



ST. PETER'S
EPISCOPAL
CHURCH

302 MERCHANTS AVE.
FORT ATKINSON, WI 920-563-3889



April 2023

Walk

The simplicity of the deliberate movement;
one foot in front of the other, not passive,
the physicality of it mindful, intentional, despite
the unknown path.

That's not to say you may be weary, expectant,
pregnant with surrender.
No longer full of your own demands, desires,
your head is up, eyes and ears on the skies
attentive, alert, alive,
adventing an arrival, a coming,
knowing *all shall be well*
knowing everything already is well.

Angela Hoffman



WOMEN'S FELLOWSHIP GATHERING

The Women's Fellowship
Gathering took a break for the
Lenten season in order to
allow people to focus on the
Lenten study opportunities, and
the D.O.K. Quiet Retreat.

With a the new season
beginning, The Women's
Fellowship will restart in May. The May
Gathering will be on Friday, May 19 at 10:00 AM
at the Knox's House, W6305 Hoard Rd.



The time of day for these events
has alternated from evenings to
mornings in order to make it
possible for everyone to attend at
least some of these special
gatherings.

We encourage you to come and
try it out if you haven't already,
and if you would like to bring a friend, please do
so...all are welcome!



The Order of the Daughters of the King

Quiet Day
March 11, 2023

Three of our members who attended the Daughters of the King Lenten Quiet Day at Mt. Zion Episcopal Church, Oconomowoc, shared their reflections about the day and what it meant to them.



More Reflections on the Retreat

As you know, my reaction upon reading the agenda for the day was “Yikes, that's a LOT of quiet time. I was thinking there would be speakers, etc.” As it turned out, those quiet hours FLEW by and it was a wonderful opportunity to stop, pause, reflect and pray. In my day to day, that doesn't happen. I most appreciate that I had the opportunity to pray the Stations of the Cross. Because I did this by myself, I was able to stop and say twice or even three times some of the prayers. That extra time offered me ... total immersion in the reality of God's gift and Jesus' sacrifice for us. Several stations were set up for prayer and reflection. Books were available for perusal or study. Praying and lighting a votive candle for

(Continued on next page)

Reflections on a Retreat at Mt. Zion Episcopal Church in Oconomowoc, Wisconsin

There were many facets of this Quiet Time that made for a soul-satisfying day at Mt. Zion. The setting was just right for thinking, praying, and reflecting: a historic church overlooking Fowler Lake. The DOK co-president Jan Irvine and Deacon Rebecca Terhune introduced the agenda and the church layout. The Rev. TJ Humphrey presented three homilies throughout the day, which were followed by a time of reflection. A reading was given providing context for the homily presented. Then Fr. TJ followed up with his message.

All three homilies were moving and had a powerful message. The message woven through them was the presence of Christ moving in us and through our lives from the breaking of the bread at Holy Eucharist to the end point of presenting ourselves in death. It is then that we are fully revealed and complete. In essence we move through our daily lives in preparation for this event.

Throughout the reflection time, we had choices of selecting a book to read and take home (A Book for a Buck), meditating in a quiet space, going to Prayer Stations, writing down thoughts, or individually praying the Stations of the Cross in the sanctuary. Creative coloring was also available for people as they meditated.

The day culminated in the celebration of the Holy Eucharist and Healing Service led by The Rev. Thomas Buchan of Nashotah House and priest-in-charge of St. Anskars in Hartland, WI. These are my impressions. More will follow.
By Ginny Laurent, DOK

(Continued from previous page)

the deceased infant found in a Whitewater field gave me some comfort. While coloring an icon, I was surprised that so many family members and friends who had passed on came to me. The memories evoked were warm and comforting. The homilies preached by the Rev. TJ Humphrey were profound and real. I don't have adequate words. I am thankful for the day.

By Eda Wilson

More Quiet Retreat Thoughts

Fr. T.J. Humphrey's powerful and timely messages really hit home. Appropriate for the Lenten Season he encouraged us to face the difficult issues of our lives... including death. He told us to look back to when we experienced Jesus and the power of God. Then he asked us if we, like the disciples, didn't really get it. How long after we encountered God's grace, did it take us to revert back to our previous worries, fears, and our original definitions of life? I've always looked at death as an odd yet undeniable and complicated goal of life. But do we really trust in God's love and timing? Fr. T.J. reminded us that the other side of death is the pure light of God's presence. He feels it is only after we die that we become fully human. I think of our constant need to put our lives into God's hands as we practice submission and faith. But we should also put our deaths into His loving and capable hands...that's submission to the max. That's when we truly journey with Christ.

By Terrie Knox



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St. Peter's Vestry Minutes (Unapproved)

March 15, 2023



Present: Bill Cannon, Scott Fernhaber, Terrie Knox, Mark Bardenwerper, Ginny Laurent

Absent: Matt Bills, Bev Wille

Mother Mindy opened with prayer

I. Review and approval of February Minutes: Bill moved to approve, Scott seconded. No discussion. Vote taken all in approval.

II. Financial Reports:

Some large donation early in the year has us above budget for now.

Expenses are a couple hundred below budget.

1,400. to the black. Balance Sheet: Markets are down from last year, 13% down. Premier has managed our investments well, considering how volatile the Market has been.

III. Business:

Agape Ministry – We need to see if there is anyone interested helping lead the Agape ministry. If not, we should have a large distribution to use up the funds from the grant given to us for this. We need at least two people involved to do this. Mark was willing to get involved. Meeting will be scheduled for some day after church. Mark asked for more information on the Agape ministry and the grant. Mother Mindy will send.

Senior Warden – The two directions we were going is not panning out. Scott can continue to be Sr. Warden until January of 2024. We are trying to be careful of people's perceptions. He's glad to step aside when another candidate can be found.

Covid Comments – gone from Pandemic to endemic. People are still getting it. Glad that we voted to keep masks as it seems like it had making its rounds again.

Foot Washing at Maundy Thursday service- How do we feel about that? Ginny suggested that we have one person who represents the whole congregation get their feet washed. Mark said we should show the community that we are a people of faith. There's no scientific evidence of the feet being a way of spread of Covid. MM was just wanting to feel out the vestry on this.

Church Security Seminar – Scott is attending the end of April and would like to have someone else go with him. Mark will be if he can, Mother Mindy will go as well, if she is able to.

IV. Oral Reports:

Mark - Range Hood will be inspected tomorrow morning. Fixed refrigerator in the Rectory. Hopefully what he did on the dishwasher will do the trick, as well. He's delimed the sinks and the stainless steel counters downstairs.

Mother Mindy- keeping busy with Lent: book studies and mid week services. Also, working ahead on Holy Week.

Bill – attending the Faith Community Parish Nurse course. In this course, they advise that churches that have a parish nurse program should have malpractice insurance. He suggested that Liz continue with the course, but he should not as the malpractice for a physician is really high. It is less expensive for a nurse. If we were to follow through with this, it would involve putting in place policies and procedures.

Terrie asked if it were possible to designate a part of the church that would not be on camera. Scott

said it is physically possible to do this. We can tell the camera to not look at certain rows. The issue would be for when people go up for communion.

Mother Mindy closed in prayer.

Bill moved to adjourn. Scott seconded. All in Favor.

Respectfully Submitted, Barb Werner

PRAYER LIST

In your charity, please remember the following people in your prayers:

Jerry, Jack, Vickie, Charlie, Cynthia, Kristin, Steve, Deborah, Russel, Obi, Young, Jennifer, Gary, Lisa, Bill, Matt, Scott, Bev, John, Sally, Nancy, Cheri, Doris, Jory, Joan, Dedi, Melody, David, Don, Mary, Georgia, Jim, Dale.

(If you would like to add someone to the prayer list, please contact the office.)

EVENTS IN OUR COMMUNITY

ALLELUIA SOUND AND GOOD VIBRATIONS ANNUAL TOUR

Friday, April 21, 2023
7:30 PM

First Congregational Church, UCC
31 Milwaukee Ave. W.
Fort Atkinson

END OF LIFE ISSUE SEMINAR

Saturday, April 22, 2023
8:30am - 12:30pm

Faith Community Church
W 5949 Hackbarth Rd.

(Please contact Shirley Brown, RN,
BSN with any questions:
920-542-8781)

Bible Study Notes

Dec 18 2022

Jacob flees to Laban, Rebekah's brother, to find wife and to get away from Esau who wants to kill him. Esau took Ishmael's daughter, Mahalath, as wife thinking she would be more pleasing to Isaac and Rebekah.

Genesis 28:10-15, Jacob dreams of stairway to heaven. Some translations say ladder. Hebrew stairway. The blessing (descendants, land and blessing) that God gave Jacob is same as Abraham and Isaac. Blessed so that he can bless others. God is original pay it forward.

Vs 16-22, Surely the Lord is in this place. Jacob built pillar and poured oil over it and called it Bethel, which means house of God. God's promise is unconditional. But Jacob's had if: If God does all this then He will be my God and I will tithe. God gives grace then asks for relationship, unlike humans who generally put on conditions. God's grace is free and He leaves it up to us as to how we want to deal with it.

Genesis 29:1-30 Jacob buys Rachel for 7 years of labor, but Laban gives him Leah instead because she is the oldest. Laban promises Rachel if Jacob fulfills Leah's nuptial week and works 7 more years. He agrees and marries Rachel too. So he worked 14 years for his two wives. Was asked if Christians believed in Karma...no but justice, righteousness, we reap the seeds we sow. Jacob sowed deceit and Laban gave him same.

The Baby Wars begin and the 12 tribes of Israel are born. Leah's maid servant is Zilpah and Rachel's maid servant is Bilhah.

1. Rueben - Leah
2. Simeon - Leah
3. Levi - Leah
4. Judah - Leah
5. Dan - Bilhah
6. Nephtali - Bilhah
7. Gad - Zilpah
8. Asher - Zilpah
9. Isachar - Leah
10. Zebulan - Leah
11. Joseph - Rachel

Genesis 29:25-34, Jacob wants to leave with his wives and children but Laban tries to get him to stay because God has blessed Jacob and made Laban prosper. As payment Jacob asks for all spotted and striped sheep and goats. Thus his honesty would be visible. Laban agrees. So Jacob took them and moved 3 days away. Jacob puts striped and spotted sticks before the strong animals while they are breeding and took them away when weak ones bred. It was believed that what a doe or ewe saw while

breeding influenced the color of the offspring. And God blessed Jacob with a strong and growing flock.

January 1, 2023

Genesis 31:11-16, Angel of God spoke to Jacob in a dream and Jacob said here I am. God saw all that Laban had done to Jacob and God gave Jacob speckled and striped goats. God gives justice. God reminded him of his promise to Him at Bethel and then told Jacob to leave and return to the land of his family. And he did.

Vs. 19-30, Laban was not happy. God spoke to Laban in a dream and told him do not speak good or bad to Jacob when he caught up with him. Hebrew says, beware of attempting good or bad...makes more sense since Laban is talking a lot. And he asks why did you steal my gods?

Vs. 31-37, Jacob did not know that Rachel took Laban's gods and told Laban to kill whoever had them. When Laban searched, Rachel told him the way of women was upon her so she would not get up... she was sitting on the gods. When no gods were found, Jacob was angry and rebuked Laban. Things went well with you because God was with me. Made pact with Laban. Laban said Lord will watch over them when they are apart. Was threat but taken out of context can be mistaken. Finishes... and if Jacob mistreats his daughters or marries others, he will pay.

Genesis 32: 1-13, Meeting Esau, Jacob spits company and livestock thinking if Esau destroys one he can flee with other. Jacob prays to God and reminds Him of his promises.

Vs. 14-22, Jacob tries to appease Esau with gifts.

Vs. 23 to end of chapter, Jacob took wives and children and stayed at camp, wrestled with angel of God who struck his hip and renamed him Israel which means wrestled with God. Israel named place Peniel which means presence of God. It is much a part of Jewish tradition to struggle with God and scriptures, which is a good thing to do. As we poke at things, they often poke back. And God showed up when Jacob prayed.

Important when God changes name: Abram to Abraham, Sarai to Sarah, Jacob to Israel and Saul to Paul.

Genesis 33: 1-11, Forgiveness if divine. Vs. 12 to end, Israel still doubting Esau, insisted he not go with and Israel pitched his tent at Succoth and then made his way to Shechem where he bought a parcel of land and built an altar and called it El Elohe Israel.... God of Israel.

January 8, 2023

When Israel is mentioned in the Bible, it could be referring to 3 different things: 1. The man, formerly known as Jacob, 2. All of Jacob now Israel's descendants, 3. The Country, the land in the north. Israel was one country but split in two, Israel in the north and Judah in the south. Judah is where Jerusalem is and where the term Jew comes from. Israel was taken over by the Syrians and Judah was taken over by the Babylonians.

Genesis 34:1-7, The rape of Dinah by Shechem...such a thing ought not to be done. Her brothers totally offended.

Vs. 8-17, Hamor, Shechem's father, asks for Dinah for his son who longs for her and will pay any amount for bride price. Jacob's sons answer deceitfully....sure, one one condition...must be circumcised.

Vs. 18-24, Hamor and Shechem agreed. Talked their people into it by saying, "Will not their livestock, their property, and every animal of theirs be ours?" vs. 23 Power play.

Vs. 25 -31, Dinah's brothers avenge her. While males still in pain from circumcision, Jacob's sons killed all the men, looted them, and took women and children. Jacob was angry, said they put them all in danger. Brothers said should he treat our sister like a prostitute? One man's actions resulted in death of a whole community. Two wrongs don't make a right.

Back to deception and murder on our bad behavior list.

Genesis 35: 1-15, Remember earlier when we had two creation stories....Here is another story about Jacob's name change or it is part 2 of the first story of his name change. This is not surprising because the Bible has many authors. Deborah, Rebekah's nurse, died. They buried her under the oak and called it Allon Bachuth which means oak of weeping.

Vs. 16-29, Rachel died in childbirth, had son and called him Ben-oni but father called him Benjamin. Jacob set a pillar on her grave. They journeyed on and pitched tent near tower of Eder and while they dwelt there, Rueben lay with Bilhah, his father's concubine or second wife, depending on translation. Now sons of Jacob were 12. Leah's sons: Reuben, Simeon, Levi, Judah, Issachar, and Zebulun. Rachel's sons: Joseph and Benjamin. Bilhah's (Rachel's maidservant) sons: Dan and Naphtali. Zilpah's (Leah's maidservant) sons: Gad and Asher. These are the 12 tribes of Israel. Dinah is not mentioned, she was daughter of Leah. No other daughters mentioned, but were there some? Sometimes we think girls not important but not necessarily true. Sold? Those are our definitions.

Days of Isaac were 180 years. He breathed his last and was gathered to his people. Esau and Jacob buried him.

Genesis 36; We will skip. Lists the descendants of Esau who is Edom.

Genesis 37: Joseph was favorite son of Jacob/Israel. He made him a special coat, some translations so one of many colors. Other sons jealous. Joseph has dream about ruling over them and they hated him more. Has another dream and father berates him. Mother mentioned but she is dead. The story is not necessarily linear. Father sent him out to brothers and they conspired to kill him. Reuben says don't kill him put him in pit. Judah says don't kill him sell him to Ishmaelites. Remember Ishmael is Abraham's other son, brother of Isaac, and God promised him to be a great nation. They are still in the land. This is the first part of Joseph's saga.

BOOK REVIEW

Don't Miss Out, Daring to believe life is better with the Holy Spirit, by Jeannie Cunnion.

A year or so ago a writer of the daily meditation in Forward Day by Day recommended this book as life changing. That piqued my interest and I promptly downloaded the free excerpt to the Kindle app on my phone, where it sat, unread, until last month. I've always known that we must be ready to read, or else the words, will just be words. It took awhile, but I was ready to read it, and definitely worth it. The book is organized into 30 short chapters, with questions to ponder after each reading. I finally understand the Trinity. We say, "Oh the Spirit led me, but I now understand." When we put our trust in Jesus, God puts His Spirit in us. "The beautiful, beyond comprehension person of the Holy Spirit is essential to our faith as He enables the life of the believer" writes the author. The Holy Spirit lives within each of us, ready to intercede for us. I recommend this book to you. It was life changing for me, as I now understand.

-Ellen Bogner-

SERMON SUMMARIES BY ANGIE HOFFMAN

3/5/23

In today's gospel Jesus speaks to Nicodemus about being born from above. We were saved 2000 years ago when Jesus was crucified and rose from the dead. It is now up to us to be active participants in our salvation by following the way of Jesus. Everyone's relationship with God varies. Some fall in love with Jesus just like love at first sight, and others fall in and out of relationship with God over their lifetime, needing to make the choice hour by hour or day by day. Just know it is never too late or the wrong time to rededicate your life to God.

3/12/23

When Jesus asked the Samaritan woman for water, she responded, "How is it that you, a Jew, ask a drink of me, a woman from Samaria." *There was enmity between the Jews and Samaritans because of the differences of where they believed worship to God should take place. The Jews believed it should happen in the temple in Jerusalem and the Samaritans in a temple (which the Jews had destroyed) on a nearby mountain. Jesus replied, "Woman, believe me, the hour is coming when you will worship the Father neither on this mountain nor in Jerusalem."*

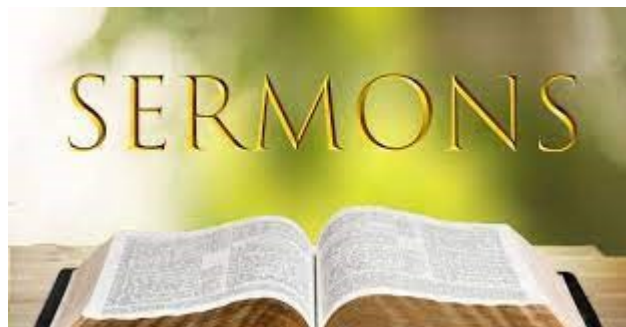
We now worship in Spirit and Truth. The *where*, matters less than the *how*. We need to admit to ourselves, to God, and to others when we have fallen short. This need for God's grace will happen again and again. We can then engage our whole being to worship God, not just inside a building but when we venture out to live our daily lives.

3/19/23

Jesus heals a man born blind, but many in the community did not want to believe that Jesus could heal nor that he was the Messiah. Blindness plays out both literally and figuratively. We need to remember not to get so wound up in what is right that we end up not doing the right thing. We need to alleviate suffering when we can. We need to believe in Jesus and follow Jesus even when it may not make sense at the time. The Holy Spirit is always moving towards inclusion.

3/26/23

There were two lessons of resurrection this Sunday: Ezekiel's prophecy of communal resurrection of the Israelites and the temple after the Babylonian exile and the personal resurrection of Lazarus. We have hope for both: our personal resurrection and the communal resurrection of the Church which at times seems to be dying. Sometimes things need to wither (just like Mother Mindy's Peace Lily) before it can flourish. We must have faith and hope.



APRIL

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
2	3 8:00 am MP	4 8:00 am MP	5 8:00 am MP	6 8:00 am MP	7 8:00 am MP 12:00 PM Mass	1/8 12:00 Noon Mass 8:00 PM Great Vigil of Easter
9 8:00 am MP 8:30 am BibSt 10:00 am Easter Sunday Worship 11:10 Fellowship and Egg Hunt	10 8:00 am MP office closed MM Gone through Saturday	11 8:00 am MP office closed	12 8:00 am MP 12:00 PM Noontday Prayer	13 8:00 am MP office closed	14 8:00 am MP Office closed	15
16 8:00 am MP 8:30 am BibSt 10:00 am Sunday Worship 11:10 Fellowship	17 8:00 am MP	18 8:00 am MP 6:00 Vestry Mtg.	19 8:00 am MP 12:00 PM Mass	20 8:00 am MP	21 8:00 am MP 12:00 PM Mass	22
23 8:00 am MP 8:30 am BibSt 10:00 am Sunday Worship 11:10 Fellowship	24 8:00 am MP	25 8:00 am MP MM Gone through Saturday	26 8:00 am MP 12:00 PM Noontday Prayer	27 8:00 am MP	28 8:00 am MP 12:00 PM Mass	29
30 8:00 am MP 8:30 am BibSt 10:00 am Sunday Worship 11:10 Fellowship						
<p align="center">Coming Up in May:</p> <p>May 14: Mother's Day</p> <p>May 19: Women's Fellowship Gathering, 10:00 AM</p>						
<p>MP—Morning Prayer BibSt—Bible Study</p>						

LAY LEADERS SCHEDULE

APRIL 9—EASTER SUNDAY

10:00 AM IN-PERSON & LIVESTREAM

Lector: Bev Wille

AV Technician: Matt Bills

Acolyte: John Donohue

Usher: Scott Fernhaber

11:10 Fellowship/Coffee Hour

Coffee Hour Host:

APRIL 16

10:00 AM IN-PERSON & LIVESTREAM

Lector: Ginny Laurent

AV Technician: Bob Krumm

Acolyte: Bill Cannon

Usher: Scott Fernhaber

11:10 Fellowship/Coffee Hour

Coffee Hour Host:

APRIL 23

10:00 AM IN-PERSON & LIVESTREAM

Lector: Bev Wille

AV Technician: Breck McHenry

Acolyte: Bob Krumm

Usher: Scott Fernhaber

11:10 Fellowship/Coffee Hour

Coffee Hour Host: McHenry

APRIL 30

10:00 AM IN-PERSON & LIVESTREAM

Lector: John

AV Technician: Matt Bills

Acolyte: Bill Cannon

Usher: Scott Fernhaber

11:10 Fellowship/Coffee Hour

Coffee Hour Host:

MAY 7

10:00 AM IN-PERSON & LIVESTREAM

Lector: Eda Wilson

AV Technician: Bob Krumm

Acolyte: John Donohue

Usher: Scott Fernhaber

11:10 Fellowship/Coffee Hour

Coffee Hour Host: Jane Waters

ACTIVITIES AT ST. PETER'S

Mondays—Fridays 8:00 AM

Morning Prayer in the Gathering Room

Sunday, April 9 –Easter Sunday

8:00 AM Morning Prayer

8:30 AM Back to Basics Bible Study

10:00 AM Sunday Worship

11:10 AM Coffee Hour/Egg Hunt

Wednesday, April 12

12:00 PM Noonday Prayer

Sunday, April 16

8:00 AM Morning Prayer

8:30 AM Back to Basics Bible Study

10:00 AM Sunday Worship

11:10 AM Coffee Hour

Wednesday, April 19

12:00 PM Midweek Mass

Sunday, April 23

8:00 AM Morning Prayer

8:30 AM Back to Basics Bible Study

10:00 AM Sunday Worship

11:10 AM Coffee Hour

Wednesday, April 25

12:00 PM Noonday Prayer

Sunday, April 30

8:00 AM Morning Prayer

8:30 AM Back to Basics Bible Study

10:00 AM Sunday Worship

11:10 AM Coffee Hour

Wednesday, May 3

12:00 PM Midweek Mass


April 2023 Newsletter

ST. PETER'S EPISCOPAL CHURCH

302 Merchants Avenue

Fort Atkinson, WI 53538

Return Service Requested

	ST. PETER'S EPISCOPAL CHURCH	302 MERCHANTS AVE. FORT ATKINSON, WI 920-563-3889	office@stpetersfort.org www.stpetersfort.org Rector: Mother Mindy Valentine Davis
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SUNDAY SCHEDULE

8:00 AM MORNING PRAYER IN THE GATHERING ROOM

8:30 AM BACK-TO-BASICS BIBLE STUDY

10:00 AM HOLY EUCHARIST: IN-PERSON AND LIVESTREAMED

11:10 FELLOWSHIP (COFFEE HOUR)

ST. PETER'S MISSION STATEMENT

**To Lead Each Person into a Living Relationship with Jesus Christ,
Train Them as Disciples, and Make Jesus Known to Others.**