

JOY IN CHRIST LUTHERAN CHURCH

Building Bridges of Caring, Compassion, and Civility

JUNE 2019 NEWSLETTER

I am very excited to begin this new ministry with all of you at Joy in Christ, Lutheran! I am sure that there will be a time of adjustment and a time of learning on both our parts. I am definitely up for the journey and I believe you are as well.



A little bit about me. I was raised in Waltham as a good Irish/American Catholic boy. While I was at Macalester College in St. Paul, MN, I came to the realization that the RC church wasn't home any longer. After much prayer and soul-searching, I found a new home in the Episcopal Church. I went to seminary at the Church Divinity School of the Pacific in Berkeley, CA. I have served parishes in California, Southeast Florida and Massachusetts. I also have served as chaplain in both hospital and hospice settings. As you already know I will continue to serve half time at St. John's, Episcopal in Holbrook.

God has always called me into ministries of healing that lead to new life. I believe that our ministry together will also be a time of experiencing the healing touch of God which leads to new life and new beginnings. The \$64,000 question is what does Jesus have up his sleeve for us? I know that this could be a time of anxiety. I however have learned over the years and by God's Grace that 99% of the worry and anxiety I allowed myself to suffer was time, energy and life wasted. Let's not fall into this trap. Let's step forward in faith, relying on the love of this community and God's Amazing Grace to lead us, hold us and bring us to the new life promised to us all in Christ Jesus our Lord!

God is in fact doing a new thing through us. This type of shared ministry I believe is the future of the church. We have an incredible opportunity to trail blaze this new frontier. We have the freedom to do it our way as not many have walked this path in eastern Massachusetts before. To make our journey successful we need to trust the Spirit of the Living God and to move forward boldly.

We are in the midst of another reformation of the church. Some call it the Great Emergence. Many are expectantly looking at how God is reforming the church again, to see what is emerging from God's new thing. As with any change, we can hold back with trepidation or we can move boldly forward with excited participation. I choose to move forward excitedly, praying for God's guidance each step along the way. My fervent prayer is that we will travel this journey to God's new thing boldly together.

I look forward to getting to know each and every one of you!

God's Peace,

Padre Tim

Notes from the Worship & Parish Life meeting May 15, 2019

Meeting began with prayer at 10am. Leeann Trigler, Candy Stone, Pat Gladbach, Vicki Burke, Audrey McNevin, Noreen Dionne, Pastor Norris and Carol Porter were in attendance.

Confirmation update – Certificate was chosen and Leeann will check with someone to get them filled out with all necessary info. Pastor will check on a gift for the confirmands and Candy will get a cake for coffee hour on Confirmation Sunday.

Color for Pentecost is red and Pastor would like red candles on the altar for confirmation. Noreen will check on this.

Much discussion on reasons why Easter attendance was the lowest it's ever been. No extended family members attended or any of the recently baptized. We talked about sending invitations next year and discussed the need to perhaps change the Maundy Thursday and Good Friday services.

Pastor Tim's first Sunday will be June 23rd **with our worship time beginning at 11:00 am.** He will attend this committee's next meeting with his deacon who will be filling in for him on some Sunday's over the summer. Pastor Tim will also meet with Pastor Norris on June 4.

Next meeting: June 6th at 10:45 am



Brief update from the May 16, 2019 Council Meeting

Present: Vicki Burke, Pat Gladbach, Kathy Remes, Jeff Stone, Lee-Ann Trigler, Pastor Russ.

Jeff called the meeting to order at 6:15 pm and Lisa offered devotions. Council Meeting Minutes from April 25th were unanimously approved as were the April Treasurer and Financial Secretary Reports.

Kathy updated the Council on the summer back-to-school backpack mission project. She is going to ask both All Saints Episcopal and St. John's Episcopal to join us in this effort and suggested that the backpacks with school supplies go to children from Ascentria Care Alliance in Brockton. After she gets commitments from the two churches, she and Pat will communicate to the congregation how we can help fill the backpacks.

The final confirmation retreat is scheduled for Saturday, May 25th and Pastor is getting the day's schedule out to Alyssa & Brooklynn and copying Emily Clairmont who is assisting. Lisa will make sure that the projector is set up for a movie.

With Pastor Tim's first service scheduled for June 23rd, **the service time will be at 11:00 am.** We will keep to this worship schedule through the end of July and get feedback from the congregation during July on the worship schedule effective August 4th. Coffee hour will follow worship but it has been recommended by the Parish Life Committee (with the Council in agreement) that coffee hour be simplified for coffee and ONE food item only. Coffee Hour has turned into a meal every Sunday which is not the intent. This will reduce the preparation time, cost AND the clean-up time.

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Council also discussed how to keep momentum going into the summer and we agreed to try to do some ‘theme’ Sundays. “Blessing of the Bikes” (motorcycle and bicycle), “Blessing of our Pets” and “Blessing of the Golf Clubs” were some ideas that people tossed out that could generate some community interest....and be totally different.

Jeff is looking for someone from the congregation to join him to represent JIC with two members from St. John’s Episcopal and Pastor Tim. We need to think through what some future conflicts might be (Christmas Eve and Holy Week service schedules for example) and solve them as well as future opportunities between the two churches.

Pastor Russ is going to make music recommendations for June worship and get them to Candy Stone who will distribute to Parish Life and have a conference call with those members before the end of May so that Lisa can prepare June worship materials. Parish Life will resume their normal hymn selection for future months with Pastor Tim at their first meeting with him.

We then reviewed the church directory to see if there were any people who we needed to reach out to. There were several people who we agreed needed contact and different people volunteered to make those contacts.

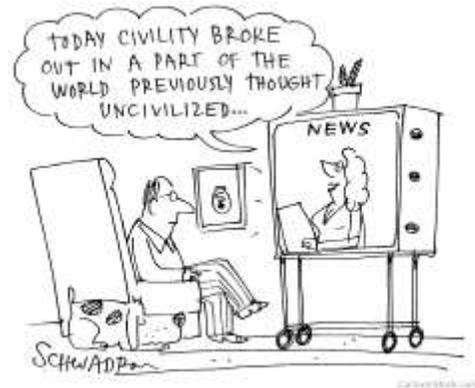
**Next meetings: June 20, 6-8pm – Devotions: Audrey;
July 18, 6-8pm – Devotions: Lee-Ann; August 22, 6-8pm – Devotions: Jeff**

CIVILITY

Nature Thrives on Differences

I continue to mourn the loss of civility in our country. It seems our main discourse is to blame, accuse, threaten, or denigrate people who we disagree with. I recently read a quote about civility from the Institute for Civility in Government that Brene Brown shares in her book *Braving the Wilderness*.

Civility is claiming and caring for one’s identity, needs, and beliefs without degrading someone else’s in the process. Civility is about disagreeing without disrespect, seeking common ground as a starting point for dialogue about differences, listening past one’s preconceptions, and teaching others to do the same. Civility is the hard work of staying present even with those with whom we have deep-rooted and fierce disagreements. It is political in the sense that it is a necessary prerequisite for civic action. But it is political, too, in the sense that it is about negotiating interpersonal power such that everyone’s voice is heard, and nobody’s is ignored.



As I read this I knew it was true, yet so hard for me to do. We are so polarized at this point I have a hard time wanting to hear what the other side has to say. I have made preconceived assumptions about them that preclude me from wanting to hear their point of view. I have family in very different political camps than me and although I love them I find I don’t want to talk to them. This is wrong—for me and for my family.

My commitment is to practice deep listening, first with my family and then others. This will require me to pay attention, be present, and be open. If I can’t bridge the divide with family how can I expect our country to bridge the divide? May we all find peaceful ways to begin to bridge the divides that separate us from our

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fellow citizens. It starts with one relationship at a time, and I believe it is probably the most important work we can do at this time.

Peace be with all of us in our endeavors to listen to each other and find common ground.

April 21, 2019 by [listeningtomylife7](#), posted in [spirituality](#), [uncategorized](#)

Gaudeamus & Let Us Rejoice

Rowan Rose Burke
daughter of Ryan and Ashley Burke
granddaughter to Larry & Vicki Burke
born May 19, 2019



Our heartfelt thanks to all who held baby Rowan, and our family, in prayer this past week. I know it made a difference for Rowan and for all of us; we are so blessed to have you all in our lives!

Rowan came home Sunday; she is a beautiful, healthy baby!!!

Ryan, Ashley and Rowan Rose and
Vicki & Larry Burke



JUNE

6th: Pam Borgeson
8th: Cameron Rogers
9th: Reidar Tryggestad
16th: Logan Anderson Kim
16th: Ella Stone
17th: Marlene McGrath
22nd: Audrey McNevin
22nd: Brooklyn Tupa
26th: Wendy Corkren

JULY

3rd: Keahi Koa Jazon
8th: Candy Stone
16th: Nicholas McNevin
17th: Pr. Alan Grant
28th: Breeann Simpson
29th: Carol Porter
29th: Gordon Williamson

SUNDAY DISCIPLES

DATE	ASSISTING	READER	TECH	GRUSHER	WORSHIP SET-UP	COFFEE HOUR
6/2	Pat Gladbach	Jeri Screnci	Stephanie Burke	Vicki Burke	Jeri Screnci	Lisa Clairmont & Pat Gladbach
6/9	Noreen Dionne	George Sullivan	Lee-Ann Trigler	Jeri Screnci	George Sullivan	Vicki Burke & Joy Franey
6/16	Lee-Ann Trigler	Jeri Screnci	Pam Borgeson	Lee-Ann Trigler	Kathy Remes	Stephanie Burke & Lee-Ann Trigler
6/23	Emily Clairmont	Pat Gladbach	Lisa Clairmont	George Sullivan	Lee-Ann Trigler	Carol Porter & George Sullivan
6/30	Pat Gladbach	Kathy Remes	Stephanie Burke	Pam Borgeson	Pam Borgeson	Lee-Ann Trigler & Kathy Remes
7/7	Noreen Dionne	Lee-Ann Trigler	Lee-Ann Trigler	Pat Gladbach	George Porter	Pam Borgeson & Jeri Screnci
7/14	Lisa Clairmont	Emily Clairmont	Jeff Stone	George Porter	Bob Fehl	Candy Stone & Lee-Ann Trigler
7/21	Jeff Stone	Lee-Ann Trigler	Pam Borgeson	Carol Porter	Mike Remes	Audrey McNevin & Jean Petersen
7/28	Lee-Ann Trigler	Lisa Clairmont	Stephanie Burke	Jean Petersen	Jeri Screnci	Lee-Ann Trigler & Joy Franey

IT TAKES A VILLAGE DISCIPLES



May 26th – June 1st: Ingrid calls Anita S; Kathy sends Frank a card; Audrey calls Helen & Harold; Anita B calls Martha

June 2nd – June 8th: Lee-Ann calls Helen & Harold; Vicki calls Martha; Pat calls Anita S; Candy sends Frank a card

June 9th – June 15th: Anita B calls Anita S; Ingrid sends Frank a card; Kathy calls Helen & Harold; Audrey calls Martha

June 16th – June 22nd: Candy calls Martha; Lee-Ann calls Anita S; Vicki sends Frank a card; Pat calls Helen & Harold

June 23rd – June 29th: Kathy calls Martha; Audrey calls Anita S; Ingrid calls Helen & Harold; Anita B sends Frank a card

So then, while we have opportunity, let us do good to all people, and especially to those who are of the household of the faith. Galatians 6:10

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June 15th
9:00 a.m. – 2:00 p.m.
RAIN or SHINE!

Our annual yard sale is an important part of our budget, and our fearless leaders, George & Carol Porter, do a fantastic job of organizing and setting up, but....our help is needed to continue the success of this event.

Bring your gently used items to church now; we are ready to accept your donations of household and clothing items...things you would give to your children, friends, and relatives. Please, *no electronics (no TV's, computer parts, printers, recording devices)*...we have to pay to dispose of the electronics.

Help is needed before, during, and after the Yard Sale. Please speak with Carol or George Porter today!



MORE DATES TO SAVE:

June 7th – 8th: NEW ENGLAND SYNOD ASSEMBLY

June 9th: PENTECOST AND CONFIRMATION SUNDAY

June 16th: SPECIAL COFFEE HOUR THANKING PR. RUSS

June 23rd: WE WELCOME PADRE TIM ***WITH WORSHIP STARTING AT 11:00 a.m.***

Questions in Life



The good people at Lenoir-Rhyne University's Living Well Center for Vocation and Purpose invited me to address the school on the topic “Lives Worth Living.” Yikes! This is one of The Questions in life—right up there with “What is the meaning of life?” and “What is true, beautiful and good?” and “Where do socks go after you put them in the dryer?”

For me, this turned out to be a good, if slightly disturbing, time of reflection. Our lives can be consumed with busyness—all the stuff that we do or need to get done to make it through the day, week, year, life. A lot of this is necessary, some not so much. Even those
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called to public ministry get swept up in the endless round of meetings, reports and events. And some in this world don't have the luxury of carving out time for contemplation as they struggle to keep their families fed, clothed and safe from harm.

As I write this it is Lent, a time of reflection and examination. I do have the privilege of time and, with the added incentive of a deadline, here are some thoughts.

We are inundated with messages of salvation, or at least better lives, through things. Ads for products as diverse as cars, toothpaste, brokerage firms, weed killers and more are carefully crafted to cast an aspirational vision of the good life. Sometimes this vision of the good life is presented in such a beguiling way that one forgets what product is being advertised. It's possible to get lost if you go down this road. There will always be a new thing, the promise of a more beautiful you. It's there—just beyond reach.

Jesus warns us about this in the parable of the rich man, who believed he had attained the good life. “And I will say to my soul, ‘Soul, you have ample goods laid up for many years; relax, eat, drink, be merry.’ But God said to him, ‘You fool! This very night your life is being demanded of you. And the things you have prepared, whose will they be?’ ” (Luke 12:19-20).

So, what's the point? If materialism doesn't bring meaning, why not just give up?

In Ecclesiastes we hear: “What has been is what will be, and what has been done is what will be done; there is nothing new under the sun” (Ecclesiastes 1:9). Nihilism, oddly enough, can provide a frame for meaning. “Who cares?” can quickly become “Don't care.” Protected from disappointment by withdrawing from this world of care is as tempting as a frenzied life in pursuit of self-made happiness.

I believe there is another way, a different way, of shaping our lives. The cruciform life is the life worth living. The cruciform life delivers us from our constant striving to make our lives have meaning through our own efforts. It saves us from the exhausting pursuit of self-justification and worth, from the loss of our true selves in all of our posturing.

Jesus, crucified and risen for the sake of the world, breaks through all of that. He breaks down all pretense on our part and all claims of salvation that the world offers. God comes to us, cherishes us, bids us to come to God's life and peace. Augustine, an early Christian theologian, knew this when he wrote: “You have made us for yourself, O Lord, and our heart is restless until it finds its rest in you.”

The cruciform life also breaks through nihilism. Free from the necessity of saving ourselves, and from the numbness of the pointlessness of all that, the cross breaks us open to others, to the world. The rush of feeling back into a self that has cut itself off from circulation is painful. But it is also a sign of life. We can feel, we can touch and be touched by others. The cross sets us free to serve the neighbor. Here is the life worth living that God gives us.

The Rev. Elizabeth A. Eaton
Presiding Bishop, ELCA

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JUNE 2019

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
						1
2 ◇ 7 TH SUNDAY OF EASTER 10:00 a.m. WORSHIP	3 Brook Retreat Center 8:30-10:30a.m. GIRL SCOUTS TROOP 66027 4:00 -5:00 p.m. 7:00 p.m. YOGA	4 6:00 p.m. TOPS	5	6 10:00 a.m. WORSHIP & PARISH LIFE	7 <div style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 5px; text-align: center;"> NEW ENGLAND SYNOD ASSEMBLY 10:30 a.m. – 3:30 p.m. </div> cleaners	8
9 ◇ PENTECOST & CONFIRMATION 10:00 a.m. WORSHIP	10 Brook Retreat Center 8:30-10:30a.m. 7:00 p.m. YOGA	11 6:00 p.m. TOPS	12	13	14	15  10 am – 2 pm
16 FATHERS DAY ◇ 1 ST SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST 10:00 a.m. WORSHIP WE GIVE THANKS FOR PR. RUSS' MINISTRY	17 Brook Retreat Center 8:30-10:30a.m. 7:00 p.m. YOGA	18 6:00 p.m. TOPS	19	20 6:00 p.m. COUNCIL MEETING	21 cleaners	22
23 ◇ 2 ND SUNDAY OF PENTECOST 11:00 a.m. WORSHIP WE WELCOME PADRE TIM!	24 Brook Retreat Center 8:30-10:30a.m. 7:00 p.m. YOGA	25 6:00 p.m. TOPS	26	27	28	29
30 ◇ 3 RD SUNDAY OF PENTECOST 11:00 a.m. WORSHIP			<div style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 10px;"> PLEASE NOTE NEW WORSHIP TIME STARTING JUNE 23RD: 11:00 a.m. </div>			