

The Messenger

The Newsletter of the Church of the Incarnation

April 2018



**Easter Sunday is all about adorable bunnies
and brightly colored eggs...**

Wait...are we missing something?

The Church of the Incarnation

Holy Week and Easter Worship Schedule

Sunday, March 25th (Palm Sunday): Liturgy of the Palms and Holy Eucharist at 8 and 10 AM

Monday, Tuesday, and Wednesday (March 26th, 27th, and 28th) in Holy Week: Stations of the Cross and Holy Eucharist/Evening Prayer at 6 PM

Thursday, March 29th (Maundy Thursday): Footwashing Ceremony, Holy Eucharist, and Stripping of the Altar at 6 PM

Friday, March 30th (Good Friday): Community Good Friday Service at Central Christian Church; 1025 Central Avenue, downtown Great Falls at 12 Noon

Sunday, April 1st (Easter Sunday): Sunrise Service at 7 AM and Festive Holy Eucharist at 10 AM

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The Monthly Newsletter of the
Church of the Incarnation
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Jack Corcino – Junior Warden
Stacey Corcino – Clerk of the Vestry
Jeanette Baird
Ann Bartell
Cameele Dohrman
Sara Quay
Richard Rounds
Lynn Rounds

L I S T E N

The Bishop Nominating Committee wants to hear what you have to say! Come learn what's happening in the search for the next Bishop of Montana at both services on Sunday April 15, 2018. Then join us at 9:00 A.M. & 11:00 A.M. that morning in the Parish Hall to do a listening session.

Listening



Sunday, April 15, 2018

9:00 A.M. & 11:00 A.M.

Meet in the Parish Hall

Parish Ministry Schedule

April 2018

Sunday, April 1st (Easter Sunday)

Acolytes:	Cliff Baird and Tom Dohrman
Altar Guild:	Renee Neste and Ardelle Watkins
Chalice Bearer:	Rick Rounds
Flower Delivery:	Tim Ljunggren
Lector:	Cameele Dohrman
Usher:	Gretchen Swift
Hospitality:	Easter Fruit and Muffin Brunch

Sunday, April 8th (The Second Sunday of Easter)

Acolyte:	Jim Lowery
Altar Guild:	Renee Neste and Ardelle Watkins
Chalice Bearer:	Jeff Brainard
Flower Delivery:	Cheryl Quintero
Lector:	Robin Hometchko
Usher:	Dick Dohrman
Hospitality:	Tim and Linda Ljunggren

Sunday, April 15th (The Second Sunday of Easter)

Acolyte:	Cliff Baird
Altar Guild:	Renee Neste and Ardelle Watkins
Chalice Bearer:	Maryann Cosgrove
Flower Delivery:	Gayle Archey
Lector:	Janet Tiffany
Usher:	Jack Corcino
Hospitality:	TBA

Sunday, April 22nd (The Third Sunday of Easter)

Acolyte:	Jeffery Parrish
Altar Guild:	Maryann Cosgrove and Cheryl Quintero
Chalice Bearer:	Gretchen Wilson
Flower Delivery:	Ann Bartell
Lector:	Rob Wilson
Usher:	Nona Munroe
Hospitality:	TBA

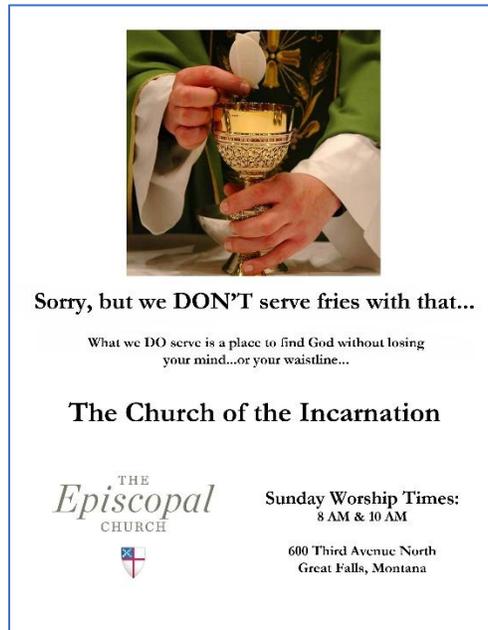
Sunday, April 29th (The Fourth Sunday of Easter)

Acolyte:	Tom Dohrman
Altar Guild:	Maryann Cosgrove and Cheryl Quintero
Chalice Bearer:	Norabeth Trinastich
Flower Delivery:	Tim Ljunggren
Lector:	Mary Wynne Atkinson
Usher:	Cliff Baird
Hospitality:	TBA

Church of the Incarnation's Media Campaign

To (re)introduce our wonderful parish to our community (and beyond), we have taken on a new media campaign which will spread the news about who we are, what we do, and where we're going.

For example, the campaign includes posters:



Also, 30-second television spots (which can currently be seen on YouTube):

<https://youtu.be/d28V-RPzXCY>

<https://youtu.be/q5fj9n3irEE>

<https://youtu.be/342IYrvTI5o>

<https://youtu.be/sqYQ67hCiBA>

<https://youtu.be/Vr9djR1KGn4>

<https://youtu.be/9pPLWFNKaI8>

<https://youtu.be/hjLLkxiysEQ>

<https://youtu.be/gx3GehcZCGI>

And a new, interactive website: <https://www.churchoftheincarnationmontana.org>; tell your family and friends!

FISH Activities

FISH Data for January 2018

The chart below is a comparison of those serviced by FISH between January 2017 and January 2018. As you can see there have been some changes between the 2017 and 2018 figures. There was an increase in the number of families (non-singles), singles, adults, children, meals served, and pounds of food delivered; we were up 12.5%, 32.9%, 19.7%, 24.8%, 21.2%, and 32.7% respectively. There were no categories where we experienced any decreases. For the year-to-date (YTD) numbers there was an increase in the number of families (non-singles), singles, adults, children, meals served, and pounds of food delivered; we were up 12.5%, 32.9%, 19.7%, 24.8%, 21.2%, and 32.7% respectively. However, FISH provided about 6.4 tons of emergency food to our community during the month of January 2018.

	January 2017	2017 YTD	January 2018	2018 YTD
Families (non-singles)	80	80	90	90
Singles	79	79	105	105
Adults	229	229	274	274
Children	101	101	126	126
Meals	4,950	4,950	6,000	6,000
Pounds of Food	9,703	9,703	12,878	12,878

Clearly, there is still a demand (in our community) for the emergency food we distribute through FISH. *Amen!*

Bob Shanks
Member of the FISH Board of Directors
Representing the Church of the Incarnation

How Hatred Can Consume You

Pitlane Magazine (<http://www.pitlanemagazine.com/morals-values-and-norms/how-hatred-can-consume-you.html>)

Hatred is a negative energy. It is an energy that can drain you both physically and mentally. Hatred is an emotion that can overwhelm us to the extent where we can think of nothing else but hurting the other person. Hatred can not only destroy the person it is aimed at, but it can also destroy the 'carrier' too.

When one carries hatred within his or her heart, nothing else matters – other than the object of their hatred. Life, it seems, comes to a grinding halt. This is because hatred is such a powerful emotion that a person cannot move forward within their lives, until the hatred is resolved. And the only way hatred can be resolved is when either the object of the hatred is destroyed or, indeed, the person carrying the hatred is destroyed.

However, having said that, hatred can be overcome by understanding and communication. Communication holds the key to many personal problems, not to mention the world's problems. When we communicate we begin to understand each other and come to a 'common ground'. Hatred is then eased and overtime, will become no more because there is an 'understanding' between people. But when one is consumed with a burning desire to destroy and annihilate every part of that person their hatred is aimed toward, then the hatred will continue to fester and grow.

Furthermore, hatred will continue to destroy the one who carries it too. Hatred is such a powerful and emotive feeling that it is passed down from generation to generation. This continues to be case, until the original reason as to why it began in the first place becomes lost in the annals of time.

Because when one is consumed by a hatred so strong and powerful, then life is put on 'hold' or 'paused'. Wasted energy is spent on hating, when it should be spent on 'living'. And in fact, living stops altogether. Hatred is such a powerful emotion that it can consume you completely. A person can become blinded by hatred – to the detriment of everything else – and to the extent that nothing else matters but the subject of their hatred. Hatred eats you up, consumes you and stops you from thinking logically – creating illogical thoughts instead. It destroys you within, because it feeds off your anger. Hatred can bring forth other feelings, feelings of anger, and jealousy too. These too are powerful motivators for the hatred you may carry within you.

Of course, there are some people who have perfectly legitimate reasons to hate. If a murder takes place in which the victim is a mother, father, child, or any other member of a family, then the hatred of the surviving members of that family can be carried within them for years. Hatred is a force that can be seen and felt, and its affect is both physical and mental.

It is like a destructive and powerful tidal wave that can consume families, society, and the whole world. It destroys and annihilates all it touches. And it leaves nothing but destruction and devastation in its wake. The legacy of this of course, is yet more hatred that is passed down from father to son, mother to daughter. Indeed, it can become a 'cycle of hate'.

It destroys all that it touches, as described above – both the carrier of the hatred and those the hatred is aimed toward. In fact, each can be seen as victims in this case. Hatred can stop you from living a normal, healthy life. Life becomes wasted as opportunities to move on are ignored.

Hatred leaves a legacy of hatred, and this is then continued on and ever on. It is all-consuming, swallowing up the last vestiges of humanity we may still have. It can become illogical and stops all reasonable thought in its tracks. Hatred destroys from within, chews you up and leaves nothing but unloving, unfeeling shells of what was once, human beings.

Presiding Bishop, Others Begin Campaign to ‘Reclaim Jesus’ in US Culture

[Episcopal News Service – 03/22/2018] A group of Protestant and Roman Catholic leaders, including Episcopal Church Presiding Bishop Michael Curry, have begun what they call a campaign to “reclaim Jesus” from those who they believe are using Christian theology for political gain.

“We are living through perilous and polarizing times as a nation, with a dangerous crisis of moral and political leadership at the highest levels of our government and in our churches,” say [the 23 signers of the statement](#). “We believe the soul of the nation and the integrity of faith are now at stake.”

The group says the church’s role is to change the world through the life and love of Jesus Christ, while the government should serve the common good by protecting justice and peace, rewarding good behavior while restraining bad behavior. “When that role is undermined by political leadership, faith leaders must stand up and speak out,” the signers say, citing the Rev. Martin Luther King Jr. who said the church is the conscience of the state, not its master or its servant.

“Reclaiming Jesus: A Confession of Faith in a Time of Crisis” offers six “affirmations” of what the group, currently 23 strong, believes, “and the resulting rejections of practices and policies by political leaders which dangerously corrode the soul of the nation and deeply threaten the public integrity of our faith.

“We pray that we, as followers of Jesus, will find the depth of faith to match the danger of our political crisis.”

In summary, the signers, in their the affirmations and rejections, said they believe:

- Each human being is made in God’s image and likeness, and therefore, “we reject the resurgence of white nationalism and racism in our nation on many fronts, including the highest levels of political leadership.”
- We are one body and, therefore, “we reject misogyny, the mistreatment, violent abuse, sexual harassment, and assault of women that has been further revealed in our culture and politics, including our churches, and the oppression of any other child of God.”
- “How we treat the hungry, the thirsty, the naked, the stranger, the sick, and the prisoner is how we treat Christ himself,” and, therefore, “we reject the language and policies of political leaders who would debase and abandon the most vulnerable children of God.”
- “Truth is morally central to our personal and public lives,” and, therefore, they reject “the practice and pattern of lying that is invading our political and civil life.”
- Christ’s way of leadership is servanthood, not domination, and, therefore, “we reject any moves toward autocratic political leadership and authoritarian rule... raise deeper concerns about political idolatry, accompanied by false and unconstitutional notions of authority.”
- Jesus “tells us to go into all nations making disciples,” and, therefore, they reject “‘America first’ as a theological heresy for followers of Christ.”

The statement says in its conclusion that “our urgent need, in a time of moral and political crisis, is to recover the power of confessing our faith. Lament, repent, and then repair.”

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The Rev. Jim Wallis, founder of [Sojourners](#), and Curry began talking earlier this year about the need for such a statement. The signers agreed to the wording of the statement at an Ash Wednesday retreat that Curry hosted at the Episcopal Church Center in New York.

“I joined with other Christian church leaders on this confession of what faith in times like these require,” Curry said March 22 in a statement to Episcopal News Service. “When faced with social issues, our Church has not been silent and we will continue to strive for justice and peace. Our role is one of moral leadership for our nation, for our church, for ourselves.”

The “Reclaiming Jesus” message, Wallis said in [a March 22 commentary](#) on the Sojourners website, needed to be “something that would be much more than just another statement to sign and then file away.

“Rather, with a shared humble spirit, we felt called to act as elders for a time such as this and to commend our message to the churches for a process of prayer, study, reflection, and action.”

Wallis called his commentary “Reclaiming Jesus: How Confessing Faith Can Respond to a Moral and Constitutional Crisis.”

The signers have set up a website, Reclaiming Jesus, where the statement and a one-page summary can be downloaded. There is also due to be a collection of resources in addition to a five-week “[civil discourse curriculum](#)” that already has been released.

The signers currently include:

- Bishop Carroll A. Baltimore, President and CEO, Global Alliance Interfaith Networks
- Rev. Dr. Peter Borgdorff, Executive Director Emeritus, Christian Reformed Church in North America
- Dr. Amos Brown, Chair, Social Justice Commission, National Baptist Convention USA, Inc.
- Rev. Dr. Walter Brueggemann, Professor Emeritus, Columbia Theological Seminary
- Dr. Tony Campolo, Co-Founder, Red Letter Christians
- Dr. Iva Carruthers, General Secretary, Samuel DeWitt Proctor Conference
- The Most Rev. Michael B. Curry, Presiding Bishop and Primate, The Episcopal Church
- Rev. Dr. James Forbes, President and Founder, Healing the Nations Foundation and Preaching Professor at Union Theological Seminary
- Rev. Wesley Granberg-Michaelson, General Secretary Emeritus, Reformed Church in America
- Rev. Dr. Cynthia Hale, Senior Pastor, Ray of Hope Christian Church, Decatur, GA
- Rev. Dr. Richard Hamm, former General Minister and President of the Christian Church (Disciples of Christ)
- Rev. Dr. Joel C. Hunter, Faith Community Organizer and Chairman, Community Resource Network
- Rev. Dr. Jo Anne Lyon, General Superintendent Emerita, The Wesleyan Church
- Bishop Vashti McKenzie, 117th Elected and Consecrated Bishop, AME Church
- Rev. Dr. Otis Moss, Jr., Co-Convener National African American Clergy Network
- Dr. John Perkins, Chair Emeritus and Founding Member, Christian Community Development Association
- Bishop Lawrence Reddick, CEO, Christian Methodist Episcopal Church
- Fr. Richard Rohr, Founder, Center for Action and Contemplation
- Dr. Ron Sider, President Emeritus, Evangelicals for Social Action
- Rev. Jim Wallis, President and Founder, Sojourners
- Rev. Dr. Sharon Watkins, Director, NCC Truth and Racial Justice Initiative
- Dr. Barbara Williams-Skinner, Co-Convener, National African American Clergy Network; President, Skinner Leadership Institute
- Bishop Will Willimon, Bishop, The United Methodist Church, retired, Professor of the Practice of Ministry, Duke Divinity School

The Lighter Side

