



MAY 12, 2019

Spumcduncan.com
FB@stpaulsumcduncan
stpaulsduncan@gmail.com



Pastor David Gardner

There are some folks who think if it is a “National” holiday, like Mother’s Day or St. Patrick’s Day or 4th of July, then all of a worship service should be wrapped around that theme. Other folks think that all of that stuff is “worldly” so there is no mention of Father’s Day or Labor Day or Memorial Day.

I think we live our lives both inside and outside the walls of the church. I think that whenever possible, we should try to integrate events like Mother’s Day with whatever the lectionary text might be. I hope that members of St. Paul’s find balance therein. Happy and/or Meaningful Mother’s Day!

David Roseberry writes for www.anglicanpastor.com:

The bible stresses the vital role of women in the transmission of the faith.

Not only is motherhood vital in the Old Testament, Paul calls out the mother of Timothy and his grandmother. He honors them for being the ones who gave Timothy a vision of what to believe. “I am reminded of your sincere faith, a faith that dwelt first in your grandmother Lois and your mother Eunice and now, I am sure, dwells in you as well.” (2 Timothy 1:5). If Paul called out moms and grandmothers for meritorious conduct, we should too! Way to go mom!

There is a touching moment in Romans 16 that chokes me up nearly every time I think about it.

Paul is sending his personal greeting to his friends in Rome. He says, effectively, “Say hi to Rufus...and to his mother who was a mother to me.” (verse 13) Whoa! What did he just say?

We know who Rufus is. He was the son of Simon of Cyrene who carried the cross of Christ on the last leg of the painful Good Friday journey. This means that Simon (probably) went home from that experience a changed man.

And he shared the power of that moment with his wife who then, likely, shared it with her sons, Alexander and Rufus (Mark 15:21).

Are you not moved by imagining that she heard from her husband about his close encounter with Jesus...and that the two boys heard it as well? And then, in a remarkable loving intersection of faith and circumstance, she might have shared it with Paul. (How they met, where they met, and under what circumstances this remarkable coincidence occurred, we will never know.)

But imagine this: she was like a mother to the Great Apostle Paul. Paul of Tarsus may have learned about the final moments of the life of his new Lord from the wife of the man who carried the Lord's cross, Simon of Cyrene. She was like a mother to him. Whatever that meant for Paul, we should be thankful for her.

And her care and love of Saul of Tarsus, the terrorist-turned-missionary, should inspire us all. Think about it. Without knowing who he would become, she was a mother to the most significant convert in the history of the church. Glory to God for her!

The womb is God's great tool for the salvation of the human race.

God had to 'borrow' one to accomplish his plan. He fulfilled the promise through a borrowed womb (Gal. 4:4). Think about that for a long time. We live in an age when sex is lauded and revered, but gender is confused, and motherhood is jeered at. But God didn't use sex to save the world.

But God did use gender, of the female kind, to save us. He did honor pregnancy and motherhood in a way that our culture does not today. God bypassed what our culture 'worships' today (sex) and used what our culture dismisses as unimportant (motherhood). Moms should be honored by us...God honored them all with the Incarnation.

Of course, there are women who do not have children or who cannot have children.

And there are many mothers who have had lost children to early death or misfortune. We must all be very sensitive to that fact. But we all have needed mothers in our own lives. And those moms, living or dead, good or bad, provided life for us...or to us. We should at least give thanks for our mothers...all of our mothers.

Luke 1:46-48 (Voice)

Mary: My soul lifts up the Lord!

My spirit celebrates God, my Liberator!

For though I'm God's humble servant,
God has noticed me.

Now and forever,
I will be considered blessed by all generations.

(Part of a Mother's Day Prayer from www.umcdiscipleship.org) God we ask that You bless our mothers this day, no matter what they have done or left undone. We do this because we believe in Your healing. We believe in Your love. We believe that You love every mother, good or bad; and we stand together with all mothers in solidarity, for we all are in need of Your grace. Where we have failed because we did not know better, help us to forgive ourselves. Where we have seen Your face in any woman who has been to us a mother, in her face we have seen Your light and love. We give thanks -- for where they have loved, they have kept Your word and blessed us.

Church Announcements

There will not be a Duncan High School Student Lunch this month. It will resume in the Fall.

We need Volunteers to help in the Nursery on Sunday Mornings.

UMW will meet May 16th at 6 pm.

The Fellowship Meal will be May 19th at Noon.

The Leadership Table will meet Tuesday May 21st at 6:30 pm.

We need someone to ride with the Driver on the Church Van on Sunday Mornings to help pick up the kiddos. If you are interested, please contact the office.



The Kairos Prison Ministry programs are lay-led, interdenominational Christian Ministries. Kairos Prison Ministry has three programs, Kairos inside, Kairos Outside and Kairos Torch. Kairos Inside serves men and women who are incarcerated. Kairos Outside serves women who have friend or relatives who are or have been incarcerated and Kairos Torch serves youth that are incarcerated. As a ministry, Kairos embraces a diverse group of volunteers working together to fulfill Christ's call to action in Matthew 25:36. Kairos Outside feels that many times women "serve time" right along with their loved ones. Kairos Outside provides a special weekend retreat designed to support the female relatives of men and women who are or have been incarcerated or women who were incarcerated who were unable to attend Kairos Inside while in prison. The weekend is followed by a continuing ministry of small group communities. Contact Gerry if you are interested in helping or know someone who is interested in attending a Kairos weekend.



- 1 - Paula Freese
- 6 - Landon Berscheidt
- 7 - Ron Martin
- 10 - Don Henricks
- 10 - Michelle Martin
- 16 - Nikki Pierce
- 17 - Kevin Berscheidt
- 23 - Megan Caveny



- 2 - Billy and Mary Branch



Family visiting for Mother's Day
Fran Wray doing better
Dakota Adopted



Pat Bowles and Family – Sister passed away

Tanner Tanaka

Addie's brother after Heart Surgery

Marian Chessmore Family

Beth Horn

Allred's Granddaughters Kirsten and Courtney

Cheryl Johnson and Family – Loss of her mom Iva Johnson

Family of Ranet Tippens after her Father's death

Ann Starrett – Dementia and broken Hip. In Memory Care.

Trish Lister

James Crow – Cancer

Kay Martin – Dementia and Fell and Broke a Bone

Sara Riggs – for strength and peace as she goes through Divorce

Thomas Bradburry – Healing from Cancer

Carla Johnson – Fracture in her Shoulder

Jo Ann Pierce – Continued prayers for recovering from Knee Surgery

Pat Weber – Continued prayers for recovery from foot surgery

Della Henry – Heart Surgery

Kathy Allred – Continued prayers for healing and to be healthy

Marcia Haskins – On going foot sores

Drew Cole - Cancer

Junior Brown - Cancer

Connie Green – Cancer

Stacy Mettler – Cancer

Ann Johnson – Continued prayers for healing on her hip

Addie McMurrin

Jason Poorman – (Edith Suiters nephew) Non-Hodgkin's Lymphoma

Karen Gibson – Cancer

Gary Gibson – Cancer

Jan Smith – Cancer

Kathy Bridges – Cancer

Joe Perry – Kidney cancer

Margaret Averre – Throat cancer

Daniel Whittney – Cancer

Jennifer Allred – Spinal pain and fibromyalgia

Melinda Douglas – Lung Cancer