

11:00 a.m. Barry Marsh Book Signing & Discussion
 2:00 p.m. Ministry Intercessory Prayer
 8:00 p.m. Friday Night Young Peoples' AA

Today's Ministry: Backpack Buddies

Saturday, May 4

Psalm 20 *In times of trouble, may the LORD answer your cry. May the name of the God of Jacob keep you from all harm. May we shout for joy when we hear of your victory and raise a victory banner in the name of our God.* (vv.1, 5a)

When I read this psalm, I thought of someone who is an irritant. The person makes inappropriate choices, is characterized by poor interpersonal relationships, and is employed in a vocation where questionable values are prevalent. I found it difficult to think about the person while I was reading phrases from a psalm that communicate blessing. I knew that I did not want this person to succeed. Because I wanted success to be on my terms, I wanted the person to fail.

As I continued pondering, I remembered that while I look on the outward appearance, God looks on the heart. I turned my thoughts from my own perspective and embraced God's way. As I prayed for the person, I asked the Lord to: sanctify the person to Himself; bless His work in the person's life; convict the person of sin; send Christ-followers to minister on His behalf; and to draw the person to Jesus...all in His own way.

Jesus, please continue to help us refrain from leaning on our own understanding; we want to habitually put our trust in you.

Daniel 3:19-30; Psalm 21; 1 John 3:11-18; Luke 4:1-13

Birthdays: Mary Thurlow Hudson, Thaddeus Cherwin,
Erin Arnold

Saturday's Calendar:

7:00 a.m. AA "Hour of Power"
 8:00 a.m. Life Group Leaders Meeting
 9:30 a.m. AA Step Study for Women
 2:00 p.m. Jazz Concert
 5:00 p.m. Holy Eucharist, Rite II

Today's Ministry: Daughters of the King

by Larry Standish

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 PO Box 380, Winter Park, FL 32790



“Growing into Jesus - Reaching out with love”

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St. Mary's
 EPISCOPAL CHURCH
Growing into Jesus - Reaching out with Love

Good News Daily

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XIX

Sunday, April 28

Psalm 146 *But joyful are those who have the God of Israel as their helper, whose hope is in the LORD their God.* (v.5 NLT)

I have been cultivating a new habit for several months. The new habit is this: When I hear myself starting to say to Jesus, “I don’t know what to do,” I stop and correct what I am saying.

Why do I correct myself? I correct myself because when I confess, “I don’t know what to do,” I am not speaking truth. The truth is simply that I *do* know what to do; i.e., I know that in all situations I can ask Jesus. I know that I can describe the dilemma to him, communicate my thoughts, and ask for direction. He has more knowledge about the situation and/or the person(s) involved than I could ever know on my own. I experience great peace when I do not attempt to analyze or figure out the answer on my own, and when I do not habitually say, “I don’t know what to do.”

Lord Jesus, you are our supreme helper. Thank you for the direction that you provide and for the peace we experience as we put our hope in you.

Isaiah 43:8-13; Psalm 147; 1 Peter 2:2-10; John 14:1-7

Birthdays: Matthew Scott

Sunday's Calendar :

MISSION SUNDAY
 7:30 a.m. Holy Eucharist, Rite I
 9:00 a.m. Contemporary Family Worship Service
 9:00 a.m. Holy Eucharist, Rite II
 10:15 a.m. Coffee Hour in the Courtyard
 11:00 a.m. Holy Eucharist, Rite II

Today's Ministry: Sunday Worship Assistants

Monday, April 29

1 John 1:1-10 *We are writing these things so that you may fully share our joy.* (v.4)

I was caught between a rock and a hard place, with no way out in sight; I was determined to escape yet had lost my sense of direction. I experienced feelings of encapsulation: the walls were closing in; desperation gripped my innermost being. I said to myself, “I should try harder; I should not procrastinate; I’ve got to get out of here!”

As I struggled with the options, I experienced a desire to share my

situation. I remembered that John wrote letters of encouragement to people so that they might fully share in his joy. I realized how important it is to share our experiences with others. We can share about pleasant times, and we can share about times that are difficult. In the doing of this, we connect with others and experience the joy of relationship.

Lord, thank You for being with us at all times; thank You for encouraging us to share our experiences; thank You for the joy that is fostered among us as a result of these times of sharing.

Daniel 1:1-21; Psalms 1, 2, 3; John 17:1-11

Birthdays: Randy Cooley

Anniversaries: Susan & Scott Miller

Monday’s Calendar:

7:00 a.m. AA “Hour of Power”
 10:00 a.m. Cursillo Reunion Group
 5:00 p.m. Daughter’s of the King
 5:30 p.m. ACA Families

Today’s Ministry: Acolytes

Tuesday, April 30

Psalm 5 *O LORD, hear me as I pray; pay attention to my groaning. Listen to my cry for help, my King and my God, for I pray to no one but you. For you bless the godly, O LORD; you surround them with your shield of love.* (vv.1-2, 12)

I appreciate the hope that I receive as I read Holy Scripture. I appreciate learning about God, God’s promises, and His faithfulness in following through on the promises that He has made to us. I know that when I speak to Him, He hears me and He responds; I appreciate His responsiveness, and I pray only to Him.

When I pray, I pray with expectation. I know that I can make requests to God and leave those requests in His hands. I do not become overwhelmed by anxious thoughts; rather, I make my requests and watch to see what He will do. While I am fulfilling my daily responsibilities, I am blessed by His protective shield of love and favor.

Lord, thank You for protecting us at all times, and especially for protecting us between the time that we pray to You and the time when we experience Your answer. Thank You for providing a bridge of hope; thank You for the assuring us that when we call, You will hear and answer.

Daniel 2:1-16; Psalm 6; 1 John 2:1-11; John 17:12-19

Birthdays: Sara Mendinhall, Janet Hall, Tiernan Watkins

Tuesday’s Calendar :

7:00 a.m. AA “Hour of Power”
 9:30 a.m. Women’s Bible Study
 12:10 p.m. Holy Eucharist/Healing
 5:00 p.m. Vestry Meeting

5:00 p.m. Stephen Ministry Training

6:00 p.m. Overeaters’ Anonymous

6:00 p.m. Snowbird Life Group

Today’s Ministry: 20’s & 30s

Wednesday, May 1

Psalm 119:1-24 *Oh, that my actions would consistently reflect your decrees! Then I will not be ashamed when I compare my life with your commands. As I learn your righteous regulations, I will thank you by living as I should.* (vv.5-7)

These verses remind me of James 1:22-25, where God exhorts us to be doers of the word and not hearers only! And is this not the challenge of every Christ-follower—to walk circumspectly with him, like a cat tip-toeing along a fence-top? It’s so important for us to hear and to do!

Sometimes when I seek advice from a friend, I listen, I say, “Thank you,” I ponder, and then I do what I want, regardless of the input I have received. When I seek advice from God, God expects me to follow through—to say, “Thank You,” not only with my mouth and voice, but also with my actions—my words, my deeds, and my responses to people and situations that I encounter. I have been challenged to reflect on God’s responses to my recent prayers, to evaluate the extent to which I am obedient to Him.

Lord, thank You for providing the opportunity to hear Your word, receive Your guidance, and make decisions. Please help us to follow through on the input that You provide.

Daniel 2:17-30; 1 John 2:12-17; John 17:20-26

Birthdays: Cris Branden, Jeremy Brown

Wednesday’s Calendar:

6:30 a.m. Men’s Bible Study
 7:00 a.m. AA “Hour of Power”
 9:30 a.m. Holy Eucharist
 10:00 a.m. Adult Life Group
 10:30 a.m. Staff Meeting
 4:45 p.m. Mary’s Kitchen
 5:30 p.m. AA “Daily Reflections”
 6:00 p.m. Life Groups

Today’s Ministry: ACA Families

Thursday, May 2

Daniel 2:31-49 *But while some parts of it will be as strong as iron, other parts will be as weak as clay.* (v.42)

When I read this verse, I remembered that while people look on the outward appearance, God looks on the heart. I recognized that while we can observe someone’s outward appearance, we cannot always see their feet and toes; the quality of one’s feet and toes is important for maintaining balance and consistency of mobility.

Most people have encountered at least one person who appeared strong, yet the person had a weakness that was not seen—at least not initially; the person had difficulty walking through life with in balance and with consistency. Sometimes the person was aware of the weakness and was doing something about it—or sometimes the person either may not have been aware or was not doing anything about it.

Lord, please help each of us walk with balance and consistency of mobility. Help us to be aware of the ways in which we are weak. Please open our eyes to see the ways in which someone else may be struggling, and help us to give them a helping hand.

Psalm 18:1-20; 1 John 2:18-29; Luke 3:1-14

Birthdays: Charles Lipincott, Monica Elliott

Thursday’s Calendar:

7:00 a.m. AA “Hour of Power”
 10:00 a.m. Holy Eucharist II
 10:30 a.m. Altar Guild Meeting
 5:00 p.m. Warden’s Meeting
 6:30 p.m. Choir Rehearsal

Today’s Ministry: Altar Guild

Friday, May 3

Psalm 16 *I said to the LORD, “You are my Master! Every good thing I have comes from you.” The godly people in the land are my true heroes! I take pleasure in them!* (vv.2-3)

I appreciate the good gifts of the Lord. I especially appreciate the gift of people God brings close to me. I appreciate how He enables them to influence my life on His behalf and draw me closer to Him. Each relationship that God provides becomes woven into the fabric of my life. Each relationship that He provides becomes a working part of a living link into which I, the other person, and the Lord are intertwined; together we are united with Him into a living, intertwining link that is not easily broken.

I also appreciate the opportunity to be one of the gifts that God brings into the life of someone else; I appreciate how God enables me to influence their life on His behalf. This relationship requires me to have a conscientious, circumspect walk with the Lord; I must desire for God to be exalted in those relationships.

Lord Jesus, please help each of us become “a good thing from you.” Please help us to be an agent of change on your behalf.

Daniel 3:1-18; Psalm 17; 1 John 3:1-10; Luke 3:15-22

Birthdays: Sandy Haynes, Angela Bouchard

Friday’s Calendar:

7:00 a.m. AA “Hour of Power”
 9:30 a.m. Life Group
 10:00 a.m. Bible Study