



The In Touch

Volume 53, Issue 7

Our Mission: To Seek, Know, Love and Serve Christ in all Persons and in all Creation

Ramblings from the Deacon.....

As I began this turn at the newsletter article I looked to the July gospel readings for inspiration. The feelings that came to me were “trust” and in Herod’s case “guilt”. Those two words didn’t seem to be an entire article, so I looked further at one of my Sunday School resources, Lesson Plans that Work. Under the adult section I found the following and copied the reflection questions for each week. We use the what stood out for you question at each NEMA meeting and I feel a greater connection to the passages when I’ve thought about it. I’ve included the link to Lesson Plans and a couple of others that might be of interest to you.

“During this “Ordinary Time” our lives may well include exceptionally un-ordinary events, such as births and deaths. As we take this journey, nourished by the scriptures appointed for the season and empowered by our baptisms, we are invited to be on the lookout for all the blessings found in the ordinary – to see God at work here and now. And we are compelled to share our blessings with others.”

The Scripture: Mark 5:21-43

Reflection Questions:

- What stood out for you in the reading?
- What is the leap of faith taken by Jarius? (He was a well-placed leader of the synagogue who was questioning the ministry of Jesus.)
- What is the leap of faith taken by the woman? (She could have been run off by the disciples for even trying to touch Jesus, and she clearly feared Jesus' finding out what she had done. See vs. 33).
- What are the leaps of faith we take when we pray for someone who is ill?

The Scripture: Mark 6:1-13

Reflection Questions:

- Share a time when you, or someone you know, was in the position of being a prophet "not without honor except in their hometown." As you get in touch with how that felt to you, consider how it might have been to Jesus. Why do you think he was "amazed at their unbelief"?
- Why do you think Jesus found it so important to send his disciples out two-by-two?
- In our times of suitcases, hair dryers, sunscreen, etc., how can we follow the instruction Jesus gave?
- What might verse 10 have to say to us as a church community?
- Share a time you brought a message that was welcomed by a person who really wanted to hear about your faith and truly listened.
- Share a time you thought you had a compelling message and you were not well received

The Scripture: Mark 6:14-29

Reflection Questions:

- What stands out for you in this passage?
- Verses 14-16 clearly happen after verses 17-29, something of a flashback. I wonder if Herod had misgivings about the death of John the Baptist or whether he simply is frightened.
- Why did Herod want John the Baptist dead? (See verse 18.) Notice the conflict Herod was experiencing. (See verse 20.)

- What do you think caused Herod to make this incredible offer to Herodias? (Pomposity? A bit too much wine? Confidence in his position?)
- What do you think went through the head of the girl who was told to ask for the head of John the Baptist
- When the disciples came to get the body of John, what did they do with it?
- In today's headlines, it is easy to find examples of people taking advantage of their political power. In what ways do each of us use our power to get what we want?
- What are the ways in which we can use the power we might have?

Mark 6:30-34 Mark 6:53-56.

Reflection Questions 6:30-34:

- I wonder what stood out for you in the passage?
- How does Jesus respond to the exhausted but excited disciples? (He listens to all that they tell him and they tell him everything.)
- What does he suggest next? (A retreat – Jesus and the disciples go away to a deserted place to rest all by themselves.)
- Notice the balance between work and rest. Can you think of other places in Scripture where we see this example? (Genesis 2:2; Exodus 20:8.)
- How, in our crazy, busy lives, can we find this balance? What is our "get away" boat? • Share ways that they have found: a long walk with the dog, fishing with a friend, looking for interludes to fill with prayer. Invite the group to experience a few minutes of silence. No agenda, just be still. You could set the tone by using a psalm you have chosen, or the brief meditation at the beginning of the lesson. You can also use a bell or chime to begin and end the time of silence. After a few moments have elapsed simply say: "Amen."

Reflection Questions 6:53-56:

- The disciples are mobbed again. This time by whom? (People bringing the sick)
- How does Jesus respond? (By healing them)
- If you were in this mob of people asking for healing, what would you ask Jesus to heal?
- Invite the group into another few moments of silence. Ask the group to silently reflect on what they are asking Jesus to heal in them. Invite them to share only if they want to request prayer from the rest of the group. Be sure they understand they are free to keep these prayers to themselves and Jesus.

Scripture: John 6:1-21

Reflection Questions:

- Why were Jesus and his disciples trying to get away? (They had been pursued by the people and they were tired.)
- What were the people following Jesus looking for? (More signs, more healings.)
- In verse 6, why do you think Jesus was testing Philip? (To see what Philip might do?) Put yourself in Philip's place, what do you think of his reaction? (Counting the cost, trying to make it work.)
- What willingness to share created the beginning of the abundance of loaves and fish? (A little boy with a lunch bag.)
- What abundance might the children in our midst offer us?
- What did Jesus do with the loaves and the fish? (He gave thanks and distributed them.)
- Could we say this is the First Eucharist? (What would make us say yes? What might make us say no?) • What happened to the "leftovers?" (They filled twelve baskets.)
- Invite people to share times when we begged for healing and got, instead, food for the journey?

Lesson Plans that Work (<http://episcopaldigitalnetwork.com/lessons/liturgical-calendar/>)

Episcopal Public Policy Network <eppn@episcopalchurch.org>

And our current Mission project (Bishop Prior spoke about this when he was with us):

Beloved Community <https://www.episcopalchurch.org/page/becoming-beloved-community>

Peace,

Mel



- 7/2 ~ **Ryan Krieger** (son Dan & Linda, grandson Wilbur & MaryAnn)
- 7/6 ~ **Stephanie Davison** (daughter Jim & Cori, granddaughter Gary & Carolyn)
- 7/12 ~ **MaryAnn Tveit**
- 7/13 ~ **Logan Krieger** (son Dan & Linda, grandson Wilbur & MaryAnn Tveit)
- 7/15 ~ **Carol Grim**
- 7/18 ~ **Dean Tveit**
- 7/19 ~ **Madalynn Jenkinson** (daughter Matthew & Edith, great granddaughter Byrne & Carole Johnson)
- 7/21 ~ **JoAnne Harvey**
- 7/27 ~ **Lee Grim**
- 7/29 ~ **Melanie Mattsen**



- 7/8 ~ **Jan Menefee**
- 7/10 ~ **Connor Weir** (son of Tara Rud, grandson of Cindy Cassibo)
- 7/13 ~ **Emma Mattsen**
- 7/20 ~ **Caryn Noland**
- 7/27 ~ **Sarah O'Kane** (daughter Heather, granddaughter of Georgeann & Andy Wright)
- 7/27 ~ **Tessa Walls**



- 7/20 ~ **Mike & Tricia Brennard**



- 7/8 ~ **Rev. Lynn Naeckel**



*Lake Service Dates
Will Be:
July 22nd, Aug. 5th & 19th*

July '18 Sunday Service Lay Responsibilities

Dates	Celebrants	Acolytes	Lectors & Lessons	Greeters
1 Holy Eucharist 10:00 am 6th Sunday after Pentecost Proper 8	Rev. Samantha Crossley Deacons: Lee Grim Melanie Mattsen	Lee Grim	Georgeann & Andy Wright	Georgeann & Andy Wright
8 Holy Eucharist 10:00 am 7th Sunday after Pentecost Proper 9	Rev. Lynn Naeckel Deacons: Lee Grim Melanie Mattsen	Lee Grim	Erik Strand Lee Grim	Flossie Knutson John Shewchuk
15 Holy Eucharist 10:00 am 8th Sunday after Pentecost Proper 10	Rev. Lynn Naeckel Deacons: Lee Grim Melanie Mattsen	Lee Grim	Michele Dahlin Lee Grim	Wilbur & Maryann Tveit
22 Lake Service Holy Eucharist 10:00 am 9th Sunday after Pentecost Proper 11	Rev. Samantha Crossley Deacons: Lee Grim Melanie Mattsen	Lee Grim	Mike & Tricia Brennard	Mike & Tricia Brennard
29 Holy Eucharist 10:00 am 10th Sunday after Pentecost Proper 12	Rev. Samantha Crossley Deacons: Lee Grim Melanie Mattsen	Lee Grim	Jeanne Corrin Lee Grim	Donna Day & Karen Walls



July 2018



SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
1	2	3	4	5	6	7 Altar Guild
						Tricia
8	9	10	11	12	13	14 Altar Guild
Holy Eucharist 10:00 a.m.	<i>Ruby's Pantry Reg. 4:30 Dist. 5-6:30</i>	 9:30 am Coffee Landing Vestry meeting 4:45 pm				Georgeann & Donna
15	16	17	18	19	20	21 Altar Guild
Holy Eucharist 10:00 a.m.						Georgeann & Donna
22	23	24	25	26	27	28 Altar Guild
 Holy Eucharist 10:00 a.m.		Newsletter Deadline				Flossie
29	30	31				
Holy Eucharist 10:00 a.m.						