



The Ark of the Covenant

A Newsletter for the People of
The Memorial Church of St. Luke, the Beloved Physician &
All Saints Episcopal Church of Rhawnhurst
The Rev. Dr. Timothy Griffin, Rector

February 2021
Issue 94

The Memorial Church of St. Luke, the Beloved Physician

1946 Welsh Road
Philadelphia, PA 19115
215.969.3645 (office)
stlukesoffice1946@gmail.com
www.memorialchurchofstlukes.org

SUNDAY SERVICE

11:00 a.m. Holy Eucharist
with music
Followed immediately by
refreshments and fellowship in
the parish hall.

Weekly Schedule

Thrift Store

Sundays 12:30 – 2:30 PM
in the church hall

AA

Monday – Friday 1:00 p.m.
Monday 7:00 p.m.
in the church hall

Contemplative Prayer

Wednesday 6:30 - 7:00 PM
Followed by Bible Study 7:00 –
8:30 PM

Celtic Eucharist with Healing
(suspended for the present)

Irish Dance Classes

Tuesdays and Thursdays
6:00 – 7:00 p.m.
in the church hall

FEBRUARY 13: ABSALOM JONES, Priest, 1818

Absalom Jones was born on November 6, 1746, in a house slave in Delaware. He taught himself to read out of the New Testament, among other books. When sixteen, he was sold to a store owner in Philadelphia. There he attended a night school for blacks, operated by Quakers. At twenty, he married another slave, and purchased her freedom with his earnings. Jones bought his own freedom in 1784. At St. George's Methodist Episcopal Church, he served as lay minister for its black membership. The active evangelism of Jones and that of his friend, Richard Allen, greatly increased black membership at St. George's. The alarmed vestry decided to segregate blacks into an upstairs gallery, without notifying them. During a Sunday service when ushers attempted to remove them, the blacks indignantly walked out as a body. In 1787, black Christians organized the Free African Society, the first organized Afro-American society, and Absalom Jones and Richard Allen were elected overseers. Members of the Society paid monthly dues for the benefit of those in need. The Society established communication with similar black groups in other cities. In 1792, the Society began to build a church, which was dedicated on July 17th, 1794. The African Church applied for membership in the Episcopal Diocese of Pennsylvania on the following conditions: 1. that they be received as an organized body; 2. that they have control over their local affairs; 3. that Absalom Jones be licensed as layreader, and, if qualified, be ordained as minister. In October 1794 it was admitted as St. Thomas African Episcopal Church. Bishop White ordained Jones as deacon in 1795 and as priest on September 21, 1802. Jones was an earnest preacher. He denounced slavery, and warned the oppressors to "clean their hands of slaves." To him, God 125 was the Father, who always acted on "behalf of the oppressed and distressed." But it was his constant visiting and mild manner that made him beloved by his own flock and by the community. St. Thomas Church, Philadelphia, grew to over 500

All Saints Episcopal Church of Rhawnhurst

1811 Loney Street
Philadelphia, PA
19111
215.342.6310 (office)
Email: allsaintsrh@gmail.com
www.allsaintsrhawnhurst.net

SUNDAY SERVICES

9:00 a.m. Holy Eucharist,
Rite II, with music

Followed immediately by
refreshments and
fellowship in the
undercroft.

Weekly Schedule

Al-Anon

Wednesdays 7-8:30 p.m.
in the undercroft. Open
Meeting for Adults.

St. Paul's Anglicans

Sundays 11 a.m.–1 p.m.

Bayit Abba Adonia

Thursdays 6 – 8:00 p.m.
Sundays 1:30 – 4:00 p.m.

Yoga

Saturdays 10 – 11:00 AM
(outside- weather
permitting)

Message from the Rector (continued)

members during its first year. Known as “the Black Bishop of the Episcopal Church,” Jones was an example of persistent faith in God and in the church as God’s instrument. Jones died on February 13th, 1818, in Philadelphia. *Lesser Feasts and Fasts, 2006*.

On February 13th at 10:00 a.m., the Diocese will be celebrating the Feast of Absalom Jones. The Bishop will be presiding and preaching at this liturgy. He is encouraging all to attend to celebrate the life and legacy of this “son of the Diocese of Pennsylvania.” During this time of division and racial unrest please make an effort to attend. Terry sent out the information for signing up for this event in an earlier email. In addition, the Bishop has mandated that the Propers (readings and Collect) for Sunday, February 14th should be those designated for the feast of Absalom Jones.

Blessings,
Father Tim

Message from Sebrum Morris, Junior Warden All Saints

FAITH AND BELIEF

Faith is defined as strong belief in God or in the doctrines of a religion, based on spiritual apprehension rather than proof; and, Belief is trust, faith or confidence in someone or something. Clearly, these two are inseparable. As such, the primary focus of this document stresses on Faith. It is worthy to note that this is 85% researched information and not my own thoughts. Additionally, we have had a similar message earlier; but, I strongly that now more than ever, we indeed need **FAITH**.

Faith is one of those words that is commonly used but not always understood. Some of that confusion comes from the different ways the word faith is used in everyday conversation. One common way that people use the word faith is to refer to belief in something despite lacking any evidence for it. But is that what the Bible means by faith? The answer is a resounding no! So, when the **Bible** uses the word faith, what does it mean?

The closest that the Bible comes to offering an exact definition is **Hebrews 11:1**: “Now faith is the assurance of things hoped for, the conviction of things not seen.” From this particular passage we see that the central feature of faith—confidence or trust. In the Bible, the object of faith is God and his promises. A clear example of this is Abram's encounter with God in **Genesis 15**. In response to God's promise of countless descendants, Abram “believed the LORD, and he counted it to him as righteousness” (Gen 15:6). Commenting on this, the Apostle Paul writes, “No unbelief made him waver concerning the promise of God, but he grew strong in his faith as he gave glory to God, fully convinced that God was able to do what he had promised” (Rom 4:20–21).

In conclusion, Faith and Belief is putting your trust in God and having confidence that he will fulfill his promises.



All Saints - February

- | | | | | | | | |
|----|------------------|----|------------------|----|---------------|----|----------------|
| 1 | Gail York | 14 | Dominique Julius | 15 | Riley Bachman | 26 | Diane Cairns |
| 2 | Sebrom T. Morris | 15 | Jack Lamoree | 24 | MaryAnn Blohm | 29 | Maryann Kramer |
| 14 | Dominic Julius | 15 | Massa Hunder | 25 | Timothy Blohm | | |

St. Luke – February

- | | | | | | | | |
|---|----------------|----|-----------------|----|-------------------|----|-----------------|
| 2 | Meaghan Kriss | 8 | Barbara Kaufold | 14 | Lorraine Fountain | 21 | Jean C. Gardner |
| 3 | Vida Zuccarini | 9 | Maeshen Zawolo | 18 | David Martino | 22 | Lina Sharkey |
| 6 | Barbara Logue | 14 | Cooper Zawolo | 19 | Frank Eckert | 28 | Katherine Fox |



CAPITAL IMPROVEMENT FUND

St. Luke's and All Saints are facing considerable expenses in the near future to maintain our buildings and grounds. The Vestry is asking each family that is able to contribute to the Capital Improvement Fund to help offset some of these costs.

St Lukes: asking for \$25 per quarter (\$100 annually) All Saints: asking for \$10 per month
(of course, anything you are able to give is greatly appreciated)

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Ark Submissions – Please send any articles or news that you would like included in the Ark to the Church Secretary at stlukesoffice1946@gmail.com no later than noon on Monday, February 22nd; the March Ark will be emailed and in church mailboxes by Sunday, February 28th.

Pastoral Concerns –Please contact Father Tim.

Vestry Meetings – St. Luke's: Monday, February 1st at 7:00 p.m.; All Saints: Monday, February 15th at 7:00 p.m.

Compline - Please consider joining us for Compline, which is held each night (Monday through Friday) at 8:30 p.m.. It is a beautiful prayer that lasts about 10 minutes. If you are interested in joining, please let Father Tim know.

Jean Zekas - Jean, a member of All Saints Parish, is in rehabilitation at Gwynedd Health Care. If you would like to send Jean a card, her new address is:

Gwynedd Health Care, Room A6
773 Sumneytown Pike
Landsdale, PA 19446



Dates For Your Calendar

Thrift Store

Closed until further notice (St. Luke's)

Prayer Requests

St. Luke's Prayer List- The prayer list is now being updated monthly. Please email **all** requests to **Caroline Cotugno** (pinevalleyfan@aol.com) and **cc. Terry Weikel** (stlukesoffice1946@gmail.com). You may also see Caroline in church or write in the book located at the church entrance, whenever indoor church services resume. **Member Requests:** please let us know when you need prayers, but also when you need to come off the prayer list. **Non Member Requests:** Please make your requests monthly, as names will be removed at the end of the month unless notification is received. **Please submit all March prayer requests by Monday, February 22nd** and the list will be updated by Sunday, February 28th. Please note, as per Father Tim's request, we are only accepting names for the prayer lists, rather than praying for groups of people.

"Sometimes all it takes is prayer to change everything." - Anonymous

All Saints, Rhawnhurst



Dawn Bachman
Kula Benjamin
Wayne Bindernagle
Marianne Black
Jamie Campbell
Diane Celotto
Linda Colwell
Harry Coraluzzi
Patsy Craig
Sara Dean
Ruth Doe

Regina Domanico
Dorothy Dungan
Patricia Ellis
Fr. Tim Griffin
Massa Hunder
Noai Karpe
Ray Kaspar
Mike Kelly
Lisa Kimball
Ken King
Judy Kolaris

Denise Lalka
Joseph Marco
Marion Morabito
Fr. Jim Morris
Sebrom T. Morris III
Walter Morris
Eric Nason
The Robinsons
Nancy Strang
Jean Zekas

All of the families who lost loved ones to Covid-19.

All of the victims who succumbed to Covid-19.

St. Luke's

Elaine Woods
Genevieve Scott
Ruth Fischer
Joe Hanis
R. Lee Kostic
Jackie Oxenford
Patricia Cellini
Rosa Michnya
Susana Navarro
Kim Petrie
George Mitchell

Gregory Park
Renato Cavaliere
Walburta Nelson
Susan Stahl
Bob Carter
Charlene Segal
Don Shifflett
Caroline Cotugno
Carol Mitchell
Marge Sharples.
Herb Rolland

Elaine Black
Nancy M. Wright
Llyn Carter
JoAnn Runewicz
Rose Whaley
Meaghan Kriss
Aurelia Thorpe
Nancy Orlando
Dolores Howard
Deneen Raysor
Rita Smith

Alan Wilkinson
Fr. Tim
Laure Padian
Barbara Kaufold
Bruce Sholley
June Mueller
Thomas Duncavage
Patricia Gantz
Linda Roussis
Anna M. Pascarella
Bob Baur



Gerry	Justin & Emily	Denise	Augustine
Peggy	Becca	Evie	Collette
Wendy	Karen	Audrey	Kali
Vince	Pam	Aussie	Karen
Ed	Tim	Roger	Earl
Sabrina	Emani & Erica	Marsha	James
Robert	Anita	Elizabeth	Kathleen
Steven	Anna	Patricia	Ruth
Stella	John	Ricky	Caylee
William	Tracy	Betsy	Renee
Shane	Suzanne	Michelle	Connie
Vernon	Janine	Barbara	Othniel
Mark	Carol	Warren	Madu
Reethi	Vasu	Meena	Kala
Karen	Chris	Sherri	Henry
Evelyn	Christopher	Rev. Randy	Lori
Sidney	Rudy	Brubaker	Dan
			Tabitha

Message from Caroline Cotugno, St. Luke's

February

By Jane (Goodwin) Austin



I thought the world was cold in death;
 The flowers, the birds, all life was gone,
 For January's bitter breath
 Had slain the bloom and hushed the song.
 And still the earth is cold and white,
 And mead and forest yet are bare;
 But there's a something in the light
 That says the germ of life is there.
 Deep down within the frozen brook
 I hear a murmur, faint and sweet,
 And lo! The ice breaks as I look,
 And living waters touch my feet.
 Within the forest's leafless shade
 I hear a spring bird's hopeful lay;
 O life to frozen death betrayed.

Thy death shall end in life today,
And in my still heart's frozen cell
The pulses struggle to be free;
While sweet the bird sings, who can tell
But life may bloom again for thee!

♥ Happy Valentines Day ♥



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1946 Welsh Road
Philadelphia, PA 19115

FIRST CLASS MAIL
Address Correction Requested

