



Crossroads Lent - Easter Time 2017

Holy Week and Easter Services

Palm Sunday - 8:00am and 10:00am Services

Maundy Thursday Service - 7:00pm Service

Good Friday - Services at noon and 7:00pm

Easter Sunday - Services at 8:00am and 10:00am, Easter Egg Hunt to follow the 10:00am Service

Dear Sisters and Brothers,

Soon we will hear the songs of the robins, noticing green shoots coming up out of the ground, longer days and an awareness that we have mastered another winter season. We have not been lying dormant like our gardens as winter ministries have been going on throughout the cold winter months. On Super Bowl Sunday over \$536 was collected for the Sanford Food Pantry, along with numerous food items. We opened our doors to the recovering community for Christmas and New Years gatherings and we hosted a *Perspectives of Hope* evening around the opioid epidemic in all parts of our country, but in particular here in Sanford. Messages of hope and stories of recovery and how to administer Narcan in case of an overdose were all part of the evening. Police Chief Connelly, Grace St. Recovery Services, Strategies for a Stronger Sanford and cookies made by our KIDS Supper Club, were all part of the evening. We hosted Marie Briggs from the *Forgotten Initiative* on the First Sunday of Lent a program that supports Foster Children, Foster Parents and Case Workers, and we signed on to let this ministry be our major fundraiser for Lent. Keep those bean pots filled each Sunday with “silent” offerings, it does make a difference.

Part 2 of our Annual Meeting was held and new vestry members are working hard and will have a vestry retreat on March 25th. Lent is in full swing with a Book Study, Special Faith Formation activities for the children, and Lenten daily guided meditations for all who wished a booklet. Soon opportunities to serve with the Clothing Sale and other spring ministries will be available. Thank you all for your generosity of spirit and giving!

Love, Susan+

Does it Matter if I Go To Church?

A Parishioner sent this story to me, what do you think??

Why should I bother going to Church???

A Church goer wrote a letter to the editor of a newspaper and complained that it made no sense to go to church every Sunday. He wrote: "I've gone for 30 years now, and in that time I have heard something like 3,000 sermons, but for the life of me, I can't remember a single one of them. So, I think I'm wasting my time, the preachers and priests are wasting theirs by giving sermons at all."



This started a real controversy in the "Letters to the Editor" column. Much to the delight of the editor, it went on for weeks until someone wrote this clincher: "I've been married for 30 years now. In that time my wife has cooked some 32,000 meals. But, for the life of me, I cannot recall the entire menu for a single one of those meals. But I do know this: They all nourished me and gave me the strength I needed to do my work. If my wife had not given me these meals, I would be physically dead today. Likewise, if I had not gone to church for nourishment, I would be spiritually dead today!"

If for any reason you may have had for not attending Church regularly, maybe it is time to look at why you don't. Are we missing you? Yes! Is there something keeping you away?

What are 15-29 year olds looking for in church today?? A recent article in the Washington Post 9/6/2017 with data compiled from 250 churches noted "They were looking for congregations that were welcoming, accepting, belonging, authentic, hospitable, and caring. Popular music and "hip" ministry programs are not a priority; nor is busyness. What they apparently seek in a church is a sense of family that leads to intergenerational relationships." Do we offer that to this age group and to others??



Teen Coffee House to Reopen March 21st

Along with Stronger Sanford Coalition and staff from the Junior High, Matt Westerlund, our youth ministry coordinator, and maybe volunteers like yourself, a new group of teens will benefit from this coffee house. Providing a safe place to meet, eat good snack food, offer some job training for participants and an afternoon with games, homework help, etc. was in the past, a great hit. We are working with a younger group this time, hopefully to keep them engaged for the next few years as they transition to High School.

Supper Club Kids are Super

What a great year we are having. Our KIDS come from the Lafayette School and this year the School District was able to arrange transportation to the church. Several families do not have vehicles or cannot pick up their children so we provide transportation home. A special thank you to volunteers: Rev. Wanda, Sarah Castle and Rev. Susan. "It is a highlight of my week," said Rev. Susan.



Rev. Wanda supervises Austin and Isaiah as they prep veggies.



Sarah Castle helps Marissa and Daniel as they construct a wooden project.



Rev. Wanda and Isaiah, Magen and Austin, and Sarah and Marissa have fun following directions and making crafts. Note adults and Mentors wear orange aprons.



Marissa and Anthony enjoy a game.



Magen, a former third grader now in her 5th year, is a mentor to Marissa who is prepping the apples for Apple Crisp.

50¢ Clothing Sale



St. George's Episcopal Church

3 Emerson Street - Sanford

Friday, April 28th - 9:00-3:00

Saturday, April 29 - 9:00-1:00

FMI 324-8119

Free Blood Pressure Screening!