

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,

“But go, tell his disciples and Peter that he is going ahead of you to Galilee; there you will see him; just as he told you.”

Mark 16:8

A friend of mine who is a pastor up in South Dakota, recently posted a video to her congregation as the schools in their area were opening this fall and in it she shared these words: “There was a very wise Bishop who told me one time, when I was a little anxious about going into a new situation. You know, Rhonda, before you ever open that door, God has walked before you. God’s already in the space that you are going. So remember that God’s there. Rely upon God. Call upon God and be present and near to God and God will guide you through this situation.”

As I listened to her video I knew exactly who that wise Bishop was, for he had said much the same thing to me in the sermon he had preached at my ordination over 30 years ago, promising me that whenever I stood outside a hospital room or was about to enter someone’s home because their loved one had just died; that I did not go alone, that God, through the power of the Holy Spirit, was already there and would be with me and guide me as I stepped through that door.

But oh, how easy it is to forget this truth; that there is nowhere and no situation where God is not present. Mark Allen Powell, in his book ‘Loving Jesus’, commented how after Jesus was raised from the dead on Easter morning, an angel instructed the women who had come to the tomb, to go and tell the disciples to go to Galilee, and Jesus would be waiting to join them there. A friend of mine who read the book at the same time as me, shared with me, more than once, how she found comfort and hope in that promise, especially as so much in our world is and continues to be uncertain and unsettled.

So it is my hope for you, that you too find comfort and hope in the promise that no matter the situation you may face—no matter what doors you may have to go through (whether of your own choosing or not)—no matter what paths you may travel—no matter what tasks or choices lay before you—and no matter how difficult the future may seem; remember, God’s gone before you and God is already there and no matter where ‘there’ may be, Jesus promises not only to meet you there, but in truth, to walk with you and guide you all along the way.

Grace and peace on the journey,

Pastor Sheryl



Holy Apostles' Episcopal Church

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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):

September-Tuna Helper

Your contributions are greatly appreciated.

Contact number--308-641-7326

Backpack Program

The Backpack Program is asking for the following donation item(s):

Individual cereals & Ramen noodles

Miscellaneous Information

ECW--The fall meeting has been postponed until October 8 at 12:30

Altar Guild--There have been some modifications made to standards that need to be maintained when setting up the altar. These standards will be in place for the foreseeable future. They are posted in the Sacristy. Please see Maryruth if you have any questions.

September altar duty--Andee S & Nancy Sato

Annual Council

Due to Covid-19, the 153rd Annual Council of the Diocese of Nebraska will be Online via Zoom this year! October 17, 2020 from 10 AM - 3 PM. You won't even have to leave your house; just need an internet connection. If you are interested in being Holy Apostles representative or simply being a visitor to this year's Annual Council, please talk to Pastors Chris or Sheryl.

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 Maryruth Reed (308)623-2491
Junior Warden Leann Sato (308)641-9083
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Canon to the Ordinary The Reverend Canon Elizabeth Easton Leaston@episcopal-ne.org
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Director of Finance Beth Byrne Bbyrne@episcopal-ne.org
Archdeacon The Reverend Betsy Bennett Deaconbetsy@windstream.net
(*Diocesan Environmental Ministries & Ministry of Diaconate*)

In-Person Worship to Resume on Sunday, September 13th

We are excited to announce that Bishop Barker has given us approval to resume in-person worship starting on September 13th. However, as we resume worship there are several guidelines (*listed below*) required by Bishop Barker that we are asked to follow.

- 1) Anyone known to be infectious or symptomatic, or who lives in a household with someone who is infectious or symptomatic, should refrain from attending public worship. Those who have underlying health conditions making them more susceptible to Covid-19 are also encouraged to refrain from attending public worship at this time. *Please note: for those in either of these categories, we will continue to livestream our worship service via Facebook Live.*
- 2) Every person must wear a mask at least upon entering and departing the church building.
- 3) Every person is asked to remain at least six feet away from anyone who is not in their household.
- 4) No live singing is permitted, which means there will be no singing of the liturgy or hymns at this time.
- 5) Objects may not be shared or distributed. This includes offering plates, bulletins and food and drink. This means that the offering plate will be placed in the narthex and/or back of the church for you to give your offering as you come to worship and bulletins will continue to be provided via email (and on our website) for you to print out before you come to worship. This also means that there will be no formal coffee and fellowship at this time.
- 6) During the passing of the peace, you are asked to maintain six-foot physical distance with anyone not in your household. A verbal greeting or wave of the hand is encouraged.
- 7) Communion will be in one-kind only, meaning that you will receive only the bread in the form of a wafer. The celebrants will be masked and will use a pair of forceps to distribute communion, so as to minimize contact between celebrant and parishioner.
- 8) Hand sanitizer must be readily available and the building disinfected in-between uses.
- 9) If Covid-19 cases increase in our church's community, in-person worship must be suspended until cases begin to decline.

As your pastors, we totally understand that all these guidelines may feel cumbersome and distracting from worship; it all feels cumbersome and strange to us too, but in order for us to resume worship at this time, these guidelines are what it will take. We hope to see many of you on Sept. 13th, but totally understand if you do not feel comfortable returning to worship at this time. If you have any questions, as we resume in-person worship, do not hesitate to contact us.

Pastors Sheryl and Chris

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

Fear not, for I am with you; be not dismayed, for I am your God; I will strengthen you, I will help you, I will uphold you with my righteous right hand.

Isaiah 41:10

September 2020						
Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
		1	2	3	4	5
6	7	8	9	10	11	12
13 10:30 am Holy Eucharist Service	14	15	16	17	18	19
20* 10:30 am Holy Eucharist Service* Recovery Sunday	21	22	23	24	25	26
27 10:30 am Holy Eucharist Service	28	29	30	1	2	3

*As third Sunday, September 20 will be the Pastors' Discretionary Fund offering date. Any cash in offering plate will go to this fund.

Please note that Sunday School is still suspended for the time being.