

ANNOUNCEMENTS SUNDAY FEBRUARY 23, 2014

ALERT from Hanover Sherriff

After church last Sunday, a sheriff deputy stopped by the Parish Hall to inform us that there had been several churches in Hanover who had recently had their HVAC systems and/or related piping stolen. They asked that we be more mindful and observant when we drive by the church and report any suspicious activity observed at the church grounds.

As you know, Bob, Ruth, and Jacquie are at the church on Tuesdays and Thursdays. Also, from time to time, there will be approved buildings and grounds activity going on. We will endeavor to communicate the timeframe of this activity to avoid confusion.

As you can see, I have not copied everyone at Fork here, but only the vestry and people whose emails I have that I think are likely to drive by the church.

Thanks, Michael Woods Junior Warden

FEBRUARY CALENDAR

2/23 – Vestry Meeting – After Church service

2/23 – Godly Play Sunday School – 10-10:40AM

2/23 – Adult Sunday School – 9-10AM

2/23 – Outreach Dinner – St. James the Less - Ashland

From the Partlows: “Thoughts about Worship”

Why is the Altar set up differently?

As we mentioned several weeks ago, one of the guiding tenets of Episcopal/Anglican worship is “praying shapes believing.” What we do in worship (prayer) effects our faith and belief in God. You will note in the Book of Common Prayer that the Eucharist is divided into two parts –The Word of God and The Holy Communion. To emphasize this we have made a some of changes in the way the Altar is set up each Sunday. When the service begins, the only item on the Altar is Gospel Book. This indicates we are in first part of the service in which the Word of God is proclaimed through the reading of scripture, the sermon, the prayers of the people, the confession and absolution. The Peace brings this portion of the service to an end.

In most Episcopal Churches there is a small table known as a credence table. This is where the vessels for Holy Communion would normally be placed. Because Fork Church does not have a credence table, the vested chalice and the service book are placed in one window and the water cruet, the lavabo bowl, and lavabo towel are placed in the other.

The Holy Communion begins with an offertory sentence offered by the Celebrant. The Celebrant and Lay Eucharistic Minister move to the Altar/Holy Table. The Wine and Bread are brought forward and the ushers begin to take up the offering during which the choir may sing an anthem. During this time the “table is set.” The items in the window are brought to the table and the Celebrant prepares for Holy Communion.

The celebrant may wash his/her hands using the lavabo bowl and towel. During this time the celebrant may say “Create in me a clean heart O God, and renew a right spirit within me.”

When the table is ready, the anthem concluded, the offering is brought forward. Parishes use a sung piece such as the doxology, hymn 400 or some other musical offering. Bob and I have often used the phrase “All things come of thee and of thine own have we given thee.”

To be continued next week.

Bob and Ruth

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Parish News

Lenten Program

After receiving quite a few surveys concerning the Lenten program and chatting with various people, it appears that Wednesday evenings are both the traditional and favorite time for a midweek Lenten program. We'll begin with a potluck meal followed by a discussion of a short passage from Christian Wiman's book My Bright Abyss: Meditation of a Modern Believer. Each Sunday prior to the Wednesday gathering we will include the passage so that you will have an opportunity to reflect on it prior to Wednesday evening. We have asked Don Schubert to help in facilitating the discussion. The Lenten suppers and program will take place on 5 Wednesdays March 12, 19, 26, April 2, 9.

Update on Bob Partlow. Bob is recovering from his spinal surgery. He is at St. Francis. We hope he will come home by Friday or Saturday and continue his recovery over the next few weeks.

Prayer List: We will be working on a parish prayer by dividing it into two parts: one will be for people with immediate/acute need or illness. Those will be included in the Prayers of the People each week. The second list will include those with ongoing needs such as our shut-ins, those no longer able to physically attend church, etc. This will be printed each week in the bulletin so that you may pray for the people on the list.

Parish Directory: Please check the parish directory to make sure your information is correct. It is posted on the bulletin board in the church. We hope you that in addition to your name, address and telephone number(s) you will include your email addresses.

Dates to add to your calendar

March 5 - Ash Wednesday 7 PM Ash Wednesday Liturgy and Holy Communion
Lenten Suppers
 March 12
 March 19
 March 26
 April 2
 April 9

YOUTH GROUP SCHEDULE - All meetings are in the Parish hall at 5PM

March 9th, 16th and 23rd
April 13th and 27th
May 4th and
June 1st

We will have the Rite 13 Ceremony on February 23rd at the 10:00 am service.

We will have a Children's and Youth Sunday on April 27th at the 10:00 am service.

Information Technology. One of the conclusions from the recent Vestry retreat was that we need to bring Fork Church more into the electronic information age. See the following link to the recent Diocesan Council:
<http://www.thediocese.net/Stretch/Info/>

