



## *St. Luke's Episcopal Church Newsletter*

### Early Pentecost 2018

#### **From our Rector**

What is a Prayer Table?

Beginning on May 1<sup>st</sup>, St. Luke's will have a prayer table in front of Life's Perks from 9-10 in the morning. Amy, the owner of the coffee shop, has agreed to let us set up in front of the building each Tuesday morning for as long as we want. It sounds great but what is a prayer table?

This idea is from a friend of mine, Torre Bissell, from the Diocese of Albany, NY. He started a prayer table over 10 years ago in front of his church which is located in downtown Schenectady. If you know anything about the Albany area, you know that this church is in a rather rough area. Nevertheless, Torre set up his table with a couple of other church members for one hour each week. The only item on the table was a sign, "How may we pray for you?" and a maybe a few wooden crosses for people to take with them. No collection, no sign up, no coercing to join the church; just prayer for whatever a person asked for.

Very simple and yet very radical at the same time. At first, people who walked past the table were very suspicious that there was a catch to this prayer thing. When they found out that Torre and his fellow Christians only wanted to pray for them, the people were surprised and came in droves for prayer.

(continued) Other prayer tables have popped up throughout the Albany Diocese, with my former church in Walton, being one of them. I set up in front of the rectory (which is next door to the church), each Saturday morning throughout the spring and summer months. Some people came every week while others asked for drive by prayer. I kept a log of what we prayed about but no names were listed, even if I knew who they were. I was joined by a couple of parishioners each week and some others who had received prayer in the past.

I hope this explains what we are doing on Tuesdays. God gives us the ability to pray for others and through prayer we are changed! The simple act of praying for anyone who asks is a way to let the community know that we at St. Luke's care for everyone. And isn't that what Jesus did for others?

Hope to see you there!  
Mother Sue+

## **Hospitality Chain**

A system (Hospitality Chain) has been developed for contacting parishioners who may be ill, in the hospital, "shut-in" or just need a phone call. Those who are helping with this outreach project are Kathryn, John, Justy, Mary, Jeannine, and Brenda. If you know anyone who needs to be called, please contact Brenda and she will put your request in motion.

## **Bishop Steve Visit**

The Bishop is Coming! No need to panic! We will experience a few changes to the service but the basic order is the same as most weeks. The service format will come from "Enriching our Worship" and we will say the contemporary form of the Lord's Prayer. Bishop Steve will be the celebrant and preach the sermon. The "loose" money in the offering will go to his discretionary fund. Please consider making an additional contribution that day that is not in a pledge envelope.

The coffee hour will consist of a light lunch for all since the bishop will meet with the vestry after the service.

Hopefully, we will have a number of acolytes that day, too.

~Mother Sue +

## Pentecost and Trinity Sundays

The 20<sup>th</sup> of May is Pentecost and the day we celebrate the coming of the Holy Spirit to the disciples in the upper room. Please wear red that day and there will be red balloons in the sanctuary.

Trinity Sunday is the 27<sup>th</sup> and it is the day we celebrate the birth of the Christian Church. It is also the day when clergy try to explain the concept of the Trinity: three persons in one. Just know that this is something to be taken on faith and cannot be totally understood. I'll explain more on the 27<sup>th</sup>.



~Mother Sue +

## Liturgy of the Word

Mother Sue is a half-time priest at St. Luke's. She celebrates the Eucharistic Liturgy along with homily three Sundays a month and is in her office Mondays and Tuesdays, 10 am to 2 pm, and other times by appointment. One Sunday a month, Liturgy of the Word is celebrated by lay people and when there is a fifth Sunday in the month, we hire a supply priest who celebrates the Eucharist and gives a sermon.

Liturgy of the Word includes the lessons, prayers of the people, the confession and absolution, and the peace along with hymns. This service has been done mostly by Janet Morris who is very willing to train others to do and/or help with Liturgy of the Word. Please contact her if you are interested. The Eucharistic ministers and acolytes who are scheduled for that Sunday also serve.

Please come to church on Liturgy of the Word Sundays and help support our lay people. Jesus is there!

~Brenda Holman

## Bible Study



Our study on Monday mornings, 9:30 – 10:30, will be on the Book of Acts. Please bring a Bible to the class and a notepad if you wish to take notes. The first class is May 14<sup>th</sup>, and we will skip the 28<sup>th</sup> since it is Memorial Day. The last one is on June 18<sup>th</sup>. The chapter readings will be assigned on the 14<sup>th</sup> for the five week study. Hope to see you on the 14<sup>th</sup>! ~Mother Sue +

## Mother Sue's Upcoming Away Time

\*June 17<sup>th</sup> – Bishopswood Adult Retreat

\*July 15<sup>th</sup> – My brother and sister-in-law vow renewal

\*August 19 & 26 – Family vacation in Ocean Park.

I haven't planned out the fall so stay tuned. Also, June is Baby Month! My son and daughter-in-law, Dan and Dani, are expecting their second child in early June.

They have asked me to help out with Lily, etc. when he is born, so I will take a few vacation days for the time away. Hopefully I won't need to be gone over a Sunday, but babies show up whenever they want! Please keep them in your prayers for a safe delivery and a healthy baby boy.

~Mother Sue +

## Labyrinth Maintenance



Spring has sprung and summer is here, at least, for the moment. With that in mind, we need volunteers for watering plants and caring for the labyrinth (eg. weeding, raking, etc.) this summer. Volunteering for a week, two weeks, or a month at a time during the summer would be helpful. Please contact Brenda Holman if you are willing. Thank you!

## Notes from the Office

Dear fellow parishioners,

Thanks to Justy for another year of church school. She will wrap things up for the summer on June 3<sup>rd</sup> and the Sunday school will host the coffee hour that day. You won't want to miss that as they usually make something yum like sundaes.

As you know, hospitality will provide lunch for those who want to stay to help with inside (and maybe some outside) clean-up on Sunday, June 3<sup>rd</sup>, to prepare for the bishop's visit on June 10<sup>th</sup>. (See Mother Sue's article above.) The sign-up sheet is on the bulletin board by the coffee table.

(continued) Thanks to those who provide coffee hour snacks. Judging from the crowd we have by the table after church each Sunday, I think everyone truly appreciates your effort. If you sign up, you only need to provide snacks. We have kitchen angels who help make coffee and wash dishes, so you don't have to do that part unless you want to. Some popular items: cheese and crackers, fruits, baked goods (store bought is fine!), veggies & dip, etc. We have one kiddo with a severe nut allergy.

Thanks to Mary for managing the bulletin board in the undercroft. Watch for sign-up sheets as we move along through the calendar.

Lobster fundraisers: It's only May, but we want to encourage everyone to start thinking about what role(s) you can own. We are very grateful to Tony & Carolyn for leading this effort for so many years. In thanksgiving for this, what can we now do to divide the tasks? We started to do this last summer and we will work to do more this summer. Please note your calendars: **Farmington area lunch deliveries: July 20<sup>th</sup>. Wilton Blueberry Festival outside sales and deliveries: August 3<sup>rd</sup>.**

Roles will include:

Organizing the donations of sodas and brownies

Organizing and getting bagged ice for the coolers (which need to be brought to the church) and loading in drinks.

Delivering hundreds of flyers to area businesses and "selling" the deliveries.

Obtaining the fresh, cooked lobster meat

Obtaining the bread (rolls), containers, mayo, chips, and napkins

Organizing routes for delivery drivers

Organizing bag stuffing the nights before

Setting up the tent sale and outdoor eating area for Blueberry Festival

Making sure we have enough volunteers

Taking calls when Lisa can't be in the office

It is clear that this is a big physical and time-intensive effort each year, which is why we had the fundraising brainstorming session. (Ideas that came from that follow this letter.)

(continued) Finally, the Bishop Quest Discernment Committee continues our work. We created a profile and have opened things up to applications and nominations for the month of May. Our next in-person meeting is June 9<sup>th</sup> where we will discuss the applications. Status updates are available on the diocesan website, [www.episcopalmaine.org](http://www.episcopalmaine.org).

Thanks and Peace,  
Lisa Lindsay

## Fundraiser Ideas

Here are some ideas that came out of the brainstorming session (taken from Mother Sue's notes). Thanks for your participation.

- \*Rent vacant storefront during Blueberry Festival to capture foot traffic: Sell Hannaford cards and cookbooks. Silent auction.
- \*Silent auction: pies, cabin rental, ski tickets, meals—in conjunction with desserts.
- \*Plant sale—in conjunction with other church sales (bake sale)
- \*Hannaford cards—get word out to community with time and place to purchase.
- \*Cookie walk—buy box at the door and fill with cookies. Before Christmas
- \*Cookbook sale—ongoing. Desserts, recipes from grandparents.
- \*Mardi Gras—talent show, kids from academy (Keyon's school) could help
- \*Booth at Chester Greenwood Day in Farmington
- \*Taste of St. Luke's—pay at door, get tickets for scoop of various dinner items and desserts
- \*Bean supper in conjunction with silent auction
- \*Dessert bar with silent auction and Hannaford cards
- \*Raffles of donated items (ex: quilt)
- \*Possible silent auction locations: Rent 2<sup>nd</sup> floor in Farmington, Life's Perks, UMF
- \*Talk to Shannon Smith, Blueberry Festival coordinator
- \*Chicken pie sale
- \*Butterfly feeder sales



**If you can help, please dig and separate perennials, grow herbs, and annuals and/or veggie seedlings for sale. Please price from \$1 to \$6, depending on size and plant. Only round numbers, please. We will also have a bake sale (donations needed) and sell gently used gardening books. FMI: Jeannine for the plant sale and Evelyn for the bake sale.**



Directions to Reunion Building: Drive into park, go past the tennis courts, and take the second right. The reunion building is beyond (to the right of) the playground.

Accessibility: There are no stairs to get into the building, but there \*are\* stairs to get into the restroom around the back. The main lodge may be open and it has a ramp. There are restrooms there, as well.

Recreation opportunities at the park: volleyball, playground, tennis, basketball, horseshoes, swimming, paddling, and disc golf. There is a charge for disc golf and should be scheduled in advance. The rec department also has kayaks and paddle boards for rent (again, reserve in advance to be on the safe side). Rec Phone #: 645-4825.



We will have a sign-up sheet for potluck items well in advance. See you there!



May God's peace come to you like snowfall in the night, silently and least expected, surrounding your home, covering your world, keeping you safe against all danger. May it rest upon your shoulder like the hand of an old friend, comforting and supportive, always there without the need for a single word spoken. May it lift you up like a spring storm, fresh with the scent of rain, clearing the old hurts away with the winds of change, carrying your heart to heaven like a kite on the string of faith. May God's peace be with you like your deepest love, constant, steady, caring beyond the compass of compassion, to the depth of your soul, a stillness no power on earth could create or contain.

~ Steven Charleston, retired Episcopal bishop

# St. Luke's Episcopal Church

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## St. Luke's Who to Contact

<b>Priest-In-Charge</b>	The Rev. Suzanne Cole	897-5621
<b>Sr. Warden:</b>	Brenda Holman	778-3397
<b>Jr. Warden:</b>	Carolyn McLaughlin	645-2312
<b>Clerk:</b>	Jeannine LeVigne	860-8487
<b>Treasurer:</b>	Dick Condon	778-4425

## ***Other Vestry Members:***

Tony McLaughlin, Carolyn McLaughlin, Ed Ferreira,  
Michelle Ouellette, Chris Cox, Janet Morris

<b>Secretary:</b>	Lisa Lindsay	645-2639
<b>Altar Guild Director:</b>	Chris Cox	645-2829
<b>Church School:</b>	Justy Nazar	645-2783
<b>Acolyte Mentor:</b>	Brenda Holman	778-3397
<b>Newsletter:</b>	Lisa Lindsay	645-2639
<b>Episcopal Church Women:</b>	Carolyn McLaughlin	645-2312
<b>Lectors/Lay Readers:</b>	Lisa Lindsay	645-2639