

The

MARCH 2018

Ridge Runner

The newsletter for the Episcopal Church of the Ridge
EDGEFIELD • RIDGE SPRING • TRENTON



The Episcopal Church of the Ridge

From the Vicar:

Dear Parishioners:

It is tempting for us to look at the people found in the Bible as if they were characters found in a fictitious novel with feelings, needs, dreams and disappointments that are only as deep as the paper upon which they are written. But the Biblical people were real people with real desires and needs. This is certainly true of the disciples and Jesus. Did you every wonder how they must have disappointed one another? Just think of that – the disciples being peeved with Jesus because he didn't do things their way; didn't follow their advice; didn't heed their warnings. Have you ever thought about what the disciples felt and said as they saw Jesus being arrested and then seeing, perhaps, but certainly hearing of his terrible, tortuous death? Did they say to one another, "Why didn't he listen? He was such a fool! This did not have to have happened. We warned him not to go to Jerusalem; not to thumb his nose at the leaders of the temple." Did you ever think about how disappointed the disciples might have been in Jesus' leadership during their three days of hell between the crucifixion and the resurrection? They were beyond disappointed; they were crushed, and their spirits were as dead as the body of Jesus.

Edwina Gateley who has spent most of her life working with recovering prostitutes and who has received many awards for her life-saving work wrote this about Jesus' mother. Her words reveal that on paper Mary was a real, flesh and blood mother and disciple. She had to let go of her personal dreams of her Human Jesus to embrace the Holy Jesus.

"You dreamed like all mothers do,
Until he began to speak aloud,
Your boy,
calling for justice in the market place,
Demanding integrity and fair play
in the courts and halls of business.
Declaring the Realm of God
Imminent,
Manifest . . .
Jesus leapt into the swelling crowds
like an axe into wood,
Uncompromising and unrelenting
in his passionate call
for peace and justice.
Jesus, your boy,
causing havoc in public,
critiquing and condemning
the status quo,
breaking rule after rule . . .
And with every speech,
with every act of defiance,
with every call to liberation,
with every amazing deed,
Your dreams of peace and liberation,
Your dreams of a secure old age,
Your dreams of grandchildren – Evaporated."

— **Edwina Gateley, *Soul Sisters: Women in Scripture Speak to Women Today***

I encourage you as you read the beautiful meditations written by the members of the Church of the Ridge to think about the person who wrote the meditation. Think about the disciples. How did their faith enable them to persevere and to grow in the love of God? How did they have to let go of their preconceived images of God to grasp a whole new image? We, like the disciples, are not one-dimensional people but multi-dimensional people with complex feelings and understandings. Lent is not about finding comfortable answers to comfortable questions but is about asking the revealing questions which help us see the complexity of God in this confusing world. The world is confusing because of people like you and me; we are convoluted people with real feelings and divergent viewpoints. It cannot be any other way because we are made in the image of God who is so complex that he cannot be defined but only experienced in daily life. We can call God by many names and believe that he is experienced in his fullest form as the Holy Trinity but perhaps the only name that truly captures God's essence are the words "Holy Mystery."

Faithfully, **David Thompson**

A Plea for Pledges

- I. This year we are historically under pledged with a corresponding lesser donated dollar amount.
1. For those folks who have regularly pledged in the past, please reconsider your situation, and if you are able, please renew your pledge.
 2. For those folks who regularly donate to the plate, but do not pledge; please reconsider your giving method.
 - A. First, we are thankful for your donation. It is needed to operate our little church.
 - B. Second, the diocesan assessment is taken out of our income totals without regard to; if the monies were received via plate or pledge.
 3. If you have not been able to pledge in the past; please consider, that regardless of the amount, your pledge is a sign of commitment to the present and future survival of our church family.
 4. I consider David Thompson's presence here as our priest to be a sign of Grace, since we most certainly could not afford to pay him a salary commensurate with the talent and experience he brings to our parish. His children sermons alone are as joyous a family celebration as you will enjoy in any forum.
 - A. More importantly, the number of pledges we provide are viewed by clergy when they are seeking a church to serve. Therefore, when Father Thompson tees it up on the next course of his life journey, we must be ready to show a strong face to potential clergy. Your pledge is an indicator of the strength we possess as a parish.
- II. In summary; we need your pledge to operate in the present day and we need your pledge commitment to ensure our health for the future.
- This presentation was given on Sunday in Edgefield on 2/11 and will be repeated at the Trenton and Ridge Spring services; so to ensure as many as possible hear this message.
- III. In the event you missed these three services, we have included this message again. Please consider a positive response with your pledge.

Respectfully, Dick Glass
Assistant Treasurer

BUDGET REPORT

Receipts for January 2018

	Actual	Budget	Difference
Plate	\$ 2,764.00	\$ 1,770.00	\$ 994.00
Pledge	\$ 6,578.00	\$ 8,462.00	-\$ 1,884.00
Total	\$ 9,342.00	\$ 10,232.00	-\$ 890.00

Lent at The Ridge: Rediscovering the Episcopal Church

Each Wednesday a light supper is served at 6 p.m. and the program begins at 6:30 p.m. and will end around 7 p.m.

The programs for Wednesdays in March are:

March 7 - Trinity, Edgefield

Guest Speaker - Fr. Dan Wagner, Dean of the Gravatt Convocation, "How the Diocesan Executive Council Works"

March 14 - Grace, Ridge Spring

Guest Speakers, Betsy Willis, Gene Helmich, Sarah Schwarz, "Missions that Change Lives"

March 21 - Grace, Ridge Spring

Guest Speaker, Canon d'Rue Hazel, "Unsung Diocesan Ministries"



Easter Egg Hunt
Following the Easter service in
Trenton.
Bring your Baskets!

Food Bank Report

Thank you for continuing to support the food bank outreach ministry! *In January we raised \$288 in the collection plate. In 2017, we started a new ministry to the Edgefield Seniors Citizen Council of pet food for their Meals on Wheels program. All pet food brought to Trinity (Edgefield) will then be taken to the Senior Citizens Council.* The collection plate donations are sent to the food banks quarterly to purchase food to distribute to their participants. We have continued distributing food (for both humans & pets) to Johnston, Saluda and Ridge Spring food banks. We divide monetary donations between the 2 large food banks on a 2-1 ratio, since we have 2 churches in Edgefield County and one in Saluda, and distribute food to the small Ridge Spring food bank once a month. *Thanks to Ric Vann and Jerrold Watson for helping transport the food to the food banks and to Father David, Helen Feltham and Liz Posey for helping transport to Edgefield Senior Center.* Bring your food donations (non perishable items, no glass please) to church each Sunday! The food banks can also distribute items such as toiletries (toothpaste, toothbrushes, bar soap, etc.) and don't forget spices! We also make a point of including pet food (dog & cat) to help people keep their pet animals, often their only source of companionship. If you would like to participate in this exciting out-



**Food Bank
Donations**

reach ministry but are unable to attend church, you may make a donation and mail to our church office address! (Make check out to Church of the Ridge with 'food bank' in the subject line)

Mary Lou Seymour
803-334-1219 or
libetym1@gmail.com



March

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
<p>Occurring Regularly in Edgefield</p> <p>Thursday – 12:00 noon– AA Meeting Thursday—6:00 pm—Counseling Group</p>				1	2 	3
4 Edgefield 10:00 am 	5	6 5:30 pm Choir	7 7:00 am Morning Prayer 6:00 pm Lenten Program Edgefield	8	9	10
11 Trenton 10:00 am  Daylight Savings Begins	12	13 5:30 pm Choir	14 7:00 am Morning Prayer 6:00 pm Lenten Program Ridge Spring 7:15 pm Mission Council	15 Ridge Runner Deadline	16	17
18 Ridge Spring 10:00 am 	19	20 5:30 pm Choir 6:00 pm DOK	21 7:00 am Morning Prayer 6:00 pm Lenten Program Ridge Spring	22	23	24
25 Edgefield 10:00 am 	26	27 5:30 pm Choir	28 7:00 am Morning Prayer 6:00 pm Lenten Program Ridge Spring	29  Trenton 6:30 pm	30  Edgefield 12 noon	31

Sunday School SCHEDULE

Children's Sunday School begins March 4 and will follow the children's sermon.

Adult Sunday School continues through the Lenten Season at 9 a.m. each Sunday Morning. Discussions will be lead on the meditations in the Lenten Booklet published by the DOK.



March BIRTHDAYS

- | | |
|---------------------|---------------------|
| 1 Joann Amos | 15 Mary Lou Seymour |
| 5 Danny Day | 20 Ethel Feltham |
| Ellie Grace Yonce | Debra Watson |
| 8 Debbie Layman | 24 Kelly Vann |
| Scott Scotty | 25 Anna Hagan |
| 12 Tigger Alexander | 27 Eliza Holmes |
| 13 Mayrant Lojewski | 28 Louise Derrick |
| Buddy Miller | 30 Brooke Hagan |
| Sarah Rhoads | Cindy Vann |

INTERCESSORY PRAYER LIST

Friends and Family

Art Amos
 Lessie Bailey
 Fran Beals
 Jennie Boatwright
 Rosemary Broom
 Helen Carpenter
 Caro Cassels
 Daphne Cook
 June Covar
 Marshall Crocker
 Susan Craig
 Mary Grace Feltham
 Dianne Glass
 Deborah Holmes
 Josh Kennedy
 Mayrant Lojewski
 Joel Long
 Carolyn Lovell
 Willie Mae Matheny
 Greg McDaniel
 Sarah Mills
 Sara Francis Moyer
 Laura & Charles Murphy
 Roy McNinch
 Betty Padgett
 Margie Prince
 Hadley Reahard
 Tommy Stone
 Beth Thornton
 Vannette Wells

Military Personnel & Others Serving in Harms Way

Lt Junior Grade Kevin Ginn USN
 Nickolas Gibson
 Richard Phillips

Deaths

Butch Bull
 Katrina Carvin Gray
 Betty Satcher Jones
 Cantine Jones
 Paula LaCombe
 Tommy Livingston
 Hank McKenny
 Roy McNinch
 Mary Anne Roth
 Bill Woody

We are told that each Sunday is a mini-celebration of Easter and that Lent is a time to grow in faith, but I'm eager for the full joy of Easter Day! Walk with me Jesus as I strive to walk with you.

MARCH WORSHIP MINISTERS & READINGS

March 4 in Edgefield Third Sunday in Lent

Acolyte.....Jack Kornaus
 Eucharistic Minister.....Liz Kornaus
 Lector.....Haigh Reiniger
 Intercessor.....Dick Glass
 Altar.....Ann Byrd, Helen Feltham, Lynn Melton
 Usher.....Buzz Byrd, Ray Melton
 Greeters.....Dick Glass, Kathie Stallworth
 Hospitality.....JoAnn Amos
 Readings.....Exodus 20:1-17, Psalm 19
 1 Corinthians 1:18-25, John 2:13-22

March 11 in Trenton Fourth Sunday in Lent

Acolyte.....Joannah Thelen
 Eucharistic Minister.....Ray Melton
 Lector.....Jerry Stallworth
 Intercessor.....Peggy Ann Moss
 Altar.....Valerie Holmes, Leisa Long
 Usher.....Tom Long, Larry Vann
 Greeters.....Jay Summer, Ric Vann
 Hospitality.....Kathie Stallworth
 Readings.....Numbers 21:4-9, Psalm 107:1-3, 17-22
 Ephesians 2:1-10, John 3:14-21

March 18 in Ridge Spring Fifth Sunday in Lent

Acolyte.....Eliza Holmes
 Eucharistic Minister.....Maynard Watson
 Lector.....Jerrold Watson
 Intercessor.....Kelly Vann
 Altar.....Susie Watson
 Usher.....Larry Vann
 Greeters.....Sarah Schwarz, Larry Vann
 Hospitality.....Kim Walker
 Reading.....Jeremiah 31:31-34, Psalm 51: 1-13 or 119:9-16
 Hebrews 5:5-10, John 12:20-33

March 25 in Edgefield Palm Sunday

Acolyte.....Hollis Holmes
 Eucharistic Minister.....Liz Kornaus
 Lector.....Barney Lamar
 Intercessor.....Larry Vann
 Altar.....Ann Byrd, Helen Feltham, Lynn Melton
 Usher.....Buzz Byrd, Ray Melton
 Greeters.....David Long, Ray Melton
 Hospitality.....Helen & Mary Elaine Mims
 Reading.....**Liturgy of the Palms:** Psalm 118:19-29
 Mark 11:1-11
Liturgy of the Word: Isaiah 50:4-9a, Psalm 31:9-16
 Philippians 2:5-11 or Mark 15:1-39, 40-47

March 29 in Trenton Maundy Thursday – 6:30 pm

Acolyte.....Ric Vann
 Eucharistic Minister.....Larry Vann
 Lector.....Scotty Scott
 Intercessor.....Peggy Ann Moss
 Altar.....Mary Derrick, Peggy Ann Moss, Liz Posey
 Usher.....Scott Derrick
 Greeters.....Joannah Thelen
 Reading.....Exodus 12:1-14, Psalm 116:1, 10-17
 1 Corinthians 11:23-26, John 13:1-7, 31b-35

March 30 in Edgefield Good Friday – 12 noon

Eucharistic Minister.....Barney Lamar
 Lector.....Kathie Stallworth
 Reading.....Isaiah 52:13-53:12, Psalm 22
 Hebrews 10:16-25, John 18:1-19:42

Daughters of the King

The Daughters of The King are so grateful to all who participated in the Souper Bowl covered dish. A grand total of \$346 was given to DOK from that event. We had another completely unexpected donation that day of \$300 from a very generous parishioner. Thank you, each and every one of you, for your continual blessings to us.

We worked hard on our Lenten Devotional Booklets. Everyone should have one by now. If you do not, please call Kathie Stallworth, and she will get you one. The parishioners who contributed a reflection on a biblical selection did a wonderful job. We have many insightful people in our parish. We hope you are getting a fresh look at these passages by reading it each day. Penny Summer did all the typing, formatting, and over saw the printing. A HUGE thank you to her. Lady, Penny, and Kathie put them together with the comb binding.

We sent Valentines cards to those among us who are alone or not able to get out like they would like to.

We will soon be making pottery covers for our Blessings Boxes for all families of the church. We anticipate this being a fun time at Clay Works and welcome all who want to help. More on that later.

We pray every day for all of you and especially those who are facing hardships.

In His name,
Daughters of The King

Book Review:

I have just finished reading a book, *Sometimes God Has a Kid's Face*, by Sister Mary Rose McGeedy who was president of Covenant House for 13 years. If you are not familiar, Covenant House has been a place of shelter for homeless kids in mostly big cities for over 38 years, Sister Mary Rose writes, "I'm convinced that every year, God sends me one extra special kid to remind me what Lent is all about. I mean, Lent is all about self-examination, and things we must ask ourselves, and reckoning, and looking in the mirror to see if we like what's staring back at me. I'm not the world's biggest fan of Lent, believe me. In fact, I really don't like it. It's not something we're supposed to like, I guess. It's a time to reflect on how we use the goods of the world, and how we deal with our relationships. It's a time to think back if we're really trying to live a life of love, a time to look under the hood of our souls to make sure everything's running all right and see where the defects are. Lent is also about resolutions to turn our lives around, and then begin the painful process of dealing with those resolutions..... Easy? It's not, and it's not supposed to be. It's not easy spending forty days staring into the mirror, scrutinizing, writing checklists, grading performance. It's never easy asking ourselves if we're really being as good as we want to be, as virtuous, as steadfast, as understanding. But it's a good time for us, I think. Lent is the one time when we are most in touch with God."

Frank Feltham

We are seeking a candidate for the position of Treasurer of the Church of the Ridge

At the end of 2018, Jerrold Watson will retire as our treasurer. A position he has faithfully held for the last 14 years. The treasurer is responsible for, among other things, the monitoring and reporting on all monies received, and paying for the goods and services required to sustain the operation of our church. Additionally, the treasurer attends the monthly mission council meetings where he/she reviews the monthly inflow and outflow of funds. The candidate would apprentice to Jerrold before assuming the position. We ask those in our parish to prayerfully consider applying for this vital position. Inquiries may be made to Father Thompson, or our senior warden, Sarah Schwarz.

Dear The Episcopal Church of the Ridge,

My children and I are truly grateful to you all for lending a helping hand in our times of need and struggles! Sometimes life gets hard and you need a little help and you all have Blessed my children and I with your love and kind hearts! May God Bless all of you, Always! Thank you! You all will always be in our prayers when we give thanks for the blessings in our life!

We love you and are Grateful to you for everything and that you do!

A (mom), S and D

We thank you for a Merry Christmas that you have gave us. They will be joyed come Christmas. From our home to yours, Have a Merry Christmas! The H Family

Thank you from the bottom of our hearts and may God bless you and your families!!

With our love, J, B & B

**THANK YOU NOTES
FROM OUR ANGEL
TREE FAMILIES**

The Episcopal Church of the Ridge



Post Office Box 206
Trenton, South Carolina 29847

MISSION COUNCIL MEMBERS

Dick Glass 803-341-9070
David Long 803-275-7952
Ray Melton 803-637-3533
Sarah Schwarz 803-685-7961, 803-480-4820
Kathie Stallworth 803-279-8463
Jay Summer 803-991-3157
Joannah Holmes Thelen 843-810-7007
Larry Vann 803-341-0880
Ric Vann 803-215-0406

VICAR David Thompson, 803-215-3226

SENIOR WARDEN Sarah Schwarz, 803-685-7961, 803-480-4820

JUNIOR WARDEN Jack Schwarz, 803-640-1056

TREASURER Jerrold Watson, 803-685-7881

ASS'T. TREASURER Dick Glass, 803-341-9070

CLERK TO MC Leisa Long

PUBLICIST Emily Bull, easbull@gmail.com

CHURCH OFFICE

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THE MISSION STATEMENT

To be a welcoming Christian community of worship,
learning and outreach empowered by the grace of God.

2018 Committees & Chairs

Christian Formation:
David Thompson

Communications: Joannah Thelen

Hospitality: Sarah Schwarz

Outreach: Jay Summer

Pastoral Care: Kathie Stallworth

Stewardship: Dick Glass

Worship: Larry Vann

Young Couple Ministry:
David Long



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