



## UPCOMING EVENTS

**Father's Day** June 17

**Farewell Social** June 17

**High Tea** July 7

# The Epistle

## The Deans Note— June 2018

The news of health, healing and freedom according to the Gospel of Mark, was spreading all over the Galilee. Jesus was healing people and driving out the unclean spirits and this was drawing people to him. Amid this, there is a woman on her death bed in her house when Jesus and his disciples arrived. To be specific, it was Simon Peter's house and it was his mother-in-law that was in bed with fever. The people who were in the house with her, greeted the newcomers and told Jesus about the woman's situation. He went to her, took her by the hand and lifted her up. The fever left her, and she began to serve those in the house. (Mark 1.29-31) Now it might be important to point out that this action was the first for four acts that Jesus did for women (of a miraculous nature) in Mark's Gospel. And this story is a precursor to Jairus and his little daughter who Jesus raises from the dead. People seek out Jesus when they're in trouble; when they are sick and when they're dying because they want to know that God cares about them as they are going through it. Whatever else such pursuit of Jesus may or may not be, it becomes prayer. Did you notice?

Jesus comes in the door and the people in the house welcome Jesus in and tell him they are relieved he is there because there is a need for him to meet. Someone's life is at stake. They want and need for Jesus to be more than impressive, they want him to have an impact on this woman's life for the better so that they do not lose her. What do you do with such high expectations? He went to see and to survey the situation. He went to the woman and he raised her up. The way that it is worded in the New Testament Greek, Mark tells us that Jesus raised her from the dead. It was not just that he got rid of the sickness but that He took her by the hand and raised her up, not just from the bed but from imminent death. And then what happens? The unthinkable and the unlikely! She begins to serve the people that are in the house. Peter's mother-in-law served (*diakonie*) and minister to the needs of others. In effect, Jesus saved this woman to serve, for the sake of the Gospel. Why is that important? Because of what happened, that evening when the Sabbath ended, and the people could bring their people – friends, relatives and neighbours - that needed to be healed and cured and exorcised. By caring for the people around her, she was enabling ministry of different kinds to take place, right on her doorstep. No mission statements, no visioning weekends, just real ministry of a sudden and joyful kind. And it is a work that is undergirded by prayer.

Prayer can be as simple as reaching up to touch the heart of God, only to discover that he has reached down and touched yours already. Jesus shows us this in what happens next. He goes out to a solitary place in the wilderness to pray; to spend time with the Father. He went to a place where he knew he could meet the Father best. I like to think that Jesus did it because he wanted to laugh and enjoy what was happening – that the kingdom of God was being established in the lives of men and women; that health, wholeness and salvation were fully coming into this world. Jesus also sought out the solitude because he knew what was coming in terms of the demands to keep the whole process going – for others. He sought the quiet so that he could remain humble before his Father and hear his Father's voice as to what was next and what need to be done. Others, including the disciples were hostile to the fact that he left them behind, that they had to go in search of him because they wanted more. So, Jesus needed some time to replenish and to rebuild himself for what was ahead.

Where to do we meet God best? Answers to that question are going to vary. One place we need to meet him – public worship. We need to meet him, we need to see him amid the community of Christ when we come together to worship. We need to spend time reaching up for the heart of God and discovering that he has already touched our hearts, enabling us to do what needs to be done for the sake of the Gospel. We need to be a part of the acts of power that see another person healed or freed from sin and evil.

We need to live in the courage of a boy named David who confronted a well trained soldier by the name of Goliath, not because he was anything but because he was willing to do what he could, what it took to stand up for the name and glory of God. And anyone who thinks that God cannot use that, has rocks in their heads. We cannot allow our fear of the future and what we cannot control to paralyze us. The future is not ours to possess and the past is gone. All we can do is use the lessons of the past to be prepared for what we have in the present and do what we can, even if all we have is five smooth stones from a brook and a sling shot.

We need to have the dust of our Rabbi on us. We need to follow him where he leads and serve whomever he asks us to serve. We need to be close enough that we get the dust of his footfalls on us. He is the one who heals and he who drives out evil. Jesus is the one who brings the kingdom. We need to come together to celebrate with the rest of creation, not only what he is doing but what he is doing in us.

- Jason+





Thank You!

The ACW was able to donate  
\$1000 back to St. James building

find for use for the accessibility project from the funds raised at  
our Lenten lunches. Thank you to everyone who made soup,  
brought bread or cheese, helped with set up and clean up and of  
course, thank you to all those who ate soup!

## HAPPY FATHER'S Day!

**Happy Fathers Day to all  
you Father's out there!!**



**Zakaria, Rahaf  
and their daughters Lana and Aleen**  
will be moving to Lloydminster at the end of June.

*Peace River Welcomes Refugees*  
is planning a

### **Farewell Social**

for the family in the Lower Hall of  
**St. James Cathedral**

*We will miss  
this dear  
family* **Sunday, June 17th** *Everyone  
welcome!*  
2 to 4 p.m.

Please find us on FaceBook at <https://www.facebook.com/stjamesanglicanPR/>



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We are proud that our mission is to  
welcome, accept and encourage all  
people in the name of Christ



## HIGH TEA Lift Fundraiser

July 7 2018

*Join Us for*

*HIGH TEA*

*at St. James Anglican Cathedral Hall*

*July 7th, 2018*

*2:00 p.m. — 4:30 p.m.*

*\$12.00 per person*

*Under 6 free*

The following are needed for this event

**Tea pots** (1, 2, 4 and 6 cups sizes) if you could loan us any that would be great.

**Flowers** if you could donate flowers from the garden for the

tables that would be great.

**Napkins** Cloth napkins if you have some laying around that we could borrow.

This is a Fundraiser for our Lift

### Volunteer's & Bakers Needed

A sign up sheet will be at the back of the church.

If you can help with any of the above please let Sue B know,

susan\_bowling@yahoo.ca or call her at 587-479-7370