

October 2020

Faith Formation
Faith in Action
Bible Study
Devotions
Prayer

Date & Zoom	Leader	Title	Description
Friday 10/2 @ 4PM FB: https://www.facebook.com/AngelWhispersMinistries/ <i>Prayer</i>	Pastor Vicky	The Prayer Box Live	Join Pastor Vicky and her team for live prayer every Friday at 4PM. Submit your prayers in advance via Facebook, or “show up” online and pray along with Angel Whispers Ministries.
Sunday 10/4 @ 10AM Zoom: https://us02web.zoom.us/j/86210283474?pwd=N1lYaVY5c1BuNmRyVFNuMVo3Y1B3dz09 <i>Faith Formation</i>	Professor Ron Delph	The Creation Story in the Psalms	Most of us are familiar with the creation stories in the first two chapters of Genesis. However, there are two equally compelling accounts of the creation of man and the cosmos found in Psalms 8 and 104. In this session, we will explore these accounts of creation and see how they compare to the better known accounts in Genesis.
Monday 10/5 @ 7PM Zoom: https://us02web.zoom.us/j/87495052865?pwd=VWwwTVJoT1c2cHZmVFgyVUhwdXdkdz09 <i>Bible Study</i>	Pastor Lori	The Sermon on the Mount	First of six sessions. In Matthew 5-7 Jesus invites people through the ages to catch the vision for a world guided and shaped by the heart of God. Using material by Dr. Amy Jill Levine, we will explore how the words of Jesus echo his Jewish tradition and speak forward to reach hearts and minds today. If you want to participate, please email Pastor Lori so that she can order a book for you. lcarey@trinityaa.org
Wednesday 10/7 @ 7PM Zoom: https://us02web.zoom.us/j/87584933808?pwd=Q091d010U2tNcXNHTUUhKU3BFRTVjdz09 <i>Faith in Action</i>	Vicar Anna	<i>Just Mercy</i> by Bryan Stevenson	Join Zion Ann Arbor’s Life’s Lessons Book Club for their discussion of Bryan Stevenson’s book, <i>Just Mercy</i> . Stevenson is a lawyer who founded the Equal Justice Initiative, a non-profit that provides legal representation to prisoners who may have been wrongly convicted of crimes, poor prisoners without effective representation, and others who may have been denied a fair trial. We will also discuss the ELCA social statement on the death penalty found here. https://www.elca.org/Faith/Faith-and-Society/Social-Statements/Death-Penalty

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Friday 10/9 @ 4PM FB: https://www.facebook.com/AngelWhispersMinistries/ <i>Prayer</i>	Pastor Vicky	The Prayer Box Live	Join Pastor Vicky and her team for live prayer every Friday at 4PM. Submit your prayers in advance via Facebook, or “show up” online and pray along with Angel Whispers Ministries.
Sunday 10/11 @ 10AM Zoom: https://us02web.zoom.us/j/84811644811?pwd=SWRnVnhlMkhNNDEwL2FnMENrckpWUT09 <i>Faith Formation</i>	Sarah Altenburg Pastor Elizabeth Vicar Anna	National Coming Out Day: How do we support our LGBTQIA+ loved ones as they come out to us?	We will discuss how to support your loved one as they come “out” and into their beloved identity as a queer child of God. Austin Hartke's theology of inclusion (Isaiah 58), Paul’s theology of relationship (Galatians), and the Rev. Elizabeth Edman’s <i>Queer Virtue</i> will inform our discussion about how we respond in enthusiastic support for our loved ones who are trusting us enough to share their whole selves with us. If you know anyone in the LGBTQIA+ community, you do not want to miss this event!
Monday 10/12 @ 7PM Zoom: https://us02web.zoom.us/j/87495052865?pwd=VWwwTVJoT1c2cHZmVFqyVUhwXdkdz09 <i>Bible Study</i>	Pastor Lori	The Sermon on the Mount	Second of six sessions. In Matthew 5-7 Jesus invites people through the ages to catch the vision for a world guided and shaped by the heart of God. Using material by Dr. Amy Jill Levine, we will explore how the words of Jesus echo his Jewish tradition and speak forward to reach hearts and minds today. If you want to participate, please email Pastor Lori so that she can order a book for you. lcarey@trinityaa.org
Wednesday 10/14 @ 7PM Zoom: https://zoom.us/j/91881351182 <i>Faith in Action</i>	Pastor Sara Vicar Anna	<i>The End of Policing</i> by Alex S. Vitale	First of two sessions. Join Pastor Sara and Vicar Anna as we discuss Alex Vitale’s book <i>The End of Policing</i> , the history of policing in our country, and tangible ways to end systemic violence at the hands of our policing systems. You do not need to read the book in advance, though you are welcome to.
Friday 10/16 @ 4PM FB: https://www.facebook.com/AngelWhispersMinistries/ <i>Prayer</i>	Pastor Vicky	The Prayer Box Live	Join Pastor Vicky and her team for live prayer every Friday at 4PM. Submit your prayers in advance via Facebook, or “show up” online and pray along with Angel Whispers Ministries.
Sunday 10/18 @ 10AM Zoom: https://us02web.zoom.us/j/86210283474?pwd=N1lYaVY5c1BuNmRyVFNuMVo3Y1B3dz09 <i>Faith Formation</i>	Mindfulness Expert Danielle Groth	Music, Matthew and Meditation	Music has been used throughout history to praise God. Now pause, take a breath and join in meditating on the lyrics from some favorite Matthew West songs. Music takes on a whole new meaning when you intentionally focus on the message of the songwriter. Open your mind and heart to a different way of experiencing music.
Monday 10/19 @ 7PM Zoom:	Pastor Lori	The Sermon on the Mount	Third of six sessions. In Matthew 5-7 Jesus invites people through the ages to catch the vision for a world guided and shaped by the heart of God.

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https://us02web.zoom.us/j/87495052865?pwd=VWwwTVJoT1c2cHZmVFgyVUhwdXdkdz09 <i>Bible Study</i>			Using material by Dr. Amy Jill Levine, we will explore how the words of Jesus echo his Jewish tradition and speak forward to reach hearts and minds today. If you want to participate, please email Pastor Lori so that she can order a book for you. lcarey@trinityaa.org
Tuesday 10/20 @ 10AM 1515 S. Harris Rd. <i>Devotion</i>	Vicar Anna	Poetry Devotions	First of two sessions. "Poetry is about interpretation." Join us on St. Mark's lawn for a morning of poetry devotions. I will have hot coffee and chairs. Bring your mask, a warm blanket, and your favorite poem to share. If you email your poem in advance, I will print enough copies for everyone. Email Vicar Anna if you have any weather-related concerns. annataylor@mccants@gmail.com.
Wednesday 10/21 @ 7PM Zoom: https://zoom.us/j/97705854735 <i>Faith in Action</i>	Pastor Sara Vicar Anna	<i>The End of Policing</i> by Alex S. Vitale	Second of two sessions. Join Pastor Sara and Vicar Anna as we discuss Alex Vitale's book <i>The End of Policing</i> , the history of policing in our country, and tangible ways to end systemic violence at the hands of our policing systems. You do not need to read the book in advance, though you are welcome to.
Friday 10/23 @ 4PM FB: https://www.facebook.com/AngelWhispersMinistries/ <i>Prayer</i>	Pastor Vicky	The Prayer Box Live	Join Pastor Vicky and her team for live prayer every Friday at 4PM. Submit your prayers in advance via Facebook, or "show up" online and pray along with Angel Whispers Ministries.
Sunday 10/25 @ 10AM Zoom: https://us02web.zoom.us/j/89695510367 <i>Faith Formation</i>	Dave Upmeyer – Chair of the ELCJHL Task Force	ELCJHL Task Force (Evangelical Lutheran Church in Jordan and the Holy Land)	Members of the Synod's Task Force supporting our companion relationship with the Evangelical Lutheran Church in Jordan and the Holy Land (ELCJHL) will describe: the congregational and educational ministries of the ELCJHL, ELCA and Lutheran World Federation support in the region, the present situation in Palestine, the Task Force's purpose and activities, ways to support the ELCJHL, and what it means to be a companion – Accompaniment, Advocacy, and Awareness Building. See description below for more information.
Monday 10/26 @ 7PM Zoom: https://us02web.zoom.us/j/87495052865?pwd=VWwwTVJoT1c2cHZmVFgyVUhwdXdkdz09 <i>Bible Study</i>	Pastor Lori	The Sermon on the Mount	Four of six sessions. In Matthew 5-7 Jesus invites people through the ages to catch the vision for a world guided and shaped by the heart of God. Using material by Dr. Amy Jill Levine, we will explore how the words of Jesus echo his Jewish tradition and speak forward to reach hearts and minds today. If you want to participate, please email Pastor Lori so that she can order a book for you. lcarey@trinityaa.org

Date & Zoom	Leader	Title	Description
Tuesday 10/27 @ 10AM 1515 S. Harris Rd. <i>Devotion</i>	Vicar Anna	Poetry Devotions	Second of two sessions. "Poetry is about interpretation." Join us on St. Mark's lawn for a morning of poetry devotions. I will have hot coffee and chairs. Bring your mask, a warm blanket, and your favorite poem to share. If you email your poem in advance, I will print enough copies for everyone. Email Vicar Anna if you have any weather-related concerns. annataylor@mccants@gmail.com.
Wednesday 10/28 @ 7PM Zoom: https://us02web.zoom.us/j/81382038265?pwd=UzR0Qkc1am1URWN0aU54SURCa2xOdz09 <i>Faith in Action</i>	Pastor Marie	Clergy Emergency League	First of two sessions. (second session on Sunday 11/1) If you would like to know more about what Christian clergy are doing to step into their calling and carry out the compassionate, bold, and justice-seeking ministry to which God is calling all of us right now, this is a class for you. See description below for more information.
Friday 10/30 @ 4PM FB: https://www.facebook.com/AngelWhispersMinistries/ <i>Prayer</i>	Pastor Vicky	The Prayer Box Live	Join Pastor Vicky and her team for live prayer every Friday at 4PM. Submit your prayers in advance via Facebook, or "show up" online and pray along with Angel Whispers Ministries.

*ELCJHL Task Force Description

Members of the Synod's Task Force supporting our companion relationship with the Evangelical Lutheran Church in Jordan and the Holy Land (ELCJHL) will describe:

- the congregational and educational ministries of the ELCJHL
 - Congregations in Jerusalem, Ramallah, and the Bethlehem region
 - Four K-12 schools and other educational ministries
- ELCA and Lutheran World Federation support in the region
 - Global Mission direct support
 - YAGM regional center
 - Augusta Victoria Hospital
 - Vocational Training Center
- the present situation in Palestine
 - a very brief history
 - ongoing Israeli occupation
 - diminishing foreign support
 - Covid - 19
- what it means to be a companion – Accompaniment, Advocacy, and Awareness Building

- the Task Force's purpose and activities
 - Sponsor educational forums
 - Promote travel
 - Advocate for just policies
- ways to support the ELCJHL
 - Through the ELCA
 - Opportunity Palestine

We will also highlight the more personal side of this relationship - the shared joys and struggles, the shared hospitality and steadfast faith that allows the ELCJHL to persist and thrive in a challenging and seemingly never-ending struggle for freedom and justice. We will share how it has impacted our faith and is an inspiration for us all.

*Clergy Emergency League Description

At the end of WWII, Martin Niemoller had a transformative experience that has been likened to that of Saul on the road to Damascus. Still, he is probably best known for this poem which he penned while wrestling with the limited actions he had taken between 1933 and 1945 in Nazi Germany:

First they came for the Communists, and I did not speak out, because I was not a Communist.

Then they came for the Trade Unionists, and I did not speak out, because I was not a Trade Unionist.

Then they came for the Jews, and I did not speak out, because I was not a Jew.

Then they came for me—and there was no one left to speak for me.

Despite his regrets and limited witness, on September 21, 1933, Dietrich Bonhoeffer and Martin Niemoller DID organize the Pastor's Emergency League. This League rallied together roughly 6000 pastors to oppose Nazi interference in the church's life at a time when German Christians were making race the crucial component of Christian Identity. (see part two for more).

In June, 2020, inspired by the League that Niemoller and Bonhoeffer lead, The Clergy Emergency League was formed in the United States. In its first 3 months, the Clergy Emergency League (CEL) has grown to nearly 2000 members including many ELCA pastors.

The Pastor's Emergency League resisted the Third Reich until it was finally brought down. People of faith, especially Christians – and specifically the clergy – have a specific responsibility to stand up to violent authoritarianism that uses the church and the Bible as a staging ground for terror. If we do not speak out, then we are truly lost. There can be no sitting out and staying silent. To do so is to be complicit with evil.

www.clergyemergencyleague.com

If you would like to know more about what Christian clergy are doing to step into their calling and carry out the compassionate, bold, and justice-seeking ministry to which God is calling all of us right now, this is a class for you.