

Time Together

While We are Apart

Newsletter: Sunday, March 22, 2020



Good morning, dear church communities,

As we settle a little into our new reality of self-quarantines and social distancing, our two times a week newsletter is taking shape. The first challenge was the name... As you saw on Wednesday, I started with the really boring Wednesday Newsletter, which I wrongly also called bi-weekly. I know folks are stressed when no grammarians corrected my designation. A bi-weekly newsletter is NOT two times a week, it is every other week. Oh well, so this is a twice weekly newsletter that still needs a name.

I considered The Coronavirus Gazette but that seemed a bit of a downer... Finally settled on the above name: "Time Together While We are Apart," which is of course, the intention of this newsletter, time together to share news, to be in prayer together, to reflect on these strange days, and time together looking for how God is working in this time, with and through each of us.

So, welcome to *Time Together*, for short.

A quick word about the coffee mugs; Paula and I pondered a logo for this newsletter. Coffee cups came to my mind, as you and I sit together now, via computer or on paper, a cup of coffee is always good together! So I was going to ask Paula to find a good graphic, when I realized that we all have coffee cups/mugs... How about sending a photo of your favorite with a little info if you'd like, and we can share and connect this way too! And if you do not drink coffee/tea/hot chocolate, and there are no mugs in your house, send a photo of your favorite water cup, drinking glass, etc.!

The first offerings above are from Tim and me, who drink coffee and tea ALL day!



The mug with the saw handle is obviously Tim's, a gift from one of his daughters. The llama mug is mine; we bought it in Florida in January, and I love llamas and I prefer low drama, thus I had to buy it! Looking forward to seeing your mugs/cups; take a picture with your phone and text or email to me or Paula.

Now, onward to a little more, "Time Together."
-Megan

Prayer lists:

We will include our prayer lists each Sunday. Please continue to let us know of folks you would like to have on our prayer lists.

A few notes for this week:

- Please pray for Bishop Susan; she has been diagnosed with stage one breast cancer, and is scheduled for surgery this Friday, March 27.
- Nancy Brandon (SMWC) has made it through two of the six weeks of her chemo and radiation treatments. She is feeling the fatigue from treatments, but coping and hopeful.
- Glenn is coming up on his 8th of 12 treatments this Monday, March 23.
- Glenn asks that we keep Jessica, who is on the SMWC prayer list, in our prayers, especially this week. Jessica is Brad's step-sister and is in the hospital. She has two young children at home.
- Sherry Mann (SMWC) has shingles and is getting treatment at RWC, where she lives; coming along, coping with the pain.

Prayer Lists:

St. Mary's Whitechapel: Sherry Mann, Susan Goff, Jori Keckman, Nancy Brandon, Ron Okrasinski, Sally Flanigan, Alexa Frisbee, R. W. Courtney, Tammy, Dorsey Ficklin, Glenn Courtney, Terry Thompson, Wendy Burnett, Nora Pennell, Lin Greene, Jake Cobb, Dave Petersen, Dan Ficklin, Marie Beringer, Donna Alexander, Rose, Cecil Courtney, Mimi Chace, Donna Brayton, Hilda Courtney, Robert, Howard Hanchey, Jennifer Cassell Cole, Karen Woodruff, Roger Fortin, Wier Harman, Gina Adams, Brad Quillen, Jessica, Joanne and Michael.

Nursing Home Resident: Lancashire - Mary Sue Courtney

Armed Forces: Joshua Green, Aimee Budzinski, Mark Medina, Kathryn McCormack Akacem, Mehdi Akacem, Anderson Sale, Thomas Mackie, Pia Mackie, Tate Young, Spencer Fortin.

Trinity: Susan Goff, Janice Shanks, Sherri Carter, Terri, Nick Slaughter, Fran and Dick Davis, Sally Flanigan, R. W. Courtney, Frances Bush, Delford Walthall, Glenn Courtney, Barbara Nunnery, Keith Elswick, Fred Eddowes, Steve, Rick Bateman, Jenny Dunaway, Earline Tomlin Kelley, Ed Borer, Dean Haine, Donna Alexander, Mary and Karen Jackson, Cecil Courtney, Berkeley Kellum, Wendy Boswell, Preston Bryant, Craig Smith, Michael, Mel and Frances Ercelino, Hilda Courtney, Robert, Karen Woodruff, Joey Coker, Michael Dunaway, J.W. Boone, Brad Quillen, Ian Larmore, Brandon Dunaway.

Armed Forces: Ward Gavin, Paul Price and Michael Stout.

Diocesan Cycle of Prayer: St. Philip's, Richmond; St. Peter's, Richmond; St. Patrick's, Falls Church

Anglican Cycle of Prayer: Church of England

Announcements:

The Trinity Yard Sale scheduled for Saturday, April 25th has been postponed. But the gorgeous pots of spring bulbs are still for sale outside the Pavilion! Bulbs are all from Brent and Becky's. Feel free to go by and pick up a few and pay in the honor jar.

This Newsletter goes out by email; for those in our community not on email, Tim and I are delivering paper copies, so everyone stays in the loop and connected. The process feels like a church paper route! **If you know of someone not receiving this newsletter, PLEASE let me know.** We have been finding out errors or changes in emails that had knocked some off the email list, and have found out about people not on email. Whatever the reason, please ask others if they are receiving it, and let me know if not. Want everyone to have "Time Together While we are Apart."

If you are feeling well, and not in a high-risk group, and are interested in helping others, please let me know. **Some of our folks may need help getting groceries and medications picked up,** as time goes on in this crisis. If you are comfortable doing brief errands for others please let me know, so I can compile a list.

Many thanks for keeping up on your pledges as you are able. Please also remember **the Rector's Discretionary Fund** when possible. This fund is used to help folks in need in our community. Not surprisingly, The Link is still sending requests, as folks with low income are being laid off and in much need of help, especially with power bills. Many thanks in advance.



Reflection

Six years ago, when Tim and I bought our house out Bluff Point Road, the weather was dreary and grey, late winter. As that first spring started, we found delights every day on our walks, discovering where daffodils nestled in, where dark branches revealed lacy flowers.

One of the most beautiful and startling surprises was to discover the number of flowering cherry trees close to our house. One street over from us is a grove of flowering cherry trees; they were likely planted by one homeowner, years ago, and have multiplied to an extraordinary extent! At this time of year, it is a wonder to walk down that street, finding oneself surrounded by the pale pink lace of the flowers on every branch. However, beyond the grove of trees is the even greater joy. The trees have spread far beyond the first grove, so much so, that you can find a cherry tree or two in every stand of trees, in every empty lot, everywhere! Our yard has revealed two cherry trees, one visible from our back porch, a deep blessing in the early morning, as the pink petals are visible in the first light of sunrise.

As we live in this so strange time, I treasure my morning walks anew, grateful for the space to walk, grateful for the time to pray, and fret, and then pray some more. And I find God so present, speaking in all the world around me as I walk. Those pink trees, almost ridiculously festive in this worrisome time, remind me that life is going on, that God's world is still alive and yes, blooming with resurrection hope, seen in those pink blossoms, and in the way we are holding each other, praying for each other and our world, sending an email or note to check in, being the church, even, and especially, while we are apart.

Know that you all are in my prayers and in my heart.

"And now, My friends, remember, life is short, and we do not have much time to gladden the hearts of those who travel with us, so be quick to love and make haste to be kind; and rest assured that God is infinitely more concerned with the promise of our future than the mistakes of our past, and the blessing of God Almighty, the Father, and the Son, and the Holy Spirit be upon you and remain with you always."

Amen.

St. Mary's Whitechapel

Office Hours: W & TH, 8am-1pm, F 8am-4pm

Closed Monday and Tuesday

Please visit our website:

www.stmaryswhitechapel.org

Rector: The Rev. Megan Limburg

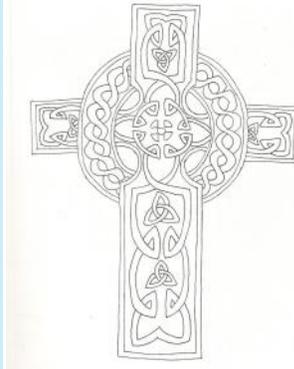
(804) 462-5908 Office

(804) 477-5515 Cell

Email: rectorstmtrin@gmail.com

Vestry 2020

Senior Warden	Bill Pennell
Junior Warden	Ernie Greene
Members	Pat Ficklin
	Richard Gill
	Connie Horne
	Gloria Romaine
Register	Alison Towles



Trinity Episcopal Church

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Vestry 2020

Senior Warden	Frances Callaghan
Junior Wardens	Jock Chilton
	Fred Ripley
Members	Chris Cammarata
	Jane Dunaway
	Craig Giese
	Stan James
Register	Carol Roscher

St. Mary's Whitechapel
Trinity Episcopal Church
5940 White Chapel Road
Lancaster, VA 22503



PLEASE
PLACE
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