

Holy Apostles "Grapevine"

The Monthly Newsletter of Holy Apostles Episcopal Church

1730 18th Street, P. O. Box 188,
Mitchell, Nebraska, 69357

Then Jesus looked up at his disciples and said:

"Blessed are you who are poor...

"Blessed are you who are hungry...

"Blessed are you who weep now..."

Dear Friends in Christ,

First, we, (Pastors Sheryl and Chris) want to thank everyone for their concern about Pastor Sheryl's Father. His health is failing, and the family recently had to make some decisions regarding his care. At the present, he is now in a care facility with the goal of rehab. More decisions will probably have to be made, which means lots of phone calls, texts, etc. and probably a few more trips to Colorado Springs. During this time, we ask your patience and understanding as we try to cover all the bases, in case some things might fall through the 'cracks'. Fortunately, Sheryl does have two brothers, who are actively involved as well, along with her Mother.

After we got the phone call from Sheryl's brother, absorbed the news about her father, we braced ourselves for the worst case scenario as Sheryl headed off to be with her family. And yet, reflecting back on Jack's life (Jack being Sheryl's dad) the family feels blessed that he has had 84 years of relatively good health and personally it's been a blessing to have him be a part of my life for nearly 25 years. But as I say that, I also recall Jack had several siblings, most whom never made it past 65 and none that I ever met. So it raises the question, "Are their children (meaning Sheryl's cousins) not as blessed because their parents did not make it to 84?"

Or the flip side of this question. Right after church, on January 20th, at Holy Apostles', Nick Sakurada got a call that his brother, Masumi, had died. Masumi would have turned 102 the next day. Is the Sakurada family more blessed than us?

Let's take this further. Not long ago I was flipping through my Facebook feed, when I came across a video post. It showed a young boy being celebrated with confetti and applause as he walked down a hospital hallway toward a bell. He reached up and rang the bell celebrating that he was cancer free in the new year. The string of comments were upbeat and congratulatory. But then I came across this one: *Wonderful for this young man, my son died in October...ouch.*

Which got me thinking. While not trying to put a damper on the celebrating of 'blessings' of health and long life, the corollary isn't that losing someone before their 'prime' or even an infant, means that one is 'not blessed'. The beatitudes remind us even though we weep, even though we are poor, even though we are weak, we are blessed, because God is with us. Jesus looked over that downtrodden mass below him, had compassion and called them blessed.

Yes, we give thanks for Jack's 84 years, and what time is yet to come. I also give thanks for my cousin who just passed away in her 60's and I give thanks for a cousin I never knew having only lived 4 days, because every breath we take and have is a gift and blessing from God. So, give thanks for that breath you just took and give thanks for the next. Because God is with you.

Blessed are you,
Pastor Chris



Holy Apostles' Episcopal Church

1730 18th St/PO Box 188
 Mitchell, NE 69357
 (308) 623-1969

Email: apostles@embarqmail.com

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

**Mitchell Ministerial
 Association
Food Pantry**

Pantry coordinators:
 Susan Weitzel: 308-623-2684 or
 Karen French: 308-623-1883

Food Pantry Item Requested for February:

Canned Fruit

BackPack Program

BackPack Item requested for February:

Individual Boxed Cereal

Your Contributions are greatly appreciated!!

**Shrove Tuesday
 Pancake Supper
 March 5th**

If you are interested
 in helping with this
 event, please talk to
 Pastor Chris.
 More information
 coming soon!!!!

Lent Begins March 6th

Don't forget to mark your calendars for
 March 6th when we will begin our Lenten
 Journey with the traditional Ash Wednes-
 day Worship with Holy Eucharist and
 Imposition of Ashes.

Ash Wednesday Holy Eucharist @ 7 p.m.

FLOWER CHART

The 2019 flower chart has been posted. If people would
 prefer, they may decide to make a donation to any parish
 organization, and the artificial flowers will be dedicated in
 your loved one's name. You will still need to sign up on
 the flower chart.

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	

DIOCESE OF NEBRASKA - RESOURCE LIST

109 N 18 th St	(855)-341-5373
Omaha, NE 68102	(402)341-5373
www.episcopal-ne.org (website)	(402)341-8683 (fax)
dioadmin@episcopal-ne.org (e-mail)	

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

February Sunday Service Assignments

Date	Lector/Server	Acolyte	Ushers	Gifts	Coffee
2/3	LeAnn/Jenny	Clancy	Steve & Nick	Nick & Katy	LeAnn & Nancy
2/10	Andee/Sister E-S	Bill R	LeAnn & Milo	Nancy & LeAnn	Andee & Jenny
2/17	Steph/Maryruth	Mary & Merrill	the Raneys	Pete	Pete & Nancy
2/24	Marilyn/ Jenny	Clancy	Nick & Steve	Nikki	Deb
3/3	Deb/Sister E-S	Bill R	Deb & Atley	Sharon	Fred and Nancy

February Altar: Margaret Fiegel & Nikki Rose

February Coffee Hour snacks provider: Marilyn Johnson

February Birthdays

Feb. 3	Gail Newman	Feb 14	Kyle Lewis
Feb 4	Angela Jones	Feb 17	Hannah Plasencio
Feb 7	Alex Nation	Feb 25	Katy Sakurada
Feb 10	Don Rose	Feb 28	Deb Yamamoto
Feb 12	Nancy Sato		

February Anniversaries

Feb 3	Pastors Chris and Sheryl Kester-Beyer	Feb 14	Rich and Mary Taedter
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February Flowers

February 10th

Mr. & Mrs. George Konishi, Mr. & Mrs. Tokuzo Sakurada John Ruby Sakurai, Shiz Marianne Sakurada

*As each has received a gift, use it to serve one another,
as good stewards of God's varied grace.*

February 2019

Sun Mon Tue Wed Thu Fri Sat

					1 Group Reunion@ Penny's 7 am	2
3 9:30 am Sunday School 10:30 am Holy Eucharist Service	4	5	6	7 ECW meeting at Holy Apostles 1 PM	8 Group Reunion@ Penny's 7 am	9
10 9:30 am Sunday School 10:30 am Holy Eucharist Service	11	12	13	14	15 Group Reunion@ Penny's 7 am	16
17 9:30 am Sunday School 10:30 am Holy Eucharist Service	18	19	20	21	22 Group Reunion@ Penny's 7 am	23
24 9:30 am Sunday School 10:30 am Holy Eucharist Service	25	26	27	28		

*February 17th, (the 3rd Sunday of the month) will be the Pastors' Discretionary Fund offering date.

Any cash in offering plate on this day will go to the Discretionary Fund.

Thank you for your generosity!