

## This week at St. Luke By-the-Sea:

### Monday, January 15, 2018

- o 9:00 am – 1:00 pm – Judith's+ office hours
- o 10:00 am – 2:00 pm – Marcia's office hours
- o 1:30 pm – Tuesday-Writers-on-Monday Group

### Tuesday, January 16

- o 9:00 am – 12:30 pm – Judith's+ office hours (Judith will be in Newport for a meeting of the Ministry Association on Tuesday afternoon)
- o 1:00 pm –5:00 pm – Marcia's office hours
- o 10:30 am – **Grist for the Mill** discussion
- o 12:00 noon – **Holy Eucharist** celebrating Richard Meux Benson and Chester Gore
- o 1:30 pm – Tuesday Writers Group

### Wednesday, January 17

- o 10:30 - 11:45 am – **Adult Study Group** on “**Women of the Bible**” (meets at St. Stephen's)  
We will discuss Esther the Queen, as she is portrayed in both the Hebrew version of the Book of Esther and in the longer, rewritten Greek version of her story.

### Thursday, January 18

- o 8:00 am – **Men's Breakfast** at Hilltop Bistro
- o 10:00 am – **Enneagram Study Group**

### Friday, January 19

- o 10:30 am – **EfM**

### Saturday, January 20

- o 9:30 am – **Community Breakfast** at Waldport Presbyterian Church. Join us!

### Sunday, January 21 – 3<sup>rd</sup> Sunday after the Epiphany

- o 9:00 am – **Holy Eucharist**
  - Ministries of the day:
    - Presiding & Preaching – **Judith+**

- Eucharistic Minister – **Dawn**
  - Acolyte – **Aaron**
  - Usher – **Elizabeth**
  - Lectors –
    - o Lessons – **Ray**
    - o Psalm & Prayers – **Jackie**
  - Counters – **Ray & Elizabeth**
  - Coffee Hour – **Dawn & Marcia C.**
- o 10:00 am – **St. Luke's Annual Meeting**

**A letter to St. Luke's from Senior Warden Ruth Werner:**

Dear St. Luke's,

Recently, in response to a terrible tragedy in Texas where a gunman entered a church and opened fire, we the BAC decided to make an adjustment to church practices: we decided to lock the back doors to the church during service, and to post a sign welcoming any latecomers to join us through the front doors.

This decision caused some of our St. Luke's family to share their concerns that this action was not in keeping with our identity as a welcoming church, and that it was fear-based, rather than solution-based.

The BAC heard those comments with great appreciation, and we dedicated a good portion of our last meeting to discussing them.

Our conclusions were threefold:

1. We believe that welcoming all people, regardless of who they are, is central to our mission;
2. We recognize that locking the back doors cannot keep us safe from a person bent on violence, *and*
3. We recognize that when we have children in Sunday School here, it is important to keep them and their teachers—as well as people working in the kitchen—safe from people who may wander into the building during the service without making their presence known to the ushers or the parish leadership. This is something that has happened in the past, more than once, and it has been an item of concern for some of our parents and other members.

We want to create an environment that is both welcoming to everyone and safe for our children and their teachers. Therefore, we have decided to keep this policy in place. The usher will lock the back doors when the processional starts, and unlock them as soon as the service is over. People who arrive after the service begins, whether they have come to worship, to seek shelter, or to ask for assistance, will be invited to join us by way of the narthex.

We hope this decision is acceptable to the congregation. Please know that we are happy to hear from you. We honor your input, and we always try to find a way to balance all of the needs of our family.

With God's help, we will.

Ruth Werner,  
Senior Warden

## Please also note:

- **Judith+**'s mother, **Joyce**, has been moved from the intensive care unit to the cardiac care unit. Please keep Joyce, her medical providers, all those who tend to her needs, and all her family in your prayers.
- Please keep our beloved **Rev. Deacon Senitila McKinley** in your hearts & prayers this week as she continues to heal at home from an acute heart condition. She is currently on medical leave, but if you'd like to call or send her a card, her phone number is 541-563-2131 and her address is 1817 Alsea Highway, Waldport OR 97394.
- Sandra Gangle, sporting her new knee in church on Sunday, would like to thank all the St. Luke's members whose prayers have been so helpful in her surgery & recovery. Please keep her in your prayers as she continues to heal.
- Please also continue to support **Sam Archer** & his wife **Sandi** as he recovers from cancer surgery, and keep them in your prayers. Their phone number is 360-270-0444 & their email address is [sasarcher@gmail.com](mailto:sasarcher@gmail.com).
- The sale of "**Kids Helping Kids**" Christmas ornaments made by the children of our community ended up collecting nearly \$1,000 to send in direct aid to support a school in Haiti! Thank you, children and donors, for your generous spirits, and especially, thank you, Michele, for sponsoring this outreach project!
- There is a box in the parish hall to receive old blue jeans as well as other items (specified on a list in the vicinity of the box) in preparation for our annual spring sale, this year aptly re-dubbed the "**Pant & Attic Sale**"!

Blessings,

Marcia Casey