

Holy Apostles “Grapevine”

The Monthly Newsletter of Holy Apostles Episcopal Church

FROM THE DESKS OF
PASTORS SHERYL AND CHRIS KESTER-BEYER

Dear Friends in Christ,

New words and phrases seem to pop up daily anymore. One such term is ‘neighbor justice’. At first I thought, “What in the world is that supposed to mean?” Fortunately, I found a definition: *A concept for scriptural interpretation that emphasizes seeking the neighbors’ good for the sake of justice for all.* Of course I found it in church stuff, which too often uses insider language, but here it has a connection with something very familiar.

Interestingly, how does the pledge of allegiance end?—with liberty and justice for all; the very same terminology as the definition for this new theological phrase. Too often we take this notion of “justice for all” for granted, giving it lip service when we say the pledge, but not thinking much about it as long as our rights aren’t stepped on.

Speaking of neighbor justice reminds us that justice is truly supposed to be **for all**. We are clearly told Jesus was angry when he cleared the temple; an anger born of feeling that the average person of that day had too many roadblocks to navigate in order to get to worship. But I think Jesus was angrier when he took on the Pharisees, who confronted him when he healed on the Sabbath. They insisted on defining the rights of hurting people by putting restrictions on when they could find hope and healing. Jesus’ anger was not because they stepped on his right to heal on the Sabbath, but for the person with the withered hand, the leper and the bent-over woman. He acted for them, on their behalf, and stood up for them...that is neighbor justice.

It’s good to remind ourselves that only the first three commandments are about God, while the other seven are about how to get along with our neighbor. They’re God’s word to the children of Israel, part of the covenant between God and God’s people, but most of them speak of our neighbor. God was concerned about how we live in the midst of others. That’s another way to look at this neighbor justice thing;

That’s a new challenge for me. Instead of demanding my rights, what does it mean for me (and for you) to demand the rights of my neighbor? What does justice look like for them? How is it different from what it looks like for me?

Neighbor justice, could it be if we truly grasped this idea, we could actually solve a lot of the world’s struggles? Just some thoughts to chew on as summer draws to a close.

Pastor Chris



Holy Apostles' Episcopal Church

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Mitchell, NE 69357
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Email: apostles@embarqmail.com

Sunday service: 10:30am
Office hours: Mornings - MTW

Mitchell Ministerial

Association Food Pantry

The Food Pantry is asking for the following donation item(s):

August- canned fruit

Your contributions are greatly appreciated.

Pantry coordinators:

Susan Weitzel-(308)623-2684 or

Karen French (308)623-188

Backpack Program

The Backpack Program is asking for the

Following donation item(s):

Granola, Fruit or Cereal Bars

Vacation Bible School

Vacation Bible School was a big success. We had about 30 youngsters, ages 3-12, participate in "Cave Quest" and we had loads of help from adults and older kids as well. They sang, danced, participated in lots of fun activities and even got some snacks.

A huge thank you to all who contributed either time or supplies and helped make the experience such a positive one for all these youngsters.

Annual Council

Just a reminder that the 2018 Annual Council will be held October 26 and 27 at the Gering Civic Center. For more information you can check out the website <http://annualcouncil.episcopal-ne.org>

Fifth Wednesday

August brings us our next Fifth Wednesday community meal. It will be held at Beecher Hall on August 29th at 5:45. Tentatively we are planning on another BBQ with the pulled pork and beans (frozen from earlier) as well as burgers. Please plan on attending and providing a side of your choice.

FYI- Names and Contact Information

Priests-in-charge:	The Reverend Chris Kester-Beyer	(402)694-9189 (cell)
	The Reverend Sheryl Kester-Beyer	(402)694-9182 (cell)
Deacon:	The Reverend Angela Jones	(308)631-1922 (cell)
Senior Warden	Judy Kieler	(308)225-4645
Junior Warden	Deb Yamamoto	(970)576-0644
Holy Apostles Website	www.holyapostlesmitchell.org	
Facebook	Holy Apostles Mitchell NE	

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Bishop:	The Rt. Reverend J. Scott Barker	Sbarker@episcopal-ne.org
Canon to the Ordinary	The Revered Canon Elizabeth Easton	Leaston@episcopal-ne.org
Diocesan Administrator	Lachisha Baskin	Dioadmin@episcopal-ne.org
Director of Finance	Beth Byrne	Bbyrne@episcopal-ne.org
Archdeacon	The Reverend Betsy Bennett	Deaconbetsy@windstream.net

(Diocesan Environmental Ministries & Ministry of Diaconate)

August Sunday Service Assignments

Dates	Lector/Server	Acolytes	Ushers	Gifts	Coffee
8/5	LeAnn/Sister E-S	Bill R	Steve J/Nick S	Pete	Nick & Katy
8/12	Steph/Maryruth	Mary & Merrill	LeAnn/Deb	Nikki	Pete & Nancy
8/19	Deb/Jenny	Matt	Nick S/Chris C	Nick & Katy	Andee & Jenny
8/26	Marilyn/Sister E-S	Bill R	Matthew & Oren	Sharon	Chris & Steph
9/2	Sylvia/Jenny	Mary & Merrill	the Raney's	Chris & Steph	LeAnn & Nancy

August Altar: Andee Symonds & Nancy Sato

August Coffee Hour snacks provider: Katy Sakurada

August Birthdays and Anniversaries

Birthdays:

8/1	Stephanie Cannon	8/22	Jesse Meysenburg
8/4	Will Raney	8/25	Becky Allbaugh
8/11	Fred Sakurada	8/25	Jakob Allbaugh
8/14	Marilyn Johnson	8/26	Lucy Allbaugh
8/19	Bobby Allbaugh	8/31	Carol Flaherty
8/21	Maryruth Reed		

Anniversaries:

8/6	Chad & Carlye Johnson	8/25	Steve & Marilyn Johnson
8/19	Steve & Sylvia Dolberg	8/27	Wil & Aloha Hettinger
8/23	Kyle & Anne Lewis	8/29	Levi & Lucy Allbaugh

August Altar Flowers

Given by:

In memory of:

As of the time of publication, there were no flower memorials for August.

This is what the LORD Almighty said: ‘Administer true justice; show mercy and compassion to one another.’

Zechariah 7:9

August 2018						
Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
29	30	31	1	2	3 Group Reunion@ Penny's 7 am	4
5 10:30 am Holy Eucharist Service	6	7	8	9	10 Group Reunion@ Penny's 7 am	11
12 10:30 am Holy Eucharist Service Vestry meeting	13	14	15	16	17 Group Reunion @ Penny's 7 am	18
19* 10:30 am Holy Eucharist Service	20	21	22	23	24 Group Reunion @ Penny's 7 am	25
26 10:30 am Holy Eucharist Service	27	28	29 5 th Wednesday Community Dinner 5:45 pm	30	31 Group Reunion @ Penny's 7 am	1

*As third Sunday, August 19 will be the Pastors' Discretionary Fund offering date. Any cash in offering plate will go to this fund.

Please note that Sunday School will begin meeting again after Labor Day. More info in September.

Note the vestry meeting on August 12.