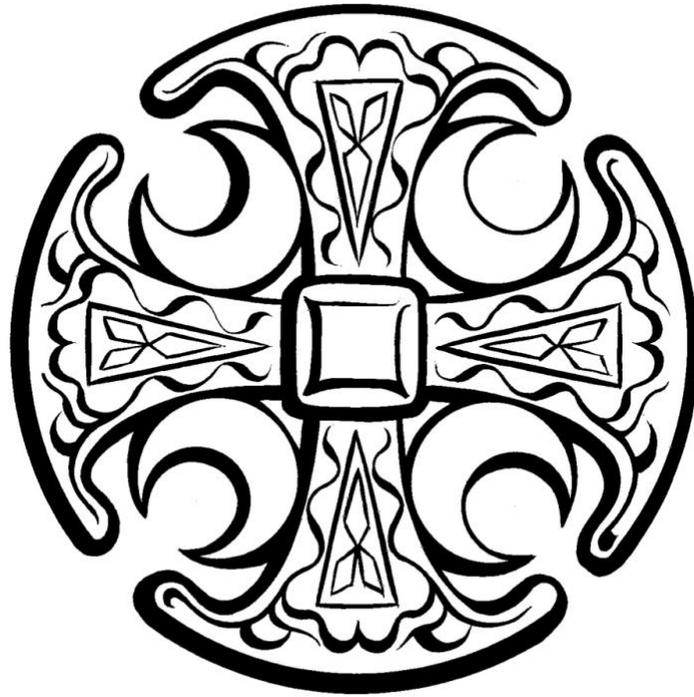


St. Thomas Episcopal Church

50 E. Bagley Road † Berea, OH 44017

The 14th Sunday after Pentecost

September 6, 2020



The Rt. Rev. Mark Hollingsworth, Jr., Bishop

The Reverend David R. Radzik, Rector

Rector Cell Phone: 440-305-0264

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Kira Seaton, Minister of Music

Scuola.musica@sbcglobal.net

Carl Douglas, Sexton

THE HOLY EUCHARIST

September 6, 2020

PRELUDE

"Now That the Daylight Fills the Sky" (Herr Jesu Christ)

ANNOUNCEMENTS & WELCOME

THE OPENING HYMN

"Joyful, Joyful, We Adore Thee" (Hymn to Joy)

THE OPENING ACCLAMATION

Blessed be God: Father, Son, and Holy Spirit.

People **And blessed be his kingdom, now and forever.**
Amen.

*It is customary to make the **Sign of the Cross** here. Subsequent places where making the Sign of the Cross is appropriate will be marked with a ✝*

THE COLLECT FOR PURITY

The Celebrant says

Almighty God, to you all hearts are open, all desires known,
and from you no secrets are hid: Cleanse the thoughts of our
hearts by the inspiration of your Holy Spirit, that we may
perfectly love you, and worthily magnify your holy Name;
through Christ our Lord. *Amen.*

THE GLORIA

Glory to God in the highest,
and peace to his people on earth.

Lord God, heavenly King,
almighty God and Father,
we worship you, we give you thanks,
we praise you for your glory.

Lord Jesus Christ, only Son of the Father,
Lord God, Lamb of God,
you take away the sin of the world:
have mercy on us;
you are seated at the right hand of the Father:
receive our prayer.

For you alone are the Holy One,
you alone are the Lord,
you alone are the Most High,
Jesus Christ,
with the Holy Spirit,
in the glory of God the Father. Amen

THE COLLECT OF THE DAY

The Celebrant says to the people

The Lord be with you.

People **And also with you.**

Celebrant Let us pray.

Grant us, O Lord, to trust in you with all our hearts; for, as you always resist the proud who confide in their own strength, so you never forsake those who make their boast of your mercy; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever.

People **Amen.**

CHILDREN'S MESSAGE AND BLESSING

THE EPISTLE LESSON

Romans 13:8-14

Owe no one anything, except to love one another; for the one who loves another has fulfilled the law. The commandments, "You shall not commit adultery; You shall not murder; You shall not steal; You shall not covet"; and any other commandment, are summed up in this word, "Love your neighbor as yourself." Love does no wrong to a neighbor; therefore, love is the fulfilling of the law.

Besides this, you know what time it is, how it is now the moment for you to wake from sleep. For salvation is nearer to us now than when we became believers; the night is far gone, the day is near. Let us then lay aside the works of darkness and put on the armor of light; let us live honorably as in the day, not in reveling and drunkenness, not in debauchery and licentiousness, not in quarreling and jealousy. Instead, put on the Lord Jesus Christ, and make no provision for the flesh, to gratify its desires.

Celebrant: The word of the Lord.

People: **Thanks be to God.**

THE PSALM

Psalm 149

- 1 Hallelujah!
Sing to the LORD a new song; *
sing his praise in the congregation of the faithful.
- 2 Let Israel rejoice in his Maker; *
let the children of Zion be joyful in their King.
- 3 Let them praise his Name in the dance; *
let them sing praise to him with timbrel and harp.
- 4 For the LORD takes pleasure in his people *
and adorns the poor with victory.
- 5 Let the faithful rejoice in triumph; *
let them be joyful on their beds.
- 6 Let the praises of God be in their throat *
and a two-edged sword in their hand;
- 7 To wreak vengeance on the nations *
and punishment on the peoples;
- 8 To bind their kings in chains *
and their nobles with links of iron;
- 9 To inflict on them the judgment decreed; *
this is glory for all his faithful people.
Hallelujah!

SEQUENCE HYMN

"Come with Us, O Blessed Jesus" (Werde munter)

THE GOSPEL LESSON

The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ
according to Matthew

People Glory to you, Lord Christ.

Matthew 18:15-20

Jesus said, "If another member of the church sins against you, go and point out the fault when the two of you are alone. If the member listens to you, you have regained that one. But if you are not listened to, take one or two others along with you, so that every word may be confirmed by the evidence of two or three witnesses. If the member refuses to listen to them, tell it to the church; and if the offender refuses to listen even to the church, let such a one be to you as a Gentile and a tax collector. Truly I tell you, whatever you bind on earth will be bound in heaven, and whatever you loose on earth will be loosed in heaven. Again, truly I tell you, if two of you agree on earth about anything you ask, it will be done for you by my Father in heaven. For where two or three are gathered in my name, I am there among them."

After the Gospel, the Reader says

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

THE SERMON

LABOR DAY PRAYER

Blessed be the works of your hands, O Holy One.
Blessed be these hands that have touched life.
Blessed be these hands that have nurtured creativity.
Blessed be these hands that have held pain.
Blessed be these hands that have embraced with passion.
Blessed be these hands that have tended gardens.
Blessed be these hands that have closed in anger.
Blessed be these hands that have planted new seeds.
Blessed be these hands that have cleaned, washed, mopped, and scrubbed.
Blessed be these hands that have become knotty with age.
Blessed be these hands that are wrinkled and scarred from doing justice.
Blessed be these hands that have reached out and been received.
Blessed be these hands that hold the promise of the future.

Blessed be the works of your hands, O Holy One.
(Prayer by Diann Neu)

THE NICENE CREED

We believe in one God,
the Father, the Almighty,
maker of heaven and earth,
of all that is, seen and unseen.

We believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ,

the only Son of God,
eternally begotten of the Father,
God from God, Light from Light,
true God from true God,
begotten, not made,
of one Being with the Father.
Through him all things were made.

For us and for our salvation he came down from heaven: *by the power of the Holy Spirit* he became incarnate from the Virgin Mary, and was made man.

For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate;
he suffered death and was buried.

On the third day he rose again in accordance with the Scriptures;
he ascended into heaven
and is seated at the right hand of the Father.

He will come again in glory to judge the living and the dead and his kingdom
will have no end.

We believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver of life,
who proceeds from the Father and the Son.
With the Father and the Son he is worshiped and glorified.
He has spoken through the Prophets.

We believe in one holy catholic and apostolic Church.
We acknowledge one baptism for the forgiveness of sins.

✝ We look for the resurrection of the dead,
and the life of the world to come. Amen.

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

Friends, let us offer our prayers to God, who pronounced all creation good, who sent his Son to live and work as one like us, and who calls us to serve the poor and those oppressed.

Lord, give success to the work of our hands.

Show me the suffering of the most miserable; So I will know my people's plight.

Free me to pray for others; for you are present in every person.

Help me take responsibility for my own life; So that I can be free at last.

Grant me courage to serve others; for in service there is true life.

Give me honesty and patience; So that I can work with other workers.

Lord, give success to the work of our hands.

For all those who work:

Lord, give success to the work of our hands.

For those who are unemployed or underemployed, or have lost their jobs because of changing economic conditions, let us pray:

Lord, give success to the work of our hands.

For those who work in hazardous conditions without sufficient protection, let us pray:

Lord, give success to the work of our hands.

For migrant workers and all who work the land, let us pray:

Lord, give success to the work of our hands.

For all employers that they may seek to provide a just work environment:

Lord, give success to the work of our hands.

For those who face discrimination, harassment, or abuse in the workplace, let us pray:

Lord, give success to the work of our hands.

For those who must balance job commitments with the needs of their family, let us pray:

Lord, give success to the work of our hands.

Bring forth song and celebration; So that the Spirit will be alive among us. Let the Spirit flourish and grow; So that we will never tire of the struggle. Let us remember those who have died for justice; for they have given us life. Help us love even those who hate us; so we can change the world.

Celebrant: God, through your Son you gave us an example to love one another as he loved us. Give us the strength to continue working to bring forth your kingdom here on earth – a kingdom of justice and peace, kindness and compassion, grace and mercy. Grant this through Christ, our Lord. Amen.

CONFESSION OF SIN

The Celebrant says

Let us confess our sins against God and our neighbor.

Minister and People

Most merciful God,
**we confess that we have sinned against you
in thought, word, and deed,
by what we have done,
and by what we have left undone.
We have not loved you with our whole heart;
we have not loved our neighbors as ourselves.
We are truly sorry and we humbly repent.
For the sake of your Son Jesus Christ,
have mercy on us and forgive us;
that we may delight in your will,
and walk in your ways,
to the glory of your Name. Amen.**

The Bishop, when present, or the Priest, stands and says

Almighty God have mercy on you, forgive you all your sins through our Lord Jesus Christ, strengthen you in all goodness, and by the power of the Holy Spirit keep you in eternal life. **Amen.**

THE OFFERTORY

"All Who Love and Serve" (Birabus)

The Priest, places the bread on the paten (plate), raises, and says:

Celebrant: Blessed are you, Lord God of all creation; through your goodness we have this bread to offer, which earth has given and human hands have made: it will become for us the Bread of Life.

People: **Blessed be God forever.**

The Priest then pours wine and a little water into the chalice. Raising the chalice, he says:

Celebrant: Blessed are you, Lord God of all creation; through your goodness we have this wine to offer, fruit of the vine and work of human hands: it will become our spiritual Drink.

People: **Blessed be God forever**

The Celebrant then washes his hands, saying silently:

I will wash my hands in innocency, O Lord, and so will I go to your altar; that I may show the voice of thanksgiving and tell of all your wondrous works."

THE HOLY COMMUNION

The people remain standing. The Celebrant, whether bishop or priest, faces them and sings or says

The Lord be with you

People	And also with you.
Celebrant	Lift up your hearts.
People	We lift them to the Lord.
Celebrant	Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.
People	It is right to give him thanks and praise.

Then, facing the Holy Table, the Celebrant proceeds

It is right, and a good and joyful thing, always and everywhere to give thanks to you, Father Almighty, Creator of heaven and earth.

For you are the source of light and life, you made us in your image, and called us to new life in Jesus Christ our Lord.

Therefore we praise you, joining our voices with Angels and Archangels and with all the company of heaven, who for ever sing this hymn to proclaim the glory of your Name:

THE SANCTUS

Holy, Holy, Holy Lord, God of power and might,
heaven and earth are full of your glory.

Hosanna in the highest.

Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord.

Hosanna in the highest.

Then the Celebrant continues

We give thanks to you, O God, for the goodness and love which you have made known to us in creation; in the calling of Israel to be your people; in your Word spoken through the prophets; and above all in the Word made flesh, Jesus, your Son. For in these last days you sent him to be incarnate from the Virgin Mary, to be the Savior and Redeemer of the world. In him, you have delivered us from evil, and made us worthy to stand before you. In him, you have brought us out of error into truth, out of sin into righteousness, out of death into life.

On the night before he died for us, our Lord Jesus Christ took bread; and when he had given thanks to you, he broke it, and gave it to his disciples, and said, "Take, eat: This is my Body, which is given for you. Do this for the remembrance of me."

After supper he took the cup of wine; and when he had given thanks, he gave it to them, and said, "Drink this, all of you: This is my Blood of the new Covenant, which is shed for you and for many for the forgiveness of sins. Whenever you drink it, do this for the remembrance of me."

Therefore, according to his command, O Father,

Celebrant and People

**We remember his death,
We proclaim his resurrection,
We await his coming in glory;**

The Celebrant continues

And we offer our sacrifice of praise and thanksgiving to you,
O Lord of all; presenting to you, from your creation, this
bread and this wine.

We pray you, gracious God, to send your Holy Spirit upon
these gifts that they may be the Sacrament of the Body of
Christ and his Blood of the new Covenant. Unite us to your
Son in his sacrifice, that we may be acceptable through him,
being sanctified by the Holy Spirit. In the fullness of time,
put all things in subjection under your Christ, and bring us to
that heavenly country where, with the Ever-blessed Virgin Mary, Blessed Joseph,
Blessed Thomas, and all your saints, we may enter the everlasting heritage of your
sons and daughters; through Jesus Christ our Lord, the firstborn of all creation, the
head of the Church, and the author of our
salvation.

By him, and with him, and in him, in the unity of the Holy
Spirit all honor and glory is yours, Almighty Father, now and
for ever. *Amen.*

And now, as our Savior Christ hath taught us, we are bold
to say,

People and Celebrant

Our Father, **who art in heaven,**
hallowed be thy Name,
thy kingdom come,
thy will be done,
on earth as it is in heaven.
Give us this day our daily bread.
And forgive us our trespasses,
as we forgive those who trespass against us.
And lead us not into temptation,
but deliver us from evil.
For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory,
for ever and ever. Amen.

Before the Breaking of the Bread, the celebrant prays silently the ancient Libera Nos, which is an expansion of the last petition of the Our Father, "but deliver us from evil."

Deliver us, we beseech you, O Lord, from all evils,
past, present, and to come; and at the intercession
of the blessed, glorious and Ever-Virgin Mary, Mother
of God, with your blessed Apostles Peter and Paul,
and of Andrew, St. Thomas, and all your Saints, favorably grant peace in our time,
that by the help of your mercy, we may ever be kept free from sin, and safe from all
anxiety. Through the same Jesus Christ your Son our Lord, who with you, in the
unity of the Holy Spirit. Amen

THE FRACTION

O Lamb of God, who takes away the sins of the world,
have mercy upon us.
O Lamb of God, who takes away the sins of the world,
have mercy upon us.
O Lamb of God, who takes away the sins of the world,
grant us your peace.

Facing the people, the Celebrant says the following Invitation

The Gifts of God for the People of God.

Spiritual Communion

All, in person or at home, are invited to make a Spiritual Communion at this time.

In union, blessed Jesus, with the faithful gathered at every altar of your Church where your blessed Body and Blood are offered this day, (and remembering particularly my own parish and those worshiping there) I long to offer you praise and thanksgiving, for creation and all the blessings of this life, for the redemption won for us by your life, death, and resurrection, for the means of grace and the hope of glory.

And particularly for the blessings given me.... I believe that you are truly present in the Holy Sacrament, and, since I cannot at this time receive communion, I pray you to come into my heart. I unite myself with you and embrace you with all my heart, my soul, and my mind. Let nothing separate me from you; let me serve you in this life until, by your grace, I come to your glorious kingdom and unending peace. Amen.

After Communion, the Celebrant says

Let us pray.

The People may join in saying this prayer

Almighty and everliving God,
we thank you for feeding us with the spiritual food
of the most precious Body and Blood
of your Son our Savior Jesus Christ;
and for assuring us in these holy mysteries
that we are living members of the Body of your Son,
and heirs of your eternal kingdom.

And now, Father, send us out
to do the work you have given us to do,
to love and serve you
as faithful witnesses of Christ our Lord.
To him, to you, and to the Holy Spirit,
be honor and glory, now and for ever. Amen.

THE FINAL HYMN

"All Creatures of Our God and King" (Lasst uns erfreuen)

THE BLESSING

POSTLUDE

"Lord, Whose Love Through Humble Service"

Prayer List and Weekly Updates

IN OUR PRAYERS THIS WEEK

To add or remove a name from this list, please call the office or email ChurchOffice@stthomaschurch-berea.org

Birthdays: Devan Braford, David Frazier, Ronald Thomas, and Bev Smith

Sick: Ruth Ihde, Jackie Guerra, Rudy Capece, Lorraine, Carole Pozek, Linda Gulla, Clint Hist, Sally Ebersole, Frank Abbott, Bill and Pat Hacker, Nellie Cooper, Tommy Weese, The McKinney Family, Tommy, Dennis Depp, Helen Depp, Tina Mrozek, Claudie D'Arras, Erin, Tony, David Miller, Clint Anderson (is back home now), Russ Hill, Scott Pochatek, Christina, Sue Zindar, and Martha Kareff

Anniversaries: Donald & Kathy Elster

Other: Betsy Toolis and her pregnancy, Chris Reinhart, Liz, Karen, and Mary

Caregivers: Terri Depp and George D'Arras

Sick Pets: Tobias (Bobby Long), Big Papi (Nancy Braford)

Recovering: Joanne Lisi (Jojo), Anita Cooper, John Staub, Chris, Holly Vincent, and George

For the repose of the soul of: Dorothy Cibula

Missionary Service: Michelle Wood

Military Service: David Brabson, Ryan Dawson, Robby Hartman, LTJG Stephanie Lasch, Annmarie Miller, Eli Modesitt, Lou Styles, LT John Toolis, Blake Schwartz, and Bud Styles

UPDATES

Over the last few weeks, our Vestry has been working extremely hard in formulating a plan for reopening St. Thomas Episcopal Church for in-person public worship in accordance with CDC and Diocesan guidelines. I am extraordinarily grateful for their leadership and commitment to our parish. I am also grateful for everyone's patience with this process and their recognition that this is a complex situation that requires an enormous amount of thought and planning. Following the advice of our Diocese as well as local and federal health officials, we now feel that it is reasonably safe to return to in-person worship soon.

We will be returning to in-person worship on Sunday, September 13th at 10:30 AM.

Bishop Hollingsworth is permitting the reception of Holy Communion so that will be part of our Sunday morning worship going forward. I, for one am looking forward to receiving the Blessed Sacrament with my community at St. Thomas. Our services will continue to be available for viewing online.

We have decided to limit ourselves to a single weekend service held on Sunday mornings at 10:30 AM at this time in order to better facilitate the extensive cleaning that is required under our Diocesan guidelines. We are asking all those planning to attend to register at the attached link [Worship Registration](#) or to call the office in order to enable contact tracing.

We are also planning to conduct a small weekday celebration of the Holy Eucharist starting in October. All other in-person activities will continue to be suspended unless otherwise indicated by me and the Vestry. Please speak with me if you are interested in resuming these ministries as online/phone meetings via Zoom. We are also planning to resume Rector's Forum as an online experience starting in October. Further details will follow. When services resume, the following social distancing guidelines will be followed by all, including lay-leaders and clergy until further notice:

- Service attendance will be capped at 34
- Please arrive no earlier than 10 minutes before the service
- Please follow the directions of the ushers when entering the building
- We ask you to pay attention to all notices posted in the church
- Wearing masks will be required
- A six-foot distance between people must be maintained
- Seating will be marked in order to facilitate six-foot distancing
- There will be specific instructions for entering and exiting the building
- Temperatures will be taken at the door
- Those who are feeling ill are asked to stay home
- Coffee hour and/or gathering in the church following the service will be suspended
- The Exchange of Peace is suspended for the time being
- Singing is suspended for the time being.
- A limited # of bulletins will be printed. We ask that you access the bulletin online.

Please let me know if you have any questions or concerns. I am available both by phone and email and will always get back to you as soon as possible.

Faithfully, Fr. David Radzik, Rector

Submitted by William Kurbusch

The COVID 19 environment leaves a lot to be desired considering what life was like prior to it taking over our lives. As I say to people now when we talk "All we can do is take one day at a time" and do our absolute best to keep our selves healthy and safe. To that end I thank God every day for my two pups Penny and Roxy. They keep me going from making sure I am up between 0730 and 0800 every morning, that I walk them morning, noon, and at night. I swear they can tell time better than I can. Both have great personalities and are well liked by the members of our HOA. I often say that my pups got elected to the HOA and not me. Everyone knows their names, but not mine. Saint Thomas and the work I do for my HOA keep me busy and active, which are both needed in this new environment that we live in. I love the ocean and being in and near the water. To get my water fix I have had my kayak out several times on Lake Erie this summer. I will also be taking a trip to Charleston SC to see my son Raymond, during this month. Both our birthdays are in the middle of this month and no matter where we are, we always manage to get together. I will be swimming in my favorite place too - the Atlantic Ocean. I cannot wait. So, in a nutshell this is my experiences in the world of COVID 19. The thing we must do is try to stay positive in our thinking and watch out for and take care of those folks that are close to us. Please take care and be safe and hopefully we will see each other soon in our Saint Thomas Church.



We've got a LOT growing at the farm...and we want to share it with you! This Saturday, September 5 we will be setting up a farm stand for you to take home Bellwether produce from 10:00 a.m. until 1:00 p.m. The stand will include: Swiss chard, kale, cabbage, sweet corn, peppers, tomatoes, garlic, onions, carrots, flowers, and more. We will also have Bellwether pork, chicken, 2020 maple syrup, and

merchandise for sale. We are offering [time slots](#) every 10 minutes to ensure we can safely socially distance all interested in perusing and buying. We are requiring that all participants wear a mask for the duration of your visit. Please note: this is not a U-Pick event, and we will not be able to accommodate folks staying on the property beyond the Farm Stand. We'll have more events to do those activities in the future.



Join us on Friday, September 11 at 6:00 p.m. for Bellwether Farm's first Farm-to-Table Harvest Dinner! Dinner will feature a farm-fresh salad, an entrée, and dessert. The evening will showcase Bellwether's organic produce and either our pasture-raised or locally sourced meat. After dinner, we invite you to visit Bellwether's Farmer's Market to purchase ingredients featured in the meal and more. Join Chef Lonny, Farmer Kyle, and the rest of the Bellwether staff for a memorable evening. Our socially-distanced format will be seated by household (up to 6 people) or four to a table, and will include a vegan option which you can request upon [registration](#). Registrations will close when full or on Wednesday, September 9 at 12:00 p.m.,



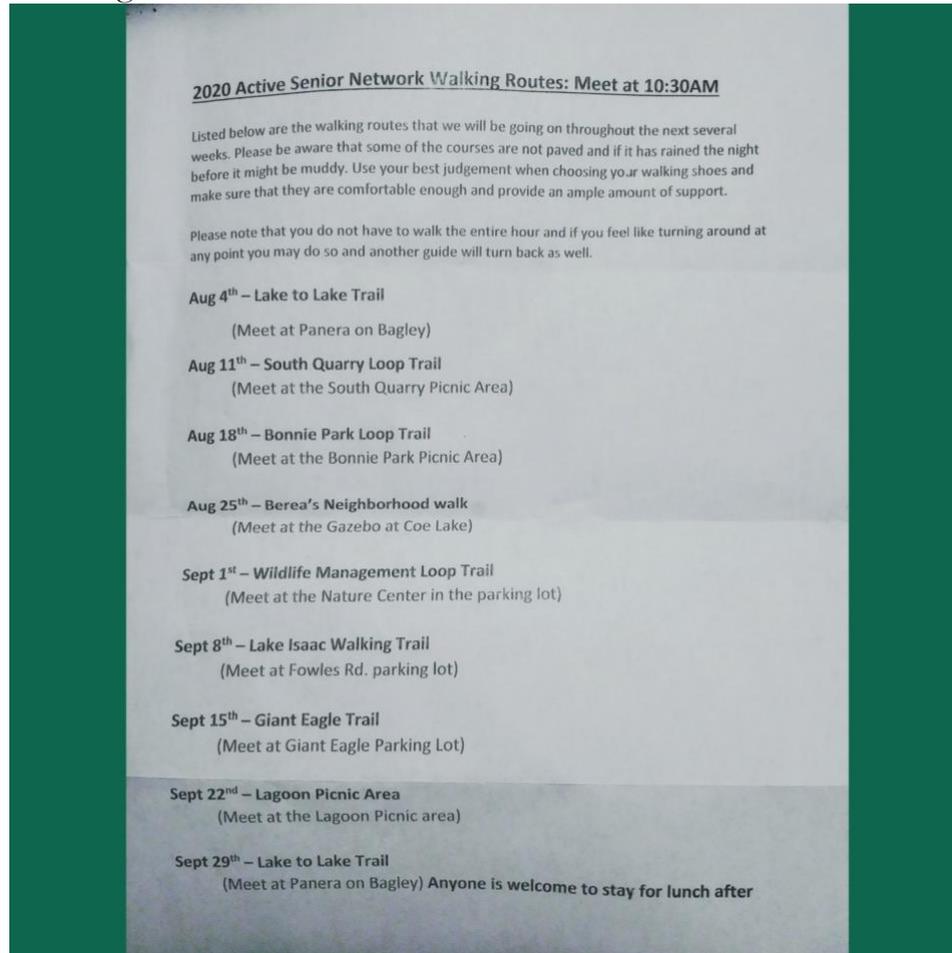
Homesteading Retreat at Bellwether Farm

Bellwether Farm is holding a homestead retreat <https://www.eventbrite.com/e/bellwether-farms-homesteading-retreat-tickets-117686360071> on **September 26**. As a participant, you will choose four workshop offerings, including topics such as regenerative gardening, farm-to-table cooking, pickling, sewing and mending, and more. A farm-fresh lunch and dinner will be provided, and participants have the option to stay for an Evening Compline service upon the completion of dinner. All workshops and meals will be observing strict social distancing guidelines and masks will be required for the duration of the retreat. The design of these programs is intended for participants 16+. Please contact [Amy Melena](https://bellwetherfarm.com/about/staff/amy-melena), Camp and Program Director <https://bellwetherfarm.com/about/staff/amy-melena>, with any questions. There are only 20 spots available. For more information, visit the <https://bellwetherfarm.com/our-programs/homesteading-retreat>

Message from the Parish Administrator

If you know of a parishioner that does not have email and is not receiving our weekly updates, please notify the office. I am more than happy to print them off and mail them home.

Senior Networking



The Church office is open "VIRTUALLY" Wednesday and Friday from 8am to 12pm the phone will be directly routed to my cell phone. Please stay connected by calling, emailing, and checking out our links. Please remember to update the office with any Prayer Requests.

God Bless, Michelle Killin-Keith