



St. Luke's Episcopal Church

Where all are welcome at the Lord's table

weekly

August 9, 2020

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Stay Connected



Greetings!

I was driving down Ives Rd. last week, heading to the supermarket and, truth be told, I was feeling kind of cranky. I didn't really have time to go shopping. The washing machine had gone on the fritz. I had to get my sermon written so I could film it for our virtual worship. And I had what felt like a thousand re-opening details swirling around in my head. None of this truly earth-shattering, but the cumulative weight had left me cranky.

No doubt, clenching both my jaw and the steering wheel more than helpful, I noticed, painted on the trunk of a large oak which lines Ives, a big red heart. I have no doubt it had been there for many weeks-I just had never noticed it before.

But seeing it triggered for me a recognition that I had seen a number of hearts and other "thank you" signs painted about town over these past several weeks. Perhaps you have, too?

And as that awareness dawned, I felt my clenched jaw and hands, as well as my cranky mood, slacken a bit. Despite my long to-do list, there really was much for which I might be grateful. And the painted heart was just the reminder that I needed.

I spent the next 15 minutes in the car making a gratitude list. Some of the items were silly and superficial. I was grateful for the renewed supply of toilet paper and other groceries. I was grateful for the return of baseball (although I suspect there will be little about the Red Sox, this year, for which we can be grateful).

Some of the items were of much greater import. I was grateful for the efforts of the re-opening steering committee and our amazing staff. I was grateful for the prospect of seeing many of you.

And, as you might expect, I was most especially grateful for Diane's company throughout it

all.

As I made my way through the store, I not only felt less cranky, but, not surprisingly, more mindful of God's peace. And as I made my way through the rest of the day, I also felt more aware of God's nearness.

Which left me grateful for the old big-hearted oak on Ives Rd.

These days-and really in all times-life is such a mixed bag. There are burdens which weigh on us and blessings which buoy us. The former therapist in me and the current priest in me believe it's important to give recognition to it all-the good, the bad, the ugly.

Denial of hardships can simply exhaust us and leave us vulnerable to feelings coming out sideways. Likewise, an inability to recognize good fortunes, small and large, can depress us and leave us feeling despair if not disconnected from God.

If we can keep our eyes and hearts open, I trust that we will find God present in it all. Sometimes in ways spectacular and obvious. Sometimes in ways as simple as a painted heart on an old oak tree.

Peace,

Tim

This Sunday at St. Luke's

The Tenth 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

Reopening Announcement

Father Tim Announces Our Reopening!

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

Please [Click Here](#) to read Father Tim's Reopening Letter to the parish!

[Click Here](#) 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:](#)



OR

[Click Here](#) to view our Sunday Bulletin!

Adult Faith Formation

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, 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

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

Meeting ID: 828 9124 0423

Password: 166623

Community Kitchen Golf Classic



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!

Community Kitchen Golf Classic

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

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Potowomut Golf Club

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

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Monday, August 31, 2020

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

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

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