

From Fr Nik

Of all four gospels, Luke's is the only one to tell a story about Jesus that takes place between the time of his infancy and his baptism as an adult (2:41-52). Of course, the setting of the scene should be no surprise by now. The only story of Jesus' childhood that Luke relates is an account of the holy family's pilgrimage to the Temple in Jerusalem to observe the Passover when Jesus was twelve. For Luke, Jesus' conception, birth, and childhood have orbited the Temple, but hereafter Jesus won't return to the Temple until he sets his face toward Jerusalem to observe that fateful Passover under the shadow of the cross.

After the week-long festival, as Mary and Joseph begin their journey back to Nazareth with a crowd of family and neighbors, Jesus remains behind to question and engage in conversation with the teachers who held discussions in the Temple precinct. The text suggests that this was an intentional decision by the boy. Like the prodigal son or the lost sheep, Jesus has distanced himself from his family. However, unlike those examples from his later teachings, Jesus has gotten "lost" because he has found his calling. Around the age of twelve, a boy in that culture would transition from childhood in the company of the women of the village to manhood, learning the work or trade of his father. This is precisely what the young Jesus tells Mary and Joseph that he is doing when they find him.

The Greek of verse forty-nine is a little ambiguous, leading some translations—like the New Revised Standard Version (which we use in Church)—to render Jesus' words: "Did you not know that I must be in my Father's house?" Many have preferred this translation because Jesus is found by his parents in the Temple complex. However, Jesus doesn't refer to the Temple as his Father's house in Luke's Gospel as he does in the Gospel according to John (2:16). Indeed, it's this reference from John's Gospel that surely influenced translations of Luke like the NRSV, but the King James Version is probably more correct in translating Jesus' words: "I must be about my Father's business." So, if like Mary and Joseph, you can't find Jesus in your midst and you're filled with fear, worry, and anxiety, remember that he must be about his Father's business, and you will find him there.

Congratulations

Emily Dickson, Jeannette Harrison, and Mike Thomas
for being elected to the vestry.

Thank You

Rick Alderman, Jenny Smith, and Jim Smythe
for your faithful service over the past few years.

LENT

Lent begins with *Ash Wednesday* on February 10 –
we'll observe the holy day with Eucharist & imposition of ashes at 6:30pm.

Before the Lenten fasting begins,
we'll indulge in a **Shrove Tuesday Pancake Supper**
from 6:30pm to 7:30pm on Tuesday, February 9.

It's also traditional to prepare catechumens for Baptism or the
reaffirmation of baptismal vows during Lent—
as well as preparing confirmands for Confirmation
and new members for Reception into the Episcopal Church.
These classes will begin on Wednesday, Feb 17 at 6:30pm.

The Cost of Discipleship

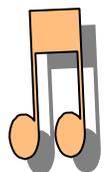
The Men's & Women's Book Groups are reading
Discipleship by Dietrich Bonhoeffer.

Bonhoeffer Documentary

“Hanged on a twisted Cross” will be shown at 10am
in the Parish Hall on Thursday, February 11.

Choir Rehearsal

In preparation for Holy Week and Easter Sunday
The choir will be rehearsing every Wednesday from
February 17 – March 16, at 7pm.



Christian Education

Godly Play Children are invited to hear the Word in a fun, learning environment in the Parish House during the first half of our Sunday morning worship; after which, they join their parents in church for Communion.

J2A Youth Group will serve pancakes on Shrove Tuesday, February 9, at 6:30pm. Please arrive before 6:30pm. The youth who serve will eat for free.

The Adult Sunday School meets Sunday mornings at 9am in the parish hall to study the Gospel according to Luke.

Small Groups

The Women's Book Group will meet next on Thursday, February 18 at 10am to discuss chapters 3, 4, & 5 of Dietrich Bonhoeffer's *Discipleship* (Reader's Edition – Fortress Press). Please contact Kathy for directions: boysthree@embarqmail.com

The Men's Book Group will meet Thursday, February 18, at 7:30am at Ashland Coffee & Tea to discuss chapters 3, 4, & 5 of Dietrich Bonhoeffer's *Discipleship*.

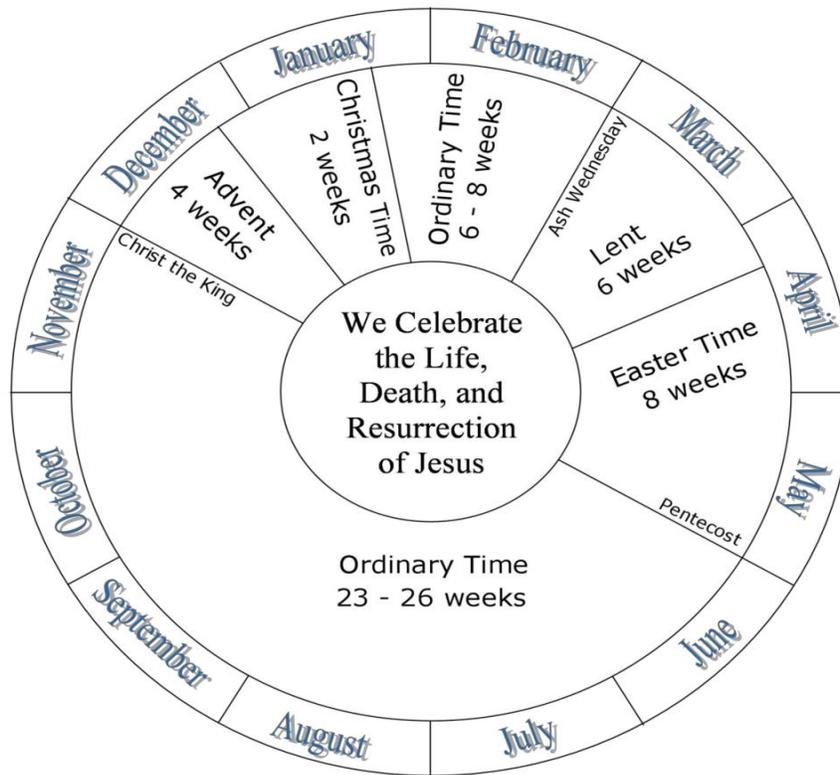
Christian Formation

Catechism Classes will begin in Lent on Wednesday, Feb 17 at 6:30pm. These classes are for those who wish to be baptized, confirmed, or received into the Episcopal Church.

If you have never been Baptized or Confirmed, and are interested in receiving these sacraments, please contact Fr Nik – KnicholasForti@gmail.com

These classes are also for those considering Reaffirming their Baptismal Covenant.

The Liturgical Year



Nik's Calendar

Wednesday, Feb 10 – RMC Episcopal-Methodist Group: Ash Wednesday Liturgy, 9pm
Monday, Feb 15 – Coffee with the Rev'd Dr Ed Bushong, 10:30am-12:30pm
Wednesday, Feb 17 – First Confirmation/Catechism Class of 2016, 6:30-7:30pm
– RMC Episcopal-Methodist Campus Ministry, 9:30pm

Looking Ahead

Tuesday, Feb 9 – Shrove Tuesday Pancake Supper, Parish Hall, 6:30pm
Wednesday, Feb 10 – Ash Wednesday: Eucharist at 6:30pm
Thursday, Feb 11 – Bonhoeffer Documentary, "Hanged on a Twisted Cross," 10am-noon
Wednesday, Feb 17 – Choir Rehearsal, 7pm
Thursday, Feb 18 – Men's Book Group, 7:30-8:30am
– Women's Book Group, 10am-noon
Saturday, Feb 20 – Vestry Retreat, 9:30am-1:30pm

Office hours: Jacquie Alleva, our office administrator, works Tuesday & Wednesday mornings and Thursday afternoons. If you would like to submit an announcement, please do so by noon on Thursday.