



# Anglican Church of the Good Shepherd

Reaching Individuals and Families of the Concho Valley with the Transforming Love of Jesus Christ!

## AGNUS DEI

February 2019

*"Yet I hold this  
against you:  
You have  
forsaken the  
love you had at  
first. Consider  
how far you  
have fallen!  
Repent and do  
the things you  
did at first. If  
you do not  
repent, I will  
come to you  
and remove  
your lampstand  
from its place"*

Rev. 2:4-5

### Cold Wave

**"Yet I hold this against you: You have forsaken the love you had at first. Consider how far you have fallen! Repent and do the things you did at first. If you do not repent, I will come to you and remove your lampstand from its place" (Rev. 2:4-5).**

As I write, parts of the United States are being blasted with Artic wind currents that are bringing temperatures down to as low as -50 degrees F. Articles are being written regarding how that temperature immediately affects your body upon contact. Warnings are frequently issued through the media. Unusually cold spells may occur through such natural occurrences such as a large volcanic eruption. Historians call the year 1816 "the year without summer" because of the massive eruption of Mount Tambora in Indonesia. Food shortages emerged forcing migration from the East to the Midwest in the U.S. In England, the weather changes prompted one of the worst recorded typhus epidemics. Our world needs a right balance between warm and cool air for a healthy ecosphere.

At the meeting of the Midland Anglican Deanery last week, I told the Bishop that in the past seven months I have become an expert in paradise. After some funny looks had come my way, I told them, "I now live in San Angelo." Then they chuckled in agreement. We live in paradise here. While we don't have the same prolonged extreme temperatures other parts of the country experience, we do need to check the temperature of our spiritual hearts. Do we have passion for the Lord, the Lost, and the Lord's people? If our hearts experience a cold wave, before long we can't fully ingest our spiritual food and we begin wondering into "enemy territory" in a spiritual sense. No matter the weather outside, if we keep our hearts focused on the Lord, his Word, and his mission, then our hearts will be warm on the inside.

Blessings,

Fr. Hal

Anglican Church of the  
Good Shepherd

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[www.anglicancgs.com](http://www.anglicancgs.com)

Send articles, announcements  
and feedback to  
secretary.acgs  
@suddenlinkmail.com



**Newly elected Vestry members** Mark Findlay, Billie Ruth Hodges and Paul Millican will serve three-year terms and Shirley Foxcroft will fill a one-year vacancy.

Thank you to outgoing members Kathi Johnson, Teddye Read and Bob Schneeman.



## National Prayer Breakfast San Angelo

Thursday, February 7, 2019

6:00 AM - 7:30 AM

Program/Keynote Chad Williams,  
Former US Navy Seal. Author of "Seal of God".

McNease Convention Center, 500 Rio Concho Rd.  
For more information or for tickets call 325-653-5487  
or stop by the Chamber of Commerce office, 418 W Ave B .



Meet the first  
Monday of  
the month  
at 6:00pm in the  
Conference Room.

## DISCRETIONARY OFFERINGS

On the 1<sup>st</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> Sundays of each month, cash placed in the offering plates is designated for Fr. Hal's and Rev. June's discretionary accounts respectively. Checks may also be written payable to the church, with discretionary fund in the memo. Thank you for your generosity.



Our next collection date is  
Sunday, February 24th for our  
Fourth Sunday of  
the Month Food Drive

## THE VESTRY MEETING

The regular monthly Vestry meeting is Monday, February 25, at 6:00 PM in the conference room.

# A WOMAN CAUGHT IN ADULTERY

"My sweet, wake up! We must finish packing, for today we leave this city at last!" I rub sleepy eyes and look at my new husband; so happy with hope and purpose. Yes, we have a long journey ahead. I wash my face and hands to begin the day's chores. My mind drifts back, musing over this city where I was born, then broken by poor choices and crushed by the cruelty of others, then save by grace. I think back on the day that changed everything, the day I met Jesus.

"Well, are you going to buy something or just stand there and draw flies?" The bread vendor is annoyed as I make no purchase. I am hungry and penniless.

"I haven't any coins; just takin in the smell," I stammer feebly. Begging is still new to me. The vendor looks at me with disgust which slowly softens into pity. Her harsh voice takes on a new tone. She looks left then the right. And lowers her voice.

"Don't know this for myself, mind you, but I hear tell there is an old man who likes to 'entertain' young ladies when his wife is out of town. They say he pays for it, too, good money.' She winks.

"NO! I've never done anything like that!" I am flabbergasted.

"Then you're not very hungry, are you?" She hisses. Shame roils through me like bad wine. I haven't eaten in days. What am I to do? I take a deep breath and muster the courage to say, "Where can I find this man?"

Perhaps no one will recognize me. Pulling my cloak around me I cover my head. I walk into the better part of town where scribes and Pharisees live. Try not to be noticed, I myself, shivering with fear. I hesitate, then knock at the door. It opens silently into a shadowy room. An elderly man sitting at the edge of a couch motions me closer as I step inside.

A trap! The door slams behind me. Loud men scream and tear my clothing.

"Harlot!" I am pummeled, slapped, kicked and thrown to the floor.

"Slut!" They drag me into the street like an unwilling animal to slaughter. Blood drips down my torn cheek; a groping hand shoves 2 coins into my pocket. "Filthy lucre," he snorts the spits in disgust. Cursing me, they lead me into the temple and throw me in front of a Rabbi, someone who teaches with authority. Dizzy with fright and hunger, I can barely think. They want to kill me. Someone roughly jerks me to my feet and I stand before Him.

"Teacher, this woman was caught in adultery, in the very act. Now, Moses in the law, commanded us that such should be stoned. But what do You say?"

The most gentle face I have ever seen looks into my eyes and sees to the depth of my soul. I hardly breathe as He bends over to write with His finger on the ground. The men don't like this and persist in demanding a judgment. Absorbed in His task He ignores them. Finally He stands and speaks.

"He who is without sin among you, let him throw a stone at her first."

The air is sucked out of the room in the silence that follows. One by one, from eldest to youngest, they leave. Only Jesus and I remain as He resumes writing with his hand. I gulp breaths of air as a calm washes over me, a peace in His presence I never felt before.

"Woman," He is beside me now, "Where are those accusers of yours? Has no one condemned you?"

"No one, Lord," I whisper.

"Neither do I condemn you; go, and sin no more."

I followed Jesus that day, joining His company of believers. They took me in and fed me. They welcomed me as one of their own. I met my new husband in the upper room where we gathered before His resurrection. We stood together as the Christ was taken up into heaven that glorious Ascension day. We married after Pentecost, when we were filled with the Holy Spirit and became convicted in our mission to follow those who preach the good news, the kingdom of God through Jesus Christ. We leave Jerusalem today; a new life awaits us and our joy know no bounds. We pray without ceasing, and witness in Jesus' name to the end of the earth. amen!

Jean Stinnett

IN  
THIS  
ISSUE  
OF THE

## AGNUS DEI



- Vestry Intreat - February 2
- Daughters of the Holy Cross - February 4
- National Prayer Breakfast - February 7
- Food Drive Sunday - February 24
- Vestry Meeting - February 25

HAPPY BIRTHDAY

## February Birthdays

2/1	Leann Springer
2/1	Stanley Holik
2/3	David Gould
2/5	David Boro
2/6	Patty Davenport
2/11	Kyle Baker
2/14	Buddy Otto
2/20	Richard Roberts
2/20	Jo Millican
2/23	Kathi Johnson
2/23	Martha Sue Oliver

**March Agnus Dei Deadline is February 15**



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