

Encore Volunteer Training

Monday, May 1
9 AM- 12 PM in Room MI40

Be a part of the meaningful work at Encore by training to be a volunteer! We will teach you the skills you need to communicate with persons living with various forms of dementia and memory loss, and how to be a friend to them. Join an amazing group of volunteers and the Encore family by contacting Patti Williams, encorepatti@gmail.com.

Goodbye Carrie!

Farewell Reception Today

A special farewell reception for Carrie Ward will be held in the Parlor at 11:30 today. Please stop by to say thank you for her valuable role to our Children's Ministry.

Vacation Bible School 2017

June 5th - 9th, 9AM to Noon

Children who have completed 3K through 2nd graders will discover their strength in God with Cokesbury's Hero Central. Contact Amy Knight or Amanda Fuller for volunteer opportunities! Those who have completed 3rd through 5th graders will adventure to Athens, Greece where we will join Paul on his dangerous journey to share the truth! Contact Gina Thomas for volunteer opportunities!

Special Announcements

In the Hospital / Rehab (as of April 27)

Anne Collum.....Fair Haven
Carolyn Smallwood.....St. Martin In the Pines

Thanksgiving for the Life of

Betty Broach.....April 22, 2017

Flowers on the Sanctuary Altar

The flowers on the Sanctuary Altar are in honor of Madeline Louise Stivender & John Stewart Herndon who were united in holy matrimony on April 29, 2017.

Rose on the Sanctuary Lectern

The rose on the Sanctuary Lectern is in honor of Sanjana Irene Clayton, daughter of Drew & Joanna Clayton, who was born on April 21, 2017.

MENDELSSOHN'S ELIJAH



SUNDAY, MAY 7, 3:00 P.M.
CANTERBURY UNITED METHODIST CHURCH
350 OVERBROOK ROAD - FREE ADMISSION

BIRMINGHAM-SOUTHERN COLLEGE CONCERT CHOIR
CANTERBURY UNITED METHODIST CHURCH CHOIR
members of the ALABAMA SYMPHONY ORCHESTRA
LESTER SEIGEL, CONDUCTOR



Traditional Worship

APRIL 30, 2017

THE THIRD SUNDAY OF EASTER

PREACHING — REV. TORI HASTINGS

LITURGIST — REV. SHERYL THORNTON

CHOIRMASTER AND ORGANIST — DR. LESTER SEIGEL

DISCERNMENT AND DECISION-MAKING

"Do not be conformed to this world, but be transformed by the renewing of your minds, so that you may discern what is the will of God—what is good and acceptable and perfect."

(Romans 12:2, NRSV)

Paul's 12th Chapter of the Book of Romans is one of the most beautiful passages of scripture describing the Christian Church. The church, according to Paul, will experience renewal through thinking new thoughts that may be countercultural and even counterintuitive. The context of Rome at the time Paul wrote these words was a context of rapid change and evolving culture. Not only was the community changing, but the church was changing, too. Uncertainty was at an all-time high.

The context of Rome is not too unlike our own. The church of today faces some of the most daunting challenges the church has ever faced. Amidst the uncertainty of our age, we seek to influence a culture that places minimal value on religious authority. Our culture seems to rely more on a self-authored worldview than one grounded in any institutional authority. The church must take these challenges seriously and reach out to the world with a word of both grace and conviction. In other words, our decisions must be rooted deeply in our discernment of God's "good and acceptable and perfect" will.

To help us discern God's will, we are seeking your input once more for assessing Canterbury's current reality. We have heard from approximately 400 people in a previous survey, but we need to hear from all of you. Even if you participated in the last survey, when you receive an email on Sunday, April 30th, with a link to the new survey (or if you receive a hard copy of the survey in your mail), please take the time to complete this survey. It shouldn't take more than 15 minutes, and your responses will be the final piece in the puzzle of where we stand as a congregation.

You may also be interested to know that we have already surveyed some of our new members (who should complete this survey as well!) and some members who have left our congregation to get the clearest picture possible of what both draws people to us or leads them away. Also, our research firm will survey non-members in our community to get an idea of what people in our community are looking for in a church, how they perceive Canterbury, and ways that we might more positively engage those in our community who do not attend church.

By taking the survey before May 12th when it closes online, you will help us discern the best possible way for us to build on our strengths and seize the opportunities for improvement. Thanks in advance for your willingness to help in this way.

Dale R. Cohen

Dale Cohen, Senior Pastor

WELCOME CHILDREN! —Parents, make sure your children get a worship activity pack in the Narthex entrance area. The Children's Comfort Room is also adjacent to the Narthex.



Hearing assist devices and large print hymnals available — ask an usher for help.



FOLLOW Jesus...
SERVE OTHERS...

CANTERBURY
UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

Order of Morning Worship

*Congregation Please Stand

Words in bold type are spoken or sung by the congregation.

Voluntary Moderato, from Sonata I Felix Mendelssohn

Welcome and Parish Notices

Collect *The Lord be with you. And also with you. Let us pray.*
Risen Christ, you filled your disciples with boldness and fresh hope: strengthen us to proclaim your risen life and fill us with your peace, to the glory of God the Father. Amen.

* Processional Hymn 158 Come, Christians, Join to Sing SPANISH HYMN

* Affirmation of Faith The Apostles' Creed
I believe in God the Father Almighty, maker of heaven and earth; and in Jesus Christ His only Son our Lord; who was conceived by the Holy Spirit, born of the Virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, dead, and buried; the third day He rose from the dead; He ascended into heaven, and sitteth at the right hand of God the Father Almighty; from thence He shall come to judge the quick and the dead. I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy catholic church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting. Amen.

* Gloria Patri
Glory be to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Ghost; as it was in the beginning, is now and ever shall be, world without end. Amen. Amen.

* Passing of the Peace *The Peace of the Lord be with you, and also with You.*

Children's Moment Scott Precise

Infant Baptism Amelia Claire Vernon *see insert*

Anthem Deep River Spiritual, arr. Ringwald
Deep river, my home is over Jordan.
O don't you want to go to that Gospel feast,
That promised land, where all is peace?

Pastoral Prayer and Lord's Prayer

Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name. Thy kingdom come, thy will be done on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread. And forgive us our trespasses, as we forgive those who trespass against us. And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, forever. Amen.

Our Gifts and Music

Offertory Anthem Be Not Afraid (from *Elijah*) Felix Mendelssohn

Be not afraid, saith God the Lord; Be not afraid, thy help is near. The Lord thy God sayeth unto thee: "Be not afraid." Though thousands languish and fall beside thee, and tens of thousands around thee perish, yet still it shall not come nigh thee.

* Doxology OLD 100TH

Praise God from whom all blessings flow; praise Him, all creatures here below; praise Him, above ye heavenly hosts, praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Amen.

* Gospel Procession Jesus Conquered Death and Darkness, vv. 1 & 2 REGENT SQUARE

Jesus conquered death and darkness on that blessed Easter morn.
From the grave he rose victorious, and in him new life was born!
Alleluia! Alleluia! Sing with joy, for Christ still lives!

As he taught and healed the peoples, fed their bodies and their souls:
they were called to be disciples, and forsake convention's roles.
Alleluia! Alleluia! Christ has shown the way to life!

* Gospel Lesson John 14; selected verses
This is the Word of God for the people of God. Thanks be to God.

* Gospel Procession Jesus Conquered Death and Darkness, vv. 3 & 4 REGENT SQUARE

In the resurrection story God has overcome our fears.
From the tomb, salvation's glory shines with love as Christ appears.
Alleluia! Alleluia! Come, and meet the risen Lord!

He is known when bread is broken. He is seen in wine we share.
His light shines when love is spoken in the lives of those who care.
Alleluia! Alleluia! Go! Proclaim the living Word!

Sermon Rev. Tori Hastings

* Hymn of Commitment 384 Love Divine, All Loves Excelling, vv. 1, 2, & 4 BEECHER

* Dismissal & Blessing

* Recessional Prayer Ted Clark, cantor
Grant, O Lord, we pray, that the words we have said and sung this day may be so grafted and guarded in our hearts, that our lives may bring forth good fruits, and our lips shall show forth Thy praise, to the honor and glory of Thy holy Name, through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

Want to know more about Following Jesus and Serving Others? To make Canterbury your home church, contact Rev. Tori Hastings at 868-6580 or tori.hastings@canterburyumc.org.