

CREATOR



Chronicle



March 2018

“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.”

Encountering the Extraordinary

Dear Friends in Christ:

*Lent is a time for us to **encounter the extraordinary** in our Faith as we prepare for its Resurrection and Rebirth in the Easter Season.*

What is the “**Extraordinary**”? It is the love of **Jesus Christ** himself, love that goes to the cross in suffering obedience. It is the cross. The peculiar feature of Christian life is precisely this cross, a cross enabling Christians to be beyond the world, as it were, thereby granting [us] victory over the world. Suffering encountered in the love of the one who is crucified—**that** is the “extraordinary” in Christian existence.

The extraordinary is without doubt that visible element over which the Father in heaven is praised. It cannot remain hidden; people must see it. The worshipping community of Jesus’ followers, the congregation of a better righteousness, is the visible congregation that has stepped out of the order of this world and has abandoned everything for the sake of gaining the cross of Christ.

What is the peculiar thing you are **doing**? The **extraordinary**—and this is the most scandalous thing—is something the disciples **do**. It must be done ... and [it] must be done visibly. Not, however, with [an] ethical rigor [of righteousness], nor [as an exhibition] of a Christian Lifestyle, but in whole-hearted [humble] Christian obedience to Jesus’ will. The activity will prove to be “peculiar” by leading the active person into Christ’s own passion. This activity itself is perpetual suffering and enduring. In it, [the life of Christ is entered into and] suffered by his disciple. If this is **not** the case, it is **not** the activity Jesus intended.

Continued on next page

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.

In this way, the ‘extraordinary’ is the fulfilling of the law, the keeping of the commandments. In Christ the Crucified and in his congregation, the ‘extraordinary’ becomes an [already always, everyday event in the Christian’s life.]

²Six days later, Jesus took with him Peter and James and John, and led them up a high mountain apart, by themselves. And he was transfigured before them, ³and his clothes became dazzling white, such as no one on earth could bleach them. ⁴And there appeared to them Elijah with Moses, who were talking with Jesus. ⁵Then Peter said to Jesus, “Rabbi, it is good for us to be here; let us make three dwellings, one for you, one for Moses, and one for Elijah.” ⁶He did not know what to say, for they were terrified. ⁷Then a cloud overshadowed them, and from the cloud there came a voice, “This is my Son, the Beloved; listen to him!” ⁸Suddenly when they looked around, they saw no one with them anymore, but only Jesus. ⁹As they were coming down the mountain, he ordered them to tell no one about what they had seen, until after the Son of Man had risen from the dead. (Mark 9:2-9)

Before Jesus leads his disciples into suffering, humiliation, disgrace, and disdain, he summons them and shows himself to them as the Lord in God’s glory. Before the disciples must descend with Jesus into the abyss of human guilt, malice, and hatred, Jesus leads them onto a high mountain from which they are to receive help.

¹I lift up my eyes to the hills— from where will my help come? ²My help comes from the Lord, who made heaven and earth. (Psalm 121)

Before Jesus’ face is beaten and spat upon, before his cloak is torn and splattered with blood, the disciples are to see him in his divine glory. His face shines like the face of God, and light is the garment he wears.

¹Bless the Lord, O my soul. O Lord my God, you are very great. You are clothed with honor and majesty, ²wrapped in light as with a garment. You stretch out the heavens like a tent, (Psalm 104)

It is a great blessing that the same disciples who are going to experience Jesus’ suffering in Gethsemane are now allowed to see him as the transfigured [Beloved] Son of God, as the eternal God [in human form]. The disciples thus go to the cross already knowing about [having a vision of] the resurrection, and in this they are *exactly* like us. This [foreknowledge of the resurrection is what enables] us to bear [our own cross].

The disciples are overcome by fear. They were still, after all, still in the world, unable to bear the glory of the transfiguration. Jesus comes to them and touches them. He is their Lord. He is the living Lord. He stays with them. He leads them down from the mountain [down into the valley], back into the world in which both he and they must still live.

Although they [now] know about the resurrected one, all the disciples see before them is the human being, the suffering human being on his way to the cross. It is he they must *hear*, *believe*, *follow*. They are thrown back on their path of suffering, which they now travel with greater assurance ... they *and we* can travel it in faith because they *and we* now know about the [promise of life to be found in] resurrection.

Conversion

When we have completely renounced trying to make something of ourselves—be it saint or converted sinner or cleric (a so-called “priestly figure”), a righteous or unrighteous person, a sick or healthy person (in other words living in the fullness of tasks, questions, successes, failures, experiences, and feeling of helplessness)—when we have done this, then we completely throw ourselves into God’s arms, take God’s own suffering in the world seriously rather than our own, and keep watch with Christ in Gethsemane (or sit in reflection on the Vigil of Easter). That, I think, is faith. That is conversion, and it is in this way that one becomes a human being, a Christian. How should we **triumph** because of success, or **despair** because of failure if in this life, here and now, we suffer God’s own suffering? You understand what I mean if I say it with so few words. I am grateful that I have been permitted to realize this, and I know I could have done so only on the path I have indeed had to take. This is why I think with gratitude and peace of past and present things.

Suffering in Solidarity

It must be clear to us that most [of us] learn only through personal experience occurring in [our] own bodies. **First**, this explains why most [of us] are remarkably incapable of any sort of preventative action. *We keep thinking that we ourselves will be spared when disaster strikes—*until it is too late. **Second**, it explains our insensitivity toward the suffering of others; **solidarity** with suffering arises in proportion to our own increasing fear of imminent doom. *We draw the inner calling and strength for action only from an actual and present crisis.* Christians are prompted to action and suffering in solidarity not just by personal bodily experience, but by the experience incurred by their fellows for whom Christ himself died.

Adapted from Lenten ***Meditations on the Cross*** by Dietrich Bonhoeffer

Yours in Christ,

Pastor Bob

Dietrich Bonhoeffer (born: 4 February 1906 – died: 9 April 1945) was a German Lutheran pastor, theologian, dissident anti-Nazi, and He left the safety of the United States to return to Germany to become a founding member of the Confessing Church standing in opposition to the German Church’s support of the Third Reich. Apart from his theological writings, Bonhoeffer became known for his staunch resistance to the Nazi dictatorship. He strongly opposed Hitler's euthanasia program and genocidal persecution of the Jews. He was also involved in plans by members of the German Military Intelligence Office to assassinate Adolf Hitler. He was arrested in April 1943 by the Gestapo and executed by hanging in April 1945 while imprisoned at a Nazi concentration camp, just 23 days before the German surrender. Much of this article is taken from letters and essays he wrote while in prison. Bonhoeffer had a first-hand experience of ***The Cost of Discipleship***.



Mark Your Calendars

EVENTS

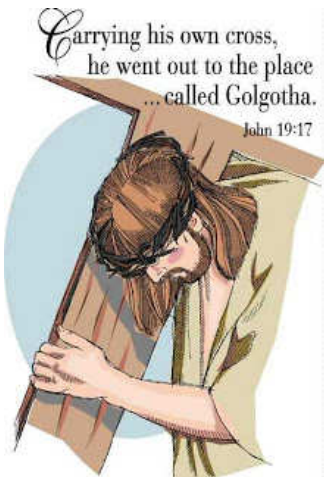


Prime Timers

Wednesday, March 7

12:00 - Healing Service

12:30 - Prime Timers' Pot Luck Lunch



Stations of the Cross

Monday, March 26, – (12:00 pm)

Tuesday, March 27, – (12:00 pm)

Wednesday, March 28, – (12:00 pm)

Friday, March 30, – (7:00 am)

HOLY WEEK



WORSHIP SCHEDULE

Palm Sunday - 25th

Maundy Thursday, 29th – (6:30 pm)

Good Friday, 30th– (12:00 pm & 6:30 pm)

Easter Sunday - April 1st



Donations for Altar Flowers for Easter

Easter is Sunday, April 1st. 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.



**Come and
Join Us!**

Monthly Church Work Day

Saturday, March 3

&

Saturday, March 17

There is a lot going on and we could really use some extra hands!



Time to
Spring Ahead

Don't be late!



Make sure you mark your calendars to “set your clocks ahead one hour” before going to sleep Saturday, March 10.



Pack 345

Cubmaster: Mike Milone
Assistant Cubmaster: Tom Simpson
Pack Committee: John Gardner, Chairman, Edie Hill,
 John Fox, Richard McMullan



Pack 345 Calendar - 2017 - 2018

<p>September</p> <p>17 Pack Committee Meeting, 11:30 am 21 New Parent Orientation, 6:30 pm 28 Pack Meeting, 6:00 pm</p> <p>October</p> <p>13-15 Akela Cub Weekend 20-22 Akela Cub Weekend 28 Brighton Park, 2:00 pm, Water Rockets</p> <p>November</p> <p>30 Pack Meeting, 6:00 pm, Guest is AMR</p> <p>December <i>No Pack Meeting</i>, Winter Pack Outing</p> <p>January</p> <p>25 Pack Meeting, 6:00 pm, Guest is CPD</p> <p>February</p> <p>4 Scout Sunday (@ church @ 10:00 am) 9-11 Cub Scout Polar Weekend 22 Pack Meeting, 6:00 pm (Pinewood Derby)</p>	<p>March</p> <p>1 Camp Card Sales Begin 3 District Pinewood Derby 22 Pack Meeting, 6:00 pm</p> <p>April</p> <p>13-15 Cuboree Weekend 26 Pack Meeting, 6:00 pm 26 Camp Card Sales End (money due)</p> <p>May</p> <p>3 Year-end Parent & Den Leader Meeting, 6:00 pm 31 Blue & Gold Banquet, 6:00 pm Graduation</p> <p>June - July</p> <p>TBD Cub / Webeles Summer Camp TBD District Day Camp TBD Pack Summer Outing</p>
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Race Winners!

1st Place

Cooper Caves (center left)

2nd Place

William Thomas (lower left)

3rd Place

Jon Jon Santos (lower right)



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Pack 345

February 22 Pack Meeting

Race Day! This month we held our annual Pinewood Derby. As you can see, the boys were very creative in designing their cars! Everyone had more fun than they could stand! Each boy won a ribbon for various categories, a Pinewood Derby “driver license”, and a flag pin.

Those that choose to do so may now go on to the district competition in Raymond.

Submitted by Mike Milone, Cubmaster

VESTRY DIGEST

The February 19 meeting of the Vestry of Creator:

Present: Bob Blanton, Priest in Charge, Joyce White, Senior Warden, Frank Hennington, Jr. Warden, Michael Piazza, Treasury Committee representative, Andrew Wilder, Vicki Donaho, Linda Piazza, John Lanford, Dianne Martin, Clerk of the Vestry

Absent: Doug George

Junior Warden Report

- Frank Hennington had contacted two masons about fixing the parking lot wall. Only one of them responded to him and he quoted \$1400.00 for the job. It may be that some of the members of the congregation will be willing to take on this task.
- Tom Called McKinnis Electric about replacing spotlights in the nave with LEDs. McKinnis will look at it and give us an estimate.

Treasurer Report

- Michael Piazza said that \$20,000 of the receipts for January was from Martha Weatherall's estate and was placed in obligated funds. The church now has 1.7 months cash reserve.
- The money that was in the discretionary account for Bill Hanna at Trustmark has been moved to the church's main Bank Plus account. Bill Hanna will need to close the account at Trustmark.

Old Business

- The welcoming committee will arrange for the church to have a coffee and light refreshment get together on either March 11th or March 18th. The exact date will be determined at a later time. The members of Safe Harbor church will be invited to the get together.

New Business

- The church will hold a potluck luncheon after the Easter Sunday service.
- The United Church of Christ Safe Harbor congregation will have their first service at Creator on March 18, 2018. They will be holding their services in the nave on Sunday evenings and in the parish hall on Wednesday evenings.
- Michael mentioned a need to have stripes painted on the side of the roads going by the entrance and exit and to pressure wash the sidewalks. It is yet to be determined who will do this work.
- Bob would like to have larger entrance and exit signs and to have them such that Safe Harbor can hang their signs on the bottom of ours when it is time for their services. Tom will look into this need.
- The church needs new feet for our folding chairs but this will be put on hold until Safe Harbor has brought in their folding chairs. Also, we will need a library cart for Safe Harbor's hymnals.
- The church needs to let go of two upright pianos. Anyone who is willing to move them is welcome to them. Michael will contact some other churches to see if they would like to come get them.
- Michael and Linda will contribute funds to be used for promotional materials and/or services. These funds will serve to allow the welcoming committee, the public information committee, and possibly others to use marketing agency services.

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.

CREATOR *March Calendar*

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
				1 12:00 pm: AA Meeting 6:00 pm: Cub Scouts	2	3 5 pm: AA / Al-Anon Meeting Special Church Work Day
4 8:00 am: Mass 10:30 am: Mass 2:00 pm: Boy Scouts	5 7:30 pm: DOA—Big Book Group	6 12:00 pm: AA Meeting 6:00 pm: Girl Scouts	7 12:00 am: Healing Service 12:30 pm: Prime Timers 6:30 pm: Cub Scouts 7:00 pm: Adult Choir 7:00 pm: Men's AA Group	8 12:00 pm: AA Meeting 6:00 pm: Cub Scouts	9	10 5 pm: AA / Al-Anon Meeting  Time to Spring Ahead
11 8:00 am: Mass 10:30 am: Mass 2:00 pm: Boy Scouts Covered Dish Lunch	12 7:30 pm: DOA—Big Book Group	13 12:00 pm: AA Meeting	14 7:00 pm: Adult Choir 7:00 pm: Men's AA Group	15 12:00 pm: AA Meeting	16	17 5 pm: AA / Al-Anon Meeting Church Work Day
18 8:00 am: Mass 10:30 am: Mass 2:00 pm: Boy Scouts 6:30 pm: Safe Harbor	19 6:30 pm: Vestry 7:30 pm: DOA—Big Book Group	20 12:00 pm: AA Meeting	21 6:30 pm: Safe Harbor 7:00 pm: Adult Choir 7:00 pm: Men's AA Group	22 12:00 pm: AA Meeting 6:00 pm: Cub Scout Pack Meeting	23	24 5 pm: AA / Al-Anon Meeting
25 8:00 am: Mass 10:30 am: Mass 2:00 pm: Boy Scouts 6:30 pm: Safe Harbor Palm Sunday	26 7:30 pm: DOA—Big Book Group Stations of the Cross 12:00 pm	27 12:00 pm: AA Meeting Stations of the Cross 12:00 pm	28 6:30 pm: Safe Harbor 7:00 pm: Adult Choir 7:00 pm: Men's AA Group Stations of the Cross 12:00 pm	29 12:00 pm: AA Meeting Maundy Thursday 6:30 pm	30 Stations of the Cross 7:00 am Good Friday 12:00 pm & 6:30 pm	31 5 pm: AA / Al-Anon Meeting

March Servers

(page 1 of 2)

	4 Lent 3	11 Lent 4	18 Lent 5	25 Palm Sunday	
Chalice	Mike Milone Richard McMullan	Bob White Chuck Runyan	Mike Milone Tori Meyers	Bob White Joyce White	
Lectors	John Gardner Deborah Runyan	John Lanford Max Lanford	Chuck Runyan Joan Blanton	Fred Shirley Michael Piazza	
Prayers	Chuck Runyan	Deborah Runyan	Pennie VanBrocklin	Janie Fields	
Acolytes	See special Schedule	See special Schedule	See special Schedule	See special Schedule	
Ushers	Vicky Donaho Rivers McMullan	Doug George Abby Donaho	Frank Hennington BettyeSue Hennington	Tom Kany Tori Meyers	
Altar	Katy Lanford	Beth Braley	Rhea Estes	Joyce White	
Home Communion			Edie Hill Tom Kany		
Vestry Person of the Day	Richard McMullan	Doug George	Linda Piazza	Tom Kany	



Birthdays & Anniversaries



Birthdays

1 David Miller
4 John Richard
6 Maddie Gray Braley
Abby Donaho
Linda Piazza
9 Josh Thibodeaux
Elaine Gardner

12 John D'Isepo
16 Megan White
22 Dianne Carlton
25 Larry Estes
Linda Waldbauer
26 Liam Cospelich
31 Chuck Runyan

Anniversaries

March Servers

(page 2 of 2)

	29 Maundy Thursday	30 Good Friday	April 1 Easter Sunday		
Chalice	Chuck Runyan Joyce White	Mike Milone Richard McMullan	Bob White Tori Meyers		
Lectors	Chuck Runyan Pennie VanBrocklin	Michael Piazza Stone Braley	Joan Blanton John Lanford		
Prayers	Deborah Runyan	N/A	Fred Shirley		
Acolytes	See special Schedule	See special Schedule	See special Schedule		
Ushers	Vicky Donaho Doug George	Beth Braley Stone Braley	Frank Hennington BettySue Hennington		
Altar	Rhea Estes	N/A	Larry Estes		
Home Communion					
Vestry Person of the Day	John Lanford	Joyce White	Andrew Wilder		



Special March Acolyte Schedule

Sunday, March 4

Max Lanford, Tristan McMullan

Sunday, March 11

Ruby Lanford, Manny Diaz-Olarra

Sunday, March 18

Tristan McMullan, Manny Diaz-Olarra

Palm Sunday, March 25

Landon Daniel	-	Thurifer
Ruby Lanford	-	Crucifer
Maddie Gray Braley	-	Torch (Server)
Rowan Braley	-	Torch (Server)
Max Lanford	-	Gospel

Maundy Thursday, March 29

Max Lanford, Manny Diaz-Olarra

Easter Sunday, April 1

Landon Daniel	-	Thurifer
Maddie Gray Braley	-	Crucifer
Manny Diaz-Olarra	-	Torch (Server)
Tristan McMullan	-	Torch (Server)
Rowan Braley	-	Gospel

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

Administrator

Beth Braley

theepiscopalchurchofthecreator@gmail.com

Choir Director

Ezra Wall

ewallmedia@gmail.com

Senior Warden

Joyce White, 601-924-3796

Junior Warden

Tom Kany, 601-925-8087

Treasurer

Vacant

Vestry

Linda Piazza, 601-594-6704

Andrew Wilder, 601-842-0058

John Lanford, 601-708-4374

Doug George, 601-502-5063

Richard McMullan, 601-540-3714

Contacts

Church Office

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

Email: theepiscopalchurchofthecreator@gmail.com

Pastoral Emergencies

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

Polly Marshall, Cell: 601-953-2980

Acolytes

Mike Milone, Cell: 601-473-6305

Adult Christian Education

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

Altar Guild

Larry & Rhea Estes, Cell: 601-813-3859

Choir

Ezra Wall, Cell: 601-454-4811

Children's Christian Education

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

Columbarium

Wendy Brantley, Cell: 601-954-3946

Flower Guild

Becky Wright, Cell: 601-940-4861

Betty Sue Hennington, Cell: 601-955-9970

Funeral Guild

Linda Piazza, 601-594-6704

Parish Lunches & Special Events

Vicky Donaho, 601-924-5107

Scouting Committee Chairman

John Gardner, Cell: 601-955-3611

Scoutmaster

Chuck Runyan, Cell: 601-668-5362

Cubmaster

Mike Milone, Cell: 601-473-6305

Wedding Coordinator

Betty Sue Hennington, Cell: 601-955-9970



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.”