



Resurrection Episcopal Church, Rockdale

2131 Mount Road, Aston, PA 19014

(610) 459-2013

March 2020

The Rector responds to concern that Lent is a downer



© Church Pension Fund. Used by Permission.

A QUESTION FOR LENT:

WHO (IN THE BIBLE) ARE WE?

The past couple of weeks, I've been rereading one of the books that the Mission Discernment Task Force for Resurrection's Future [after this, to be referred to simply as the Task Force] studied as part of their work together. This book is titled *The Agile Church*, and in its approximately 150 pages, there are many discussions of the ways our life as Christians today both matches and differs with the experience of the Church during our lifetime and with the stories of the history of God's interactions with people in the Bible.

The contents of this book spoke to me deeply as we continue our journey together as that part of God's people called Resurrection Episcopal Church, Rockdale. We continue to wrestle with

the ways God is calling us to be Church in a new and rapidly changing time in our culture's relationship with religion in general and church in particular.

Let me just mention a few of the things in this book that leapt out at me as I read:

- Several times the author quoted Jesus's statement that "Every scribe who has been trained for the kingdom of heaven is like the master of a household who brings out of his treasure what is new and what is old." [Mt. 13:52] This reminded me that God does not call us to change all we do and ignore the wisdom and gifts of our past [including our predecessor parishes]. However, God does not call us to simply do "What we have always done" as though the world about us is the same as it once was.
- As we examine our congregation, it is too easy to look at the chronological age of many of our members and conclude (wrongly) that God will have to use others to carry our faith into the future. The author called to mind the story of Abraham and Sarah, to whom God had promised a great future. They sometimes thought that the promised future would never arrive, and so they made other plans for carrying on the life of their family in other ways [cf. Hagar and Ishmael; Eliezer of Damascus] In the end, God made it clear that his will would be carried out through Abraham and Sarah themselves. We would do well to remember that God has no age beyond which he has use for us.
- It seems difficult to reach out to the community around us which doesn't seem to be interested in us or the faith we want to share. The author reminded us of God's message to the Israelites living in exile in Babylon in the fifth century BC: "Go ahead and be part of the community where you are. Work for the betterment of the community in which you are placed, because its improvement will be beneficial to you as well." [I'm paraphrasing here.] Aston and the other communities need us [whether they know it or not]; just so, we need them.

This Lent, listen to the stories of God's reaching out, teaching, and assisting people in our Bible lessons. Let's all ask ourselves, "How does this tell me something about my journey with God now? With my parish's journey? With my community's journey?" If we are to learn which treasures, new and old, to take from our past and our present, we'll need to hear our past clearly to see our future.

—Fr. Wand

SUNDAY	MON.	TUE.	WED.	THURSDAY	FRI.	SATURDAY
March 1 The First Sunday in Lent <i>8am Rite I Eucharist</i> <i>10am Rite II Eucharist</i> CHILDREN'S SERVICE	2 Finance Mtg. @ 2:30pm Steward. Mtg @ 4:00pm Property Mtg @ 5:30pm	3 Fair Acres Morning Prayer 10:30am	4	5	6	7 Lenni Lifeline/AA Meeting @ 7pm
March 8 The Second Sunday in Lent <i>8am Rite I Eucharist</i> <i>10am Rite II Eucharist</i>	9 Vestry Mtg. @ 7:00pm	10	11 Girl Scout Troop Mtg @ 6:30pm	12	13	14 Lenni Lifeline/AA Meeting @ 7pm
March 15 The Third Sunday in Lent <i>8am Rite I Eucharist</i> <i>10am Rite II Eucharist</i>	16	17	18	19 American Leg. Ladies Aux. @ 6pm	20	21 Lenni Lifeline/AA Meeting @ 7pm
March 22 The Fourth Sunday in Lent <i>8am Rite I Eucharist</i> <i>10am Rite II Eucharist</i>	23	24	25 Girl Scout Troop Mtg @ 6:30pm	26	27	28 Lenni Lifeline/AA Meeting @ 7pm
March 29 The Fifth Sunday in Lent <i>8am Rite I Eucharist</i> <i>10am Rite II Eucharist</i> HEALING SERVICE	30	31	APR 1	APR 2	APR 3	APR 4 Lenni Lifeline/AA Meeting @ 7pm
April 5 The Second of the Passion: Palm Sunday <i>8am Rite I Eucharist</i> <i>10am Rite II Eucharist</i> CHILDREN'S SERVICE	APR 6 Finance Mtg. @ 2:30pm Steward. Mtg @ 4:00pm Property Mtg @ 5:30pm	APR 7 Fair Acres Morning Prayer 10:30am	APR 8 Girl Scout Troop Mtg @ 6:30pm	APR 9	APR 10	APR 11 Lenni Lifeline/AA Meeting @ 7pm

March 1 The First Sunday in Lent Counters: Janet Russello Carole Sorokanych	8am <i>Rite I</i> <i>Eucharist</i>	<u>Chalicer</u> Diane Mundell <u>Reader(both)</u> Jan Myers Knight <u>Intercessor</u> Helen Dunlap	10am <i>Rite II</i> <i>Eucharist—</i> <i>Children's</i> <i>Service</i>	<u>Chalicer</u> Janet Russello <u>Reader(both)</u> Nikolien Bezuidenhout Madison Finley <u>Intercessor</u> Pieter Bezuidenhout
March 8 The Second Sunday in Lent Counters: Marsha Litwin Leigh Oppelt	8am <i>Rite I</i> <i>Eucharist</i>	<u>Chalicer</u> Helen Dunlap <u>Reader(both)</u> Helen Dunlap <u>Intercessor</u> Robin Krider	10am <i>Rite II</i> <i>Eucharist with</i> <i>Sunday School</i>	<u>Chalicer</u> Phyllis Russell <u>Reader(both)</u> Jude Winters <u>Intercessor</u> Carole Sorokanych
March 15 The Third Sunday in Lent Counters: Jill Graham Kelly McNerney	8am <i>Rite I</i> <i>Eucharist</i>	<u>Chalicer</u> Diane Mundell <u>Reader(both)</u> Jan Myers Knight <u>Intercessor</u> Helen Dunlap	10am <i>Rite II</i> <i>Eucharist with</i> <i>Sunday School</i>	<u>Chalicer</u> Steve Buffington <u>Reader(both)</u> Kelly McNerney <u>Intercessor</u> Joan Riccardi
March 22 The Fourth Sunday in Lent Counters: Leigh Oppelt Phyllis Russell	8am <i>Rite I</i> <i>Eucharist</i>	<u>Chalicer</u> Helen Dunlap <u>Reader(both)</u> Robin Krider <u>Intercessor</u> Helen Dunlap	10am <i>Rite II</i> <i>Eucharist with</i> <i>Sunday School</i>	<u>Chalicer</u> Marsha Litwin <u>Reader(both)</u> Marsha Litwin <u>Intercessor</u> Stella Thompson
March 29 The Fifth Sunday in Lent Counters: Joan Geiger Janet Russello	8am <i>Rite I</i> <i>Eucharist—</i> <i>Healing Svc</i>	<u>Chalicer</u> Rosemary Bezuidenhout <u>Reader(both)</u> Rosemary Bezuidenhout <u>Intercessor</u> Rosemary Bezuidenhout	10am <i>Rite II</i> <i>Eucharist with</i> <i>Sunday</i> <i>School—</i> <i>Healing Svc</i>	<u>Chalicer</u> Kelly McNerney <u>Reader(both)</u> Jude Winters <u>Intercessor</u> Carole Sorokanych
April 5 The Sunday of the Passion: Palm Sunday Counters: Phyllis Russell TBA	8am <i>Rite I</i> <i>Eucharist</i>	<u>Chalicer</u> Janet Russello <u>Reader(both)</u> Janet Russello <u>Intercessor</u> Janet Russello	10am <i>Rite II</i> <i>Eucharist—</i> <i>Children's</i> <i>Service</i>	<u>Chalicer</u> Phyllis Russell <u>Reader(both)</u> Madison Finley <u>Intercessor</u> Carole Sorokanych



COFFEE HOUR ASSISTANCE NEEDED: More people are needed to assist with set up/clean up for coffee hour. Please sign up on the sheet in the Undercroft if you can help.



EASTER FLOWERS: Would you like to help decorate our church for Easter Season 2020 (April 12th—May 31st)? If interested, forms are in the Narthex and Undercroft. All orders are due no later than **March 29th**.



ALTAR FLOWERS: If you are interested in donating toward decorating the altar, a sign-up sheet is in the Narthex. The cost of flowers is \$35.



SAVE THE DATES—TWO UPCOMING FEEDING EVENTS ON APR. 4 & MAY 16!

STOP HUNGER NOW

On April 4, the congregations of the Aston Ministerium will come together at the Aston Community Center to assemble meals as part of our Rise Against Hunger! program. It's both helpful and a lot of fun! Details forthcoming.

On May 16, the congregations of the Delaware Deanery will hold a meal for the homeless and others needing food along with distribution of bags of non-perishable items at Prospect Park Square in (naturally) Prospect Park Borough. Terri Burrell is our parish's representative to the planning group. We have been tentatively designated as a drop-off and sorting site for the groceries to go in the bags. Again, details forthcoming.



MORNING PRAYER @ FAIR ACRES: Joan Geiger, Joan Riccardi, Stella Thompson and Jude Winters go to Fair Acres Building 1 (Women's Residence) the first Tuesday of the month for morning prayers @10:30am. All are welcome to attend. The next meeting March 3rd.



Events Planned for Resurrection Church
(subject to change)



Date	Weekday	Time	Item/Event
3/2/20	Monday	2:30pm 4:00pm 5:30pm	Finance Committee Stewardship Committee Property Committee

Date	Weekday	Time	Item/Event
3/9/20	Monday	7pm	Vestry Meeting
3/22/20	Sunday	Aft. Svcs. Afternoon	PB&J sandwiches prepared for homeless in Wilmington Sandwiches taken to Wilmington
4/4/20	Saturday	7:30am Truck Unload 9:00am Meal Prep	Meal Prep @ Aston Community Center by Aston Ministerium
4/5/20	Sunday		Palm Sunday
4/6/20	Monday	2:30pm 4:00pm 5:30pm	Finance Committee Stewardship Committee Property Committee
4/9/20	Thursday	7:00pm	Maundy Thursday Liturgy with Washing of Feet
4/10/20	Friday	12:00m	Good Friday Liturgy with Veneration of Cross and Communion
4/12/20	Sunday	8 and 10	Easter Day Festive Eucharist
4/13/20	Monday	7pm	Vestry Meeting
5/4/20	Monday	2:30pm 4:30pm 5:30pm	Finance Committee Stewardship Committee Property Committee
5/10/19	Sunday		Mothers' Day
5/11/20	Monday	7pm	Vestry Meeting
5/17/20	Sunday	Aft 9am Svc.	Parish Meeting; light meal provided Rogation Sunday; Choir and Sunday School finish program year
5/24/20	Sunday	9:00am	Summer Schedule begins: 9am service
5/25/20	Monday		Memorial Day: Parade, Picnic
5/31/20	Sunday	9:00am	Pentecost; Installation of Parish Officers
6/1/20	Monday	2:30pm 4:30pm 5:30pm	Finance Committee Stewardship Committee Property Committee
6/8/20	Monday	7pm	Vestry Meeting
6/14/20	Sunday	9:00am	Recognition of Graduations
6/21/20	Sunday		Father's Day

Date	Weekday	Time	Item/Event
9/13/20	Sunday	8 and 10	Regular Worship Schedule resumes; Sunday School starts
9/14/20	Monday	2:30pm 4:30pm 5:30pm	Finance Committee Stewardship Committee Property Committee
9/21/20	Monday	7pm	Vestry Meeting
9/27/20	Sunday	9am	Bishop's Visitation
10/3/20	Saturday	10am	Aston Community Day (rain date 10/10)
10/4/20	Sunday	Aft. Svcs.	Blessing of Animals
10/17/20	Saturday	9:00-2:00	Touch-A-Truck (rain date 10/24)
11/22/20	Sunday	7pm	Aston Mjnisterium Inter-Faith Thanksgiving Service at Our Lady of Angels Convent



Resurrection Pre-School

9am till 12noon / 5 day classes for 4's / 3 day classes (M/W/F) for 3's
 Reasonable rates—Financial Aid Available/Children need to be toilet-trained
 Please call the office 610-459-2013 for more information and pricing
 Dawn Viscusi, Pre-School Administrator

REMEMBER:

***IT'S YOUR WORD OF MOUTH PROMOTION OF OUR PARISH'S PRESCHOOL
 THAT KEEPS THIS OUTREACH PROGRAM OF OUR PARISH ALIVE AND
 DOING ITS GOOD WORK!***

The Mission and Goals of Resurrection Church

The mission of Resurrection Episcopal Church is to nourish the spiritual lives of our diverse parish family and to follow the example of Jesus through service to our community.

The Internal goal for Resurrection Episcopal Church is to grow stronger in faith, care for those who cannot be present, and unify as a family sharing in faith based activities.

The Resurrection Episcopal Church outreach goal is to become more visible and listen to the needs of the community by doing God's work through service to others.



(From top left:) Janet Russello, Jill Graham, Fr. Wand, Phyllis Russell, Barbara Krisack
 (From bottom left:) Helen Dunlap, Jim Geiger, Rosemary Bezuidenhout, Marsha Litwin



Vestry of Resurrection Episcopal Church, Rockdale

Phyllis Russell, Rector's Warden	610-358-0258
Barbara Krisack, People's Warden	610-497-1603
Marsha Litwin, Secretary	610-299-0967
Rosemary Bezuidenhout, Treasurer	541-246-0780
Helen Dunlap	610-485-5623
Jim Geiger	610-506-1085
Jill Graham	610-459-5854
Janet Russello	610-800-2377
The Rev. Thomas C. Wand	610-291-4362

Resurrection Episcopal Church, Rockdale
 2131 Mount Road, Aston, Pennsylvania 19014
 (610) 459-2013

Website: www.resurrectionrockdale.org
 Father Wand's Email: resurrectionpriest@verizon.net
 Office Email: resurrectionrockdaleoffice1@verizon.net