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# THE HERALD

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JUNE 2015

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## FROM THE RECTOR'S DESK

by the Rev. T. James Kodera

Dear Friends in Christ,

In Corporate American life, *Memorial Day* marks the beginning of summer, as *Labor Day* marks its end. Perhaps they are the fortunate ones with more than three full months of summer at their disposal. Three months or less, summer affords us the rare opportunity to view life—the world—in broader strokes than the rest of the year.

War rages on, far away from where we live, and yet with consequences that affect our lives closer to home.

*Climate change* remains highly controversial, hotly debated between the scientists, an overwhelming majority of whom confirming it, and the 'deniers' who have too much to lose their investments in oil, coal and other energy sources.



The North Pole that is losing icebergs might affect us all. By the time the sea level rises enough to erode our beautiful beaches, it might be too late to address the climate change. This year, already up to this point, more than 700 people died of heat in India.

In Japan, May temperatures have already reached those of August. Every place is air-conditioned, keeping everyone cool, but it is not without devastating consequences in the environment. How much hotter, come August? We remember all too well we had a record-breaking snow fall in Boston this year.

No climate change?

Oil companies are active, compiling proof that there is no human involvement in severe weather change around the world. The ever-widening gap between the *haves* and the *have nots*—between the wealthy 'one-percent' and the poor 'ninety-nine percent'—is impacting all of us. The widening gap seems a global phenomenon, not just in the United States.

The competition is between regions of 'surplus people' versus

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those of 'surplus goods:' in some areas of the world way too many people are starving, while in others people have far more goods than they could ever need.

We know how much food we throw away, while so many people throughout the world—even within our borders—have to find food in any way they can, including begging. Such is the world in which we 'live, move and have our being,' – to quote a passage from our *Book of Common Prayer*. What, then, are we to do? Do we congratulate ourselves for having escaped devastating climate? Drought and excessive rain and drowning are not far away. Look at California and Texas, respectively.

What would Jesus do? There are so many places in the Scriptures to which we can turn. Where do we go? Contemporary challenges were not known to Christ and his time, even if ancient problems persist to our day. I would suggest the very last advice Christ gave before he was handed over suffering and death: 'Love one another, as I have loved you.' It translates into: 'Do not be content if we have enough, even if others do not.' Lucky are we if our houses have not been washed down by a torrent.

World poverty is not just 'their problem.' No. 'They' are ours. When young girls are shot because of their yearning to be educated, it should be our problem. Do we have the moral fortitude to tell the billionaires we see basking in their fortunes to *share*—not merely of their surplus, but of their substance—with others who have so little? Do we have the courage to challenge oil companies and their shareholders, and alert them of the fact that a devastating change affecting *Mother Nature* affects us all, rich and poor alike?

All too often we voice our concerns for the dispossessed, but do we follow up with the necessary action corollary to these concerns? The way of Christ is never easy. To heed the Gospel of Christ is not to make us 'feel good' or 'feel spiritual.' It exhorts us, if not compels us, to act as Christ did.

The dismissal at the conclusion of the Sunday morning service is always:

*'Go in peace to love and serve the Lord. Alleluia, alleluia.'*

Do we mean what we say?



# NEWS FROM THE PRIEST ASSOCIATE

by The Rev. Jennifer D. Beal

Greetings, dear St. Luke's,

As Fr. Jim travels more this summer, I am delighted to take up his role of preacher among you. As I was preparing last week's sermon, I came across a wonderful commentary about hope. Since the Feast of Pentecost offers important texts from Acts and the Gospel of John, I couldn't include the lesson from Romans as well! So, here it is :-)

In *Feasting on the Word, Year B, Volume 3* (2009), Matthew Rindge writes the exegetical essay on Romans 8:22-27. He writes the clearest articulation of Christian hope that I have ever seen. I offer it to you for your own lives.

Paul specifies three times within Romans 8:24-25 that hope is not dependent on that which is seen. Succinctly put, "hope seen is not hope". Rather than hoping for what one sees, one hopes for what one does not see.

Paul's understanding of hope is illuminated by his discussion of Abraham (Romans 4:16-21). Abraham's hope entails trusting God's promise that he will become "*the father of many nations*," notwithstanding the overwhelming physical evidence to the contrary. Despite his old age and Sarah's barrenness, Abraham was "*fully convinced that God was able to do what he had promised*". Hope thus requires a willingness to risk trusting in that which is not empirically verifiable (God's promise), even when physical evidence suggests that doing so is foolish. One who hopes considers the unseen world of God's promises to be more real (and dependable) than the material world.

Though often maligned in our post-Enlightenment worldview, hope is for Paul a cherished virtue. It occupies pride of place alongside faith and love (see 1 Cor. 13:13, 1 Thess. 1:3). Paul speaks of the "*God of hope*" and prays that the Romans may "*abound in hope by the power of the Holy Spirit*" (Rom. 15:13).

Christian hope is a funny thing, for how do we tell the difference between what we want and what God wants? I remember hoping that God would listen to my prayer for passing a test. I remember hoping God would help me find a new job. I remember hoping God would heal my friend. I remember when I thought that God acted on God's own and not along with human beings. This is a complicated topic!

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Abraham's stories of mistrust of God (as found in Genesis 12 & 20) show how hard it is for us to figure out what belongs to God and what belongs to our own work. Even so, let us continually hope for the Spirit's presence of love to be active and present in us and among us. As we say at the end of Morning Prayer, "*May the God of hope fill us with all joy and peace in believing through the power of the Holy Spirit*" (Rom. 15:13) (BCP, p. 102).

AMEN!

## NOTES FROM THE SENIOR WARDEN

by Bill Carnes

### DEANERY

On May 13th there was a *Concord River Deanery* meeting. Rev. Jennifer was there, as was our new *Mission Hub* Director. Meghan will visit us May 31st and say a few words about hubs.

In last October's *Herald*, I discussed the *Appalachia Service Project* (ASP.) At the deanery meeting we heard stories from participants in recent Appalachia Service Projects. The website [www.asphome.org](http://www.asphome.org) has information. I would hope that we could participate in the program in coming years.

We were also reminded that different grant monies are available for parish development. There are also plans to hold special deanery meetings just for treasurers or for wardens in the future. This would be a chance for some of us to meet with our peers in other parishes.

### HUDSON FEST NOTES

*Hudson Fest* is Saturday, June 6th. Just a reminder: we are not collecting yard sale items this year. It takes much labor to sort, setup, and price items, and move them along afterwards. We will be part of *Hudson Fest* with participation downtown.

### MEMORIAL DAY

I attended the Town of Hudson *Memorial Day* remembrances. They took place at the park next to our church. Many people sat on our steps to watch. It was good that our grounds were neat and ready for a town event.

### SATURDAY WORK DAYS

There are a number of small projects that need doing around the church from paint touch up to maintenance to garden

work. Our next work day is May 30th. A list of projects will be sent out.

### PAST SATURDAY WORK DAY

A number of florescent lights were replaced. Our River Room, used for community suppers, is now brighter.

### BACK ENTRANCE PROJECT

There project is temporarily stalled, but the vestry is committed to completing it. There is also interest from the community in using this new entrance.

### UPCOMING DIOCESAN EVENTS

Parish Picnic at Dora's family cottage: 28-Jun-2015 (*tentative*)

Fall resource day at Bentley College: 7-Oct-2015

Convention at the renovated cathedral: 13-Nov-2015

Acolyte festival spring 2016



## JOIN OUR SUMMER PICK-UP CHOIR!

by Amy Lepak

It's almost the end of school and the regular choir year. To keep music alive and moving at St. Luke's during the summer, we will have a Pick-up Choir each Sunday beginning on June 21 (except for July 5 and August 9 when I will be away.)

If you used to sing in choir but it was too much of a commitment each Sunday or, if:

- ⇒ if you never joined choir but always wanted to give it a try...
- ⇒ if you're too young for adult choir but enjoy singing...
- ⇒ if you're already a choir member...
- ⇒ if you just like to sing with a group...

### PICK-UP CHOIR IS FOR YOU!

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- \* Come at 9:30 AM to go over hymns and an anthem for the 10 AM service.
- \* Don't bother to robe or process: just sit near the front of the church so you can go to Communion early and sing the (very easy!) anthem.
- \* No need to come every week: we all have activities and vacations in the summer. Sing with us when you are able!
- \* Families and individuals of all ages are welcome. However, for kids under 7 years of age please have Mom, Dad or a teenage sibling sit with you.

You don't need to be a part singer or music reader, though both are welcome. Your Enthusiasm and love of music are the keys!

See you some Summer Sunday,

Amy Lepak  
Music Director



## ACRONYM OF THE MONTH

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# ASP

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## APPALACHIA SERVICE PROJECT

Appalachia Service Project is a Christian ministry, open to all people, that inspires hope and service through volunteer home repair in Central Appalachia.

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



## INTERCESSIONS

We offer prayers of healing and intercession  
for those named below:

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Debbie K.	Kayla W.
Lena B.	Roland
Gail	Galen
Kitty C.	Jennica
Paul	Bob & Shirley
Maria	JYM, Marie and KJM
Ethel	Evy's Family
Chas & Leslie	Don
Bruce	Audrey
Frances	Margaret
The Lucy Family	Florence
Burke	Ray
Rosemary	Bella
Nicholas	Mr. Medina
Stephanie	Kyle



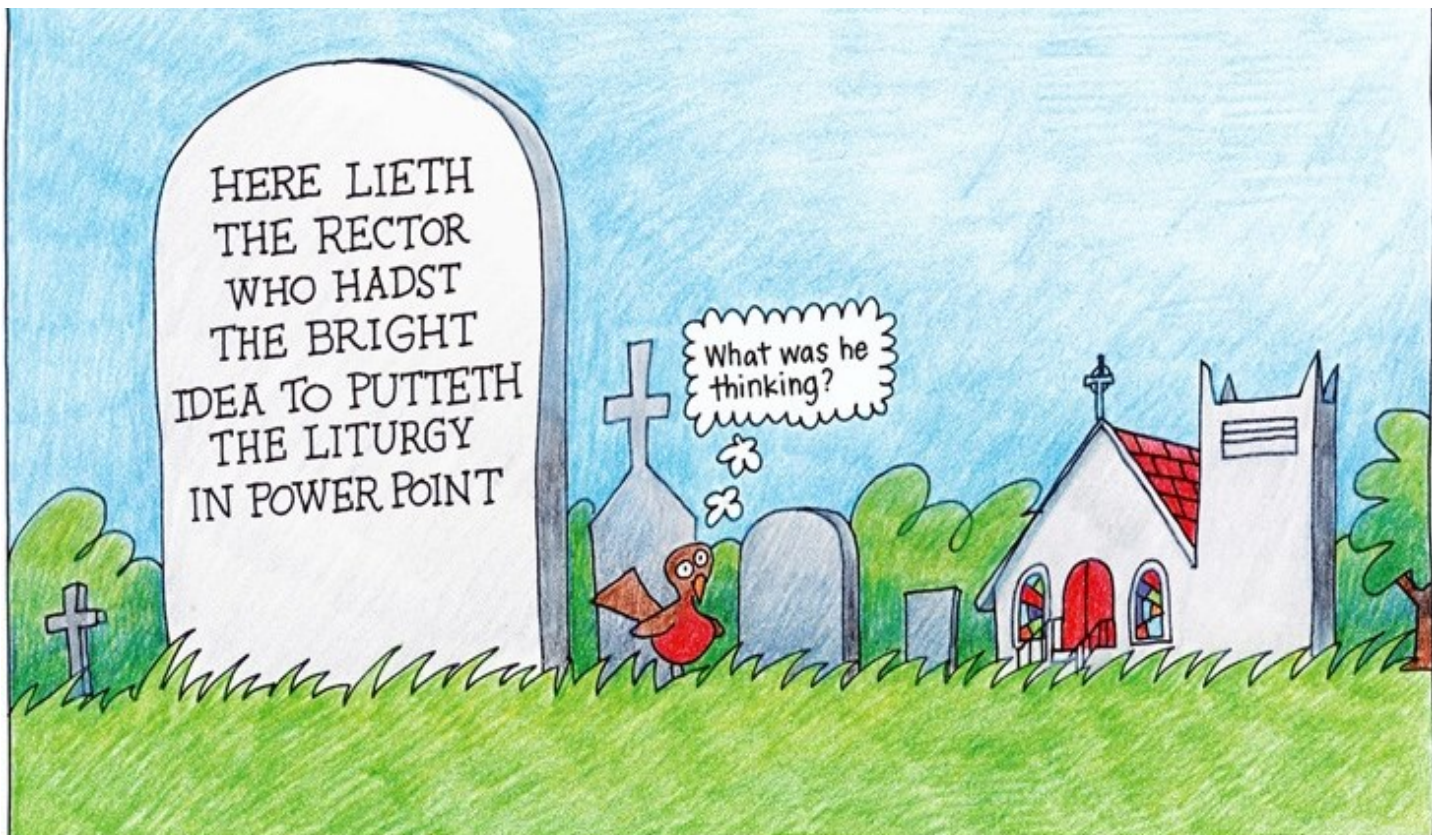
## *Birthdays*

Karen Calnan	June 06
Lillian M. Barnum	June 06
Evan Cain	June 06
Ted Kennedy	June 10
Susan Saunders	June 12
Maryanne Cautela	June 13
Shantel Adjei	June 13
Heather King-Chaves	June 14
Michael Hores	June 19
Roger Barnum	June 22
Nicholas Simonenko	June 22
Joan Drechsler	June 24
Patricia Wheeler	June 26
Stuart Lundie	June 29
Sandy Sathyaraj	June 29
Alan Saunders	June 29

## *Anniversaries*

Bernie & Susan Hogarty	June 16
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Cartoon taken from: <https://www.cpg.org/default/cache/file/87ED1865-01D4-5903-731601FF61CBC451.jpg>

# June 2015

**Sun      Mon      Tue      Wed      Thu      Fri      Sat**

	1	2	3	4	5	6 HUDSON FEST
7 <b>HE 10a</b> Sun School Ends	8	9	10	11 <b>Vestry Mtg 6p</b> Carol Rotella Fundraiser 7p	12	13 Boston Pride (w/ Bp. Gates)
14 <b>HE 10am</b> Cmty Supper 5p	15	16	17	18	19	20
21 <b>HE 10a</b>	22	23	24	25	26	27
28 <b>HE 10a</b> PARISH PICNIC Cmty Supper 5p	29	30				

Revision 3

	June 7th 2 Pentecost 10:00 a.m.		June 14th 3 Pentecost 10:00 a.m.		June 21st 4 Pentecost 10:00 a.m.		June 28th 5 Pentecost 10:00 a.m.
<b>Greeter</b>	M. Compton		June Miller		M. Compton		June Miller
<b>Ushers</b>	Stu Lundie	M. Compton	Stu Lundie	June Miller	Stu Lundie	M. Compton	Stu Lundie     June Miller
<b>Counters</b>	Stu Lundie	M. Compton	Stu Lundie	Bill Carnes	Stu Lundie	June Miller	Stu Lundie     June Miller
<b>Lectors</b>	Jane Pye	Mike Hores	Bill Carnes	M. Compton	M. Compton	Jane Pye	June Miller     S. Bausch
<b>Acolyte</b>	Bobby Hores • Mike Hores		Bill Carnes		Bill Carnes		Bill Carnes
<b>Chalice</b>	Rev. Beal		Gail Orcheski		Gail Orcheski		Gail Orcheski
<b>Preacher</b>	Rev. Kodera		Rev. Kodera		Rev. Beal		Rev. Beal
<b>Celebrant(s)</b>	Rev. Kodera • Rev. Beal		Rev. Kodera		Rev. Beal		Rev. Beal

If you cannot serve on your scheduled day, please find a replacement and notify Justin Bowman of the change by phoning the parish office at (978) 562-2701 or emailing [administrator@stlukeshudson.org](mailto:administrator@stlukeshudson.org)