

St. Francis Episcopal Church

E- Canticle May 6, 2020

M N84 W16525 Menomonee Ave., Menomonee Falls, WII 53051



Greetings to all St. Francis members, family, friends, neighbors. Although the church doors are closed, our hearts following the Way of Love are open to each other. As you can see in this issue of the eCanticle, we have many ways we are being an active alive church during this time. Happy reading! Many thanks to Shala Johnson for putting this together every week.

St. Francis Weekly Schedule during this time of Covid19

Daily: Read Pastor Mary's daily meditation (sent each morning on email, and posted on Facebook - share with a friend, discuss)

Wednesday - 6-6:30 PM for Evening Prayer via Zoom (Craig sends out an invitation via email, click on the link in that to connect)

Wednesday - 6:30-7:30pm Ephesians Bible Study -
We will be discussing on May 6 **Ephesians 1:9-14**

Friday Morning - 9:30am - May 8 - Morning Prayer with Chuck Sherry - a link will be sent to you on email

Sunday Morning - 10:00am - Diocesan worship, see link emailed to you

Sunday Morning - 10:45am-Noon - Join in anytime - Coffee Hour (virtual zoom)

Monday - 10:25am - Book Study with Mother Sue, Free Conference Call

Other Worship - Pastor Mary is emailing you a link to one or two Daily worship services per week for St. Francis (she records them) and there will be a new Morning Prayer recorded by Chuck Sherry,

Reflections - Pastor Mary is writing a daily reflection and emailing that out

Phone Tree - Each week, folks in the church are connecting with each other by phone. Please discuss the daily reflections, as well as update each other as you chat. Connecting is a priority at this time.

Jesus said "And now I give you a new commandment: love one another, As I have loved you, so you must love one another" (John 13:34)

Dear St. Francis congregation,

What's new, you might be asking. In spite of the "safer at home" rules still in effect, there are some things that are new. Here at St. Francis, we continue to "meet" with each other in worship and study and fellowship. The Wednesday night Evening Prayer service occurred with over a dozen people, and the Ephesians Bible study was a good time of sharing and learning (this week, on May 6, we will study Ephesians 1: 9-14). Just a few verses! Also, this week our Diocese of Milwaukee had a big announcement! The Rt. Rev. Steven A. Miller and the Standing Committee wrote letters to the diocese. In his letter (which you should have received via email), Bishop Miller confirmed he will retire at the end of 2020. After discussions and at the encouragement of Bishop Miller, the Standing Committee has adopted a new timeline for the discernment of Episcopal leadership for the Diocese of Milwaukee. We will have a new Provisional Bishop beginning in January, 2021 (see letter for details of the process).

There is a new Diocesan committee meeting for the first time this week which will be defining for us, over the next month or two, details of the upcoming safe Episcopal Emergence stages. I will keep you posted as soon as I learn more.

Our Diocesan Sunday worship will continue at least through Pentecost (which is May 31). I'm excited to report that our own Deacon Ken will be serving during the Diocesan worship on May 24! Look forward to seeing him on YouTube reading the Gospel and leading the Prayers of the People that day. For Pentecost, the diocese is putting together a virtual choir to sing Hymn 516, Come Down, O Love Divine. If you would like to send in your vocal or instrumental track, please click [here](#) for more information. It would be wonderful to hear you in the choir!

I hope you are continuing to connect via phone with each other. Some people think that they have to be "tech savy" to use zoom, but anyone can use zoom - and it is the best way we have to connect now. If you have a telephone you can use zoom (just call the phone number provided, and input the meeting number and password when prompted). We have had 12-14 people joining in one way or another for coffee hour! Thank you to those of you who returned the Questionnaire I mailed to you, and if you haven't returned it just send me an email with your answers (so your input is included in the summary I am putting together this week).

The St. Francis community is so welcoming to me (and understanding of the situation we are facing), and I am very grateful to YOU. May the Lord richly bless you with the divine peace that passes all understanding, Pastor Mary

Parish Stories

Growing Up On the Southside of Chi Town - by Ron Johnson

First I will begin with talking about my parents. My mother was a beautiful red haired lady from County Mayo Ireland. She came to this country thanks to her aunt who sponsored her at the age of 14. My dad on the other hand was a pure bred Swede. He also immigrated here when he was 6 years old. My Grandfather was an open hearth worker at US Steel in Bethlehem PA. And then onto the South Works in South East Chicago. My father also followed in his footsteps also working on the open hearth at the South Works. He worked there for 45 years and I'm here to say we had many a year when he was on strike and they seemed to always be during the Christmas Holidays. We lived on the Southeast side about a mile from the Museum of a Science and Industry. I remember the streetcars going past our apartment, listening to Jack Benny on the radio, our first TV was an RCA twelve inch model, we went to the movies for a dime, going to the Catholic church about four blocks away, going to the dump and turning over rocks to find snakes and save them in a jar, going to the court yard at nearby apartment building throwing a golf ball against the wall and catching it with a baseball glove I stole from my brother. I remember the rag man, the Italian man with the pony taking pictures going apartment to apartment, the ice man and of course the man delivering coal. Lots of fun in those days as we left the apartment at 8:00 am and didn't come home until dinner. Then in 1950 it all came to an end as Dad was making \$100 per week and Mom worked also at Checker Cleaners making \$30 per week. We now could afford to buy a house and move to the burbs. It was as far west as you could get to and still be in Chicago. MT. GREENWOOD!! These experiences and being with God Loving people who weren't afraid of work and loved our Country made me a true believer that through hard work you can succeed and be successful.

Thank you, Ron.

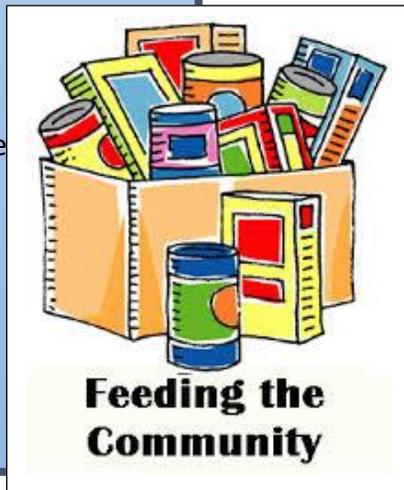
Next week we will be hearing from Regina Brisk

PLEASE SHARE YOUR STORIES

Menomonee Falls Food Pantry is

In need of the following items:

Toilet Paper – Kleenex - Napkins
Salt
Pancake mix
Pork and Beans
Can pasta – spaghetti-o type
Canned pineapple
Canned peas
Soup – chunky - Progresso
Soup – chicken noodle
Canned Tuna
Mandarin Oranges
Sugar #2 or 4# pkgs



Happy Birthday

4 Sue Clark
11 Beth Taylor
14 Marty Taylor
18 Greg & Jan Leisner
23 Greg Leisner
25 Karen Korn

New policy for the Food Pantry

Because of COVID-19 the pantry staff have had to make changes on how they do things to keep everyone safe. Ron got this information from Cindy at the pantry

- * Clients will be asked to remain in their cars and will be given two handouts prepared by Cindy. The handouts explain the new procedure and ask people to return non-perishable items that they do not need on their next visit.
- * A sheet of paper with a number will be affixed to the back of their car so that clients can be served to the best of our ability in the order they came.
- * Clients will not be allowed to enter the pantry and will be asked to stay in their cars, including to use the bathroom.
- * When registering, clients will say and spell names and show their ID. They will not sign their cards; instead, a volunteer will indicate "car delivery" on the cards.
- * Clients will be given pre-filled bags for their size family (yellow, blue, red).
- * Clients will also be given items of the month (dish soap, laundry soap, coffee) and a \$10 Piggly Wiggly gift card in lieu of a holiday ham.
- * Birthday bags and baby items will be suspended.
- * There will be no hugs/touching between volunteers and clients.
- * Clients who are unable to come to the pantry can have a proxy pick up their food. A proxy form will be available to download off our website or a client can write a note with the information. We will serve a proxy once without paperwork and give the proxy a form that the client can sign, which the proxy will bring next time to the pantry.
- * We will continue to serve clients living outside our service area one time and refer them to the appropriate pantry in their area.

Ask Pastor Mary

Q: What does it mean for me to reach out to others? What is "social justice?"

A: It is part of our Christian responsibility to reach out in love and forgiveness to those who are needy, to those who are in trouble, to those who are sick, to those in prison (Matthew 25:31-46). When we recite our Baptismal Covenant, and live into our Baptism, we say that we will "seek and serve Christ in all persons, loving our neighbor as ourselves....and strive for justice and peace among all people, and respect the dignity of every human being" (BCP p 305). So individually when we reach out with our time, talent, and treasure to those in need we are doing the Lord's work. The ministry of the laity includes, "carry on Christ's word of reconciliation in the world" (BCP p. 855). Social justice is a concept of fair and just relations between the individual and society, as measured by the distribution of wealth, opportunities for personal activity, and social privileges. ([Wikipedia](#)) The Church can play an important role in local communities/government to help all people be treated equally, for each of us is of equal value to God (Galatians 3:28).

Q: What is the difference between being religious and being spiritual?

A: It is a popular time to say you are spiritual, but not so much to say you are religious. What's the difference? Aren't we both spiritual and religious? Well, yes. Christianity is a religion and we are spiritual if we are trying to live an authentic life in accordance with our Christian beliefs and values. Contemporary author and minister Lillian Daniel wrote a popular book in 2013 entitled: "[When 'Spiritual But Not Religious' Is Not Enough](#)." The issues exist because of some members of religions, including Christianity, are not living an authentic life consistent with their beliefs and values. And, as a result of this inconsistency, some people have been hurt. So, it's not about the words but rather some actions that have been taken that are associated with the words. What's the solution? Isn't it for us to practice what we preach? To do as Jesus said: "*A new command I give you: Love one another. As I have loved you, so you must love one another.*" (John 13:34).

Write and share your true brief stories please:

You are interesting! We all want to know more about each other's story. In this time when most of us are quarantined in our homes, it is a perfect time for us to write down moments or incidents from our lives, and share them. The stories can be from times at St Francis, or they can be times elsewhere in our lives. They should be short, be about you, have a beginning and middle and end, a title/theme.

Hopefully, we can share stories that you all have submitted. Please email your stories to me and/or Shala Johnson (Ronshala8@hotmail.com or pastormaryt@gmail.com)

How to join in on ZOOM for the virtual coffee hour on Sunday morning:

You can call into ZOOM from your telephone (cell phone or landline) with the number provided to you by Craig. No problem joining via telephone, if you can't use a computer or smartphone through the app. Please join in the Zoom St. Francis gatherings. Call or email Craig if you want some special technical help in testing zoom.

1. Get the ZOOM app on your phone or computer, open the app
2. Join meeting selecting to join with audio and video
3. Type the meeting ID that you will get from Craig
4. Type the password that you will get from Craig



A Message from your church
Treasurer, JD Polley

During this time of isolation, we can't go to church but we watch on YouTube the service on Sunday mornings. Then we have a virtual coffee hour which if you haven't attended yet you should it is so much fun. Please join us this next Sunday. The other thing I wanted to say is that you need to keep up with your **pledges**. The bills still need to be paid, so please do so and mail them to

PO Box 194
Menomonee Falls, Wi 53052

Thank you in advance for keeping up with your pledges

St. Francis Episcopal Church is now assembling a photo directory of members, to help us all get to know each other better by sight.... and to help Pastor Mary get to know us. So, please email the church office or Jan with a photo of yourself that can be put next to your contact information in the directory. This directory will be secure, it will only be for us folks in the church. Many thanks to those who have already sent in a photo. If you have not yet sent a photo in, please do so. If you can't email a photo, feel free to just mail a photo of yourself to the church office.

Thank you.

The new Day by Day is here

They were put in a plastic box outside of the doors for those who want to pick them up.

For those who want to have them mailed,

please send an email to the church at;

stfrancisepiscopal@sbcglobal.net

St. Francis Prayer List

For those needing healing; Evan, Jean, Ray, Joy, Peter, Donna, Kathy, Sam,
Deacon Nancy – (Terry, Karen and Jean with the Virus)

For healing for long term illness: Cameron, Tony, Sandy, John, Nick and his family, Mary, Betty, Deacon Mary, Gary, Rebekah, Pete, Diane, Jim, Lauren, Sue, Frank, Rich, Paul, Gary, Scott and family, Cherry, Rain, Brad, Alice, Terry, Brian, Helen, and all those listed on the Larum prayer chain and Episcopalians on Facebook

For expectant parents: Danielle and Adam and Kathryn

For those who have died: Sam, Tom, Don, Carri, Deacon Ned, Corinne and Bertram

For those who have died from the Coronavirus and their families

For employment for: Michael, Craig, Mia, Mike, Lauren and Karen

For all members of the United States Armed Forces serving at home and abroad

For those celebrating birthdays and anniversaries in the month of April

For all the Health Care workers, CNA's, nurses, doctors and first responders, cleaners, and food service workers and cashiers who put their lives at risk everyday.

Please email Pastor Mary, Jean Armitage, or Shala Johnson if you would like names added or deleted from this prayer.

Episcopal Litany for Social Justice

God commands us through Jesus Christ to love one another. In baptism, we promise to seek and serve Christ in all persons, loving our neighbors as ourselves and to strive for justice and peace, and respect the dignity of every human being. Let us now honor those vows and pray for our nation in this election season, for wise and just leaders, and for the needs of others throughout our country and the world.

We pray for continued blessings on all peacemakers, on leaders who value peace, and on everyone who promotes nonviolent solutions to conflict. We pray for a speedy end to all violence and warfare around the world.

**God of peace and gentleness,
Hear our prayer.**

We pray for the strength of heart and mind to look beyond ourselves and address the needs of our brothers and sisters throughout the world; for the rural and urban poor; for the rebuilding of our communities; and for an end to the cycles of violence that threaten our future.

**God of generosity and compassion,
Hear our prayer.**

We pray that the Holy Spirit may embrace the most vulnerable members of our society; we pray also for an end to the growing disparity between the rich and poor; and for the grace and courage to strive for economic justice.

**God of all gifts and blessings,
Hear our prayer.**

We pray for an end to prejudice throughout our country and the world; that we will respect all people as precious children of God; and that racism, sexism, and all other forms of discrimination will be forever banished from our hearts, our society, and our laws.

**God of fellowship and equality,
Hear our prayer.**

We pray for all immigrants, refugees, and pilgrims from around the world, that they may be welcomed in our midst and be treated with fairness, dignity, and respect.

**God of outcasts and wanderers,
Hear our prayer.**

We pray for the sick, the aged and the infirm; for those with physical or mental disabilities; that all may have access to proper health care; and that God's™ loving embrace may be felt by all who suffer.

God of comfort and healing,

Hear our prayer.

We pray for all prisoners and captives; that a spirit of forgiveness may replace vengeance and retribution; and that we, with all the destitute, lonely, and oppressed, may be restored to the fullness of God's grace.

God of absolution and mercy,

Hear our prayer.

We pray for all children and families, and particularly for the orphaned, neglected, abused, and those who live in fear of violence or disease; that they may be relieved and protected.

God of children and families,

Hear our prayer.

We pray for the reconciliation of all people, and for the Church throughout the world, that it may be an instrument of your healing love.

God of outreach and restoration,

Hear our prayer.

We pray for all who have died as a result of violence, war, disease or famine, especially those who died because of human blindness, neglect, or hardness of heart.

God of eternal life and resurrecting love,

Hear our prayer.

Close: Almighty God, you have promised to hear what we ask in the name of your Son. Watch over our country now and in the days ahead as we navigate through this virus. Guide our leaders as they establish and refine policies in response to the virus. In the passion of debate, give them a quiet spirit; in the complexities of the issues, give them courageous hearts. Accept and fulfill our petitions, we pray, not as we ask in our ignorance, nor as we deserve in our sinfulness, but as you know and love us in your Son Jesus Christ our Lord.

Mailing Address:

P.O. Box 194

Menomonee Falls, Wi 53052

Church Location:

N84 W16525 Menomonee Ave

Menomonee Falls, Wi 53051

Clergy

Priest: The Rev. Mary S. Trainor

Priest Emerita: The Rev. Sue Clark

Deacon: The Rev. Ken Castello

Vestry

Senior Warden: Ron Johnson

Junior Warden: Gary Maddox

Vestry Members

Jan Leisner,

Evelyn Castello

Jud Williams, JD Polley

Kathy Horn,

Ramona Lewis

Craig Korn

stfrancisepiscopal@sbcglobal.net

www.stfrancismf.org

Instagram @StFrancisFalls