

St. Bartholomew's Newsings

St. Bartholomew's Episcopal Church, P.O. Box 906, High Springs, FL 32655

<http://www.stbartshighsprings.org/>

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February 2020 Vol XI Issue 2

Vicar's Message

Grace, peace, and the love of our Lord Jesus Christ be with you.

Epiphany finishes up in February and we begin the season of Lent. Ash Wednesday is February 26th. We will have two services, one at noon and the other at 6 pm. Lent is all about the renewal of our hearts. Renewal requires us to re-exam our lives as we develop contrite hearts. The Lord is always merciful to the broken hearted that in true faith turn to him for forgiveness and renewal. Renewing our commitment to the good things we are doing to glorify our Lord and build on the teachings of our Lord is equally important. Good things such as regular worshipping at St. Bart's, supporting our ministry with your time, talent, and resources; and being a shining light of Christ in the outside world will always please our Lord.

Much of Lent concerns inward looking and self-examination. Not an easy process, however it is my mission throughout Lent to help you with this self-analyzing process. Although a glorious Easter lies ahead we must travel the Lent road to receive the numerous benefits procured for us by actions of our Lord.

On a separate note, Tuesday, February 25th is our annual pancake supper. It is always a fun event for the community to gather before the Lent fast. This is a late afternoon, early evening meal with your fill of pancakes and great friendship. Who knows what the entertainment will be? The proceeds from this event support our children and youth program budget line item throughout the coming year. Please join us.

February is also a special month for me personally. It was this month in 2011 that I started my ministry at St. Bartholomew's. It is a celebration because of the joy this ministry has brought into my life and the many bonds of friendship that have developed over the years. Our ministry together has provided much love from our Lord to our members, to our Diocese, and to the High Springs community. I look forward to many more years of service to the St. Bart's family with God's blessing and help.

Much love to all, fr lance+



Editor's Note

. We hope you are enjoying the Newsletter and we welcome your comments and suggestions.

Deadline for next issue is February 26th. This is the LAST possible day to get articles in!!!!

Contact: Annette Jones - (386) 454-8585 pgrscoot97@aol.com

In this newsletter you will find verses from the Bible on love:

Whoever does not love does not know God, because God is love.

~1 John 4:8 | NIV



Greetings From the Senior Warden..... Carol Griffin 386-497-2292

In February 2011 God in his wisdom and unfailing love brought Fr. Lance to St. Bartholomew's. God knows our needs and I believe he sent the right person for the job. As I mentioned during the Christmas Eve Service, I pray Fr. Lance will continue to guide us throughout this decade. We appreciate and love you and Beth for all you do for our "Big" Little Church. We have much to be thankful for.

February brings the annual meeting of the congregation. This includes a review of the financial condition of the church and discussion of upcoming issues/projects facing the church. A budget has been prepared with the best estimates we have as far as anticipated income and expenses. Heads up - we have a very tight budget. However, I have seen the generosity and love in this church throughout the years and know our needs will be met, but we do need to be attentive to the situation. I hope each of you will take the time to review the budget.

February is a month when love is in the forefront. Again, St. Bart's demonstrates a great capacity for love. Our food pantry provides meals for many in the community at Thanksgiving as well as throughout the year for those stopping by the church in need of assistance. We recently provided food for a woman just moving into her new apartment and needing some help for herself and young daughter. She was grateful for the food as well as a copy of Forward Day by Day for spiritual nourishment. I am thankful we are able to provide this blessing to those in need, but noticed the Pantry is somewhat depleted after the Thanksgiving baskets. I would ask you to consider picking up an extra food item while you are shopping (BOGO is a good opportunity for this) so we can keep the pantry well stocked for the community and parishioners that may be in need.



Wishing each of you a Happy Valentine's Day.

"Above all, clothe yourselves with love, which binds everything together in perfect harmony. And let the peace of Christ rule in your hearts, to which indeed you were called in the one body. And be thankful" (Colossians 3:14-15 NRSV)



Children's Activities and Family Fellowship



Sunday School Teaching Schedule for 10am Services:

Feb. 2nd: No Sunday School
- DOK installation

Feb. 9th: Ben
Sheryl

Feb. 16th: Cherie
Sam

Feb. 23rd: Betty
Cornelia

Upcoming Children & Youth Events:

- ~ Wed. Feb. 5th at 7pm: Youth Group Meeting
- ~ Wed. Feb. 12th at 7pm: Youth Group Meeting
- ~ Wed. Feb. 19th at 7pm: Youth Group Meeting
- ~ Wed. Feb. 26th: Ash Wednesday Service



Some of our youth chose a **COLD DAY** to take a hike in San Felasco! **Brrrrrr!**



Whoever pursues righteousness and love finds life, prosperity and honor.

~ Proverbs 21:21 | NIV



February Birthdays

- Feb 1 – Seth Diepersloot
- 7 – Ben Hill
- 9 – Dawn Fifer
Curt Tibbits
- 11 -- Calvin Hencin
- 16 – Annette Jones

Anniversaries in February



- 9 – Jim & Peggy Addington
- 23 – Debra and Mike Wright

Congratulations to Each of YOU! If your name does not appear here, please contact your editor (Annette) to have it added for next time.



I love the Lord, for he heard my voice; he heard my cry for mercy.
Because he turned his ear to me, I will call on him as long as I live.

~Psalm 116:1-2 | NIV



Chalice Bearers - February

- 2/2 - Annette
- 2/9 - Gregg
- 2/16 -Margret
- 2/23 Cherie

Lay Readers -February



- 2/2 - Samantha Shiver
- 2/9 - Debra Wright
- 2/16 - Cherie Harris
- 2/23 - Alex Matisco

This is love: not that we loved God, but that he loved us and sent his Son as an atoning sacrifice for our sins.

~1 John 4:10 | NIV



The Annual Convention of the Diocese of Florida was held the weekend of January 24-25,



led by our Bishop John Howard (accompanied by his trusted canine companion.)



Our delegates from St. Bartholomew's were Neil and Sue Boyle.

☪☪ Lessons for February ☪☪

February 2nd: Malachi 3:1-4; Psalm 84; Hebrews 2:14-18; Luke 2:22-40

9th: Isaiah 58:1-9a,(9b-12); Psalm 112:1-9 (10); 1 Corinthians 2:1-9; Mathew 3:13-20

16th: Deuteronomy 30:15-20; Psalm 119:1-8; 1 Corinthians 3:1-9; Matthew 5:21-37

23rd: Exodus 24:12-18; Psalm 2; 2 Peter 1:16-21; Matthew 17:1-9

26th: Ash Wednesday: Joel 2:1-2, 12-17; Psalm 103; 2 Corinthians 5:20b-6:10;
Matthew 6:1-6, 16-21

Love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your mind and with all your strength.

~Mark 12:30 | NIV



Gardening like a Fisherman

a commentary by Lisa Rhan

According to Sunday's sermon (Jan. 26), good fishermen, by diligence and persistence, return to fishing again although they did not catch anything the first time. Plus, they get creative trying different bait, different locations, different strategies. They are determined. They don't give up. Personal epiphany from the sermon: *Those are the type of fishermen Jesus chose.* This is the type of people God wants us to be.

The sermon was packed full of tasty fish-bits, and I'd like to share how it hit home with me. "Comfortable Agony" was the title of a sermon I heard many, many years ago. Comfortable agony was described in the sermon as a style of living opposite that of the fisherman style. Agony is when we continue in the unproductive ways we are used to because we've been there for so long and don't know how else to be. Even if what we're doing is not working well for us, we stay stuck in the same old habit, keeping the same dangerous company, or whatever is ailing us. Our reasoning might be we have "always done it that way". We might become afraid to change. Perhaps we lose the drive to try fishing in another location, maybe too lazy to change the bait. We might fear losing the little we have. We start thinking in a defeated manner. We hibernate into a mere existence. We give up. Maybe you've heard statements like these: "If we're not moving forward, we're moving backward." "Can't straddle the fence; either you're cold or hot." "One step forward, two steps back."

I've been guilty of gardening comfortable agony style. For years I tried the same poor garden spot and got the same pathetic and dwarfed plants. The same rabbits and deer ate the same plants. The same too-much-shade, not-enough-sun syndrome plagued my garden. Yet, I found myself returning season after season and doing the same thing. Why? (Yes, I learn slowly.)

Finally, I started learning bits and pieces. I risked making some changes. I changed location to a sunnier spot. I started noticing what the deer ate versus what they didn't like. I've learned to grow what the deer don't like. (Smart, eh?) Plants that stink work well. Plants with prickly stems and leaves. Bitter-tasting plants. Fertilizer. Fertilizer stinks. Stink might keep a fisherman out of the house (Fr. Lances' fisherman father), but stink works great in the garden. (Incidentally, I once tried burying a fish under every plant—Indian style—but the raccoons came and dug up all the fish.)

Maybe you've heard: "Throw your net on the other side of the boat." "No pain, no gain." "A bend in the road is not the end of the road unless you fail to make the turn", "take the first step, and God will take the next two".

Unknowingly, I was applying fisherman principles to the garden. Biblical principles hold true for anything in life. Anything. Jesus wants us to "be strong and of good courage", "try and try again", "keep on keeping on". Too simple, sometimes.



Hostess List for February



Feb 2 – Pot Luck

Feb 9 – Cornelia/ Ruthann

Feb 16 – Betty/ Lisa

Feb 23– Carol/ Susan

Note: If you would like to volunteer to provide a light snack and drink, please contact Cornelia Swann 386-454-3505.



**Above all, love each other deeply, because love covers over a multitude of sins.
~1 Peter 4:8 | NIV**



Angels Without Wings

Moving our services to the Parish Hall during cold weather takes many hands and much effort. A group of our St. Bart's "angels" were largely responsible for this smooth transition. They used their "wings" to bring over the hymnals and prayer books, set up the chairs and ready the room for the services. They even took down the Christmas decorations and put them away while they were at it!

Our Angels without Wings for this month are....

Our Youth Group

**Love is patient, love is kind. It does not envy, it does not boast, it is not proud. It does not dishonor others, it is not self-seeking, it is not easily angered, it keeps no record of wrongs.
~1 Corinthians 13:4-5 | NIV**





What: St. Bartholomew's Episcopal Church **Annual Shrove Tuesday Pancake Supper**

When: Tuesday, February 25, 2020 from 5:30 to 7pm (or when food runs out)

Where: St. Bartholomew's Parish Hall

Why: Shrove Tuesday is the traditional start of the Season of Lent This annual dinner is to benefit the youth ministry, specifically Vacation Bible School.

Cost: Pancake dinner tickets are sold for \$6.00 for adults, \$3 for children ages 6 -12, and children under 6 are free. Tickets may be purchased at the dinner. Meal includes regular or whole wheat pancakes, fruit, bacon, sausage and drinks.

Please let your family and friends know about our annual supper. Spread the word to your neighbors. It's always a fun time.

As in the past, we need assistants to help our Chairman Ben Hill, Fr. Lance, and the "crew" (Joe, Ed and Neil) cook the meat, mix the batter and help set up and clean up. Let one of us know if you can assist. Thank you!

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Dates to Remember

February 9 - Mission Board Meeting

February 16 - Annual Parish Meeting

February 29 – Fr Lance away – Fr Dave Kidd, Supply Priest, one Service only - 9am



And now these three remain: faith, hope and love.

But the greatest of these is love.

~1 Corinthians 13:13 | NIV