

St. Alban's Episcopal Church 1308 Meadowbrook Drive Syracuse, NY 13224-1718 Website: stalbansyracuse.org

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July 21, 2020

Dear Friends,

I share with you this quote from page 36 of Isabel Wilkerson's book, The Warmth of Other Suns.

In our homes, in our churches,
wherever two or three are gathered,
there is a discussion of what is best to do.
Must we remain in the South
or go elsewhere? Where can we go
to feel that security which other people feel?
Is it best to go in great numbers or only in several families?
These and many other things are discussed over and over.
- A Colored Woman in Alabama, 1902

The book is the product of interviews with 1200 people and follows the lives of three individuals. Ida Mae Brandon Gladney left Mississippi with her husband and two young children for Illinois in the 1930's. George Swanson Starling left Florida for New York in the 1940's, and Dr. Robert Joseph Pershing Foster left Louisiana for California in the 1950's. Though it is nonfiction, the book often reads like a novel and you have to remind yourself that what you are reading is not fiction. Though in places it is very difficult and challenging to read the content, Wilkerson is such a gifted writer that it's hard to put the book down. An example:

By the time Lil George was old enough to notice, it seemed as if the whole world was crazy, not because of any single event but because of the slow discovery of just how circumscribed his life was turning out to be. All this stepping off the sidewalk, not looking even in the direction of a white woman, the sirring and ma'aming and waiting until all the white people had been served before buying your ice cream cone, with violence and even death awaiting any misstep. Each generation had to learn the rules without understanding why, because there was no understanding why, and each one either accepted or rebelled in the moment of realization and paid a price whichever they chose. (page 62)

Next Tuesday I will email those participating in the book study to determine when we will meet. I am beginning to hand the books out today. If you wish to delve into an untold part of last century's history please call or email me. (My cell phone is on the fritz.)

God bless you, Mother Julie+

Sunday Morning, July 26

8:30 a.m. Bible Study in the Fellowship Room and also on Zoom

9:30 a.m. In-person Morning Prayer (no singing or exchanging the peace) - 15 people maximum

8 people came on July 19.

10:30 a.m. Zoom Morning Prayer led from my office

For those of you who are ready to resume in-person Bible Study or worship here's what to expect.

- Masks are required. If you forgot to bring one a disposable mask will be provided.
- <u>Please take your temperature before you leave the house</u>. A no touch thermometer will be available if you forgot to take it at home.
- Please enter by the ramp door. Social distancing begins on the ramp. Mother Julie at 8:30 a.m. or an usher at 9:30 a.m. will greet you outside and record your name in our log so that in the event that someone comes down with COVID-19 the Health Department can perform contact tracing.
- Please use the hand sanitizer provided as soon as you walk in the door.
- When you enter the nave there will be a table where you can pick up a bulletin and leave your offering in the offertory plate.
- Only the office bathroom may be used. Antiseptic wipes will be provided for you to use before using the toilet.

Zoom Code and Password for Bible Study at 8:30 a.m. - 817 9328 0104 and 400978

Zoom Code and Password for Worship at 10:30 a.m. - 870 3167 4090 and 923019

Zoom Code for Tuesday Morning Prayer at 10:00 a.m. - 868 3084 1089 and 114552

Use your telephone for Zoom on Sunday at 10:30 a.m.

Dial 1-646-558-8656 When prompted Enter 87031674090# When prompted Enter # When prompted Enter 923019# That will put you in Zoom's waiting room and I will let you in.

Thursday Evening Zoom Class

Mother Julie will be taking the class through the "39 Articles of Religion" which outline our faith, beginning on page 867 in the <u>Book of Common Prayer</u>. This week we will talk about Jesus Christ and Holy Scripture.

New Zoom Code and Password - 858 6751 9278 and 211036

Happy Birthday to Pearl Fisher who will be 90 on July 30!



Mail cards to 622 S. Beech Street Syracuse, NY 13210-2569