Tony, Janis, Mark;

Guidance: Irene, Heaven, Diane