

# CHURCH OF OUR SAVIOUR

## JUNE 2020 NEWSLETTER



### Greetings! *By Father Kerry Neuhardt*



Greetings! Last Friday, June 5, I returned from the office to discover my Dad (Roy) had died at home. Since 1980 I have been at many deaths and anointed many bodies. It is different when it is so close to home. I immediately called out to him on the floor, invoking him to respond. When I realized he was not going to, I called Barbara Stone (parish nurse of excellence), she confirmed he was no longer here. Today it is real to me as the house is empty, and I still come in and instinctively head toward his room to see how it is going. The COVID-19 situation meant I had to minimize contact, so only three people were here in the last three months. Geri Stephenson cleaned his room and did his laundry up until 6 weeks ago, Sheryl Padgett was entrusted with being sure his tv and phone (Alexa and Siri) were operable to watch the news and call his special friend in

Ahwatukee. The virus meant isolation and it also meant extra free data on both phone and tv streaming, such a deal! Isolation and information saturation have been the new normal for all of us. Clearly we all miss being able to gather to celebrate or to support those crying.

I have had lots of soft quiet tears lately. Brent Roubal was such a force in giving us life. We will find a hole in the days to come for a very long time. Thank you Brenda, J.R. and Claire for sharing him. Brenda's dad Roger Roe was a special visitor to our church, he will be missed when we introduce visiting folks. Same is true for Marco Savage, he visited with his mother-in-law Pat Trout. Mark Westlake was a very friendly summer member, he too died of cancer in the last week. I can only say to all of you, be safe and follow the CDC guidelines. What good will our new space be if you are not here to fill it?

Finally, I want to be sure everyone of you stays in touch with at least 4 others. Call one another and if you find a need let us as a community fill it. If you speak to someone who hasn't been getting emails from the church or me, ask them to check their spam first, then call the office and leave a message so we can fix it. If you chat with someone not on our Sunday Zoom, encourage them to do so. (If it is you, others are waiting for your presence.) Everyone matters. Please visit our church website. It is gradually becoming our way of communicating when it is so crucial.

There is a hole in our world tonight. It is named Brent, Roger, Mark, and Roy. May their souls rest in peace and light perpetual shine upon them. Kerry

### Vestry Report *by Kerry for the Vestry*

Today, June 11, Bishop Reddall reported that there are no Arizona churches meeting (Phase II) at this time. Our Phase II plan will be submitted to the Diocese's task force and Bishop, having been just developed and then discussed at the Zoom vestry meeting a few days ago. We will be submitting plans to meet outside at first, following social distancing and requiring masks and sanitization. The plan will be considered when the case number accepted for our location (presently by county, using the Az health dept reports) shows a decline for 14 days. Unfortunately it looks like it is not likely anytime soon. Please refer to our website to see the guidelines for meeting in person. Remember the current restriction is no gathering more than 10, and if approved for phase 2, no more than 50.

So please reach out to one another and join the zooming! Kerry for the Vestry.

## New Appointment to the Vestry



Brenda Roubal has agreed to fill her husband Brent's position on the Vestry for the remainder of the term. We are grateful to Brenda for agreeing to accept this position. She will be a valuable member of the Vestry.

## Thoughts from The Reverend Wendy Guyton Deacon



The presence of the Holy One comes to each of us in a personal way, in ways we understand on a deeply unique level. There is no one way to find God in our lives. Each person has a unique spiritual sense, a wisdom that gives life meaning and purpose.

Think about what gives your life meaning, what gives it purpose; think about what has kept you through life. A search for the Holy, by whatever name we call it, is a spiritual journey to tie us to something larger than our present situation. No one else's life is an exact copy of anyone else's life.

Most of us find expression for our spiritual selves at Church of our Saviour, in the outward expression of worship with people who have similar beliefs, similar creeds, similar expressions of faith; some go further afield – and that 'where' is between you and your inner self; it is where you find your unique and beautiful connection to all that is.

Whatever you call it, there is a spiritual wisdom in each of us that reaches out to find meaning and connection, in our lives. The journey is life long and changes as our life experiences change us. The beautiful truth is that God is with us wherever the journey takes us into the Holy.

I want to close with one of my favorite prayers.

*"We give thanks for places of silence and peace.*

*May we find such places within ourselves.*

*We give thanks for places of beauty and refuge.*

*May we find such places within ourselves.*

*We give thanks for places of love and service.*

*May we find such places within ourselves.*

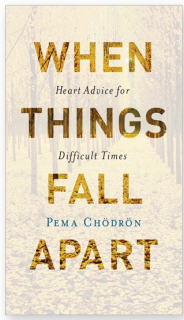
*May God's holy angels surround you this day.*

*May you find within yourselves places of blessing and healing."*

*Amen.*



Friday Book Study—When Things Fall Apart *by Pamela Johnson*



Join Kerry via Zoom on Fridays at 12:30 for a discussion of the book: “When Things Fall Apart, Heart Advice for Difficult Times” by Pema Chödrön. First meeting was June 6 where we began with a discussion of the last chapter. What many of us discovered was we led most of our lives goal center. The reward was not the journey but the reward at the end. This books entertains the reward is the journey and where we are now. It will lead us through a process of changing our thoughts to celebrate today.

Its not too late to join in the Friday discussions. If you do not want to read the book but would like to listen to the discussion and learn why people are enjoying this book, please join the Zoom session.


Publishers Summary of Book: How can we live our lives when everything seems to fall apart - when we are continually overcome by fear, anxiety, and pain? The answer, Pema Chödrön suggests, might be just the opposite of what you expect. Here, in her most beloved and acclaimed work, Pema shows that moving *toward* painful situations and becoming intimate with them can open up our hearts in ways we never before imagined. Drawing from traditional Buddhist wisdom, she offers life-changing tools for transforming suffering and negative patterns into habitual ease and boundless joy.

Treasurer Report *by Tim Wooley*



Here is the most recent update on our finances. This month we used the Payroll Protection Plan to offset payroll expenses. Your contributions to the church are still needed. Folks have found the website’s “Give” page a safe and easy way to donate. You can still drop checks off in the street mailbox by inserting it into the secured slot. Marcia is in office only one day a week, usually Thursdays.

Month	Collections	Expenses	Balance	Notes
			\$	
Jan-20	\$ 9,423	\$ 10,099	(676)	Jan 1 Beginning balance was \$40,741
Feb-20	\$ 6,994	\$ 16,422	\$(9,428)	Includes 2019 Diocesan Mission Share
			\$	
Mar-20	\$ 11,337	\$ 11,588	(251)	
Apr-20	12,876.94	8,846.22	\$ 4,031	Transferred \$500 VISA rebate to checking. Donation through VANCO = \$4,633
May-20	\$ 7,559	\$ 10,024	\$(2,465)	Received Payroll Protection Plan Loan to pay salaries

 Congratulations to our Treasurer, Tim Wooley, for being five years cancer free! Thanks for all you do for our church!

## 2020 Directory UPDATES Please *by Roseanna Langley*

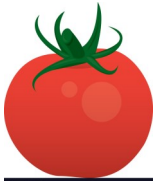


In the next two weeks I will be emailing you the current information we have for the directory. Will you please review the information and update as necessary?

We will be using pictures from the 2019 directory for the 2020 directory. If there needs to be an update, please let me know.

The goal is to have the new directory ready by Labor Day Weekend.

## Tomato, Tomato—who can grow the biggest Tomato? *By Deb Carroll*



Well here we are, most of our favorite plans for the summer are a bust. What to do...how about having a tomato contest? Somebody, who asked to remain nameless, suggested throwing tomatoes at a person (priest), building or thing to see how big of a mess it will make. He thought would be the best fundraiser ever!

But I am going a different route by seeing who can grow the biggest juiciest tomato by the end of August. Winner will be determined by weight of tomato. Final details will be forthcoming when we get closer to the date and we know what types of gatherings are allowed.

## Podcasts? “Way of Love Series 3” *By Deb Carroll*

Podcasts are audio programs you can use to learn, escape or broaden your horizons. Many people listen to podcasts while driving, exercising, working on a project, house cleaning or relaxing. Podcasts are educational and entertaining. You can find a wealth topics on podcasts.

In January, I started listening to podcasts by starting the Series 1 “[Way of Love](#)” by Bishop Curry. “I downloaded the podcast app on my phone and searched “Way of Love” on the app. (You can find a podcast app on any smart phone. You can also listen to podcasts on your computer.) Downloading the app and clicking onto “Way of Love” as one of my favorites is all I had to do to continue my spiritual journey. I have included the podcast on my morning walks. They last about 45 minutes or 3 miles for me.

## Memorial Service for Mark Westlake *by Anne Lavigne Mark’s daughter*

The hope is to have Mark Westlake's funeral will be streamed on Facebook from Abounding Grace Lutheran Community. <https://www.facebook.com/groups/646164472842455/>

Livestream is planned for Wednesday, June 17th (service starts at 10 am)

People may need to join the community in advance to view (but everyone is welcome). I'd recommend joining by Tuesday morning at the latest.

His obituary is posted here:

<https://bringfuneralhome.com/tribute/details/192329/Mark-Westlake/obituary.html#tribute-start>

## Building Update by LeRoy Johnson

Trusses are up! The kitchen queens i.e., Junita and Barbara are providing suggestions of flooring for building committee. Additionally our general contractor, Jesse Poteet, is contacting the structural engineer pursuing our stamped permit for the County so we can finish the sanctuary. We had anticipated being nearly done by end of June, however, that is pushed back due to the length of time to get the stamp. Just as with our denomination the county wears the purple shirt. For more pictures, go to our [website](#).



## Website Update—how to receive the updates to your email. *By Deb Carroll*



Working on the website has been fun and a challenge. First figuring how to get things posted and then how to make the site user friendly. I was interested in being able to send notices to members when new items were added to the website. After a little trial and error, I figured it out! Now you can go onto the website to the very bottom of the page and register to receive the “blog” The blog is where we post interesting articles and updates on activities that you might be interested in reading including the Sunday bulletin.

Once you have entered your email address, you will receive a confirmation email that you must reply that do want updates and then you are set to go. At anytime that you do not want to receive update, unsubscribe. Pretty slick! <http://churchofoursaviourwm.org/>

## Current Church Calendar for June (contact the church for Zoom meeting numbers/passwords)

- ⇒ Sunday Services 9 a.m. via Zoom
- ⇒ Wednesday Evening Prayer 5 p.m.
- ⇒ Friday Theology Session (book study) 12:30 p.m.
- ⇒ Friday Happy Hour hosted by the Wooleys

## COVID-19—Reminder of where we are and what it means

As a reminder, we are currently operating under **Phase I** of the [Episcopal Diocese of Arizona Task Force Document](#), guidelines for Church Ministry and Worship. We are also preparing for the time when we can move to Phase II and will keep you informed on the work of leadership and Vestry. Please refer to my [May 30 letter](#) for more detail information.

### Phase I Guidelines for Church Ministry

- Offices may be open with very few staff (Marcia is in the Office on Thursdays)
- Essential ministries (food banks, direct service, blood drives, 12 step meetings) may continue, with reduction of volunteers as you are able, all volunteers wearing masks, and thorough cleaning after activities.
- Christian Formation for all ages offered online (Zoom Sunday Services & group meetings)

### Phase I Guidelines for Worship

- No in-person worship or meetings with more than 10 people present
- Online worship recommended (Zoom)
- Funerals, weddings, and ordinations of less than 10 people permitted, with masks and social distancing between participants.
- Emergency baptisms only