

# GOOD NEWS!!

Let us give thanks to God for the hope we have in him through Christ!

## Holy Week and Easter 2019

**April 15 Holy Monday**  
Morning Prayer 10:30am  
At Central Outreach

**April 16 Holy Tuesday**  
Common Soles 9:30am  
At Gateway

**April 17 Holy Wednesday**  
Stations of the Cross:  
Morning Prayer 10:30am  
at Central Outreach

and also

Bible Study 2:30pm  
at Woodruff Park

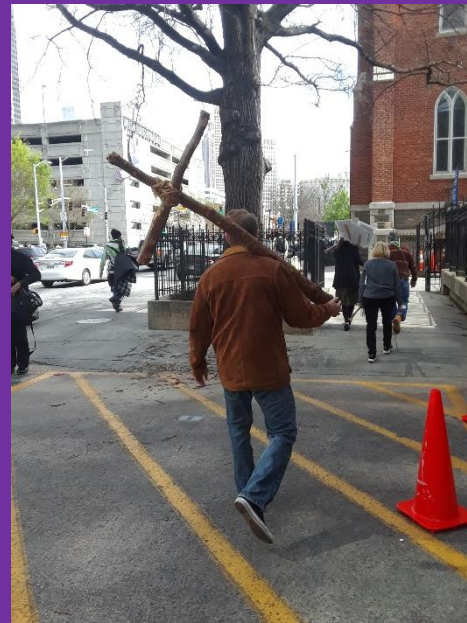
**April 18 Maundy Thursday**  
Blessing of Hands  
with Washing of Feet  
from 11am-1pm  
At Woodruff Park

**April 19 Good Friday**  
Urban Pilgrimage 8:45am  
At the Shrine

### Coming Soon:

**May 7 Labyrinth Walk**  
and pizza outing at the Cathedral.  
10am-1pm.  
Pick up and drop off at  
55 Park Place.  
Sign-up ahead of time.

**May 18 Beyond Sandwiches Symposium**  
11am – 3pm  
Hosted by Church of the Common Ground  
All Saints' Episcopal Church, Ellis Hall  
See a clergy person about registering to  
attend



## He is Risen!

**April 20 Easter Vigil**  
Worship 7:30pm  
At Woodruff Park

**April 21 Easter Sunday**  
Worship 1:00pm  
Woodruff Park

## CHURCH of the COMMON GROUND NEWS

a church community on the streets of Atlanta

[www.churchofthecommonground.org](http://www.churchofthecommonground.org)

April 2019

### Orientation – Disorientation – Reorientation

In this season of Lent, what has been your orientation?

Some people give up something, like soda or cussing, I've been told. Others take something on, like a discipline. As a community, we have turned, or oriented, toward the matter of racial injustice. We have read Thurman's *Jesus and the Disinherited* and Cone's *The Cross and the Lynching Tree*. These studies are reorienting me. They are causing me to think and rethink who and how we are in this city. Our guest speakers have reoriented us too, most recently inviting us to listen again to one another. You might find this disorienting – to listen to someone else's story without an opportunity to respond or refute or affirm. This discipline is helping us hear one another in a new way.

I always think of 'orientation' like 'posture' – the way I turn or bend. And my orientation toward God, in particular, is very important to me – shall I bow or kneel or lift my eyes? I realize how important our orientation to one another is too – might we extend ourselves in love?

I recently was reminded that 'orient' is a late Middle English word from the Latin 'oriri' meaning 'to rise'. Since the sun rises in the East, the word also came to mean 'east' and then 'the East', and the countries on the continent of Asia that were east of those mapmakers in Europe, who were oriented to see themselves as the center of the universe, saw those places east as 'the Orient.' But if we can appreciate 'orient', with its Latin roots, 'to rise', then perhaps it's a resurrection word.

Here we are on the cusp of Easter, when we celebrate Jesus' resurrection, and our invitation to rise, again and again and again, from our sin and sorrow and despair, and so I think it's an opportunity to orient. Or, reorient. To rise, or rise again. Sometimes we get here via disorientation, a season in which we might feel despair.

Recently on retreat I was reminded of Walter Brueggeman's suggestion in his *Praying the Psalms* that we often are in one of these three places: orientation – disorientation – reorientation. It is natural in the life of faith to feel all is well with life and God, at times; and then, utterly in despair or confusion; and then, again at peace and full of gratitude. The retreat itself was an experience of these places/stages for many of us, who were in a new environment, experiencing new things, learning and stretching. Oriented, disoriented, reoriented.

As we look to Easter, perhaps we as a community might embrace one another, in our various orientations, and together embrace the Risen One.

Always reorienting,  
Pastor Monica

**SUNDAYS:** 1pm—Worship at Woodruff Park

**MONDAYS:** 10:30am—Morning Prayer Central Outreach

**TUESDAYS:** Pastoral Care | 9:30-11:30am Common Soles—resumes at St. Luke's park May 14

**WEDNESDAYS:** 10:30am—Morning Prayer at Central Outreach and 2:30pm—Bible Study at Woodruff Park

**THURSDAYS:** Pastoral Care and 9:30am-1pm Theology From the Margins - at Central Outreach every other Thursday

Questions, comments, suggestions:  
[vicar@churchofthecommonground.org](mailto:vicar@churchofthecommonground.org)  
404-873-7667

#### Follow us:

 [www.facebook.com/Church-of-the-Common-Ground-188642141207497/](https://www.facebook.com/Church-of-the-Common-Ground-188642141207497/)

 <https://twitter.com/ATLcommonground>

 <http://instagram.com/churchofthecommonground>

Church of the Common Ground takes photographs at church programs for use in our newsletter, on our website, and on social media. If you would rather us not use your image, please let a priest or staff member know.





## Pray for Each Other

*"Remember those who are in prison, as though in prison with them, and those who are mistreated, since you also are in the body."*

*Hebrews 13:3*

Those in prison may often feel alone and forgotten. If you wish to write a note of hope for a person in prison, you may give it to one of the clergy, and the church will mail it on your behalf.

Michael Williams  
#824700  
Wheeler Correctional  
PO Box 466  
Alamo, GA 30411

Glen Bruton  
#1000083551  
Autry State Prison  
PO Box 648  
Pelham, GA 31779

## Let's Celebrate Birthdays!



12<sup>th</sup>—Keith  
16<sup>th</sup>—Donald  
20<sup>th</sup>—Chester



*We pray this birthday will warm your heart and may God's warmth not ever depart.*

*If you would like your birthday listed in the CCG newsletter, please make sure to let one of the priests know what date it is.*

**Interested in volunteering with Common Soles non-medical foot clinic?  
We need some volunteers.  
See Rev. Kenya and she will tell you all about it.**

## Humble Dignity

### John 12:3

*Mary took a pound of costly perfume made of pure nard, anointed Jesus' feet, and wiped them with her hair.*

### John 13:5

*Then he poured water into a basin and began to wash the disciples' feet and to wipe them with the towel that was tied around him.*

John's gospel tells of two stories about washing feet. Mary washes Jesus' feet and dries them with her hair. In the next chapter, Jesus washes the feet of his disciples. Both are stories of honor, compassion, and humanity.

Our feet are amazing creations. God invented a part of our body able to walk around the Earth, feel prickly grass, carry the weight of our bodies and the weight of our life stories. Feet are strong and hard working. We ask a lot of our humble feet. When they are clean and cared for everything can seem better.

Common Soles is our way of showing the same honor, compassion and humanity reflected in the gospel. Each week volunteers and clergy tend the feet of the weary. With warm water, soap, lotion, and prayer, the humble foot is made ready to walk this Earth another day. It is made ready to walk this Earth with dignity and maybe just a little bit of hope.

Thank you to all of our Common Soles volunteers and especially our visiting TACC interns this month.

*Scripture source: Biblegateway.com*

