

The *Very* Rev. Dr. Tom!

By Barbara Metcalfe

The Rev. Dr. Tom is now the VERY Rev. Dr. Tom! Bishop Smith has appointed him to head the Naples Deanery—six churches that include St. Mark’s, Marco Island, St. Mary’s, Bonita Springs, and four Naples churches: St. Paul’s, Trinity-by-the-Cove, St. John’s, and St. Monica’s. The previous dean, Fr. Eric Cooter, recently left St. Monica’s, creating an opening for this position. We all know Fr. Tom has plenty to do, so here is another responsibility,

but we’re looking forward to seeing what he will do with this challenge. In normal times, the clergy in the deanery meet once a month. Fr. Tom describes the meetings as “supportive and collegial.” Of course, they’re “on hold” until the pandemic is behind us. The deanery has a history of supporting the Albergue in the Dominican Republic. Fr. Tom hopes



that once they are able to return to normal, they can consider some kind of outreach funding for the young people when they graduate, so they can continue their education, instead of being sent out on their own. The Naples deanery is the smallest one in the diocese. Fr. Tom knew all the priests before he was appointed to his position. He’s looking forward to enjoying good relationships with them, and he is pleased with his new appointment.

Look to the remnant, post-pandemic

By Tom Connolly

What do the Enlightenment, Little League and Postmodernism have in common with Covid-19?

The Enlightenment, broadly defined as that period in history when humans began thinking that if something couldn’t be proven it wasn’t worth knowing. The late 17th and 18th Century Enlightenment was a great thing, as it gave us the scientific method and philosophies of liberty that were woven into the American tapestry by our founding fathers. But it also gave rise to Deism, where God is not involved in human affairs. Dogma, public worship and prayer are set aside in favor of personal morality.

Johnny, who is seemingly incapable of reading, is given the choice of going to church on Sunday mornings or playing Little League baseball. Postwar population explosion

and the fact there are only so many hours of daylight and so few ball fields, Sundays would no longer be reserved for worship of God. This happened in the ‘50s, and was seen by some as a crack in the structure of the American family. This crack became a seismic shift as those kids who grew up favoring baseball over religion gave birth to their own kids, who grew up not even knowing

their bedtime prayers or grace at meals.

Postmodernism introduced the notion that you can have a truth and I can have a truth, and both can be true but everything is probably false, so don’t worry, be happy. Who needs religion? No truths are absolute. Truths are social constructions depending on race, class, gender and power status. This “theory of rejecting theories” in the words of Tony Cliff, Postmodernism informs the philosophy of many who grew up in the ‘80s.

Now to the coronavirus, which forbids us from congregating; the demise of the congregation. It isn’t a philosophy or a sport, but it is a fear. We who are of a certain age and particularly those of us with compromising ailments greatly fear Covid-19, and rightly so.

Continued on next Page

Inside

Money matters.....	2
Angels among us.....	3
Church history.....	4
Education for laity.....	4
Letters to 'Mom'.....	5

Check, gift put us in the black

Thanks in large measure to a government loan of \$22,000 and a generous contribution from ECW (See story, Pg 3), St. Paul's financial books for the first half of 2020 are in the black.

As would be expected with reduced church attendance, plate offerings are down, by 43%. However, our caring parishioners have kept their pledge offerings and even made non-pledge offerings to such an extent that contribution income is actually 1% greater than it was at this time in 2019.

Overall income, which includes contributions, Farmers' Market, fundraising, use of facilities rentals, the Gift Shop, Unique Boutique, and other sources, could be expected to be down versus 2019, but in fact is up by 14%. One of the main reasons for this unexpected result was the Payroll Protection Program check and a generous

contribution from ECW women. Both of these windfalls were one-time events.

We were able to keep our expenses as low as possible and still maintain our beautiful facility, thanks to God's Gardeners and Gary Dickerson, our sexton. We are truly blessed to have these individuals keep our costs in line. We have reduced our expenses year to date by 22.8% versus the same time period in 2019, when we were paying for improvements to the rectory.

We still have half a year to go, and with the uncertainty of Covid-19 going away any time soon, we still have to be very concerned as to how our financial picture will play out. Please continue your prayers that we find a cure / vaccine for this virus and please continue your financial support as best you can.

—Dave Abernethy

Donate on line

Our website is now set up to handle either one-time or recurring payments, easy and safe ways to stay current with your pledge and plate offerings.

Go to <https://www.SaintPaulsNaples.org> and click on the light blue button labeled, Please Support Your Church.

Thank you!

Post-pandemic hope

from previous page

When the virus has run its course, what will Church look like? Will we get used to not getting dressed on Sunday mornings to come to St. Paul's? I shudder to think of our sacred church being turned into a fancy restaurant, like so many shuttered churches across America and Europe.

One of the great meta narratives of the Bible is the cycle of creation, sin, judgment and renewal.

God created, we sinned, we recognized our sin and repented, we were restored to our Creator. See creation as God's intention and see sin as anything that upsets our relationship with God. See judgment as the recognition we are living in sin. See renewal as the restoration and reconciliation with our Creator, His new creation. Rinse and repeat.

If Covid-19 is viewed as sin, because it upsets Creation and thus our relationship with God, judgment is in our response. Doing the right thing of keeping ourselves and our

neighbor as safe as we can will lead to restoration, to salvation. Things will be different, as they were after the Enlightenment, Little League and Postmodernism. But, as a wise preacher once told us, different does not mean deficient.

The biblical motif of remnant—a small band that survives some sort of turmoil and rebuilds and rededicates a community to God—gives us hope.

Think of the flood (Gen 6:5 – 8:22). Man sins and God more or less rolls back his creation because man has corrupted it. The dry land created "in the beginning" is once again covered with water. Noah and his family are the remnants in this story, and they are sent by God to be fruitful and multiply the earth. This is God's act of re-creation.

There are many examples of the remnant in holy scripture, particularly the Hebrew Scriptures. Perhaps the most radical is the idea of a remnant long dead—the dry bones in

Ezekiel 37. The prophet received a vision that predicted resuscitation and resurrection to life and restoration to the land of Yahweh's covenant people. Other remnants are Lot and his family (except his unnamed wife, who didn't follow instructions) saved from the destruction of Sodom; the Jews returning from exile in Babylon (and sometimes those who stayed behind).

Paul tells us, "Today the same thing has happened: there is a remnant, chosen by grace." Romans 11:5. Those of us who survive the current crisis will be the remnant that turns to redemptive activity. God's Church will be restored. This is our hope for the post-pandemic future of St. Paul's.

[Editor's note: If this type of discussion appeals to you, you're a good candidate for EfM. See article on Pg. 4.]

Angels walk among us

By Lee Barron

Did you know we have angels in our congregation? At least two! When our Farmers' Market was forced to close earlier than expected this year, several of the vendors requested a refund for the paid weeks they were unable to utilize.

Peter Lund was in a quandary as to where to find the approximate \$4,000 needed to reimburse the merchants. Two angels "appeared" to Peter to "bring him good tidings" – Susan Larson and Marilyn Perry.

These 'miracle workers' offered to donate money out of profits that had been made by the St. Paul's Gift Shop! Susan and Marilyn are in charge of overseeing the hard work that goes into running the best kept secret in Naples! According to Susan, "It was a banner year in sales for us, from the earnings made from private monetary donations, to the proceeds



from the Gift Shop and very successful bazaar" in January.

Susan and Marilyn discussed offering the money to our church to reimburse the market sellers rather than supporting other humanitarian groups as has been done in the past. Per Marilyn, "We thought of the saying, 'Charity begins at home.'" The ECW immediately ap-

proved the magnanimous notion (the Gift Shop and the Fashion Boutique fall under the umbrella of the ECW) and our walking angels contacted Peter to advise him of their wonderful gift.

Peter and all who work to make the Farmers' Market the success it has become, are very grateful to all of our angels who work so hard to collect the donations, organize them, price them, and carry them in and out of the shop for display to encourage folks to come in. Many give up their personal time to stand behind the counter for hours to help others.

Let us not forget the effort it takes to organize, work at, and clean up after the bazaar to make it as successful as it has been. A big "Thank You" to all of these wonderful angels!

While we are at home cleaning out our closets and garages, please think about donating to the Gift Shop. And when it reopens, visit often to shop!

O-live, you love, we all love OLIVES!

By Lee Barron

Did you venture to the end of our Farmers' Market to meet the owners of Foto's Market and taste their Greek products?

James, also known as Demitri, and Julie Agoritsas (a-GOR'-it-sas) have sourced, sold, and promoted unsurpassed quality of imported direct-from-Greece foods for more than 20 years.

I went for a taste test. The moment I popped a kalamata past my lips, I started salivating. It was so delicious! Why so tasty? First, they are jumbo size, so one gets a more immediate surface taste. Second, the taste of the olive washed in its brine is salty, winey,

and so smooth versus a harsher vinegar taste of grocery store finds.

When bitten, a more savory burst of flavor is released. I tasted another bolder flavor, the green cracked olive, more peppery with a slight bitter bite. Of 20 people who sample their olives, only one will walk away not buying any!

Other items offered were spices, pasta, as well as yellow pickled peppers (pepperoncini) and or-



ganic dried Greek oregano. Another popular item was their Greek extra virgin olive oil, which is single sourced. This means from the growing of the olive, to pressing and bottling is all done in the same region in Greece. They also sell pita bread, rice, and onion stuffed grape leaves; add a little of their oregano!

The Agoritsases share these items through taste and education at an affordable price. The olives are AAA rated, sulfate-free, free of pesticide residue – organic, fresh, and flavorful. Proceeds go to their charity, Friends of The Orthodox. To order before our next Market opening, call (508) 485-6160.

Priest got help & worked fast

In our last issue, a new Episcopal church was needed in Naples; property was found in East Naples, the land purchased, and construction of the vicarage begun. Bishop William L. Hargrave became the liaison for the diocese, the Rev. Karl Bell accepted the offer to become vicar of the new mission and the church was to be named St. Paul's. What Bell was to accomplish in three months is nothing short of remarkable.

He began his enthusiastic and energetic work on all the many actions needed to prepare for the first service at St. Paul's. He was counseled and aided in every step by the Rev. Richard L. Lambert of Trinity-by-the-Cove, whose incredible support laid the path for a new church, along with Bishop Hargrave.

Bell quickly found many volunteers to help, through a list of Trinity parishioners living in East Naples. They would provide a nucleus of potential St. Paul's members. They received letters and follow-up calls encouraging them to help in the formation of the new mission. The response was gratifying, with so many eager to participate. Bell hired a parish secretary whose salary was paid by Trinity.

In less than two months, a site for services was donated—a vacant store at what was the Chlumsky East Naples Shopping Plaza off Route 41 across from the junction of Davis Boulevard. A large room was to be

Beginnings



St. Paul's history by Lee Barron

used only by St. Paul's until a church was built.

To equip the room for services, many items were donated. A lectern was made, given by Trinity's senior warden; altar rails were contributed by the St. Barnabas Episcopal Mission in Immokalee; candelabra and chairs came from Trinity; two

matching heirloom chalices were donated by private citizens, and the interior walls were painted beige pink.

On Friday, Nov. 3, 1967, the first public announcement of the new mission appeared in the *Naples News*. This was followed on Friday, Dec. 1, with an article about the coming first service with a photo of the cross being hung on the wall of the store. In the article Bell reported, "Everyone is getting a lot of fun and pleasure in helping to get this started. Above all, I hope our church will minister to the needs of any individual, whatever his age and wherever he comes from."

The three months of increasing activity climaxed on Dec. 3, 1967, the First Sunday in Advent, when at 10 am, the first service of St. Paul's Mission Church was held at the Chlumsky store. There were 70 people attending, 65 taking Communion. Mrs. Leonard Latham played the small organ for which Trinity had given \$2,300. What an exhilarating day for all who had worked to make St. Paul's a reality!

Educational opportunity for laity

The first thing to know about Education for Ministry is that it's for lay persons. All of us, not just those blessed with holy orders, are called at baptism into the ministry of Christ.

EfM is a four-year distance learning theological education program of the School of Theology of the University of the South in Sewanee, Tenn. Participants study the Bible, church history and theology, and learn how to connect their lives to their faith through study, reflection, discussion, and prayer.

The Rev. Kathy Schillreff, assisting priest at St. Mark's, Marco Island, and occasional celebrant for us since retiring as rector of St. Monica's, is organizing a new EfM group. Meetings will begin in September via Zoom until it is safe to gather in person. Cost is \$275 for the academic year, after subsidy by our diocese.

If you are ready to devote several hours a week to readings and meetings in an effort to think theologically and deepen your faith and understanding of our Christian heritage, call Kathy at (239) 572-2001. You can also speak with EfM alums Barbara Metcalfe or Tom Connolly for more information.

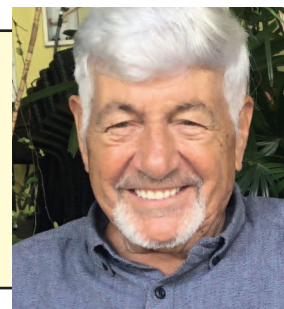


Can You See Jesus?

Notes to 'Mom'

By Ken Eastlack

In which parishioners, wracked with guilt with the "What? You're too busy to write to your mother?" ringing in their ears, write home to let us know how they're doing.



Judy Allen, Naples:

The highlight of my summer has been sitting in my car at the Animal Eye Guys hospital waiting for doctors to operate three different times on my cat and then have follow up appointments. Usually I would be spending a couple of months in Tennessee with my children but due to Covid-19 and my precious cat, I have stayed in Naples. It is great to stay in touch with my church family live on Sundays and also with the virtual coffee hours, wine time and bible studies.

Warren & Barbara Adams, Naples:

We visited our son in Lancaster, Penn. in March and now are hunkered down trying to avoid the virus. But, while out for her usual lengthy morning walk, Barb slipped on a wet area and fell breaking her left wrist. After surgery, she is recuperating. I have become more domesticated. I have always enjoyed grocery shopping and cooking, but now there are other "domestic" things. I dread changing the fitted sheets! Our cars are serviced and full of cheap gas with nowhere to go.

Gene & Susie Bartley, East Longmeadow MA:

We enjoy the St. Paul's YouTube Sunday service, plus the National Cathedral service! Our church here is partially reopening. The flower guild will be one of my activities. We have weekly choir Zooms. Most of Gene's gigs have canceled, but he is playing with a reduced brass group at the Old Statehouse in Hartford. I take Zoom harp lessons with Dickie Fleisher of the Naples Philharmonic. We walk every day and sail our little cat boat on the Connecticut River, as well as helping run the races on Sunday afternoons. It has been wonderful to stay in touch via Wine Time—one of the "blessings of Covid-19." (We keep looking for those.)

Kay Bradley, East Port NL, Canada

We made a quick exit when Canadians were instructed to return as quickly as possible in the wake of Covid-19. We left seven weeks early which was a hard thing to do, but necessary. We had to quarantine in our own home for two weeks. Friends and relatives looked after all our needs.

Things are gradually opening up, but life is far from normal. Our provincial and federal governments have

done a fantastic job keeping Covid-19 under control. I think it will be difficult for the Canadian snowbirds to return in 2021. I so look forward to getting back to Naples.

Richard & Nora Broszeit, Naples:

I had two Mohs surgery for melanoma on the top of my head. Nora's doctors say she needs neck surgery.

We have a buyer for our house in New Jersey. When we go, there's the two-week quarantine. There are no furniture consignment places in the area and donating furniture evokes responses like "our next pickup date in that area will be six weeks from now." We're doing okay in Naples, just bored with isolation. We're still fortunate to be better off than so many others in this world and even in this country!

Claire Brunkhorst, Mechanicville NY:

I quarantined for two weeks and had to work on my home up here. I play golf several times a week. Our church is open with masks required, no prayer books or hymnals. I volunteer through my church St. George's Episcopal for "Blessings in a Bag." I pick up Panera's day-old bread and bag it for individual use. It is distributed to the backpack school program for people who need it, even in summer. I hope to be back in October.

William Burfeind, Frankfort IL:

Returned to my primary home. Likely coming back to Naples in November, depending on Covid-19.

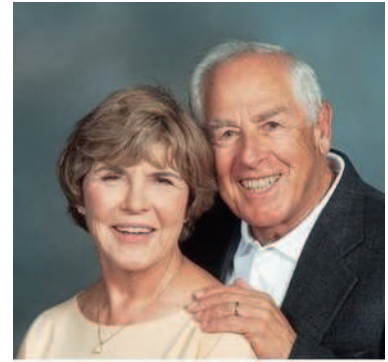
Joyce Cashin, Naples:

I lead a very boring life. Trying to line up ECW guest speakers for next year. Not sure if we will be able to meet with Covid-19.

Anthony & Judy Cimaglia, Naples:

Anthony and I are doing well and trying to stay safe. I work with the county and with the grace of God will continue without anyone getting infected. Anthony is usually home, only leaving for his doctor appointments. We have attended Sunday Mass a few times, but with caution! It is very different.

continued next page



Big birthdays, all! Peggy Anson, left, celebrated her 99th birthday on Aug. 4, receiving a hundred cards from friends, including one from Bishop Dabney Smith. Jean Hayes hoists a cold one to salute her having reached 90! Also recently turned 90 is Niki Trabilis, shown with husband, Harold. Pathway extends best wishes and happy birthday to you all!

Gail Cooper, Naples:

I miss you all at St. Paul's. I have been under the weather. I have a few projects to complete before venturing out again. It is nice to be contacted.

Lee & Mary Lou Dogoloff, Dagsboro DE:

Our summer happenings are not the happiest at this point. My mother died. With the Covid-19 situation Connecticut only allowed for a very brief graveside service with attendance limited to 10. Even though my brothers FaceTimed the service for us, it was hard to not be able to mourn together and to say goodbye properly. The online services at St. Paul's have been a blessing and something I cherish. Our hope is to return home to Naples by September.

Dick Emerson, Naples:

I am right here in Naples at my condo. I have been Eucharistic Minister every Sunday since we began streaming church services, except for a couple of Sundays. Still going to church on Thursdays to do some "chores" around the grounds. I'll be going up North in August, but not for long, as I always return the first week in October.

Francis & Evelyn Ferioli, Kingston MA:

We returned north on April 30. Because of the virus, we stay home most of the time. We play tennis outdoors, grocery shop, and visit our children when we can sit and eat outdoors, social distancing. We play Cribbage and Rummikub some afternoons. I play Bridge online and read the bulletins from St. Paul's and Christ Church here in Plymouth, Mass. We say our daily prayers. We tentatively are scheduled to return to Florida on October 6. News about the virus in Florida is not good.

Dan Fischer, North Fork Long Island NY:

I am back on the North Fork of Long Island, improving my mood. There is a daily bombardment of Covid-19 news, political strife, and general lunacy. With social distancing we share meals with our grandkids on the porch and have some rousing games of hide and seek. All good medicine. Many days are consumed with deferred medical visits. We eat quite well at home. We have an herb garden and Steve is quite the gourmet chef. We are playing pickleball, reading, drinking, biking, eating and watching magnificent sunsets. I am writing again and am more of a social and political activist, perhaps due to Covid-19 invading our shores. I pray for those who think Covid-19 is a hoax and especially those who are alone.

Bill & Stephanie Griffith, Newburyport MA:

In this year of strangeness, we were able to "attend" our home church in Amesbury, Mass. via FaceTime while in Naples March 2-June 13. Also, via Zoom, we attended weekly "Small Group" meetings. It gave us an anchor and feeling of closeness. Now that we're home "Small Groups" have disbanded for the summer, and attending services via TV seems farther away.

It was a tough year for me with three major surgeries on my knee: replacement, infection/removal/immobilization/2nd replacement. Hope to be back this winter and able to help at the market.

Joy Hambly, Forestdale MA:

We flew home March 25 to Cape Cod. When we arrived, we had to quarantine. Friends offered to do our shopping and we accepted. We host family visits on



Diane Kane is somewhere in this photo, attending Sunday worship on the beach in Connecticut. The priest is using a bullhorn!

our deck with personal distancing and/or masks. Being in Mass. has an advantage, as Gov. Baker has set good guidelines. However, summer on the Cape brings lots of seasonal visitors, so we don't go out in public. St. May's started Zoom as soon as we returned, and the services have been fantastic! Steve and I walk regularly, play Canasta every night, feed the birds (and a chipmunk), watch the news just at noon, and watch some Netflix. I have been doing Yoga on Zoom and get to see my daughter in Naples on Zoom for a weekly workout!

Laurie Harvey, Naples:

I started going back to church when "the coast was clear." I'm okay. Still working, which is good. My mother has moved. So, like many people I'm alone most of the time.

Mary Lou Hawdon, Hagerstown MD:

All is well though it is far from a normal summer. Like everyone else, I am praying for our world to return to the normal we had and enjoyed.

Jean Hayes, Tobermory ON Canada:

I tune into St. Paul's service streaming every Sunday morning, as well as my Tobermory church. I am enjoying life with my daughter and her husband in Quebec. My precious family and friends gave me an amazing 90th birthday celebration! Videos and a banner passed my cottage. Likely will not return to Naples this winter either. Safer here with them.

Walt & Elizabeth Hotaling, Glenmont NY:

We arrived upstate June 6, courtesy of a drive from Naples by our granddaughter. Walt is golfing a couple of times a week. Otherwise, absolutely nothing is happening. Our only "trips" are infrequent to the grocery store. I do turn on YouTube Sunday morning, but it is not the same as actually being there. We plan to return to Naples, but not sure when.

Diane Kane, Southport CT:

I am very glad to be back in Connecticut, after a difficult trip. I don't know when I can return to Naples. Van called to check on me! We recently had a Sun-

day morning service at the beach with close to 100 people. We had our temperature checked and the usual distance stuff. Father Curtis used a bullhorn to read the service. It worked fairly well. I have been mostly staying in and working on jigsaw puzzles, plus reading a lot. I have done a few paintings.

Tom Kelsey, Center Harbor NH:

When I left Naples in mid-May, I went directly to my summer home on Squam Lake. I normally would have returned to my retirement community in Exeter, but it was in a lockdown quarantine situation. Here I go to the market and post office wearing a mask. Our "excitement" is sitting on our dock and watching two adult loons care for their recently born chick. My three children live within a couple of hours drive, so I am blessed to have seen them and my grandchildren quite a few times. I am planning to stay here until Thanksgiving for our traditional family dinner.

Bill & Barb Kling, Hilton Head SC:

Greetings from "The Seabrook of Hilton Head Island" in the middle of a forest preserve. We are enjoying our new home in an apartment on the third floor and we like to say we live in a "tree house." The branches of a huge old Magnolia tree are within reach from our study window. The Seabrook is a senior living community. Since the day of our arrival in late March, our delicious dinners have been delivered in "clamshells" to our door. Transferring our meals to our dishes, we enjoy our repast and continue doing crossword puzzles together. We have been with our daughter and family several times outside on their deck, only four miles away. Now they are back in Mass. and we have new roles as "house checkers" with the use of their pool. We treasure our memories of our life at St. Paul's

Don McCleary & Michael O'Connell, Bonita Springs:

Don and I are still alive, but isolating. We watch Mass via YouTube. Have been dealing with family illness. We'll be back as soon as we can.

George & Sandra McGowan, E. Greenbush NY:

We love St. Paul's! We are in Tax Hell and will re-connect after midnight on the 15th!

John & Aggie McLaren, Oakville ON Canada:

We didn't get to Naples last winter due to several health issues. However, we are doing well now and hope to be down this November. We enjoy the virtual Services!

Judy Martin, Naples:

I live year-round in Naples. I usher every other week and count every week.

Jack & Nancy Penn, Spring Green WI:

Jack and I keep busy while isolating in our little village of Spring Green, Wisconsin...population 1,628! Spring Green is known for being the location of Taliesin East, home and school of Frank Lloyd Wright, American Players Theatre, and the nearby House on the Rock. We have a home in the village, as well as a "cabin" in Wyoming Valley. We enjoy spending time there. Sunday mornings we tune into the St. Paul's YouTube service in Naples. We are hoping to head for Naples for the winter season, if it will be safe to come.

Lee & Marilyn Perry, Naples:

We are still here hunkered down waiting out the pandemic. Marilyn and Sue Larson meet at the Thrift Shop every couple of weeks getting it ready.

Brian & Rev. Kay Richardson, Ottawa ON Canada:

We left Florida March 19 and went into two weeks of quarantine and then in lockdown. Now we can visit family and have a bubble of up to ten people. Brian and I walk most days. I recently finished a virtual Camino and continue the physiotherapy exercises for my total hip replacement. Stay safe, the pandemic is no joke.

Rich & Jan Shea, Naples/Silver Spring MD:

We bought and moved into a new house on May 20 in a community called Artesia Naples. We have been going to the "live" church services about every other week and "attending" the Wednesday night Bible study class via Zoom. We will clean out our rented apartment in Silver Spring and be new Florida residents!

Leon & Mary Ellen Wieber, Sandusky OH:

We are having a quiet summer on the southern shore of Lake Erie. We visit four of our grandkids weekly. Over Labor Day we'll visit the other two. We spend an hour every Monday interacting with them via FaceTime. Lee and I celebrated our 50th wedding anniversary by having a lovely dinner.



Fr. Tom's latest woodworking project is this pecan and mahogany dining room table.

Fr. Tom & Quincey Thoeni, Naples:

Things are quiet in the Thoeni household. Both boys are sheltering with us and taking online classes during the summer terms. I am still working on building a dining room table. It is getting done slowly, but I am learning a lot during the process.

Harold & Nicki Trabilsky, Naples

We are fortunate to live in a very tight-knit, social community; so, we have found ways to stay safely in touch. Our family, in Dallas and Chicago, plan to have a Zoom party to celebrate my 90th birthday. That is definitely the highlight of this sad, sad summer.

Jeannie Smith, Naples:

I start and end my day walking Lacy, my quarantine buddy. This is my most social time of the day as we greet fellow dog walkers and solo walkers like Ken! I try to swim at 7 in the morning before the sun overwhelms me. Besides the grocery store, I have been very few places. I have not been to my hairdresser yet, so I've been doing my own hair with a basic bowl cut (not pretty). I miss seeing people, going out to eat, and going to church and choir. Vaccine hurry up!

Erwin & Vera Stegmaier, Naples:

We are staying home and keeping busy. Our ten-year-old precious dog had knee surgery and it's a long recovery, so the timing is right. We have discovered new ways to enjoy our home.

Gerald & Cynthia Tysiak, Troy, NY:

Life is very quiet. Still social isolating and wearing masks. I spent five weeks with our youngest daughter. She and her husband work from home with 2- and 4-year-old boys. May 22 they (and we) were blessed with a baby girl! We visited them over the 4th of July.