

St. Luke's Episcopal Church

Where all are welcome at the Lord's table

August 30, 2020

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Greetings!

Not that things are ever dull around here, but beginning this Sunday, we are in for quite an amazing two-day sequence!

First, at our principle Sunday services, Nancy Arnold will be preaching a sort of farewell sermon. I have mixed feelings about her departure. I, as I imagine many of you who have worked with her, will be sad to see her go. And yet, at the same time, I could not be more appreciative and respectful of the reflection Nancy has done leading up to this move. After a slow but steady expanding of her ministries here, Nancy has discerned a call to the vocational diaconate. She leaves us to pursue that vocation and St. Luke's loss will be the wider Church's gain.

If you haven't heard anything about all of this, take a look at this past Friday's Weekly where you will find a cover letter written by Nancy.

Later Sunday afternoon the church-and likely auditorium-will fill again, this time to remember and celebrate the life of Ron Clement. And although his passing came way too soon and relatively swiftly, there will be much to celebrate.

Ron was a cornerstone to the building of our feeding ministries, a lead organizer of our monthly community supper-tending tirelessly to the hungry of East Greenwich-and not just with food but also with kindness-leaving us all inspired to do at least a bit of the same. We are the church we are in part because of Ron's influence and ministry. And then, the very next day, Monday, nearly 80 golfers (many of us) will play golf at Potowomut Country Club to raise funds for a kitchen and dining room renovation-necessitated in part because of the ministry Ron helped establish. The event promises to be a huge success, made possible only because we have had countless parishioners tending to everything from publicity to sponsorship to registration to flowers, and to food.

We owe a great thanks to our tournament co-chairs, Bill Warburton and Jon Jacaruso, our marketing team, Deborah Collins and Laura Sullivan, our dining and logistics coordinators, Jane Brockway and Ellen Abell, our volunteer coordinator, Pam Dresselhouse, and the remainder of the committee, Dottie Fleming, Dick Kelly, Steve Mendes, and Eric Holmstedt. They have worked harder and longer than they or we ever imagined, yet also, the tournament promises to exceed our wildest imaginings!

Really, St. Luke's never ceases to amaze me! On display in places ranging from the pulpit to the putting green, born out of situations as different as grief and golf, are incredible examples of faith, generosity, and joy. What a testimony to the power of God and God's church!

I am grateful that I get to share it all with you.

Peace, Tim

This Sunday at St. Luke's

The Thirteenth Sunday after Pentecost Click above for the lessons

> Streaming Service of Morning Prayer. Watch our worship service this weekend on <u>Facebook</u> or on <u>YouTube</u>.

<u>Click here</u> to download a copy of the parish prayer list.

Nancy Arnold, preaching

Celebration of Life Service for Ron Clement - Sunday, August 30, at 2 pm

<u>Please join us for the livestreaming of a Celebration of Life Service for Ron Clement</u>

To access the livestream, please follow the instructions below:

1. Our Facebook page can be accessed by clicking this link: <u>https://www.facebook.com/stlukeseg.</u>

2. You do not need a Facebook account to access this page. If you do not have an account, Facebook will ask if you would like to set one up. Simply click the 'X' at the top right corner to close that box or click 'Not Now.' If you do have an account, 'Liking' our page ahead of the service will allow Facebook to send you a notification when the livestream begins.

3. The livestream will be accessible from St. Luke's Facebook page 15 minutes before the service begins, at 1:45 pm. The livestream will be the first thing you see beneath our information. You do not need a Facebook account to view the video.

You can practice accessing our page any time you would like by clicking the link above. Feel free to explore what is already on our page. We have our regular Sunday Morning Prayer services linked there and some fantastic pictures from our beloved community.

We are grateful to be able to offer this livestream so that people who cannot join us in person can still remember and celebrate Ron's life with us.

Reopening Announcement

Father Tim Announces Our Reopening!

We are so excited to welcome everyone back to St. Luke's!

Please <u>Click Here</u> to read Father Tim's Reopening Letter to the parish!

<u>Click Here</u> to view Father Tim's video message!

To Sign Up for Sunday Service using Sign-Up Genius, please Click Here!

We will also begin using a QR Code for our Sunday Bulletin which can be scanned by using a SmartPhone! This will give worshipers the option to view our bulletin on their phone during Sunday Service or to print the bulletin and bring it to the church. We will provide hard copies as well.

Here Is The Sunday Bulletin QR Code:



<u>Click Here</u> to view our Sunday Bulletin!

The next book study to be So You Want to Talk About Race By Ijeoma Oluo

One of the powerful takeaways from our recently completed book study of *Virus: A Summons to Faith* was the observation by many that the concurrence of the pandemic with the violent deaths of George Floyd and several other African Americans has allowed us a particular opportunity for deep reflections on matters related to race. As one parishioner noted to me, "I don't know if this country would be having such a sustained conversation on race if everything else was humming along as usual."

I believe she's right. This is not a normal summer. We are not off on vacation. We are not hosting visitors who like to come to Rhode Island's beaches. We are not even going to the theater for some summer blockbuster release. It feels like this is a particular moment in time. In fact, I would go so far as to suggest this is what Christian scholars refer to as a "kairos moment."

Have you ever heard that phrase before?

One author described a **kairos moment** in this way: it is **"a moment of maximum opportunity.** It is **a moment when change is possible.** It is **an exquisite syncretistic moment when all things 'come together' and align.** I believe it is what the Bible refers to as 'the set time,' and what we in the church call, 'waiting for God's *best*.'"

So sensing the energy and urgency of this moment, I invite you to join me and the Adult Faith Formation Committee in reading, *So You Want to Talk About Race*, by Ijeoma Oluo. We have selected this particular book amongst a variety of possibilities because it provides such a rich, accessible, and personal examination of race in America.

Classes will gather by way of Zoom Wednesdays, going from 7:00-8:30PM. To purchase a book, either look in your local bookstore or purchase on line through Amazon.

I hope you'll join us for this important read. Although reading a book doesn't guarantee a deeper understanding of race-related issues, listening to the stories of one African American woman surely seems like a good place to start.

Peace, Tim

<u>Click Here</u> to join our Adult Faith Zoom Meeting. See below for Meeting ID and Password:

Meeting ID: 824 1374 8613 Password: 270920

Community Kitchen Golf Classic

Support the Renovation of St. Luke's Community Kitchen!



The Diocese of Rhode Island has created a new podcast called <u>Tea Time Theology</u>. Below is a note from one of the people involved in this project announcing it to the Diocese. As with much in our Diocesan life, St. Luke's has been involved with this new effort. The audio and recording work has been done by Taylor Wilkey, and our Associate Rector was interviewed for an episode to air in June. Be sure to tune in and listen to voices from around our Diocese.

Hello Rhode Island Episcopalians!

Do you have questions about faith, church, and spirituality? So do we! Tea Time Theology is the new podcast sponsored by the Episcopal Diocese of Rhode Island, whose goal is to create space to have real and meaningful conversations about faith.

Our first episode will be dropping on April 14th . Please follow our social medias! We are @teatimetheology on Twitter, Instagram, and Facebook. You will be able to listen on: Stitcher, Google Podcast, and The Apple Podcast App.

Thanks,

Ivy

Especially for Children

To watch Godly Play online please Click Here!

Mask Making and Free Masks and Gloves

If you are looking for something hands-on to do to help out during this time of COVID-19, here is a project that might be right for you. There is an increasing demand for face masks in our communities: both masks for medical professions and masks for every day use in the wider community. While we cannot make the N95 masks for medical professions, there are a lot of resources out there for making everyday masks. If you are a person who knows how to sew (sewer/sewist/master of the sewing needle) please consider joining the efforts of people around the country to make home-sewn masks. The Mask Now Coalition is one such organization sharing information and patterns for masks.

HOME DELIVERY OF FREE FACE MASKS AND SANITARY GLOVES

I will be glad to deliver free surplus blue face masks and white latex gloves to the homes of people who need them and will use them appropriately.

Please contact Timothy Barcott. 401-397-6700. Weekday evenings.

Creating Connections

As we seek ways to connect while we are physically apart we want to hear how you are doing! We invite you to share with us the ways you are finding joy, gratitude, and God in the midst of our physical separation. Take a short video, snap a photo, record yourself singing a song, write a reflection or poem, share a favorite prayer! Be creative! Please send your pictures, videos, and other reflections to us at <u>connections@stlukeseg.org</u>. As we receive these stories and reflection we are going to share them on our parish Facebook and Instagram accounts, as well as here in the St. Luke's Weekly. We are making joy, and grace, and gratitude, and God's love contagious!

Virtual Church

In addition to joining St. Luke's for virtual worship, we want to share with you other resources for being created around the Diocese and wider Episcopal Church.

The <u>Washington National Cathedral</u> is streaming Morning and Evening Prayer in addition to Sunday morning Eucharist. For those of you interested in finding worship that is of a high church expression <u>St. Thomas Church</u> on Fifth Avenue in New York is broad casting their Sunday morning worship.You also cannot go wrong tuning in to <u>St. Bart's</u> or <u>Trinity Wall Street</u>.

There are also great opportunities closer to home. Many of the parishes of our Diocese are streaming different forms of worship. Try out saying morning prayer and evening prayer with <u>St.</u> **Paul's Pawtucket**, or Compline with <u>ECC</u>, or Stations of the Cross with <u>The Church of the Redeemer</u>, Providence, or check out Virtual Emmanuel Church with the folks of <u>Emmanuel</u> <u>Cumberland</u>. The Diocese is working on keeping a list of all the different options our parishes are providing. You can find that <u>here</u>.

Here are some other resources to help you continue your life of prayer. <u>Podcast version</u> Forward Day by Day. <u>A Morning at the Office - Morning Prayer</u>, also sponsored by Forward Movement <u>Weekly Eucharistic Scripture Readings</u> from The Lectionary Page <u>Morning and Evening Prayer in English and Spanish</u> from Mission St. Clare

If you have other resources that you think will be of help to members of our community please email them to **Fr. Tim.**

Looking for Helpers / Looking for Help

Several of you have already reached out, volunteering to help those in need. If you are healthy and in a low risk category, and would like to be added to a volunteer list please email our <u>Church</u> <u>Administrator</u>. We are working on creating a team of individuals who can help out as the need arises.

With all of the precautions and guidance coming from the Governor, CDC, and the Department of Health, we are aware that some members of our community may have difficulty getting access to basics like food, medication, and other necessities. If you find yourself in need, please contact our <u>Church Administrator</u> for assistance.

Food Cupboard

Greetings from our Food Cupboard!

We are reaching out to update you on some of our needs during this challenging time. Our thoughts and prayers are with all of our families that they are able to stay healthy and safe.

Please consider donating these items:

Pancake Syrup, Beef Stew, Hash, Small Canned Hams, Chili, Coffee, Vegetable Oil, Crackers, Cookies, Hearty Soups, Chicken Noodle Soup, Pasta Sides, Gravy (Chicken and Beef), Ketchup and Mustard, Pasta Sauce

Thank you! EG Interfaith Food Cupboard

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