We walked down the path to the well-house, attracted by the fragrance of the honeysuckle with which it was covered. Some one was drawing water and my teacher placed my hand under the spout. As the cool stream gushed over one hand she spelled into the other the word water, first slowly, then rapidly. I stood still, my whole attention fixed upon the motions of her fingers. Suddenly I felt a misty consciousness as of something forgotten—a thrill of returning thought; and somehow the mystery of language was revealed to me. I knew then that "w-a-t-e-r" meant the wonderful cool something that was flowing over my hand. That living word awakened my soul, gave it light, hope, joy, set it free! There were barriers still, it is true, but barriers that could in time be swept away.*

I left the well-house eager to learn. Everything had a name, and each name gave birth to a new thought. As we returned to the house every object which I touched seemed to quiver with life. That was because I saw everything with the strange, new sight that had come to me. On entering the door I remembered the doll I had broken. I felt my way to the hearth and picked up the pieces. I tried vainly to put them together. Then my eyes filled with tears; for I realized what I had done, and for the first time I felt repentance and sorrow.

I learned a great many new words that day. I do not remember what they all were; but I do know that mother, father, sister, teacher were among them—words that were to make the world blossom for me, "like Aaron's rod, with flowers." It would have been difficult to find a happier child than I was as I lay in my crib at the close of that eventful day and lived over the joys it had brought me, and for the first time longed for a new day to come.

Helen Keller at the age of seven, 1887
If you need pastoral support or know someone that does, please call Fr. Charles+, at 435-901-2131. Remember, Charles+ still can’t read minds so he will not know unless you tell him. Calls will be kept confidential.

THIS WEEK AT ST. LUKE’S

Sunday - March 26th
7:45 AM Holy Eucharist at the Chapel
9:00 AM Choir Practice
10:30 AM Holy Eucharist at the Church

Monday - March 27th
10:00 AM Centering Prayer

Wednesday - March 29th
12:00 PM Stations of the Cross
4:00 PM A Course In Miracles
5:10 PM Tai-Chi
6:30 PM Women’s Bible Study
   Existentialism Class with the Rector

Friday - March 31st
10:00 AM Centering Prayer

Sunday - April 2nd
Normal Sunday Schedule

WE ARE GRATEFUL FOR THOSE SERVING TODAY:

7:45 AM
Altar Guild: Al Galik, Susan Row
Layreaders: Abbey Cordery
Crucifer: Julie Crittenden
Chalice Bearers: Mary Parsons, Jim Jennings
Prayers of the People: Abbey Cordery, Anne Bransford
Ushers/Greeters: Karl Sears
Coffee Hour: Rusty & Katherine Martz
Vestry Person: Bernadette Rothman
Tellers: Bernadette Rothman, Linda Dugins

10:30 AM
Altar Guild: Barbara Wine
Layreaders: Jane Hamilton
Crucifer: Iris Thompson
Chalice Bearers: Mary Parsons, Jim Jennings
Prayers of the People: Karl Sears
Ushers/Greeters: Rusty & Katherine Martz
Coffee Hour: Bernadette Rothman
Vestry Person: Bernadette Rothman
Tellers: Bernadette Rothman, Linda Dugins

In Need of Prayer of Home Communion?
St. Luke’s Prayer Ministers are available during the 10:30 AM service to pray with you. If you would like a name added to our Prayer Chain, contact Tami Wrice with your request at 435-901-1128 or t-wrice@hotmail.com. If you know of someone who needs Home Communion, contact our Lay Eucharistic Visitor Team by calling or emailing the Church Office. Blessings!

PLEASE PRAY FOR………..

THE CHRISTIAN COMMUNITY:
Michael, our Presiding Bishop, and Scott, our Diocesan Bishop and for ALL the people and parishes in our diocese. Pray especially for St. Stephen’s Church in West Valley. All people within the world-wide Anglican Communion; pray for the people & leaders of The Church of Ceylon.

OUR NATION & ITS LEADERS:
Our government leaders that they may live & work in a spirit of calm reason & cooperation on behalf of the common good.

THOSE WHO ARE FACING SUFFERING & HARDSHIP:
Robert++++ (husband of Iris Thompson), Pat++++ (Sanger), Rita++++ (wife of Kevin Tischner), Alexa++++ (granddaughter of Deedee Sihvonen), Gerry++++ (wife of Jim Brooks) Mildred & Tom++++ (mother and brother of Cheryl Popple) Gabrielle++++ (daughter of Richard & Bernadette Rothman) Joanne++++ (friend of Leslie Wood) Mary Gene++++ (mother of Sharon Christiansen) Laura+++ (sister in law of Deedee Sihvonen) Bonnie++++ (wife of Fr. Charles) John++++ (son of Dave & Nancy Garrison) Carolyn++++ (sister of Anne Bransford) Ethel+ (friend of Teresa McMillan

THE HUMAN COMMUNITY AROUND THE WORLD:
† For an easing of the tensions between North Korea and its neighbors to the south and east; pray for the continuation of peace.
† An end to terrorism and the wisdom to find a way to live together in peace.
† An end to the conflicts in Yemen, Ukraine, Syria, Iraq & Afghanistan and healing for all victims.
† A lasting, permanent peace between Israel & her neighbors.

THOSE WHO HAVE DIED………..

PLEASE GIVE THANKS FOR…..
For our Church School Teachers, Bonnie Brown, Ted Clayton and Bernadette Rothman and their families.
For those having Birthdays this week: Jeri Briggs on Thursday, Karl Sears on Friday and Theresa Wilcox on Saturday.

Our Parish Community Prayer list: ++ Please note that we will place a + after each name for each week the name is on our prayer list. After four weeks (++++) the name will be removed unless otherwise requested.
The Scripture Passages
Fourth Sunday of Lent A - March 26, 2017

Collect of the Day: Divine Wisdom, open our eyes that we may see that to be a great country is to be a compassionate and generous people and to be a moral society is to care for the poor and the infirmed among us; with Jesus, our Brother, Teacher and Lord. Amen.

The Hebrew Scriptures:
Reader: Today’s reading from the Hebrew tradition comes from the Book of the Prophet Amos. The dominant theme of this text is the call for social justice as the indispensable expression of righteousness and true love for God. Amos was a vigorous spokesman for God’s justice and righteousness. He declared that God was going to judge his disobedient people. Please read the following passage with me by reading the parts in bold print…This is what the LORD says: For three sins of Israel, even for four, I will not turn back my wrath.

They sell the righteous for silver, and the needy for a pair of sandals. They trample on the heads of the poor as upon the dust of the ground and deny justice to the oppressed.

Hear this word, you cows of Bashan on Mount Samaria, you women who oppress the poor and crush the needy and say to your husbands, Bring us some drinks!

Buying the poor with silver and the needy for a pair of sandals, selling even the sweepings with the wheat.

Here ends the reading.

The Baha’i Scriptures:
The ideal of a righteous society is one where there is liberty, justice, kindness, and peace. Some of the verses of scripture which teach these human rights and social values have stirred people of every age to the struggle for freedom and justice. Please read with me from the Baha’i Scriptures by reading the parts in bold print…… If love and agreement are manifest in a single family, that family will advance, become illumined and spiritual;

but if enmity and hatred exist within it, destruction and dispersion are inevitable.

This is likewise true of a city.

If those who dwell within it manifest a spirit of accord and fellowship, it will progress steadily and human conditions become brighter, whereas through enmity and strife it will be degraded and its inhabitants scattered.

In the same way the people of a nation develop and advance toward civilization and enlightenment through love and accord, and are disintegrated by war and strife. Finally, this is true of humanity itself in the aggregate.

When love is realized and the ideal spiritual bonds unite the hearts of men, the whole human race will be uplifted, the world will continually grow more spiritual and radiant, and the happiness and tranquillity of mankind be immeasurably increased.

Here ends the reading.

People: Glory to you, Lord Christ.

Just then a lawyer stood up to test Jesus. “Teacher,” he said, “what must I do to inherit eternal life?” He said to him, “What is written in the law? What do you read there?” He answered, “You shall love the Lord your God with all your heart, and with all your soul, and with all your strength, and with all your mind; and your neighbor as yourself.” And he said to him, “You have given the right answer; do this, and you will live.” But wanting to justify himself, he asked Jesus, “And who is my neighbor?” Jesus replied, “A man was going down from Jerusalem to Jericho, and fell into the hands of robbers, who stripped him, beat him, and went away, leaving him half dead. Now by chance a priest was going down that road; and when he saw him, he passed by on the other side. So likewise a Levite, when he came to the place and saw him, passed by on the other side. But a Samaritan while traveling came near him; and when he saw him, he was moved with pity. He went to him and bandaged his wounds, having poured oil and wine on them. Then he put him on his own animal, brought him to an inn, and took care of him. The next day he took out two denarii, gave them to the innkeeper, and said, ‘Take care of him; and when I come back, I will repay you whatever more you spend.’ Which of these three, do you think, was a neighbor to the man who fell into the hands of the robbers?” He said, “The one who showed him mercy.” Jesus said to him, “Go and do likewise.”

Priest: The Gospel of the Lord.
People: Praise to you, Lord Christ.

Offertory Sentence:
Priest: My brothers and sisters in Christ Jesus, when you come to the Table of the Lord, come not only to receive the presence of the Lord, but also to give your life completely to Him. As Jesus said, the Greatest Commandments are these:

People: You shall love the Lord your God with all your heart, with all your soul, and with all your mind. And you shall love your neighbor as yourself.
Who is My Neighbor?: Healthcare in America
Lent 4a - March 26, 2017

Jesus taught that we are to love our neighbors as we love ourselves. Ok, yes; we remind ourselves of that in our Offertory Sentence every week. It sounds like a good idea until we ask the question: who is my neighbor? This is the question I suggest we examine this morning. Please recall that last Sunday we talked about the concepts of freedom and choice. We heard the loud and clear voices of both Jesus of Nazareth and Jean-Paul Sartre urging us to grab hold of our lives, to “seize the day,” to make our choices with a clear vision of our potential to love, to act with compassion, to strive for goodness and to consciously choose to try even if we may not succeed.

We also noted the paradox that all this choice making and grabbing hold of life takes place within the limited, formative frame of the particulars of each person’s life, their “facticity.” Each of us was created and now lives within a kind of invisible existential box where the sides of the box represent all of the biological, cultural, educational and experiential givens and forces that shaped and continue to form who we are and how we think; all of the particular facts about each of us that we did not choose, but that were chosen for us. (If I had been born in Beijing, I would be a different person.) Most or all of our freedom to choose takes place within our personal but limited existential box. And we also noted that we love to celebrate the power of our freedom to choose while mostly ignoring the power of the myriad of facts and influences we did not choose that formed and sculpted who we are.

With this discussion of freedom and choice-making in the background, I want to turn our attention to the healthcare debate. First, let me tell you a cute story….Two doctors and an HMO manager die and line up together at the Pearly Gates. One doctor steps forward and tells St. Peter, “As a pediatric surgeon, I saved hundreds of children.” St. Peter lets him enter. The next doctor says, “As a psychiatrist, I helped thousands of people live better lives.” St. Peter tells him to go ahead. The last man says, “I was an HMO manager. I got countless families cost-effective health care.” St. Peter replies, “Yeah…right….You may enter. but,” he adds, “you can only stay for three days. After that, we’ll have to transfer you to to Hell where it is less expensive.”

My task this morning is to convince you to spend some time and effort during the coming weeks considering a commitment to the principle that everyone in our country (and in the world) should have good, comprehensive healthcare; healthcare that allows each individual to achieve and maintain good health. To convince you, I considered three approaches. First, the argument from morality, i.e., to be a great nation, we must be a moral nation and it is immoral to either actively or passively deny a human being the healthcare he or she needs to have and maintain good health. Second, the argument from human rights and a shared vision of our future. And third, the argument from basic empathy and compassion.

The argument from morality insists that a moral society is one in which the value and dignity of every human being is fully recognized and embraced. Recall that morality is defined as “principles concerning the distinction between right and wrong or good and bad behavior; a particular system of values and principles of conduct, especially one held by a specified person or society.” Terms that are synonymous or associated with the meaning of morality include virtue, goodness, righteousness, honesty, integrity, justice, and decency. Put another way, morality asks us to have a serious conversation about what kind of society we want to create and build together. Do we want to be a community that protects the life, health and well-being of everyone regardless of their level of income, their ethnic heritage or the color of their skin or do we want to live in a society where some are judged worthless and expendable while others live in excess and luxury? What does it mean to be a great nation, an exceptional society?

To argue from the platform of universal human rights is to ask us to reflect on the values and vision for our society expressed in such documents as our Declaration of Independence, the U.S. Constitution and the United Nations Declaration of Human Rights. Notice the language of the Declaration of Independence: “We hold these truths to be self-evident, that all men are created equal, that they are endowed by their Creator with certain unalienable Rights, that among these are Life, Liberty and the pursuit of Happiness. — That to secure these rights, Governments are instituted among Men, deriving their just powers from the consent of the governed….” What does it mean to have the right to life, liberty and happiness in the face of illness or injury? When we lose our health, we have lost all of these and more. How can anyone, therefore, argue for a healthcare system in which the wealthy are well cared for while it is perfectly acceptable for those without much money to suffer the effects of inadequate, spotty, crisis-oriented care?

The U.S. Constitution seems to share a similar vision of the kind of national community desired by its authors: “We the People of the United States, in Order to form a more perfect Union, establish Justice, insure domestic Tranquility, provide for the common defense, promote the general Welfare, and secure the Blessings of Liberty to ourselves and our Posterity, do ordain and establish this Constitution for the United States of America.” It would require little effort on the part of any of us to demonstrate that none of the values expressed in that statement are congruent with a society that lets some people be well-cared for while others are allowed to deteriorate, grow sick, and die because those with money do not want to help those without.

Continued Next Page……………….
And what about Article 25 of the U.N. Declaration of Human Rights, agreed to by the United States in 1948? It states, “Everyone has the right to a standard of living adequate for the health and well-being of himself and of his family, including food, clothing, housing and medical care and necessary social services, and the right to security in the event of unemployment, sickness, disability, widowhood, old age or other lack of livelihood in circumstances beyond his control.” The first word in that declaration was “everyone.”

And while I think the arguments from morality and from human rights are intellectually compelling, it will take more than rational arguments to move us to work toward universal, comprehensive healthcare for every human being. Someone has to touch our hearts, awaken our empathy and move us to act with compassion. To get some help with this, let’s turn to today’s Gospel story: the Parable of the Good Samaritan. Most of the time when we consider this parable, we talk about the willingness of the outcast and the despised Samaritan to offer care and mercy toward someone who would normally not be willing to give him the time of day.

Today, however, let’s take another approach. Imagine that it is you who is lying alone on the side of a road. You are sick, in pain and dying. You are in the situation you are in for two reasons. First, you work in a job that pays just above minimum wage and, therefore, you have been unable to afford to make regular doctor visits. You can afford neither the fees associated with each visit nor the medicines that the doctor would surely prescribe. Second, you have a progressive disease of the heart. Your parents and grandparents had it, your father died from it, and now you have inherited it. You have done your best to just forget about and ignore it because…well…what else could you do?

But now, on a hot day, you were walking down the road toward town and your chest began to ache, your heart started racing, your blood pressure dropped and you fell to the ground in pain and too weak to get up. It’s not some stranger lying in the hot sun on the side of the road praying that someone will come to their aid, it’s you.

It’s you lying there helpless and dying. Can you imagine it? Can you see yourself there? What are you feeling? What are you wishing and hoping for?

After about half an hour - which seemed like an eternity to you - two men approach you, each from the opposite direction. One is a businessman and the other a professional in private practice. Each earns enough money each year to live comfortably. Both of them stop in front of you. The first man says to you, as you lay on the ground, “Obviously, you have made some bad decisions. If you were as smart, well-educated, hard-working and successful as me, you would have been getting good care all along because you could have afforded it. You would not be without the means to get what you need and you would not be in this mess. If you are sick and dying, it’s because of the decisions you have made. You can’t expect me to spend my hard-earned money to help you. There will always be unproductive poor people in the world. It is probably best that you die and reduce the surplus population.” And with that, he turns, gets in his car and drives away.

The second man says very little. He bends down, picks you up in his arms, places you in the back seat of his car and rushes you to the nearest hospital. And when he gets to the hospital, he hands his credit card to the receptionist and says, “Take care of him and when I come back, I will pay you for any care this man required.” Now you are in a hospital room surrounded by doctors and nurses. You know you are going to be okay. Now how do you feel? What do you hope for? What would you like to say to each of these men?

Which of these two men acted morally? Which of them best represents the society in which you want you and your family to live? What can we do, this week and beyond, to work toward making America great in her morality, in her respect for the value of every human life and in her practice of empathy and compassion for one another?

Blessing,
Charles+

Can Conservative and Liberals Re-Learn How to Listen, Converse and Reason Together?

Let’s Begin With Listening……this Thursday evening, March 30th at 7:00 PM, the Project for Deeper Understanding will host an event structured to allow conservatives and liberals to listen to one another in safety. Come, get really curious, and see what you can learn by listening intently to those with whom you disagree!

Thursday - March 30th  7:00 PM
St. Luke’s Episcopal Church in Snyderville
**PLEASE GIVE GENEROUSLY TO OUR ST. LUKE’S MISSIONS FUND DURING THIS LENTEN SEASON**

During Lent each year, we appeal to all of the members of our parish community to make a generous donation in support of our missions for the coming year.

All donations are combined and are used where it is most needed. The Executive Missions Committee (the leaders of each of our mission enterprises) meet together to have a conversation about the amount of financial support needed by each mission. The Committee then allocates the money in the Mission Fund to each mission according to their need.

Please examine the Missions Fund catalogue. It describes the purpose and needs of each of our mission enterprises. Also, please be generous in giving for the continued work of our missions, both locally and regionally. 100% of all donations are used for missions.

To donate to the St. Luke’s Missions Fund, please make a check out to St. Luke’s and write “Missions” in the memo line.

OR you can go to our website and make a donation towards "Missions.” For those of you that have already made a donation in Tithe.ly, just change the giving line from offering to Mission. It’s so easy! THANK YOU VERY MUCH!!

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**STATIONS OF THE CROSS**

Stations of the Cross will be led every Wednesday during Lent by Harriet Stephens. Please join her at noon at the church on Wednesdays.

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**COFFEE HOUR COORDINATOR**

Sharon Christensen is stepping down as coffee hour coordinator. Thank you, Sharon for your hard work and service in this important ministry. Barbara Wine will be serving as the interim coordinator, and in an effort to recruit more families to join the "coffee hour" ministry, she is suggesting two changes.

1. The possibility of two families sharing a coffee hour and
2. That ONLY cookies or donuts be served, making it easier and less costly.

We would love your input, please talk to Barbara Wine, e mail wine1466@comcast.net, or call her at 435-640-3770.

We will need a new coordinator, if you’re interested please let Father Charles know. How about talking to a friend about job sharing? Barbara will be happy to answer any questions.
THANK YOU FOR VOLUNTEERING TO HOST COFFEE HOUR

Please arrive one half hour early to start preparing. You will need to bring a bottle of Apple Juice, half and half and cookies or donuts. All other supplies will be provided.

Following is a check list of procedures. We hope this will make your job easier. All the kitchen cupboards are labeled to help you find needed supplies.

SET UP:
Coffee Hour will follow the 10:30 am service
Hot water for tea is prepared in one of the pump pots
Coffee making instructions are posted on the refrigerator

YOU MUST FIRST PRIME THE COFFEE MAKER (POUR ONE PITCHER OF WATER INTO THE COFFEE MAKER WITHOUT A FILTER OR COFFEE GROUNDS)
If you use the hot water coffee pot when priming, you can use this for the tea.

SET UP ONE TABLE SIDE WITH:
- Hot Cups (white cups)
- Stirrers
- Creamer and Sugars
- Half and Half
- Tea Bags
- Donation Basket

SET UP OTHER TABLE SIDE WITH:
- Napkins
- Cold Cups (colored cups)
- Apple Juice
- Cookies or Donuts

CLEAN UP: This is not as much fun, but very important
- Brush off table cloths
- Rinse coffee pots and pumps
- Empty all trash cans and take to the dumpster
- Extra cups, plates, condiments etc. put back away
- Counter tops cleaned and wiped down
- Dirty laundry put in the laundry basket at the end of the counter

We have another church using our facility on Sunday nights. Out of consideration to them, please do not leave anything in the dish drainer or on the counters.

Thank You!! Coffee hour has become an important part of our service. Without your help, it wouldn’t be possible! If for any reason you are unable to host coffee hour, please call Barbara Wine at 435-640-3770.
**Exciting Happenings**

**NURSERY ATTENDANT NEEDED** If you are or someone you know is interested in becoming paid the Nursery Attendant, please contact Jon Weinberg, weinberg.jonathatn@gmail.com.

**CONSIDERING JOINING THE ST. LUKE’S COMMUNITY? JUST WANT TO LEARN MORE ABOUT THE EPISCOPAL CHURCH?** Our rector would be delighted to make an appointment to meet with you. He will do his best to answer your questions and to help you to feel welcomed and included at St. Luke's. When you are ready to have a conversation, just let him know at either: pastor@stlukespc.org or 435-901-2131.

**AUTUMN GOSPEL GROUP FOR WOMEN 50ish & UP:** Autumn Gospel meets the fourth Saturday morning of each month from 10 to noon, in members’ homes. We use books as a springboard to share and discuss our own spiritual journeys at this stage of our lives, and are currently reading "Autumn Gospel" by Kathleen Fischer. Please join us for coffee, fellowship and a lively discussion! For more info please call Ann Deyo, 435-615-7478 or Judy Hanley, 435-649-7607.

**CHECK OUT OUR NEW WEBSITE:** www.stlukesparkcity.org Newcomers will find info about our church and what to expect when they visit. In addition, there is information about all of our missions, finances and programs. You can view previous sermons through a link to You-Tube on your phone or home computer. Go to You Tube, then St Luke’s Episcopal Church Park City, UT.

**WOMEN'S BIBLE STUDY:** We are reading the Beth Moore Study “Stepping Up” on the Psalms of ascent. It is a 6 week study going through April 5 (Wednesday before Palm Sunday). We meet on Wednesday nights 6:30-8:00 PM.

**TAI-CHI:** Meets on Wednesdays at 5:10 PM. Classes last approximately an hour. A donation of $30 is requested for a six-week series.

**ANNUAL EASTER EGG HUNT**
The Sunday School is now gratefully accepting donations of candy and/or empty plastic Easter Eggs for our annual Easter Egg Hunt. If you would like to contribute, please bring items to the church office OR leave them in the basket by the entrance to the sanctuary no later than Wed April 12th. We ask that all candy be individually wrapped, and please: no candy with peanuts/nuts or peanut butter. Thank you so much for your support!

**ST. LUKE’S CARE GUILD** If you or someone you know has any requests or needs, please contact Katherine at katherinemartz@comcast.net or Harriet, harrietmstephens@gmail.com, (435)655-1888.

**CENTERING PRAYER** Meets Monday and Friday mornings at 10:00 AM in the Library. Please join us in this contemplative practice of Holy Silence.

**A COURSE IN MIRACLES** Join us in the St. Luke's Library each Wednesday at 4:00 to read and discuss this spiritual mind-training course. It is not necessary to have been attending in the past--you are welcome to come join this fun and lively group anytime. For more information, call or text Ann Fiery at 304-617-5714. Or you can visit www.acim.org

**HAPPY 150th BIRTHDAY TO US!** Part of the celebration will include a visit from our Presiding Bishop, The Most Reverend Michael Curry. There will be two opportunities, open to all and without charge, to hear the Presiding Bishop preach:

1. **Saturday, April 1, 9:15 am** at the Diocesan Convention Eucharist (held in the Wasatch Ballroom of the Hotel RL, 161 W, 600 S, SLC) and
2. **Sunday, April 2, at the 10:30 am service** at the Cathedral of St. Mark. Join us for this special occasion! Questions? Call or email Mary McEntire, 645-5993 or marymcentire@msn.com.