

CHRONICLE

LENT-EASTER 2019



FROM THE RECTOR The Way of Love



Dear Friends,

Will you join me on the Way of Love? Lent comes late this year, with Ash Wednesday on March 6th. But once Lent begins, it's always the same length of time -- 40 days. Forty days in which to rededicate ourselves to Jesus Christ, and to follow his Way every day, all year long.

Reading the Book of Acts, you'll find that the earliest Christians weren't yet called "Christians." They were those who belonged to "the Way." Jesus called himself "the way, the truth and the life" (John 14:6a), and those who accepted His saving love and grace were committed to a way of life that followed the pattern of Jesus' life. Jesus also said, at the same time, "no one comes to the Father except through me" (John 14:6b). Jesus was calling himself the "way" to knowing God as "Father." Contrary to some interpretations, Jesus wasn't saying that only people who are Christians know God. He was saying that he was the Way in which people could enter into an intimate relationship with God that he, Jesus had experienced: as loving Parent, as the source of love, grace and forgiveness. Those who accepted Jesus were born anew as "children of God," and a new way of life followed.

Our Presiding Bishop, Michael Curry, has asked us to follow the pattern of Jesus' life in our daily lives, just as those earliest Christians did. Curry calls this "The Way of Love." Please read his invitation to The Way of Love, following this article.

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FROM THE RECTOR (Continued)

At Atonement, we're going to spend Lent reflecting on this Way of Love. On March 10th, the First Sunday in Lent, during the sermon, our Confirmation Class and teachers will present the seven steps of this Way: turn, learn, pray, worship, bless, go and rest. Everyone will have a chance to reflect on the first step, "turn." Then, through services and forums during this holy season, everyone will have the opportunity to consider each of the seven steps.

These steps are not new! Perhaps this configuration is new -- and our Vestry and Confirmation Class hope that they will be helpful to everyone. However, all of us who are Christians, and who are members of the Atonement community, have known these steps in different ways and at different times in our lives.

I've seen Jesus' way of love expressed in Atonement's ministry over the years -- it's a place where so many faithful people grow in faith, care for their families and each other, and express God's love in a variety of ways to our neighbors through outreach, service, advocacy, and in this anniversary year, "Blessings to Go!" I know that our church members seek to live their faith every day in their homes, at work, and in their engagement with the community. Lent gives us all the opportunity to deepen our daily walk with Christ, and find new ways of incarnating God's love in our world.

I hope that you'll join us on The Way of Love. Make a special effort to come to church on Ash Wednesday, March 6th, on the First Sunday in Lent, March 10th, and throughout the Lenten season. It's a chance at a new start for all of us -- what a gift!

Faithfully,



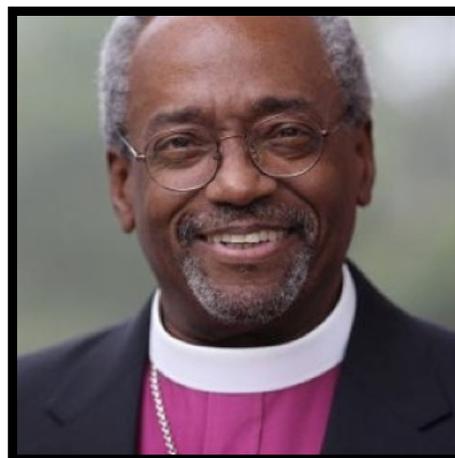


AN INVITATION FROM THE PRESIDING BISHOP TO PRACTICE THE WAY OF LOVE

I pray that you, being rooted and established in love, may have power, together with all the Lord's holy people, to grasp how wide and long and high and deep is the love of Christ, and to know this love that surpasses knowledge, that you may be filled to the measure of all the fullness of God. ~Ephesians 3:17-19

In the first century Jesus of Nazareth inspired a movement. A community of people whose lives were centered on Jesus Christ and committed to living the way of God's unconditional, unselfish, sacrificial, and redemptive love. Before they were called "church" or "Christian," this Jesus Movement was simply called "the way." Today I believe our vocation is to live as the Episcopal branch of the Jesus Movement. But how can we together grow more deeply with Jesus Christ at the center of our lives, so we can bear witness to his way of love in and for the world? The deep roots of our Christian tradition may offer just such a path. For centuries, monastic communities have shaped their lives around rhythms and disciplines for following Jesus together. Such a pattern is known as a "Rule of Life." The framework you now hold *The Way of Love: Practices for Jesus-Centered Life* — outlines a Rule for the Episcopal branch of the Jesus Movement.

It is designed to be spare and spacious, so that individuals, ministry groups, congregations, and networks can flesh it out in unique ways and build a church-wide treasure trove of stories and resources. There is no specific order you need to follow. If you already keep a Rule or spiritual disciplines, you might reflect and discover how that path intersects with this one. By entering into reflection, discernment and commitment around the practices of Turn – Learn – Pray – Worship – Bless– Go – Rest, I pray we will grow as communities following the loving, liberating, life-giving way of Jesus. His way has the power to change each of our lives and to change this world.



Your brother in the Way of Jesus,

The Most Reverend Michael B. Curry, Primate and Presiding Bishop of the Episcopal Church



COMING UP DURING LENT AT ATONEMENT

Lent -- a time for taking inventory of our lives -- spiritual, personal, social.
A time to explore Jesus' "Way of Love," via Presiding Bishop Michael Curry!

ASH WEDNESDAY – *March 6*

7:00-8:00am "Ashes to Go" at the Tenafly Bus Stop
12 noon – Chapel; 5:00pm Children's – Church; 7:30pm – Choir Stalls

BIBLE STUDY – *Thursdays, March 7th & 21st, April 4th at 7:15pm*
Continuing *Paul's Letter to the Philippians*. All are welcome.

FIRST SUNDAY IN LENT – *March 10th, 8:00am and 10:00am*
At 10:00am: The Great Litany in Candlelight Procession
Our Confirmation Class presents "The Way of Love – TURN"

WEEKDAY EUCHARISTS – *Four Thursdays at 7:30am*
March 14th, 21st, 28th, April 11th – Communion, coffee and muffins

LENTEN FAMILY SERVICE – *Sunday, March 17th, 9:55am*
Children's/Family Sermon on "The Way of Love – LEARN"

SUNDAY FORUMS – *Sundays, March 24th and 31st, 11:30am*
"The Way of Love – PRAY, WORSHIP, BLESS"

DISCOVERY NIGHT – *Tuesday, March 11th*
7:15pm Supper 7:45pm DVD & Discussion

LENTEN SOUP SUPPER – *Wednesday, March 20th, 6:30pm*
MANY homemade soups and desserts! Bring your own bowl, spoon; BYOB.

LENTEN MINI-QUIET DAY – *Saturday, March 30th, 9:30am~1:30pm*
"All that I have is yours!" RSVP by signing up, phone or email. \$10 with lunch.

LENTEN MEDITATIONS – *Sunday, March 31st at 6:30pm*
Gospel music and readings honoring F.D. Maurice (d. April 1, 1872) and
Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. (d. April 4, 1968), prophets of social justice.

THE FIFTH SUNDAY IN LENT – *April 7th, 10:00am*
Confirmation Class: "The Way of Love – GO"

PALM SUNDAY – *April 14th, 8:00am and 9:50am*
Blessing of Palms, Procession, Holy Eucharist, Passion Gospel, "The Way of Love – REST"



BLESSINGS TO GO

By Carol Petrovich

At the last Vestry Retreat, members discussed ways in which we could celebrate the 150th Anniversary of our church. One of the ideas that came forth was a Blessing to Go Booth. Members became excited as the creation of the booth was discussed. This was something new which would be beneficial to Atonement members as well as the whole community, and it could apply to all ages.

Our booth has been in action for about a year. It consists of a table with a banner that says Blessings to Go. At the booth table we place index cards with prayers including Christian and interfaith blessings. Prayers for healing, for comfort in the time of loss, for birthdays and much more. The booth is set up at street fairs, farmers markets, and town spirit nights. When someone stops at the booth, they may take a prayer card for themselves or a friend or loved one. At the various events in which we participated Blessings to Go was well received.

We hope to be present at more events in the coming months. If you have a suggestion as to where we could set up a booth -- or if you would like to help at the booth -- please call the church at 201-568-1763 or email rector@atonement-tenafly.org. Blessings to Go offers spiritual support for our members, neighbors in Tenafly and beyond.

Be a Digital Disciple

As the Church celebrates its 150th, we encourage you, our Digital Disciples, to share your love for Atonement on social media.

If you would like to learn more about Facebook and how to like, share, comment, or add friends to an event please feel free to talk to Vanessa Roshong.



Like a Post



Share a Post



Comment on a Post



Lenten SOUP Supper

By Andrea Pieper

Mark your calendars and get your bowls ready for our Annual Lenten Soup Supper at **6:30pm on Wednesday, March 20th**. Admission is \$8 for adults, \$5 for children 12 and under.

What kind of soups, you ask? Well, like the Oscars, that can only be revealed on the night of the supper. Come and see for yourselves what a delightful evening of soup experimenting and warm fellowship can do to feed a soul.

MUSIC MINISTRY

By Brian Schober



For our annual Lenten Meditations service on March 31st at 6:30pm, we will be observing the anniversaries of the 20th Century civil rights icon, Reverend Martin Luther King and Frederick Denison Maurice, the 19th century Anglican theologian, author, and one of the first Christian social justice advocates. The service will offer several appropriate readings interspersed with a number of African-American spirituals and Gospel music selections.



145th ANNUAL CONVENTION OF THE EPISCOPAL DIOCESE OF NEWARK

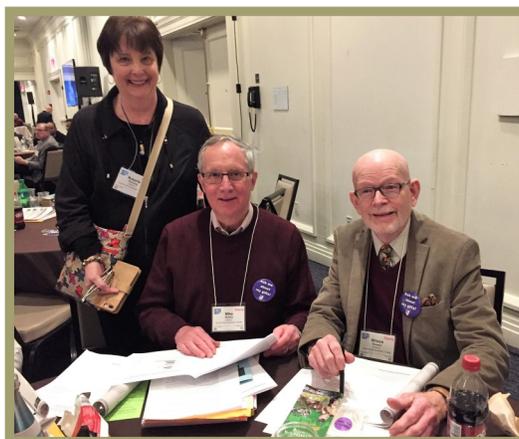
By Wilson Reimers

The convention held on Friday, February 1st and Saturday, February 2nd was especially exciting as we were introduced to our new Bishop, The Right Reverend Carlye J. Hughes -- and a new venue, the Meadowlands Hilton in East Rutherford. The convention theme "Gifted, Called, Sent" got off to a rousing start with the Bishop's first talk, "We are all the Salt of the Earth" in which she highlighted all of God's gifts to us!"

Business sections were kept as short as possible and ran very smoothly, so that we could explore our gifts and our callings to serve God in his Church. We did a Spiritual Gift Inventory and Tabulation, Dwelling in the World, Table Talks and, finally, on Saturday afternoon an Asset Mapping exercise of the Church. In addition, there were workshops held on a great variety of subjects including Stewardship, Youth, Music and the L.G.B.T.Q. community in the Church. One of the highlights for me was a Communion service for the approximately 500 people in attendance.

Atonement's representatives this year were Lynne B. Weber, Roberta Roshong, Mike Murphy and myself. As the convention is no longer just for delegates, we were lucky to also be represented by Carol Petrovich and Walton Clark.

The convention, to me, is an exciting "shot in the arm" for my faith, and I encourage everyone to attend and experience the joy and good works our Diocese and its congregations are doing in God's church and the world. Personally, I'm looking forward to Atonement's use of the Spiritual Gifts Inventory and the Asset Mapping exercising in the near future.





VESTRY NEWS

By Fran Regan

The Wardens and Vestry held its annual Vestry Retreat on Friday, March 1st through Saturday, March 2nd. The Vestry had decided to use the ministry tools offered at our Diocesan Convention. These included a Spiritual Gifts Inventory and Asset Mapping exercise. The extent of spiritual gifts and assets (physical, associational, spiritual, individual economic, etc.) that we identified in our Atonement community was awe-inspiring! Everyone agreed that these exercises were interesting and helpful, and considered how to offer them to the entire congregation. The Vestry has some next steps:

- We'll try out one new ministry: an informal weekday biblical/spiritual reflection time at a local diner or coffee shop. This will probably be on a Tuesday or Thursday around 11:00am once per month. If you're interested, please see our ad hoc team: Birgitta Karlén, Andrea Pieper and Tanya Quirk.
- We'll have a series of brief talks on Sunday mornings by Atonement members involved in ministries.
- We'll hold a congregational "table talks" breakfast in June where everyone can enjoy and benefit from the Spiritual Gifts Inventory.
- We'll keep the colorful "post it note" Asset Mapping boards up in the Reception Room for a few weeks. You're invited to consider which assets exist in our community that the Vestry didn't think of! Post-it notes and pens are available by the boards. Also, the Vestry will follow up at its March 19th meeting and beyond in thinking about how our many assets are best appreciated and used.

The Vestry continues to meet monthly for financial oversight and ministry planning. Coming up is the formation of a Nominating Committee for Wardens and Vestry members, to be elected at our Annual Meeting on Sunday, May 5th, after the 10:00am service. If you're interested in serving on the Vestry, or would like to nominate someone else, please speak to Lynne Weber or one of our wardens, Roberta Roshong and Carol Petrovich.

Among other things, the Vestry also reviewed the final numbers for 2018 and approved the budget for 2019. The Vestry approved taking a higher percentage than originally planned from the Endowment Fund to fund the 2018 budget, due in part to higher costs (i.e. snow removal) and to lower income (unexpectedly, there was no distribution in 2018 from the Engle Fund budgeted at \$20,000. The Engle Fund is managed separately by a trustee who has no connection to Church of the Atonement. We do, however, expect a distribution in 2019. Fortunately our own investments, held in the Vanguard Star Fund, are doing well, so we are on track. These items will be discussed at the Annual Meeting. The Wardens and Vestry are very thankful to our Finance Committee (Mike Murphy, Treasurer; Walton Clark, Ed Jaxel, Alan Lauderdale and Reggie Smith) for their careful and skilled stewardship of Atonement's resources on behalf of the Vestry and people.

Finally, the Wardens and Vestry continue to invite everyone to celebrate in our 150th Anniversary plans which will continue through the Spring...we're thankful for everyone who have responded so far to our campaign to restore An Advent Angel. If you haven't done so yet, we hope you'll contribute according to your ability. The restoration has a long outlook; we trust that this beautiful, historic painting will grace Atonement's worship for many, many years to come!

Save the date for our Anniversary Dinner/Dance on Friday, May 3, our 3rd Anniversary Evensong on Sunday, June 2 – when Bishop Carlye Hughes will be with us – and our celebration of the Angel's return in September!



“AN ADVENT ANGEL” RESTORATION

By Lynne Weber

As part of Atonement’s 150th Anniversary, we have initiated a campaign to restore its historic painting, An Advent Angel. It was painted by Ella Condie Lamb (1862-1936), a member of the family whose company, J&R Lamb Studios, produced most of the stained glass windows in the church.

For “An Advent Angel,” Lamb earned the Dodge Prize from the National Academy of Design in 1889 (awarded each year for “the best picture painted by a woman in the United States”). The painting also received honorable mentions at the Chicago World’s Fair of 1893 and the Buffalo Exposition of 1901.

Lamb’s Angel was considered a masterful yet radical painting because at that time, angels were normally pictured as male. One reviewer wrote, “There has been much discussion about the sex of angels and some disgruntled old hunkers have declared that all angels are masculine. Evidently Mrs. Lamb does not believe this, for her beautiful angel is a woman.”

Ella Lamb was an acclaimed designer of art in mural, mosaic and stained glass for the Lamb Studio. Murals by her can be seen today in the Sage Chapel at Cornell University and the Governor Flower Memorial Library in Watertown, NY, among others. Her work is also included in the collections of the National Museum of Women in the Arts (Washington, D.C.), the National Arts Club (New York, NY), and The Newark Museum.

The Angel has hung in the Choir at Atonement for 90+ years -- donated by the artist not long after the magnificent addition to the church in 1912 that included the Choir, Austin Pipe Organ, and High Altar. The Lambs lived for many years in Cresskill and were members of Atonement. J&R Lamb Studios was located for decades in Tenafly, and is part of its rich history.

We are already half way to reaching our goal for the restoration, having received \$6,000 in donations to date!

We expect the restored “An Advent Angel” will return to Atonement during the fall, at which time a celebratory event will take place. Art and history lovers in the larger community who would like to donate to the project are invited to do so. For more information, or for a copy of the campaign brochure, contact Pat D’Anna in the parish office at 201-568-1763 or parish.admin@atonement-tenafly.org.



REMEMBER OUR VETERANS Confirmation Project

By Birgitta Karlén and Lukas Parmelee

Lukas Parmelee presented his Confirmation project to the congregation on February 10th. He is organizing a collection on behalf of veterans for an annual event called Smiles for Our Heroes, and his mentor is Dr. Bryon Roshong.

Lukas is asking for donations of new hats, gloves and socks through June. The items will be included in goody bags given out to needy veterans at the event being sponsored by Zufall Health Center and Delta Dental. At last year's event, free dental care was provided to over 200 veterans! Lukas is happy to be helping to support veterans who have done so much for us and our country.

Please talk with Bryon or me if you have any question about the project. Thanks for your support!

2019 CONFIRMAND

By Carol Petrovich

On Sunday May 19th at 3:00pm at Trinity & St. Philip's Cathedral in Newark, Lukas Parmelee will receive the Sacramento of Confirmation. Lukas fulfilled all the requirements necessary to make his Confirmation -- participation in church services, attending Sunday classes, and an independent report on a subject of interest to him...a report on a Veteran's Center located in Dover, NJ. After giving his report Lukas asked the congregation to donate gloves, hats or scarves for Veterans in need. The collection box remains in the Reception Room. If you can help to keep some of our veterans warm, it's not too late to drop-off donations. If you care to make a donation and are unable to bring it to church, please call the church office at 201-568-1763. Please keep Lukas in your prayers as his Confirmation date approaches.



ENVIRONMENTAL TEAM NEWS

By Birgitta Karlén, Vestry Environmental Ministry Co-Chair

The Environmental Team has been active in our environmental ministry, working together with the Bergen County Circle of GreenFaith to stay abreast of the current events, legislation, policies and proposals that would impact us both locally and globally.

Atonement hosted a successful Bergen County Circle meeting in late-October. Some of the items discussed were the new offshore windmills built near Block Island that several Circle members had visited over the summer,* a Blessing of the Electric Vehicles event held in November, and the Parliament of World Religions conference in Toronto attended by a Circle member titled “Alliance of Religions and Conservation.” Other issues the Atonement Environmental Team have actively been working on include signing onto a letter in conjunction with other Circle member congregations urging our Congressional Representatives to address global climate change, specifically focusing on six areas, including transitioning to 100% renewable energy.

Another high priority has been creating local awareness surrounding the proposed building of a Meadowlands fracked gas plant. We are helping to organize a public meeting that will be held at Atonement in conjunction with Food and Water Watch, which will discuss the impacts of building and operating another new fossil fuel plant so close to home. The California company involved, Los Angeles-based Diamond Generating Corp., a subsidiary of Japanese conglomerate Mitsubishi, is seeking state approval to build one of the largest power plants in New Jersey, one that would send all of its electricity to Manhattan and add to the pollution for an already environmentally “F” rated township (North Bergen). More information on the time and date of that meeting (probably late March) will be forthcoming.

Most recently, on February 18th, President’s Day, a number of our Bergen GreenFaith Circle colleagues attended the Interfaith Brotherhood-Sisterhood Committee of Bergen County’s 32nd annual brunch. Each year a different faith group sponsors the event. This year the Hindu community chose the theme for the brunch and roundtable conversations, “Living the Change, Interfaith Initiatives for Environmental Sustainability.” The keynote speaker at that event was Gopal Patel, director of the Bhumi Project. He also serves on the Advisory Council of the United Nations Religion and Development Task Force. A number of our Bergen GreenFaith Circle colleagues also attended.



ENVIRONMENTAL TEAM NEWS (Continued)

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The most recent Bergen County Circle of GreenFaith meeting was held on February 21st, 2019, at Temple Emeth in Teaneck. All present at the meeting voted to sign onto a letter to the Bergen County Board of Chosen Freeholders, urging them to oppose the proposed Meadowlands Fracked Gas Power Plant. Details regarding the letter will be presented to the congregation in the near future. The Circle members were also notified, and asked to spread the word to their respective congregations, of a Freeholders meeting on March 6th at 7 pm, 1 Bergen Plaza, Hackensack, where the public will have an opportunity to raise concerns regarding the Meadowlands Fracked Gas Plant. Please attend if you can!

We will keep the congregation informed of any further upcoming events and/or initiatives. Thank you for your support and concern for God's creation!



CAROL SCHULTS (IN BLUE, STANDING) AND BIRGITTA KARLEN (IN WHICH JACKET SEATED), OUR VESTRY CO-CHAIRS FOR ENVIRONMENTAL MINISTRY, ARE PICTURED WITH OTHERS WHO REPRESENT CONGREGATIONS THAT PARTICIPATE IN THE CENTRAL BERGEN GREENFAITH CIRCLE. GREENFAITH'S MISSION IS TO INSPIRE, EDUCATE, ORGANIZE AND MOBILIZE PEOPLE OF DIVERSE RELIGIOUS AND SPIRITUAL GROUNDS GLOBALLY FOR ENVIRONMENTAL ACTION.

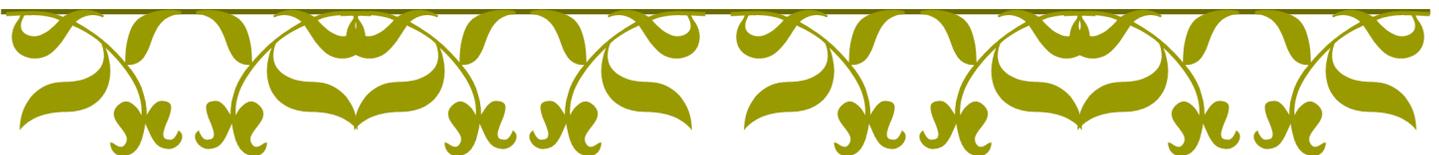


INTERFAITH ACTIVITIES

By Fran Regan

The community at Atonement is very involved in interfaith and ecumenical dialogue. Inspired by our Rector who serves as the Diocesan Ecumenical and Interreligious Officer, and Chair of the diocese's Ecumenical and Interreligious Commission, parishioners participate in the events sponsored by the Tenafly Interfaith Association including the interfaith Thanksgiving service, Interfaith Vigil for refugees and asylum seekers, and participation in the Tree of Life Synagogue remembrances. The church also hosts meetings of the Interfaith Women's Initiative -- a group of Jewish, Muslim and Christian women who meet to advance the mission of interfaith understanding. The group engages in internal dialogue, education, advocacy and charity in furtherance of this mission.

On October 7th, 2018, the IWI sponsored an education event called "Welcoming the Stranger." Learned representatives of each of the three faiths discussed their holy texts and religious traditions which provide guidance on how to view and interact with "strangers." The overwhelming conclusion was that all faiths advocate for embracing rather than rejecting the stranger. The event was held at the Darul Islah, the Muslim house of worship in Teaneck, and was attended by over 200 people. The entire event was seen on the Jewish Broadcasting System. The IWI group meets monthly and is a great opportunity to discuss with sisters in other faiths our similarities, which can ultimately improve our relationships, personally and globally. If you are interested in learning more about this group, please contact me at franr916@gmail.com.



CHURCH OF THE ATONEMENT

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LENT-EASTER 2019



HOLY WEEK AND EASTER AT ATONEMENT

PALM SUNDAY SERVICES – April 14th

8:00am and 10:00am *Blessing of Palms, Procession, Eucharist*

GOOD FRIDAY – April 19th

7:00-8:00am “Ashes to Go” at the Tenafly Bus Stop
12 noon – Chapel; **5:00pm** Children’s – Church; **7:30pm** – Choir Stalls

EASTER SERVICES

Saturday, April 20th, 8:00pm – Great Vigil of Easter

with Choir and Soloists, Eucharist, Party

Sunday, April 21st, 8:00am

Holy Eucharist with Hymns

Sunday, April 21st, 9:55am – Festive Holy Eucharist

with Choir and Soloists, Find the Alleluias and Egg Hunt on the lawn