



The Encourager

ST. BARNABAS
EPISCOPAL CHURCH

APRIL 2024

Easter at St. Barnabas



EASTER MESSAGE FROM PRESIDING BISHOP MICHAEL B. CURRY

This is Bishop Curry's last year to serve as Presiding Bishop. He has been an inspirational and unifying leader, who will be greatly missed. The 28th Presiding Bishop will be elected at the 81st General Convention in July, 2024, to be held in Louisville, Kentucky.

Hello to my beloved family in Christ. I want to take this opportunity, first of all, on behalf of my wife, Sharon, and our family, to thank you. To thank you for your prayers, to thank you for your well wishes, your expressions of support and kindness. We are equally thankful for the blessing of remarkable medical care and pastoral support. As you may know, I've been working a bit from home—at a reduced level, to be sure, but I'm gradually increasing that.

Just two weeks ago, my medical team approved me to drive locally and to resume short domestic flights. I can't tell you how much your prayers have sustained me and my family through this medical journey. Prayer matters. We don't always know how. We don't always know or understand the outcome.

But prayer matters, and it makes a difference. Over the last several months, I have not known how this would all work out. But I've been very aware, and in some particular moments, consciously aware of being upheld in prayer by you. Without consciously deciding to do it, I actually found myself praying some words from Psalm 31, which says, "Into your hands, I commend my spirit."

Before surgeries and treatments, through some long nights, difficult days, "Into your hands, I commend my spirit." These words are part of a prayer that is Psalm 31 in the Hebrew scriptures. The late night service of Compline uses that psalm as a prayer before going to sleep at night.

Luke's Gospel records Jesus praying these very words, that psalm, on the cross, when he had a sense of what lay before him, but could not know the outcome. He didn't know with any certainty if and how God would act. He didn't know, as the old preachers used to say, Good Friday's always happened, but Sunday's always coming. He didn't know with any certainty that resurrection would become real and not a mere metaphor.

But as he died into the unknown, he did one thing: He threw himself completely into the hands of God. "Father, into thy hands, I commend my spirit."

And in that moment, Luke's Gospel says, he breathed his last. And though he died, death did not have the last word, though he did die. He died into the hands of God and slipped out of the grip of death.

And as we now know, on the third day he rose again, and he lives. As William Cowper said in a poem that later became a hymn, "God moves in mysterious ways, his wonders to perform, he plants his footstep in the sea and rides upon the storm."

So God love you. God bless you. May the God who rides upon our storms and raised Jesus of Nazareth from the dead hold us all, the entire human family and all of God's grand and glorious creation in those almighty hands of love. Have a blessed Holy Week and Easter.

FOOD AND FAITH—A WOMEN'S RETREAT

Saturday, April 20, 2024 9 am to 3 pm Registration deadline is April 12

The Rev. Kate Walker will lead a retreat titled "Food and Faith" for all St. Barnabas women on Saturday, April 20. Rev. Walker has a M. Div. from SMU and began her work as a pastor in 1984. She served the Methodist Church in various positions before retiring in 2018. She and her husband Charlie have wintered in Fredericksburg since 2017 and moved here in 2022. Rev. Walker will give two sessions:

Made in the Image of God: Feasting and Fasting—am

The Bread of Life: Hospitality and Caring for the World—pm

We'll begin at 9 am with a continental breakfast and lunch will be provided. The day will conclude with worship and Holy Eucharist. **Cost is \$20.**

This event is sponsored by the Daughters of the King. **All are welcome!**

To register, contact Carol Schreider at carol@stbarnabasfbg.org or (830) 997-5762.

SUPPORTING SCHOOL CHILDREN IN TANZANIA TO CREATE A BRIGHTER FUTURE



Improving health and education for 7,506 children

By constructing rainwater tanks, toilets and hand washing facilities

At 13 public schools in rural Muleba, Tanzania

To donate please send a check to the Fredericksburg Rotary Club Foundation at P.O. Box 1006, Fredericksburg, Texas 78624

 Contact us for more information: debbie.sultemeier@gmail.com

ST. BARNABAS SUPPORTS ROTARY PROJECT IN TANZANIA

by Bob Bates

Sometimes in life things happen that put a smile on your heart. St. Barnabas is contributing to the Rotary Club of Fredericksburg's project to make a life changing difference for 7,506 students and teachers in rural northwest Tanzania. The region is among the poorest in the world and gets very little support from it's government.

An initial project, completed in 2019, was built at a Catholic church and school and provided rainwater catchment and filters, latrines, hand washing facilities and incinerators for feminine hygiene waste products. Seven additional schools have also received similar facilities. These facilities were built under the direct supervision of Fr. Deo, a Catholic priest, and Jovin (Treasurer of the Rotary Club of Karangwa) with frequent communication with our team. All are still in great condition and serving the Church, school and surrounding communities.

The most recent project targets 13 schools "in the bush" where there is no clean drinking water, rest rooms, or hand washing facilities. The people are learning to make soap and use it for cleaning. We can celebrate the fact that St. Barnabas is a significant contributor to this effort. The total cost is estimated at \$300,000; we are beginning work on two schools this year. Funds are currently sufficient for the first school and half-way for the second.

The other two Rotary Clubs in Fredericksburg and several in surrounding communities are also supporting this project. Individuals are encouraged to participate, if so inclined. Contact Bob Bates at (361) 550-3430 or 1943rab@gmail.com for more information.

PILGRIMAGE INTO THE LAST THIRD OF LIFE

A Study from the Wisdom Years Ministry

Starting on April 18 and ending on May 23, The Wisdom Years Ministry will offer a study on ZOOM that shows those in the third season of their lives how they can open themselves to God and to the abundant life God offers to elders. The study will be based on the book, "Pilgrimage into the Last Third of Life" by Jane Marie Thibault and Richard L. Morgan. The class meets weekly on ZOOM from 4—5:15 pm on Thursdays.

This pilgrimage contains these gateways:

- ◆ facing aging and dying and living with limitations;
- ◆ living in and out of community
- ◆ doing inner work, prayer and contemplation; and
- ◆ redeeming loss and suffering.

We will focus on "leaving a legacy" from June 13—27. The class is free, but members must acquire books.

The Wisdom Years is a ministry of the Diocese of West Texas. Many who participate regularly have proven that ZOOM is no barrier to forming community. (<https://wisdomyears.org/a-pilgrimage-for-the-later-years/>) Contact Marjorie George for more information at marjoriegeorge62@gmail.com.

CHILDREN AND YOUTH

A PRAYER FOR THE CARE OF CHILDREN

Almighty God, heavenly Father, you have blessed us with the joy and care of children: Give us calm strength and patient wisdom as we bring them up, that we may teach them to love whatever is just and true and good, following the example of our Savior Jesus Christ. Amen.

GODLY PLAY FOR PRE-K THROUGH 5TH GRADE CHILDREN

GODLY PLAY supports the spiritual growth of children through Bible stories, liturgical action, parables and silence, leaving lots of room for wonder and the work of the Holy Spirit. An interactive lesson on Holy Baptism is the focus of the next weeks.

The **SPROUTS CLASS** is for children in Pre-K through 1st grade.

The **ROOTS CLASS** is for children in 2nd through 5th grade.



GODLY PLAY HELPERS ARE NEEDED!

If you are interested in serving as a storyteller, door keeper, shepherd, or feast provider, or have questions about the program, please contact Emily Bowyer at emily@stbarnabasfbg.org.

YOUTH SUNDAY SCHOOL

All 6th to 12th graders and their parents are invited to join us each Sunday at 10:01 am in Room 119, where we will continue our study of the Bible watching the Bible Project on You Tube. This semester we will be learning about the New Testament.

NURSERY

The Nursery is open on Sundays from 8:45 am to 12:15 pm for children ages newborn to three years old.

WE ARE HIRING!

St. Barnabas **MOMS MORNING OFF** is looking for an enthusiastic individual who **LOVES** kids!

We offer competitive pay and a sign-on bonus!

This position is perfect for any retired or stay-at-home moms who are looking to make a difference in a child's life. To apply, swing by the St. Barnabas Church office for an application or reach out to Nancy at nancy@stbarnabasfbg.org.



ST. BARNABAS
EPISCOPAL CHURCH

Stay in the know!

- Follow [@stbarnabasfbg](#) on Instagram & Facebook
 - Web updates at <https://www.stbarnabasfbg.org/youth>
 - Contact Emily Bowyer, Coordinator of Children's Ministries
(830) 997-5762 and emily@stbarnabasfbg.org
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ADULT SUNDAY SCHOOL

ALL SUNDAY SCHOOL CLASSES MEET FROM 10 TO 11 AM ON SUNDAY.

BIBLE STUDY

The BIBLE STUDY class gathers in the Christian Education Building (CEB). They are studying the book of James. Contact the Cyndie Williams for more information at cyndiewilliams@mac.com. All are welcome!

ADULTING—A CLASS FOR YOUNGSTERS UNDER 50

The ADULTING class meets in the parlor of the CEB. They will be discussing the intro and first chapter of Marsh Moyle's book (see below).

OTHER VOICES

Contact Beverly Carnes for information about the OTHER VOICES class. They meet in the EfM room in the CEB. All are welcome.

LOST AND FOUND

The LOST AND FOUND class welcomes all St. Barnabas women to join them in the library. Members of the class take turns facilitating their discussion. Contact Nan Mosley for information



April 16th
& April 17th

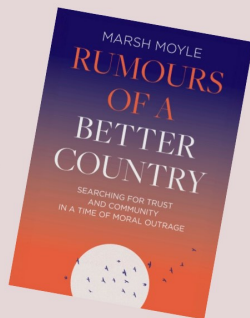
St. Barnabas Parish Hall

LECTURE SERIES WITH MARSH MOYLE

What does it mean to live together well? Why does goodness *matter*? Come join the dialogue with the author of this new book on **truth, goodness, and community**. Cafe-style conversation and refreshments will be enjoyed by all. Childcare provided. Books will also be available for purchase.

TUESDAY, April 16th
11:00 a.m. - 12:30 p.m.

WEDNESDAY, April 17th
7:00 p.m. - 8:30 p.m.



Marsh and Tuula Moyle spent 35 years as missionaries in Eastern Europe, and now live and work alongside English L'Abri in Hampshire, U.K.

ALTAR FLOWERS

If you would like to dedicate the Sunday altar flowers in memory or honor of a loved one, contact Carol at 830-997-5762 or carol@stbarnabasfbg.org. Your message will appear in the Sunday bulletin on the date you specify. The cost is \$50; make your check out to St. Barnabas with "Altar Flowers" on the subject line. Church staff will order the flowers.

APRIL 14 IS FOOD SUNDAY

Thank you for your support of our Food Box. You are providing much needed food for those in need in our community. Please continue to bring nutritious shelf-stable food. Make sure items are not past their "best by" date. Leave food items in the Narthex or the Office Lobby.

ST. BARNABAS VESTRY

Jenny Weiser, Sr. Warden

Cindy Scroggins, Treasurer

Katharine Brundrett, Secretary

Joe Simmons
Chris Valentine
John Wells
Sheila Dubois

Kris Riojas
Ben Edgerton
Teresa Gabriel
Tim Kirchner

EfM is Moving!

To a new time.



WHAT IS EfM AND WHY IS IT CHANGING TIMES?

EfM (Education for Ministry) is a lay seminary course of study designed for adults that want to engage deeply in scripture, Christian Church history, and theology.

Beginning in late August 2024, the EfM seminar will meet on Tuesday nights from 6 to 9 pm in order to accommodate people who are working during the day.

Education for Ministry (EfM) is a four-year course (with a one year at a time commitment) that integrates critical biblical scholarship, church history, theology, and philosophy, while also providing practical skills such as theological reflection and insights into every individual's Christian vocation. The program presents a process of intellectual and spiritual growth that has proven to be transformative to many. EfM 2024-2025 will meet weekly beginning in late August and ending in May, with holidays at Thanksgiving, Christmas, and Easter.

For almost fifty years, the Episcopal Church and the School of Theology at Sewanee – The University of the South - have sponsored Education for Ministry. The course is conducted through local groups led by one or more mentors. There are many EfM groups across the U.S. and internationally. The Saint Barnabas group is usually limited to no more than 10 or 11 members and is mentored by Tom Carnes.

The four-year study uses published texts and essays as well as the Bible in its curriculum. Year One focuses on the Old Testament; Year Two on the New Testament; Year Three, on Christian Church history; Year Four, on theology, ethics and interfaith encounters. All participants meet together in a format that encourages group building and sharing.

Each prospective participant will meet with the mentor, to ensure that there is an appropriate fit between a prospective participant's expectations and program content. During May, EfM team members will be at a table outside at all Sunday morning services to answer questions and to offer their own insights.

Contact Tom Carnes at tcarnes@thomaspcarnes.com for more information.

Brothers and Sisters Say Goodbye to Martha Zeiher

On March 1, the Brothers and Sisters gathered to say goodbye to Martha and Tom Zeiher with a pot-luck dinner. Martha has been an active member of the Brothers and Sisters Immigration Ministry since it began.

Pictured from left to right are Jeff Walker, Gary and Mary Jo Green, Jacquie Himes, Bud Parish, Karin and Christopher Melville, Tom and Martha Zeiher. (Not pictured is Nancy Walker>)



PARISH PRAYER LIST

WE PRAY FOR:

Dorothy Gorden; Mike Taylor; Carolyn Atkins; John Dull; Pam Warren; Ellen Hill; Ron Lewis; Samuel; Rosanna; Mary Priestley; Jo Hallmark; Bob Gates; Marti Davis; Cheryl Knode; John Boudreau; Tom Warmbrodt; Kathy Ray; Cathy; Clair Pasahow; Sheri Bates Matthews; Anna Kessler; Angela Grannan, George Edmonston; Randy & family; John Lehotsky; Kevin Colvin; Pat McCarthy; The Ukrainian Conflict; The Rev. Annie Finn; Will Rothrock; Janet Townsend; Brandon & Kirsten; Howard Crosby; Greta Tuttle Gehring; Susan Ondich; Pete Golman; Donald Money; Cay Meadows; Scot & JeriLynne Clifford; Tadeo; Susie Hever; Grant; Walt Biddle; The Smith Family; Mike Massengale; The People of Israel and Palestine; Lynn Meadows; Karin Melville; Carson Dickie; Bill Beakly; Ken Shaeffer; Cael Matthews; Helen H; Conflict in Myanmar (Burma); Pat Tuttle; Eden LeMay; Hunter Williams; August Detering.

WE PRAY FOR THOSE WHO HAVE DIED: Rev. Charles Berry, Jr, and Shirley Crooks

APRIL ANNIVERSARIES

3rd	Karin & Christopher Melville	15th	Allison & Bob Drury, Jr.
7th	Evelyn & John Washburne	20th	Kathy & Bud Parrish
9th	Melissa & Bur Dobbins	22nd	Angie & Joe Cross
11th	Molly & Byron Fanning		Beverly Chapman & Chuck Frazier
	Katherine & Stevyn Herring		

APRIL BIRTHDAYS

1st	Roylynn Brocksch	12th	Grazyna Larson	19th	Adele Wells
	Karsten Hansen	13th	Jonathan Godfrey	20th	George Pipkin
3rd	Cindy Eberle		Catherine McIntyre	21st	Emmerson Daily
	Sharon Smith	14th	Gus Sumners		Dan Neelon
5th	Polina Konstantinova	15th	Christy Drescher	22nd	Miles Hammond
7th	Juli Bahlinger		Kirk Walden	23rd	Nancy Neelon
	Katherine Herring	16th	Michelle Hodges	24th	Rusty Eberle
8th	Kimberly Hopkins		Alex Keller	29th	Emilie Cox
10th	Rose Mary Gatlin		Ann Mcgee		Wayne Seipp
	Brooks Harding		Ginny Thomason		
	Christi Sumners		Mary Lou White		

Our Bins Overfloweth!

The St. Barnabas recycling program is in danger of being discontinued. If you are one of the many people who put items in the recycling bins, please sign up to take at least one type of recyclable. We have a list of places that receive the different items. Martha Zeiher, who just moved from Fredericksburg, faithfully took items, so now we must have new recycling volunteers.



IF YOU VALUE THIS PROGRAM, YOU NEED TO STEP UP!



ST. BARNABAS

EPISCOPAL CHURCH

601 West Creek Street, Fredericksburg Texas 78624

CHURCH CLERGY AND STAFF:

Rector: The Rev. Jeff Hammond

Lay Pastoral Minister: Morey Weldon

Liturgical Ministry Coordinator: Molly Martin

Parish Administrator: JD Detterman

Office Assistant: Carol Schreider

Children's Ministries Coordinator: Emily Bowyer

Youth Minister: Chris Acton

Director of Music: Hazel Hanson

MMO Director: Nancy Lopez-Taylor

MUSTANG ISLAND MEDITATIVE YOGA RETREAT—*May 10 to May 12*

Escape to your island home for a weekend centered on the healing, rejuvenating, life-giving practices of yoga, meditation, and contemplative Christian prayer. This retreat is open to all, no matter your yoga or meditation experience.

Check-in is at 4:00 p.m. on Friday, and the retreat concludes after lunch on Sunday. Come spend a relaxing weekend on the beach participating in a mix of peaceful solitude and community fellowship. The cost for the retreat is \$336 single occupancy; \$276 (per person) double occupancy; or \$130 for Saturday-only commuter rate.

Costs include all meals. Scholarships are available.

Registration: <https://www.dwtx.org/events/mustang-island-meditative-yoga-retreat-2>

Questions? Please contact Lynn Corby at 361-749-1800 or lynn.corby@dwtx.org.

