

Annunciation is a place...
To be included
To be honest
To be empowered
To be challenged
To find hope



Parish News

for the Week of Sunday, April 21, 2024

Worship Bulletin

The Fourth Sunday of Easter

[Click here](#)



REVIVE/GRACE Healing Service on Tuesdays

REVIVE/GRACE - Healing and Prayer Ministry for all people and all life's challenges.

We seek to offer all people a place to be honest and vulnerable in our difficulties, transgressions, or traumas so that the Savior of the world might transform those vulnerabilities with strength in Jesus.

We've all got "stuff." REVIVE/GRACE calls a community of people from all walks of life to deal with the "stuff" of life through the 12 steps, upheld through scripture and a relationship with Jesus Christ. All are welcome on Tuesdays at 4:00pm.



Scouts Pancake Breakfast

On April 28th, from 8:00 to 12:00pm the Troops and Pack will be hosting an appreciation pancake breakfast for the church members of our charter. This is our way of saying "Thank You!" for allowing us to be part of the community. There will be no charge, though a donation will be gladly accepted.

New Annunciation Wear

Once again, we will have Annunciation wear available for purchase. The link will be live soon... keep a watchful eye here!

Parish Planning Sunday

Mark your calendar for Parish Planning on May 5th after church. Vestry will provide treats for coffee hour that day.

Actions for Peace and Justice

What does the LORD require of you? To act justly and to love mercy and to walk humbly with your God. Micah 6:8

We hear these words in today's first reading, from the Acts of the Apostles. We have a description of how the new age brought through Jesus's death and Resurrection, through the power of the Holy Spirit could be. Our world looks very different, yet we can have hope to, in whatever way we can, work toward a new age, God's Kingdom on Earth. The killing, by the Israeli military in Gaza, of eight workers for the World Central Kitchen calls us to act for the hungry, both in charitable donations and advocacy for change. There are agencies like the World Central Kitchen that have food for the suffering people living in Gaza, delivery is a difficult and dangerous endeavor. What can we do beyond donations? Pray for and advocate for a ceasefire in Gaza. Resources for understanding, prayer and action:

[New York Times article by the Founder of Work Central Kitchen: "Let People Eat."](#)

Resources of the Episcopal Church

[Office of of Government Relations, advocate for a ceasefire in Gaza](#)

[The Episcopal Relief and Development work in the Middle East](#)

There is also a great need for food for hungry people locally. Local food pantries are seeing an increase in requests for food. Donations to food banks are critical; monetary donations are the most effective support. Let's do some research. Find out what our local food pantries need and how to donate. Check out their website or call.

Let's make a list for our congregation.

Resources for acting locally:

[Daily Herald article, "Increasing Need Locally."](#)

Here is Deacon Anne's research

Local Food Pantries:

[Open Arms Mission in Antioch](#)

[Sharing Center in Trevor, Wisconsin.](#)

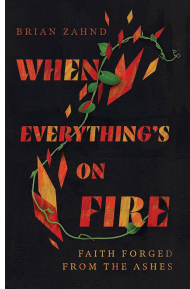
Let's see what we can add to this list.

Sunrise Sunday Service

Please consider joining our weekly teams who take communion to Sunrise Assisted Living. For more information speak with Elizabeth Danos or Deacon Linda.

Wednesday Book Study

On Wednesday at 10:00am, we will continue to read *When Everything Is On Fire: Faith Forged from Fire* by Brian Zahnd. Please join us! For the next class, please read Chapter 1.



"Renovate what needs to be renovated, throw out what needs to be thrown out, deconstruct what needs to be reconstructed, and even let some of it burn, but don't burn it all down."

Annual Spring Clean-up

May 18th, 9-Noon

Join us for a joyous morning of cleaning up our grounds and worship space for spring and summer. The Scouts will be here to lend a hand! We have a number of projects for all abilities, so mark your calendar and come join the fun!

Pentecost Readers

Would you like to read the Pentecost Acts of the Apostles lesson in a different language this year? Yes? Let Pastor Jenni know what language you will use by May 12th.



Community Meals

Save the date for June: our next Community Meal at Christ Church will be on June 30.



Parish Life

Thank you to Leanne Ulmer and Barb Clark for your delicious treats last Sunday. This Sunday, Gin Bosserman will be hosting our coffee hour. Thank you ahead of time, Gin.

Have you checked out ALL the jigsaw puzzles on the puzzle swap table? They are displayed nicely now on a big table so you can really check them out. At my last count, there are close to 30 puzzles available for you to borrow. There are a lot of Christmas ones there but who cares what they are, they're just fun!!!!

Speaking of the puzzles, our "Last Supper" one is moving right along. I think it will be finished in the next few weeks. Good going, gang!!!!

Thank you to everyone who has been signing up to host coffee hour. We have all the way to the end of May and part of June filled in. But we have a lot more Sundays in the year so if you could please check your calendars and volunteer for a few Sundays later on, it

would be terrific. The signup sheets are on the signup wall in the Parish Hall. It seems that most people prefer to use the paper signup sheets so we have gone back to that.

It is relatively easy to host. I come in early and make the coffee and will normally also set up all the cups, plates, napkins, creamer, sugar, etc. for you. I try to have festive plates, etc. for as many Sundays as possible. You need to bring the food and clean up afterwards. It is pretty easy.

If no one signs up, we will just have coffee and juice.

If you have any questions, please see Andrea Lindblad or Miriam Berry.



American Family Field (Miller Park) Parish Fundraiser

Please let Leanne Ulmer or Bill Hagan know as soon as possible if you are interested in helping or learning more about this vital fundraiser.



Home Communion - Extending the Table

We can send communion out to our members who are unable to join us for Sunday worship. If you would like to have a Eucharistic Visitor or a clergy member visit on Sunday, please email Pastor Jenni or Tom Crafton to get on the schedule.



PADS Lunches and volunteers!

The PADS team would like to invite additional volunteers to help in making the lunches. If you are interested, please speak with Pam Meyers.

Our team provides lunches to PADS twice each month. We purchase the food and supplies to make those lunches a reality. If you would like to contribute to this ministry of PADS, please note on the check or mark on the envelope, **PADS**.



News from Fort Dauphin and the Friends of Toliara

Sue and Simon Babbs are no strangers to all of us here at Annunciation. They are our friends from St. James the Less in Northfield who visit us on occasion about Madagascar. The following article came to me today from St. James the Less and I thought you would like to read about Madagascar through Sue's

eyes. Enjoy her words:

How Did You Get So Involved in Madagascar?

This is a question which is often asked of my husband, Simon, and me. For us, it started with a love of soft-furred, adorable lemurs, which are endemic to the island nation of Madagascar. During our first visit in 2014, it grew into a love for the Malagasy people too.

Author, John Gimlette, describes two sorts of lemurs "One, the indri, defends its territory with walls of deafening song, while another, the sifaka, leaps around in what looks like maroon velvet gloves and cream pyjamas." He then goes on: "But Madagascar's human inhabitants will not be outdone when it comes to exuberance. It always surprised me, their capacity for joy. I began to realise that almost every Malagasy I knew was, deep down, inexplicably content." We agree!

On becoming missionary bishop to the province of Toliara, Todd McGregor and his wife, Patsy, invited Simon and me to be founding board members of their support organization, People Reaching People (PRP). After prayer and consideration, we declined, saying we had no idea how God could use us and our skills to help Madagascar. How little we knew then!

While the time was not right for us in 2007, we joined the board of PRP after our first visit to Madagascar in 2015. During COVID, we facilitated the formation of the Friends of Toliara, assisting the Diocese as Todd and Patsy left, and Bishop Samitiana was elected the next Bishop.

Since then I have been appointed Canon to North America for the Diocese of Toliara - a role which in this past week alone involved me: in confidential issues around staffing in the Diocese with Bishop Samy on Monday; advising Rev. Nolavy on broken equipment in the Women's Center on Tuesday and Friday; communicating with the Child Sponsorship coordinator on Wednesday; and dealing with Days for Girls International about an order from Nebraska on Thursday. Life is varied and interesting!

Rev. Nolavy is a fascinating person, with the most amazing smile! A daughter of a local shaman, she was brought up in the slums in Toliara town, and became Christian through contact with Rev. Patsy.

She has spoken at the United Nations' 62nd Commission on the Status of Women, as representative for the Anglican Communion of the Indian Ocean Province. She works as a Priest and Coordinator for the Women's Center at the Cathedral Complex in Toliara.

Things that are everyday for us, are unfamiliar to many Malagasy. They have little experience with items that use electricity, and generally cook outdoors over charcoal fires. Helping her with kitchen issues has given me insights into life for women there.

As the women prepare for an American missionary to stay in the guest bedroom in June and July, they realized that the kitchen equipment has not been used since 2020, and is not in working order. This is good news, as it means that, under Nolavy's leadership, the Women's Center is learning to think further ahead than is common in their culture.

Given the unfamiliarity of fridges for Nolavy, I chatted on Facebook Messenger with her to help identify issues:

- Firstly, is there power to the outlet?
- Then we discussed how long it might take to get cold, how it needed to be kept constantly plugged in to stay cold, but would warm up during a power outage.
- She sent photos, so I could download the manual from the internet and tell her what setting is coldest.
- I suggested she buys a fridge thermometer to check its temperature – and sent her a photo of what one looks like.
- As I maintain the accounting records for the Women's Center, I reassured her that there are funds for any repairs.

Who would have guessed one would be asked to help with such practical issues halfway round the world! It all goes to show that God can use us - and our knowledge and skills - to help others even at a distance!

I had asked you last week to pray for Rev. Antsa as she prepared to give birth to her baby. Baby Abigael was born on April 16. Mother and baby are doing well.

If you have any questions about Madagascar in general or anything Sue mentioned in the above article, please see Miriam Berry.

Publicity Committee

We are looking for volunteers to join with the Wardens and Rector to form a publicity committee to start working on spreading the good news of our parish. If you are interested, please speak with Charles O'Morchoe or Pastor Jenni.

Digital Vergers

We are calling for a few more volunteers to help with the broadcasting of our Sunday worship. If you are interested in being one of our Digital Vergers, please talk with Beth Hagan, Charles O'Morchoe, or Pastor Jenni.

Annunciation Book Club

The book list is set for the 20th year of the Annunciation Book Club. The club is open to all and if you would enjoy getting together over zoom or at a host's home, if there is sufficient interest, to discuss a book and enjoy some treats, we would love to have you join us. We meet most months on the first Monday of the month, moving to the second Monday in holiday months. A highlight of our year is the book exchange and potluck in December. The book list and schedule can be found on the communication wall at church, on the website or in the parish news. If you have any questions, please email [Deb](#).

[Click here to see the list of books](#)

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Links to Zoom Worship for this Week

Sunday Worship | 9:00 am

[Join Sunday Worship](#)

Meeting ID: 829 7113 4278

Passcode: 087501

Monday Morning Prayer| 8:30am

[Join Morning Prayer](#)

Meeting ID: 854 3455 6030

Passcode: 429149

Tuesday Morning Prayer| 8:30am

[Join Morning Prayer](#)

Meeting ID: 812 3791 9123

Passcode: 832106

Wednesday Morning Prayer| 8:30am

[Join Morning Prayer](#)

Meeting ID: 828 3206 9054

Passcode: 528453

Thursday Morning Prayer| 8:30am

[Join Morning Prayer](#)

Meeting ID: 871 5804 8836

Passcode: 001151

Friday Morning Prayer| 8:30am

[Join Morning Prayer](#)

Meeting ID: 897 1519 6205

Passcode: 424496

[Visit our website](#)

Staying Connected



Parish News and Prayer Requests
Submissions due Thursday morning.
Email the Parish Administrator:
[Click here](#)

Website Updates

Food Tidings Meal Ministry
Surgery? New birth? If you need a little
help with supper, contact Samantha.
[Food Tidings](#)

During the week:

Email our webmaster, Mark:
[Click here](#)

Pastoral emergencies: 847-336-3730
The Church office is open Monday -
Thursday, 8:30am to 2:30pm.

Donate



Annunciation of Our Lady Episcopal Church | 5725 Stearns School Road, Gurnee, IL 60031

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