

THE TRUMPETER



St. Luke's Parish

April 2020

From your Vicar

In the beginning of 2020 Ann Campbell had the very good idea to revive, "The Trumpeter", to add another way for us to stay in touch with what's happening in our community. When I wrote a note in this space two months ago I had no idea how much our world would change. We were aware of the Corona Virus in February. It was around the second week in March when we would hear from our bishops and our civic leaders that we needed to close our churches. We have now become very familiar with the terms social distancing, face masks, shelter-in-place, and Covid-19. This virus that has now found its way around the world is very contagious. From what we understand at this point, keeping social distance is one of the best ways to keep each other safe.

Most of us are spending most of our time in our homes, with occasional trips out for essentials or for exercise at a safe distance from others. For some of us this new, temporary normal is harder than for others. We have been challenged to expand our knowledge of technology to stay in touch with each. We are challenged to find ways to worship and to be fed spiritually. Many of us have been joining in livestreaming worship with churches around the diocese, the Washington National Cathedral or Trinity Wall Street. I look forward to our worship together and to our coffee hours!

We hear voices with different opinions about the timeline for this shelter in place to end. We will wait and listen for guidance from our civic leaders and from our bishop. I will continue to send out occasional emails to all of you. I have been making calls to talk to you. Don't hesitate to call me if you have any concerns or if you just want to talk. Thanks to each of you who have been making phone calls and checking in with each other. We can not yet be together in person, but I urge you to share God's love by reaching out to your neighbors and by checking in on each other. We will get through this. I trust that we will each learn something new about ourselves, our community, our world. May this time, this pause, be a time to reflect, to pray and to grow stronger in our faith in a God who is walking with us, taking us by the hand and leading us to new light, new life, new beginnings.

Happy Easter!

WORDS OF ENCOURAGEMENT

~As we traverse an uncharted path through the nightmare of the corona virus that has enveloped our world, we experience challenges never before experienced or thought of. Social distancing, isolation, sickness, worry and fear are not comfortable companions to say the least. In this world where we seem to be able to find solutions for most problems, we find ourselves at a loss to “fix things” and move on. This is a time for comfort from families, friends and our church community to help provide for us a semblance of normal life knowing that we are not alone in this. Our Deacon, Loretta Collins, has kept us together with her many emails, prayers, calls and “ zoom “ meetings. She has done a fantastic job of reaching out to reassure and comfort us. I have found so many inspirational messages and uplifting songs on the internet and would like to share them with you.

They include:

- Live services on Sundays at 11:15 from the National Cathedral in Washington D. C.
- Taped video services by Father Mark Delcuze, Rector of Christ Church, Stevensville, Maryland. These videos are very user friendly. I so enjoyed the Morning Prayer from Broad Creek Cemetery.
- Andrea Bocelli singing from the empty cathedral in Milan, Italy in celebration of Easter.
- The Cell Phone Choir from Nashville, Tennessee, singing, “ It Is Well With My Soul”.
- Mahalia Jackson singing the old hymn, “ I Asked The Lord “.
- Claire Crosby, seven year old singing sensation, singing, “ I Know That My Redeemer Lives “.

Perhaps you, too, have something to share that has made these last few weeks more tolerable and hopeful. Please share them with us!

Ann Campbell

A CORONAVIRUS PRAYER

*Loving God,
Your Desire is for our wholeness
and well being.
We hold in tenderness and prayer the
collective suffering of our world at this
time.
We grieve precious lives lost and
vulnerable lives threatened.
We ache for ourselves and our
neighbors, standing before an
uncertain future.
We pray:
may love, not fear go viral.
Inspire our leaders to discern and
choose wisely, aligned with the
common good.
Help us to practice social
distancing and reveal to us new and
creative ways to come together in
common spirit and in solidarity.
Call us to profound trust in your
faithful presence.
You, the God who does not abandon.*

By Ashley Henkes



St. Luke's Episcopal Church

“For with God, nothing shall be impossible.” Luke 1:37

~WHEN WE DO WHAT WE CAN,
GOD WILL DO WHAT WE CAN'T



“Oh God”

Oh God, when I have food

Help me to remember the hungry;

When I have work, help me

To remember the jobless;

When I have a warm home,

Help me to remember the homeless;

When I am without pain,

Help me to remember those who suffer;

And remembering, help me

To destroy my complacency

And bestir my compassion.

Make me concerned enough

To help, by word and deed,

Those who cry out

For what we take for granted.

ST. LUKE'S CHANCEL HARDWOOD FLOOR REFINISHED TO ORIGINAL LUSTER!

After the Christmas season, the long anticipated project of refinishing the chancel floors at St. Luke's began. Under the leadership of Carolyn McGlashan, Sandy Hartmann and Beth Everett, plans were made with Mr. Tom Hardy of Centreville, a master floor refinisher, to restore the floor near the altar to its original beauty. Mr. Hardy was most enthusiastic since he has great admiration for historical buildings. Carolyn reports that he went to great lengths to match the color of the stain of the existing floor. He loved the church and actually only charged us for the labor of his two workers since the job far exceeded the time period he had allotted. We thank him so very much for his generosity and skillful completion of this demanding job. Carolyn wants to thank parishioners for all their help in the various stages of the process. Many people assisted with the removal of the altar, cross, chairs, tables and old carpeting that covered part of the floor. They also helped replace these items after the floor had dried for a couple of weeks. Much gratitude goes out to the parishioners who generously donated money for the project. St. Luke's Altar Guild paid the balance of the total cost. The results were fantastic! The beautiful refinished floor adds so much to the authenticity of the church. This job combined the hard work and talents of many people and will be remembered as a true labor of love.



Difficult roads often lead to beautiful destinations

SHROVE TUESDAY PANCAKE SUPPER WAS A HUGE SUCCESS!



Over 40 people of all ages gathered at St. Andrew's Parish on February 25, 2020 to enjoy a traditional Shrove Tuesday meal together. Pancakes, waffles, bacon and sausage were served along with the usual beverages. Many of our parishioners helped to set up, decorate and cook the delicious feast. It was delightful to see so many church parishioners in attendance as well as some local community members who have heard about the delicious meal accompanied by festive Mardi Gras type decorations offered each year by St. Luke's Parish! Thanks go out to all helpers including Tom Godfrey, Jim Richards, Bill Walmsley, Tony Poole and Bob Campbell. A sense of high energy, great conversations and shared fellowship made the evening special. Everyone went home with appetites satisfied and the feeling of a joyous spirit.

St. Luke's Episcopal Parish

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