

THE EVANGEL

APRIL 2019

WEBSITE: www.EpiscopalArcadiaFL.com

BISHOP'S COMMITTEE MEETING March 20, 2019

Meeting Summary:

- Report and filing requirements are being prepared for the Florida Department of State for the annual renewal of incorporation.
- Relationship with Hackney/Ames accounting services is being terminated
- Treasurer/Administrator position is being established as an independent contractor position. Pat Moore will fill this position with monthly compensation of \$450.00. Duties and responsibilities are being developed.
- Fellowship hall roof repair is scheduled for the first week of April.
- Repair to faulty light fixture in the church is in progress; the age of the item is problematic due to availability of parts.
- Yard work is scheduled with assistance from "horseshoe group" from Arcadia Village.
- Bob Harrington offered to continue as Stewardship Chairman.
- Appreciation expressed for ECW tithe to the General Operating Fund from the annual rummage sale revenues.

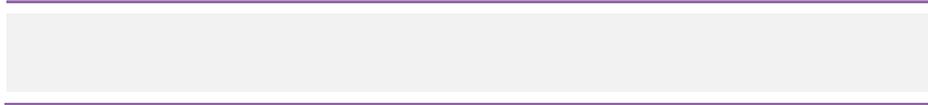
FINANCIAL REPORT (February 2019)

	CONTRIBUTIONS*	EXPENSES
FEB	\$ 9,627.00	\$ 7,763.93
YTD	\$18,629.00	\$18,402.14

NOTE: *includes monthly contributions and prorated pre-paid annual pledges

Newsletter Committee:

Rosanne Collins, Vivian Stewart, & Deacon Robert Vaughn (editor)



Upcoming Events

April 7

UTO In-Gathering

April

14th-Palm/Passion Sunday
 18th-Maundy Thursday
 19th-Good Friday
 21st-Easter Sunday

April 24

ECW 5:30; Men's Group 6:00
 Bishop's Committee 7:30

**327 West Hickory Street
 Arcadia, FL 34266
 (863) 494-0485**

The Rev. James McConnell
 Priest-In-Charge
 (863) 368-1465
sailor2926@gmail.com

The Rev. Robert Vaughn
 Deacon
 (863) 244-1369
vaughn_rj@yahoo.com

The Rev. Mario Castro
 Latino Missioner
 (813) 562-2467
mcastro@redeemersarasota.org

PRIEST – IN - CHARGE



While in the midst of Lent our thoughts turn to Easter just as in the midst of winter our world awaits the fullness of spring. Winter in the middle ages of the European world was a time of reflection, inactivity and just keeping warm. Lent/spring meant a time of change. During early spring one began a time of preparation for the coming planting, growing and harvesting season. It was a time of evaluating what needed to be done for success. Our journey in faith is similar.

Keeping a faithful Lent requires that we evaluate our lives, reflecting on our past failures and successes. We are called to reflect on what damage sin has done to our lives and the damage it has done to our relationship with God and others. Having prepared the ground through prayer and worship we will be ready to seek the full forgiveness of God through the wounds of Jesus Christ. Our lives are then adequately prepared for the flowering of the Easter miracle of the Resurrection of our Savior.

Easter (from the word estrus) means a time of fertility in belief and celebration. It is a time to celebrate what Christ has done for us. It is a time of new birth in faith as one considers the power that God the Father has given Jesus the Son to stand as a living sacrifice for our sins and for our complete absolution from those sins. We will celebrate the Paschal feast on April 21.

In final preparation before we celebrate Easter, we must go through a time in which we walk with Christ to the cross. We do this every Tuesday at 5:00 P.M.

As Lent draws to a close, we gather to enter into Jerusalem with Jesus on Passion (Palm) Sunday and witness His bloody crucifixion. Then on Maundy Thursday we join Him at the Last Supper and on Good Friday we suffer with our Savior as we participate in the Good Friday liturgy. THEN, we are ready for the good news of the Resurrection. He is Risen!

May God bless us all during the remainder of Lent and into a glorious Eastertide.

Fr. Jim McConnell

SUNDAY ATTENDANCE

March 3

8:00 - 14
10:00 - 54
7:00 - 12

March 10

8:00 - 14
10:00 - 46
7:00 - 17

March 17

8:00 - 15
10:00 - 51
7:00 - 12

March 24

8:00 - 11
10:00 - 53
7:00 - 16

March 31

8:00 - 14
10:00 - 46
7:00 - 13

DEACON

This is the time of year when our many seasonal folks return to their homes and families. Their “summer” locations are quite varied that include northern regions of The South, as well as New England, the Midwest, and Canada. Each year they bring and share their rich and various experiences that includes a wide range of Episcopal/Anglican traditions from their local church. So many times they have commented on how St. Edmund Church is more “low church” or more “high church” than their home church. Sometimes it is in reference to use of Rite I or Rite II Eucharist, Sunday Morning Prayer Service, type of vestments, music traditions, etc. For some it is their first interaction with the ministry of a deacon in the church. They bring to us, and receive from us, a more full understanding of the extensive scope of ministry and worship in the Episcopal Church.

Part of the genius of our Anglican tradition is incorporation of Catholic and Reform (“Protestant”) theology and church practices. Although not perfect, we have an historical perspective of inclusiveness and acceptance of a wide range of Christian understandings of what it means to live the Gospel. In the latter half of the 20th century and into the 21st century, the Episcopal Church has led the way in the Anglican Communion regarding full inclusiveness of all followers of Jesus in the sacramental and ministerial life of the church.

St. Edmund Church is stronger and more vibrant during this seasonal influx that adds increased fellowship, worship participation, ministry involvement, and financial contribution. I know we miss you during your absence and it is always gratifying to hear so many of you mention that you miss us and look forward to returning to our little church.

A similar group in the congregation is those retirees who permanently relocate here and become part of our church community. Some transfer from other Episcopal parishes and many become congregation members after having separated from other church traditions in the past. They also strengthen St. Edmund Church in similar ways noted earlier.

To those who venture forth in the coming weeks, we say “farewell and Godspeed.” We will keep the candles burning!

---Deacon Robert Vaughn



UTO IN-GATHERING + April 7th

OUR CHURCH FAMILY

It is hard to believe that another glorious, blessed Easter is almost here. St. Edmund's will be filled with renewal and beauty. However, it also means that our special winter angels will be leaving us. They are such a special part of life at St. Ed's. We wish them safe travel and hope they will return to us when they can.

Charlene Michaud relayed fantastic news from Jerry and Linda Call! Their health has been good and now, they are both doing so well, they are considering a visit down to see us all and spend some time. Isn't that the very best news?!!! We all miss them so much.

Margaret Shillinglaw has been very busy with company since the beginning of January. Her daughter, Marcie, retired last October. Marcie and Steve purchased a camper and joined the snowbirds here for three months. While in Frostproof, Margaret has seen them every week and the grandkids that came down. They will be heading north on March 31st but they will be back next year.

The McConnells are looking forward to the Highland games in Dunedin on April 6th and camping at Hardee Lakes. They are looking forward to a glorious Easter and then on to Scotland on April 28th. They ask for our prayers while they travel.

Many of you fondly remember former St. Ed members Bebe Bradbury and Donn Jackson. Bebe was a Vestry member and Donn was our treasurer; they were loyal eight o'clockers; they left us and moved to Tampa to be near grandchildren. However, sadly, Donn is now living in a Memory Care Unit of a Tampa hospital. Please uphold them both in your prayers as they face this challenge.

Nancy Jo and Robert Vaughn spent an enjoyable St. Patrick's Day weekend in Broward County with Robert's sisters. They attended the Elton John concert and participated in the Ft. Lauderdale St. Patrick's Day parade and festival on Saturday; on Sunday they joined the multitude at an Irish pub for food and music. Robert and Nancy Jo booked a dinner cruise on St. Patrick's night but the boat never left dock due to mechanical problems. Robert states it was truly the luck of the Irish since they received a good meal and drinks with a full refund.

Sandy and Joe Easterwood say they can not believe they will be leaving in a few weeks to head home. They claim they have certainly enjoyed their three months in Arcadia and being a part of St. Edmund's. They are happy that they were able to volunteer and most of all meet new friends! Phylis, they want you to save their seat behind you!

Jeanette and Bob Fowler report there is no news from their house as Jeanette recovers from hand surgery. What a special couple they are!

Judy and Glen Sillhart reported that after twelve years of attending St. Edmund, they are saying goodbye. They are going home to Pennsylvania and will be staying there from now on. They have enjoyed the time

APRIL BIRTHDAY

6th-Dilys McIntyre

8th-Pamela Apps

9th -Pat Stip

14th-Mary Tucker

14th-Barbara Gaulin

18th-Kathleen Gallagher

22th -Margaret Lewis

23th-Bob Euerle

April Anniversary

9th-Anne & John Virigilio

11th-Dilysi & Harry McIntyre

24th-Nancy Jo & Robert Vaughn

they spent at the church and the people they met. They will miss everyone and want to wish everyone blessings for many healthy and happy years. Hopefully there will be someone new to take up their pew in the back. They would still like to get the newsletter emailed to them if possible. Nice, nice couple. We bought their TV last year after they donated it to the ECW and I will think of them everytime I turn it on!

Here is an update on Jace Driskell, a precious grandson of Jan and Hal Lewis: He has taken to the diet very well. Thank the Lord! Carolyn and Matt have cleaned out everything they had for Jace and replaced it with approved items from the hospital list to include wipes, diapers, medication, lotions, soaps, toothpaste-and they list goes on and on. They are so happy with his progress in little over a month. He has taken two steps by himself!!!!He has learned the word "papa" and says it a lot (makes Hal so proud!) And NO SEIZURES! Again, thank you for the continued prayers-as it is powerful. Hal and I continue to make trips to see grandkids. Our little Aiden (Cassie's son) turned three on February 17th. They enjoyed spending his birthday with him in Crestview.

Sad to say goodbye to Maureen DeSmit as she returns to Michigan; the good news is she will be returning in December.

Bob Harrington and Bruiser have had a relatively quiet month. Bob did spend an evening relaxing (?) At DeSoto Memorial Hospital. As it turned out, the pains in his chest were not heart related, just muscle spasms. Bob relates that the care at DMH was excellent, as it has been in the past. He feels we are fortunate to have DMH in our community.

Ron and Carolyn Robins will be driving out to California the end of March. They plan to be gone six or seven months. They will be staying with their daughter Joy. They enjoy the San Jose/San Francisco area of California. The weather is always nice and humidity is low. The Robins will see everyone in the fall.

We wish Bob and Ginny Carter a wonderful future as they move to Naples. They will be missed.

Shawn and Helen Bryan returned home to the land of ice and snow in Vermont but look forward to their return next fall. They ask that we keep them on the mailing list-they love their little Florida parish and the eight o'clock crowd. They will miss us and keep us in their prayers.

Bryon Butler sent us news from his home in Jacksonville. He arrived there to be a teacher but took a job with a federal program housed in a local college helping at-risk children stay on track for college. He enjoys the work very much and the travel, also. He has led a field trip to Washington, D.C. and attended a training in Atlanta. Online he teaches English to Chinese student-makes for full days, but he enjoys it. He is attending a Christian and Missionary Alliance Church (the group he was with as a missionary). He misses the Episcopal Church services but he has found a new church home for now. He sends St.Edmund's his greetings and says he loved the anniversary pictures and enjoys reading the newsletter. Great to hear from Bryon.

Wishing Pat Novean better days ahead as she recovers from her headaches. Miss her!

Safe travel wishes to Linda and Barry Gromen as they return to their "other" home in Ohio. Do not forget to come back to us!

Just a reminder-I have ordered 25 beautiful Lilies for Easter. I need your help paying for them! This is lovely way to express a thanksgiving or a memorial. Fill out a donation form, attach a check or money and drop it in the offering plate. Bless you!

See you in church, Irene

MEMBERSHIP & CHURCH DIRECTORY

Please contact Carolyn McConnell with any changes or updates to your address and contact information

Have you looked at our Online Church Directory?

Follow the directions below to log on the directory

To log in to the directory:

1. Go to **members.InstantChurchDirectory.com**
2. Click on the link: First time signing in? Create a login now.
3. Enter the email address as it is listed in the family portion of the directory.
4. Create a password. The password must be 8 characters long, and contain at least two of the following special characters: capital letters, numbers or symbols.
5. Retype the password to confirm it and click "Request Login."
6. Check your inbox for an email from service@instantchurchdirectory.com.
7. To complete the sign-up process, you will need to verify your email address by clicking on the link sent to you in that email
8. Once you confirm your email, you may sign at members.InstantChurchDirectory.com.

You can read the directory online. Simply click on the name to see the details: photo, address, phone number, email, birthdays, anniversaries.

Your email with the password you created will work on all the Instant Church Directory apps on any device. All you have to do is go to "Apps" on your device and search for "Instant Church Directory." If you have not made an account yet, follow steps 2 through 7 above. If you have already used the program just sign in with the same username and password.

DAUGHTERS OF THE KING

The Daughters of the King (DOK) is a lay order of the Episcopal Church dedicated to prayer and service. The St. Edmund chapter was formed in 2006. The weekly prayer list is maintained by this group and used as focus for their prayer. The St. Edmund chapter meeting is the first Thursday of the month at 10:00 am. See chapter president Ruth Adams about becoming a member of DOK. This month's meeting is on Thursday, April 4th, at 10:00 am.

EASTER FLOWERS

We are anticipating a beautiful, wondrous 2019 Easter at St. Edmund Church. We have been so blessed!

These flowers are a glorious way to express a memorial or thanksgiving at this most sacred season of the year.

Please return this completed form by placing in the offering plate by Sunday, April 14th or call Irene Pooser. Checks should be made payable to St. Edmund Church and designated for Easter Flowers.

Contribution of \$ _____ toward the 2019 Easter flowers:

() Thanksgiving for _____

() In memory of _____

Thank you and God bless you!

EPISCOPAL CHURCH WOMEN

The ECW appreciates your support of the Undie Sunday project. Two large bins of children's underwear were delivered to the ESE department of the DeSoto County Schools to be used as emergencies arise during those long school days. Next year we may have an ingathering in the fall to assist as children adjust to another school year.

The United Thank Offering Ingathering will be on April 7th. This ECW project goes to support areas of recognized need around the world. It is a way to "pass on" the blessings God gives to us everyday. Bring your blue box or your blue envelope to church April 7th.

Keep your ears open. The ECW is hoping to organize a fun evening at Visani, a terrific, delicious dinner club in Charlotte County in May. Hope you will be able to participate.

Due to Holy Week, the ECW will meet next month on the fourth Wednesday on May 24th at 5:30 at Beef O'Brady's.

Hope you can join us.

Charlene Michaud, ECW President

MEN'S GROUP/PANCAKE SUPPER

The annual Shrove Tuesday Pancake Supper on March 5th was well attended and successful. The St. Edmund men's group generated \$700.00. Thanks to all who helped, brought tickets, and participated.



Presiding Bishop Michael Curry’s “The Way of Love”



THE WAY OF LOVE IN LENT 2019

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday	Sunday
Reflections from <i>Living the Way of Love</i> by Mary Bea Sullivan (Church Publishing, 2019). Used with permission.		March 6 TURN How did you turn back towards God's love when you made a big mistake? Luke 15:18	7 LEARN Practice lectio divina with this scripture. Luke 15:17-24	8 PRAY What are you thankful for? 1 Chron. 29:15	9 WORSHIP What is most meaningful to you in worship? BCP prayer, p. 281	10 LENT 1
11 BLESS What challenges are you facing today? Job 11:18	12 GO Where are you being encouraged to "show up"? Matt. 25:44-45	13 REST What can you say "no" to so you can say "yes" to prayer, rest and joy? Lev. 23:3	14 TURN What relationships do you need to mend? Isa. 55:8-9	15 LEARN Who might you have a conversation with to learn about God? Ps. 119:105	16 PRAY Listen to the daily office today at www.missionstclair.com Ps. 55:17	17 LENT 2
18 WORSHIP How do you want to prepare people to remember you? 2 Cor. 1:3-4	19 BLESS Intentionally smile at least ten times today. Phil 4:4	20 GO Where can you go and intentionally provide kindness? Matt. 5:4	21 REST How do you incorporate rest in your life? Jer. 6:16	22 TURN Where do you find joy and passion? Luke 24:32	23 LEARN What passage of scripture is important to you Why? Isa. 40:8	24 LENT 3
25 PRAY Go for a walk today and pray with your feet, each step with intention. Isa. 2:3a	26 WORSHIP In your prayers today, what new words or thoughts touch you? Phil. 4:6	27 BLESS Notice the pattern of your breathing. Pray for awareness of blessings. Gen. 2:7	28 GO Where might God be asking you to take your great love into the world? Isa. 48:6b	29 REST How can you incorporate rest from technology today? Matt. 11:28	30 TURN Today, intentionally listen devoutly to another. Mark 4:23	31 LENT 4
April 1 LEARN How is the Jesus who walked this earth beckoning you to meet him? Mark 10:46-52	2 PRAY Try praying with Anglican prayer beads. Luke 18:1	3 WORSHIP How does community help or hinder your growing in Christ? John 1:12-13	4 BLESS Who has taught you to life a Jesus-filled life? Who have you taught? 2 Cor. 4:16	5 GO Create a prayer representing how you seek to serve God and follow Jesus. Matt. 5:15.	6 REST How might you connect with others in the spirit of renewal? 1 Kings 19:11-12	7 LENT 5
8 TURN How might you share what brings you great joy with others? Rom. 12:6-8	9 LEARN Slowly read this passage aloud. How does this speak to the world today? Matt. 4:18-22	10 PRAY Take 20 minutes in contemplative prayer today. Matt. 4:18-22	11 WORSHIP What seminal moments have informed a need to return to Christ? Ps. 51:10	12 BLESS When you reflect on financial giving, are your palms open? Matt. 12:43-44	13 GO Where can you seek and serve Christ in someone unlike you? Jer. 30:22, 31:4-5.	14 LENT 6
15 REST How do your creative outlets impact on taking rest? Gen. 1:1-2:4	16 WAY OF LOVE Where do you see the seven practices of the Way of Love in this story? Luke 5:19	17 RULE OF LIFE How has this Way with God impacted your experience of God? John 7:38	18 RULE OF LIFE How can you build pauses into the day to reflect on the work of the Spirit? John 15:5	19 RULE OF LIFE How do others experience the love of Christ through you? Gal. 5:22-23	20 RULE OF LIFE Who can support you in living a Jesus-centered life? 2 Cor. 3:6	21 EASTER DAY

COMMUNITY WAY OF THE CROSS

The DeSoto County Ministerial Association organizes each Good Friday a “Community Way of the Cross” as an ecumenical observance. Participants gather at McSwain Park and walk through downtown Arcadia, stopping at a location for each of the fourteen station for scripture, prayer, and reflection. For example, the first station, “Jesus Is Condemned,” is in front of the DeSoto County Courthouse. The final station is at St. Edmund Church. At the conclusion, participants are invited to our hall for simple refreshment and fellowship.

Please plan to join your DeSoto County neighbors for this meaningful Good Friday tradition.

When: Good Friday, April 19th, at 9:00 am

Where: McSwain Park (across from courthouse, between Oak Street & Magnolia Street)

NOTE: St. Edmund Good Friday service is at 5:00 pm

TRANSITIONS

Most of our seasonal folks have either left or are leaving by the end of April. They will be missed until they return in the Autumn or Winter. The picture below is what waited for Helen & Shawn Bryan upon their return to Vermont at the end of March (maybe they need to rethink their Florida schedule!):



LITURGICAL MINISTRIES SCHEDULE

DATE	ALTAR GUILD	LEM	ACOLYTE	8:00 LECTOR	10:00 LECTOR	PRAYERS	GREETERS
April 07	Linda Gromen	Linda Gromen	Joe Mancuso	Wendy Carter	Pat Moore Pearl Kiellman	Bob Harrington	Charlene & Roy Michaud
April 14	Ruth Adams	Pat Moore	Bob Harrington	Haila Lewis	Irene Pooser Dawn Crippen	Carolyn McConnell	Phylis & Joe Mancuso
April 18		Pat Novean	Joe Mancuso		Maundy Thursday Pat Moore*		
April 19		X X X	Joe Mancuso		Good Friday Irene Pooser*		
April 21	Carolyn McConnell	Joe Mancuso	Irene Pooser	Bob Euerle	Bob Harrington Carolyn McConnell	Pat Moore	Bob Harrington n Pat Novean
April 28	Pat Moore	Joe Mancuso	Pat Moore	Wendy Carter	Pat Moore Bob Harrington	Irene Pooser	Irene & Michael Pooser

*Lectors read both lessons

April

2019

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesda	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
31	1	2 4:00 Bible Study 5:00 Way of the Cross 7:00 NA	3	4 10:00 Daughters of the King 5:30 DeSoto Cares Homeless	5	6
7 Fifth Sunday in Lent	8	9 4:00 Bible Study 5:00 Way of the Cross 7:00 NA	10	11	12	13
14 Palm/Pas sion Sunday	15	16	17	18 5:00 Maundy Thursday	19 9:00 Commun ity Way of the Cross	20
21 Easter Sunday	22	23	24 5:30 ECW 6:00 Men's Group 7:30	25	26	27
28 Second Sunday of Easter	29	30 7:00 NA	1	2	3	4
6	7	8	9	10	11	12

SUNDAYS: Holy Eucharist at 8:00 am, 10:00 am, & 7:00 pm (Spanish)

Narcotics Anonymous (NA) meets on Tuesdays & Thursdays at 7:00 pm