

# St. Luke's Times

St. Luke's Episcopal Church

March 2017

## A Word from the Rector



Throughout the month of March we will be observing Lent. We started on day one with Ash Wednesday and everyone was invited to "the observance of a holy Lent, by self-examination and repentance; by prayer, fasting, and self-denial; and by reading and meditating on God's holy Word." (Book of Common Prayer p. 264) As you know from last year's letter and from

things I've said in sermons, I'm more of take things on rather than give things up for Lent kind of person. This year I'm trying to jumpstart a "rule of life." So I'm trying to discipline myself to read at least 50 pages a day in whatever book I'm currently reading before watching any television. My hope is that in establishing the routine I can make it a regular part of my daily living, well beyond Easter.

And it is that well beyond Easter that motivates me to take on rather than give up. That's not say that giving up is a bad thing. But I believe that one should give something up that you don't intend to start doing again once

Easter is over.

There are of course offerings here at the church to deepen your Lenten experience. We will have our Wednesday evening Soup and study. Stations of the Cross will be offered every Friday in Lent at 7 pm. There are Lenten meditation books for you to take home and read daily.

Whatever it is that you choose to do, I hope that this season will be one that you tend to those relationships that you value, God, neighbor and self. If you didn't start right on March 1, start up now, it's never too late.

See you in Church!

Fr. Ed



The Committee, Tina George, Florence Tracy, Marie Nagengast, led by Katherine Young prepare for the annual Shrove Tuesday Pancake Dinner.



Deacon Carol and Linda Zeh at the Metuchen Train Station for Ashes to Go.

Edmund W. Zelley  
Rector

Carol A. Pepe,  
Deacon

Karl Watson,  
Organist & Choirmaster

Julia Jenson,  
Director,  
Schola Cantorum

Karina M. Davis  
Administrative Assistant  
to the Rector

Wardens  
Kathy McNulty  
Debbie Wisniewski

Vestry  
George F. Poppe III  
Barbara Brosnan Rivera  
Katherine Young  
William (Bill) Noble  
Nancy Torok  
Kasi LeGrand  
Rosalie DiSimone-Weiss  
Florence Tracy  
Tony Warn

Beth Lucas  
Treasurer

Courtney Macdonald  
Assistant Treasurer

Linda Zeh,  
Financial Secretary

George Poppe  
Capital Funds

## What's Up Warden? -Many hands make light work.

It is always important to thank those who lend a hand. Without our volunteers, our organization would be dead in the water.

I have shared in previous WUW articles that the vestry has read, digested and discussed "How to Hit the Ground Running", a guide for congregations with new leadership, which allowed us to examine who we truly are and how to become as successful an organization as possible. For me, one of the significant assessments was to determine which kind of church we are, given the definitions provided in the manual. When assessed by our size, we are a pastoral congregation. When we look at our level of activity, we behave as a program-sized congregation.

What does all this mean for Saint Luke's?

The simple answer is we all have a lot on our plates. The more complex response is that we each have ministries and activities to which we bring passion and commitment. We find fellowship and joy when we engage in communal activity with folks who share our interests. We are a small parish where the clergy are able to know each of us by name and engage in meaningful conversation. As parishioners of a small parish we know and love one another because we share in the activity of our ministries.

As a parish family that loves being active together we choose to support a myriad of activities that provide satisfaction. Through this behavior Saint Luke's has generated many opportunities for our parish to give of itself through

both in-reach and outreach. And as mentioned above, this leaves us all very busy.

With all of this in mind, I offer my gratitude specifically to the volunteers who form the vestry, the treasury, the finance team. These are the folks who grapple with the tough issues that arise in our organization. Without these teams of parishioners who give significantly of their time and talent to the business of Saint Luke's, our worship, fellowship, ministries and activities would suffer.

When you have an opportunity, offer a sentiment of gratitude to one of the volunteers on the business side of Saint Luke's, it will make both of you feel good.

Peace~  
Kathy

## "Undoing Racism"® and Anti-Racism Organizing



**"Undoing Racism"®** is a 2 ½- day workshop retreat, instructed by *The Peoples Institute for Survival and Beyond*, and assisted by members of the Diocesan Anti-Racism Commission. The workshop's systemic approach emphasizes understanding racism, learning from history, developing leadership, maintaining accountability to communities, undoing internalized racial oppression, and understanding the role of organizational gate keeping as a mechanism to perpetuate institutional racism. Spanish/English interpretation is available upon request.

### **May 11 - 13, 2017 (Thurs PM, Fri and Sat)**

(and followup "debriefing" May 20)  
Participants must attend the full 2 ½ days to receive certificate of completion. The workshop is a residential retreat. It begins Thursday with group dinner at 6:00 PM followed by training until 9 PM. Friday and Saturday instruction begins after breakfast (provided) at 8:30 AM. The workshop ends on Saturday at approximately 4 PM.

Training location is graciously provided by parish leaders at **Grace-St Paul's Episcopal Church, 3715 E State St Ext, Mercerville, NJ 08619**

Hotel lodging has been secured at **Clarion Hotel Palmer Inn, 3499 Rt 1 South, Princeton, NJ 08540** (address for GSP navigation: 29 Emmons Dr, Princeton NJ 08540)  
Double occupancy hotel rooms

shared with one other person are provided by the diocesan budget for the Anti-Racism Commission. Participants may choose to commute.

**Please register by April 27** (commuters by May4).  
<http://tinyurl.com/hhj79pp>  
or contact Mary Anne Clisham 609-394-5281, x10,  
mclisham@dioceseofnj.org

Participants pay a \$50 nonrefundable registration fee to reserve a place and offset tuition, meals, and workshop costs. Scholarships are available. Non-members of the diocese pay \$450.

If you have questions, please contact Wendy Blackman 908-242-5920, [vickibaj12@aol.com](mailto:vickibaj12@aol.com)

*Sponsored by the Anti-Racism Commission of the Diocese of NJ*

# Nails in the Walls: The Gallery @ St. Luke's Liturgical Connections

Each week in Lent a piece of artwork from the current Nails in the Walls exhibit will be featured in the sanctuary along with a reflection on how it ties into the message from the scripture.

**Lent 1: March 4-5, 2017**  
***I will Give Him the Letters***  
**Artist: Saralee Howard**



There was once a man who wanted to pray, but, not having the traditional education, was unable to speak Hebrew. And so he repeated the Hebrew alphabet over and over again. "Why do you do that?" someone asked. "If you can't speak the language of prayer, you cannot pray."

The man replied "God knows what is in my heart. I will give Him the letters, and He will put the words together."

This piece is based on that story, a story that speaks to us all in the way that only stories can. The artist notes that along with the Hebrew letters that the man recited, the Hebrew word for "sin" is enclosed within the orange wood circle, and the Hebrew word for "flesh" on the tiny feet in the lower right corner.

The Scripture readings for today are about temptation. We are fallen, and, unlike Jesus, will succumb to temptation from time to time. Note that the artist used imperfect brushes and elements in this work – a discarded type drawer, paintbrushes that were used too well, items that were cast off. She took them and repurposed them in creating art that speaks to the story and to the soul, just as God takes us, with all of our imperfections, and uses us to serve others in creating the Kingdom of Heaven.

**Lent 2: March 11-12, 2017**  
***Language Collage #954***  
**Artist: Evelyn Eller**



The Lord said to Abram, "...I will make of you a great nation, and I will bless you...in you, all the families of the earth shall be blessed." (Genesis 12:2-3)

Consider the inter-related shapes in this collage and notice the many languages that are included. The artist used paper fragments with writings in Hebrew, Arabic, English, German, Greek, Italian, Chinese, and French to show the inter-relatedness of cultures.

As you think about God's blessing to Abram, who became Abraham, notice that some of the pieces of torn paper are from the sacred scriptures of the three Abrahamic faiths: Judaism, Christianity, and Islam. The collage is arranged in the shape of a circle, the symbol for love, for inclusiveness, for our world, for eternity.

For God so loved the world that he gave his only Son, so that everyone who believes in him may not perish but may have eternal life. Indeed, God did not send the Son into the world to condemn the world, but in order that the world might be saved through him. (John 3:17)

**Lent 3: March 18-19, 2017**  
***Messenger***  
**Artist: JoAnn Telemdschinow**



In this week's art, a message is printed across a human back:

Ink on skin.

Person as message.

Does she know she carries a message?

Does she know what her message is?

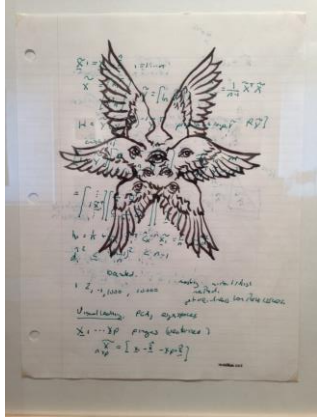
Has she written it, or has it been written on her?

Is it permanent, or might it change?

You might read today's collect with this piece in mind, or the readings – all of today's stories have one or more characters involved in sharing a message that they may or may not fully comprehend. Or listen to the news. Others read what is printed on you. Make it count.

# Nails in the Walls - Liturgical Connections cont.

**Lent 4: March 25-26, 2017**  
**Day 281: Vision (Without Robust Methods Get Weirdness from these Issues)**  
**Artists: Anthony Santella**



Here the artist has selected pages of old course notes of "largely forgotten equations" and spent a year completing one drawing per day as an overlay on those notes.

He seems to have used a note

from the day's lecture as part of his title and to have considered it in his drawing. In this way, he sees beyond the prescribed formulas, extracting new and deeper meaning from the old set rules.

**Lent 5: April 1-2, 2017**  
**Jizo (acrylic)**  
**Artist: John Marron**



According to the artist, "jizo" means nothing...being hailed and applauded on Palm Sunday, Jesus recognized the meaninglessness of that adulation. The color, the strength

of the image belie the meaning, even as the events remembered this day.

**Lent 6: April 8-9, 2017**  
**Oxide (mixed media)**

**Artist: Seth Apter (NYC)**



This human image, as the artist acknowledges, speaks to his own diminishing with each breath. The figure seems reflective of Jesus...and our own...experience of Passion Sunday and the events which follow this week.

## News from the Pews



1 – Susan

Schwefringhaus

2 – Jean Teitler

3 – Jaqueline Storts

4 – Frank Yesalavich

5 – Edie Pletzner

7 – Joan McNulty

9 – Rich Palazza

11 – Michael Grosso

11 – Sue Jensen

12 – Pearl Gatling

13 – Harley Ashcroft

13 – Pam Craft

14 – John Muccifori

14 – Joseph Marraro

15 – Matthew Edwards

16 – Daniel Kozub

16 – Richard Quaintance

17 – Tom Brown

18 – Beth Lucas

20 – Pat Quirk

20 – Karen Siegel

22 – Brian Edwards

22 – Hans Jessen

24 – Mary Jo Von Tury

24 – Brenda Yuro

25 – Becky Moroz

27 – Adam Hassanin

27 – Mackenzie Russo

28 – Barbara C. Crafton

28 – Heather Pope

29 – Asharra Zelley

31 – Jillian Greenburg



There are no wedding anniversaries in the month of March.

If you don't see your birthday or anniversary listed, please let the office know and we will include it in the future.

~ March 2017~

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
			1 Ash Wednesday 7:00 AW Service  9 Morning Prayer  10:00 AW Service  5:30 Evening Prayer 7:30 AW Service	2 9 Morning Prayer  4 Schola Cantorum rehearsal  5:30 Evening Prayer 7:30 Choir Rehearsal	3 9 Morning Prayer  12:00 Men's Luncheon at Houlihan's  5:30 Evening Prayer 7:00 Stations of the Cross	4 5:30 Holy Eucharist
5 8:00 Holy Eucharist 9 Early Bird Ed. 10:00 Holy Eucharist 11:15 Coffee Hour 11:15 Sunday School 11:15 Round Table 12:00 Schola	6 Father Ed's Sabbath  7:00 Metuchen Garden Club	7 9 Morning Prayer  5:30 Evening Prayer	8 9 Morning Prayer  10:00 Healing Service 10:30 – Bible Study  5:30 Evening Prayer  6:30 Lenten Soup & Salad 7:00 St. Veronica's Guild	9 9 Morning Prayer  4 Schola Cantorum rehearsal  5:30 Evening Prayer 7:30 Choir Rehearsal	10 9 Morning Prayer  5:30 Evening Prayer 7:00 Stations of the Cross	11 5:30 Holy Eucharist
12 Daylight Savings Time – Turn clocks ahead! 8:00 Holy Eucharist 9 Early Bird Ed. 10:00 Holy Eucharist 11:15 Coffee Hour 11:15 Sunday School 11:15 Round Table 12:00 Schola 12:00 Friar Tuck Guild	13 Father Ed's Sabbath	14 9 Morning Prayer  5:30 Evening Prayer	15 9 Morning Prayer  10:00 Healing Service 10:30 – Bible Study  5:30 Evening Prayer  6:30 Lenten Soup & Salad	16 9 Morning Prayer  4 Schola Cantorum rehearsal  5:30 Evening Prayer 7:30 Choir Rehearsal	17 Happy St. Patrick's Day! 9 Morning Prayer  11:30 Ladies Luncheon at Panera'  5:30 Evening Prayer 7:00 Stations of the Cross	18 5:30 Holy Eucharist
19 8:00 Holy Eucharist 9 Early Bird Ed. 10:00 Holy Eucharist 11:15 Coffee Hour 11:15 Sunday School 11:15 Round Table 12:00 Schola 4:00 Worship for the Autism Community	20 Father Ed's Sabbath	21 9 Morning Prayer  5:30 Evening Prayer 7:00 Vestry Meeting	22 9 Morning Prayer  10:00 Healing Service 10:30 – Bible Study  5:30 Evening Prayer  6:30 Lenten Soup & Salad 7:00 St. Veronica's Guild	23 9 Morning Prayer  4 Schola Cantorum rehearsal  5:30 Evening Prayer 7:30 Choir Rehearsal	24 9 Morning Prayer  5:30 Evening Prayer 7:00 Stations of the Cross	25 5:30 Holy Eucharist
26 8:00 Holy Eucharist 9 Early Bird Ed. 10:00 Holy Eucharist 11:15 Coffee Hour 11:15 Sunday School 11:15 Round Table 12:00 Schola	27 9 Morning Prayer  5:30 Evening Prayer 7:00 Lector's Meeting	28 Father Ed's Sabbath	29 9 Morning Prayer  10:00 Healing Service 10:30 – Bible Study  5:30 Evening Prayer  6:30 Lenten Soup & Salad	30 9 Morning Prayer  4 Schola Cantorum rehearsal  5:30 Evening Prayer 7:30 Choir Rehearsal	31 9 Morning Prayer  5:30 Evening Prayer 7:00 Stations of the Cross	

# More News from the Pews



Our Rector Emeritus and Father Ed's Dad, E. Walton Zelle was named Honorary Canon of Trinity Cathedral at the Diocesan Convention on Friday, March 3, 2017. Mark your calendars for May 20<sup>th</sup> when he will be installed at Trinity Cathedral



Our former deacon, Deacon Robert "Bob" Turner, was honored at the Absalom Jones service on February 12, 2017 for his many years of service to the Diocese.



Four of our acolytes attended the Acolyte Festival in Trenton on February 11.



Michael Fernandez, son of Frank and Louise Fernandez was chosen to be this month's HIDDEN HERO by the Edison Public Schools. More information can be found at [www.edison.k12.nj.us/](http://www.edison.k12.nj.us/) Congratulations to Michael!

## St. Luke's Episcopal Church, Metuchen

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We're on the Web!

[www.stlukesmetuchen.org](http://www.stlukesmetuchen.org)

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