

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,

Many years ago now, one of my young mothers shared a conversation she had had with her then 3 or 4 year old. They were getting ready for church and John told his mom, “I don’t want to go to church today.” And his mother responded, “why John, what do you mean?” “Well”, John said, “all Pastor Sheryl ever talks about is Jesus, Jesus, Jesus! I already know about Jesus.”

Ah, the honesty of youth. Sometimes it may feel like in the church, all we ever talk about is Jesus and so what’s the point of coming to church week after week after week. After all, we already know about God and his love for us. We already know that because of Jesus’ death on the cross we have received salvation and the promise of eternal life. We already know the 10 commandments and how we are to live our lives. And we already know that when we mess up and confess our sins we are forgiven and besides that, can’t we confess our sins anytime, anywhere, do we really need to confess them in church? Or for that matter, why come to church when we can go online and download any number of sermons to read or listen to at our own convenience. Indeed, why come to church?

Well, perhaps because it’s not really about knowing it all...although when it gets put that way, it does seem kind of arrogant doesn’t it? To somehow think we know all there is to know about God, and if we’re honest, with ourselves there is always more we can learn about God. And perhaps because when all is said and done it’s not really about coming to church, it’s about our relationship with God.

Think about it. When we love someone, do we ever really know all there is to know about them? That’s part of what makes relationships interesting and worth investing in. A relationship in which we rarely, if ever invest time, is not likely to be much of a relationship. The same is true of our relationship with God; and while church is not the only place we can encounter God, it has been my experience that those who tend to be growing in their faith—growing in their relationship with God, tend to be those who make worship and study and serving God through the church a priority.

Think again about your relationships with those you love. What would happen if you never showed that love? Never spoke the words “I love you.” The relationship would begin to wither from neglect would it not? I think coming to church, in particular worship is one way that we say to God, “I love you”; that my relationship with God is important to me.

But hopefully, when we come to church, we also hear God’s word of love spoken to us. When I teach 1st Communion classes, I like to talk about how God loves us and that the Sacraments of Baptism and Communion are God’s way of saying “I love you” to us. In Baptism, God says “I love you” and “you are mine forever” making a commitment to us, not unlike that which a couple make to one another when they are married. But God is not content to say, “I love you” only once and leave it at that, so in Holy Communion, God says to us, “I love you” over and over and over again.

I don’t know about you, but when I think about Worship and in particular Communion in those terms, it becomes something joyous—not just some strange ritual I have to do, but something I want to experience again and again. Because really, can we ever hear “I LOVE YOU” too many times?

Pastor Sheryl



Holy Apostles' Episcopal Church

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 Mitchell, NE 69357
 (308) 623-1969

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):

September- canned pork & beans

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):

Peanut butter/cheese crackers

Fifth Wednesday

We will celebrate another 5th Wednesday community meal this week. It will be held at Beecher Hall on August 29th at 5:45.

We are planning on a 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.

Please try and pass the word on to someone from the community. We always have plenty of food and fantastic fellowship.

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>

Western Deanery

There will be a Western Deanery meeting at 10:00 am on September 22, at St. Matthews in Alliance.

There will information provided by someone who attended the General Convention in Austin, TX.

Adjournment is expected to be about 2:00 pm following a light lunch and brief worship service.

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)

September Sunday Service Assignments

Dates	Lector/Server	Acolytes	Ushers	Gifts	Coffee
8/26	Marilyn/Sister E-S	Bill R	Matthew & Oren	Sharon	Chris & Steph
9/2	Sylvia/Jenny	Mary & Merrill	the Raneys	Chris & Steph	LeAnn & Nancy
9/9	LeAnn/Sister E-S	Bill R	LeAnn/Deb	Nancy & LeAnn	Steve & Marilyn
9/16	Deb/Maryruth	Mary & Merrill	Nick & Steve	Steve & Marilyn	Nick & Katy
9/23	Andee/Sister E-S	Bill R	Deb/Chris C	Chris & Steph	Andee & Jenny
9/30	Steph/Maryruth	Mary & Merrill	the Raneys	Pete	Deb
10/7	Marilyn/ Jenny	Matthew & Oren	Nick & Clancy	Nikki	Pete & Nancy

September Altar: Judy Kieler, Jenny Hughson

September Coffee Hour snacks provider: Maryruth Reed

September Birthdays and Anniversaries

Birthdays:

9/1 Sterling Cannon	9/16 Judy Kieler
9/8 Kelsey Loutzenhister	9/19 Mary Taedter
9/9 Candice Sherfey	9/22 Christopher Cannon
9/9 Landra Sherfey	9/26 Helen Scott

Anniversaries:

9/29 Levi & Lucy Allbaugh

September Altar Flowers

Given by:

In memory of:

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

I love those who love me, and those who seek me diligently find me.

Proverbs 8:17

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

*As third Sunday, September 16 will be the Pastors' Discretionary Fund offering date. Any cash in offering plate will go to this fund.