

Likewise, the marathon of overcoming the sin of racial injustice looms before us. Our Vestry is committed to our parish's witness in working towards healing, reconciliation, and the vision of God's Kingdom of equity, blessing, dignity, mercy and love for all. Black lives matter. And until we can fully embrace this, only then can we say all lives matter. We will be a beacon of faith, hope, and love for the world in this way among the many other ways we let Christ's light shine. Thanks to so many for supporting our Falls Church Protest for Racial Justice by your attendance and by providing signs of hospitality in the abundance of water and snacks you provided. We had an amazing turnout. And then on this past Friday, Juneteenth, there were so many of us from TFCE standing on Broad Street in silent protest with our friends from Falls Church Presbyterian. Our friends at FCPC have invited us to stand again with them at 5:00 p.m. to 6:00 p.m. on Friday, July 3. They want to continue standing up for those whose voices have been diminished every other Friday. Yes, we press on and continue the race.

And so, let me offer a word of THANKSGIVING! Thank you for all you are doing to be the generous, serving, loving people of God in Christ Jesus through our life together. Thank you for giving to God's mission we share with your time, talent, and treasure. God can't do it, and neither can we as God's fellow workers at TFCE, do it without you. This is evident in so many generous ways. Last Saturday, we collected an abundance of groceries, diapers and other needed household goods for the Falls Church Service Council Food Pantry. The leaders of FCS Food Pantry were overwhelmed with gratitude at the bountiful supplies we brought. Thanks to the 20 or so people who served collecting your contributions, and thanks to the many people who brought an abundance of tangible expressions of how we "love our neighbor as ourselves." We hope to continue doing this regularly.

And finally, let me simply say, the dawn will come. No matter how dark the night seems, the light will come, remembering Luke's words, *In the tender compassion of our God, the dawn from on high shall break upon us, to shine on those who dwell in darkness and the shadow of death, and to guide our feet into the way of peace.*

Take care, be well, keep praying and giving and serving, and know the dawn will break upon us. Pax!

Andy+