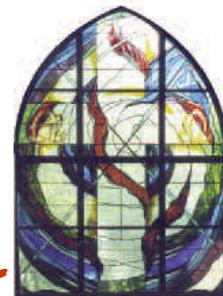


CREATOR



Chronicle



March 2016

"As a congregation named for our Creator, we are children of the Living God, beloved brothers and sisters of our Lord Jesus Christ, selflessly living out our faith in worship, fellowship, giving, education and outreach."

20 Hard Things that Will Help Us Be Happy

(Adapted, with apologies to the author, from an article written by Marc Chernoff)

There are no shortcuts to any place worth going.

Dear Friends:

We often have to endure hard tasks to be happy in life; and, those are often the things that make the difference between existing and living—between imagining the path and walking the path—between a life of unfulfilled expectations and a life of happiness and success.

Of course, the hard things are often the easiest things to avoid. The truth about how ordinary people achieve immense happiness and incredible feats of success is that they step out of their comfort zones and do the hard things that others don't have the drive or determination to do. So for your own sake, start doing the hard things TODAY. Here are some ideas to get you started:

- 1. Take small chances every day.** This may be the best way to face any problem, crush every fear and overcome life's greatest challenges. We get about as many chances in life as we're willing to take. Don't let fear decide your future. Take small chances every day, one step at a time. Some will work out and some won't. But, if we never take chances, someone else will build our lives for us.
- 2. Worry less about what other people think.** A beautiful life is a life spent passionately; happy with who we are inside; unconcerned about petty judgments. In order to achieve greatness, stop asking for approval.

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Rev. Robert M. Blanton, Priest-In-Charge * office hours: Monday—Thursday, 9:00 a.m. — 12:00 p.m.

Please call the church office, 601-924-2261, to schedule an appointment.

3. **Ignore what everyone else is achieving.** Our lives are about breaking our own limits and outgrowing ourselves to live our best lives. We are not in competition with anyone else; we plan to outdo our own past, not others’.
4. **Invest in yourself** even when no one else is. Truth be told, there are only a few people in this world who will stay 100% loyal; and, each of us should be one of them. Prioritize needs into daily to-do’s. Invest in education, health and happiness every day. Create a life that feels good, not one that just looks good.
5. **Walk the talk.** Other people or the universe will not guide our footsteps if we’re not willing to move our feet. Happiness will come to us when it comes from us. Success will be ours when we take responsibility for making our goals a top priority.
6. **Put your heart into your work.** Love is a verb. Act like it. We must put our hearts into goals that move us. Work hard. In the end, love is what makes us smile when we’re tired and still struggling.
7. **Produce results,** even when making excuses is easier: no shortcuts; no quick fixes; no blaming others; no “I’ll do it tomorrows;” NO MORE EXCUSES. Just get started. Quit talking and begin doing! Laziness may appear attractive, but work leads to happiness.
8. **Be willing to make mistakes** and look like a fool sometimes. Often, the successful happy people are the ones who have overcome the most. Sometimes we have to lose something precious in order to gain something priceless. Never regret past mistakes and failures. The one who falls and gets up is much stronger than the one who has never fallen.
9. **Let go of yesterday’s struggles.** A life’s story has many chapters. Stop re-reading the bad chapters and turn the page. Accept what is, let go of what was, and have faith in what might be. Life does not have to be perfect to be wonderful.
10. **Refrain from feeling sorry for yourself.** Things are rough when we are struggling. I understand how rough things might be right now. Things will get better, I promise. Keep pushing forward. I know it feels like nobody cares, but people do care. I care, otherwise I wouldn’t be writing this. You’re not alone. We’re all going through similar challenges. Realize that self-pity is not helpful. Life is not about feeling sorry for yourself. It’s about forgiveness, acceptance and looking forward to what makes you stronger and better off in the long run.
11. **Toughen up.** The strongest, happiest, most successful people are NOT those who always win, but those who don’t give up when they lose. They fail forward. Stay calm when everything seems to be going wrong. We may feel weak, but our spirits are stronger than we think. When things are tough, we must be tougher. Don’t pray for an easy life; pray for the strength to endure a hard life that leads to long-term success and happiness.

- 12. *Fight hard for what you believe in.*** Great strength comes from overcoming what we believe is impossible. And sometimes we have to lose a battle to win the war. If we believe strongly in something, we must fight for it. In time things will fall into place ... maybe not today, but eventually... maybe not exactly how we planned.
- 13. *Be patient.*** Don't rush. Practice patience. We must keep a good attitude while working hard for what we believe in. When the time is right, it'll happen.
- 14. *Take control of your thoughts*** before they take control of you. It's often our own thinking that hurts us. As Einstein has said: we can't solve our problems with the same thinking we used to create them. There's no reason to imprison ourselves. Don't think outside the box. Imagine there is no box.
- 15. *Be positive.*** Happiness is not determined by our circumstances. Beautiful things happen when we distance ourselves from negative thinking. We must be positive, not because everything is good, but because we can see the possibility in every situation. Smiling doesn't always mean we're happy; sometimes it simply means we're strong. And smiling will help us feel better.
- 16. *Spend more time with the right people.*** We can't expect to see positive changes in our lives if we surround ourselves with negative people. Part-time people don't require full-time positions in our lives. We must know our value and what we have to offer, and never settle for relationships that bring us down.
- 17. *Stand up for yourself.*** Some people will do anything for their own personal gain at the expense of others: cut in line, take money and property, bully and belittle, pass guilt, etc. Do not accept this behavior. Most of these people know they're doing the wrong thing and will back down and apologize surprisingly quickly when confronted. In social settings people tend to be quiet until someone speaks up, so **SPEAK UP!**
- 18. *Forgive everyone who has wronged you.*** Kindness is not to be mistaken for weakness, or forgiveness for acceptance. It's about knowing that resentment does not lead to happiness. Remember, we don't forgive people because we're weak. We forgive them because we're strong enough to know that people make mistakes.
- 19. *Reach out and help people.*** The closest thing to an experience of being cared for is to care for others. We are all in this together and we should treat each other like it. Our convictions and beliefs alone don't make us better people, our actions do. Speak with kindness, listen with compassion, and act with charity, always. We don't need a good reason to help someone else.
- 20. *Be present enough to enjoy the journey.*** Find a balance between planning and being present. When life is good, enjoy it. Don't always look for the next good thing. Happiness doesn't come when we don't appreciate what we have. We must be willing to loosen our grip on the life we have planned so we can enjoy the life that shows up in this moment. It may not immediately fill our expectations, but it's everything we need right now.

Finally, Br. David Steindl-Rast says: "If you want to be happy, be grateful. Most people think that happy people are grateful; but, it is grateful people who are happy."

Yours in Christ, Pastor Bob

Creator's Annual Easter Egg Hunt

Creator's Annual Easter Egg Hunt will be held

Easter Sunday, March 27, at 9:30 am.



Each participating child will need to bring one dozen (or more) candy/treat filled eggs. The eggs should be left in the parish hall by 9:00 am.

The eggs will be hidden on the church grounds in age appropriate sections. Please remember to bring your child's Easter basket to carry while hunting. A group picture of all participants will follow out front by the Creator Bridge.

We hope to see you there!!! Happy Hunting!!!

Vicky Donaho



Easter Luncheon

There will be a covered dish luncheon in the parish hall immediately following the 10:30 Easter service. Please bring your favorite meat, casserole, side dish, salad or dessert.

Please come and join us as we celebrate Christ's resurrection!

Bible Study: The Experience of God's Presence

Sometimes in the hustle and bustle of the 21st century, we humans get lost in the clamor and noise of Madison Avenue and mass media over the din of how do I pay the mortgage or rent, keep food on the table, and pay the medical bills that we can hear little else. So we need some time to settle down (or center ourselves) on the essence of being human. What does it mean to be created in the image and likeness of the Creator God who is true being (the great I AM?) To assist in this "getting back to the basics" effort, it is good to re-visit what the great teachers and masters of the past have to say about our primary calling or vocation as human beings.

The experience of God's presence and recognizing that presence is at the root of Christian Spirituality. All the Spiritual masters understood this and their experiences have been documented from the unknown writer of "The Cloud of Unknowing", to the more contemporary Howard Thurman, Fr. Thomas Keating, OCSO, Fr. Richard Rohr, OFM, Fr. Henri J. M. Nouwen, and Fr. William A. Barry, SJ.

These are a few of the authors and teachers we will be drawing on **Sunday mornings at 9:00 a.m.** as we continue in our course of study during Lent.

VESTRY DIGEST

The February 15 meeting of the Vestry of Creator:

Present: Bob Blanton, Wendy Brantley, Mimi Bussell, Frank Hennington, Jane Kany, Linda Waldbauer, Chuck Runyan, Deborah Runyan, Vicki Donaho, Jennifer Wilson, Vicky Donaho

Visitor: Mike Milone

Cub Scout Pack information

- Mike Milone discussed the possibility of our church supporting a cub scout pack and has agreed to be the pack leader. Edie Hill has agreed to work with Mike to do songs and skits for the pack.
- The monthly meetings will be held from September through May.
- Arrangements must be finalized before the BSA Back to School Night recruitment at Clinton Schools, which is held in August.
- Mike provided a lot of information regarding various costs based on the extensive research that he has done. Startup costs are estimated at \$550 and then \$440 each year there after to cover operating costs.. Amounts vary depending on the number of boys.
- Cub Scouts raise money to support their pack through various fund raisers,
- The ongoing supply of young men to our Boy Scout troop is provided by the Cub Scout pack.
- A decision will need to be made by the end of July at the latest.

Junior Warden Report

Frank Hennington discussed the leaves in the parking lot and on the grounds that need to be raked and removed. Frank will discuss with our yard contractor fees for this service.

Old Business

- Evaluation of Valentine's Day Dinner was very positive. Sound levels were the only complaint. Youth did a great job serving and providing child care.
- The newly formed Finance Committee will have their first meeting on Thursday, February 18, 2016. Jennifer Wilson will meet with the committee to hand over the reins.
- Labyrinth-Bob Blanton gave a brief update. Joyce called Marti Williams who wants to become a certified labyrinth trainer. No concrete date has been set for the training yet.

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New Business

- Choir Changes - Ed Dacus has resigned as choirmaster at Creator. His last Sunday will be on Easter. An interim director has been selected. Ezra Wall has accepted the position. Chuck Runyan made a motion to allow Bob Blanton to negotiate with Ezra a salary between \$12,000 and \$14,400. The motion was seconded and passed. The health of the choir fund was reviewed and it is sound. Kip will continue to play the organ for Creator, and monies are available to continue hiring vocalists to supplement our choir members.
- The trailer which was on our property was broken down and hauled off. At one time this trailer was our sanctuary. The need to have a memorial was discussed. Bob Blanton will ask Cannon Johnson for his opinion.
- A volunteer to purchase items that the cleaning service doesn't provide, i.e. trash bags, spray deodorizer, toilet paper, paper towels, etc. is needed. They will be reimbursed for the costs. Deborah Runyan volunteered and she will alternate with Joyce White.
- Delegates and alternates for the 2017 Diocesan Council are needed by March 10, 2016. Mimi Bussell, John Lanford, and Andrew Wilder volunteered. Joyce White agreed to be an alternate. Beth will send an e-mail to the congregation asking for 2 additional alternates.
- There being no further business to come before the vestry, the meeting was adjourned at 7:56 P.M.

Minutes of vestry meetings may be found on the bulletin board outside the administrator's office following their approval and correction if needed. If you would like a copy, please call the office and a copy will be provided to you via email.

Donations for Altar Flowers for Easter

Easter is Sunday, March 27th. We are now accepting donations for our Easter flowers. You may donate by any of the following ways:

1. Mail your donation (1445 Clinton Raymond Road, Clinton MS 39056);
2. Drop off your donation in the church office or my box in the hallway if the office is closed; or
3. Put your donation in the offering plate on Sunday.

There is no set amount for your donation.

With your donation, please include a printed dedication for the Easter Sunday bulletin.



BOY SCOUTS OF AMERICA®

TROOP 345 2016 CALENDAR

- MARCH 4-7 HSR SPRING CAMP
- MARCH 18-20 FOUR RIVERS SPRING CAMPOREE at NATCHEZ POW WOW
- APRIL & MAY EAGLE SCOUT SERVICE PROJECTS
- JUNE 18-24 TROOP WHITE WATER TRIP OR SUMMER CAMP @ HSR



Scoutmaster, Troop #345

Franklin Nored

601-260-3166

Email: ffnored@comcast.net

Prepared. For Life.®



Carrying his own cross,
he went out to the place
... called Golgotha.
John 19:17



Stations of the Cross

Monday, March 21, – (12:00 pm)

Tuesday, March 22, – (12:00 pm)

Wednesday, March 23, – (12:00 pm)

Prime Timers

Wednesday, March 2

12:00 - Healing Service

12:30 - Prime Timers' Pot Luck Lunch

Prayer
and Healing
Service



CREATOR *March Calendar*

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
		<i>1</i> 12:00 pm: AA Meeting	<i>2</i> 12:00 am: Healing Service 12:30 pm: Prime Timers 6:30 pm: Confirmation Class 7 pm: Adult Choir	<i>3</i> 12:00 pm: AA Meeting	<i>4</i>	<i>5</i> 5 pm: AA / AI-Anon Meeting
<i>6</i> 8:00 am: Mass 9:00 am: Sunday school 10:30 am: Mass	<i>7</i> 6:30 pm: Boy Scouts 7:30 pm: DOA—Big Book Group	<i>8</i> 12:00 pm: AA Meeting	<i>9</i> 6:30 pm: Confirmation Class 7:00 pm: Adult Choir	<i>10</i> 12:00 pm: AA Meeting	<i>11</i>	<i>12</i> 5 pm: AA / AI-Anon Meeting Parish Hall Rental
<i>13</i> 8:00 am: Mass 9:00 am: Sunday school 10:30 am: Mass Daylight Savings Time Set clocks ahead 1 hr.	<i>14</i> 6:30 pm: Boy Scouts 7:30 pm: DOA—Big Book Group	<i>15</i> 12:00 pm: AA Meeting	<i>16</i> 6:30 pm: Confirmation Class 7:00 pm: Adult Choir	<i>17</i> 12:00 pm: AA Meeting	<i>18</i>	<i>19</i> 5 pm: AA / AI-Anon Meeting
<i>20</i> 8:00 am: Mass 9:00 am: Sunday school 10:30 am: Mass Palm Sunday FOOD PANTRY for the 4 C's	<i>21</i> 12:00 pm: Stations of the Cross 6:30 pm: Vestry 6:30 pm: Boy Scouts 7:30 pm: DOA—Big Book Group	<i>22</i> 12:00 pm: Stations of the Cross 12:00 pm: AA Meeting	<i>23</i> 12:00 pm: Stations of the Cross 7:00 pm: Adult Choir	<i>24</i> 12:00 pm: AA Meeting Maundy Thursday 6:30 pm	<i>25</i> Good Friday 12:00 pm & 6:30 pm	<i>26</i> 5 pm: AA / AI-Anon Meeting
<i>27</i> 8:00 am: Mass 9:00 am: Sunday school 10:30 am: Mass Easter Sunday 9:00 am Easter Egg Hunt Pot Luck Luncheon after 10:30 service	<i>28</i> 6:30 pm: Boy Scouts 7:30 pm: DOA—Big Book Group Office Closed	<i>29</i> 12:00 pm: AA Meeting	<i>30</i> 7:00 pm: Adult Choir	<i>31</i> 12:00 pm: AA Meeting	<i>1</i>	<i>2</i> 5 pm: AA / AI-Anon Meeting
						

Special Acolyte Schedule

March & Holy Week

Sunday, March 6

Ruby Lanford - Crucifer

Max Lanford - Gospel

Sunday, March 13

John Richard - Crucifer

Jonathan Dacus - Gospel

Palm Sunday, March 20

Landon Daniel - Thurifer

Maddie Gray Braley - Crucifer (Server)

Stone Braley - Torch

Jonathan Dacus - Torch (Server)

Maundy Thursday, March 24

Maddie Gray Braley - Crucifer

Rowan Braley - Gospel

Easter Sunday, March 27

Ruby Lanford - Boat

John Richard - Thurifer

Sara Waldbauer - Crucifer

Jonathan Dacus - Torch (Server)

Landon Daniel - Torch (Server)

Max Lanford - Gospel

March Servers

	6	13	20 Palm Sunday	27 Easter Sunday	
Chalice	Wendy Brantley Chuck Runyan	Bob White Joyce White	Mike Milone Richard McMullan	Mike Milone Chuck Runyan	
Lectors	John Lanford Jonathan Dacus	Chuck Runyan John Richard	Fred Shirley Stone Braley	Deborah Runyan Max Lanford	
Prayers	Deborah Runyan	Fred Shirley	Chuck Runyan	Janie Fields	
Acolytes	See Acolyte Server List	See Acolyte Server List	See Acolyte Server List	See Acolyte Server List	
Ushers	Richard McMullan Tristan McMullan	Mimi Bussell Rivers McMullan	Doug George Abby Donaho	Sarah Runyan Alex Runyan	
Altar	Larry Estes	Lisa Prestridge	Rhea Estes	Joyce White	
Home Communion			Edie Hill		
Vestry Person of the Day	Andrew Wilder	Chuck Runyan	Vicky Donaho	Frank Hennington	



Birthdays & Anniversaries



	Birthdays				
1	Martha Weatherall	12	John D'Isepo	26	Liam Cospelich
	David Miller	13	Luke Elder	31	Chuck Runyan
4	John Richard	16	Bill Hanna		
6	Maddie Gray Braley	22	Megan White		
	Abby Donaho	25	Dianne Carlton		
9	Josh Thibodeaux		Larry Estes		
			Linda Waldbauer		

March Servers for Holy Week

	24 Maundy Thursday	25 Good Friday			
Chalice	Wendy Brantley Richard McMullan	Mike Milone Bob White			
Lectors	John Lanford Jonathan Dacus	Joan Blanton Michael Piazza			
Prayers	Wendy Brantley	N/A			
Acolytes	See Acolyte Server List	See Acolyte Server List			
Ushers	Beth Braley Monty Braley	Doug George Abby Donaho			
Altar	Joyce White	Peggy Wilder			
Home Communion					
Vestry Person of the Day	Mimi Bussell	Joyce White			



Episcopal Church of the Creator

Church Office Hours:

9:00 am—2 pm, Monday—Thursday

Presiding Bishop

The Most Reverend Michael Curry

Bishop

The Very Reverend Brian Seage

Priest-In-Charge

The Reverend Robert M. Blanton

Deacon

The Reverend Deacon Bill Hanna

Administrator

Beth Braley

ecreator@bellsouth.net

Choir Director / Organist

Dr. Edward Dacus

eddacus@gmail.com

Senior Warden

Joyce White, 601-924-3796

Junior Warden

Frank Hennington, 601-924-3056

Treasurer

Vacant

Vestry

Chuck Runyan, 601-925-0829

Andrew Wilder, 601-842-0058

John Lanford, 601-708-4374

Mimi Bussell, 601-924-7066

Vicky Donaho, 601-924-5107

Contacts

Church Office

Administrator—Beth Braley, 601-924-2261, Home: 601-924-7889

Email: ecreator@bellsouth.net

Pastoral Emergencies

Rev. Robert M. Blanton, Cell: 601-291-0652

Polly Marshall, Cell: 601-953-2980

Acolytes

Mike Milone, Cell: 601-473-6305, Home: 601-925-6009

Adult Christian Education

Rev. Robert M. Blanton, Cell: 601-291-0652

Altar Guild

Peggy Wilder, Home: 601-926-1075

Adult / Youth Choirs

Dr. Edward Dacus, Home: 601-925-9304

Children's Christian Education

Rev. Robert M. Blanton, Cell: 601-291-0652

Columbarium

Wendy Brantley, Home: 601-924-1695

Flower Guild

Becky Wright, Cell: 601-940-4861

Betty Sue Hennington, Cell: 601-955-9970

Lisa Chandler, Cell: 601-540-4045

Funeral Guild

Mary Page, 601-924-1828

Outreach

The Reverend Deacon Bill Hanna, 601-605-8523

Parish Lunches & Special Events

Janie Fields, Home: 601-922-2759, Cell: 601-624-8614

Scouting Committee Chairman

Jim Brantley, Cell: 601-940-1962

Wedding Coordinator

Kathy Milone, Home: 601-925-6009

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Episcopal Church of the Creator
1445 Clinton-Raymond Rd.
Clinton, MS 39056

*We are part of the Worldwide Anglican Communion and in communion with the
Archbishop of Canterbury.*

“We are a congregation of the Episcopal Diocese of Mississippi: One church in mission, inviting, transforming, and reconciling. We seek to serve Christ in all persons and to respect the dignity of every human being.”