

THE PARISH CONNECTION



July 15, 2020

Blessings!

As some of you may know, I was recently diagnosed with Lyme Disease, which is not uncommon for this area. Both my husband and my daughter have had Lyme, but this is my first personal experience with it. I have learned a few things that I wanted to share with you.

If you have ever had Lyme, you know how intense and pervasive the all-over body aches can be. I have a new appreciation for those who deal with chronic pain like this every single day. If you have chronic pain, like fibromyalgia, I'm so sorry I did not understand before; I do now and I see you.

I have also learned the power that can be found in something so tiny and seemingly insignificant. A tick is one of the smallest creatures, yet can wreak so much havoc, causing not only Lyme disease, but other diseases. Ticks are not the only small and dangerous creature to be aware of; similarly, Covid-19 can spread through aerosolized droplets. A tiny, yet deadly virus. It is important that we remember that just because something is small, does not mean that it cannot be extremely powerful. We do not need to live in fear, but we need to have a healthy respect for the impact such things can have on our lives and the lives of those we love.

Thankfully, there are many good things that come in small packages as well! I have experienced many of you reaching out with offers to help, prayers and healing energy. I am so deeply thankful for your generosity of spirit and kindness of heart. This Tri-County Area is blessed by so many compassionate individuals in the parish!

Even in these times, there are many small things we can do that can have a strong impact: something as small as a smile, wearing your mask, saying a prayer, sending an encouraging word of support, or signing a petition. What may seem small to you, could have greater significance to the recipient.

Jesus says, "For truly I tell you, if you have faith the size of a **mustard seed**, you will say to this mountain, 'Move from here to there,' and it will move; and nothing will be impossible for you."

(Matthew 17:20)

Do not discount anything based on size; not danger, not faith and not the power of a simple act of love.

Blessings and Peace,
Pastor Sam

News and Information

Attached in this packet is Pastor Sam's sermon from last week, a bulletin for next week and a packet of devotions and prayers curated by Vicar Carolyn.

If you wish to worship remotely with us please use this **phone number**:

1. Dial 1 646 558 8656 US (New York)
2. Enter Meeting ID: 770 099 7419, **then press #**
3. If the meeting has not already started **Press # to wait.**
4. You will be prompted to enter your unique participant ID. **Press # to skip.**

If you have internet ability to join us through Zoom, here is the link: <https://zoom.us/j/7700997419>

Worship service videos can be found on YouTube: <https://www.youtube.com/channel/UC8kJUJTmPrA-l1qlv8PJ-g>

If you would like to serve as a reader or assistant during online worship, please let me know!

If you are in need of food, necessities, masks, or help of any kind, please reach out to me. We have plenty of resources available to us in our parish and we are excited to be God's hands and feet for each other!

Opportunity to Help!!! Columbia County Meals on Wheels program is looking for volunteers. Most volunteers do one or two days a week. Most routes take about an hour to an hour and a half at the most. The volunteers do not enter the individual's home, they place the meal on a table or chair outside the door, knock, back up 6 feet and wait for the individual to answer the door. Anyone interested in becoming a volunteer should contact Amy Anderson, Nutrition Program Coordinator @ 518-672-5323.

*******SPECIAL ANNOUNCEMENT*******

Pastoral Candidate, Rev. Elizabeth George will be preaching for us on July 26, 2020 at 9am as the final step of the process to call her as Pastor to the TCLP, to join Pr. Sam. Due to Covid-19, she will be leading a Zoom worship service from Zion, Athens. A recording will be available all week to view (either by DVD or YouTube). Please contact your council president or Pastor Sam to arrange viewing of this service if you do not have the capabilities to use YouTube or DVDs.

The following weekend, your congregation will schedule a time for you to pick up your ballot and ask questions about Pastor Beth so that voting members can vote to call her to the pastoral staff of TCLP. You

will receive the exact date and time and details for your congregation from your council president. The ballots will be mailed in to the Synod Representative to count and will include an envelope with postage paid. The ballots must be mailed in no later than August 8,2020.

TCLP Board for 2020

Harry Avery – President
Jackie Menagh – Vice Chair
Duane Keeler – Recording Secretary
Chuck Race -- Treasurer

If you have additions, deletions, changes, etc. for the Parish Connection, bulletins, etc., please either call the Parish office at 518-758-6526 or e-mail me at stlukes@slelc.com or ssmith@tclparish.org. Thank you!

Congregation ANNOUNCEMENTS

IN-PERSON WORSHIP HAS RESUMED AT THE FOLLOWING LOCATIONS:

- ZION, ATHENS: 9 a.m.**
- TRINITY, CASTLETON: 9 a.m.**
- ST. STEPHEN'S, E. SCHODACK: 11 a.m.**

EMANUEL, STUYVESANT FALLS

Contact -- Duane Keeler oneservantofgod@gmail.com

With love and the safety of everyone uppermost in our minds, Emanuel will not resume in-person worship on July 12. Everyone is encouraged to worship via Zoom at 10 a.m.

Peace,

Duane Keeler

(Emanuel Council President)

COUNCIL:

Karen Albertson	Term Expires 2021	
Harry Avery	Term Expires 2021	
Linda Frick	Term Expires 2022	Co-Treasurer
Duane Keeler	Term Expires 2022	President
Leslie Dumont	Term Expires 2023	Vice-President
Pr. Sam	N/A	Ex Officio member
Chuck Albertson	Secretary	Not on council
Dick Frick	Co-Treasurer	Not on council

OUTREACH COMMITTEE (Joint committee with St. Luke's)

Teresa Avery

Karen Albertson

Phyllis Keeler

WORSHIP COMMITTEE (Joint committee with St. Luke's)

Phyllis Keeler

PARISH SPECIAL WORSHIP SERVICES TEAM

Karen Albertson

Duane Keeler (Chair)

ST. LUKE'S, VALATIE

Contact -- Kara Udvary Karap1969@aol.com

St. Luke's Council Members

Ethan Race	518-209-7829		Tim McGlauflin	518-756-4644
*Kara Udvary (President)	518-821-0437 Karap1969@aol.com		*Ken Schomaker (Treasurer)	518-758-1246
*Linda Dickson (Financial Secretary)	518-610-8056		Mike Schunk	518-610-8201
Janis McGlauflin	518-828-1857		Jose Roman	518-354-0892
Barbara Slater (Corresponding Secretary)	518-392-7798		* Council Officers	

Not on Council

Larry Eleby 518-929-1432 Sharon Smith 518-929-9765
Ted Fiebke 518-794-7799 Chuck Race 518-917-3547

Committees

Property	Jose Roman & Larry Eleby
Stewardship & Finance	Ken Schomaker, Linda Dickson, Tim McGlauflin
Outreach	Kara Udvary, Linda Dickson, Janis McGlauflin
TCLP	Tim McGlauflin, Jon Strodl
Safety and Security	Sharon Smith, Chuck Race

Music and Worship	Ted Fiebke, Janis McGlaulin, Kara Udway
Parish Care	Janis McGlaulin
Education	Ethan Race

EMANUEL/ST. JOHN'S check back soon!

Contact -- Richard FitzGerald rfatbellspond@yahoo.com

ZION, ATHENS

Contact -- Gethen Proper gethen7@gmail.com

Council Members

President	William Darling	518-943-4293
Vice President	Tim Mercer	518-859-1356.
Treasurer	Bob O'Leary	845-797-6084
Financial Secretary	Nancy Clark	518-444-8096
Council & Church Secretary	Gethen Proper	518-755-8395

Carol Serazio	Karen Schubert
518-731-9050	518-731-1190
John Wais	John Van Valkenburg
518-719-5754	518-945-1184

The many outreach projects of Zion are made possible in large part by grants from **Thrivent Financial Every Thrivent member is eligible to apply for 2 action team grants per year. These are easy to apply for, and if you need help please ask Carrol Mercer Or Christine Wanek. If you are not**

a Thrivent member, but would still like to help apply for a grant, you can become a Thrivent Associate Member.

Associate Membership is \$19.95 and with that membership you are able to apply for a one-time Thrivent grant for \$250.00 for our congregation's outreach projects.

Contact Thrivent either by Phone @ 845-849-1267, or at Thrivent.com

Five Loaves Project -- MEALS FOR THE HUNGRY AND THOSE IN NEED Thursday's @4:30 pm

ST. PAUL'S, OAK HILL check back soon!

Contact – Jackie Menagh jamspirit@harddisk.net

CHRIST OUR EMMANUEL, CHATHAM

Contact – Jeanette Wilber tam20kfw@aol.com

Church

Council

<i>President</i>	Jeanette Wilber
<i>Vice President</i>	TBA
<i>Recording Secretary</i>	TBA
<i>Corresponding Secretary</i>	Heidi Brennan

Cate MacPherson	Richard Mac Donald (Mac)	Henry Bartel	Kurt Hoelter
-----------------	--------------------------	--------------	--------------

Did you know there is a new way to send your offering? We have an online donation portal! Please visit our website at www.chathamLutheran.org to get started!

From Jeanette Wilber, Council President

Hi everyone,

I wanted to give you an update regarding worshipping at church. The church Council decided at our July meeting to put off resuming worship service until after Labor Day. There are too many restrictions, no singing, no communion, no hugging or shaking hands. Can't have the overhead fans going, need to sit 6 feet apart and are not supposed to have fellowship time at the end of church. We will address this again at our September council meeting. I encourage you to "attend" church Sunday mornings via Zoom

Will be getting back to you soon as to when we can resume services at Church. We need to assure we can follow the guidelines set up by our insurance company and Synod. Please keep up your weekly contribution, we rely on that to keep the home fires burning and bills paid. If you have not been attending church regularly, a donation would be greatly appreciated.

Ok guys, that is all for now, will get back to you soon. Stay well and safe.

God bless,

Jeanette

Council President

ST. STEPHENS, E. SCHODACK

Contact -- Alice Senrick asenrick29@gmail.com

or 518-479-0819; or 518-852-1504.

CHURCH COUNCIL MEMBERS

Alice Senrick, President asenrick29@gmail.com 518-852-1504	Charles Senrick, Treasurer (Non-voting member)

Brian Schell, Vice President	Cathy Teeter, Secretary	
Deborah Deerfield	Diane Middleton	Charles Mayrer

TRINITY, CASTLETON

Contact – Nicole Gardner scullynik@yahoo.com

Financial Secretary Needed

Wondering how you can help your church. A Financial Secretary is needed. Training is available. if interested please see Rik Cosgrave or anyone on the council.

The 7th Sunday after Pentecost

It is an age-old question: why is there evil in the world? In the parable of the wheat and the weeds Jesus suggests that both grow together until the harvest. With Paul, we long for the day that all creation will be set free from bondage and suffering. Having both weeds and wheat within us, we humbly place our hope in the promises of God, and from the Lord's table we go forth to bear the fruit of justice and mercy.

Readings and Psalm

Isaiah 44:6-8

There is no other God than the LORD

Psalm 86:11-17

Teach me your way, O LORD, and I will walk in your truth. (Ps. 86:11)

Romans 8:12-25

The revealing of the children of God

Matthew 13:24-30, 36-43

The parable of the weeds

What would you like to see in “The Parish Connection?” Drop me a line at the TCLP office at ssmith@tclparish.org or call 518758-6526.

OFFICE HOURS: 9 a.m. to 3:45 p.m. Tuesdays through Fridays. Call any time!

If you have questions regarding the Tri County Lutheran Parish or for any other church issues or pastoral concerns, please call Sharon at 518-7586526

CONTACT US:

Tri-County Lutheran Parish, PO Box 158, Valatie, NY 12184
(518) 758-6526

Pastor Samantha Perret (*Parish*)

Phone – 518-229-4128

E-mail –

whiteginger20@gmail.com

Pastor Dan Hahn, (*Transitional*)

Phone – 518-281-8127

E-mail --

pastordanhahn@gmail.com

Sharon Smith (*TCLP Secretary*)

Office – 518-758-

6526 Cell -- 518-

929-9765

E-mail – stlukes@slelc.com.

CHATHAM WEBSITE: www.chathamlutheran.org

VALATIE/STUYVESANT FALLS PARISH WEBSITE: www.slelc.com TCLP

WEBSITE: www.tclparish.org