

Inside this issue:

VBS Meeting 2
 Letter from Vestry 3
 Birthdays and Anniversaries Annual Meeting Minutes 4
 Annual Mtg cont. 5
 News from the Rector Continued 6
 Upcoming Events 7
 Lay Minister Schedule 8



The Epistle to the Elizabethans

News from the Rector

Joel 2:12-13 *“ Yet even now, says the LORD, return to me with all your heart, with fasting, with weeping, and with mourning; ¹³ rend your hearts and not your clothing. Return to the LORD, your God, for he is gracious and merciful, slow to anger, and abounding in steadfast love, and relents from punishing.*

Welcome to Lent. It is a time and season when we reflect upon who we are, whose we are, and who God is in our daily life.

When we think about Lent it sometimes comes with thoughts of what to give up for the 40 days like coffee, alcohol, chocolate, ice cream, cigarettes, TV, did I say ice cream, and maybe just maybe some form of social media. There are a plethora of things we could add to this list.

There are also an array of things we can take up; exercise, diet, sleep, reading, prayer, studying the Bible, physically writing

to a different friend each day or calling them to remind them that God placed them on your heart today. Again there are a limitless number of things we can do or change in our lives to improve our lives.

The question is “How do we accomplish these things?” Do we rely upon our own will power or do we earnestly and stridently seek God with ALL our heart and allow Him to work in us and through us by the Holy Spirit.

Lent is not about accomplishing these things on our own but about letting God in so we can experience the power of the resurrection (Phil.3:10). It is about letting God into our daily life, not just in our Sunday church service, Bible study or mid-week service; it is about our every moment of life with Him. (Acts 17:28)

In the Joel passage God shows us an approach Lent. A close look at Verse 12, the very

first thing is to return to Him with ALL of our heart. It is not a matter of okay God I am here, this is Lent... Now what! It is an attitude He asks of us – to return with ALL of our heart unconditionally. (Deut. 6:5).

Being honest with God is the first thing. It is in our humbling ourselves that we start on the path of deepening our relationship with Him and He with us.

With an open and trusting heart, the next step calls us into a fast. When we are fasting, our minds begin to think of what we don’t have or what we have given up. It is at this time we recognize our weakness and our need for God’s strength to sustain us for the time ahead. (Phil. 4:13) It is also during this time we start seeing the result of God’s gracious hand upon us.

The second thing God calls us to do is to return with weeping and mourning. If we look closely at weeping and



Parish Staff and Church Leaders

The Rev. David Newhart—Rector

Linda Dean—Director of Altar Guild

The Rev. Lori Hoey—Deacon

Janet Mandeville—Treasurer

Chrissie Grimison—Bookkeeper

Laurel Matthews —Sr. Warden

Rick Zarembo—Jr. Warden

Editors

Diane Garrison & Jane Cook

Michael Granger —Music Minister

Pat Cleary—ECW President

Alice Stone—Choir Leader

Clarice Plate—Ushers/Greeters Leader

Michael Colangeli—Sound Booth Leader

Janet Farmer—Director of Flower Guild

Diana Iverson —Director of Office Angels

Sandy vanderMeulen *Administrative Assistant*

ST ELIZABETH'S LIBRARY HOURS

**Sunday, Tuesday & Wednesday
9 AM-12 PM**



VBS Meeting

Sunday, March 8th after the 10 AM Service.

This is one of St. Elizabeth's outreaches that touches a lot of families. If you are interested in making an impact in our community please join us as we start the planning process.

FASHION SHOW

A couple of Saturdays ago the ECW (Episcopal Church Women) held its annual Fashion Show. What a great time we had and thank you to everyone that participated, helped in too many ways to mention and thank you to all that attended. We were "sold out". We met our goal and the profits will let us help assist in projects at St. Elizabeth's. Thank you everyone!





St. Elizabeth's Episcopal Church

The Rev. Dave Newhart, Rector
901 Clearmont St
Sebastian, FL 32958

Dear Family of St Elizabeth's,

As we are all aware, Fr. Dave is retiring from St Elizabeth's effective May 1, 2020. So, you might ask, what comes next?

In the time leading up to Fr Dave's departure we have numerous tasks that need to be done. We are following the steps outlined in the Diocesan Vacancy and Search procedures booklet. Be assured that the Vestry will be working with a representative from the diocese through the entire process.

We are currently looking for volunteers to be on the Search Committee. Some of the responsibilities will be to update the Parish profile, create a profile for the search which includes describing St Elizabeth's hopes, strengths and needs and questions for candidates just to name a few. If you are interested, please see any member of the Vestry to let them know your interest by March 15th.

We will be developing a survey to circulate to the congregation after Fr. Dave's retirement to assist the Search Committee with what our members would like to see in a new rector.

We will work at keeping our family informed of the process as much as we can.

It is important that we keep all of our ministries active during this transition period and work to carry on our mission and vision for St Elizabeth's.

Remember that St Elizabeth's is a family and we all need to work together to continue our mission to serve God faithfully and proclaim Jesus Christ as our Lord and Savior.

Yours in Christ,

St Elizabeth's Vestry

Laurel Matthews – Sr Warden

Rick Zaremba – Jr Warden

Bill Curtis

Ash Badger

Janet Farmer

Jim Bonet

Diane Garrison

Pat Cleary

Denise Roberts



Birthdays

Dora Wunner	3/4
Davy Moore	3/6
Marika Slawski	3/6
Norma Washington	3/6
John Ohlsson	3/8
Kathy Chin	3/11
Sue Johnson	3/11
David Newhart	3/14
Alan Ottolini	3/15
Rhoda Daniels	3/16
Burl Farley	3/16
Cynthia Lum Shue Chan	3/16
Raelyn Macera	3/16
Joseph Stone	3/17
Sharon Bean	3/20
Pat Cleary	3/20
Mairead Fields	3/22
Pat Agan	3/23
Dave Miller	3/25
Fannie Salerno	3/27
Marie Badger	3/28
David Bean	3/31
Joseph Stone Jr	3/31

Anniversaries

Davy & Christina Moore	3/5
Desiree & Josh Fields	3/26
Gerald & Roberta Crotts	3/29
Ann & Alan Ottolini	3/30

**St. Elizabeth’s Episcopal Church
January 19,2020
Annual Meeting Minutes**

Father started the Annual Meeting in prayer and called the meeting to order at 12:02pm

The Agenda was reviewed by Father

New Vestry Members: First order of business was to elect three (3) new Vestry Members:

Father shared that there were four (4) nominations; the nominations are: Bill Curtis, Jim Bonet, Ed Pelchy, Denise Roberts

Father asked if there were any additional nominations from the floor; there were none

Voting took place to elect three (3) new vestry members

New Vestry members: Bill Curtis, Jim Bonet, Denise Roberts

Father asked the Vestry Members coming off the Vestry to come forward. He thanked them for their leadership and service to St. Elizabeth’s.

2020 Budget Presentation – Bill Curtis

Bill presented the 2020 Budget

Ended 2019 with about \$1700 in the black

Talked about how much the ECW provides to the overall budget. Provide approximately \$5000 to operating budget

Points covered

The General Fund, Holy Days and Tithes and Offerings provide funds to the Church’s Operating costs

The reason that the budget was in the black was due to a couple of undesignated donations to the church.

Expenses are easier to project since they stay pretty constant from year to year.

Slight increase. Keep pretty tight control on spending

Budget reflects about a 2% increase over last year.

Ministry Highlights

Altar Guild -Set the altar every week , Clean and wash everything

Flower Guild – Janet Farmer. Flowers every Sunday, Flowers for all Holy Days

DOK-Service, Prayer and Evangelism

Fellowship-Between service, Special Events, Parish Picnic, Soup Suppers
 Outreach-The Source, Movie Night, ECW events
 KIRB – Keeping Indian River Beautiful (Ken Dean), Clean up along the river side
 Prayer Shawl Ministry
 Soup Ministry-Soup available for shut ins or someone in need
 Craft Ministry-Ground mats for homeless as well as many others
 Lay Eucharistic Visitors-Communion to those who are homebound
 LEM-Chalice Bearers, Acolytes, Torch Bearers
 Ground Maintenance-Lawn cutting, Clean up, Building Repairs
 Office Angels-Assist with phones, Greet, Support outside ministries, Caring for the Sanctuary, Count offerings
 ECW-Treasure Sale, Supports Church projects, Fellowship, Luncheons
 Music Ministries- Traditional and Contemporary Christian Music, Special Music (Christmas, Easter, Other Events)
 Choir Leader (Needed)
 AV Sound Booth-Worship Service presentation, Special Music, Video Recording, Sermons, etc.
 Office
 Men’s Fellowship and Bible Study

Rector’s Address

Will be in the Newsletter. Father shared that he would be retiring as of April 26th, after the Bishop’s visit.
 Father Norm will be working with us through the transition and search for a new rector.

Father ended the Annual Meeting in prayer

Respectfully submitted by Denise Roberts, Secretary

Father Dave’s Annual

Address

To my St. Elizabeth’s family, Grace and peace to you from God our Father and our Lord Jesus Christ:

When I first came to St. Elizabeth’s in July 2007, I made a statement to the search committee and shared that statement in my first sermon here on July 22nd. I want to share it again with you:

When I was first contacted by the search committee, I told them I was not going to come to St. Elizabeth's to retire. However I would come to work until I retired....The reason I said that is twofold. First, I believe that God has something great in store for St. Elizabeth's and second I don't believe that anyone who really loves the Lord and wants to serve Him ever retires. There is always something that we can do for His kingdom. There is always a way that He can use us in His plan. And those of you who love this church and love God and will allow God to lead you - will be used to His glory.

I share this with you today to encourage you in the work that St. Elizabeth’s is doing and will continue to do in the future.

I also want to share with you two quotes that I believe are important for us as a parish: The first quote is from Proverbs 29:18a “18 Where there is no vision, the people perish” and the second quote is from Pastor Chuck Swindoll who wrote, “When you have vision it affects your attitude. Your attitude is optimistic rather than pessimistic.”

Having a vision and a plan is important for the future of St. Elizabeth’s. Without it there will be lost opportunities for sharing the Gospel, for helping those in need, for strengthening the parish family, and being a light to Sebastian and the surrounding area.

When I first arrived there were several things I hoped to accomplish and while many of them have been accomplished there are some that were not. Does that mean they were a failure? Certainly not! It means that we listened to God, discerned His will through prayer, being led by the Holy Spirit, and accomplished the things He desired.

I often find it best to reflect on the things that have been accomplished by following God’s plan and reflect on the things that have changed. For example, at the end of summer and before school started, we had an ice cream social. The first couple years it was well attended and then attendance dropped so the decision was made to discontinue that ministry event. Other events that have come and gone are Trunk or Treat, Praise Prayer and Healing and the Pet Blessing. It is not to say that they will not return in the future. Another event that changed was Vacation Bible School. Originally, we participated with other churches at their church until one day we made the decision to do it at St. Elizabeth’s. Since that decision, each year we have been blessed by the parents and children returning and those who are new coming.

What I see is how God has opened the doors for new ministries that thrive and prosper. The Sacred Order of the Daughters of the King was reinstated with seven members and now has more than doubled in size. The men’s fellowship that has been off and on is now back. The ECW is vibrant, active and growing. I could go on and give examples of many events, services, and outreach activity we do in our community: KIRB, Scouting, Al Anon, BNI, movie night, fashion show, St. Patrick’s Day dinner, the Source, prayer shawl ministry

Continued on page 6

Continued from page 1

mourning they can be taken in two different perspectives. In one perspective we immediately think of weeping and mourning stemming from grief and that is a good perspective. We weep and mourn because we have turned away from God and have come to the realization we have faltered in our faith and witness to gracious and merciful God.

The second perspective is that we weep with joy because we realized how gracious and merciful He is to us. It is when we open our hearts we weep for both reasons, recognizing our sins and faults and God's gracious and deep steadfast love forgiving our transgressions.

So as you continue your Lenten journey – continue it with a heart open to God's mighty work that continues to draw you into a deeper relationship with Him. Keeping in the forefront that the thing God desires from us is an open heart, a receiving heart, a gracious heart, so He can change our heart into a new heart. (Ezek. 18:31)

From the Book of Common Prayer (pg. 265) – "I invite you, therefore, in the name of the Church, to the observance of a holy Lent, by self-examination and repentance; by prayer, fasting, and self-denial; by the reading and meditating on God's holy Word.

Fr. Dave

Philippians 3:10 ¹⁰ *I want to know Christ and the power of his resurrection and the sharing of his sufferings by becoming like him in his death,*

Acts 17:28 *For 'In him we live and move and have our being';*

Deuteronomy 6:5 ⁵ *You shall love the LORD your God with all your heart, and with all your soul, and with all your might.*

Philippians 4:13 *I can do all things through him who strengthens me.*

Ezekiel 18:31 *Cast away from you all the transgressions that you have committed against me, and get yourselves a new heart and a new spirit!*

Continued from page 5

and more. What is important is that we at St. Elizabeth's are an active and loving family that welcomes our community into our presence.

As I stated in the beginning of this letter, I did not come to retire but to work until I retired. I hold fast to that statement and remind everyone as we grow more mature in our years that no one who loves the Lord ever retires, however, their ministry changes. Over the past year I have been in discernment and in conversation with my Spiritual Director, trusted clergy, and with Bishop Brewer about retirement. Through fervent prayer and discernment, I want to share with you that I will be retiring this year and my last Sunday with you as your Priest will be April 26th following Bishop Brewer's visit on April 19th.

God has blessed me with over 12 ½ years of ministry at St. Elizabeth's. Over the years St. Elizabeth's has healed from its past, grown in many areas, become financially stable, and continues to be a loving body of Christ led by the Holy Spirit. Over the years God has used the gifts He has given me as your Rector. However I know my tenure at St. Elizabeth's has come to an end so that God can bring you someone whose gifts will continue to minister and grow St. Elizabeth's. My prayer has always been not to become a maintenance type priest just maintaining a church. My commitment to you is to continue to do the work God has called me to do: to strengthen, to encourage, to minister, and to coach so when that day comes you will be able to sustain until God brings you your next Rector.

In my conversations with Bishop Brewer he has stated that he would like to use me to do interim work and to help other parishes that are in transition. It is a ministry that I have prayed about doing and I am looking forward to doing it. In addition I will be available for supply work although I will not be able to do that here. I will continue to be involved in Diocesan work, serving out my last year on Standing Committee, continuing to serve on the Commission on Ministry and the Ecclesiastical Trial Court. Outside of the church I will be more involved with the Veteran's Council and continue to serve on the Board of Directors as a Director at Large.

St. Elizabeth's is blessed with strong leadership. Your vestry is one the best I have seen and the ministries are led by strong leaders. God has put the leadership in place that works well together and they will sustain you through this phase. Visions of things planned and things hoped for are just ahead. I do not believe St. Elizabeth's will perish for lack of vision but thrive because of your attitude of optimism rather than pessimism. Always remember the parish is NOT about the priest; it is about the gracious, loving and wonderful body of believers in Jesus Christ.

Tillie and I are not planning on moving. We will be in the area and while we will not be worshipping with you, we will be available to you as friends.

I want to thank you for the many blessings you have been to Tillie and me over these past 12 ½ years and I want to enjoy and savor the time we have remaining together, continuing to do God's work here at St. Elizabeth's.

Your faithful servant in Christ,

Fr. Dave

Events/ Meetings

March 2020

Coffee Social: Sundays following the 8AM & 10AM services. ALL are welcome to join us.

Choir: Thursday nights at 6:30 (except for the first Thurs of the month)

Youth Group: Wednesdays, 6:30 PM

Prayer Shawl Ministry: We meet on Saturday mornings at 10 am. Please consider joining us (or working from home). We knit and crochet shawls, chemo caps, lap robes, baby items to be distributed to local retirement homes, veteran facilities, and cancer treatment centers as well as shelters.

Crafts: Tuesday morning crafts each week at 10 AM. Our ongoing craft is waterproof mats for the homeless

ECW: Next meeting is Saturday, March 21st 10:00 AM

Men's Bible Study: Next meeting is March 21st 8:00 Am.

Prayers by Daughters of the King: During the 10 AM Service Communion the Daughters of the King will be praying with members of our congregation in the Chapel Room every Sunday. For the 8 AM Service they will be in the chapel the first Sunday of the month.

Soup Ministry: There are empty soup containers in the kitchen cupboard for anyone who would like to help with the soup ministry.

Soup Suppers: Wednesday's starting Mar. 4th. 5:30 PM. Teaching during the meal. This is a wonderful Lenten experience that brings the church together. Sign up sheet on the bulletin board.

VBS Meeting: Sunday, March 8th after the 10 AM Service. This is one of St. Elizabeth's outreaches that touches a lot of families. If you are interested in making an impact in our community please join us as we start the planning process.

St. Patrick's Day Dinner: Saturday, March 14th. Doors open at 4:00 PM. Dinner served at 4:30 PM. Cost of tickets is \$15. See Ken & Linda Dean for tickets.

Source Sunday: March 29th. See sign up sheet on bulletin board for ways you to help.

Quarterly Quarters: Sunday, March 29th. Quarterly Quarters is a collection St. Elizabeth's receives for VBS. We take this up on the fifth Sunday.

Easter Flowers: Donations need to be in no later than Sun. March 29th.

Holy Week Schedule:

4/5	Palm Sunday	8:00 AM & 10:00 AM
4/9	Stripping of the Altar	7:00 PM
4/10	Good Friday	Noon, 3:00 PM, 7 PM
4/11	Easter Vigil	7:00 PM
4/12	Easter	8 AM & 10 AM

Bishop Visit: Sunday, April 19th.

Parish Picnic: Sunday, April 26. One Service 10 AM followed presentation in Sanctuary at 11:30 then picnic.



St. Elizabeth's Episcopal Church
Sharing Christ who transforms lives

901 Clearmont Street
Sebastian, Fl. 32958

Phone: 772-589-2770

Fax: 772-589-7966

E-mail: www.stelizabethsepis@bellsouth.net

We're on the web:

www.stelizabethssebastian.org

March Lay Minister Schedule

3/1

LEM-8am: Linda Dean
Lector-8am: Ken Dean
Chalice: Ken Dean
LEM 10am: Sue Johnson
Lector 10am: 1st Jessica Odom
2nd Shirley McMillan
Acolyte 10am: Gina Anderson
Crucifer- 10am: Dominic Adams
Prayers: Deacon Lori
Chalice: Jim Bonet
Prayer Team: Deacon Lori, Valerie Nubi-Collins

3/8

LEM-8am: Diane Garrison
Lector-8am: Ash Badger
Chalice:
LEM 10am: Hailee
Lector 10am: 1st Alice Stone
2nd Emily
Acolyte 10am: Raelyn
Crucifer- 10am: Dominic
Prayers: Deacon Lori
Chalice: Michele Colangeli

Did You Know? St. Elizabeth's has a web-site. Share it with a friend. The web-site has all the events posted on the calendar. Did you know there is [Video of Sunday sermons posted on the web-page](#). The current and past newsletters are also available on it. Did you know St. Elizabeth's has a Facebook page—**Like us!**

3/15

LEM-8am: Denise Roberts
Lector-8am: Margo Barney
Chalice:
LEM 10am: Chrissie Grimison
Lector 10am: 1st Hana
2nd Lilianna
Acolyte 10am: Gabriel
Crucifer- 10am: Coralyn
Prayers: Chrissie Grimison
Chalice: Dawn Curtis
Torches: Hana & Nikki

3/22

LEM-8am: Linda Dean
Lector-8am: Bob McNutt
Chalice:
LEM 10am: Dawn Curtis
Lector 10am: 1st Joanne Knott
2nd Justin Knott
Acolyte 10am: Niki
Crucifer- 10am: Mairead
Prayers: Deacon Lori
Chalice: Tillie Newhart

3/29

LEM-8am: Diane Garrison
Lector-8am: Thais Fox
Chalice:
LEM 10am: Marika Slawski
Lector 10am: 1st Michele Colangeli
2nd Edy Clemons
Acolyte 10am: Janet Farmer
Crucifer- 10am: Kirsten
Prayers: Deacon Lori
Chalice: Michele Colangeli