

"Follow me and I will make
you fishers of People"

The Call

St. Andrew's
Episcopal Church
Rocky Mount, NC



March 2023

Sundays

8 a.m. H.E. Rite I
9:15 a.m. Adult Christian Ed
10:30 a.m. H.E. Rite II
10:30a.m. service will be live streamed
10:30a.m. Children's Chapel Resumes

Wednesdays

10:30 a.m. Healing Service
Noon Lenten noonday worship
and luncheon
(Check your weekly emails for location)
6 p.m. Wonderful Wednesday Potluck
This year's program:
The Sistine Chapel

Fridays

5 p.m. Stations of the Cross

Looking Ahead

March 14 Finance Meeting 6 p.m.
March 21 Vestry Meeting 6 p.m.
(Due to our Lenten potluck suppers,
Vestry this month is on Tuesday
night)

Forgive and Forget

By the Rev. George H. Greer, Jr.



Of all the adjectives that could be used to describe God, I doubt "lethargic" would come to mind. Yet in a roundabout way that word might apply to the God imagined in the Parable of the Prodigal Son. That's because the word "lethargic" has come to imply something of forgetfulness in its definition. This beloved Parable of the Wayward Son is usually read around the 4th Sunday (Year C) in the season of Lent.

In Greek and Roman mythology, there was a river in the regions of hell called *Lethe*. It was said that the souls of the dead drank the waters of this stream and were released from their previous cares and burdens because the waters brought everlasting forgetfulness. Our word "lethargic" comes from the name of that river.

When it comes to our sins, most of us would hope for a forgetful God. The father in the parable of the *Prodigal Son* has every right to recite a long list of grievances. Think of all the complaints he could have lodged: I gave you all the money that was coming to you; why should I take you back and support you now? You have disgraced our family. You were arrogant and unfeeling in your decision to leave. You are not responsible like your brother. I have done everything for you, and all I get is disrespect and ingratitude.

The father, however, says none of these things. It's almost as if he has forgotten every sin his young son has committed. He doesn't even stand there waiting, as we might expect, with his arms folded and his foot tapping. He won't allow himself the satisfaction of having the son make that long, embarrassing walk up the path to prostrate himself and beg for forgiveness. Rather, he makes a fool of himself by running out to greet this wayward son with a warm and loving embrace. *"But while he was still a long way off, his father saw him and was filled with compassion for him; he ran to his son, threw his arms around him and kissed him."* LK 15:20

Does this father have amnesia? The older son certainly must think so. Flabbergasted, he says to his father, "you're going to throw a party for him?" He is saying: don't you remember what this guy has done?

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Forgive and Forget

Continued

We have all felt the blessed balm of forgiveness in our lives. But it often comes with strings attached. Some people are willing to forgive us, yes, but they can't resist saying, "I told you so" or digging up old hurts' months or even years later. Today we are told that the God in which we believe not only forgives us but also forgets to scold and chide us. This God does not exact retribution or harbor endless grudges. Our God simply wants to love us and to welcome us back. For that, we are truly thankful for such a God. Amen.



Recent photos
around church



St. Elizabeth's Guild

February Meeting

This year, the ladies are taking a closer look at some of the women in the Bible.



In Jesus, God so loved the whole world. We follow Jesus, so we love the world God loves. Concerned about our environment, St. Andrew's is now contracted with GFL to begin recycling here at the church. There are several new blue trash cans around the church. Please put your paper products, plastic bottles, or cardboard products in these cans.

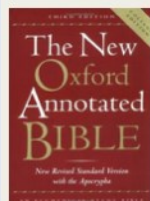


Bibles and Bible Study Tools: A Short List

by Terry Shackleford

Recently, we had some discussion in the adult formation class about selecting a Bible. So, I thought I would put together a very short list of Bibles and bible study tools to share. The items noted here are all from sources aligned with the Episcopal Church, the Evangelical Lutheran Church (our full communion partners), or belong in the ecumenical community of churches to which the Episcopal Church belongs. Let's look at print resources first and then a couple of digital resources.

The key question to ask in selecting a Bible is which translation do I want? For the best option regarding scholarly work in providing an accurate translation from the original texts, most will choose the New Revised Standard Version (NRSV). This is the translation used for our lessons in worship at St. Andrews and in most Episcopal churches. If you would like a Bible that is faithful to the original text but has been prepared especially to make scripture accessible in contemporary, simple, easy to read language, then the Common English Bible (CEB) is a great option.



Both the NRSV and the CEB can be purchased in inexpensive basic formats or you can purchase excellent study bibles such as **The New Oxford Annotated Bible with Apocrypha - NRSV, 5th Edition: An Ecumenical Study Bible** (2018, Oxford University Press) or **The Common English Bible Study Bible** (2018, Common English Bible Publisher). Both have helpful articles and text notes.



A helpful tool to have on hand for use alongside the NRSV is an NRSV concordance. This will help you to make an exhaustive search of anything you are looking for in the scripture by key word. There are two excellent editions - one from Zondervan and one from Thomas Nelson. They are pricey but decent used copies can be purchased via Amazon.

In addition to translations of scripture, a great many paraphrases are available. Some of the paraphrases have quite a bit of scholarly work behind them, but they are, in fact, not translations from the original texts, but, rather, a restatement of the original text in the author's or authors' choice of words. Thus, you might read such a work for inspiration with a translation such as the NRSV on hand for comparison. One of the most popular and most acclaimed paraphrases is **The Message** by Eugene Peterson. The first complete edition was published in 2002 with several subsequent editions in various formats. Peterson Presbyterian pastor, biblical scholar, and prolific author.



The Path: A Journey Through the Bible (2016, Forward Movement) is an award winning book that puts together excerpts from the NRSV text to form a narrative telling of the biblical story from beginning to end. I have not seen this resource but it sounds interesting. There is a companion publication, **The Path: Family Storybook**.

The Deep Blue Kids Bible (2019, Common English Bible Publisher) is a CEB translation formatted for older children who are ready to go beyond a bible story book and will prepare the way for use of the **CEB Study Bible** in the teen years.



Finally, in the area of print resources, I want to mention a marvelous book I found on the shelf of the St Andrews library! **A First Reader in Biblical Theology** by Robert Dentan was published in 1961. The copy I borrowed may very well fall apart before I get it back to the library but there is another copy on the shelf and a few used ones are available on Amazon. Do not be intimidated by the title. This General Theological Seminary professor did an



March 2023

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
<p>8:00am HE Rite I 9:15am Adult CE 10:30am HE Rite II 10:30am Children's Chapel EYC meets at 11:45am The Second Sunday in Lent</p>	 <p>St. Elizabeth's Guild 12:00pm Tar River Adult Choir 7:00-9:00pm</p>	<p>Food Pantry 9-11am</p>	<p>Food Pantry 9-10:30am Worship & Lunch Lenten Series -Noon Englewood UMC Potluck Dinner 6pm</p>	<p>Food Pantry 9-11am Tar River Children Chorus 4:30-6:30pm</p>	<p>Stations of the Cross 5:00 pm</p> 	<p>Men's Club Breakfast 8:00am</p>
<p>8:00am HE Rite I 9:15am Adult CE 10:30am HE Rite II 10:30am Children's Chapel EYC meets at 11:45am The Third Sunday in Lent</p>	<p>Tar River Adult Choir 7:00-9:00pm</p>	<p>Food Pantry 9-11am Book Club 10:00am Finance 6:00pm Lion's Club 6:30pm</p>	<p>Food Pantry 9-10:30am Healing Service 10:30am Worship & Lunch Lenten Series -Noon Lakeside Baptist Potluck Dinner 6pm</p>	<p>Food Pantry 9-11am Tar River Children Chorus 4:30-6:30pm</p>	<p>Stations of the Cross 5:00 pm</p> 	
<p>8:00am Morning Prayer 9:15am Adult CE 10:30am Morning Prayer 10:30am Children's Chapel The Fourth Sunday in Lent</p>	<p>Tar River Adult Choir 7:00-9:00pm Gamma Tau 4:30pm</p>	<p>Food Pantry 9-11am Vestry Meeting 6pm</p>	<p>Food Pantry 9-10:30am Healing Service 10:30am Worship & Lunch Lenten Series -Noon St. Andrew's Potluck Dinner 6pm</p>	<p>Food Pantry 9-11am Meals on Wheels 10:00am Tar River Children Chorus 4:30-6:30pm</p>	<p>Stations of the Cross 5:00 pm</p> 	<p>TRCC 3-5pm</p>
<p>8:00am HE Rite I 9:15am Adult CE 10:30am HE Rite II 10:30am Children's Chapel EYC meets at 11:45am The Fifth Sunday in Lent</p>	<p>ADT-4:00pm Tar River Adult Choir 7:00-9:00pm</p>	<p>Food Pantry 9-11am Lion's Club 6:30pm</p>	<p>Food Pantry 9-10:30am Healing Service 10:30am Worship & Lunch Lenten Series -Noon 1st UMC Potluck Dinner 6pm</p>	<p>Food Pantry 9-11am Tar River Children Chorus 4:30-6:30pm</p>	<p>Stations of the Cross 5:00 pm</p> 	



2023



LAY/LEM READERS

March 5
8:00 George Earp
Ramona Orzell

10:30 Elizabeth Pope
Martha Lamm

March 12
8:00 Ron Jansco
Tim Knapp

10:30 Jeanie Armstrong
Sandy Suggs

March 19
8:00 Ramona Orzell
George Earp

10:30 Linda Hutcheson
Terry Shackelford

March 26
8:00 Albert Corinth
Tim Knapp

10:30 Martha Lamm
Tom Drew

ACOLYTES

March 5
Lauren Renck and Walker Wells

March 12
Kate Hudgins

March 19
Mericle Family

March 26
Landon Newcomb

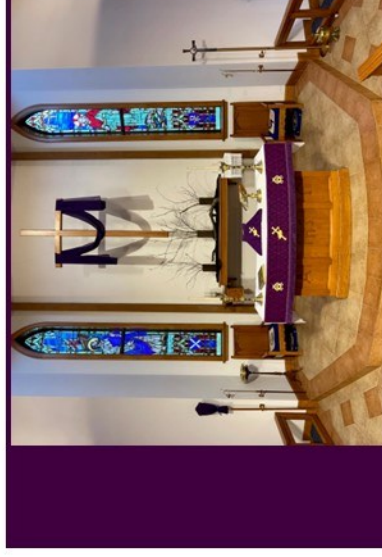


Pantry Distributors

Tuesday—Patty Kennedy
Wednesday—Tommy Parker
Thursday—Elizabeth Hunter

Pantry Volunteers

Betty Bunn
Elizabeth Mosely
Tom Jenkins



“Come now, let us set things right,
says the Lord: Though your sins be like scarlet, they may become white as snow; though they be red like crimson, they may become white as wool”.

—Isaiah 1:18

GREETERS

Rita Coggins
Sissy Duntton

Lay Eucharistic Ministry

George and Mary Earp

USHERS

March 5
Dan Melnyk
Don Mucci

March 12
Jan Arnold

March 19
Jim Royal
Angela Reid

March 26
Steve Thurkill
Billy Suggs

Kitchen Clean Up

Jan Thurkill



Bibles and Bible Study Tools: A Short List

Continued

outstanding job of tracing key themes, concepts, and doctrines throughout the biblical story in language that is easy to understand. A delightful book!

All the resources above as well as many more for study and inspiration may be found at one or more of the following: **ChurchPublishing.org**, **ForwardMovement.org**, **AugsburgFortress.org**, and **Amazon.com**.

As with so many topics today, much or more of what you can learn about the Bible via print may be found on the web. A host of Bible texts and study tools are available but one of the most popular is **BibleGateway.com**. This site offers searchable access to more than 90 translations of the Bible, some audio versions, devotions, some free bible study tools, and a paid subscription to additional study tools. An app is available for your phone or tablet making access to scripture even more handy.

If you like your online resources to be neatly formatted and easy to navigate, then you may very well enjoy **EnterTheBible.org** from Luther Theological Seminary. This resource offers overviews for each book of the Bible as well as some themed bible surveys. Each course is short but the content is rich. For a little more in depth look at books of the bible and bible study themes, go to **YaleBibleStudy.org**. These short courses are enhanced by a number of short video presentations by Yale Divinity School faculty.

You may very well have other Bible translations (KJV, NIV, ESV...) and some study tools that you have been using for years and have been blessed by them! If you are looking for something new, perhaps you will find what you are looking for among the items noted above.



Holy Week at St. Andrews

April 2, 2023 Palm Sunday

8:00a.m and 10:30a.m.

April 5, 2023

10:30a.m. Healing Service

12:00p.m. Lenten Worship and luncheon

April 6, 2023 Maundy Thursday

7:00p.m. Holy Thursday Liturgy

8-10p.m. Prayer Vigil

April 7, 2023 Good Friday

Noon Good Friday Liturgy

5 p.m. Stations of the Cross

April 9, 2023 Easter Sunday

8:00a.m. Holy Eucharist Rt. I

9:50a.m. Children's Easter Story
and Egg Hunt

10:30a.m. Holy Eucharist Rt. II



Shrove Tuesday Mardi Gras

February 21, 2023



“Beads and bling: It’s a Mardi Gras thing.”

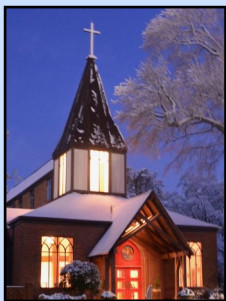


ST. ANDREW'S EPISCOPAL CHURCH
301 Circle Drive • Rocky Mount, NC 27804

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Our Parish Family



Each week, during the noon hour, we will gather at one of the three churches for worship and light lunch. Our worship location is as follows:

March 1 - Englewood United Methodist

March 8 - Lakeside Baptist

March 15 - The Mill Church

March 22 - St. Andrew's Episcopal Church

March 29 - First Methodist Church

Following our worship, the host church will provide a simple lunch, such as: soup and sandwiches; salad and potato, etc.

The meals are provided free and open to the public.

Every Friday at 5pm, during the season of Lent, come join us in the Commons as we follow the Stations of the Cross.



The Men's Club is meeting Saturday, March 4th at 8am.

St Elizabeth's Guild meets on Monday, March 6th at 12pm in the Parish Hall. Please bring a bag lunch. Dessert and beverage provided.

Every Sunday after services, we will be packing food bags for the students at Winstead Elementary. We will pack food pantry bags on March 19th after 10:30am services.



St. Andrew's book club will meet on Tuesday, March 14th at 10 am in the Church parlor. We will be discussing Wish You Were Here by

The EYC is meeting after church each Sunday. We could use helpers to provide lunch for our small group at 12pm. This would be a great opportunity for church members to meet our youth and for them to get to know us! Please contact the Rita Coggins at 252-908-1980 if you are able to help.