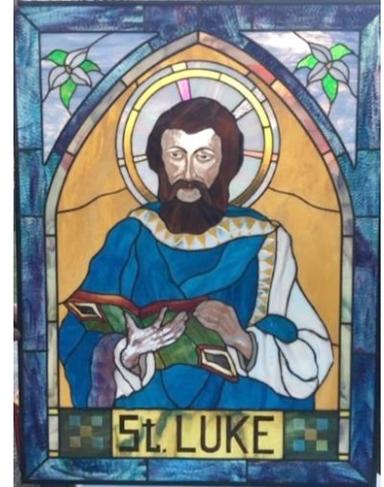


Dear People of St. Luke's,

During this challenging time, I think it's especially important for us to stay connected and to support one another in community. I will be using the enews for updates and information that I hope will be both helpful and inspiring. As we go forward, I have some information and some proposals for your consideration.



**First, the information:**

1. Since services are suspended for an indefinite period of time, David Skidmore has suggested doing the Liturgy of the Word, which would include the readings and sermon, and uploading that to YouTube. As you might guess, I don't know much about how that works, but David does and can advise on that as needed. We'll be doing the first of these this Saturday and we'll let you know when it's ready for viewing.
2. I would like to offer the opportunity for us to receive Eucharist in small groups (2 or 3). My thought is that I will set aside Wednesdays to be at the church for conversation and Eucharist. I would set aside hour-long segments throughout the day during which people could come to church either singly or in couples and we could take that time for prayer, conversation and Eucharist. My plan would be to gather around a table in the Canterbury Room, which would allow for social distancing and clean-up between each appointment. I have asked Bishop Matt about this and his initial response was positive. However, he wanted to check with the ad hoc committee working on these issues. At this point, he hasn't confirmed that I can proceed, so this plan is tentative. I will be speaking with him and plan, with his permission, to begin next Wednesday, March 25th. There's no obligation, of course, but if you are interested, please call me and we'll set a time.
3. The Door County Fire Chiefs are working with the churches to be sure that people who need help, whether food, clothing, shelter, medicine, etc., can get it. Each faith community has a point person who will be called on to recruit volunteers as needed. Mike McEvoy has agreed to be that person for St. Luke's.
4. David Skidmore has added a link on our website which will have updated pandemic information. Please check that frequently.

**And then some additional proposals:**

1. Please consider some kind of 'buddy' system' with friends, neighbors and members of St. Luke's, especially with those who are living alone. A daily check in to be sure everyone is all right would be the primary goal. Many of our connections are casual and this is meant to be more intentional. If you need help finding a buddy, let me know.

2. Prayer is especially important in times like these. Betsy passed on a practice that her church in Belleville uses. Beginning with your own name in the parish directory, pray one day for the next ten people on the list; the follow day, pray for the next ten, etc., until you are back to your own name. And then begin again. By doing that, we'll all be holding one another in prayer.

And finally, here's a prayer Joy passed along from Rabbi Josef Kanefsky:

*Every hand that we don't shake must become a phone call that we place. Every embrace that we avoid must become a verbal expression of warmth and concern. Every inch and every foot that we physically place between ourselves and another must become a thought as to how we might be of help to that other, should the need arise.*

Please know that you can call me at any time and that I am holding all of you in prayer.

Every blessing,  
Mother Barb