

Today's opening letter comes from Susan Attzs-Mendoza, Executive Director of Moravian Open Door, a transitional housing facility for homeless adults and community partner of Incarnation. Susan wrote to the Moravian Open Door Committee the morning after our "Lundi Gras" bingo party this past Monday.

Hello everyone:

Since walking into the office this morning, almost every conversation in and around the building has to do with Lundi Gras and the amount of "fun" that everyone had. Charles, who helped with calling the bingo numbers, is in my office as I write this email, regaling me with reports from last evening and we're both laughing hysterically at some of the comments that were made. What none of you know – is that Charles lost his youngest son just one month ago to an unexpected heart attack and that he hadn't planned to attend last night. It is so good to hear him laughing through his ongoing grief and struggles.

Clients keep stopping by to talk about the event and how happy they felt. In fact, someone said that we almost ran out of chairs and that the "next time" we will have to open the door to the courtyard so that more clients can attend. Joy and expectation are in the air!

The conversation that stands out the most was the first one for the day. I asked Jorge how did he do last night, to which he responded:

"Susan, I got the best gift – a hug that made me feel genuinely loved and appreciated. You know? Someone really cares about me." Then he held out his arms and simulated the hug that he got from one of you last night.

I couldn't help but reflect on our Lord Jesus and how, because of you, Jorge and others were able to experience Jesus' love, compassion and concern for "the least of these." I am also reminded of some words to a song that we sing in the church: *"I want to live/love/serve so God can use me – anywhere and anytime."*

I deliberately did not begin this communication with the standard "thank you." Jorge's words capture what Incarnation has done and continues to do for our clients. "Thank You" cannot sufficiently or effectively express how we feel at MOD today, but it is what I offer to you individually and collectively at this time.

Continue being extensions of Jesus in your own lives, love and service to "the least of these."

Thank You,
Susan

TODAY AFTER CHURCH!

12:30 to 1:30 p.m. "At the Grave We Make Our Song: Reflections on the End, From the Middle." We'll regather at the front of the church to hear from the Rev. Dr. Nate Lee as he discusses one of the key themes of Lent—our mortality, and the place of death in our lives before God.

CONFIRMATION AND INQUIRERS' CLASS – Wednesday, March 9

7:00 to 8:00 p.m. Our yearly Confirmation and Inquirers' Class continues in the Parish House (and also on Zoom) with "The History and Identity of the Episcopal Church." All are welcome, even if you aren't registered for the entire class. Email the Rev. Adrian Dannhauser at adannhauser@churchoftheincarnation.org with any questions.

FREEING JESUS BOOK DISCUSSION – Thursday, March 10

7:00 to 8:00 p.m. Our Lenten Book Discussion on *Freeing Jesus*, led by the Rev. Dr. Nate Lee, continues in the Parish House (and also on Zoom). The discussion will focus on chapter 1, Jesus as Friend. All are welcome. Email Nate at nlee@churchoftheincarnation.org with any questions.

SERMON TALKBACK – Sunday, March 13

12:30 to 1:15 p.m. We begin a series of “Sermon Talk Backs” that will continue through the season of Lent. After Coffee Hour, you’ll be invited to gather for a roundtable discussion of the sermon from that day. This will be a time when you can ask questions, give feedback, and in general, help us all to deepen the conversation that the sermon has only just begun.

LENTEN DRIVE FOR BABY SUPPLIES

Throughout Lent, we are collecting baby supplies — diapers, formula, food, wipes, etc. — for Hour Children, an organization that helps incarcerated and formerly incarcerated women and their children successfully rejoin their communities. Pick up a flyer in the Narthex and scan the QR code to access Incarnation’s Hour Children Amazon storefront. Purchase from the list of needed supplies online or drop off baby supplies at the church.

We are still inviting parishioners to serve at Hour Children in a variety of roles. Pick up a copy of the Lent 2022 newsletter in the Narthex for details.

EVERY WEEK AT INCARNATION

Sunday Bible Study: Bible Study is held in the Parish House (and via Zoom) on Sundays from 10:00 to 10:30 a.m. (Masks are required.) We generally follow the Yale Bible Study program, which offers course materials on select books of the Bible, deepened by insights from Yale Divinity School professors.

Sunday School for Children: During the 11:00 a.m. service, children ages 3 to 10 depart the service with their teachers for Sunday School in the Parish House. (Masks are required, and all teachers have been vaccinated.) They return before the end of worship. See our website, churchoftheincarnation.org, for more information on Children and Family Ministries.

Wednesday Holy Eucharist: Join us each Wednesday at 12:15 p.m. for this Rite I spoken service of Holy Eucharist, which includes a brief homily and organ music.

Thursday Candlelight Communion: Join us each Thursday at 6:15 p.m. for Candlelight Communion, a service of Holy Eucharist that incorporates chant and silence as well as elements of contemporary worship. This service is informal and contemplative, with music led by a Cantor and a brief reflection by one of the clergy. You can also stream this service at youtube.com/churchoftheincarnation.

Daily Office: Services of Morning Prayer, Noonday Prayer and Compline are held via Zoom. To view the weekly schedule, go to churchoftheincarnation.org/worship.

To receive access information for offerings held via Zoom, join our email distribution list by filling out the yellow Connect Card found in your pew or signing up through our website.