

Week of May 17 – May 23, 2020

# CASTING OUR NET

## ST. STEPHEN'S EPISCOPAL CHURCH

P.O. Box 173, 512 Granary St. New Harmony, IN 47631 (812) 682-4604

Website: [ststephensnewharmony.org](http://ststephensnewharmony.org)

Facebook: New Harmony St. Stephen's Episcopal Church

You may give online by visiting our website or by texting SSNH to 73256 (REALM)

Dear People of St. Stephen's,

Last week I wrote about the hope (and not the promise) of being in our building for live streaming worship on May 31st (Pentecost). That hope is being postponed because we have to document a 14 day decline in Covid 19 cases and the only way to meet that goal at the county level is to have 14 consecutive days with no cases. Daily, I check the case count for Posey County on the IN Covid 19 Dashboard.

In the meantime, we are continuing to work on the regathering plans for St. Stephens's Church. Mike Staubitz, Carole Stratton and I met for the first time Tuesday evening to work through the nine pages of standards and recommendations given to us by the Bishop.

We will continue to have some form of online worship until June 14 at the earliest. The Kentucky ban on non-essential travel is to be lifted May 22. Because my son's college orientation is next Wednesday (and parents are supposed to be available even online -- we still have to write the checks, I suppose), it is my hope to be physically in New Harmony June 3rd for some drive by visits and if the weather permits, drive in office hours on the front porch of the Parish House.

In last week's phone call with Bishop Jennifer, she read us the following profound reflection from David Whyte. I share it with you below and invite all of us to envision the day when we look down and see real ground beneath our feet.

God's peace,  
Beth+

DISAPPOINTMENT is inescapable but necessary; a misunderstood mercy and when approached properly, an agency for transformation and the hidden, underground, engine of trust and generosity in a human life. The attempt to create a life devoid of disappointment is the attempt to avoid the vulnerabilities that make the conversations of life real, moving, and life-like; it is the attempt to avoid our own necessary and merciful heartbreak. To be disappointed is to reassess our self and our inner world, and to be called to the larger foundational reality that lies beyond any false self we had only projected upon the outer world.

The measure of our courage is the measure of our willingness to embrace disappointment, to turn towards it rather than away, the understanding that every real conversation of life involves having our hearts broken somewhere along the onward way and that there is no sincere path we can follow where we will not be fully and immeasurably let down and brought to earth, and where what initially looks like a betrayal, eventually puts real ground under our feet.

Disappointment is a friend to transformation, a call to both accuracy and generosity in the assessment of our self and others, a test of sincerity and a catalyst of resilience. Disappointment is just the initial meeting with the frontier of an evolving life, an invitation to reality, which we expected to be one particular way and turns out to be another, often something more difficult, more overwhelming and strangely, more rewarding.

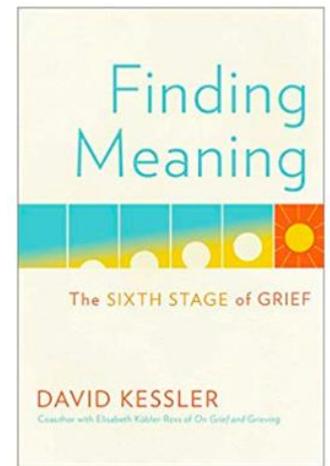
Excerpt from DISAPPOINTMENT taken from the upcoming reader's circle essay series.  
©2013 David Whyte [Link of Full Essay on Facebook](#)



From the Farm  
to the Table



Interested in book study  
via Zoom this summer?



<https://grief.com/sixth-stage-of-grief/>

### EDUCATION

Liturgical calendar:

May 24, 2020

Psalms 68:1-10, 33-36

Acts 1:6-14

1 Peter 4:12-14, 5:6-11

John 17:1-11

May 31, 2020

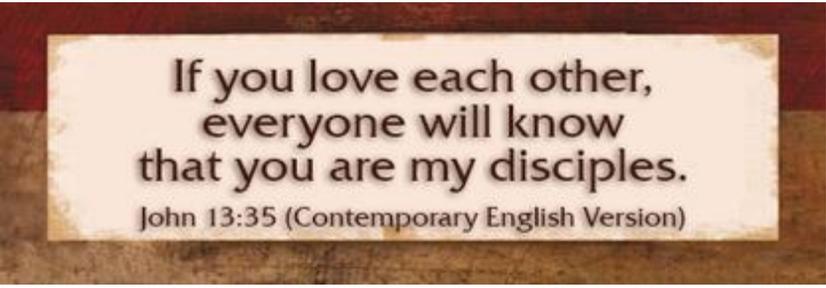
Psalms 33:12-22

Genesis 11:1-9

Acts 2:1-11

John 7:37-39a

<http://episcopaldigitalnetwork.com/lessons/liturgical-calendar/>



**We ask for Continued Prayers:**

Barbara Macke; Dr. Beth; Class of 2020 and school faculty and staff; Mary Yuan; Peggy Stewart; Sheila; Sally and Charles; Scotty; Mary Ellen and Gary; Tom and Odessa; Sheila, Greg, and Ivy; Karen, Rachel, and Trevor; Linda H.; Betty; Jane; Pat; Sharon; John; All who are suffering

**And for those serving in the Military:**

E.B. & his Platoon; Alex, James, D.J., Caitlyn, Brady, and all who serve

**And for Safety in Travel for:**

Truck Drivers

**And we pray for those who have Died:**

Warren Oden; COVID-19 Victims

**For those who celebrate Birthdays in May:**

May 5 – Janet Rice

**For those who celebrate Anniversaries in May:**

May 15 – Mark Sellars & Beth Macke

And for those serving in our Diocese, including Bishop Jennifer Baskerville-Burrows, our companion Diocese Brasillia, their Bishop Mauricio, and the people and Diocese of Haiti and St. Andre's in Mithon

**Blessings:**

Good Hope irises blooming at the church; Peonies everywhere!; The human qualities of persistence and resilience; Technology that keeps us in contact with each other

**SERVICE SCHEDULE**

DATE	SERVICE PLACE	LEADERS
May 24, 2020 10:15 am CST	Washington National Cathedral <a href="https://cathedral.org/worship/">https://cathedral.org/worship/</a>	National Church



Congratulations to Will White on his graduation from Henderson County High School! This picture of a post-graduation visit with his Grandmother was taken in Newburgh, Indiana and Kentucky Gov. Andy Beshear included it in his Press Briefing on Monday Afternoon, May 18th.  
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=5wzz6oOlf9E>



*Prayer List*

Anyone with the following link can add names to our prayer list (think of it as the composition notebook in the cloud) located at [https://docs.google.com/document/d/1\\_5aUESvqUzTdamvLG4yI0eW87mFpiPIpFd0tUuscnc/edit?usp=sharing](https://docs.google.com/document/d/1_5aUESvqUzTdamvLG4yI0eW87mFpiPIpFd0tUuscnc/edit?usp=sharing)

**Anniversary Blessings to Mark & Beth!**



**Premier Healthcare of New Harmony Will have a drive thru parade**

**on Thursday, May 21st at 1:30 pm**  
**Signs, waves and shout outs are welcome!**  
**See you soon!**

