

The Server

Published for the Acolytes of Good Shepherd Episcopal Church
Kingwood, Texas



Easter
Day

Easter

April 2018

I am writing this letter after completing the April schedule which includes Easter Day! Finally we get to field most of our troops this month with only a few on the sub list. Remember, our new way of doing this is if you are not on the schedule list then you are a sub automatically.

New Members

In March we trained 2 wonderful new members and we have added another since who will be trained in the very near future. They are all doing their first service in April. Please welcome:

Elizabeth Bicknell New acolyte family

Stepanie Onyeme Sister to Franklin and Meredith

William Reitmeyer New acolyte family

Our Guild will be blessed and strengthened by their part in it. WELCOME to you all.

Promotions!

Of course, the other side of receiving new members is Moves to senior!

Charlie Gundlach changes role to senior. Charlie, you are more than ready and we hope your new duties will be fulfilling and interesting. You have been faithful and loyal for several years and it is time for a change. We are so proud of you.

And in May several more will change role as we have a fairly large number of graduates leaving us.

Palm Sunday!

Yesterday we had **Palm Sunday** with **Bishop Fisher**. What a great morning we had including Confirmation. The Bishop actually said, out loud, that he chose Good Shepherd for Palm Sunday because "they will do it right!" And who carried out the largest part in it? the members of the Acolyte Guild! Yes, we had great acolytes showing up on time as well as palm bearers all showing up on time but we also had members present in their Guild shirts to help us have a great day. Well done to you too!

Special thanks to **Mr. and Mrs. Gillis** for leading a big group of palm bearers (they WERE spectacular!) but also to our own **Mrs. Roberts** who led the acolyte team in preparation and **Mrs. Nolting** who helped move all the robes back to the closet from the office. Yes, there is work to do even when it is all over!!

WELL DONE to everyone for making it a great Palm Sunday in whatever role you had.

Holy Week and Easter

And so we are about to enter **Holy Week** and **Easter**. This is a special time for acolytes as you perform some unusual duties in different services (foot washing, towel duty, bonfire in church, changing light levels, lighting pew torches in procession, Altar of Repose procession and then a big Easter Day). This is when we thank God for all of you and the wonderful part you play in helping all of these unusual pieces of the liturgy work well. It simply would not be possible to have the beautiful Holy Week services without skilled and smart acolytes.

Graduates

As usual I am always a little unsure about who our graduates will be in May. Here is who I think they are:

Jake Evans, Katie Forgey, Daniela Hernandez, Rianna Robles, Knox Sterling, Tate Stevens.

Have I missed anyone?

We will SO miss you but we

understand that it is time for you to move on to greater things.

During the process of adding new members and promoting other members I have to do a lot of "inserting rows" and "sliding rows" in my roster spread sheet. I might make an error so I would REALLY appreciate it if EVERYONE would review the roster carefully for correct information on birth month, age reached in that month, phone numbers, email addresses etc. etc. The roster is a very important way for all of us to share the needed information.

A Final Word on being an acolyte

Please remember that it is not what duties you have when you serve at church that is important. We tend to be caught up in our status versus others around us. When you offer your service at our Lord's Table all of this is meaningless. Showing up to serve the Lord is the most important thing you do. WHAT you do is unimportant. You change roles somewhere in your mid teens simply to have a change in the middle of your service ministry. But ALL duties are important and meaningful and whatever your role is, it is your true gift of servanthood. Please leave the idea of peer pressure and image outside the church. You are all appreciated, whatever you do and we love to see you on Sundays or any time for that matter.

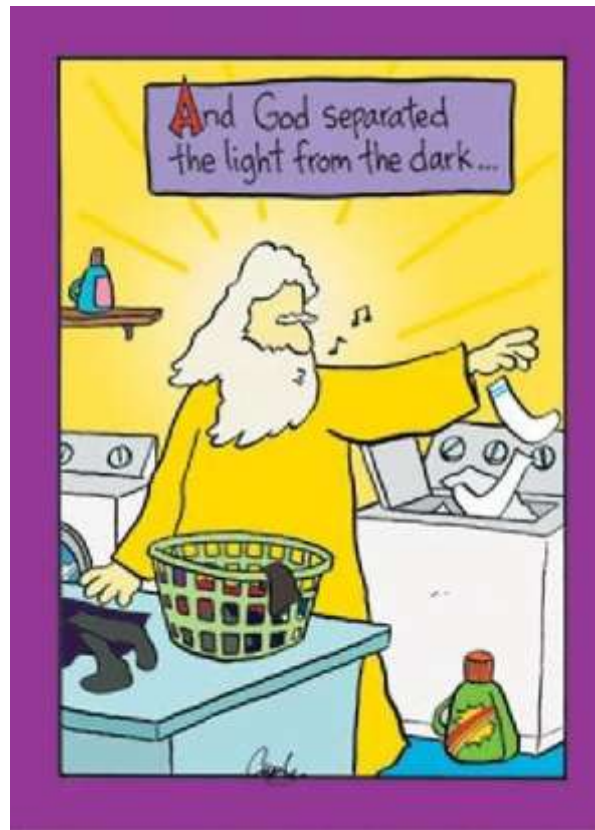
The Count Down to Summer

We wish each and every one of you a spiritual Holy Week and a joyous Easter season. It's a time of renewal and new hope. Keep focused on all that is of good report, stay faithful in your words and deeds and all shall be well. We KNOW that our acolytes are special young people.

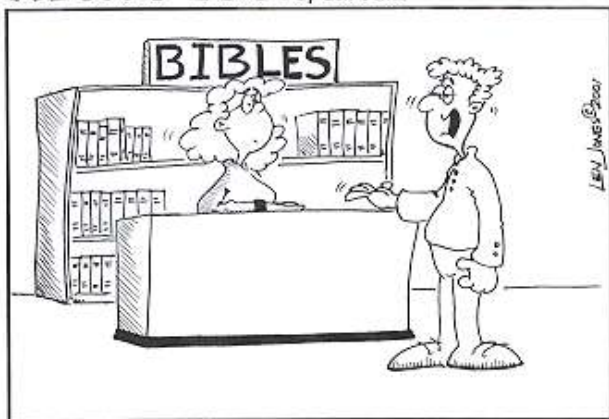
With love in Christ to you all and your families. Mr.B.



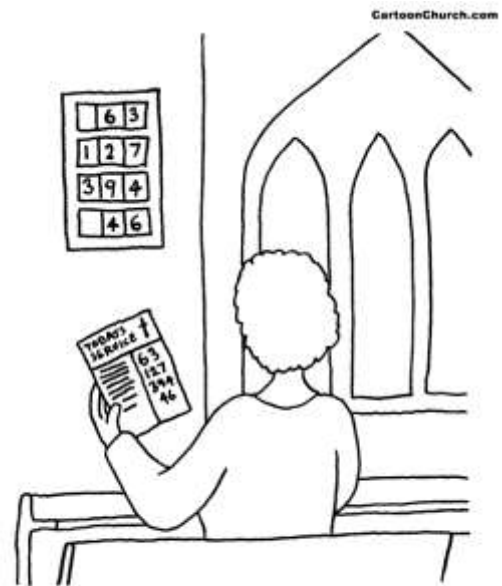
Amusing Grace



ALTAR EGO by Len Jones



"What I really need is a translation that won't leave me feeling guilty, convicted, or in need of making some kind of decision."

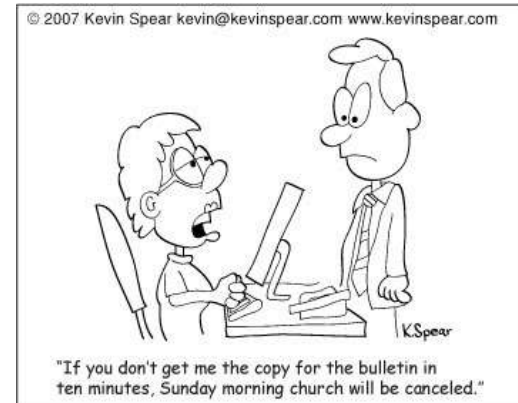


SHE COULD HARDLY BELIEVE SHE HAD WON ON HER FIRST VISIT TO CHURCH

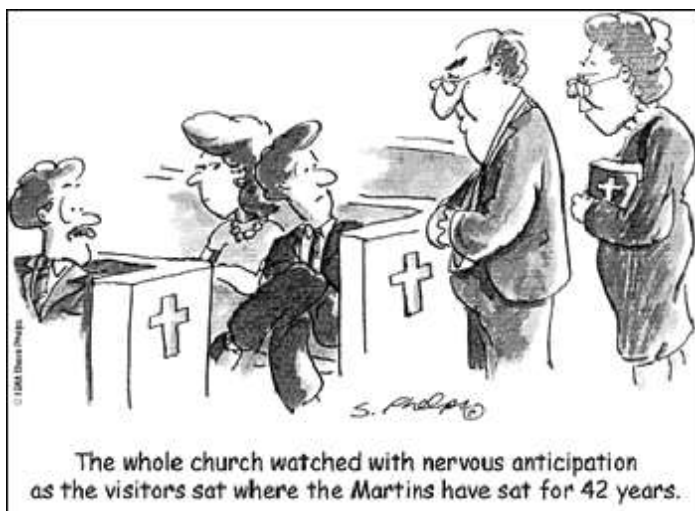
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"I slept in church because I'm striving to be more like God, and on the seventh day He rested."



"If you don't get me the copy for the bulletin in ten minutes, Sunday morning church will be canceled."



The whole church watched with nervous anticipation as the visitors sat where the Martins have sat for 42 years.