

GRACE
EPISCOPAL
CHURCH
SHEBOYGAN
WISCONSIN



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MAY A.D. 2014

1011 NORTH SEVENTH STREET (ONTARIO AVENUE & SEVENTH STREET)
SHEBOYGAN, WISCONSIN 53081

A Word from the Rector: *Greetings in the Name of our Lord, Jesus Christ!*

Midwifery. The word derives from the Middle English *midwyf*, referring to being “with the woman”; *i.e.*, the reference is to the person present to assist a woman giving birth. In our own day a midwife is a specialized obstetrical nurse, but in most societies throughout history the fundamental training for a midwife has involved her own experience of giving birth. Only having become a mother, herself, does she proceed in gaining the knowledge in facilitating the deliveries of others. It is in this sense that the Church—as the Bride of Christ—is present in the birth of new life in the world, as the one who has experienced delivery of herself and as the one who is present to facilitate the birth which is given by the Holy Spirit.

Why speak of midwifery? It is because our focus must ever be on new life, new birth, and it is because there are many in the parish who have expressed a palpable apprehension that we are on the verge of something new coming forth.

Let’s review what has happened in the past two+ years. Dual emphases on transparency and communication have allowed us to better understand each other and the challenges we face together, and to eliminate any perception that there is knowledge or decision-making not shared. This has allowed us to start to get to know each other better, and this process has accelerated through small group ministries which really grew after the Faith Alive weekend. We now share personal testimonies and insights, in

Lenten meditations, in adult education, in fellowship meetings. Our youth ministry has been strengthened by the dedication of resource (a youth minister), and we have seen fruit born in the leadership of our youth in diocesan events such as The Happening.

New voices have joined the choir. New people have been raised up and commissioned as lay eucharistic ministers and visitors. All shut-ins are visited on a regular basis both clergy and lay ministers. New lectors and acolytes and sub-deacons have been raised up. The participation of children in worship services has been facilitated. More parishioners are serving in community ministries. An emphasis on formation has resulted in the provision of multiple opportunities for adult education, ranging from ongoing Bible study (in more than one group), focused course offerings, biblical language study, and the sharing of information and views on a very complete parish website, in the parish weekly blog, and on the parish Facebook page. The number of parishioners who have completed The Bible Challenge—reading through all of the Bible in one year—continues to rise, and the study materials provided on our website for the challenge have been adopted as the favored link by The Center for Biblical Studies. Parishioners remain active in diocesan ministries, and new faces have appeared in these ministries.

A lot has happened and is happening. Gestation has continued, and we are now on the verge of new life truly being born.

So how can we be most faithful to what is to come? First, by not looking back. It may be tempting to think of life before pregnancy when labor pains are present, but life before new life—all that was good and all that was not—is in the *past*. New life requires that we look forward.

New life comes to us by the Holy Spirit, but as the Church acts as midwife in this birth she is, herself, also giving birth. We are each “with the woman” to assist in birthing, but we are each members of this Body which gives birth, and like any good mother we must focus on nurturing new life. Nurturing is natural to a mother, for she knows that her child is both precious to God and precious to her—the newborn child is all potential, all future, all hope. But nurturing is even more of the nature of God and of His Church Potential is, in fact, the ongoing unfolding of God’s plan of salvation. Future is the realization of the timelessness of the holy in our cry “Our lord has come!/ Come, O Lord!, 1 Cor. 16.22, NRSV/ NIV). Hope is, in fact, the present faith that God keeps His promises.

“The Spirit and the Bride say, ‘Come’”
(Rev. 22.17).

Yours in Christ Jesus,

The Rev. Dr. Karl C. Schaffenburg
Rector

PSALM 23 - MUSIC FROM BEN

The Fourth Sunday of Easter, coming up this year on May 11th, is often called “Good Shepherd Sunday,” primarily because of the Gospel reading from the 10th chapter of John, where Jesus refers to himself as the “Good Shepherd who lays down his life for the sheep.” The Psalm on this Sunday is Psalm 23, and the choir usually sings this to Anglican chant, or to a chant with congregational refrain of my own devising, using the old Coverdale translation of 1535, or that of our 1979 Prayer Book. We may also sing one of our favorite anthems, named after the tune that goes with it, “Brother James’ Air,” a folk-song-like melody written for this metrical psalm. The text is the version of Psalm 23 from the Scottish Psalter of 1650, which begins:

*The Lord’s my Shepherd,
I’ll not want,
He makes me down to lie
In pastures green, he leadeth me
The quiet waters by.*

For hymns based on Psalm 23, we are almost spoiled for choice. The most popular one in Christian churches is “The King of love my Shepherd is” by Henry Williams Baker, a nineteenth century hymn writer and translator. This is the hymn with the verse:

*In death’s dark vale I fear no ill
With thee, dear Lord, beside me;
Thy rod and staff my comfort still,
Thy cross before to guide me.*

With its reference to the Cross, this cannot be said to be a translation of the Hebrew poem, but a Christian paraphrase based on it.

From the early American folk hymn tradition, our hymnal includes “My Shepherd will supply my need,” a

version by Isaac Watts from 1719, sung to a lovely American folk melody which can be traced to the early nineteenth century before its origins become shrouded in mystery. Verse two is one of my favorite verses by Watts:

*When I walk through the shades
of death, thy presence is my stay;
One word of thy supporting breath
drives all my fears away.*

The hymn concludes:

*The sure provisions of my God
attend me all my days;
Oh, may thy house be my abode
and all my work be praise.
There would I find a settled rest,
while others go and come;
No more a stranger or a guest,
but like a child at home.*

The poems of the Welsh-born Anglican priest George Herbert (d. 1633) include some psalm translations, and his version of Psalm 23 is one of his best, though not represented in our hymnal:

*The God of love my shepherd is,
and he that doth me feed:
While he is mine, and I am his,
what can I want or need?
He leads me to the tender grasse,
where I both feed and rest;
Then to the streams that gently
passe: in both I have the best.
Or if I stray, he doth convert and
bring my minde in frame:
And all this not for my desert,
but for his holy name.*

*Yea, in deaths shadie black abode
well may I walk, not fear:*

*For thou art with me; and thy rod
to guide, thy staff to bear.*

Nay, thou dost make me sit and

*dine, ev’n in my enemies sight:
My head with oyl, my cup with
wine runnes over day and night.
Surely thy sweet and wondrous
love shall measure all my dayes;
And as it never shall remove, so
neither shall my praise.*

MINISTRY OF THE MONTH

Usher. Ushers are responsible for greeting parishioners and guests as they enter the church, providing the appropriate bulletins, answering questions and assisting with seating. They walk the gifts to the altar, pass the collection plates, count the congregation, ring the bells, and see to any other needs that may arise during the worship service. Following the service they clean the pews for the next service. Please contact Ed Clabots at office@gracesheboygan.com if you are interested in serving as an Usher.

OUTREACH UPDATE:

As of the 27 April Vestry report outreach provided in the prior month was to a total \$2,979.91. This include 17 cases of medical need, 3 cases of housing relief, and 1 case of help with transport.

In 2014, outreach support is being shifted more to response to cases managed through the LoveINC (Lobe in the Name of Christ) ministry, of which Grace is one of six founding sponsors for the county. Grace is contributing \$1,000.00/month to Love INC.

The LoveINC board have interviewed three finalists for the position, and expect to announce the hiring of an Executive Director this month.

THE KALENDAR by Fr. Karl

The month begins with the feast of Sts. Philip and St. James, apostles (1 May). Philip is the disciple who baptizes the Ethiopian eunuch at Acts 8.26-39, fulfilling Jesus' injunction at Acts 1.8 that the disciples will be His witnesses "... in Jerusalem and in all Judea and Samaria, and to the end of the earth." James is "James the Less" (a son of Zebedee), to distinguish him from James, the Lord's brother. This feast is followed immediately by those of St. Athanasius (d. 373, commemorated in a window on the east side of the sanctuary at Grace), the defender of orthodoxy at the First Council of Nicaea (A.D. 325), and of The Finding of the Holy Cross. This latter feast (3 May) commemorates that in A.D. 335 the Dowager Empress Helena (Constantine's mother) led an excavation of holy sites in Jerusalem in which it was claimed that the cross upon which Jesus was crucified was found. Many modern scholars think that Helena's excavations were quite accurate.

We remember the great mystic Dame Julian of Norwich (d. 1417) on 8 May, and St. Gregory Nazianzus (d. 389, namesake St. Nazianz, Wisconsin) on 9 May. St. Nazianzus was instrumental in formulating the orthodox understanding of the Holy Trinity.

Two notable monastics appear on the May calendar, St. Pachomius (d. 346), the founder of the practice of monks living together in a common dwelling (*cenobitic* monasticism, as opposed life spent as a hermit), and St. Dunstan (d. 988), who reformed the monastic life in England.

Another saint of local significance is remembered on 24 May, this being Jackson Kemper (d. 1870) the first Missionary Bishop in the United States. Kemper was consecrated in 1839. One of his first missions involved the evangelization of the old Northwest (Wisconsin) and the founding of Nashotah House in 1842. Kemper is very much a foster father of this diocese and parish.

St. Augustine of Canterbury, the very first Archbishop of Canterbury, who came to Eng-

land in 587 is also a May saint (on the 26th). The Gospel book given to Augustine by Pope Leo the Great is still used in the consecration of each Archbishop of Canterbury. It is kept as MS 286 in the Parker Library of Corpus Christi College, Cambridge, and can be viewed online at http://corpus.cam.ac.uk/parker/images/luke_1.jpg. The entire gospel book is being made available at www.parkerweb.stanford.edu.

The Feast of the Ascension falls this year on 29 May (a Thursday). This is one of the "principal" feasts on the Church calendar; i.e., it cannot be moved to another day, must be observed by the congregation, and is considered a feast which of equal obligation as Easter and Christmas. We will celebrate Holy Eucharist at 6 p.m. The story of Jesus' ascension into heaven is found at Act 1.6-11, ending with angels telling the disciples that Jesus "... will come in the same way as you saw him go into heaven." Traditionally, churches are "oriented" (worship faces east), because we expect Jesus to return from the east. This is also why graves face east, that at the Second Coming the dead may rise to meet their judge.

The final day of the month is the Feast of the Visitation, on which we commemorate the visitation Mary's visitation to her cousin, Elizabeth, described by Luke at 1.39-56, from whence we receive the phrase found in the *Hail Mary* "...blessed art thou among women, and blessed in the fruit of thy womb ..."

THE SOCIETY OF MARY:

On Friday, 23 May, we will receive a visit from members and officers of the national society, who will have been meeting at Nashotah House. The Society will be welcomed to the parish, to pray the Rosary and a devotional with us (3 p.m. start time), offer prayers at the shrine of Our Lady, and join us for a high tea reception in St. Nicholas Hall. All are welcome.

ADULT EDUCATION :

In May we return to our schedule of second Sunday adult education hour being dedicated to "Care and Share"—to the opportunity to meet in small groups, to get to know each other better, and to share faith stories and discussions. The fourth Sunday of each month is dedicated to meetings for small group ministries that are formed, such as Caregivers. What is new this month is what will happen on the first and third Sundays. On the first Sunday we will have a rector's forum—a time to ask any questions you want to ask (about Church, parish, theology, etc.) The third Sunday will introduce a new format, which will build on the success found in our Lenten meditations series. Four parishioners will have prepared their own reflections on the lessons for the four Sundays of the month, and we will use these reflections as the bases for our small group discussions of how God's will is revealed in the lessons encountered throughout the month.

ATTENDANCE AND FINANCES:

Average Sunday to date is 118. This compares to a 2013 figure of 122.

Pledges for 2014 total approximately \$282,468, a 6.9% decrease from the 2013 aggregate as pledged, and a 2.8% decrease from pledges as paid. The Vestry are exploring all options to increase fund-raising, while managing costs.

- Pledges paid to date are \$3,387 less than the amount budgeted.
- Expenses to date have been managed to 93.6% of budget.
- Quarterly Pledge Statements: Giving is one reflection of spiritual health. Please examine your quarterly pledge statement with care. If you are challenged in meeting your commitment, please alert Fr. Karl, so that your what you are facing can be shared as a common burden by this Body. All matters relating to giving remain anonymous.

Senior Warden Report - Bobbi Kraft



Prayer Ministry Beginnings

A Prayer Ministry is beginning here at Grace and it will look like this. Saturday mornings at 10:00am members of Grace will meet and walk throughout the church praying. Our prayers will be focused on asking the Holy Spirit to be released in a deeper, more powerful way into our Grace Church community. The prayers will begin at the back of the church and continue through each pew, chapels, pulpit, sanctuary and sacristy. Where the Spirit leads, we will pray, ending at the main altar. In Acts 1:14 we read that the early church prayed together constantly. Paul reminds us in 1Thess.5:17 we are to pray without ceasing. It is with deep devotion and great conviction that we begin this Prayer Ministry by meeting once a week to pray for our Church. If anyone feels called to join in the praying, please come.

“May the God of hope fill you with all joy and peace as you trust in Him, so that you may overflow with hope by the POWER OF THE HOLY SPIRIT.”

Romans 15:13

In the April 6th edition of The Living Church, there was a “highlight bullet” for an article that caught my eye. It said, “The true work of the priest is to build and sustain community.” That is what I see happening and growing here at Grace. We have been blessed with a priest who views his work here as equipping the saints. Because of that, I see our duty in leadership to encourage, assist, and foster that work all while also being beneficiary to becoming equipped as well. Last month’s meeting was a good example of what can happen when we are engaged in mutual ministry. Our time spent together revolved around the spiritual life & growth at Grace. There was a joyfulness and openness in our discussions that was refreshing and invigorating for all present. I, for one, look forward to this being an ongoing occurrence.

In the past month, there has been a lot of activity. There is “new life” that seems to be taking place in addition to Easter and the new Bishop’s Ordination and Consecration. An afternoon filled with music and fellowship thanks to the Gough Duo. Meetings to generate fundraising ideas plus the parish clean up are inspiring individuals to use their gifts in a variety of ways for more than just the “obvious” reasons. Plus, small groups continue to pop up all over the place that are building relationships within the Body. The parish is talking, sharing, and realizing that ministry comes in a number of forms! Praise be to God!

I believe we are at the beginning of “something”...what I’m not sure of but am secure in the knowledge

that God is and will reveal His plans for us (though “details” may come in drips and drabs). We must be diligent in our prayers and in being open to whatever is required of each of us. We must remember that we do not go it alone and be willing to ask assistance from one another, including from unexpected or previously unknown sources. We must accept that there may be “bumps in the road” along the way and allow each other a measure of grace. We are at the beginning of “something”.

As we go through this process, we need to be mindful that we are all experiencing a bit of culture change. We are blessed with a parish that responds when it is “asked”. We have seen positive responses time and again when requests are made. Yet our growing in the Spirit will enable parishioners to become secure in their ability to also respond when they “see” and to ask others to join them in doing God’s work. That is our journey, to build each other up in community in order to respond as God reveals His needs to us.

Thank you for all you’ve done to help us get to this place. Thank you for responding to God’s call.

In Him,
Bobbi Kraft

MINISTRY SCHEDULE

8:00 AM	SERVER	LECTOR	USHER	GREETER
5/4	B. Wood	B. Wood	J. Davis & W. Sather	D&M Evans
5/11	B. Imig	B. Imig	S&C Fischer	J. Gardner
5/18	J. Davis	J. Davis	J. Gardner & W. Sather	D&M Evans
5/25	B. Wood	J. Otte	L&C Schneider	J. Gardner

10:15 AM	LECTOR	USHER	GREETER
5/4	Bob MacEwen	E. Clabots & S. Gedemer	J & K Ambelang
5/11	Paul Aparicio	J. Whitford & E. Clabots	C. Smith
5/18	Bernie Markevitch	S&M Gallimore	J. Stagner
5/25	Karen Ambelang	J. Stagner & B. Evans	P&P Beebe

CALENDAR EVENTS FOR MAY

May 1	9:00am	Mass – St. Philip and St. James
	9:30am	Bible Study
	7:00-9:00pm	Greek Class
May 4	5:30pm	Game Night
	6:30 pm	Potluck Dinner
	8:00 pm	Compline
May 5	6:00pm	EFM
	6:30 pm	Catechumenate
May 7	7:00am	Men's Breakfast –Fountain Park Restaurant
May 8-12	Fr. Karl and Elizabeth away	
May 8	No Mass or Bible Study	
May 10	No Mass	
May 12	No Mass	
	6:00pm	EFM
	6:30 pm	Catechumenate
May 13	10-2	Clergy Day –St. Peter's, Sheboygan Falls
May 14	7:00am	Men's Breakfast –Fountain Park Restaurant
May 15-19	Fr. Karl and Elizabeth away	
May 15	No Mass or Bible Study	
May 16	Office Closed –Michele away	
May 17	No Mass	
	1:00pm	Enthronement of Eighth Bishop of Fond du Lac Cathedral Church of St. Paul, Fond du Lac
May 18	Last day of Sunday School	
May 19	No Mass	
	6:00pm	EFM
	6:30 pm	Catechumenate
May 21	7:00am	Men's Breakfast –Fountain Park Restaurant
May 22	9:30 pm	Bible Study
	7:00-9:00pm	Greek Class
May 23	Society of Mary, more details to come	
May 25	9:00am	All Saints Chapel opens.
May 26	Office Closed –Memorial Day	
May 28	7:00am	Men's Breakfast –Fountain Park Restaurant
May 29	6:00pm	Mass –Ascension Day
May 30	9:00am	Mass –Visitation of the Blessed Virgin Mary
May 31	1:00-3:00pm	Knit Together

BIRTHDAYS

5/1	Grafton Smith	5/14	Brenda Burgett	5/25	Dottie McClure
5/2	Michael Boland	5/14	Terry Kohler	5/26	Wes Jung
5/2	Tim Schmeiser	5/16	Harper Westfall	5/29	Dale Massey
5/9	Jean M. Fisher	5/18	Scott Gedemer	5/29	Jeremy Williams
5/9	Art Imig	5/18	Elizabeth Schaffenburg	5/30	Leona Aparicio
5/9	Eowyn Whitford	5/19	Martha Schmeiser	5/30	Jack Britton
5/10	Palmer Beebe	5/21	Lisa Krueger	5/31	Natasha Crouse
5/11	Angel Klinzing	5/22	Sarah Clabots-Kim		
5/11	Davis Maki	5/23	LeRoy Schneider		

2014 MAY

WEEKLY SERVICE SCHEDULE

Grace Church is open daily from 8:00 a.m. to 6:00 p.m. for prayer and meditation.

SUNDAY

8:00 a.m. Low Mass
10:15 a.m. Solemn Mass

MONDAY

8:45 a.m. Morning Prayer
12:10 p.m. Mass
5:10 p.m. Evening Prayer & Shrine Prayers with Rosary. Intercessions, healing prayer, and sprinkling of Holy Water are offered after the Shrine prayers

TUESDAY

8:45 a.m. Morning Prayer
5:10 p.m. Evening Prayer & Shrine Prayers
5:30 p.m. Mass

WEDNESDAY

8:45 a.m. Morning Prayer
5:10 p.m. Evening Prayer & Shrine Prayers
5:30 p.m. Mass

THURSDAY

8:45 a.m. Morning Prayer
9:00 a.m. Mass
5:10 p.m. Evening Prayer & Shrine Prayers

FRIDAY

7:00 a.m. Morning Prayer
7:15 a.m. Mass
5:10 p.m. Evening Prayer & Shrine Prayers

SATURDAY

8:45 a.m. Morning Prayer
9:00 a.m. Mass

ANNIVERSARIES

5/1	Gene & Karen Wilhelm
5/8	David & Joann Otte
5/11	Kevan & Traci Revis
5/12	Bob & Dell Wood
5/16	John & Louise Davis
5/16	Edmund & Barbara Knauf
5/20	David & Leslie Bronson
5/20	Crawford & Pat Ford Smith
5/26	Charles & Rachel Ambelang
5/29	Randy & Lisa Krueger

PARISH STAFF

The Rev. Dr. Schaffenburg,
Rector; The Rev. Michael Burg,
Deacon; The Rev. Michele
Whitford - Clerk, Deacon; Dr.
R. Benjamin Dobey, Organist
Choirmaster; Nick Whitford,
Director of Youth and Family;
Mr. William May, Sexton

THE VESTRY

The Rector-Bobbi Kraft,
Senior Warden; Paul Aparicio,
Junior Warden; Brian Heck,
Treasurer; Jeremy Williams,
Susan McIntosh, Jack Westfall,
Bev Evans, Bob Hanlon, Mary
Snyder, John Davis, Jane
Hanson, and Bob MacEwen

Current Vestry Topics

- Fundraising ideas and implementation
- Paypal for website
- Question of the Month in Angelus. April asked "Which model/s would you like to see used for adult education?"
- Abuse Prevention Training
- Where have you seen God at work?
- Budget discussion: Cash Balance Composition. Though we currently have \$97,372.57 "in the bank", just over \$59,000 is money that is set aside for needs outside of budget. That leaves \$37,941.65 cash available for disbursement. Our monthly expenses in March totaled just under \$35,000 with revenue of just under \$25,000. I mention all of this is because, in addition to our efforts to eliminate running a deficit, in the past we've been able to access the line of credit to fill emergency cash needs, the line of credit was maxed out at the end of 2013.
- Line of Credit balance and paydown ideas

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