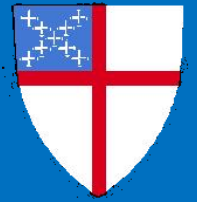




St. Luke's Episcopal Church

NEW VISIONS



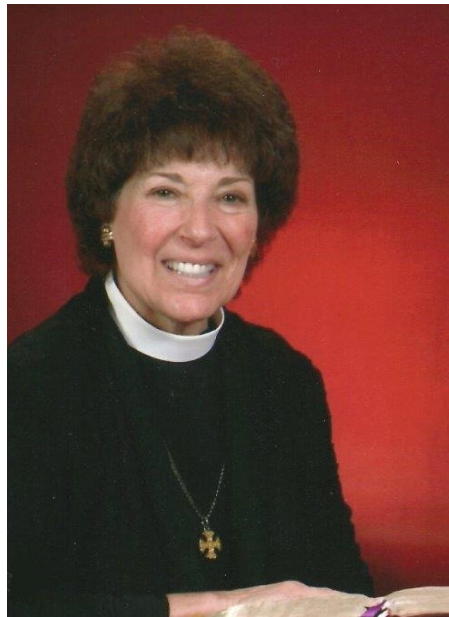
March 2017

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St. Luke's Episcopal Church
Massachusetts Avenue
At Grant Street
Haworth, NJ 07641

Reflections from the Rectory

By The Rev. Dr. Joy A. Rose, TSSF



The Rev. Dr. Joy A. Rose

Gosh, it can't be time for Ash Wednesday already. Wasn't it just Christmas? Sometimes the church seasons seem to just tumble one upon the other and I hear others saying right along with me..."I don't have time! I'm exhausted. I have too much to do. I'll never get it all done." But then, in the midst of what seems like uncontrolled chaos, Ash Wednesday arrives. It is the gateway to Lent. We have forty precious days to slow down, open ourselves up to God, and examine ourselves, our lives, and our priorities in the presence of the one who created us, knows us, and loves us.

Lent is about mortality and transformation. We begin the season of Lent on Ash Wednesday with the sign of

the cross smeared on our foreheads with ashes from last year's palms as the words, "Dust thou art and to dust thou wilt return" are spoken. We begin this season of Lent not only reminded of our death but also knowing that by the time we reach Holy Week we will participate in the death *and* resurrection of Jesus. We will see, experience for ourselves once again, that dying is not the end but rather a God-given opportunity to begin again...

Dust is the material of a beloved creation. We are created from the same dust as the stars, the moon, the planets, the universe. Being reminded that we are dust tells us that we have a oneness with all of God's beloved creation.

Most days we can tell ourselves that we are pretty good – especially compared to some other people we know. But on Ash Wednesday and during Lent we are made to acknowledge where we fall short. Lent is a season of unpleasant uncomfortability.

While the whole world is busy attempting to climb the ladder of success; we come to church, kneel down, and confess our sins. While the world keeps telling itself that we are basically good people; in church we admit that we are those who wander, go astray, and rebel; in short, we sin. In Lent, with God's help and blessing, we can

Continued on Page 3

Q&A: Matters of Faith and The Bible

Q. Can I Be a Christian If I Don't Believe the Bible is Literally True?

A. I believe that the answer is yes. Nowhere in the Bible does it say that one must believe in the inerrancy (literal truth) of the Bible to be saved. The Bible is a great collection of stories about God and God's people written by many different authors over hundreds of years. A Christian is someone who believes in and follows the teachings and examples of Jesus told through those stories. The earliest Christians didn't have the Bible as we know it. The first Bible wasn't written until several centuries after the last book of the Bible had been written.

Careful readers know it's hard to accept inerrancy when we see that so many times that the Bible contradicts itself. I believe that it's easier to take the Bible seriously by viewing it as a joint venture between God and the authors who wrote with divine inspiration, rather than picturing God as dictating every single word and expecting us to read it only literally.



Contradictions arise because different people, with different perspectives, wrote it across a period of hundreds of years. You probably know that the Bible contains two completely different creation stories. It also has four very different chronologies

and interpretations of the life of Jesus. Does the Bible say there were three Wise Men? No. Where did that popular idea come from? Did they arrive at the manger with the shepherds? Maybe. I believe that the awesomeness of the Bible is not in the literal details but rather in the fact that it points beyond itself to deeper truths which we unlock as we read and study it. I believe it is wise to take the Bible seriously but not literally.

The Bible shows us how God has acted throughout history and helps us to recognize how God is acting now. The Bible tells us of a God willing to come to us as Jesus – subject to the same human limitations we have – in order to save us. As we study and become familiar with the Bible, Scripture helps us to understand what God expects of us and it helps us to know and trust God as the Living Word, Jesus Christ.

—Mother Joy+



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Francois, Madeleine
and Gaspard Caloz

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Q&A: Matters of Faith and The Bible

Q. What is Lent?

A. The Lenten season, a precursor to Easter, lasts for forty days or seven weeks. “Lent” is derived from the Middle English “Lente” which means “springtime. Lent is one of the oldest holy celebrations on the Christian calendar. Like all Christian holy days and holidays, it has changed over the years, but its purpose has always been the same: self-examination and penitence, demonstrated by self-denial, in preparation for Easter.

How exactly the churches counted those 40 days varied depending on location. Fasting was strict. Only one meal was taken a day, and there was to be no meat, fish, or animal products eaten.

Until the 600s, Lent began on (Fortieth) Sunday, but Gregory the Great moved it to a Wednesday, now called Ash Wednesday, to secure the exact number of 40 days in Lent. Pope Gregory is also credited with creating the ceremony that gives the day its name. As Christians came to the church for forgiveness, Gregory marked their foreheads with ashes reminding them of the biblical symbol of repentance (sackcloth and ashes) and mortality: “You are dust, and to dust you will return” (Gen 3:19).



By the 800s, some Lenten practices were already becoming more relaxed. Today traditional practices include fasting, special commitments, good deeds and almsgiving, prayer and reflection, studying scripture, and participating in church worship services. The emphasis of Lent is an inner penitence and reconciliation with God. This is the season to accept God’s grace and extend it into the world. It is especially in the days of Lent that we try to “do justice, love kindness, and walk humbly with our God.”(Micah 6:8b)

Though Lent is still devoutly observed in some mainline Protestant denominations (most notably for Anglicans and Episcopalians), others hardly mention it at all. However, there seems to be a resurgence for evangelicals to embrace the season again...since they look to the early church as the prime example of how church should be done.



Reflections from the Rectory, Continued from Page 1

recognize *who* we are and *whose* we are.

Lent is the chance to stop, take a deep breath, and look at our lives. A chance to remember what we are made of and where we are going – and let go of all those things that don’t

really matter, all those things that get in the way of loving God, loving others, and being loved by God and others in return.

Remember that you are dust; the infinitely precious dust of creation, the same dust as the stars. Let the

symbolic dust of Ash Wednesday be a solemn reminder, and an invitation to renewal throughout the 40 days of Lent.

Blessings,
Mother Joy+



The Episcopal Diocese of Newark

Equipping congregations... Empowering people... Engaging the world... with the hope and justice of Jesus.



Merica Gellerman of Messiah, Chester and Hugh Wallace of All Saints', Millington practice listening through Dwelling in the Word. NINA NICHOLSON PHOTO

I have been thinking a lot about the dynamics of listening, partly because we did a lot of listening at our Diocesan Convention. And partly because we are slated to more of it on [Saturday, March 4](#), when people from across the diocese will gather for a morning to learn how they might design a three month “excursion of listening” in their congregation and community.

My listening skills have been sharpened over the past two years or so by the regular practice of listening to scripture, which we call “Dwelling in the Word.” It is targeted listening; by my official count I have been in groups that have read Joshua 3:1-11 (Joshua leading the Israelites across the Jordan River) about 50 times; and Luke 10:1-12 (Jesus sending out the 70) over 100 times. And it is disciplined listening; listening to what the passage is saying to me, but also what it is inviting me to do. These passages have yet to get stale; in fact, they continue to be springboards for creativity and imagination. And the Dwelling in the Word exercise also involves listening to what the text is saying to a partner – and then reporting that out to the larger group. It is double-duty listening.

I have long been taught that listening is a necessary social courtesy. And

indeed it is; and in our current cultural climate that courtesy is being undermined by the growing need to score points, win arguments and challenge, if not completely disparage, another perspective – not to mention denouncing whole cohorts of people. But I am beginning to realize that deep listening goes beyond courtesy; it is a vital ingredient of hospitality.

To truly listen requires the hospitality of inviting someone else to speak, and the hospitality of creating space for that to happen. The level of speaking and listening is directly dependent on the sincerity of the invitation and the level of safety of the space.

Some people find it hard to speak. They don't trust the invitation, or are skeptical of the safety of the space. And some people dare not speak.

Listening As Hospitality *From the Bishop's Blog,* *Signs of God's Grace* **Posted by Mark Beckwith** **(Feb. 16, 2017)**

As I have been listening to people this past week, I have learned that in at least four of our congregations (both rural and urban) there are parishioners who fear they will be deported. Most have been here for decades, and have fully integrated themselves into their respective communities. Some have green cards; some have DACA status (Delayed Action on Childhood Arrivals); some have no social security number. They are scared. They don't know what will happen next. To respond to an invitation to speak from someone who is truly ready to listen may feel like a reckless risk.

And so the challenge to listen is even more urgent. To listen to scripture. To listen to each other. To listen to the Spirit. And as we listen, we learn more about the need for hospitality, and how best to offer it in such distressing and disruptive times. If ever we have had the need for creativity and imagination – to offer hospitality in new ways, now is the time.

Andrew Spector, DMD, FAGD, FICOI
Michael Migdal, DMD, FAGD, FICOI

Associates

Jennifer Hade, DMD, Family Dentistry
Aleksander Iofin, DMD, Endodontist
Adam Brisman, DMD, Oral Surgeon

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Save the Dates

Ash Wednesday

**7:30 P.M. Imposition of
Ashes & Holy Eucharist**

Wednesdays in LENT

6:00 P.M. Healing Service

6:30 P.M. Simple Supper

7:30 P.M. Lenten Study

Mar. 8, 15, 22, 29 & Apr. 5

Choir Rehearsal

Sat., Mar. 11 & 25

Now **twice a month, from 10:30 to Noon**, we're rehearsing for seasons leading up to Easter. Sunday warmups for service start at 10 AM

CFA Food Drive

2nd Sundays Next: Mar. 12

Vestry Meeting

Next: Mar. 14 @ 7:30 P.M.

Parish Fun Night

3rd Sunday of the month at **6 P.M.**
Fun and games and fabulous pot-luck food. Join us! **Next: Mar. 19**

Visiting Ministry

Bringing Eucharist to assisted living residents. **Next: On Mar. 16 @ 2:30 Brookdale/Emerson, leave church at 2:00. On Mar. 21 @ 2:15 Sunrise/Old Tappan, leave church at 1:45.**

Book Club

See Page 8 for Our Schedule!

• Mardi Gras * Fat Tuesday * Mardi Gras * Fat Tuesday Mardi Gras



St. Luke's Annual Pancake Supper



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- Mardi Gras * Fat Tuesday * Mardi Gras * Fat Tuesday Mardi Gras
- **St. Luke's Annual Pancake Supper**



March Outreach: FEEDING PEOPLE

ongoing



Monthly Food Ingathering
Sunday, March 12



Support our monthly food drives for Center for Food Action in Englewood.

The grocery cart is filled and blessed for the CFA food pantry on the second Sunday of the month and packs of healthy snacks, which are distributed discreetly to underprivileged school children, are assembled on the fourth Sunday of the month.

It is a wonderful ministry and a huge help to our neighbors in need!

snack pack assembly outreach: for KIDS



Our next Snack Pack assembly sessions are on **Sunday, March 5 and March 26** after the service .

Thanks to this Center for Food Action program! The ingredients are often the only nutritious foods some needy children will receive on the weekends when they cannot take advantage of school lunch programs.



Please have some coffee and socialize a bit and then come join us to help stuff the packs!

And thanks to everyone who brought boxes, especially Faoud Abouzeid, who brought many! Boxes make it much easier for us to transport the snack packs.



Hot Cross Buns

Hot cross buns are sweet and are made with current or raisins. Marked with a cross on the top to represent Jesus' crucifixion, they also have spices inside that the spices inside signify the spices used to embalm him at his burial. Hot cross buns are traditionally eaten on Good Friday in Australia, British Isles, Canada, India, New Zealand, Pakistan, South Africa and some parts of America.

Although the buns mark the end of the Lenten season, they are now

available in some places all year round. Want to bake some yourself? Click here:

<http://www.foodnetwork.com/recipes/food-network-kitchen/hot-cross-buns-recipe>



Be Sure
to Sign
Up for
Easter
Flowers!



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Between the Lines Book Club Meets on Last Wednesdays of the Month

The Book Club will meet in 2017 at **Tri-Valley Restaurant** on the last Wednesday of the month to take advantage of the restaurant's generous donation to St. Luke's (see the notice below). Join us for dinner or dessert & coffee @ 7:30 P.M. — and whether you have read the book or not. Check out our schedule!

**The March
Read:
Me
Before
You
By
JoJo
Moyers**



#1 New York Times bestseller, and major motion picture. .
They had nothing in common until love gave them everything to lose . . .

March 29	<u>Me Before You</u> - JoJo Moyers
April 26	<u>Cutting for Stone</u> - Abraham Verghese
May 31	<u>Whistling Past the Graveyard</u> - Susan Crandall
June 28	<u>On Gold Mountain</u> - Lisa See
July 26	<u>The Fall of Marigolds</u> - Susan Meissner
August 30	<u>The Day We Met</u> - Rowan Coleman
September 27	<u>The Husband's Secret</u> - Liane Moriarty
October 25	<u>The Man Called Ove</u> - Fredrik Backman
November	No meeting
December 6	<u>The Gift</u> - Peter Hamill

For all that has been.
For all that is.
For all that is yet to be.

We give you thanks, O Lord!

— Dag Hammarskjöld

An English Shrove Tuesday Tradition

Women in Olney, Buckinghamshire, take part in a race, tossing pancakes as they run. The tradition goes back it appears to 1445. The story goes that a woman heard the shriving bell as she was making pancakes and ran to the church in her apron, clinging on to her frying pan. In the modern race the women have to hold the pan and toss a hot pancake three times as they race.

— Janet Beddoe

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Tri-Valley: Parish Fundraiser

Have breakfast, lunch or dinner at **Tri-Valley Restaurant** on Monday and Wednesday an St. Luke's will receive 10% of your bill. Tri-Valley is located on the corner of Knickerbocker Rd. and DeLong Ave. in Dumont. Be sure to tell the cashier that you are a member of St. Luke's so we get credit for your visit!

March Birthdays & Anniversaries

- 2 Christine Pellegrin
21 Richard Gonci

If you don't see your special day in our monthly listings, please e-mail the editors and we'll gladly add it!

Parish Prayer List

Please keep in your thoughts and prayers these members of our parish and extended family:

Shannan Coleman,
The Gonci Family,
Michael, The Klie
Family, Rachel Lynch, Roxanne
Gabriel, Scott Lewis, Edythe Davis,
Sheri and Tyler, Maryellen Pais, Anne
Betterley, Kenneth Calderon, Debbie
Booth, The Price Family, Gloria
Jonassen, Keith, Sue Pastore, Marie
Romano, Eleanor Abrahamsen, Linda
Stephenson, Patricia Stephenson,
Eleanor Belisle-Holden, Lisa, Jose
Delgado, Elizabeth Sicari, Ralph, Lisa &
Doug, Cheryl; Rosemarie; Coby, Hank,
Alycia & Julia, Leroy, The Nobleman
Family, Bill & Grace Repp, Michael
Kelley, Sheila Seigman, The Pitruzzello
Family, Stephanie Cash, Angela
Stabler, Michael de Mare, Mary Lynn
Davis, Polly & Jessica, Terrence
Pellegrin, Deborah Holden-Holloway



Almighty and everlasting God,
you hate nothing you have made and
forgive the sins of all who are penitent:
Create and make in us new and contrite
hearts, that we, worthily lamenting
our sins and acknowledging our
wretchedness, may obtain of you,
the God of all mercy, perfect remission
and forgiveness; through Jesus Christ
our Lord, who lives and reigns with you
and the Holy Spirit, one God,
for ever and ever. *Amen.*

— Book of Common Prayer

To add names to our prayer list,
please call: Sue Gonci., 201-220-3090
OR Email the Church office at
Office@StLukesHaworth.org
You may also write names in the book
on the Chapel Altar. Loved ones are
remembered in prayer during the mid-
week service of Healing and Eucharist
on Wednesdays at 11:30 A.M.

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St. Luke's Episcopal Church/Haworth - March Calendar

March 2017						
◀ February						April ▶
Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
			1 Ash Wednesday Noon & 7:30 PM Imposition of Ashes & Holy Eucharist	2 5-7:30AM Jesus Dream Church 10 AM – AA Women's Mtg	3 5-7:30AM Jesus Dream Church	4 5-7:30AM Jesus Dream Church 9:30 Altar Guild 7 PM – AA Open Meeting
5 Lent 1 10 AM Choir 10:30 Holy Eucharist, Sunday School & Coffee Noon – Snack Pack Assembly (moved from February) 1-5 JDChurch	6 10 AM – AA Women's Mtg	7 5-7:30AM Jesus Dream Church 7:30 Vestry Meeting	8 Int'l. Women's Day 6 PM Healing 6:30 PM Light Supper 7:30 Lenten Study	9 5-7:30AM Jesus Dream Church 10 AM – AA Women's Mtg	10 5-7:30AM Jesus Dream Church	11 5-7:30AM Jesus Dream Church 9:30 Altar Guild 10:30 A.M-Noon Choir Rehearsal 7 PM – AA Open Meeting
12 Daylight Saving Begins Lent 2 10 AM Choir 10:30 Holy Eucharist, CFA Food Drive, Sunday School & Coffee 1-5 JDChurch	13 10 AM – AA Women's Mtg	14 5-7:30AM Jesus Dream Church	15 6 PM Healing 6:30 PM Light Supper 7:30 Lenten Study	16 5-7:30AM Jesus Dream Church 10 AM – AA Women's Mtg 2:30 Eucharist @ Brookdale Assisted Living/ Emerson	17 Saint Patrick's Day 5-7:30AM Jesus Dream Church	18 5-7:30AM Jesus Dream Church 9:30 Altar Guild 7 PM – AA Open Meeting
19 Lent 3 10 AM Choir 10:30 Holy Eucharist, Sunday School & Coffee 1-5 JDChurch 6 PM Parish Fun Night & Potluck Supper	20 Spring Begins (Northern Hemisphere) 10 AM – AA Women's Mtg	21 5-7:30AM Jesus Dream Church 2:15 PM Eucharist @ Sunrise Assisted Living/ Old Tappan	22 6 PM Healing 6:30 PM Light Supper 7:30 Lenten Study	23 5-7:30AM Jesus Dream Church 10 AM – AA Women's Mtg	24 World Tuberculosis Day 5-7:30AM Jesus Dream Church	25 5-7:30AM Jesus Dream Church 9:30 Altar Guild 10:30 A.M-Noon Choir Rehearsal 7 PM – AA Open Meeting
26 Lent 4 10 AM Choir 10:30 Holy Eucharist, Sunday School & Coffee Noon – Snack Pack Assembly 1-5 JDChurch	27 10 AM – AA Women's Mtg	28 5-7:30AM Jesus Dream Church	29 6 PM Healing 6:30 PM Light Supper 7:30 Lenten Study	30 5-7:30AM Jesus Dream Church 10 AM – AA Women's Mtg 7:30 Book Club @ Tri-Valley	31 5-7:30AM Jesus Dream Church	Notes: Watch for Our Holy Week & Easter Schedule of Services

St. Luke's Episcopal Church

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10:30 A.M.

Fellowship & Coffee &
Sunday School Follow
Child Care Available

Healing & Eucharist on
Wednesdays at
11:30 A.M. *



Church Office
201-384-0706

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Please
call or message
with your need.



Pieter Bruegel the Elder: The Fight between Carnival and Lent - Detail (1559, Oil on panel)

Check It Out!

Shrove Tuesday: The Last Hurrah Before Lent Begins!
See inside, P. 5