

## “What Are You Most Afraid of In Your Life?”

*By Bob Ewing*

This question written on a white board was the “ice-breaker” for a recent Education for Ministry (EFM) meeting. It is not an easy question to answer, especially out loud in front of others. But it is the sort of question we are challenged to tackle each time we meet. Like good liturgical Episcopalians, we follow a set pattern during our weekly meetings. We begin with prayer, then an ice-breaker question to get us revved up, then a discussion of the week’s reading. We follow an **ABCD** pattern of inquiry - What **A**mazed you, **B**othered you, **C**onfused you, and **D**elighted you about what you’ve read?

Then we do a “Theological Reflection” (TR) exercise aimed at applying what we have learned to our lives. Theological reflection sounds more intimidating than it is. We try to bring in elements from the Culture, from Christian Tradition, and from our own Personal experience, and ask “What is God saying in this? How is He working?” And what is our Action? Instead of separate family lives, professional lives, and spiritual lives, we are reminded that our ministry encompasses these lives because Christ is present in all of them.

Finally, we conclude with worship, usually a prayer. Each week, someone is assigned “worship leader” and is responsible for opening and closing worship/prayer. Someone else is assigned “discussion leader” and is responsible for guiding our group discussion and theological reflection. Everyone participates, but the bulk of our time is spent in a “ministry of listening” that involves learning from and encouraging one another.

There are substantial readings every week. In the first year we read the Old Testament, and in our second year we are reading the New Testament. Most weeks we discuss an entire

book of the Bible along with introductory surveys of current scholarship on each book. There are also supplementary texts, most of which are delightful. For example, Dietrich Bonhoeffer on building Christian community in the shadow of Naziism, or Rabbi Abraham Heschel on the transformative impact of Sabbath observance are texts that are worth returning to again and again.

On the other hand, some of the material could be described as trendy, jargony, and politically biased. I must admit, this material challenged my views and set assumptions on many topics. Sometimes it knocked me off balance a bit, got under my skin, put a rock in my shoe. One of the reasons we come to church and study the Bible is

to find certainty in a confusing and uncertain world. Ambiguity makes us uncomfortable. But, as our wise group mentor Fr. Thomas reminds us, ambiguity is not the enemy. If an idea makes us uncomfortable then we are advised to chew on it for a while before deciding what we really think. This involves more than simply “swallowing the meat and spitting out the bones.” It means

vulnerable listening, being willing to be changed by what we read and hear. It is not indoctrination, or even catechesis. Participants do not have to agree with any line of thinking. We are simply urged to keep going, even when we are confounded, persisting in the hope that there is a certainty that lies only on the other side of humility.

Deep down the reason we keep coming back is not for knowledge or theological insight, but for each other. What a

*(Continued on page 2)*



## SUNDAY WORSHIP

8:00 am, 10:30 am, & 6:00 pm  
Sunday Holy Eucharist

**JULY 4, 2021**

### *The Sixth Sunday after Pentecost*

Ezekiel 2 :1-5      2 Corinthians 12 :2-10  
Psalm 123      Mark 6 :1-13

**JULY 11, 2021**

### *The Seventh Sunday after Pentecost*

Amos 7 :7-15      Ephesians 1 :3-14  
Psalm 85 :8-13      Mark 6 :14-29

**JULY 18, 2021**

### *The Eighth Sunday after Pentecost*

Jeremiah 23:1-6      Ephesians 2 :11-22  
Psalm 23      Mark 6:30-34, 53-56

**JULY 25, 2021**

### *The Ninth Sunday after Pentecost*

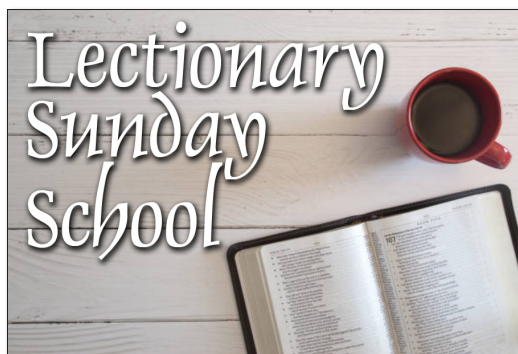
2 Kings 4:42-44      Ephesians 3:14-21  
Psalm 145: 10-19      John 6:1-21

(Continued from page 1)

difference the regular fellowship of our brothers and sisters in Christ can make! The more time we spend together, the more comfortable we are sharing our doubts, confusions, struggles, and personal journeys with one another. We can let down our guard, knowing that we will be greeted with empathy and acceptance. All of us have different perspectives, insights, and experiences. This little EFM community is deeply encouraging, and we help each other along. That alone makes all the weekly preparation worthwhile. As Dietrich Bonhoeffer put it in one of our readings:

*"The first service one owes to others in a community involves listening to them. Just as our love for God begins with listening to God's Word, the beginning of love for others is learning to listen to them. God's love for us is shown by the fact that God not only gives God's Word, but also lends us God's ear... Christians who can no longer listen to one another will soon no longer be listening to God either."*

So, what are you most afraid of in your life? Your answer may be in EfM. Come and join us on this journey and you will not regret it.



## Lectionary Sunday School

Dean Johnson and other Cathedral clergy are facilitating a Sunday morning class and discussion following our Sunday Eucharistic Lectionary Readings. We hope that you will grab a cup

of coffee and join us in The Garden Room for this gathering and scriptural study. We will meet at **9:30am**.

## Weekday Worship at the Cathedral

### **Wednesdays**

7:00 a.m.  
Holy Eucharist  
Chapel

### **Fridays 5:30 p.m.**

Holy Eucharist  
Chapel  
(The 5:30 service is an option for those who cannot attend Sunday worship.)



## Birthday Card Ministry

This year, we launched a birthday card ministry to celebrate all of our parishioners. If you find yourself wanting to serve but needing to do it on your own time, please consider this meaningful ministry. Materials are provided. For more information, please contact **Lauren Ewing** at **550-1743** or **lauren.ewing@me.com**.



## Cathedral School News

by Dr. Chris Carter, Headmaster  
ccarter@smc.school

Last month we said good-bye not only to our wonderful graduates of the Class of 2021, but to several faculty and staff members. Amongst those leaving are “Miss Kaye” Swearingin, who is retiring from teaching our littlest Lions after thirty-four years at St. Mark’—after she comes back next August to cover a maternity leave for one of her colleagues! Kaye’s commitment to early childhood education and spiritual formation and her commitment to ongoing professional development have been an inspiration to all who have worked for her. Also amongst those leaving us, of course, are Fr. Drew and Miss Rachael—our own personal SMCS love story! Rachael began working in the after-care program at the preschool when she was a student at Centenary and grew into a respected faculty member, even as Fr. Drew became a deeply involved chaplain beloved by students of all ages. We wish them well at Ascension and look forward to their visits back to Shreveport!

Although school is officially out for the summer with teachers, children, and parents all enjoying much needed much needed



vacation, there is still plenty of activity at St. Mark’s Cathedral School. Our summer camp program, Imagination Station, operated for three weeks in June and will have two more one-week sessions after the week of VBS in July. Themes have included “Down on the Farm,” “Campout with the Lions,” and “Under the Sea.” Specialty camps have ranged from basketball and soccer to keyboarding and art, to novel studies and aviation. We have enjoyed having parishioners’ out-of-town grandchildren and friends who don’t attend school here during the year, as well as getting to see our own students in a summer setting.

Despite the popular notion that educators “have summer off,” most teachers spend a good portion of their summer updating curriculum and lesson plans. We have new curriculum in some divisions, as well as new teachers who are working with division heads to learn the school culture and expectations. The admin team is hard at work to update policies, manage supplies, supervise summer maintenance work and make all the necessary plans for next year. It’s a slower pace in the summer but still full of activity as we work hard to make sure we fulfill our mission for our children in the coming year. Students will return to school on August 18, and we will be excited and prepared for their arrival!

## Vacation Bible School! • July 2021



It’s time for Vacation Bible School! Get ready for ***Treasured: Discovering You’re Priceless to God*** July 5-9 from 9:00 am till noon. You can find the registration link on the St. Mark’s website,

**[www.stmarkscathedral.net](http://www.stmarkscathedral.net)**. E mail Chelsea Fitzpatrick with any questions: **[cfitzpatrick@smc.school](mailto:cfitzpatrick@smc.school)**. We look forward to seeing everyone!

## Oblationers Needed

Our Hospitality Committee invites parishioners (families, adult singles, siblings, friends) to serve as oblationers (gift bearers) at the 10:30 a.m. Sunday service. This is a meaningful way to serve the faith community. For more information please contact **Kathy Williams at 469-9211**.



## If you are going through a difficult time...

...one of the Stephen Ministers from St. Mark's may be able to help. Stephen Ministers are laypersons who have received special training to listen, care, encourage and provide emotional and spiritual support for persons who are facing a crisis or going through tough times. After all, there are many difficulties and transitions in this life! Why not give yourself the gift of a Stephen Minister who can accompany you on part of your journey?! The care you receive is confidential, free and very helpful. For more information, contact The Rev. Dr. Rowena White by email: **Rowena@stmarkscathedral.net**.



**St. Mark's Physical Training**  
**Monday-Friday 5:30 am at the Cathedral**

meets at 5:30 a.m. every weekday morning in the field  
across from the parking lot.

## HAPPY BIRTHDAY

<b>July 1</b>	Chris Cottingham	14	Rob Gilchrist	27
Austin Reed	Michael Schimpf	Eleanor Armstrong	Randolph Smith	Dicksey Sanders
<b>2</b>	Sydney Smith	Amy Lewis	Marissa McGinty	Bob FitzGerald
Amanda Clingan	8	Jennie Jamerson	22	Kathy Lowe
Brenda Giles	Dodie Billingsley	15	Gayle Labor	Don Weir
Daniel Clarke	Bob Williamson	Marie Toles	Beverly Reeves	Susan Falbaum
Kevin Payne	Lloyd Comegys	Benny Popwell	Morgan O'Brien	Clay Stroud
Emma Dailey	9	Susannah Poljak	Micah Strong	28
Penn Brightwell	Pam Comegys	Christian Hall	23	Jack Berg
<b>3</b>	Mary Yancey	16	John Peter Koellen	Pepper Lang
Katherine Eagles	10	Lynn Massad	Susan Snyder	Stuart Dubin
<b>4</b>	Gene Snell	17	Bennett Herndon	Oliver Jenkins
Tom Reed	Connie Emmons	Katharine Knicely	Ellis Prince	Lauren Ewing
Kennon Comegys	Carol Peterson	Ellen Erwin	Parker Byles	29
Tom Needham	Sherry Ward	Danielle Hillario	Sarah Elizabeth Larremore	Chloe Thornton
Chris Aymond	Joanne Russell	Alex Hall	24	Tom Thompson
Shana Jump	Kelly Deupree	William Hardtner	Debbie Smith	Diane Long
McKenzie Pugh	Tina Strong	Stratton Erwin	Margaret Badgley	Frank Harris
<b>5</b>	Elise Kowalewski	18	Teresa LeBleu	Tammy Arnold
Edward Leatherman	Mae Hargrove	Roger Hammett	Stephanie Young	Wes Arnold
Elissa Larremore	11	Judy Storer	Rosalyn Fisher	Ann Nuckolls
Nola Hargrove	Lauren Florsheim	Thomas Poljak	Rachael Millen	Samuel Cooper
<b>6</b>	Kellie Kilcline	19	25	J.J. Fortiz
Frances Simpson	Sam Powell	Darrell Rebouche	Marguerite Allen	30
Bickham Dickson	12	John Atkins	Michele Q=Petersen	Laura Boyd
Leah Horn	Robin Jennings	20	Jane Shea	Jan Glass
Dana Miller	Clyde Hargrove, III	Campbell Jones	Lisa Hargrove	Matt Woodard
Robin Gore	Laura Ameen	Clayton Simmons	26	Patrick Caraway
<b>7</b>	13	Caitlyn Hinkie	Barbara Dossett	Jaden Allen
Beth Allen	Natalie Cole	21	Elizabeth Peterson	Thomas Siskron
Ashley Nader	Kate Davis	Laura McLemore	Warren Graves	31
				Rick Newell

## MEMORIAL FLOWERS

### July 4

The flowers on the High Altar are given to the glory of God and in loving memory of Dr. James Davis Boyd, Mr. & Mrs. James Curtis Stevens, Matthew Stevens Cameron, Mr. & Mrs. John Davis Boyd, William Michael Boyd, and Mary Taylor "Tal" Bourgeois Broyles.

The flowers on the Chapel Altar are given to the glory of God and in loving memory of Paula Minor Coleman.

### July 11

The flowers on the High Altar are given to the glory of God and in loving memory of Dr. & Mrs. Malcolm L. Denley, William H. Turnage, Mr. & Mrs. Johnny A Skeadas, Dr. & Mrs. Winston H. Tornow, and in thanksgiving for the marriage of Mary Helen Turnage and John Peter Skeadas III.

The flowers on the Chapel Altar are given to the glory of God and in loving memory of Mr. & Mrs. Henry Restarick, and Dr. & Mrs. Jack Pou.

### July 18

The flowers on the High Altar are given to the glory of God and in loving memory of Cherie Brock Humphrey.

The flowers on the Chapel Altar are given to the glory of God and in honor of the 64th wedding anniversary of Lois & Roger Ennis.

### July 25

The flowers on the High Altar are given to the glory of God and in loving memory of Dr Ollie P. Williams, Carl Pons, Mary Skannal Pons, John Holland Williams, Hazel Miller Williams and Judith Callahan Williams.

The flowers on the Chapel Altar are given to the glory of God and in loving memory of Lorena Roediger Kennedy, Jacqueline Hooke Storer, H.E. "Bud" Storer and E. Craig Kennedy.

## WEDDINGS

*Those whom God has joined together, let no one put asunder.*

**Ashley Renee Martin & Edmundson Peter Sella**, on June 12, 2021.

**Alysha Nichelle Wallace & Joshua Young**, on June 26, 2021.

## BAPTISMS

**Lauren Marie Kim & Ryan Matthew Kim**, daughter & son of **Mary & Dongsoo Kim**, on May 29, 2021

*You are sealed by the Holy Spirit in Baptism and marked as Christ's own forever. Amen.*

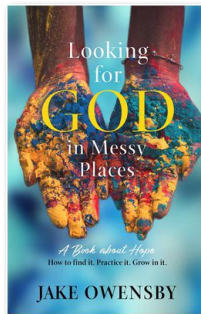
## BIRTHS

**Willian Dodge McCraw** on June 1, 2021. Parents are **Emma & Gray McCraw**. Grandparents are **Gayla & Kem Hargrove**.

The church office will be closed on **Monday, July 5** in observance of The Fourth of July.

## We're Back!

Our SPIRITUAL DIRECTION GROUP meets on Mondays at 10:00 am in the library. The group is open to all who are interested in spiritual growth and participation in a caring and accepting group. (Other times to meet may also become available on request). For more information contact [Rowena@stmarkscathedral.net](mailto:Rowena@stmarkscathedral.net).



## Adult Christian Formation

The *Looking for God in Messy Places* Summer Sunday School Class will be taking a break on July

4. However, please join us all other weeks! It's open to everyone. We're reading Bishop Jake Owensby's new book, *Looking for God in Messy Places*, about hope. We're reading it aloud in class, so all you have to do is show up (and don't worry if you miss some weeks). E-mail [Lauren Thibodeaux](mailto:Lauren.Thibodeaux@thiblauren@gmail.com) at [thiblauren@gmail.com](mailto:thiblauren@gmail.com) if you have any questions.



## Lost Anything at Church?

Or maybe you're just missing some item and have no idea where it might have gone. Drop by or call the church office and check into our lost and found! We have everything from sunglasses to scarves to cell phones to jewelry (including some very nice pieces.) Check and see what you're missing!

# Members of the Vestry of St. Mark's Cathedral

Bill Kalmbach, Senior Warden – Lisa Love, Junior Warden – Murray Viser, Treasurer – John Reeks, Chancellor

2021	2022	2023	2024
Marilyn Kirkland	Ellen Alley	Ellen Erwin	Clarence Babineaux
Lisa Love	Mike Ameen	Joe Jayroe	Rebecca Bryant
Cody Mayo	Oliver Jenkins	Josh Knicely	Patrick Caraway
William Weaver	Brad Massad	Theresa Meldrum	Mark Sealy
Bud Westmoreland	Emily Merkle	Joy Ratcliff	Lynn Yancey

**The Rt. Rev. Jacob W. Owensby**  
(Bishop of Western Louisiana)  
bishopjake@epiwnla.org

**The Very Rev. Alston Johnson**  
(Dean)  
abjohnson@stmarkscathedral.net

**The Rev. Thomas Nsubuga**  
(Sub-Dean)  
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**The Rev. Dr. Rowena White**  
(Canon)  
rowena@stmarkscathedral.net

**The Rev. Dr. Wayne Carter**  
(Associate Clergy)  
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**Derrick Meador**  
(Organist and Choirmaster)  
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**John Scheel** (Facilities Manager)  
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**Becky Deverts**  
(Financial Office Manager)  
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**Bess Maxwell**  
(Administrative Assistant)  
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**Jennifer Beruvides** (Coordinator for  
Events and Hands-on Outreach Ministry)  
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**Cynthia Anderson** (Receptionist)  
cynthia@stmarkscathedral.net

**Beth Reeks**  
(Minister for Pre-K Children's Programs)  
preschool.beth@gmail.com

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