

the shepherd's

VOICE

wherever you are on your spiritual journey, st. luke's welcomes you

st. lukes episcopal church • 435 peachtree st. ne • atlanta, ga 30308 • 404.873.7600 • www.stlukesatlanta.org

It's time to
SIGN UP

Children & Youth Choirs

CYF Programs

Acolytes

Details on Page Six

Must We All Wear Collars?



(This summer of reawakening about race has invited us to hear the stories of African Americans who endure pain and suffering from the sin of racism. I have preached and written about the power of narrative. Hearing each other's story has the potential for transforming us into better people and Christians. Moreover, the apostle Paul reminds us that we are to "bear one another's burdens, and so fulfill the law of Christ." Galatians 6:2. Given the tipping point this summer of the ongoing struggle between police and Black people's lives, in this issue, I share some of my story with police. I offer it so that we may learn, pray and act in an effort to build that beloved community God calls us to build.)

On a sunny and warm Chicago afternoon in 2005, I made my way down Michigan Avenue to my therapist's office. It was the beginning of summer, but in Chicago, even during the summer, cold days could make their rude entrance into summertime. This day seemed rather routine except I began to notice that more people, more white people, seemed especially friendly to me. Was it just Chicago and the nice weather? Perhaps. Unlike the less than warm people I experienced in New York City, I generally found Chicago to be a friendly big city. Some have attributed this friendliness to its mid-western location. Nonetheless, this day there appeared to be more of it.

I can still remember one woman looking at me with a smile, saying "hello Father." Then it hit me! I was wearing a collar for the first time. Although I was the same black man last week, the previous Saturday I had been ordained in the Diocese of Chicago. The collar in a Catholic city had elevated me. I now had cache, a "safe black man status" that trumped my being Black. Being struck by this change, I spent my therapy session discussing my experience as a black man in my country, and the reality that it takes a collar to reverse the generally ingrained, often unconscious negative societal views about black men.

The response of police to me when I am wearing my collar and when I am not has been even more striking. Given the documented general hostility directed toward black men by police, I usually try to stay out of their way or extend a kindness toward them that is rarely reciprocated. In every instance when I have encountered police in my collar, however, I have experienced glimpses of that kindness that my white friends and colleagues say they typically experience with police. They range from stopping me with pleasant conversations, offering directions, smiles, handshakes, and a nice "good morning Father."

The one that rises to the top occurred around the time our country witnessed a string of tragedies involving police and black males. Having made a wrong turn in an unfamiliar part of San Francisco, I was stopped by a police officer who approached my car saying Father, is everything okay? With my hands in full view, I turned toward him and politely said "yes." He informed me that I should not have made a left turn. I explained

Continues on page 6

inside this issue

Housing Help at CCM	2
Fill the Baskets	3
One and Done	4
Announcements	6
Birthdays in July	7
Photo Gallery	8



'Door to Door' Puts Housing First

St. Luke's has been hailed as a "Campus of Miracles," and neither summer nor COVID-19 are slowing down the ministry and miracles taking place at Crossroads Community Ministries.

During May and June, the first two months of its new "Door to Door" housing program, Crossroads placed 46 households into permanent housing.

These 46 households, all experiencing homelessness, moved into homes of their own and are now either self-sufficient or working toward self-sufficiency, according to Sydney Tucker, housing specialist at Crossroads.

"A roof does not fix all the problems, but it does provide the safety to work through all of the issues that contribute to homelessness. A roof provides a safe place to heal," Sydney says.

What makes "Door to Door" different and better able to transform people's lives?

For years, Crossroads has networked with other community agencies to find housing and help people become self-sufficient. But often there are obstacles, such as saving money for security deposits or having to work while looking for housing. Based on the concept that housing is necessary for success in other areas, "Door to Door" enables people to move forward from a place of stability. The goal of the program, in partnership with the Community Foundation and United Way, is to place 200 clients into permanent housing by July 2021.

"Homelessness has persisted because people can't get clean, heal from trauma, regulate mental illness, get jobs, and keep jobs without housing," says Sydney. "If you get them into housing, then they have the space to do so and find a new start."

To make this program work, the staff of Crossroads is working on several different fronts: identifying guests ready for housing; building partnerships with housing advocates and private landlords; finding funds to cover moving costs, security deposits, and the first month's rent; and, after a person has moved into permanent housing, providing at least three months of case management, with an emphasis on mental health and the holistic well-being of each person.

In addition, Crossroads staff and volunteers continue to provide the agency's traditional services, such as mail, obtaining vital documents, and mid-day meals.

"These services will always be tangible ways to show people we love them," says Sydney.

-John Divine McGee



Stories from Crossroads

Molly has been around Crossroads since the age of 15, basically raising herself on the streets. A working mother with a seven-year-old son, she was renting a small room in a filthy, run-down house and felt like she was trapped in poverty. Crossroads was able to help her find a new home, clean and with adequate space. She says, "I'm going to provide a better life for my son. My dream is to start my non-profit organization."

Anne and Robert, along with their two children, moved to Atlanta with the promise of a new job for Robert. Just as they arrived, the COVID-19 crisis broke, and the job was no longer available. Because of an old eviction, they were unable to find an apartment and had to sleep in their van. Anne's medical condition got worse. Crossroads got them into an apartment, allowing Robert to move forward with his job search and Anne to focus on her health issues. The family is now self-sufficient.

LOVE HYDRATION FOR CROSSROADS! – Bottled Water Collection

St. Luke's is doing something a little different to celebrate Transfiguration Sunday on August 9. Instead of the traditional sandwich build, we are collecting bottled water for Crossroads and calling it "Love Hydration."

Crossroads is getting sandwiches from other groups right now, but the guests need water, especially during hot weather, so we decided a 'Love Hydration' water drive would be a great way to live into our Baptismal covenant.

First, we're asking you to purchase new, unopened bottles of water, preferably in cases. Then we're asking you to drop them off at the side parking lot on Peachtree on Sunday, August 9 from 1-3 pm. Please donate as many or as few bottles as you can.

"Love Hydration" Details:

- PLAIN BOTTLED WATER: No flavor, carbonation, or sodas--just any brand of regular bottled water.
- ORIGINAL PACKAGING: Whether in cases, plastic rings, or plastic wrap, leave the bottles in the original packaging to help with storage.
- NO NEED TO REFRIGERATE: Water can be any temperature.
- DECORATION OR NOTES FROM KIDS: If you want to involve children, stickers on the bottles are welcome or children of all ages may write notes to include with the water.

Funds are available to reimburse you, especially if you are donating a lot of water, or you may pay on your own as a donation to Crossroads, the urban ministry arm of St. Luke's.

If you can't donate water but want to celebrate with us, consider a donation directly to Crossroads. To make a donation, click on this link: crossroadsatlanta.org/give.

—Rod Ganske

Community MINISTRIES

New Ministry Supports Families with Loved Ones Suffering from Dementia

It's official! On July 21, the Vestry voted to "formalize" our relationship with Respite Care Atlanta (RCA), thus St. Luke's is now as *supporting congregation*.

RCA is a ministry which supports families dealing with early and mid-stage dementia. Our church joins eight other congregations along the Peachtree Corridor in providing a joyful social club where members interact and also offering a crucial four hours of personal freedom for spouses/caregivers. Prior to the onset of the pandemic, "Club RCA" met three times per week at Second Ponce de Leon Baptist Church. There are a dozen St. Luke's parishioners who are already volunteering at RCA on a regular basis, and we will undoubtedly increase that number significantly whenever gatherings are again deemed safe.

During this period of restrictions, RCA is still perking along. Although we have been closed for daily activity since mid-March, much has been happening behind the scenes. Director Wendy Liverant has developed several activities for our members (those with cognitive issues) to do at home. These activities include trivia games, bingo, virtual travel tours, and personal visits (socially-distanced of course). The idea is to keep RCA in the



minds of the caregivers and members, and perhaps give the caregivers (who are on call 24/7) a short respite themselves. Our 4th of July parade was a huge success! Eleven of our members arrived at the parking lot of Second Ponce in cars decorated for the occasion and driven by their caregivers. Over thirty volunteers cheered and waved enthusiastically as patriotic music blared out. Volunteers dressed as Uncle Sam, Betsy Ross, and the Statue of Liberty. The parade was led by the Queen of Quarantine (upper left). One of our member's caregiver related that the parade was one of the best events of the pandemic and that it brought some real sunshine into their lives.

If your heart is beating fast and you would like to learn more about this joyful ministry, please contact Carter Morris (404-352-2118, chmorris@mindspring.com) or John Stewart (404-849-5087, johnstewart-jr06@comcast.net). There are a great many opportunities to help, even during a pandemic. Also, there is a wealth of information to be found at respite-careatlanta.org, including more great pictures from the parade.

-John Stewart

In August, the Outreach Baskets Collection Support of the Boyce L. Ansley School



We are collecting PAPER,
all kinds:
COPY PAPER
CONSTRUCTION PAPER
CARD STOCK



If you prefer:
order online and have
the paper delivered
to the
school's new location:

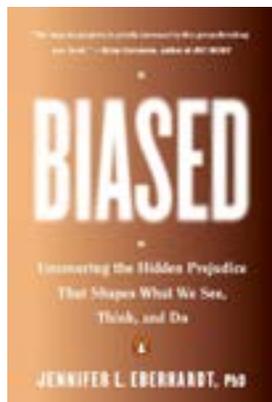
No-Contact Drop Off
You may leave your donation at the
side (receptionist's) door of St. Luke's.
Call the receptionist, 404-873-7600,
and someone will pick up your gift and
ensure it gets to the school.

The Ansley School
120 RALPH MCGILL BLVD
BLDG 3, STE B1
ATLANTA, GA 30308
470-529-0502



St. Luke's new "One and Done" book groups are designed for people who want to discuss books in depth without joining a book club. For each title, a parishioner will coordinate a series of three or four discussions via Zoom and then your "done."

BIASED: OUR FIRST "ONE AND DONE" BOOK GROUP



Please join us in our first One and Done book group as we explore the timely topic of unconscious racial bias. Through the book, *Biased*, we'll deal with questions such as: How do we talk about bias? How do we address racial disparities and inequities? What role do our institutions play in creating, maintaining, and magnifying those inequities? What role do we play? With a perspective that is scientific,

investigative, and informed by personal experience, writer Dr. Jennifer Eberhardt offers us the language and courage we need to face one of the most troubling issues of our time. She exposes racial bias at all levels of society, and she offers tools to address it. Dr. Eberhardt shows us how we can be vulnerable to bias but not doomed to live under its grip. Racial bias is a problem that we all have a role to play in solving.

If you are interested in this subject and are looking for an opportunity to understand it, we invite you to join us. Jon Tonge will serve as a leader of this group, which will meet via Zoom for roughly one hour on Tuesdays at 7 p.m. Biweekly dates for the three meetings are August 18, September 1, and September 15. Upon completion of the last session, our One and Done book group will disband. Sign up for this group by clicking below and we ask that you register by August 11.

We hope that you will join us as we delve into this important topic through this One and Done book group.

[SIGN-UP](#)

Praise of *Biased*

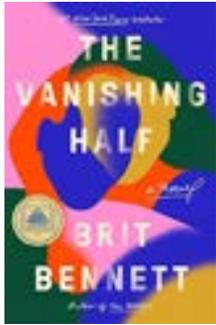
"[A] timely, exhaustive investigation of how bias infiltrates every sector of public and private life... Eberhardt offers tips for reforming business practices, police departments, and day-to-day interactions in pursuit of a fairer world for everyone."
—Esquire.com

"The hope for progress is greatly increased by Jennifer Eberhardt's groundbreaking new book on implicit bias. Biased presents the science of bias with rare insight and accessibility, but it is also a work with the power and craft to make us see why overcoming racial bias is so critical." —Bryan Stevenson, *New York Times* bestselling author of "Just Mercy"

"Powerful...useful for those new to the topic as well as those well-versed in the topic...Eberhardt abandons the jargon-speak of academic research and speaks to the reader's head, heart, and soul...[and] will make you think about the news, your neighborhood, your work place and yourself with fresh eyes!"—*Forbes*

"Poignant....important and illuminating!"
—*The New York Times Book Review*

DISAPPEARING INTO A GREAT STORY!



Are you interested in reading a *New York Times* best-selling work of fiction with your St. Luke's friends? If so, you may want to sign up for this One and Done book group.

Tanya Washington will lead a group reading and exploring the underlying themes of the highly acclaimed *The Vanishing Half* by Brit Bennett. As described on GoodReads.com,

"This story considers the lasting

influence of the past as it shapes a person's decisions, desires, and expectations, and explores some of the multiple reasons and realms in which people sometimes feel pulled to live as something other than their origins."

This book group will meet on four consecutive Thursdays, beginning on August 27, at 7:30 p.m. via a Zoom call. Stretching the book over four weeks will allow book group participants to pace themselves and enjoy interesting conversations about each section as they progress through the book together. You may sign up for *The Vanishing Half* book group through the church website's sign-up page by clicking below. Please sign up by Sunday, August 23 to reserve your spot in what promises to be a fun group and an immersing, thoughtful story!

[SIGN-UP](#)

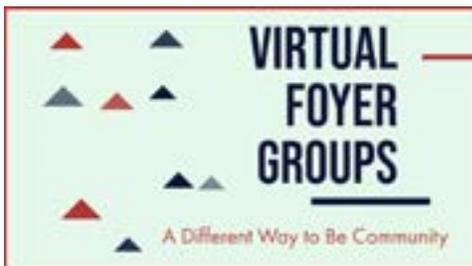
"Intricately plotted, exceedingly moving story...with insights into the social and cultural history of passing, while telling what is at heart a tender story about sisterhood, identity and, as Bennett said, 'the endlessly interesting question of which elements in our identity are innate, and which do we choose?'"

- San Francisco Chronicle

"My hope is that the warranted praise Ms. Bennett receives for this novel will have less to do with her efficient handling of timely, or 'relevant,' subject matter than for her insights into the mysterious compound of what we call truth: a mixture of the identities we're born with and those we create."—Wall Street Journal

"Bennett's gorgeously written second novel, an ambitious meditation on race and identity, considers the divergent fates of twin sisters, born in the Jim Crow South, after one decides to pass for white. Bennett balances the literary demands of dynamic characterization with the historical and social realities of her subject matter." - The New York Times

**"I don't think I've read a book that covers passing in the way that this one does . . . epic!"
—Kiley Reid in *O, the Oprah Magazine***



More than 60 people are enjoying St. Luke's summer series of Virtual Foyer Groups. Each group is meeting for five weeks until August 16. The groups gather on Zoom for about one hour each session. To keep the sessions intimate, groups are limited to 12 individuals and, except for interest groups (Parents of Little Ones, parents of teens, young adults, LGBTQ+), group assignments were strictly random. After an opening prayer,

the focus of each group is to connect socially, with ice breakers provided if needed to get things going. This is a great way to meet new friends and spend time with old ones. If you weren't able to participate in the summer Virtual Foyer Groups, there will likely be another series in the future.



WANTED: Contributors

“Yea, though I walk through the valley of the shadow of death, I will fear no evil: for thou art with me . . .” The theme this coming year for the Advent and Lent devotional booklets is “The Valley of the Shadow”—inspired both by the unprecedented upheaval of 2020 and also the faithful and hopeful tone of the 23rd Psalm because, even as we walk through the darkest of times, God is with us. We invite you to sign up to submit a reflection, poem, or photograph that touches on how these recent events have impacted you, your loved ones, and/or your spiritual journey. For more information or to sign up for a slot, please contact Elaine Swobe (eswobe@bellsouth.net), Claire May (c.may@mindspring.com), or Barbara O’Brien (baatlanta@gmail.com).

Weekday Worship

Monday and Wednesday
Noonday Prayer at 12 p.m.

Tuesday and Thursday
Compline at 7 p.m.

Virtual Children’s
Chapel
Streaming
on Demand
at YouTube.com



THE FORUM AT ST. LUKE’S

follows Sunday worship online

August 2: Jackie Gingrich Cushman

*How to Interrupt our Nation’s Growing Partisan
and Cultural Polarization*

August 9: Robert P. Jones

The End of White Christian America

CHILDREN, YOUTH & FAMILIES

ONE-STOP SIGN UP

FOR THE UPCOMING PROGRAM YEAR:

**Sunday School, Youth Group, Acolytes,
Choirs for Children and Youth**

We may be virtual, but we still need information.

[Go to the Sign Up tab on the website.](#)

Must We All Wear Collars? *continues from page one*

that I lived in Berkeley and had followed the GPS directions. He nodded showing that he understood and asked where I was going. The timing could not have been better; I was on my way to Grace Cathedral for an Evening Mass in ten minutes. I asked did he want to see my license and surprisingly he said “no,” ending the encounter with “have a good evening, Father.”

I share these encounters as a way of inviting all to see what can and should be. In citing these encounters with Forrest, my partner, he asked, “Must we all [Black men] wear collars?” His question has stayed with me, punctuating the absurdity that Black male citizens of this country should have to be white collar “safe” before we garner the respectful treatment that we deserve from whites in general and police in particular.

Most major religions require that all humans live by the golden rule--treating others as we want to be treated. In Matthew 7:12, Jesus requires it of us. Although it is a basic human principle and makes so much sense, it eludes so many which keeps us stuck in a place antithetical to the Gospel of Jesus. In a society that continues to spiral, picking up more racial hatred with each descent, we must recognize that racism is not a course from which we graduate after a few marches and cosmetic changes in our language and hiring. To be sure, these actions are important and necessary but not enough. The work against racist sin, all sin, is lifelong. Each of us must commit and recommit ourselves to dismantling it so that our children and grandchildren will live with less heartache due to the racist sins of the past. The above examples show that police can treat Blacks differently. When we decide that we will hold our sisters and brothers in blue to the standard of “respecting the dignity of every human” Black life as well as others, then Black people will not have to wear collars.

Horace +



St. Luke's Episcopal Church
435 Peachtree St., NE | Atlanta, GA 30308-3228
404-873-7600

The Rev. Ed Bacon
Interim Rector
ed@stlukesatlanta.org

2020 Vestry
Melba Hughes, Senior Warden
Neil Schemm, Junior Warden

C.J. Cash	Livingstone Johnson
Jimmy Cushman Jr.	Sara Kennedy
Amy Doyle	Bobby Mays
Caroline Fooshee	Carrie Teegardin
Bruce Gunter	Drew Vann

Mignon Crawford, Treasurer
Scott Inman, Finance Chair
Pat Brumbaugh, Chancellor

Clergy

The Rev. Elizabeth Shows Caffey
Senior Associate Rector
Liturgy and Education
404-873-7612 | elizabeth@stlukesatlanta.org

The Rev. Horace L. Griffin
Senior Associate for
Pastoral Care and Outreach
404-873-7609 | horace@stlukesatlanta.org

Staff

Wesley Boutilier, Assistant for Communications
wesley@stlukesatlanta.org

Valerie Freer, Receptionist/Admin. Assistant
404-873-7600 | valerie@stlukesatlanta.org

Brianna Griffin, Admin. Assistant
404-873-7600 | brianna@stlukesatlanta.org

David Hendee, Director of Finance
404-873-7617 | hendee@stlukesatlanta.org

Brian Hummel, Manager of Facilities Support
404-873-7647 | Cell: 404-291-0059
brian@stlukesatlanta.org

Michelle Jemmott, Manager of Office Admin.
404-873-7616 | michelle@stlukesatlanta.org

Liz Beal Kidd, Director of Children, Youth
and Family Ministry
404-873-7690 | liz@stlukesatlanta.org

Colleen Kingston, Director of Youth
and Children's Choirs
404-735-1933 | colleen@stlukesatlanta.org

Elizabeth Moore, Interim Director of Operations
404-873-7663
elizabethmoore@stlukesatlanta.org

Matthew Brown, Director of Music
404-873-7620 | matthew@stlukesatlanta.org

Ethan Scott, Associate Director of Children,
Youth, and Family Ministry
ethan@stlukesatlanta.org

Mark Simmons, Director of Membership
and Stewardship
404-873-7624 | mark@stlukesatlanta.org

Bethany Trout, Rector's Executive Assistant
404-873-7610 | bethany@stlukesatlanta.org

Hala Hess White, Director of Communications
404-873-7630 | hala@stlukesatlanta.org

WE CELEBRATE THE LIVES THAT MAKE UP
THE COMMUNITY OF ST. LUKE'S CHURCH.

Birthdays during August

1 Joann Jones Deedee Carr Bobby Wood Catherine Chappell Hudson Baker	2 Jason O'Rouke Nora Nunn Chase Calhoun	3 Roy Portwood Anne Thompson Kamile Rasheed Ashley Hughes Will Wood Lily Zintak	4 Mary Anne Edwards Jean Milnor Nancy Glenn Alice Pettway Marjorie Kouns Anne Markette Peri Phillips Patrick Osborne Evelyn Grace Hyde James Holbein	5 Darwin Labarthe Emma Hughes Averill Jones Casey Brown John Gorday Sanders Moore Sveta Schenck Carter Gillon Evan Gillon James Winer Jeremiah Hayes Allie Haslam	6 Vicki Mooney Fluffy McDuffie Jim Glover Alison Earles Tara Seabury	7 Carolyn Cranford Lynda Herrig Charlotte Alexander Livi Batty Sonali Mehta Margot Watts	8 Tanya Washington Ann Lokey Raine Hyde Travis Muir Jenny Milucky	9 Jill Clark Daniel Matthews, III August Stowers Lexie Hall	10 Ed Jett Jennifer Georgino Ryan Conley Frances Anthony	11 Jeff Baker Mudia Uzzi Osa Uzzi Hannah Robinson	12 Hillary Kilfeather Megan Morris Parker Ramming Clarissa Morrison	13 Steve Burnett Charlotte Greaves Kate Dempsey Will Wagner Edaline Barringer	14 Richard Hines Betsy Allen Ray Uttenhove Natalie Marchetti Osasumwen Osa-Ogbeide Will Ezell Davis Mattuch	15 Jane Long Sandra Glover Melanie Collie Sam Evinsr Dina Moore Lansing Menefee	16 Claire May Lauren Upadhyay John Fowlkes	17 Donna Church Mary Ann Howard Linda Duncan Anna Davis Vanessa Hayes Reed Guthrie Campbell Wiant	18 Trey Parrish Ryan Guthrie Michael Martin Gillian Benning	19 Leo Christian Eula Aiken Mark Johnson Connie Wooten Kathy Lee Sophia Brothers Peterman	20 Cary Calhoun Linda Iruka Elizabeth Schenck Brian Okpala George Hamm	21 Micki Geshwiler Winsome Barrow Fran Lindsley Sally Money Connor Garrison John Gerakitis Andrew Baxter Warner Burns	22 Jane Elliott Susan Willson Tanya Cunningham-Baker Hank Robinson Wallace Henderson Bennett Kane Louis Byrd	23 Edna Gayle Betsy Wash Tim Rigby	Kim Weaver Kathryn Kramer Casey Osborne Emma Bracken	24 Kristine Lebbos Ifey Okpala Mills Mosley Catherine Moore Avery McConnel	25 Mary George Elaine Dyer Linda McLeod Charlie Lokey Robert Gowin Mignon Crawford Daniel Coterillo Violet Lorish Aine Mullis	26 Virginia Almand Carolyn McCain Ingrid Anderson Mary Money Adlaide Wilson	28 Tony Marchetti Beth Galvin Caroline Ball Michael Rickman Bette Whelan	29 Stan Reid Martha Lokey Judith Smith Elaine Blackmon Duncan Hall	30 Ann Brumbaugh Bernard St. Cyr R. Myers Pierce Eleanor Weyman Marcus Evans	31 Cap Putt Justin Nihiser Anna Farill Annie Pedersen Sara Kennedy
---	--	---	--	---	---	--	--	---	--	---	---	--	--	---	---	--	---	--	---	---	---	---	---	---	--	--	---	---	---	---



St. Luke's joined other churches in midtown ringing bells to honor the lives of John Lewis and C.T. Vivian on Saturday, July 18. The two civil rights icons passed away the previous day. Thanks to Sawyer Gosnell and Judith Smith for their stewardship of our Bell Tower, and their quick action making it possible for St. Luke's to participate in this important tribute.



St. Luke's hosted COVID-19 testing in conjunction with the Fulton County Board of Health, Fulton County and CORE, Community Organized Relief Effort, on Saturday, July 25. The testing was free and did not require appointments.

