



The Fledgling--Week of June 29, 2018

From Mother Megan:

A story!

On Saturday, before the EFM graduation, the Bishop and I were talking in the sacristy. We were both bemoaning the news from the border, and lamenting that there seemed to be so little we could do about it. "Wouldn't it be great," we mused, "if while the whole church is gathered in Austin in a few weeks, we could just show up somewhere and pray about this?" Later that evening, I posted the idea on Facebook. "Wouldn't it be great if, during General Convention, we held a prayer service at a detention center?" What happened next is one of the strangest things I have seen to date. Within minutes, people began to comment in droves, offering connections, financial support, and encouragement. I got emails. I got text messages. And within a few hours, I had to text the bishop to tell her sheepishly that I think I had now assembled a prayer service at a detention center.

That initial idea has turned into a big prayer service on July 8th, at noon outside the Hutto Detention Facility--a privately run detention center that houses women who came into the country to seek asylum. A number of them have been separated from their children at the border. The Presiding Bishop will preach, and those gathered will lift our voices to remind the detained women that we are here for them, and we are committed to working for their freedom and dignity,

There should be a livestream of the service when it happens; when I find the link, I will post it to the St. John's FB page. Meanwhile, I ask for your prayers as I journey to Texas, to take part in the counsels of the church, and to carry your love to the women of Hutto.

- **If you have a submission to the Fledgling, send it [to the office](#) by Thursday morning for inclusion on Friday.**
- **Bulletin announcements should be into the office by Wednesday morning. If you know of someone who would like to receive the Fledgling, please send their email to the office.**

Prayer for the coming week

Almighty God, you have built your Church upon the foundation of the apostles and prophets, Jesus Christ himself being the chief cornerstone: Grant us so to be joined together in unity of spirit by their teaching, that we may be made a holy temple acceptable to you; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit. one God. for ever and ever. Amen.

You have been patiently waiting...

The results of the Tablet Survey are in and have been shared with the vestry. Thank you to everyone who participated, whether via the online survey or through hard copy.

The results were fairly decisive. Of the 65 responses, including the paper ones, roughly 75% of people surveyed either did not care for the marble tablets, or did not have strong feelings about them. A full 67% of those surveyed did not mind where they were moved, with 16% requesting that they not be moved.

If you would like to see all the survey results, they are [here](#).

In reading the options people offered for where to move the tablets, a few things became clear. One is that there is a concern that the historical nature of the tablets be discovered and respected. Another is that the tablets continue to be displayed in a context consistent with worship--since they do, after all, contain the Ten Commandments and the Creed of our faith. And finally--that the tablets' position in front of the windows is not the best place for them.

With this in our minds, the vestry and I have decided to seek the advice of a mason, to learn what the cost would be of moving the tablets. We would like to move them to a space where they may continue to be displayed, in a respectful way, such that they enhance worship. For this reason, we think the Parish Hall is no longer an option; however space may be found along the back walls of the Nave itself along with the memorial plaques, or in the Children's Chapel, once it is restored to a liturgical use.

No matter the final decision on where to move them, they will continue to be displayed publicly and respectfully. They were a memorial gift in honor of a departed parishioner, and therefore, represent the faith and love of that person.

We will keep you informed as we move forward. Thank you again to everyone who participated. If you have any questions, please don't hesitate to talk to me.

--Mtr. Megan

Happening this Week:

- This Sunday, we will begin our summer schedule! Services will be at 8am and 10am!
 - Wednesday services will be back in the Nave.
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FYI:

- Mtr Megan will be at General Convention from July 1 through July 14. She will then be on vacation from July 14--July 20. She will have intermittent access to email and cell phone service while she's away, and will have many exciting stories of General Convention when she returns!
 - There will be supply clergy on July 1, July 8, and July 15. Rev. Kit Tobin will be here for both services on July 1, and Fr. Cole Gruberth will be here for 8am Eucharist on July 8 and 15th. For the 10am service on those weeks, we will be offering Morning Prayer.
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Ongoing Concerns:

- **ADULT FORUM** The adult forum will have resumed on Sundays at 9:15 in the Chapman Room. The book we are studying is "Living Into God's Dream: Dismantling Racism in America." The book is available thru Amazon. If you have any questions, please contact Lisa Tatusko 607-351-2890.

- **Parishioner Data Form** The link in the Fledgling to update your information on file with St. John's didn't really work, so it is linked [here as a PDF](#). Please print it or pick up a copy in the rear of the church, fill it out and drop it off with the office, in the locked mailbox out front, or with Mtr. Megan on Sunday. Thank you, and sincere apologies for any confusion. (Mtr Megan repeats her assurance that we will not sell, give away, or otherwise distribute your information, despite our momentary technological glitch.)
- **SAVE THE DATE:** To celebrate the end of Summer, St. John's will be holding a Mass on the Grass with a potluck lunch following on **August 5 at Stewart Park!** There will be **ONE SERVICE at 10am** on that day. Mark your calendars now, and be on the lookout for more information.
- **IF YOU NEED A RIDE** to church on August 5 at Stewart Park, look for a signup sheet at coffee hour. Rides are available for this special event, so please sign up so you can join the fun!
- **STUDENT INSTRUMENTALISTS** are invited to offer their musical gifts in worship this summer. Our church is a beautiful space in which to play, and our appreciative congregation is very supportive. Most student literature, including NYSMMA and ITE pieces, can be used as a prelude or offertory in our later services. For more info, contact Karen Hindenlang through the church office, or speak with her after services.

Time is almost up! Have you donated money to thank Jim Johnson for his exemplary service to St John's and the EFM community yet? You can do so now, [right here!](#)



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Website



Mtr Megan's sermons

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