

NEWS FROM THE SAINTS

MAY 2024

ALL SAINTS

Rev. Rick L. Moore, Rector
Sami Jo Magoffin, Deacon
Lynda Valdez, Deacon
Ted VanderEnde, Deacon
Verger, Justin Pierce

Parish Vestry

Margaret Buford, Sr. Warden
David Keyser, Jr. Warden
Joel Bailey, Member
Marc Nichols, Member
Virginia Smith, Member

Margaret Smith, Secretary
Tom Buford, Treasurer

Contact Us

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A WORD FROM FATHER RICK

Happy May All Saints!

We confess in the words of the Nicene Creed, “We believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver of life.”

What does the Holy Spirit give? He gives life. Not as some “abstract package of blessing” as one writer puts it. In other words, the Holy Spirit does not perform a “fly-by” and drop off the power or energy we need and then just move on. The Holy Spirit is not a “power source” we connect to for a surge of energy. He is a person who lives eternally in fellowship with the Father and the Son.

The teaching of the Nicene Creed is that apart from the Holy Spirit we do not have life in ourselves. Theologian Michael Reeves writes, “...When Adam and Eve turned away from God in Genesis 3, they turned to death. As a result, we all come into the world spiritually stillborn, dead in our transgressions and sins (Eph 2:1). *Death* here, of course, doesn’t mean nonexistence; rather, it is that, like Adam and Eve, our hearts are turned from the Lord.”

As the Holy Spirit breathed life into Adam’s body, making him a living soul, even so He breathes life into us making us New Creations in Christ. Our natural tendency “in Adam” is to desire other things instead of Him who is the source of life. As the “Giver of Life,” the Holy Spirit doesn’t share with us a blessing apart from Him; but

shares His own life.

Paul in Romans 5:5 writes, “God has poured out his love into our hearts by the Holy Spirit, whom he has given us.” As the Holy Spirit has eternally lived in loving fellowship with the Father and with the Son, even so, we now know that same love, as God brings it to us by the Holy Spirit! And it changes us. We become a new creation.

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The Holy Spirit is the giver of life. This life comes through love – God’s love. God demonstrates His love to us by the Holy Spirit in His Son, Jesus Christ. In John 15:26 we read the words of Jesus, “...When the Helper comes, whom I will send to you from the Father, the Spirit of truth, who proceeds from the Father, he will bear witness about me...”

The Holy Spirit is the Giver of Life by showing us the glory of Christ. When we “see” that His glorious body was given for us as a substitutionary sacrifice for our sins then our hearts are turned back to God – from death to life! How can we not now but love God in Christ by the Holy Spirit!? Life begets love. Love embraces God and gives to others.

Later this month we will celebrate the Day of Pentecost—the moment in God’s plan of redemption when the Holy Spirit came to continue the work of Jesus Christ. He continues this work still. Jesus is the Way, the Truth, and the Life. Come, Holy Spirit!

Blessings, Fr Rick+

Fiftieth Day of Easter



Pentecost Sunday....the Fiftieth Day, is May 19. All Saints will be celebrating this important day at the Cortez Pavilion. So, what exactly is Pentecost?

Pentecost marks a pivotal moment in both Judaism and Christianity. In the book of Leviticus 23, God instructed Israel regarding special days and celebrations. The Festival of Weeks or (Shavuot) occurred 50 days after the second day of Passover. The Greek word for “fiftieth” is Pentecost.

Approximately 10 days after Jesus’ ascension, His followers (about 120 of them) were gathered in Jerusalem. Suddenly, a sound like a mighty wind filled the place, and what appeared to be tongues of fire rested on each person. They were filled with the Holy Spirit and began to speak in other tongues. A crowd gathered due to the commotion. These people had come from all over the known world to celebrate

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Shavuot. Much to their amazement, they heard Jesus' followers speaking in their native languages.

Pentecost is nearly as crucial to Christianity as Good Friday and Easter. While Good Friday and Easter focus on the crucifixion and resurrection of Jesus, Pentecost completes the work. It signifies the coming of the Holy Spirit upon believers, empowering them for service. The disciples were baptized and filled with the Holy Spirit. The gift of speaking in unknown languages served as evidence of the Spirit's arrival. On this day, Peter preached the first sermon of the church age and three thousand people were converted. In summary, Pentecost marks the outpouring of the Holy Spirit upon the disciples, the birth of the Christian Church, and the beginning of its mission to the world.

So, put on your RED and join us in worship and celebration at the Cortez Pavilion (181 Carmona). Service will be at 10:30 am. We will have music and a catered lunch from Riverside Catering (including dessert this year!).

THE LORD HAS RISEN!



If you missed Easter services this year at All Saints, you missed a GLORIOUS celebration. It was a spiritual and jubilant day of joy. The entire week leading up to Easter was filled with moving and meaningful services that helped us all to prepare for the Lord's Day of Resurrection. Services and events at All Saints are peppered with volunteers who work very hard to make it all happen. Our clergy, lay people, readers, altar guild, kitchen crew, and miscellaneous helpers, all helped in dedicating their time and efforts. So many fingers worked to



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fold the palms for Palm Sunday service, several bulletins had to be composed and printed for the different services, music rehearsed, services choreographed, altar colors changed and then stripped again and again, church cleaned after every service, and so forth. The Saturday before Easter found volunteers busy putting out tables



and decorating for the Easter potluck, the altar guild preparing the altar and arranging lilies, the kitchen crew preparing the dishes and supplies for the following day, music rehearsed and clergy preparing for the service. It was a busy Saturday. And then Easter. Repeating once again, if you missed Easter services this year at All Saints, you missed a GLORUS celebration!

MISSION HIGHLIGHTS



All Saints has been supporting **Jackson House** in Hot Springs for several years by volunteering the second Monday of every other month to help prepare and serve lunches to the needy. Several area churches volunteer as well. Last year over 57,000 lunches were served. Without the help of volunteers, they would not be able to provide these lunches to the needy men, women, and children of Garland County. Bob Mongrain has been coordinating and spearheading our volunteer days since we first began participating. It is a job that entails communicating with Jackson House staff and lining up volunteers from our church. He has not missed an assigned day even once in all the years. He has decided, however, that the time has come for him to retire. All Saints thanks Bob Mongrain for his dedication to Jackson House and his service. Bob Lambert has agreed to take his place. He has asked that everyone reading this article prayerfully consider being a volunteer. It is a very rewarding experience. It seems that most all the volunteers for several years have been men, but Bob would like the women to know that they are very welcome to take part. If you would like to volunteer, please contact him at 501-209-0461.

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HARVEY'S CHAPEL



For several years All Saints has supported **Harvey's Chapel** community by providing scholarships for children to attend a week-long summer church camp at Camp Story on the north shore of Lake Ouachita. This is an exciting program and provides an enrichment for these children that otherwise would not be available to them. The camp includes activities such as fishing, swimming, lessons, music and even baptisms.

The women from the church provide the food and cook three meals a day, which some of the children do not get at home. The date for the summer school camp this year is June 17-21. The cost per child is \$70. Please prayerfully consider contributing. The blessings of this program to the children are immeasurable. (You may place a check in offering plate with "Harvey's Chapel" noted on the menu line.)

QUILT



The Quilt Ministry is a special ministry that springs forth when they are notified of a member in need. When given a member's name, sewers and non-sewers get together and begin planning a quilt that is designed especially for that person. Vickie Lyles, who is at Good Samaritan, was brought to them as someone who should be a recipient. Lynda Valdez designed a pattern she felt would be something Vickie would love. When Sharan Gunn, who is the chair of the Quilt Ministry, presented it at church

Sunday, April 14, she gave thanks not only to the hard-working ladies, but also to Bruce Neiswander, who faithfully sets up the work tables for them and cleans up afterwards. Theresa Keyser volunteered to sew the edging on after the quilt was done. The quilt, as always, came out beautifully. This ministry not only provides warmth for whomever receives it, but the healing power of love that goes into each and every stitch.

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WELCOME CHERYL BROWN!



Our newest member. Cheryl Brown, was received Sunday, May 14, 2024. Cheryl was born in Anaheim, California, but moved to Montgomery, Texas in the summer of 1968. After graduating from Montgomery High School in 1973, she attended Stephen F. Austin University in Nacogdoches, Texas. She graduated in 1977 with a BBA in Marketing and Economics. For over 30 years she worked in event planning and as a realtor in Dallas, Texas. In 2021, she and her husband, Bobby, sold their ranch and settled here in Hot Springs Village.

Cheryl was raised in the Lutheran Church until she was 26 years old. She left the Lutheran Church and became a member of the United Methodist Church in University Park, Dallas, Texas. In 2009 she and Bobby married and moved to Weatherford, Texas where they lived for 12 years. They attended both the Baptist Church and the Palo Pinto County Cowboy Church near Weatherford. In 1993, Cheryl attended a pilgrimage called the Walk to Emmaus in Dallas where she re-dedicated her life to God.

Cheryl has two children, Holland and Ryan Roden. Virginia Smith is her next-door neighbor. One Sunday Virginia invited Cheryl to visit. Her heart told her after a few visits that she had found her church home. Welcome Cheryl!

GET TO KNOW THE SAINTS!



Fred and Shirley were married on April 24, 2015. Although both of them were in their mid '70's and did not formerly meet until a few years before that, their lives have crisscrossed since the day they were born. Shirley explains that they both were conceived in Texarkana, Texas but born in Arkansas since that was where the only hospital was. They both lived close to each other and went to the same junior high and high school. Fred's paper route took him one block from her house. Although they did not know each other, Fred says that he knew "of" her as Shirley was a high school cheerleader. After graduating from high school, Fred joined the Navy and Shirley went to Texas Woman's University in Denton, Texas. When Fred got out of the Navy, he went to college in Magnolia, Arkansas (Southern State

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University). After Shirley graduated from TWU, she began her teaching career in Irving, Texas, and retired 48 years later.

After Fred graduated, he went to work for the Department of Defense in Logistic Management, a job that ended up taking him all over the world. Upon retirement, he became an interim preacher at a small congregational church, as well as an accomplished author with five Christian novels to his credit. Shirley served on the Board of the East Texas Professional Credit Union for 27 years. She attended Trinity Episcopal Church in Longview, Texas where she served on the vestry several times.

Shirley has two children and two great grandchildren. Fred has three children, one son who was tragically robbed and left for dead in 2013. Fred spent several years devoting his life to taking care of his paraplegic son.

One day out of the blue Shirley received a call from a man who said his name was Frederick Downs. He had been given her number from a friend, and they spent several months talking on the phone. When they finally met in person, they fell in love. After they married in 2015, they relocated to Longview, Texas. By that time, Fred had designed a handicap accessible house for his son designed to fit his needs and hired a wonderful caretaker. His other two children live close to his son and are able to help with his care.

Fred and Shirley decided to relocate to Hot Springs Village in 2016. An agreement before marriage was that they would always rotate attendance between their chosen churches.. Shirley decided to attend All Saints and Fred chose Balboa Baptist. When she entered the foyer, immediately felt the Lord had guided her to her church home. We are so very blessed to have the Downs as members of our family!

FOR GRACE TO SEEK GOD IN EVERY WAY

Gracious and holy Father, please give me intellect to understand you, reason to discern you, diligence to seek you, wisdom to find you, a spirit to know you, a heart to meditate upon you, ears to hear you, eyes to see you, a tongue to proclaim you, a way of life pleasing to you, patience to wait for you, and perseverance to look for you. Grant me a perfect end, your holy presence, a blessed resurrection, and life everlasting. Amen

(Book of Common Prayer, page 671)

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CALENDAR FOR MAY

	All Wednesdays
8:00 am	Men's Prayer followed by breakfast at Caddies
9:00 am	Ladies Prayer followed by breakfast at Caddies



- May 5 Pot Luck Sunday – Service 10:30 am
- May 9 Vestry
- May 10 Birthday Lunches – Debras
- May 12 Mother's Day
Sunday School, 9:00 am; Service 10:30 am
- May 19 Pentecost Sunday – Cortez Pavilion
Service 10:30 am followed by music and food
- May 26 Sunday School, 9:00 am; Service 10:30 am

May Birthdays	May Anniversaries
5/3 Allen Schaeffer	5/7 Joel and Elaine Bailey
5/31 Margaret Smith	5/12 Ted and Dorothy VanderEnde

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