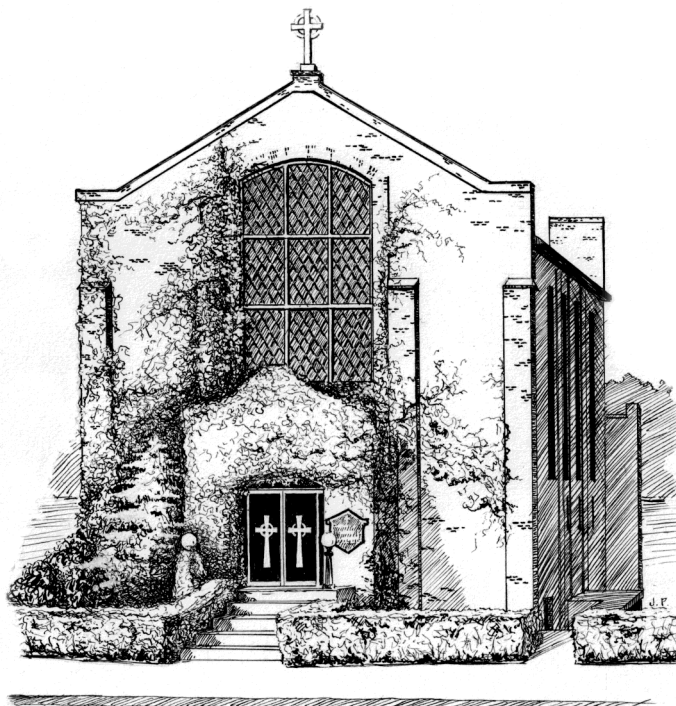


St. Luke's Episcopal Church

5 Washington St, Hudson, MA 01749

Tel.: +1 (978) 562-2701

Email: info@stlukeshudson.orgWeb: www.stlukeshudson.org

THE HERALD

JULY—AUGUST—SEPTEMBER 2015

FROM THE RECTOR'S DESK

by the Rev. T. James Kodera

Dear Friends in Christ,

It has been a long time since the last issue of the Herald. Justin, our Parish Administrator, had a much deserved break. That is why the Herald was not published for two months this summer.

Much has happened since June on many fronts. On the church front, it may be well to remember two pivotal happenings. One is the murder of nine people who were attending the Bible Study in the basement of an AME (African Methodist Episcopal) Church in Charleston, South Carolina. They were murdered by a 16 year old white boy, who not only believed in the supremacy of the white race but loathed the black people so much that he had to eliminate them. Among the nine murdered was an African American State Senator, who was also the Pastor of the



Church, affectionately known as “Mother Emmanuel.” As indicated in one of the homilies I offered this summer, African Methodist Episcopal Church was a creation of the Episcopal Church in the mid 18th century. Only a few years after the formation of the Episcopal Church in 1784 in Philadelphia, two freed slaves were ordained priests, Richard Allen and Absalom Jones. And yet, the Episcopal churches did not allow any black people, freed or enslaved, in the church. The two priests had no church in which to serve. So, they started a breakaway church, modeled after the polity of the Episcopal Church with the piety of the Methodist Church. “Mother Emmanuel” had been a haven for generations of African Americans for well over two hundred years. Most remarkable after the murder was the impassioned appeal for forgiveness, not vengeance, by those who lost their loved ones. It stood in sharp contrast to the wide spread conviction that there could be no peace without justice. Theirs was a plea for peace with forgiveness. How remarkable! How uplifting! How ennobling!

The other is the election of the first African American Presiding Bishop of the Episcopal Church. The Rt Rev Michael Curry, Bishop of North Carolina, was elected during the

(Continued on page 2)

(Continued from page 1)

General Convention in July with a clear majority of the House of Bishops and the House of Deputies. It was a veritable “land slide.” They clearly thought Bishop Curry was the best of the nominees. It is also significant in that the Church that excluded people of African heritage, the Church to which the majority of the slave owners belonged even after the Civil War now chose an African American as Presiding Bishop. It was difficult not to miss the connection between the murder of nine African American parishioners in Charleston, South Carolina, and the election of the Bishop of North Carolina as our new Presiding Bishop. In more than symbolically, the American Episcopal Church is closer to the majority of the Anglicans worldwide who live in Africa.

Two days ago was the 70th anniversary of the end of the World War II. I write from Nagasaki, where my mother and grandmother were born and my parents met as students. Unlike Hiroshima is anxious to remind people of the horrors of the atomic bomb, Nagasaki seems intent on educating people about the need for a nuclear free world for the survival of the human race as one. When I attended the local Episcopal Church in Nagasaki last Sunday, I learned of the homily by the Archbishop of the Anglican Church of Japan, delivered on the 70th anniversary of the bombing of Nagasaki on August 9. Archbishop Nathaniel Uematsu preached in Nagasaki on the meaning of Christian approach to peace building. Christian peace building is not based on “we” versus “they,” or allies and adversaries. For, true peace must be for all people. Further, he pointed out that peace makers cannot possess weapons. Weapons cannot be the instrument of peace; only of war. As this nation hotly debates whether to rearm and how, faced with escalating bellicosity, the Archbishop’s message was heard as a big challenge. How can I forget how the former Presiding Bishop of the American Episcopal Bishop, Frank T. Griswold moved the congregation at the Church of the Resurrection in Hiroshima ten years ago, unable to utter a single word from the pulpit after visiting the Peace Park and the Museum in Hiroshima. The rector of the church said later that it was the most eloquent sermon ever preached in his church. Bishop Griswold simply wept from the pulpit, unable to say a word.

I am in Nagasaki for research on Dr. Takashi Paul Nagai, a radiologist and a pacifist. He was a devoted Roman Catholic, who believed that God had chosen Nagasaki as the target of the second atomic bomb so that Nagasaki could become the beginning of a peace movement for the world without nuclear weapons, without arms, without enmity. When the bomb exploded above Urakami Cathedral, then the largest church in all of Asia, 6,000 degree heat caused the evaporation of human bodies near the hypocenter, his wife

Midori died instantly, but Dr. Nagai lived with his two small children in a one room hermitage for six years until he died of leukemia. Today, I visited his tiny hermitage and the museum next to it. In the guest book, just before I moved on, I wrote: “Let the crying plea for peace reverberate throughout the world, from Hiroshima and Nagasaki to Jerusalem and Mecca, to Ukraine and Syria.” I signed as a child of Nagasaki, although I never lived here, as did my parents and grandmother.

I hope to have more opportunities about Dr. Nagai, about Nagasaki, about the escalating arms race. For now, I send this epistle off to Justin for inclusion in the next issue of the Herald with a renewed conviction that peace making is an essential part of being a Christian. “Love one another, as I have loved you” was the last message of Christ to his disciples, before he was handed over to suffering and death.

The Peace of the Lord be always and everywhere with you all.

Father Jim+
Nagasaki, Japan
17 August 2015

PS: I will be back in Boston late on August 27. I will be with you for the last Sunday service of August. I look forward to seeing you all.



NEWS FROM THE PRIEST ASSOCIATE

by The Rev. Jennifer D. Beal

St. Luke’s has been busy this summer resting and renovating. Fr. Jim has used his “rest” from us to visit family and conduct historical research. Parishioners have spent time with family. And our building has been improved. See the Senior Warden’s article for news of our building projects.

I like the way this prayer gives purpose to our rest:

32. *For the good use of leisure*

O God, in the course of this busy life, give us times of refreshment and peace; and grant that we may so use our leisure to rebuild our bodies and renew our minds, that our

(Continued on page 3)

(Continued from page 2)

spirits may be opened to the goodness of your creation; through Jesus Christ our Lord. AMEN. *Book of Common Prayer* p. 825

Let us return to St. Luke's this fall being "open to the goodness of God's creation"!

-Jennifer+

Worship in August

We had Instructed Eucharist twice! We looked at the Book of Common Prayer and found that it contains almost everything we ever wanted to know about worship! Its Table of Contents guides us through the 900 pages that surround the ten we only use on Sundays.

We also learned about the parts of our Sunday service and the centuries of people who have used and edited them before us.

Additional Tradition

During announcements on Sunday mornings, as a way of partially continuing the Instructed Eucharists. Jennifer+ will speak very briefly in a "Time for Tradition". What will she uncover?!

2015 General Convention of The Episcopal Church

The following appears on the Diocesan website and is written by Tracy J. Sukraw

HISTORIC ACTIONS AND MILESTONE MOMENTS: MASSACHUSETTS AT GENERAL CONVENTION

This summer's triennial General Convention of the Episcopal Church, held June 25-July 3 in Salt Lake City, will be remembered for its mountaintop moments:

The historic and decisive election of a new presiding bishop, one whose "We are the Jesus movement now!" message resounded across the convention as a clear call to action.

The church's explicit extension of marriage equality for all after some 40 years of study, discussion and provisional allowances.

A triennial budget that reaches into reserves to fund new evangelism and racial reconciliation initiatives, even as it reduces the income requested from individual dioceses so that more ministry money can, potentially, stay local.

Church structure and governance, prayer book and hymnal revision, creation care, socially responsible investment and numerous international and domestic social justice issues also made up the packed agenda that the convention took up during nine over-filled legislative days.

"We think we are a people meant to participate in transforming this world towards something that looks more like something God had in mind when God created it, and it's a long way from that vision of wholeness so we've got plenty of work to do," Presiding Bishop Katharine Jefferts Schori said at an opening press conference on June 23. At adjournment, 392 resolutions had been filed and acted upon.

The Diocese of Massachusetts was an active participant throughout the proceedings, with its bishops and deputies serving on legislative committees and in high profile leadership roles, and other Massachusetts Episcopalians by the dozens involved in advocacy and churchwide organizational work of all kinds.

"It's bananas!" Massachusetts deputy Edwin Johnson was overheard saying, more than once, and by his enthusiasm, it was clear he meant that in a good way.

On the last day, new presiding bishop-elect Michael Curry preached [a rallying sermon](#). "We are the Jesus movement now!" he said, and gave the convention a one-word commission: "Go!"

A more detailed report can be found on the Diocesan website at diomass.org.

NOTES FROM THE SENIOR WARDEN

by Bill Carnes, Senior Warden

It seems to be a quiet and warm summer, but there is much happening at St. Luke's.

We welcome back Jim from a study period in Japan. The parish was well served by Rev. Jennifer Beal during the interim. I hope many of you had a chance to be in church while she was preaching.

(Continued on page 4)

(Continued from page 3)

Vestry Notes

The Vestry has been in discussion with the Rector and representatives from the Diocese about the sustainability and leadership of our parish. Our Treasurer Gerry Plasse and two vestry members Erica Harrington and Mary Compton have resigned because of the protracted length of this discussion without a satisfactory outcome.

This fall, we will be asking you to fill out a parish survey similar to a profile survey about our parish life. We expect to make it available on line. Some of you will be asked to serve on a small committee that will select the questions, get all of us to respond, and then analyze and present the results.

Building updates

We plan to complete the back entrance, but at the moment, we are waiting for a contractor to become available.

We have another initiated a small project to re-surface some of the kitchen countertops. This will make the easier to clean and make them all match each other. The center counter area with the sinks will stay unchanged.

The building next door has been undergoing a long period of restoration. During the summer, a drainage ditch system was added to allow water to drain away from the buildings. This has had an impact on our side lawn. The project also removed many weeds along the sides of the building. The improved drainage will keep our foundation drier also.

We had a little incident with the plumbing. The old water pipes of the church are fragile. A little tug caused a breakage. It was repaired and some of the old pipes were replaced.

During the past winter, we suffered some gutter damage and need to repair it. The project will also make improvements in the sacristy roof to keep melting snow from coming in.

We have a very good proposal to replace the roof over the third floor classrooms. The roof is way past its age and sections of it are deteriorating. The roof can be seen when coming down the hill from Washington Street.

We have started window sill repair of the windows in the Nave. We should soon have a fresh look. This project has been in the works for many years. Window sills will be reinforced with an epoxy material and covered. The old Plexiglas coverings that protect the stain glass windows will be replaced with newer acrylic.

The ugly fire alarm box at the entrance to the Ebens room was removed by the fire department. This will give us a chance to clean up the panel and replace the doorbell.

Please help us with donations to the Can- Do fund.

WW II

I recently read some commentary on the end of World War II. Russia was about to declare war on Japan if the war had kept going. Conventional firebombing of Tokyo wiped out a third of the population of the area and left much of greater Tokyo in ruins. Blockades had cut off food and oil, making further military action difficult. Thus it is possible that if the Bomb was not used, the outcome would have been the same. We can't change history but hopefully learn from it.

Mission Hub Notes

There was a Brazil Fest at the Bethel Center parking lot on August 29th. It featured music and foods representing Brazilian culture.

Our Hub Progenie Connections will be starting Portuguese language and culture classes using our own curriculum. It is being called "Portuguese Plus" and will be starting in October.

Upcoming events

Diocesan Resource Day

Saturday, October 3rd is the date of Diocesan Resource Day at Bentley University in Waltham. Resource day is a series of workshops on various aspects of church life. Courses include Christian formation, Quick Books, about small congregations and mission hubs. Much more information can be found at the diocesan website:

<http://www.diomass.org/event/resource-day-2015>

DON'T FORGET!

Sunday School

Registration

September 13th!

EPISCOPAL RELIEF & DEVELOPMENT



St. Luke's has joined the Fair Trade Project !

We will be serving *Equal Exchange* coffee.

About ten years ago when I joined the Vestry, I advocated for the use of fairly traded coffee at all church events. Knowing that the coffee market is big business, I wanted St. Luke's to make a difference, no matter how small, in the lives of exploited coffee farmers. I finally received approval to order Pura Vida coffee out of Seattle, Washington, the company of choice promoted by Episcopal Relief and Development at that time. Most of us would attest to the fact that our coffee here at St. Luke's has been delicious.

Equal Exchange coffee is just as robust and flavorful. Enjoy making a difference!

June Miller

Started in April of 2015, the Episcopal Relief & Development Fair Trade Project was created to encourage congregations and institutions of The Episcopal Church to expand their vision of service through raising an awareness of Fair Trade.

For each pound of fairly traded coffee, chocolate, tea and other foods purchased through the Episcopal Relief & Development Fair Trade Project, 15 cents per pound will support Episcopal Relief & Development's partners as they work to alleviate hunger and improve food supply through integrated community-based programs.

Episcopal Relief & Development works with more than 3 million people in nearly 40 countries worldwide to overcome

poverty, hunger and disease through multi-sector programs that utilize local resources and expertise. An independent 501(c)(3) organization, Episcopal Relief & Development works closely with Anglican Communion and ecumenical partners to help communities rebuild after disasters and develop long-term strategies to create a thriving future. In 2014-15, the organization joins Episcopalians and friends in celebrating 75 Years of Healing a Hurting World.

Equal Exchange is a Fair Trade organization that buys directly from small-scale farmer cooperatives, owned and run by the farmers themselves. Because our farmer partners are paid above market prices for their crops, they are able to make investments in community projects, educational programs, and technical trainings. These cooperative organizations also help keep rural communities healthy and strong, and keep local cultures vibrant. *Equal Exchange* is also committed to supporting sustainable farming methods that help green the earth through reforestation, natural resource conservation and organic practices.

Pastoral Care Ministry

By Gail Orcheski

As many of you know, pastoral care is one of the most important aspects of our church life. Recently, we created a position dedicated to this ministry to ensure all those in need receive the care and attention they deserve and request.

With that said, I have volunteered to manage this program and have started by asking for volunteers and the area they wish to help. I have created a spreadsheet with some volunteers and I have also started a list of those who may need or have requested pastoral care.

Some areas that would be helpful with this program are:

- Driving – picking up and driving members to church, doctor's appointments, grocery shopping.
- Visiting those who are house bound or in hospitals.
- Making calls to those we haven't seen in a while to check in or those who are ill.
- Writing and sending cards to remind folks they are missed and we're thinking and praying for them.

We can make a big difference in someone's life by just reaching out to them and letting them know someone cares, is thinking of them, or misses their attendance in church. Please pray about this and let me know if you'd like to be part of this ministry. Thank you.



INTERCESSIONS

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

Mary C.	Bella
Nancy W.	Paul
Marge C.	Ethel
Janis B.	Maria
Lena B.	Chas & Leslie
Kitty C.	Debbie K.
Maddie	Lillian
Stephanie	the Lucy Family
JYM, Marie & KJM	Bruce
Richard T.	Audrey
Roland	Frances
Ray	Margaret
Bob & Shirley	Burke
Gail	Gerry
Evy's Family	



Birthdays

Calvin Cochrane	Sept 01
Marion Lively	Sept 03
Kiersten Hogarty	Sept 08
Hilary Yates	Sept 08
Alex Reid	Sept 16
Paul Cronis	Sept 17
Javin Goodness	Sept 20
George Calnan	Sept 20
Isobel Grubb	Sept 21
Dora Naves	Sept 24
Karen Simonenko	Sept 25
Keith Piper	Sept 28

Anniversaries

Samuel and Freda Chandrasekaran	Sept 09
Roger and Ayako Barnum	Sept 18



Cartoon taken from: <https://www.cpg.org/default/cache/file/87E51384-F969-FDBD-4851F7C01C8C319C.jpg>

September 2015

Sun Mon Tue Wed Thu Fri Sat

		1	2	3 Vestry 6pm	4	5
6 Eucharist 10am	7	8	9	10	11	12
13 Eucharist 10am Comm. Supper 5pm	14	15	16	17	18	19
20 Eucharist 10am	21	22	23	24	25	26
27 Eucharist 10am Comm. Supper 5pm	28	29	30			

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