

The Piper

March 2021

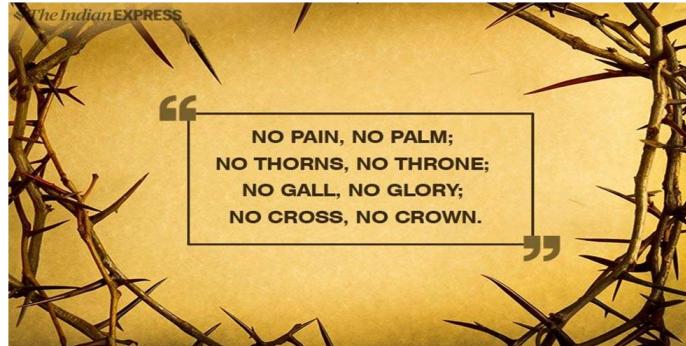


In This Issue

Message from Senior Warden	Pg 2
Dioceesan COVID Re-Entry	Pg 4
Angels in the Kitchen	Pg 5
Parting of the Red Sea	Pg 6
Holy Week Schedule	Pg 9
March Birthdays	Pg 10



A Message from our Senior Warden



Learning from Others

Steve LaFever

Working with students has always presented a plethora of stories and incidents. Believe me, in 30 years of doing this, I have most likely heard everything. There was the student who used to ask me to take him to the store for food. After a couple trips, I suggested he call his father and ask for some money to buy a junk car so he could come and go as he liked. His answer was his father could not afford to do that. After much thought, I asked him what his father did for a living. The response – he is a neurosurgeon in California. My mind is full of both funny and tragic stories. One that reminded me of the marquis in front of the community church in Boulder Creek this week, was a student who was graduating. He came to the college full of energy which wasn't always focused on positive things. Over the four years, he seemed to mature and learn a lot emotionally and academically. He was a success story and went on to become a doctor. The reason I remember him is what he said at graduation to me. He indicated his success was due to the fact that his parents learned so much in the four years he was at college. I chuckled. I knew what he meant. Aristotle, who was a student of Plato, believed we learn by experience. We make mistakes and we learn from them. John Dewey (American philosopher and psychologist) adapted Aristotelian philosophy, and talked about education being the tool by which we learn through our experiences.

Parenting is different with each family because many times you learn how to be a parent from how you were brought up. My grandparents “spare the rod and spoil the child” approach would most likely put them in jail these days. However, some parents still practice this approach. Some parents use guilt, anger, and fear, to solicit good behavior while others use positive reinforcement. But I digress. No one knows which methodology will work in bringing up which children. There are no results which show that this way or that way is “the” way. All children are different and respond differently to each approach. We end up with so many people acting so differently from each other. We try to point fingers, lay blame, or take credit. It’s interesting, and I have heard this. A student does well; Father says, my daughter did great. The same student gets into trouble. Mother says your daughter did this. My favorite is a parent to their child, “you must have your father’s DNA.”

When I heard the student tell me how much his parents learned In his four years at college, I was chuckling because what he was really saying was that his rebellion against his parents advice turned around and helped him learn after he was able to look at their advice objectively. Sometimes, that’s all it takes. Step back and think about what is being said. Digest it and then apply it to your own life. Risk that your parents teaching was a product of love for you.

Christianity is special and simple. We have but one example to follow --- the path of Jesus. That is the path that takes a young Jewish carpenter from the Mount of Olives, to the Garden of Gethsemane, to the hill of Golgotha, and then to the empty tomb of resurrection. Love conquered the world, and God asks us to follow that path. You can never go wrong by walking alongside Jesus. Bishop Curry always asks, “What would Jesus do?” The Nicene Creed says “he suffered death and was buried and on the third day he rose again.” Fourteen words in our creed are so insufficient in attempting to describe the trip from Pontius Pilate’s trial to the cross. Fourteen (14) words. Good Friday, we gather and walk through the *stations of the cross*. Each stop has a reading. Many people find this ritual a bit boring, but it’s part of our holy week tradition.

To Jesus, it was anything but boring. It was agony, betrayal, pain, suffering, bloody, bare feet being ripped by the sharp rocks of the path as the rough heavy, wooden cross cut into his back. It was a feeling of despair and being abandoned. The nails which attached him to the cross were bloody; the sarcastic crown of thorns cut his forehead; the vinegar sponge to keep him revived continued his suffering. The people jeered, the soldiers gambled for his belongings, and Mary wept. Jesus, after enduring all this torture, says. “Father, forgive them.” This is the love which He brought into this world. Forgive them . . . and then the spear pierced his side – but His love endures forever.

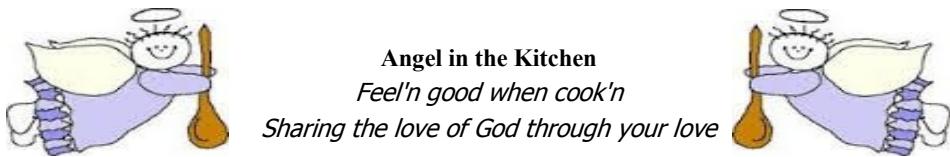
Students learning begins at home where parents create a foundation which their child can build on. Sometimes it is later in life that the child says, “Ah ha, that’s what they were trying to tell me.” The foundation you help build in others may shape a pivotal point in their life and make all the difference. Never underestimate your influence on others. Never discount how you treat others. Never hold back advice that could help someone else. They say love conquers. All these lessons, given by parents, friends, and families, when offered from the roots of love, are valuable. Love is never wrong. He proved that. He gave his life out of love for us all. Indeed, love is the best teacher always and provides us with the best results in ourselves and others.

Hymn based on 1 Corinthians 10:4. “My hope is built on nothing less . . . On Christ, the solid rock I stand. . . . all other ground is sinking sand.

COVID re-entry policy and in-person worship guidelines from the Diocese of El Camino Real.

Click [here](#) to see the specific policies and guidelines set forth by the diocesan task force. The guidelines are broken up to correspond with the statewide color code tiers for reopening.

<https://realepiscopal.org/finance-administration-legal/>



Here is a yummy recipe that I got when I was in Mexico at a cooking class.

Mexican Corn Cake

Ingredients

6 ears of white corn
1 can condensed milk
2 eggs
1 heaping teaspoon cinnamon
1 heaping teaspoon baking powder
1 cube soft butter

Clean the corn off the ears and put 1/3 in a blender; add condensed milk and blend until smooth. Add the next 1/3 corn kernels and 2 eggs; blend until smooth. Add the next 1/3 corn kernels, butter, cinnamon and baking powder; blend until smooth. Pour into buttered loaf pan. Bake at 375 about an hour -- a knife inserted should come out absolutely clean and it will be very golden. Let cool and remove from pan. Serve with vanilla ice cream and/or whipped cream and cajeta (a Mexican sauce similar to caramel sauce used on ice cream).

Note that the cake does not rise very much and when baked in a normal loaf pan, the cake is only about an inch to inch and a half tall. So, if you want a taller cake, you need to use a narrower loaf pan.

This recipe submitted courtesy of Susan Greer



A Nine year-old's take on "Parting of the Red Sea".

Nine year old Joey was asked by his mother what he had learned at Sunday school.

"Well, Mom, our teacher told us how God sent Moses behind enemy lines on a rescue mission to lead the Israelites out of Egypt.

"When he got to the Red Sea, he had his engineers build a pontoon bridge and all the people walked across safely.

"Then he used his walkie-talkie to radio headquarters for reinforcements. They sent bombers to blow up the bridge and all the Israelites were saved."

"Now, Joey, is that really what your teacher taught you?" his mother asked.

"Well, no. But if I told it the way the teacher did, you'd never believe it!"

And I do believe that is the problem with the 21st, empirical, technological, secular society we have developed. Believing in the unknown, the mysterium tremendum (a term from theologians), is something most aren't willing to believe. The debate rages on about whether Moses actually parted the Red Sea. A conversation I was having last night was about this very subject and then someone sent me the anecdote about the Red Sea. Out of the mouths of babes . . .

The earliest New Testament books were written one hundred years after the death of Christ. We know that Christ was a real person who was convicted and crucified. Flavius Josephus was a Roman historian who lived in Jerusalem. In his historical account in *The Antiquities of the Jews*, Josephus says that Jesus was crucified by Pontius Pilate and another passage merely says that Jesus was the brother of

James. Two small entries is all that Roman history has allocated to Jesus.

So many times in my life have I been asked if I believe in the parting of the Red Sea, Jonah living in the belly of the whale, an all powerful ark of the Covenant that could be used as a weapon to destroy the enemy, and many other stories that can be found in both the new and old testaments.

Movie studios with computer generated images and special effects have done a great job showing those miracles on screen. Theologians on both ends of Christianity have given explanations for many of the unexplainable mysteries and miracles found in the Bible. Jesus walked on water. I read in one scholarly article that in a part of the lake, there are rocks which are close to the surface and one could walk on top of these rocks giving the impression that you are walking on water. On the other end of scale are those who believe Jesus walked on water because the Bible says so. Or . . . Jonah could have ended up in a submersible and then docked in Nineveh. Or . . . you can see how the Red Sea can be parted as part of your studio tour of Universal Studios.

The conversation I was having last night sort of addressed these mysteries. The New Testament gives us so many stories called parables. They represent a bigger picture, an important lesson, a foundation for a Christian life. I believe those lessons framed in stories from the Bible are just as important today as they were when the testaments were written. Each story has a particular meaning for each of us. The one important, omnipotent, omniscient, message that is learned from all the teachings of Jesus and His disciples is Love. The message is over 2,000 years old and it hasn't changed. Whether the miracles in the Bible can be proven or not, doesn't simply matter. What matters is that we understand that the result of those messages written in a way that could be understood by

an ancient civilization, has not changed and is still a command by God today. It is the message of loving one another unselfishly, unconditionally, and unreservedly.

So yes, the anecdote is true from the nine year old boy to his mother, "you would never believe the real story." The savior of that story was Moses who freed the slaves. Our own history is about Lincoln who freed the slaves. It's about Archbishop Desmond Tutu and Nelson Mandela who ended apartheid and freed the slaves of South Africa. It's about Mohandas Ghandi who help free the Indians who were subjugated by foreign rule. It's about Susan B. Anthony who helped give women the right to vote in 1920. It's about Martin Luther King whose non-violent path led to the Civil Rights act of 1964. Did you know that until 1978 (43 years ago) Black priests were not allowed in the Mormon church? There are denominations which still don't allow women priests. It's about all those people who have led people to freedom by parting their own Red Sea.

So believe the stories at face value or not, that's up to you. But believe in the message that they represent. In the end we are left with faith, hope and love, and the greatest of these is our love for one another.

Many of you know that I watch Jeopardy all the time. A friend of mine, Diana, says she won't call me between 7:00 and 7:30 when it's on. In his last departing thought to his audience, and the world, he said "We're trying to build a gentler, kinder society. If we all pitch in just a little bit, we are going to get there. Thank you Alex. You got it. That's the message ---- and it has not changed from the Cross to today 2000 years later.

Peace! Steve



St. Andrew's Episcopal Church
Ben Lomond, California
2021

March 7 **Sunday Service 10:00**
Rev. John Buenz, former Dean of
St. John the Evangelist Cathedral in Spokane

March 14 **Sunday Service 10:00**
Rev. Mary Lou McKenney

March 15 **Monday with Bishop Lucinda Ashby**
7:00 PM Zooming with the Bishop

March 21 **Sunday Service 10:00**
Rev. John Duncan

March 28 **Palm Sunday 10:00**
With Rev. Mary Lou McKenney

April 1 **Maundy Thursday**
Noon service with Mary Lou McKenney

April 2 **Good Friday**
Noon service ~ Stations of the Cross with Rochelle, Ray
and Sharon

April 4 **Easter Sunday He is Risen! 10:00**
Celebrated with Rev. Mary Blessing
Cathy will be sending the Zoom invitation along with times as we get
closer to the dates of the services.

March Birthdays

2	Gary	Smith
4	Gina	Carling
5	John	Brough
6	Sabrina	ValdeRuten
7	Clark	McPherson
8	LeRoux	Aiden
9	Elizabeth	Forbes
13	Celestine	Glover
16	Jerry	Fishel
16	Nia	Wooliscroft
24	Tom	Spring
24	Gary	McCormick
27	Steve	LaFever
30	Cecelia	Kerns



101 Reasons to be Episcopalian

Reason 92

Many whom we know well are starved for the spiritual food we receive daily.

*Louie Crew
Diocese of Newark*

St Patrick's Day Dinner

Wednesday, March 17th



Reserve your dinners
by March 12 by
sending us an Email
at sgreerin-
cruz@gmail.com
or calling 831-609-
6737

Dinners are available
for pickup on March
17th between 3:30
and 6:30 pm. In
St. Andrew's parking
lot, 101 Riverside
Avenue, Ben Lomond





St. Andrew's Episcopal Church

101 Riverside Dr./P.O. Box 293

Ben Lomond, CA 95005

831.336.1069 staoffice@sbcglobal.net

saintandrewsbenlomond.org

Where God is worshiped and the people are fed