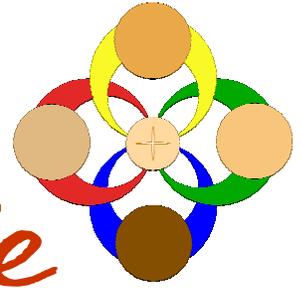


CREATOR



Chronicle



“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.”

October 2018

Dear Friends:

In last month we began a discussion of Divine DNA, God’s image in which we are created, and Female Biblical images of Divine Wisdom. And, we heard a summarizing quote from Richard Rohr:

*“If we still miss the point, the prophet **Jeremiah** reminds us: ‘**For YHWH is creating a new thing upon the earth: a woman [God] will seek and protect a man [collective humanity]**’ (31:22).*

This month we will continue our discussion of God’s union with all of Creation.

*Theologian Marcus Borg’s study of Scripture reveals many female metaphors for God. Here he shows how **God’s wisdom** was invariably presented as a **woman**:*

The most fully developed female biblical image for God is in the wisdom literature of ancient Israel—in Proverbs and in two books of the Apocrypha [books included in the Catholic and Episcopal Bibles, but not in most Protestant versions], namely [The Book of] Sirach (Ecclesiasticus) and the Wisdom of Solomon. In these, “*the wisdom of God*” is often personified as a woman. Scholars now commonly refer to this personification as “*Sophia*,” the Greek word for wisdom. In *Proverbs 8*, Sophia speaks of herself. She was with God before creation, and she was the master worker through whom God created (see especially 8:22-31). In Sirach 24, she is from eternity and fills all that is. [*We see this same theology reflected in the first chapter of the Gospel of John* where the word that was made flesh was present at the creation event].

In the Wisdom of Solomon 7:22-27, Sophia is “the fashioner” and “mother” of all good things and: . . . a spirit that is intelligent, holy, unique, manifold, subtle, mobile, clear, unpolluted, distinct, invulnerable, loving the good, keen, irresistible, beneficent, humane, steadfast, sure, free from anxiety, all-powerful, overseeing all, and penetrating through all. (Wisdom 7:22-23)

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.

These are, of course, attributes of God. Later, beginning in chapter ten, the author summarizes the history of Israel and uses the word Sophia/Wisdom where we would expect the word “God. [As we have mentioned], ”In the first chapter of John, what the author says about “the Word of God” was said about Sophia in the Jewish tradition. Like the Word, Sophia was present with God before creation. Just as the Word was with God and was God, so Sophia was. And ***when John writes that the Word became flesh and dwelt among us as Jesus, he could just as well have said that Sophia became flesh and dwelt among us as Jesus.*** Jesus is the Wisdom/Sophia of God incarnate.

Richard Rohr inserts: “I would like to add that Jesus appears to directly claim this title in several places (see Matthew 11:19 and Luke 7:35), and of course Paul speaks extensively of such “Wisdom” as the “mind of Christ” (see his “Sermon on Wisdom,” in 1 Corinthians 1:17-2:16).

Reference:

Taken from Marcus Borg, “Female Images of God in the Bible,” *Radical Grace*, vol. 24, no. 1 (Center for Action and Contemplation: 2011), 4.

Mother God

Why does it matter whether our image of God is masculine or feminine or even a non-binary gender? One reason is that it makes it easier for us to recognize the divine in us, whatever our gender. When we over-emphasize masculine traits of the divine, many women, transgender, and intersex persons feel less-than, that their voices and bodies don’t matter as much as men’s, that God’s image is not in them.

Marcus Borg points out many other good reasons to identify and honor the female (as well as non-gendered) images of God throughout the Bible:

- **Male images for God** are often associated with power, authority, and judgment. When used exclusively, they most often create an image of a punitive God. God must be appeased or else.
- **Male images for God** most often go with patriarchy—with male primacy and domination in society and the family.
- **Male images of God** most often go with domination over nature. Nature is often imaged as female (“mother earth”) and domination over women extends to a rapacious use of nature.

Female images of God suggest something different. God is the one who gave birth to us and all that is. God wills our well-being, as a mother wills the well-being of the children of her womb. God is attached to us with a love that is tender and that will not let us go. And like a mother who sees the children of her womb threatened and oppressed, God can become fierce.

Continued from page 2

It is also important to realize that male and female metaphors for God are not intrinsically incompatible. God as “father” can be compassionate. This is the point of the parable of The Prodigal Son (Luke 15:11-32). So also, in both Old and New Testaments, “the Lord” whom we are to love with all our heart, strength, and mind is also ***compassionate*** — a word whose semantic associations in Hebrew mean “***womb-like***.”

Moreover, just as God as Lord is demanding, so is God as Wisdom/Sophia. ***Both images of God combine imperative and compassionate.*** It’s not that one issues an imperative and the other one doesn’t. The ***difference*** between “the strict parent” and “the nurturing parent” is ***not*** that the latter doesn’t care about what happens. The nurturing parent—“Wisdom/Sophia”—teaches a way, indeed ***the way***.

“***The way***”—the way of wisdom—is also what “the father” at his best teaches. The issue is not that mothers are better than fathers, but that a particular way of imaging “father” can produce a ***distorted form of Christianity***—as if Christianity is about meeting the requirements of an authority figure who will punish us if we don’t get it right.

Christianity is not about avoiding punishment or gaining reward. It is about loving God and loving what God loves. And what God loves is the whole of creation.

Richard Rohr comments: “To love well, it seems to me, that one usually needs both feminine and masculine qualities.”

Reference:

Taken from Marcus Borg, “Female Images of God in the Bible,” *Radical Grace*, vol. 24, no. 1 (Center for Action and Contemplation: 2011), 4.

Identity and Desire

Another beautiful metaphor in the Bible used for God is that of a lover. The allure of a beloved pulls us out of our focus on ourselves, into ***ekstasis*** (Greek for ecstasy). Unfortunately, the Church’s shaming of body and sex has shut down many people’s longing for and experience of intimacy with each other and God.

But, more about that subject in next month’s Newsletter. Hope to see you then.

Yours in Christ,

Pastor Bob



Healing Service and Prime Timers

Wednesday, October 3

12:00 - Healing Service

12:30 - Prime Timers' Pot Luck Lunch

Saint Francis Day Blessing of the Animals

October 7 @ 3:00 p.m.

There will be a dog wash beginning at 3:00 pm with a pet blessing following at 4:00 pm.

For more information please see the article on page 5

BBQ on the Boulevard

October 13, 2018 (12pm - 4 pm)

BBQ on the Boulevard: Clinton Plaza Shopping Center. Gates will open at noon for event festivities and the official tasting will begin at 2:00pm Get ready for another great year of Clinton's best BBQ and entertainment for grown ups and kids alike. This is a great family-friendly event filled with good food, live music, and children's activities. May the best barbecue win!

Go to <http://www.mainstreetclintonms.com/events/all/bbq-boulevard> to register for the amateur Corn Hole competition.



When you are grocery shopping, please remember to pick up some extra, non-perishable food goods and bring them to church the next time you come. We will be continuing this outreach ministry each month on the **third Sunday** of the month, so mark the dates on your calendar.



Saint Francis Day Observed

October 7 @ 3:00 p.m.

Sunday, October 7 we will again bless our animals as we celebrate St. Francis' Day. Please come and bring your pets.

We will be offering a free pet wash beginning at 3:00 pm. Donations to C.A.R.A appreciated.

Beginning at 4:00 pm in the parking lot, we will meet for a "people and pet" social time followed by the Blessing of the Animals service.

Submitted by Mike Milone

Please note! — We ask that everyone please help support God's homeless creatures by bringing to the **Blessing of the Animals** one or more items as a donation to C.A.R.A.



TASTE OF THE ARTS & ARTIST SHOWCASE

October 20, 2018

The Arts Council of Clinton will present the Taste of the Arts celebration on Saturday, October 20th at The Church of the Creator, 1445 Clinton Raymond Road, Clinton. The event will last from 4 pm to 7 pm and will feature live music, art and light hors d'oeuvres, wine and other beverages.

Come to be entertained and bring your checkbook as the art will be for sale! We look forward to seeing you there. *See page 6 for more information.*



**Come and
Join Us!**

Monthly Church Work Day

Saturday, October 20 (8-12am)

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



Saturday, October 27th

Be sure to mark your calendar for our Fall Festival. Fall Festival activities will kick off Saturday, October 27th from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. The 2018 Fall Festival proceeds will benefit the Creator Scouting program and the Arts Council of Clinton.

Live musical entertainment will be performed on Creator's outdoor stage by Richard McMullan and "Open Road", from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. Bring your lawn chairs, kick-back and stay a while.

Frozen casseroles and soups will be sold at the Festival, as well as a variety of fresh baked and canned goods. We will be selling pulled pork BBQ sandwich plate, with baked beans, potato salad and a soda for \$8. Starting in September, come by the church office to pre-order your cooked pork butts, \$40 each, only pre-ordered butts will be available for pick up on October 27th. BBQ lunch advanced tickets sales and pork butt pre-ordering will take place every Sunday in September and October, by the Vestry Person of the Day. The supply of the BBQ lunches and pork butts will be limited based on advanced ticket sales. Lunch will be dine in or carry-out. Please take a set of 10 tickets to sell to your friends and family. Help get the word out about this Creator annual event.

Volunteers are needed to assist with set up, pulling pork, serving, and counter/cash register sales the morning of the festival, starting at 8:00 a.m. till close. Two hour shifts will be set up, please let Beth in the church office know if you can volunteer for a shift.

The Arts Council of Clinton and the Episcopal Church of the Creator will be joining hands to promote artists in Clinton and the surrounding areas with their *Annual Artists' Showcase*. The Showcase will open with the Arts Council's *Taste of the Arts*, on Saturday, October 20. The gallery will be open 5 days per week and will run for one week, ending on Saturday, October 27th at Creator's Fall Festival.

Artist Showcase proceeds, by item, will be distributed in the following manner: 70% will go directly to the artist; 15% to Creator Scouting programs; and 15% to the Arts Council of Clinton. Artists may submit four items and price them for sale. When an item has been sold, the artist will be notified; and, may replace the sold item with another.

The Showcase committee will include members from the Episcopal Church of the Creator and the Arts Council of Clinton. They will oversee the artwork and sales for the artists over the week period. The deadline for applications is September 14 and all approved artwork should be delivered by October 18.

Continued on next page

Fall Festival continued

Go to the Facebook page of the Arts Council of Clinton for more information and registration forms or email **Robert Blanton**, Arts Council President at rmbanton1@gmail.com or call 601-291-0652.

Volunteers are needed to assist with the hanging and displaying of the works of art throughout the campus buildings. Please see Janie Fields if you are willing to volunteer.



Calling all Creator Cooks and Bakers

This year we are adding baked beans and potato salad to the lunch plate menu. A box has been set up in the kitchen for those of you willing to donate canned baked beans. We are also in need of volunteers to make potato salad. To keep the salad uniform, we have a simple potato salad recipe that is to be used. Beth will have copies of potato salad recipe.

We encourage all cooks and bakers to participate in supporting the Fall Festival activities by making their favorite casseroles, soups, and baked goods.

Two freezers will be available in the Parish Hall, for the storage of frozen items in September and October. In order to keep an inventory list, be sure to log your items on the sheet hanging outside the freezer, as they are placed in the freezer. It is requested that 8x8 or 8x12 disposable, plastic or aluminum freezer containers with lids be used to keep uniformity of the sale items. Please display on the container lid the name of the preparer, the name of the item, re-heating instructions, and list any allergen ingredients such as wheat, milk, soy, peanuts, etc. for customers with food allergies.

Baked goods may be prepared for sale whole or in ready to eat, pre-wrapped or bagged portions. Fresh baked and canned goods will be collected the week of the sale.

Janie Fields & Tori Meyers will be organizing baked goods and casseroles.

Acolyte Recognition Day

September 9, 2018





Pack 345

Cubmaster: Mike Milone
Pack Committee: John Lanford, Chairman, Edie Hill,
 John Fox



Pack 345 Calendar - 2017 - 2018

<p>September</p> <p>16 Pack Committee Meeting, 11:30 am</p> <p>20 New Parent Orientation, 6:30 pm</p> <p>27 Pack Meeting, 6:00 pm</p> <p>October</p> <p>12-14 Akela Cub Weekend</p> <p>19-21 Akela Cub Weekend</p> <p>27 Brighton Park, 2:00 pm, Water Rockets</p> <p>November</p> <p>29 Pack Meeting, 6:00 pm, Flag Retirement</p> <p>December</p> <p>2 Pack Committee Meeting, 11:30 am</p> <p>TBD <i>No Pack Meeting</i>, Winter Pack Outing</p> <p>January</p> <p>24 Pack Meeting, 6:00 pm</p> <p>February</p> <p>3 Scout Sunday (@ church @ 10:00 am)</p> <p>8-10 Cub Scout Polar Weekend</p> <p>28 Pack Meeting, 6:00 pm (Pinewood Derby)</p>	<p>March</p> <p>1 Camp Card Sales Begin</p> <p>TBD District Pinewood Derby</p> <p>28 Pack Meeting, 6:00 pm</p> <p>April</p> <p>25 Pack Meeting, 6:00 pm</p> <p>25 Camp Card Sales End (money due)</p> <p>26-28 Cuboree Weekend</p> <p>May</p> <p>5 Pack Committee Meeting, 11:30 am</p> <p>16 Year-end Parent & Den Leader Meeting, 6:00 pm</p> <p>30 Blue & Gold Banquet, 6:00 pm</p> <p>Graduation</p> <p>June - July</p> <p>TBD Cub / Webeles Summer Camp</p> <p>TBD District Day Camp</p> <p>TBD Pack Summer Outing</p>
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Vestry Digest

September 17, 2018

Present: Bob Blanton, Priest in Charge, Joyce White, Senior Warden, Chuck Runyan, Jr. Warden, John Lanford, Doug George, Jennifer Duncan, Deborah Runyan, Andrew Wilder, Dianne Martin, Treasurer

Absent: Betty Sue Hennington, Clerk of the Vestry

Visitor: Joan Blanton

Jr. Warden Report

- Chuck recycled 20 fluorescent bulbs from the church at the hazardous waste center in Jackson.
- The thermostats in the parish hall have been reprogrammed and the correct time set. One thermostat appears to be malfunctioning. Clinton Refrigeration will check this when they address the duct leak over the organ.
- New filters for all the AC systems in the church were purchased and installed.

Treasurer's Report

- Dianne gave the Vestry a printout and discussed the various accounts and budget. The focus was on the choir and grounds accounts.

Old Business

- Doug George has completed the application for Creator to compete in the Brick Street BBQ. We will need 4-5 butts for the competition. Two tents are available and will be set up for the event.
- Andrew and Doug reported that tickets are available for sale for the Fall Festival. Tickets are available for sale for the pork plates and pork butts and will be sold on Sunday at church.
- Richard McMullan and his band have committed to play music at the Festival.
- Baked Beans and Potato Salad Recipes will be sent out to the congregation via email, as well as recipe placement in the church bulletin and newsletter. Volunteers are needed to prepare the Baked Beans and Potato Salad. A sign up list will be set up in the narthex, or volunteers can call Beth to sign up. Doug will announce this in church on Sunday.
- Joan Blanton met with Lauchlin Fields 2 weeks ago. A contract will be signed and a website draft will be delivered this week.

Vestry Minutes *continued on next page*

- Discussion held regarding the name to be used for our banner. Our formal name will be used.
- A new office chair and computer were purchased for Beth. We obtained a good deal on this purchase from Office Depot in Pearl.
- An Outreach report with various volunteer opportunities in the community was shared briefly by Deborah.

New Business

- The storage room needs to be cleaned out and organized. The insulation is falling down and needs to be repaired; installation needs to be completed as well.
- There will be a work day on Saturday, October 20th from 0800-1200.
- John made a motion to develop a Jr. Warden's checklist. The motion was seconded by Chuck. It was suggested that a committee with Frank Hennington, Larry Estess, and Chuck Runyan be formed to develop the list. The past 5 years of church expenses will be printed off to help with list development.
- Our new lawn service is doing good work. A bid has been requested from them for bush hogging the back of the property.

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.



Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
	1 7:30 pm: DOA—Big Book Group	2 12:00 pm: AA Meeting	3  12:00 am: Healing Service 12:30 pm: Prime Timers 6:00 pm: Cub Scouts 7:00 pm: Adult Choir 7:00 pm: Men's AA Group	4 12:00 pm: AA Meeting 6:00 pm: Cub Scouts	5	6 5 pm: AA / Al-Anon Meeting
7 8:00 am: Mass 10:30 am: Mass 2:00 pm: Boy Scouts 6:00 pm: Safe Harbor Animal Blessing & Pet Wash 3pm	8 7:30 pm: DOA—Big Book Group	9 12:00 pm: AA Meeting Parish Hall rental 6:00 pm	10 6:00 pm: Cub Scouts 7:00 pm: Adult Choir 7:00 pm: Men's AA Group	11 12:00 pm: AA Meeting 6:00 pm: Cub Scouts	12	13 5 pm: AA / Al-Anon Meeting BBQ on the Boulevard 12am - 4 pm
14 8:00 am: Mass 10:30 am: Mass 2:00 pm: Boy Scouts 6:00 pm: Safe Harbor	15 6:30 pm: Vestry 7:30 pm: DOA—Big Book Group	16 12:00 pm: AA Meeting	17 7:00 pm: Adult Choir 7:00 pm: Men's AA Group	18 12:00 pm: AA Meeting	19	20 5 pm: AA / Al-Anon Meeting Church Work Day 8am -12pm Taste of the Arts 4pm - 7pm
21 8:00 am: Mass 10:30 am: Mass 2:00 pm: Boy Scouts 6:00 pm: Safe Harbor FOOD PANTRY for the 4 C's Parish Hall rental 3:00 pm	22 7:30 pm: DOA—Big Book Group	23 12:00 pm: AA Meeting	24 7:00 pm: Adult Choir 7:00 pm: Men's AA Group	25 12:00 pm: AA Meeting 6:00 pm: Cub Scouts	26	27 5 pm: AA / Al-Anon Meeting Creator Fall Festival 10am - 2pm
28 8:00 am: Mass 10:30 am: Mass 2:00 pm: Boy Scouts 6:00 pm: Safe Harbor	29 7:30 pm: DOA—Big Book Group	30 12:00 pm: AA Meeting	31 7:00 pm: Adult Choir 7:00 pm: Men's AA Group			

	7	14	21	28	
Chalice	Michael Milone Tori Meyers	Bob White Joyce White	Michael Milone Chuck Runyan	Bob White Joyce White	
Lectors	John Lanford Max Lanford	Joan Blanton Landon Daniel	Deborah Runyan Ruby Lanford	Chuck Runyan Pennie VanBrocklin	
Prayers	Janie Fields	Chuck Runyan	Pennie VanBrocklin	Deborah Runyan	
Acolytes	Rowan Braley Manny Diaz-Olarra	Landon Daniel Max Lanford	Ruby Lanford Manny Diaz-Olarra	Landon Daniel Max Lanford	
Ushers	Beth Braley	Doug George Abby Donaho	Frank Hennington BettyeSue Hennington	Tori Meyers	
Altar	Beverly Wilder Pamela Wilder	Ross Turner	Katy Lanford	Sandra Randall Tommye Kirksey	
Home Communion			Edie Hill		
Vestry Person of the Day	Andrew Wilder	Doug George	Deborah Runyan	Joyce White	



Birthdays & Anniversaries



Birthdays

25 Rylee Johnson

- 11 Vicky Donaho
- 12 Ezra Wall
- 15 Hayley Wright
- 17 Darby Donaho
Frank Hennington
- 21 Tommy Mills
- 24 Brittany White

Anniversaries

- 6 Monty & Beth Braley
- 18 Samuel & Elisabet McGahey
- 28 John & Dianne Martin

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

Chuck Runyan, 601-668-5362

Treasurer

Dianne Martin, 601-906-5086

Vestry

Andrew Wilder, 601-842-0058

John Lanford, 601-708-4374

Doug George, 601-502-5063

Deborah Runyan, 601-497-7947

Jennifer Duncan, 601-850-6353

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

John Lanford, Cell: 601-966-3441

Columbarium

Wendy Brantley, Cell: 601-954-3946

Flower Guild

Becky Wright, Cell: 601-940-4861

Betty Sue Hennington, Cell: 601-955-9970

Funeral Guild

Open

Parish Lunches & Special Events

Andrew Wilder, 601-842-0058

Doug George, 601-502-5063

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.”