

April 9, 2020

**Reminder of diocesan Easter Vigil on Saturday**

Members of the diocese are invited to gather at 7:30 p.m. on Saturday, Easter Eve, for a diocesan Easter Vigil service. Printed copies of the worship booklet are arriving this week it in the postal mailboxes of parishioners for whom we have street addresses on file. It also is available online at <http://www.episcopal-ks.org/resources/documents/Easter-Vigil-2020.pdf>.

This link, plus a link to the video itself, will be available on the diocesan website, <http://www.episcopal-ks.org/>. The video link will be posted as soon as editing and final production is completed.

**Bishop issues a pastoral letter on** ‘**Living as Sacramental, Eucharistic People amid COVID-19’**

 Bishop Bascom on April 3 wrote to all diocesan clergy with her thoughts about how the physical distancing to help stop the spread of the coronavirus presents the church, with the Eucharist at the heart of its worship, “with unique practical, theological, liturgical and ethical realities.”

She also provides guidance for worship and sacraments in the months ahead, including how to practice spiritual communion.

She writes, “The term ‘Spiritual Communion’ has been used historically to describe the means of grace by which a person, prevented for some serious reason from sharing in a celebration of the Eucharist, nonetheless shares in the communion of Jesus Christ.” She also describes how a spiritual communion service should be celebrated within the diocese.

The letter is available as a PDF: <http://www.episcopal-ks.org/resources/documents/Pastoral-Letter-Living-as-Sacramental-Eucharistic-People-amid-COVID-19.pdf>.

It also is linked on the diocesan website page of messages about the coronavirus (<http://www.episcopal-ks.org/news/Coronavirus.php>),

 **Bishop offers an online example of celebrating a spiritual communion**

Bishop Bascom has recorded a service in which she celebrates a spiritual communion with two members of the staff of Grace Cathedral, using appropriate physical distancing.

It will be posted online at 7 p.m. tonight as part of the cathedral’s Maundy Thursday observance.

It can be viewed on their Facebook page (<https://www.facebook.com/gracecathedraltopeka/>) and YouTube channel (<https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCYzvCaNZMxH-pM6Fm1fVIWg>).

**Cathedral offers all-night online Watch**

Following the conclusion of its online service this evening, Grace Cathedral, Topeka, will have a live an overnight livestream of the blessed elements from the high altar. It will be available from the church Facebook page, <https://www.facebook.com/gracecathedraltopeka/>.

**Website offers a list of online worship services**

A page of existing online worship services offered by Diocese of Kansas churches is on the diocesan website, <http://www.episcopal-ks.org/news/Coronavirus-streaming.php>.

If you are offering online services and are not on this list but wish to be, please send an email by Saturday noon to Melodie Woerman at mwoerman@episcopal-ks.org with details:

* what service you are offering,
* day and time offered and
* links to where viewers can find it.

**Online giving now is available for all churches**

The diocese has created a way for people to make credit card contributions to any of the churches in the diocese, through a form on the diocesan website. A link to the form is on the front page of the diocesan website (<http://www.episcopal-ks.org/>) but also can be accessed at <https://tinyurl.com/parish-donations>.

This form uses PayPal as the giving platform, but as the form notes, people do not need to have a PayPal account to donate. Instructions are on the form. There is a small fee for the PayPal service, and donors can choose to cover that cost when they make their contribution.

Donors also need to be sure they select the correct church from a drop-down menu on the form.

This giving option is designed to supplement online giving some churches have set up through their own websites, and to help other churches that do not have that available.

**Information for churches on the Paycheck Protection Program**

Clergy in charge of congregations, plus senior wardens in churches without resident clergy, have received information about the Paycheck Protection Program, a part of the CARES Act passed by Congress to assist small businesses and non-profits during the economic uncertainty caused by the pandemic.

This provision makes it possible for eligible churches and ministries to apply for two months of their average monthly payroll and benefits up to $100,000 per employee. Funds can be used to cover payroll, benefits, employer payroll taxes, rent or mortgage payments, utilities, and interest on existing debt.

That information is among the items listed on the coronavirus messages page on the diocesan website, <http://www.episcopal-ks.org/news/Coronavirus.php>.

Questions should be directed to diocesan Treasurer Brian Geary, gearybrian1972@gmail.com or Comptroller Jay Currie, jcurrie@episcopal-ks.org.

**Youth and college students to gather online**

**Diocesan youth group online.** Sundays, 4:30-5:30 p.m.

All youth across the diocese are invited to join via Zoom. We will play a joint game, split into Middle School and High School groups for sharing and discussion, and then have joint prayer.

Join URL: <https://zoom.us/j/560802994?pwd=T2R3WWlSc2JBMTAvOHp5TjI0cUduQT09>

When you join the meeting, you will first be put in a “Waiting Room” and need to be added to the meeting by the meeting host. Make sure to type in your name correctly so the host recognizes you and adds you to the meeting.

**Canterbury online**

There will not be any in-person campus ministry gatherings for the remainder of the spring semester. All college students and young adults are welcome to attend the online weekly programs via Zoom, whether you attend KU, K-State, another college or no college.

**K-State**, Mondays, 6:30-7:30 p.m. Join URL: <https://zoom.us/j/416792977?pwd=WXh2RnRyS3djWTZicXBTS2prcGpLdz09>

**Lawrence**, Tuesdays, 6-7 p.m. Join URL: <https://zoom.us/j/761801806?pwd=Tm15VkVKVm9XRGdNZms1Q0pjYmU0UT09>

When you join these meetings, you will first be put in a “Waiting Room” and need to be added to the meeting by the meeting host. Make sure to type in your name correctly so the host recognizes you and adds you to the meeting.

**If you live in Lawrence or Manhattan and need a free meal**, contact Will (internku@episcopal-ks.org) or Anastasia (internksu@episcopal-ks.org) and they will bring you food. Food deliveries are still allowed under the stay-at-home order.

**Episcopal Summer Camp update**

The Episcopal Diocese of Kansas Formation Team and Camp Wood YMCA are closely monitoring news regarding the COVID-19/Coronavirus. While we are hopeful that camp will continue uninterrupted, the health and safety of our campers, staff and greater camp community are our top priorities.

We are monitoring the COVID-19 situation so that we can adapt any policies or procedures as necessary to comply with recommendations from the Kansas Department of Health and Environment, the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, and the American Camp Association.

We will have camp as long as it is a healthy and safe option.

* **When:** Sunday, May 31, 2:30 p.m. to Saturday, June 6, 11 a.m. (We have alternative dates available in July if we are unable to gather the first week in June.)
**Where:** Camp Wood YMCA, Elmdale, Kansas
* **Who:** Students in grades 3-12 for the 2019-20 school year (you must have **finished** third grade to attend). Camp is **not** restricted to Episcopalians or regular churchgoers. All are welcome, so feel free to invite friends and family.
* **Cost:** $480 through May 31; $495 after May 31. Fully refundable in the event of a Covid-19 related cancelation. You may register now to reserve your space and pay later once we know for sure camp will happen.

Learn more about camp in the new Episcopal Camp Parent Handbook (PDF): <https://edokyouth.files.wordpress.com/2019/12/episcopalparenthandbook.pdf>

**2020-2021 campus peer ministry application now is available**

If you are passionate about deepening your own faith and taking a leadership role in cultivating the faith of students on campus, you are invited to consider becoming a peer minister in the Episcopal Diocese of Kansas.

Applications for Fall 2020 now are open and **are due by July 15**. Apply online at <https://edok.formstack.com/forms/peerminapp>

**Training session for Sunday school teachers and youth leaders is canceled**

The “Special Needs Training for Sunday School Teachers and Youth Group Leaders” that originally was scheduled for Saturday, April 25, 1:30-4:30 p.m. at Camp Wood YMCA **has been canceled**.

We hope to reschedule after the pandemic.

**Zoom security updates have been released**

If your church is using the Zoom video platform for meetings or worship, note that the company has released security updates in the wake of failures that have allowed unwanted people to enter some online gatherings and show offensive content.

In the past week a variety of new security features have been released. They are described on the Zoom website, <https://blog.zoom.us/wordpress/2020/04/08/zoom-product-updates-new-security-toolbar-icon-for-hosts-meeting-id-hidden/>

**Easter gifts available through ‘Gifts for Life’ from ERD**

The annual “Gifts for Life” catalog from Episcopal Relief & Development usually is associated with Christmas, but it also is available to provide gifts for loved ones this Easter.

Donations are used to provide needed help to people around the world – a goat; flocks of chickens; clean water; care for mothers and newborns; nurture and nourishment for young learners; seeds, tools and training; and vitamins and protective medicines.

Givers can personalize e-cards to be sent to recipients.

Information and links to purchase Gifts for Life items are online at <https://support.episcopalrelief.org/gifts>

**Anniversaries of ordinations**

Congratulations go to these people as they celebrate the anniversaries of their ordination in the next two weeks:

**April 13**: The Rev. Evan Ash, non-parochial (43 years)

**Diocesan staff to observe Good Friday**

Even though diocesan staff members are working from home, the office traditionally has been closed on Good Friday. In that spirit, staff members will be off duty on April 10, to the extent their work allows.

All will be available by email again on Monday, April 13.

**Wishing our readers a Happy Easter**

Even though the circumstances of this Holy Week are different from any in most of our lifetimes, the message remains the same: Christ has died, Christ is risen, Christ will come again.

May you have a most blessed Easter.

**Stay in touch with the diocese on social media**

You can find news, features and updates from the diocese on social media. We’re on Facebook – EpiscopalDioceseofKansas (<https://www.facebook.com/EpiscopalDioceseofKansas>), Twitter – @EpiscoKs and Instagram – @EpiscoKs.

You can find diocesan youth and campus ministries on Instagram, too:

* Youth: @edokyouth
* Canterbury House of Lawrence: @canterburylfk
* Canterbury at K-State: @canterburyatkstate

**Next DioLog**

The next edition of *DioLog* will be sent to subscribers on Thursday, April 23. Information to be included should be sent to Melodie Woerman, diocesan director of communications, at mwoerman@episcopal-ks.org no later than Tuesday, April 21.

*Parishes are free to excerpt anything printed in* DioLog; attribution that material is reprinted fromDioLogis appreciated. Feel free to copy this and make it available to parishioners in whatever way is most useful.

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