

Apostles Anglican Church

E-Newsletter February 6, 2021



Vestry Update

2021 will be a year full of transitions for us at Apostles as the pandemic restrictions lighten with the progress of the vaccination project. As progress is

made we hope to increase our capacity for the Sunday morning worship service and to broaden participation in our community groups. Step by step as COVID safety increases and persons are ready to reconnect we will rebuild our common life.

During this transition year the Rector has decided to not hold a Vestry selection process for new members. He has asked Trevor Durbin and Chuck Farley to serve one more year (and they have said yes!) in order to keep leadership continuity through this time of our congregation's life. The current Vestry will be focusing on helping us re-jump start the re-visioning process which was stalled by the COVID crisis.



Service Times:

12 noon
&
5:45pm

(Please use our website to register online:
You can click on the link below)

[Apostles Church \(apostlesanglican.org\)](http://Apostles Church (apostlesanglican.org))

Ash Wednesday marks the beginning of the season of Lent: a time of penitence, fasting, and prayer, in preparation for the great feast of the resurrection.

Please join the greater Apostles community as we humble ourselves together before the Lord and seek repentance and renewal in our lives.

BISHOP'S CONSECRATION - February 13th, 2021



Bishop-Elect Mark Engel

Bishop elect Mark Engle will be consecrated the 5th Bishop of The Diocese of the Great Lakes on Saturday February 13th at 1pm. The service will be online and can be accessed on the diocesan website.

Link: www.adgl.us

Please pray for Fr. Mark and our diocese as we approach this date.

Prayer for Diocese

O God, by your grace you have called us in this Diocese to be a good and godly fellowship of faith. Bless our Bishop-elect Mark Engel, and other clergy, and all our people. Grant that your Word may be truly preached and truly heard, your Sacraments faithfully administered and faithfully received. By your Spirit, fashion our lives according to the example of your Son, and grant that we may show the power of your love to all among whom we live; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

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Lent: Journey to Easter

Clear the path

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Take a step

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Embrace the Love

When we say that Lent is a journey to Easter, we mean more than the marking off of 5 weeks on the calendar. The journey is about more than can be measured by the countdown app on your smart phone.

We are not on a journey to the Easter service. We are on a journey into a deeper Easter life.

Lent is not a task to be accomplished or a goal to be reached. Lent is a journey of attentive listening, spiritual practices, self-denial, and humble openness. We seek not self-improvement but God-communion. The call is not to a successful Lent but a holy Lent. The best fruits of the journey are not insight and knowledge but holiness and love.

The journey involves these 3 things:

Clear the path: listen to the Spirit and reflect on any habits or distractions that hinder you from hearing God's voice, responding to His will, and drawing closer to His heart. What is keeping you from experiencing the life God has for you, i.e. your best life?

Take a step: Do what you can; and if you can, do something that matters. Take a step that helps you clear your path. Take up a spiritual practice. Choose to deny yourself something. Read the Bible daily. Read a spiritual book. Have a spiritual conversation with your pastor or spiritual director. Help someone else on their journey. Keep a journal. Serve the poor. Reach out to someone you've lost touch with. Mend a relationship. Learn about something outside your box.

Embrace the Love: On the journey don't focus on the steps you're taking but stay focused on the One you are following. Allow yourself to experience God's love for you, look for the grace of God at work around you, trust the hidden work of God in you.

God wants to pour the Easter life into the places in our lives where we are spiritually and emotionally stuck, trapped or even dead.

The Easter life is about growing in peace with yourself, God and others; experiencing hope and purpose in daily life; and connecting with others in love, service and blessing. The Easter life flows from a heart of gratitude and joy that has discovered the transforming love of God in Jesus Christ.

(hat tip to Carson Daniel for the journey idea and 3 directive phrases)