



St. Luke's Episcopal Church

Where all are welcome at the Lord's table

weekly

July 12, 2020

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Greetings!

Following on Father Tim's letter in last Friday's Weekly, I'd like to add my own enthusiastic welcome to the Reverend Tanya Watt who will become our new Assistant Rector on August 2. Welcome Mother Tanya! We are so glad you have joined our parish family, and we look forward to the many blessings that this new relationship will bring.

In his letter, Father Tim shared some background about the process that led Mother Tanya to us. I'd like to expand on that with some wider context about our "curate" program at St. Luke's. I put the word curate in quotes, because with already a full year as an ordained assistant priest, Mother Tanya is beyond the experience level of a curate. If you're as new to all things Episcopalian (with its enigmatic terminology) as I am, a curate is similar to a professional intern whose first years include a substantial learning component.

It is this learning component that gets to the heart of the program we are building here at St. Luke's. It is a vision that Father Tim has shared with the vestry ever since I joined four years ago. We are mindful of the vibrant and active church family we have here at St. Luke's and feel we have much to offer clergy just starting out in their ministries. From our various feeding and outreach ministries to our variety of groups like Women of Grace and Theology on Tap; to our robust volunteer groups that keep our church running like Pastoral Care, Altar Guild, Ushers, Newcomers, and Property Committee; to our formative youth and adult faith education programs; to our beautiful sanctuary with its historic stained glass windows; to our large campus that is in constant use (past months notwithstanding) by us and

by many community groups -- there is a lot we have to offer new clergy looking for a wide exposure to the many aspects of an active parish.

But the wonderful thing about our curate program is that it is not just about what we have to offer. Just out of seminary with an enthusiasm and eagerness to live into their callings, and filled with the inspiration and newfound knowledge of a seminary education, new clergy bring a fresh and exciting perspective with them. Nobody wants to go to a rigid, stuffy church that unthinkingly continues doing things the same old way just because that's the way it's always been done. Well maybe some do, but definitely not the members of our vibrant congregation. The fresh perspective and enthusiasm of nearly or newly ordained clergy propel us forward into new imagination and a deeper reflection of faith.

This is one of those cases in God's kingdom where the regular rules of math do not apply. One plus one equals *more* than two when we bring clergy just starting out in their ministries into our church family. A good measure, pressed down, shaken together and overflowing. There is so much we can do together when we open our hearts and imaginations. And with many headwinds facing us this year, there is indeed so much we *need* to do together.

If none of this convinces you of the merits of our curate program, I will just let our experience with our first curate, Father Dante speak for itself. The depth of shared experience he brought to our parish was more than we ever could have imagined.

The hardest part of a curate program is that it has a built-in expiration date. And saying goodbye is so difficult. But just as any proud parent knows, seeing a young person move on to meet new challenges armed with experience and knowledge that you had a hand in developing is a special blessing indeed. So this is the context in which we welcome Mother Tanya to our St. Luke's family. I have met Mother Tanya and I can tell you that she will bring us forward from past strength to new strength. She will bring her own unique gifts and joys. And I am so excited for all that is in store for her and for us.

Peace,

Gary Schweizer,
Senior Warden

This Sunday at St. Luke's

The Sixth Sunday after Pentecost

Click above for the lessons

Streaming Service of Morning Prayer.

Watch our worship service this weekend on [Facebook](#) or on [YouTube](#).

[Click here](#) to download a copy of the parish prayer list.

The Rev. Timothy T. Rich, rector, , preaching

Adult Faith Formation

Adult Faith Formation - Sundays at 9 am, by Zoom Video Conference

Join us this Sunday at 9 am as we explore how Scripture can inform our thinking and being at this very moment through a brand-new book by Walter Brueggemann, *Virus as a Summons to Faith: Biblical Reflections in a Time of Loss, Grief, and Uncertainty*. Professor Brueggemann is one of the most influential Bible interpreters of our time as well as a prolific writer with more than one hundred books to his credit.

In the forward of this very timely book, Rabbi Nahum Ward-Lev writes:

"Only Walter Brueggemann could have written this book. Most people in the United States have been grappling with the severity of the Covid-19 crisis for about six weeks. In this short time, Professor Brueggemann has written a profound, insightful, and actionable book, bringing forth deep biblical wisdom to provide real support and guidance to face the present crisis. Professor Brueggemann has long been a profound source of biblical wisdom. For over two generations, he has brilliantly brought forth the insights of those ancient Scriptures to meet contemporary issues and challenges. His thin volume that you hold in your hand is an invaluable source of guidance - spiritual, psychological, social and political - for how we can bring new life out of the death and destruction we find all around us."

There are prayers for the present moment at the end of each chapter... sometimes reassuring, sometimes challenging, always fodder for reflection. The prayer from the end of chapter 6 which is entitled "At the Edge of a New Normal" ends with

"...We want to return to the old normals that yield (for some) safety and happiness... but you dispatch us otherwise. Your new normal for us requires some adjustment by us. And adjust we will. We will live and trust and share differently. 'All things new' is a huge stretch for us. But we know it is your good gift to us; with wistfulness we receive it, we embrace it, and we give thanks to you. Amen."

The book is only 90 pages long (7 chapters) and is available from Amazon in both Kindle format (\$9.99) and in paperback (\$14.00). Please order your own book in whichever format

you prefer so that you can join in our discussions.

Please [Click Here](#) to join our Zoom Adult Faith Formation.

Meeting ID: 833 0598 6863

Password: 088152

Community Kitchen Golf Classic



Community Kitchen Golf Classic

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Potowomut Golf Club

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Monday, August 31, 2020

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

- Purchase a Tee Sign to promote a business/organization
- Be a Sponsor
- Make a Donation
- *Invite others* to purchase a tee sign, be a sponsor, or make a donation!

To learn more, contact Event Co-Chairs Bill Warburton or Jon Jacaruso at ckgolfclassic@gmail.com

Or, visit the Community Kitchen Golf Classic website at: <https://communitykitchenclassic.eventbrite.com>

Thank you to all who have already registered to golf or support this fundraising event with your donations and sponsorships!

ANNUAL GODDARD PARK PICNIC - UPDATE

Dear St. Luke's Family,

Our Annual Goddard Park Picnic has been cancelled. However, we have rescheduled for next year and are looking forward to celebrating at the Carousel with our wonderful parish family again at that time!

Blessings to all of you!

Tea Time Theology: Diocese of RI Podcast

The Diocese of Rhode Island has created a new podcast called **Tea Time Theology**. 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 connections@stlukeseg.org. 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 [Washington National Cathedral](#) 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 [St. Thomas Church](#) on Fifth Avenue in New York is broad casting their Sunday morning worship. You also cannot go wrong tuning in to [St. Bart's](#) or [Trinity Wall Street](#).

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 [St. Paul's Pawtucket](#), or Compline with [ECC](#), or Stations of the Cross with [The Church of the Redeemer](#), Providence, or check out Virtual Emmanuel Church with the folks of [Emmanuel Cumberland](#). The Diocese is working on keeping a list of all the different options our parishes are providing. You can find that [here](#).

Here are some other resources to help you continue your life of prayer.

[Podcast version](#) Forward Day by Day.

[A Morning at the Office - Morning Prayer](#), also sponsored by Forward Movement

[Weekly Eucharistic Scripture Readings](#) from The Lectionary Page

[Morning and Evening Prayer in English and Spanish](#) 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 [Church Administrator](#). 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 [Church Administrator](#) 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:

Hearty Soups, Jello, Pudding Mix, Ketchup, Chicken Stock, Cookies, Mashed Potatoes, Canned Garbanzo and Canellini Beans

Thank you!

EG Interfaith Food Cupboard

St. Lukes Episcopal Church | (401) 884-4116
cimondi@stlukeseg.org | <http://stlukeseg.org>

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East Greenwich, RI 02818