

The 185th Annual Meeting of St. Luke's Episcopal Church East Greenwich, RI

January 26, 2020 - 10:30 am
Annual Parish Meeting & Reception for the year 2019



Our Parish Mission Statement:
*"We are the Body of Christ
welcoming all to worship and serve God
in order to reflect and pass on
the Light of Christ."*

ST. LUKE'S CHURCH IN EAST GREENWICH

2019 Leadership and Staff

Clergy

The Rev. Timothy T. Rich, Rector
 The Rev. Dante A. Tavoraro, Associate Rector
 The Rev. Christine Cassels, Deacon

Current Members of the Vestry

Michael Grady, Senior Warden
 Gary Schweizer, Junior Warden
 Michael Sullivan, Treasurer
 Marcia Gladue, Clerk

Kenneth Fecteau ~ 2019-2021
 Jonathan Jacaruso ~ 2019-2021
 Beth Vollucci ~ 2019-2021
 Lois McLoughlin ~ 2017-2019
 Bill McClintick Jr. ~ 2017-2019
 Alison Poirier ~ 2017-2019
 Deborah Collins ~ 2018-2020
 Bill Warburton ~ 2018-2020
 Joel Gardner ~ 2018-2020

Current Delegates to Diocesan Convention and Narragansett Deanery

Gary Schweizer - Junior Warden
 Steve McLoughlin ~ Dorothy Fleming ~ Dick Kelly
 Michael Grady - Senior Warden (Alternate)

Parish Staff

Rodney Ayers ~ Minister of Music
 Christina Imondi ~ Parish Administrator
 Theresa Deiters-Muscat ~ Godly Play Coordinator
 Lisa Paolino ~ Bookkeeper
 Tim Marnane ~ Sexton

ST. LUKE'S CHURCH IN EAST GREENWICH

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Proposed 2020 Leadership with Staff

Clergy

The Rev. Timothy T. Rich, Rector
The Rev. Dante A. Tavolaro, Associate Rector
The Rev. Christine Cassels, Deacon

Slate of Officers (elected to a one-year term)

Gary Schweizer, Senior Warden
Bill Warburton, Junior Warden
Marcia Gladue, Clerk of the Vestry
Michael Sullivan, Treasurer

Vestry Candidates (elected to a three-year term)

Kate Golbitz ~ 2020-2022
Kathy Lynch ~ 2020-2022
Mark Cordle ~ 2020-2022
Dana Borgia ~ 2020-2021

To join

Deborah Collins ~ 2020-2022
Joel Gardner ~ 2020-2022
Kenneth Fecteau ~ 2020-2022
Jonathan Jacaruso ~ 2020-2022
Beth Vollucci ~ 2020-2022

Delegates to Diocesan Convention and Narragansett Deanery

Bill Warburton - Junior Warden
Steve McLoughlin ~ Dorothy Fleming ~ Dick Kelly
Gary Schweizer - Senior Warden (Alternate)

Parish Staff

Rodney Ayers ~ Minister of Music
Christina Imondi ~ Parish Administrator
Theresa Deiters-Muscat ~ Godly Play Coordinator
Lisa Paolino ~ Bookkeeper
Tim Marnane ~ Sexton

Reports (Received with Gratitude)

Report from the Rector	The Rev. Timothy T. Rich
(The Rector is on sabbatical at the time of publication)	
Report from the Associate Rector	The Rev. Dante A. Tavolaro
Report from the Deacon	The Rev. Christine Cassels
Treasurer's Report	Michael Sullivan
Acolytes	Charlie & Julie Cronin
Adult Faith Formation	Nancy Arnold
Altar Guild	Lisa Johnson & Liz Fox
Building & Grounds	Bob Brockway, Doug MacPherson, Jack Newton, Cindi Lovejoy
Christ Community Kitchen	Paul Brookes
Coffee Hour	Tracy Sampson, Marcia Gladue
Dorcas Refugee Ministry	The Rev. Christine Cassels
Episcopal Charities	Laura Sullivan, Josh & Mikayla Dugas
Fundraising Committee	Bill Warburton & Jon Jacaruso
Kitchen Design Committee	Gary Schweizer
Loaves & Fishes RI	Dana Sparhawk, Rob Walsh
Lunch on the Hill	Steve McLoughlin & Steve Bartlett
Music Ministry	Rodney Ayers
Newcomers and Communications	Deborah Collins
Pastoral Care Committee	Donna Jordan
Property Committee	Dave Savage
Stewardship	Dave Sampson
St. Elizabeth's Community	Dottie Fleming
The Giving Tree	Judy Horton & Karen Fecteau
The Seasons	Harry Waterman
Usher Ministry	Steve McLoughlin
Women of Grace	Pam Gregory
Youth Faith Formation	Theresa Deiters-Muscat and The Rev. Dante A. Tavolaro

2019 ANNUAL MEETING MINUTES

ST. LUKE'S, THE EPISCOPAL CHURCH IN EAST GREENWICH, R.I.

Minutes of the 184th Annual Meeting

January 27, 2019

Pursuant to the By-Laws and to notice duly given, the Annual Meeting of St. Luke's Church on Peirce Street in East Greenwich, R.I.; was held on Sunday, January 27, 2019, in the Auditorium of the Parish House. The Rector, the Rev. Timothy Rich, convened the meeting at 10:45 a.m., with prayer.

Vestry Members Present: *Senior Warden Mike Grady; Junior Warden Fran Gammell Roach; Michael Sullivan, Treasurer; Marcia Gladue, Clerk; Gary Schweitzer; Lois McLoughlin; Bill McClintick; Deborah Collins; Bill Warburton; Joel Gardner; Allison Poirier. Also, in attendance were Curate Dante Tavolaro and Deacon Christine Cassels.*

A quorum was established.

Approximately 98 parishioners were in attendance. Father Tim welcomed everyone to the Annual Meeting, especially first-time attendees. He noted that the purpose of the annual meeting is to reflect on who we are as a community and as children of God, elect new officers and delegates, in addition to doing God's work meeting as a body of Christ.

A MOTION WAS MADE, SECONDED, AND CARRIED TO APPOINT MARCIA GLADUE AS CLERK FOR THE 184TH ANNUAL MEETING.

Approval of the Minutes of the Annual Meeting of January 28, 2018.

A MOTION WAS MADE, SECONDED, AND CARRIED TO APPROVE THE MINUTES OF THE ANNUAL MEETING HELD ON JANUARY 28, 2018.

Thank You's

Father Tim thanked many people including Tom Dresselhouse who has brought our "1800" technology up to speed. In gratitude of the Diocesan Convention, we now have real WI-FI in every space of the campus. Fr. Tim recognized the exemplary efforts of the Newcomer Committee ably led by Deborah Collins. The Committee has held regular newcomer events to welcome our new brothers and sisters to our parish community. For the second consecutive year, David Simpson has led with great skill the Commitment Campaign Committee. This year's campaign once again benefited in countless ways to the creative talents of the Walsh Brothers who helped shape the Campaign's messaging and communication strategies.

Many thanks to Dorothy Fleming for her tireless efforts to track responses to the Commitment Campaign and help us measure its impact. As of today, we have 192 pledges, 21 new pledges for a total of \$452,000. He also offered thanks to Jeremy Stowe who has served as chair of the Finance Committee and helped developed closer ties between finance and the vestry among other parish committees. We recognize other gifted members of the finance committee who give tirelessly to keep the parish on sound financial footing: Pam Dresselhouse (incoming chair), Jane Eaton, Steve McLaughlin, Stacey Nakasian, John Rannenberg and Michael Sullivan.

Fr. Tim also recognized Paul Brookes who has been a leader of our Christ Community Kitchen (CCK). Likewise, Anna Pilkington continues her extraordinary effort to lead preparation of the Harvest Dinner and Maundy Thursday Meal. As capable as Anna is, she always welcomes additional helping hands.

Special thanks to Linda Potter who has served as a Delegate to The Diocesan Convention. Sandy and Peggy Rubel worked on everything from electric to plumbing to many other repairs. They will be greatly missed. We thank them for their faithful service.

Fr. Tim also recognized the individual contributions of our retiring vestry members: Dick Kelly, Meg Stowe, and Fran Gammell Roach who retires as Junior Warden having served on three vestries, all under different rectors. He also thanked Gary Schweizer for his service as a vestry member and now welcomes him at Junior Warden.

Report of the Nominating Committee, Additional Nominations and Election

Fran Gammell Roach, as retiring Junior Warden, presented the 2019 Slate of Officers prepared by the Nominating Committee, as well as delegates to the convention.

Father Tim identified all vestry candidates and convention delegates then asked for any nominations from the floor.

There being no additional nominations for vestry or convention delegates **A MOTION WAS MADE, SECONDED, AND CARRIED TO CLOSE THE NOMINATIONS.**

A MOTION WAS MADE, SECONDED, AND CARRIED ELECTING MICHAEL GRADY AS SENIOR WARDEN OF THE VESTRY FOR ONE YEAR.

A MOTION WAS MADE, SECONDED, AND CARRIED ELECTING GARY SCHWEIZER AS JUNIOR WARDEN OF THE VESTRY FOR ONE YEAR.

A MOTION WAS MADE, SECONDED AND CARRIED ELECTING MARCIA GLADUE AS CLERK OF THE VESTRY FOR ONE YEAR.

A MOTION WAS MADE, SECONDED, AND CARRIED ELECTING MICHAEL SULLIVAN AS TREASURER OF THE VESTRY FOR ONE YEAR.

A MOTION WAS PASSED BY ACCLAMATION ELECTING JON JACARUSO, KEN FECTEAU AND BETH VOLLUCCI TO THE VESTRY FOR THREE YEAR TERMS.

A MOTION WAS PASSED BY ACCLAMATION TO ELECT THE FOLLOWING AS DELEGATES TO THE CONVENTION: STEVE MCLOUGHLIN, DOROTHY FLEMING, AND DICK KELLY.

Report of the Treasurer and 2019 Budget

Treasurer Michael Sullivan reported on results from the 2018 budget and presented the vestry-approved budget for 2019. In January 2018, the parish operating budget was approved with a projected deficit of \$32,000. Over the course of the year actual income exceeded budgeted income by approximately \$27,000. This positive income performance combined with lower than budgeted expenditures yielded a year-end surplus of just over \$4,000 for 2018. Mike acknowledged that this positive outcome was due to the exceptional generosity of parishioners and responsible management of financial resources by parish staff and lay leaders.

The 2019 budget approved by the vestry presents a similar picture as that of 2018. The budget projects approximately \$737,000 in expenditures versus projected income of \$703,000, producing a shortfall of \$33,000. Throughout the year the vestry will monitor actual income and expense performance and respond as need to keep the parish on sound financial footing.

Michael thanked all parishioners for their generosity and commitment. He also asked that everyone keep their pledges up on a timely manner. He thanked the Finance Committee for their thorough audit and their recommendations for spending and Lisa Paolino, our bookkeeper, and Christine Imondi, our Parish Office Administrator.

There were no questions. Fr. Tim noted that there wasn't enough time to thank Mike for his leadership.

A MOTION WAS MADE, SECONDED, AND CARRIED TO ACCEPT THE BUDGET AND HAVE IT PUT ON RECORD AS PRESENTED.

Word from our Senior Warden

Mike Grady, Senior Warden, opened by thanking the retiring junior warden, Fran Gammell Roach, for her commitment, leadership and support throughout her most recent tenure on the vestry. Mike also acknowledged the talent and commitment of vestry members who serve as loyal stewards of parish resources. He highlighted several new initiatives launched by the vestry in 2018: a more robust Newcomers Program under Deborah Collins' leadership, a new practice of joint meetings between the vestry and finance committee to review midyear budget performance and a second in December to identify 2020 budget priorities.

A major undertaking by the vestry in 2018 was identification of capital improvement priorities. Mike outlined the questions the vestry answered to rank order capital improvement projects for completion over the next 3-5 years: 1) Is the project essential to fulfilling parish mission? 2) How urgent is the need for the project to maintain health, safety and preservation of church property? 3) How strong is the parish interest in the project? The result of this analysis led the vestry to identify the kitchen renovation as the top priority followed by replacement of the lift, dining room ceiling, auditorium floors, window replacement and completion of tower repair. A kitchen design process and companion fundraising effort will be planned in 2019 and commence in 2020.

Property Report

Dave Savage, reported on behalf of the Property Committee, which includes Paul Brookes, Sandy Rubel, Bruce Stevens, Laraine Leech, and Glen Kulberg, reviewed major activity in 2017-2018. He also indicated the improvements that need attention in 2019. These included completion of the roof project, exterior painting, blacktopping and restriping the parking lot, as well as other routine maintenance projects.

Words from our Rector

Father Tim indicated that a priority for 2019 would be development of a multi-faceted fundraising strategy. He noted that a healthy church is a balance of mission and bricks and mortar.

Al Potter made a few comments concerning our capital needs, the need for A/C. We also must think about a new curate as Father Dante will leaving in July.

Father Tim asked Lisa Johnson to make a few comments. She informed is that in memory of her father, Carl Hoyer, she will be making a gift to support installation of A/C system for the church. She stated her father always said, "The more you give, the more get." This was something he always wanted to do. We are delighted and very grateful.

Lastly, Fr. Tim thanked Tim Marnane, the parish sexton; and Christina Imondi, our parish administrator. He also thanked Deacon Christine Cassels and said she fills our time with her joy and laughter. She has a "carbonated" faith. He said we are blessed to have Fr. Dante's pastoral presence, his knowledge of technology and his leadership of the Youth Faith Formation program. Included in his thanks were Rodney Ayers in his role as director of the choirs and music program; and two of our parishioners who are ordained priests, the Reverends Pam Gregory and Pam Rannenberg. Finally, Father Tim closed by thanking Anna Pilkington for helping organize our meal and David Trimmer for the sound system.

Closing Prayers

Father Tim thanked everyone for coming and closed the meeting with a prayer.

**A MOTION WAS MADE, SECONDED AND CARRIED TO ADJOURN THE MEETING
AT 12:30 P.M.**

Respectfully Submitted, Marcia Gladue - Clerk

REPORT FROM THE ASSOCIATE RECTOR: **THE REV. DANTE A. TAVOLARO**

As you have probably come to discover in these last few years, it is not often that I am at a loss for words. But, truth be told, I have struggled to come up with the words for this report. That struggle has been two fold. First, it has been an amazing year and I cannot seem to capture it all in the few words this report allows. Second, it is not lost on me that this will be my final annual report as a member of the clergy staff of St. Luke's. Every time I have sat to work on this article the only thing that comes to mind is gratitude. Gratitude for all that has been, gratitude for all that is, and gratitude for all that will be.

One of the things that I love about our Book of Common Prayer are all the hidden treasures that it contains. One such treasure is the Litany of Thanksgiving beginning on page 836. We use this litany here at St. Luke's in lieu of the Prayers of the People for our Thanksgiving Eve service. I love that this litany captures the fullness of life with the repeated refrain, "we thank you, Lord." Given the fullness of the gratitude expressed in this litany, and the fullness of gratitude in my heart, it seems like a fitting structure of this report.

"Let us give thanks to God our Father for all his gifts so freely bestowed upon us." As people of faith everything we do is rooted in our relationship with God. The Scriptural record and our Anglican heritage make clear that all we have is a gift from God and for that we are called to be truly thankful. So I begin by offer thanks to God for the blessing of this priestly vocation and for the profound blessing and privilege of being called to live into that ministry here at St. Luke's.

"For the beauty and wonder of your creation, in earth and sky and sea, We thank you, Lord." We are blessed to have such a beautiful campus here in East Greenwich. We offer thanks to all those who work so hard to maintain this space: **the property breakfast team, the twilighters, the garden ministry**, and all those who quietly minister without anyone ever knowing. It has been a particular delight this year to watch the new gardens along our parking lot come into being, to be cool during worship thanks to our new air conditioning, and to be warm in the winter thanks to work fixing the heating system that controls where my office is.

"For all that is gracious in the lives of men and women, revealing the image of Christ, We thank you, Lord." The longer I am here at St. Luke's the more I come to understand how blessed we are by the staff and leadership team of this parish. It is a gift to share in the work of this place with **The Rev. Timothy T. Rich**, rector, **The Rev. Christine Cassels**, deacon, **Rodney Ayers**, minister of music, **Theresa Deiters-Muscat**, godly play coordinator, **Christina Imondi**, administrator, **Tim Marnane**, sexton, **Karen Phelps**, nurse, with our wardens **Michael Grady**, senior warden, **Gary Schweizer**, junior warden, **Marcia Gladue**, clerk, **Mike Sullivan**, treasurer, the members of the vestry **Ali Poirier**, **Bill McClintick Jr.**, **Lois McLoughlin**, **Bill Warburton**, **Joel Gardner**, **Deborah Collins**, **Jon Jacaruso**, **Beth Vollucci**, and **Ken Fecteau**, and our retired priest associates **The Rev. Pam Rannenberg** and **The Rev. Pam Gregory**. Each and every one of these people has taught me something important about what it means to be a priest, to be a follower of Jesus, and what it means to be a better person.

“For our daily food and drink, our homes and families, and our friends, We thank you, Lord.” During my interview process, Fr. Tim gave me the heads up that St. Luke’s is a parish that likes to eat, and I have come to learn that he was not wrong. There is a particular delight in the feeding that happens in this place both in the way we feed ourselves and the way we feed others. I have been in few places that have such a passion for outreach and dedication to Christ’s command to care for all in God’s name. It is a delight to watch our ministries such as **Loaves and Fishes RI, CCK, Lunch on the Hill, and the interfaith food pantry** continue to grow and flourish. There are the ways that you all have been profoundly generous in collecting food for the **souper bowl of caring, the Rhode Island College interfaith food pantry**, joining the work for the **Epiphany Soup Kitchen** at St. Stephen’s Church in Providence and **San Jorge’s Soup Kitchen** at San Jorge’s Church in Central Falls, and other efforts that emerge throughout the year. Then there are all the ways we feed ourselves from **coffee hour**, under the new leadership of Marcia Gladue and **Tracy Sampson**, along with parish suppers, and the newcomer brunches. I give great thanks for the ways our life together mimics our sacramental life.

“For minds to think, and hearts to love, and hands to serve, We thank you, Lord.” This might be the petition that floods my heart with more gratitude than any other. For minds to think . . . our faith formation program is truly dedicated to life long faith formation. From cradle to grave as the saying goes we have opportunities for all people to engage in deepening their faith. Beginning with our nursery led by Karen Phelps, our Godly Play program spearheaded by Theresa Deiters-Muscat, our God Talks! class for young people in grades 6-8 led by Mike Grady and **Stacey Nakasian**, our t.b.d. (think. believe. do) class for young people in grades 9-11 led by Ali Poirier and **Tom Sprague**, and when one has graduated from youth faith formation there are the tremendous offerings of our Adult Faith Formation team brilliantly led by chairperson **Nancy Arnold**. Working along side of these classes is the important formation work that happens in our music ministries under the unmatched talent of Rodney Ayers: **the Angel Choir, the St. Cecilia Choir, the Canterbury Choir**, and the **Three Amigos**. For hearts to love . . . forget can you feel the love tonight, it is more like when can’t you feel the love in this place. Our community has a gift for caring for all who enter here. From our **Pastoral Care Team** led by **Donna Jordan** to our **Newcomer Team** under the faithful leadership of Deborah Collins. No matter how long someone has been part of our community, we strive to care for all with love and faithfulness. Hands to serve . . . As I was preparing to come to St. Luke’s I was warned that it was an incredibly busy and active place. This statement could not be more true and that is only possible because of all who led a hand in service of this place. There are the hands that serve others. In addition to our feeding ministries there are our other outreach efforts such as **The Giving Tree**, our partnership with **DORCAS International** and **Christ Church East Greenwich** for clothing, furniture, and houseware donations, St. Elizabeth Volunteers, The Episcopal Charities Fund of Rhode Island. There are the hands that serve our liturgical life: **altar guild, acolytes, readers, lay eucharistic ministers and lay eucharistic visitors, ushers, greeters**, and all those who help out with extra tasks throughout the year. There are the hands that help with governing our parish, vestry, **finance committee, commitment campaign team**, and our **Tuesday counters**. Without all of these ministries along with our dedicated corps of **office volunteers** we could not continue to do the amazing ministries that happen in this place. As we consider all those who work so tirelessly for the benefit of this place we offer yet another word of thanks, “for health and strength to work, and leisure to rest and play, We thank you, Lord.” Together we work hard, and we play hard together too.

“For the brave and courageous, who are patient in suffering and faithful in adversity, We thank you, Lord.” The benefit of privilege of being in community together is that we have the opportunity to celebrate with one another in those joyous moments of life, and we have the opportunity to support one another through the difficult and challenging moments of life. As is not surprising the former is easier than the latter. I have watched with awe at how this community cares for each other. Be it through the work of the pastoral care team, the **Tuesday Healing Service**, or, and this is the most touching of all, the individuals who take the time to ask after others and offer support. We continue to pray for those who struggle and those who suffer. We continue to pray for those in need of healing in body, mind, or spirit. While we pray for them, we continue to step up and bear witness to the love of God that all people might know the healing power of God’s love.

“For all valiant seekers after truth, liberty, and justice, We thank you, Lord.” I love the diversity of view points that are contained in our congregation; that every point on the political spectrum is accounted for at St. Luke’s. I love the way we come together with bonds of affection that transcend political affiliation. I would hazard a guess this is because all of us seek to discern how God is calling us to be in this world. It is not about party platforms it is about the Gospel platform. So while there are moments that we might disagree, while there are times where we all pick different candidates or support different policies we do sound ground in our faith we are able to stay in relationship. In our Baptismal Covenant we have made a vow to “strive for justice and peace among all people, and respect the dignity of every human being” (BCP p. 305). We are seekers of truth, liberty, and justice. We are discerns listening for the word of God in our lives. We are co-participants with God in building God’s kingdom here and now.

“For the communion of saints, in all times and places, We thank you, Lord.” When we celebrate the Eucharist together there is a line the celebrant says that goes something like, “joining our voices with Angels and Archangels and with all the company of heaven” (BCP p. 362) that leads into the Sanctus (the Holy, Holy, Holy). I really like the way Eucharistic Prayer C renders this line, “joining with the heavenly chorus, with prophets, apostles, and martyrs, and with all those in every generation who have looked to you in hope” (BCP p. 370). We stand on the shoulders of every person in the great lineage of our faith, and we stand on the shoulder of those former generations in the life of St. Luke’s. We are able to be who we are and do all the amazing things we do because of those who have come before. We have been entrusted with this amazing gift of St. Luke’s Church and it is up to us to ensure that future generations are able to build on what we have done. That is true for each and every aspect of our life together: from the physical building and the endowment, to the music ministry and faith formation and the overarching ethos and identity of our life together. In this past year, we have been good stewards of this task. We have worked hard to build upon the good work done in ages past. We have done great work to care for our physical plant. The leadership team has worked incredibly hard to be good stewards of the financial health of the congregation. Our ministry leaders are doing amazing things to build our programs. We all are working hard to ensure our community continues to thrive.

While there will be more time for me to talk about what these last years have meant as a priest of this community, let me say here that I could not be more grateful for the opportunity to begin my ordained life at St. Luke’s. It has been a tremendous honor to be part of this community and to be the receipt of the trust you have placed in me. Please know that I will always be deeply grateful for

this time we have had together, and St. Luke's will always hold a very special place in my heart. After all, you always remember your first.

As we look to the year ahead I wonder what God has in store for us next. While the path might seem unclear at times, if we remain faithful and true to how we are, amazing things will continue to happen. For that, we should all be truly grateful. "Above all, we give thanks for the great mercies and promises given to us in Christ Jesus our Lord; To him be praise and glory, with you, O Father, and the Holy Spirit, now and for ever. Amen."

Faithfully and Gratefully Submitted,
The Rev. Dante A. Tavolaro, Associate Rector

DEACONS ANNUAL REPORT 2019

Why am I your Deacon? Is it to be with you as part of the parish community, to share prayer, and community suppers, and coffee hour? Yes. But really, WHY? For me, as a Deacon, I am called to serve others in the world. Deacon ministry is about encouraging and inspiring us **to act out our Christian Faith**. Our Christ like intention is to act and be as Christ in the world of today. Giving to the sick, teaching the needy, healing people forgotten in our world of disaster, and violence. Intention arises from the heart – it is not a head thing. It's what we carry out into the world every day, *it's the way we live with a Christ Mind*. At the end of every service I say..."Go in peace to Love and Serve the Lord" As a Deacon I send you and I know the Celebration of the Eucharist has ended, & now our service begins!

This year we made an impact on people programs that we gave our hearts to. For example, Bill Capron and Dick and Pam Kelly ran a Soup's On Drive during the super bowl season to support our food pantry - over 400 cans collected!! There was a drive for coffee cards for the Loaves and Fishes ministry at Christmas, and we continued to give clothing to Dorcas Immigrant ministry and Loaves and Fishes, along with Shower to Empower!!

All the giving that we did, is to serve individuals in need, as Christ called us to do. Christ wanted us to intentionally share, and intentionally care about others.

Thank you to every person involved in a giving ministry!!

God Speed in 2020,
Your Deacon, Christine

PS. In Closing, I pray for your intention to be a part of the serving ministry of St. Luke's. Intention is the core of all conscious life.

From Kings: The Lord said to my father David – "Because it is in your heart to build a house for My name, you did well that it was in your heart."



ACOLYTES

A team of 19 acolytes serve on Sunday and occasionally through the week whenever their services are required. All youth in the parish from fifth grade up to twelfth grade are invited to participate in this stewardship.

Acolyte recognition occurred in the December of 2019.

New acolytes have a training session and then shadow the veteran acolytes before they assume the full responsibilities of an acolyte. All acolytes are invited to participate in the training of the new recruits and this serves as an opportunity to sharpen their skills. Graduating acolytes are honored in June.

In 2020, 1 acolytes will be graduating. We have no new ones who this year.

The robes are cleaned 2-3 times a year but are getting worn and efforts to secure new robes are in the works. Also, some crosses need to be replaced as they have gone missing.

Respectfully Submitted,

Charlie and Julie Cronin

BE THE
light
-MATTHEW 5:14

ADULT FAITH FORMATION

The Adult Faith Formation Program's goal is:

*To provide programs that are
intellectually, spiritually and personally
enriching and stimulating.*



The 2019 year of Adult Faith Formation programs included book studies, studies on topical subjects, additional resources for further study and another Summer Video and discussion program. A new addition was an adventure into an online devotional discussion for Lent and Advent, designed to offer an opportunity for group conversation during these important seasons in our Church year, for anyone in the congregation, but especially for those who are unable to attend the Sunday morning Adult Faith Formation programs.

On Sunday mornings we offered the following programs:

A theological series on the Atonement

Special single session topics on Mary, the Mother of God and on St. Francis

A Summer Video and Discussion Night with the movie *Won't You Be My Neighbor?*

A 3-part series Study of Icons

A road trip tour of the Museum of Russian Icons

Books Studies using the following books:

Talking About Genesis by Bill Moyers and Public Television

Short Stories by Jesus by Amy-Jill Levine

The First Christmas by Marcus Borg and John Dominic Crossan

Online Devotional Conversations through Lent and Advent via an online tool called SLACK using the books *O Wondrous Love* (commentaries by Henri Nouwen and CS Lewis) and *Soul Proclamation* (commentaries by multiple authors)

Online Educational Offerings were shared through our Facebook page, Website, the St. Luke's Weekly and the monthly newsletter.

The Adult Faith Formation Planning Committee works throughout the year to find special speakers, books and educational programs to help us explore our faith together, and through that, to grow in how we express that faith through the lives we are called to live in the world.

*Join us every week or for a particular program that sparks your interest!
There is always something new to learn!*

We invite you to share your ideas and suggestions for new programs with any of the members of the planning committee: Tim Rich, Dante Tavolaro, Pam Gregory, Joseph Gomes, Betsy Fornal and Nancy Arnold

Respectfully submitted,
Nancy Arnold, chair

ALTAR GUILD

Being a part of the Altar Guild is a rewarding experience as we prepare the Sanctuary for services each week. Included as well are Tuesday Healing service and holidays, weddings, and funerals. We have five teams with 5-7 members each and serve on a rotating basis.

Team Captains Cynthia Newton, Lisa Johnson, Liz Fox, Carol Stevens, and Jan Prifty coordinate with their team members to prepare for the various services. Each team serves for a two week period about 4-5 times per year. Many hands make light work!

Pat Savage serves as Flower Chairman. The flowers are given as a gift each week in memory of loved ones. Special occasions such as Easter and Christmas are included in this.

Pat Savage, Cynthia Newton, and Judy Elliott make sure the linens are clean and pressed to set the Lord's table. Kathy Lynch has offered to help when needed. We are grateful for our wonderful clergy who are always available to assist and answer questions. Sexton Tim is a huge help in assisting with set up for special services.

We continue to work on upgrading the clergy's vestments so that we will have complete sets. We are grateful for the beautiful blue vestments for Advent given by Kay Carlson in memory of her husband, Bob last year. Margaret Clifton generously donated the beautiful green vestments in memory of her husband, Sammie.

We all agree that this is a wonderful ministry, gratifying to serve and have fellowship with our church family. We periodically get together to share our thoughts and concerns. We are grateful for the people who help us, and certainly welcome anyone who might consider joining us.

If this is of interest to you, please see a clergy or altar guild member. Come and see how great it is to be part of our team!

Respectfully submitted,
Liz Fox and Lisa Johnson



BUILDING & GROUNDS

PROPERTY – BREAKFAST AND MORE

On the 3rd Thursday of each month, the volunteer members of the Property Committee gather at 8:00AM in the Dining Room for a delicious breakfast after which they choose which projects on a prepared list they would like to work on. We have a 10:00AM coffee break and chat time. Members usually work in pairs, small groups or alone, and everyone is on their way home by noon. Work done mid-week includes occasional emergency repairs, buying supplies needed for repairs and conferring with other committees.

Some of the projects we have undertaken this past year include: Carpentry, plumbing safety checks, electrical repairs, stone work, shrub care, general repairs, painting touch-up and Koi pond maintenance.

We welcome all volunteers (both women and men) to join us on the 3rd Thursday each month. Please let us know when you are coming, so we have plenty of food prepared. We are appreciative of everyone's help and thank all for their service.

Respectfully submitted,

Bob Brockway
Doug MacPherson
Cindi Lovejoy
January, 2020

TWILIGHTERS

Twilighters are a seasonal group that meet Spring through Fall to work in gardens and clean inside in support of Property Crew. We meet around 5 pm, and end with a light soup/salad meal. All are welcome to join us!

Beginning in May through October every Tuesday night a group of 4-5 met to work on the gardens at St. Luke's. We weeded, transplanted, and planted. Our lovely angel statue was freed from weeds and relocated to a flagstone so she would not sink back into the ground. We cleaned up the garden in front of the sign at corner of Pierce and Church Streets and began to renovate that area.

Many thanks go to Melanie Gibbs, Connie Hiller, Ben Lovejoy, Amey Tilley, and Nancy Rudicil who worked tirelessly all summer/fall.

In 2020 we will be focusing on Church Street to thin out and spruce up that area.

Cindi Lovejoy

COLUMBARIUM -GARDENS AND GROUNDS

The committee administrators are responsible for leasing niches in the cemetery columbarium and leasing of space for interment of ashes in-ground in the memorial garden. The committee is also responsible for beautifying these and other areas of the church property.

The original columbarium was dedicated in 1994, and the columbarium in the cemetery was expanded in 2014. Two additional structures were added, one on each side of the existing columbarium, each with 15 additional niches. As an alternative choice, there is ample space in the memorial garden for interment of ashes in-ground.

During 2019, there was one interment in a niche and three interments in-ground in the memorial garden. Anyone desiring further information please contact Fr Tim, Christina Imondi, our parish administrator, or Jack Newton (884-3128).

This past year we began a renovation of some of the gardens here at St. Luke's, including; the mound at the north parking lot entrance, a rock garden, and the Heart of God Labyrinth. In the spring, work will continue with the final plantings in each of these areas and the building of the Garden of Infinite Grace and Healing (a medicinal herb spiral). We could not have done it without YOU! Many thanks to all who came out to help build the labyrinth, those who gave rocks for the rocks garden (we still want your rock if you haven't brought one in), and those who donated from their own gardens to replant the mound and surrounding areas. THANK YOU!

Thank you to all who have supported the work in our gardens, who have dropped in and weeded when they had time (our garden angels), or have given so that our grounds continue to be a welcoming place.

The committee continues to evaluate what needs to be done elsewhere to make our grounds a welcoming presence. Some ideas for 2020 include: improving the garden to the left of the main entrance, a protective fence behind the pond area in the courtyard, and improving the hydrangea garden along Pierce Street, among others.

Jack Newton
Ellen Abell
Mark Cordle
Cindi Lovejoy

CHRIST'S COMMUNITY KITCHEN - CCK

ANNUAL REPORT – 2019

Through the past year Christ's Community Kitchen has provided hearty meals to members of our community in a safe and welcoming setting. Saint Luke's hosts these dinners in our dining room with the help and support of many volunteers from our own parish family and other local faith communities. Members of the United Methodist Church of East Greenwich, the First Baptist Church of East Greenwich, Our Lady of Mercy Roman Catholic Church and Christ Church have all provided groups of volunteers to support the work of this important ministry this year. Men from St. Luke's *Theology on Tap* prepared and served a complete Thanksgiving dinner to a large and grateful group of guests this November. We also appreciate the support of staff from West Bay Community Action who served a delicious dinner in December.

Each dinner requires a group of at least fifteen volunteers to set up the dining room, prepare and serve the meal and clean up afterwards. Between eighty and one hundred and twenty guests are served each month. We've noted a significant increase in the number of guests served this year. Hearty and healthy meals are prepared for each CCK, including appetizers, salads, a main course and dessert. Dinners are served at tables set with silverware, tablecloths and centerpieces. We are grateful for the work of the local chefs who prepare complete dinners each month. Kathy Yorston and women of the First Baptist Church have remained faithful supporters of CCK for many years – they host the dinner each January and provide baked goods every month. The women of the United Methodist Church have also prepared and served dinners for many years. We also enjoy the support of local restaurant owners and managers including Ross Disegna from Tio Mateo's. Our own Steve McLaughlin provides tremendous support through his knowledge of food preparation and food safety. Desserts have been faithfully supplied by the women of the Greenwich Bay Women's Club for many years. And our dinners would not be the same without Joe Serdakowski playing the piano.

CCK is generally held on the last Monday of each month. Schedules are posted in the church and in the Sunday bulletin. All the members of our parish family are invited to attend and work as volunteers or simply enjoy dinner while making new friends. The level of volunteer support required from the Saint Luke's community varies from month to month, since other church groups often provide volunteers to prepare and serve the dinners. As hosts of the event, we always have some responsibility for setting up the dining room. Set up usually begins about 3:00 pm, and cleanup is completed by 6:30 pm. Dinner is served at 5:00 pm. If you have any questions about how you might become involved with CCK, please speak with Paul Brookes, or email him at phbrookes@cox.net.

The goal of CCK is to provide a healthy meal in a warm and welcoming space. Please consider volunteering, or just come to enjoy a great meal with new friends.

Paul Brookes



COFFEE HOUR

“At its best, a church coffee hour is a venue for the Holy Spirit to work.”

Traditionally, coffee hour is a time to further welcome newcomers, deepen friendships, and allow the Holy Spirit to nourish all of us. Here, it is held in the atrium which allows for more conversations to take place before leaving church. During the summer months, many hosts served coffee and cheer in the garden when the weather allowed.

The number of committed hosts had decreased over time, so we decided to try a new way of having folks sign up. Instead of having a small group of around 10 hosts who lovingly hosted Coffee Hour with monthly commitments, we opened this ministry up to all parishioners in hopes of recruiting some new hosts.



The Coffee Hour ministry has had a faithful group of wonderful hosts after the 7:45am service over the last year. We even have decorations on our table now thanks to the inspiration of Donna Jordan. Thanks to all of you!

The 10:15am Coffee Hour has seen many new hosts over the last few months and we are extremely grateful, but we need more! There is now a quarterly sign-up sheet in the atrium across from the office. Many slots in Feb/Mar still are open. You can also call Christina Imondi in the office during the week to sign up for a Sunday or two.

Participation is simple! Bake, set-up and greet! Marcia or I would be happy to run you through the very simple process of hosting. Host solo, host with a friend, host as a family- just host! We have people willing to bake goodies- so if you need some help in that regard, just let us know.

A friend succinctly summarizes her take on Coffee Hour: “Put some effort into it. Show it’s important.” We agree with her; the little things do add up, drawing us toward a higher ground and a spirited Christian fellowship!

Joyfully submitted,

Tracy Sampson 401-447-0472
Marcia Gladue 401-241-1821

DORCAS REFUGEE MINISTRY

It is no secret that now we are allowing less people to come into the United States. In the past 10 years we have averaged 67,100 refugees a year. The United States plans to admit a maximum of 18,000 refugees in fiscal year 2020, down from a cap of 30,000 that ended Sept. 30, 2019, under a new refugee admissions ceiling. Dorcas is a refugee resettlement agency and helps orient refugees to life in the United States, it takes at least two years to become a citizen.

These are the facts. Refugee ministry is for people that are persecuted and unsafe in their country of origin. America has been a safe haven, and now we have changed our allowance. Yet Dorcas International continued to serve people in Rhode Island – their statistics for last year are impressive. This agency responds to people that are in need, and are flexible in responding to people with a job training program, and education.

A total of 4,600 people benefited from Dorcas programs and services
450 immigrants were supported in applying for naturalization
1400 students served -approximately 25% of the adult learners in the state
970 refugees were served, including 96 newcomers

Our Sexton Tim, is a steady contributor to storing clothes that are donated for the Dorcas job placement program. Nancy Rudacil, has brought car loads of clothes and small house wares to the Dorcas Donation center on Elmwood avenue in Cranston. Lastly over 30 individuals from our parish have taken carloads of clothes and household goods to Dorcas on their own, over the year. Thank you to Eric Holmstead, and Peggy Rubel for starting this necessary ministry at St. Luke's. Now it is a way that we give to the poor and is a steady part of our giving programs.

From Brother Luke at SSJE: Hospitality, welcoming the stranger, is essential in the desert. We are all in the desert, bearing the challenges and difficulties of our journey. None of us can survive on our own. God welcomes us, offering sustenance and companionship. No matter what appears to be ours, what we claim to possess, all is a gift from God.

Faithfully,
Deacon Christine



EPISCOPAL CHARITIES



2019 Episcopal Charities: Giving, Serving and Loving

In his February letter to the Diocese, Bishop Knisely stated that the focus of the 2019 Episcopal Charities Campaign would be on supporting agencies and ministries “that provide for basic human needs for our children and elders at risk in our state.” These individuals, he reminded us, are among the most vulnerable, and subject to food insecurity, homelessness, psychological disorders, abuse and exploitation.

With that charge, St. Luke’s officially kicked off our campaign on May 19, featuring Tina Laprade, Director of Family Preservation and Permanency at Children’s Friend, located in Providence. Tina, who spoke at both services, and at the discussion between the services, told of how Children’s Friend, Rhode Island’s first child-service nonprofit agency, has been providing services for over 184 years. To support their mission, Children’s Friend offers a broad range of services for children and their families, ranging from clinical assistance, foster care, adoption, early intervention, WIC, Head Start, and more. Clearly echoing Episcopal Charities’ focus, Children’s Friend has assisted well over 36,000 individuals each year, and Tina’s presentation underscored the need for support. As an FYI, Tina has been at St. Luke’s before: she is Co-Chair Mikayla’s mom!

Over the Summer, many Episcopal Charities volunteers from the Diocese fanned out to visit the many agencies which had submitted grant proposals for 2020. With so many requests, and limited funds, the visits, and subsequent recommendations, were critical in determining which ones would make the cut. Once again, the focus would be on non-profits and ministries which best exemplify Giving, Serving and Loving by assisting our population’s most vulnerable: children and the elderly.

And as for you, our parish family, we are filled with gratitude for your continuing support! As of December 31, 82 of you have contributed \$24,795 to Episcopal Charities. This includes a grant from Amica, in memory of Carl I. Hoyer, which was secured by Episcopal Charities Board President, and former Parish Co-Chair, Nancy Kaull. St. Luke’s has been a consistent leader in the Diocese in its support of Episcopal Charities, and we are happy to continue that commitment to caring.

Looking ahead to 2020, Pamela Dresselhouse has graciously accepted the role of Co-Chairs, partnering with Laura Sullivan, and we look forward to another successful year as we GIVE – SHARE – LOVE through Episcopal Charities.

Respectfully submitted,
 Laura Sullivan, Mikayla & Josh Dugas
2019 Episcopal Charities Co-Chairs

FUND RAISING COMMITTEE ANNUAL REPORT

The fund raising committee was created this past year by the Vestry to explore alternative funding resources. These efforts will also continue to build our internal fellowship while also increasing the community's awareness of St Luke's. Here is what we have lined up for 2020:

"Community Kitchen Golf Classic." This will be held on 5/11/20 at Potowomut Golf Course to help support our kitchen remodel. If anyone is interested in playing you can registry online at: <https://communitykitchenclassic.eventbrite.com>.

For more information on volunteering or if you or someone you know are interested about sponsor options please contact Co-Chairs Bill Warburton & Jon Jacaruso at ckgolgclassic@gmail.com.

Hill & Harbor Community Yard Sale 5/23/20. The Hill & Harbor Neighborhood Association organizes this event yearly. This year we asking you to donate to St. Luke's any gently used items we can sell with all proceeds benefitting St. Luke's. More information to come on when and where you can drop off your items. We are also looking for volunteers to help price items in advance, set up the morning of the sale, work the sale in shifts, and breakdown at the end of the day and dispose of unwanted items.

Personalized Pavers. The Fundraising Committee has been working with the Vestry and the Property Committee on this project. The pavers can be purchased and personalized then be laid at a site to be determined on the grounds of St. Luke's for generations to enjoy. More details to follow.

The Committee is also in the process of organizing a comedy show for the fall of 2020 more details to follow.

Respectfully Submitted,
Bill Warburton & Jon Jacaruso on behalf of the Fund Raising Committee.

KITCHEN DESIGN COMMITTEE

In 2019 a Kitchen Improvements Committee was formed and tasked with coming up with a design vision for a renovated kitchen facility. The committee is made up of Paul Brookes, Lois McLoughlin, Steve McLoughlin, Ali Poirier and Gary Schweizer. Father Tim and Mike Grady were involved in an advisory capacity. Our activities were divided into three phases:

SURVEYING

We took stock of the existing condition of the kitchen and dining room which is over 60 years old. We surveyed users to find out how they use the facilities, documenting what is regularly, rarely or never used. We observed work flows and organization. And we asked what could be changed to better support the needs of each group.

We surveyed our three main feeding ministries: Christ's Community Kitchen, Lunch on the Hill and Loaves and Fishes of Rhode Island. We also looked at how the parish uses the facilities during events like Maundy Thursday Dinners, Harvest Suppers, Newcomer Brunches, Coffee Hour, Rite 13 Dinners and Dominican Republic Youth Mission Pizza Fundraisers. And we looked at how outside users such as 12-step support groups, collations and the Diocesan Convention, use our facilities.

We also tried to peer into the future and imagine how a refurbished kitchen might inspire new uses.

VISITING

We visited four churches with recent kitchen renovations and learned much about what worked well for them and what didn't. We visited First Evangelical Lutheran Church in East Greenwich, St. Paul's Episcopal Church in Pawtucket, St. John's Episcopal Church in Barrington and St. Mary's Episcopal Church in Portsmouth. We also toured Wickford Yacht Club's kitchen and dining facilities which has many functional parallels.

VISIONING

Based on the information we collected we have come up with a design vision that we are very excited about. One that we feel will meet the needs of our various users in a fresh yet practical way. This vision for a new kitchen and dining facility will be presented at the annual meeting on January 26, 2020.

Gary Schweizer
Kitchen Improvements Committee Chair

LOAVES & FISHES RHODE ISLAND (LFRI)

“With kindness and compassion, we serve food and provide clothing to our neighbors in need, while honoring their dignity”. That is our mission at LFRI. We are now in our sixth year of supporting this statewide mobile ministry dedicated to feeding and clothing the homeless and needy of Rhode Island. In 2019, our statewide ministry provided over 20,000 meals and over 6,000 articles of essential clothing to our neighbors in need throughout Rhode Island. Here at St Luke’s, on the 4th Saturday of every month we continue to load up the LFRI truck with food and clothing at St. Luke’s and drive to Woonsocket. There, in the bus stop parking lot under a train trestle, are always 120 or more men, women, and children waiting anxiously for us. We arrive in a caravan of our truck and 3-6 cars where 5-15 volunteers from St Luke’s and friends from the community set up food lines, clothing tables out of the backs of SUV’s, and a prayer station. We bring sandwiches, snacks, hot food, and drinks for our clients which earlier that morning a team of volunteers worked putting together at St Luke’s. The children and adults are always appreciative of the socks, underwear, sweatshirts, jackets, and other clothing items we bring. Each year we have done this we have seen more clients than the prior year, and this year was no different. We are always completely depleted of food and clothing within an hour.

At St Luke’s, our Loaves and Fishes ministry is part of a state wide organization, LFRI, which is comprised of 12 partner churches who share resources, including the food truck. Through generous grants and contributions from Episcopal Charities, CVS Health Charity, and numerous business and church sponsors, as well as a highly successful fundraiser at Rhode Island Country Club last May, St Luke’s LFRI received around \$1000 to use on our mission. This has allowed us to supplement donations from the East Greenwich community for much needed clothing and food.

We have a St Luke’s steering committee that meets every 1-2 months to discuss logistics, and ways to improve our mission. We love that so many parishioners, and especially our youth, are involved and help to carry out our mission every month.

YOU can continue to support us with your many donations of food, clothing, toiletries, cash contributions and your many hands that come and help us prepare and/or join us on our runs. We cannot do this outreach without you and are so very grateful for all your support. Participating in LFRI is an important ministry at St. Luke’s. It belongs to all of us and if you haven’t had a chance to join us in some way, we hope you will!

Faithfully submitted,

Dana and Caroline Sparhawk on behalf of St. Luke’s LFRI Steering Committee



LUNCH ON THE HILL ANNUAL REPORT 2019

(St. Luke's and the East Greenwich Interfaith Food Cupboard (EGIFC))

Matthew 25:35

I was hungry and you gave me food, I was thirsty and you gave me drink, I was a stranger and you welcomed me...



As we enter our sixth year Lunch on the Hill continues to service our community with lunch every Wednesday. Our Guests are treated to a delicious lunch and welcoming environment to enjoy each other's company.

Our generous sponsors continue to provide a delicious offering including soups, salads stew, chili, American chop suey along with a host of homemade desserts and salads. We are blessed to have the continued support of local businesses to provide food and an ecumenical group to hosts to serve these lunches.

Thank you to all of the dedicated volunteers and sponsors that provided lunch, made desserts and worked serving our guests.

Lunch Hosts/Contact and Sponsors:

Wed	Host & Meal Sponsor	Contact Information
1	Our Lady of Mercy & Wild Harvest	Bill Daily - daly17@cox.net
2	Saint Luke's, EGIFC & Jiggers Diner	Steve McLoughlin - Smcloughlin2@aol.com
3	Christ Church & T's Restaurant	Cathi Sloan - cbsloan1@cox.net Pat Ritacco - patr@christchurcheg.org
4	Westminster Unitarian Church & Dave's Market	Janet Searles – jsjpjs@aol.com
5	Methodist Church & Filippou's Pizza	Steve Bartlett –dufferdog@aol.com

Please make a point of stopping by at our sponsor restaurants to let them know how much we appreciate their support.

New volunteers are always welcomed and needed.

Each week six volunteers are needed (10:00AM – 12:30PM) for setup, serving, cleanup, and greeting our guests.

Volunteers are also needed to bake desserts (Cupcakes, Brownies, etc.).

Feel free to call Steve McLoughlin at 225-5540 or Steve Bartlett at 885-5889 if you have any suggestions / questions or would like additional information on how you can help.

Thank you for your continued support and encouragement.
Steve McLoughlin/ Steve Bartlett

MUSIC

2019 was a vibrant musical year at St. Luke's. Through congregational singing, choral music, vocal groups and soloists, organ, piano, guitar, flute, harp, handbells, rhythm instruments, trumpet and timpani, music has been a vital part of the St. Luke's community as we worship God together and seek the grace and inspiration to be agents of transformation in the world.

During the course of the past year, our singing choirs – *Angel Choir* (Pre K – 2nd grade), *St. Cecilia Choir* (3rd-12th grades), and *Canterbury Choir* (Adult) – wonderfully fulfilled their primary responsibility of providing and leading music at our Sunday morning 10:15AM celebrations of the Eucharist. I cannot imagine our worship without these fine groups. Please note that all the choral ensembles are always ready to welcome new singers. Please give this prayerful consideration if you and/or your children can offer your musical gifts.

We also had several special musical occasions during 2019. Sunday, January 6 we started the year with our annual Epiphany Pageant. Members of the choirs and Sunday School presented a song filled tableau that so beautifully tells the Christmas/Epiphany stories. A big thank you to Charlotte Palmer for her help in directing the pageant and to Nancy Borden, Geo Borgia, and Jody Ryan.

The St. Cecilia choir's bake sale on Sunday, February 10 was a great success raising a little over \$1,100. These funds help buy materials for the Royal School of Church Music (RSCM) curriculum used in our St. Cecilia choir program. The funds also go to scholarships to help our choristers attend summer programs sponsored by the RSCM.

Sunday, March 17, the Canterbury and St. Cecilia Choirs offered a beautiful Choral Evensong at St. Luke's. Then Saturday, April 6, St. Cecilia Choir anchored the Diocesan-wide Chorister Evensong. The Zabriskie Memorial Church of Saint John the Evangelist in Newport, hosted the service, and John Abdenour, Director of Music at St. Paul's Church in Fairfield, Connecticut, led the more than 50 singers. It was a magnificent!

Mid-April brought a powerful series of Holy Week services – Palm Sunday, Maundy Thursday, Good Friday Taizé Service, Easter Vigil – culminating in a glorious Easter Sunday celebration on April 21.

May 19, our St. Cecilia and Canterbury choirs performed a spectacular "end of program year" concert at St. Luke's. A wide variety of music was sung, and many soloists were featured.

Sunday, July 21, we offered a beautiful Choral Evensong in memory of Priscilla Rigg who had died on April 24 at age ninety. Priscilla served as Minister of Music at St. Luke's from 1964 to 2015. Former choristers and colleagues of Priscilla's traveled here to join the St. Cecilia and Canterbury choirs and Jubilate Ringers in this moving service...a tender tribute and memorial to an amazing person.

During the summer, the Royal School of Church Music (RSCM) in America holds several impressive week long music courses around the country. Two St. Cecilia choristers participated

in the Pacific Northwest course in Seattle, Washington, and nine choristers and I participated in the Newport, Rhode Island course. These are musically demanding and highly rewarding experiences...congratulations to our St. Luke's choristers for working so hard and performing at such a high level.

One of our choristers, Laurel Ann Pilkington, took and passed the "Silver Exam" at the Rhode Island course. Months of preparation had gone into preparing for this major endeavor. We presented Laurel Ann's silver medal in church when our choir season resumed in September. Congratulations Laurel Ann!

October 20, the Canterbury and St. Cecilia Choirs combined with the Adult Choir of Grace Church, Providence, to offer a beautiful Evensong. Friday, November 8, St. Cecilia and Canterbury Choirs sang for the Diocesan Convention Opening Eucharist. Then, Saturday, November 23, both choirs sang another beautiful Choral Evensong in Thanksgiving for Episcopal Charities, hosted at St. Luke's.

December 7, St. Cecilia Choir and members of the Canterbury Choir sang at Town Hall for the lighting of the town Christmas tree. Then on December 15, all the choirs joined together at St. Luke's to present a joyous Christmas concert. The church was full as we welcomed many people from the wider community, and all enjoyed a delicious holiday cookie reception following.

A week later, the choirs sang for Christmas Eve – St. Cecilia at 4pm, a wonderful group of St. Cecilia alums at 7pm, and the Canterbury Choir for a special 10:30pm choral prelude with harp and 11pm Eucharist. Then prior to ringing in the New Year, members and alums of both choirs sang a lovely service of Lessons and Carols on Sunday, December 29 led by our own Michael Ryan who was home on break from Westminster Choir College in Princeton, New Jersey where he is a graduate student in Sacred Music.

As I said earlier, 2019 was a vibrant musical year indeed!

Now for some acknowledgements and thanks. First, thank you to Daniel Moore, Director of the Jubilate Ringers. He brings a wealth of experience and expertise to the group. As they have evolved into an ecumenical community handbell choir, the Jubilate Ringers perform regularly in a variety of area venues including senior centers, nursing homes, hospitals and churches. The group also participates in numerous festivals in the region.

Thank you to Geo Borgia, Anna Pilkington, Jody Ryan, Christine Scarber, and Sue Vivian for their immense efforts to help keep the St. Cecilia Choir program running smoothly. And thank you to the RSCM teachers...Deborah Collins, Deborah Britt, Sally House, and Ben Lovejoy who volunteered a vast amount of time in 2019 to teach. Thank you to Nancy Borden for her enormous assistance with the Angel Choir. As they say, "it takes a village"...we truly have a phenomenal group of people nurturing our young choristers.

Huge thanks to the Three Amigos – Brad Logan, Rob Walsh, and Bruce Dearnaley. I'm so thankful for their amazing music making both at St. Luke's and beyond our walls into the wider community.

And thank you to Bruce Dearnaley for all the inspiring music rung through the tower bells. What a wonderful gift to St. Luke's and the town of East Greenwich.

Also, thank you to Sally House who tends to the musical folders for the Canterbury Choir. This is no small task and requires quite a bit of time behind the scenes. Thank you so much!

Let me say that it is my joy and privilege to serve as Minister of Music in this dynamic community under the amazing, inspired leadership of Fr. Tim. I look forward to a wonderful 2020 at St. Luke's!

Faithfully,
Rodney

NEWCOMER REPORT

St. Luke's continues to be blessed with new faces! In fact, the most exciting development this year has been the extent to which current parishioners reach out to welcome new people into our programs, events and activities. With over 40 families connecting as active communicants, seekers of a new spiritual home, seasonal parishioners, or temporary members while enjoying a few years working in the Ocean State, we have certainly demonstrated our ability to embrace an increasingly diverse and fluid community of faith.

The Newcomer Team again hosted several events to welcome these new parishioners as well as to reach out to the larger East Greenwich community. Sumptuous Welcome Brunches were held in January, June and November to provide an opportunity for newcomers and visitors to meet each other and connect with program leaders, vestry and clergy. As well, a 'postcard' correspondence was maintained with all newcomers and visitors to assure they were aware of our Lenten and Advent worship schedules, Blessing of the Animals, Summer Strolls, and musical programs.

On the community front, the Newcomer Team continued its tradition of getting our message 'out on the street' by participating in the East Greenwich Main Street Strolls. These included:

May, Dog Parade – people and pet 'treats' were passed out as we greeted parade/stroll attendees

June, Arts on Main – stroll participants received invitations to St. Luke's Stained Glass Window Tour

June, Music on Main – music by The Three Amigos was enthusiastically accompanied by stroll participants

August, Taste of Main – cookies, cookies and more cookies were passed out to stroll participants

Throughout the year, the Newcomer Team continued its engagement with the East Greenwich Chamber of Commerce and the *Hill and Harbor Living Magazine*. Working with the Chamber, we distributed notices of St. Luke's events via their online weekly newsletter and weekend update. In addition to monthly postings of St. Luke's events in the *Hill and Harbor Living Magazine*, two articles were published—one featuring our Blessing of the Animals service and a two-page spread detailing the feeding ministries and the host of community programs/events that take place in St. Luke's over the course of a year.

Many thanks to all who supported the efforts of the Newcomers Team this past year!

Faithfully submitted,

Deborah Collins, on behalf of the Newcomer Team:

Fr. Dante Tavolaro, Sarah Muoio, Ali Poirier, Patricia and Bill Warburton, Sharon Pickering, Laura Sullivan, Nora Hall, Pamela Kelly

COMMUNICATIONS TASK FORCE

As the Newcomers Team worked to create and distribute materials to share the good works of St. Luke's, the need to review overall communications for St. Luke's became apparent. Fr. Dante Tavolaro formed a Task Force of individuals to leverage the newcomer team experiences and initiate a targeted focus on this area. The Task Force includes: Deborah Collins, Ann Rheault, Stacey Ubelhoer and John Walsh. As communications and messaging are vitally important to any organization, including the church, the goals of this group are to make communications at St. Luke's more uniform in appearance and to maximize the use of all communications resources.

The Task Force began with a review of all print and online resources and respective content. John Walsh shared the work of Walsh and Associates on a new website design, which promises to reflect both the passion and joy of our faith community. Within the upcoming year, the Task Forces will align the content and appearance of both print and online resources for St. Luke's. We look forward to rolling out these resources later in the year, so stay tuned!

Respectfully submitted by Deborah Collins on behalf of the Communications Task Force



PASTORAL CARE COMMITTEE

The Pastoral Care Committee meets monthly under the guidance of the Rev. Timothy Rich, The Rev. Dante Tavolaro, and the Rev. Dcn. Christine H. Cassels. The committee members are: Ellen Abell, Helen Biancani, Jane Brockway, Donna Dufault, Dotty Fleming, Donna Jordan, Anne Mackie, Sharon Pickering, Nancy Rudicil, and Carol Stevens. This year we have added two new members: Amanda Mello and Harry Waterman.

Our main purpose is ministering to our parishioners who are in need of communion, a visit, a phone call, or a greeting card. We visit the homebound and visit our members in nursing homes, hospitals, and assisted living facilities. We provide support for the individual and also family members. The committee members establish personal relationships with our parishioners and their families.

A very important outreach of our group is the following: We have two members who are trained as Eucharistic Lay Visitors. They can take Holy Communion to our parishioners who have requested this ministry.

As special needs arise, the members also assist in preparing and delivering meals to parishioners in need identified by Father Tim, and other concerned members of our church.

We also continue our card ministry. It involves sending messages of support, cheer, and sympathy to our members. We try to keep an updated list of our active military men and women. The shawl ministry continues to be an outreach of our committee. The shawls, and lap blankets are knitted and crocheted, then blessed by a clergy member, and then given to our parishioners in need.

Our outreach continues to parishioners in need by offering hand held wooden crosses of olive wood, made in Bethlehem. The ministry is called: My Caring Cross. The Caring Cross is designed to fit into the palm of your hand as an aid to prayer and meditation.

The committee members continue to sell "The Windows of St. Luke's Church." All proceeds from the sale of the books go toward maintaining the beautiful stained glass windows of St. Luke's Church. Copies are available by contacting Christina in the church office or by contacting a member of the Pastoral Care Ministry.

Please inform Father Tim, Father Dante, Deacon Christine, or a committee member if you know of someone that would benefit from our ministry outreach.

I would like to thank all of the members of The Pastoral Care Ministry for their dedication and support to this ministry and to their dedication and support to all of the members of the St. Luke's community.

We CARE about our parishioners.

Respectfully submitted,
Donna L. Jordan



PROPERTY COMMITTEE (CAPITAL)

The capital property committee is responsible for identifying, prioritizing, and acting upon capital improvements on church property.

The committee is chaired by Dave Savage and consists of members Laraine Leech, Paul Brookes, Bruce Stevens, Bob Brockway, and Tom Dresselhouse, who meet as necessary to review progress on projects, assign responsibilities for action, and evaluate and initiate new projects.

2019 was an active year with many projects brought to successful conclusion. The most significant was the installation of air conditioning in the Sanctuary, thanks to a most generous donation from Lisa Johnson in memory of her parents, Nancy and Carl Hoyer.

We were also able to paint a good portion of the exterior siding, rehab the sacristy hallway, repave the patio, repair the roof on the east side where a cross once stood, react to several plumbing and heating issues, and change the locks throughout the church.

Our 2020 “wish list” focuses on air conditioning the choir loft, completing the roof repair and exterior painting projects, and dealing with the deterioration of the parking lot.

The committee is always looking for new members; if this work may be of interest to you, please contact Dave Savage or any of the team members.

Dave Savage



STEWARDSHIP COMMITTEE

The Stewardship Committee serves the Church by organizing the annual Commitment Campaign. While this campaign helps the Finance Committee and the Vestry establish a budget grounded in fiscal reality, it also serves as an annual period of reflection and introspection as we continue our faith journey. Each campaign element focuses on developing our appreciation for the gifts God has given us and our responsibility as Christians to use those gifts to build God's Kingdom.

Let me start with a sincere Thank You to everyone who has committed to share their treasure with our faith community in 2020. As of early January, we had received 183 pledges for a total of \$421,000. 78 individuals or families increased their pledges for 2020. That combined with the 14 new pledges, indicates a healthy trend in our parish's giving.

If you haven't gotten around to sending your 2020 pledge, it's not too late; today's a good day to pledge!

If you don't usually pledge, but tend to give as you are able, thank you as well! But, please try a manageable commitment this year. Start this expression of your faith journey somewhere comfortable just to see how it feels.

I'd like to thank the committee members for their work in organizing various campaign elements and for engaging the congregation in a conversation that tends to be an uncomfortable topic for most of us. 2020 Stewardship Committee members included:

Father Tim
 Father Dante
 Dottie Fleming
 Anna Pilkington
 Mike Grady
 Rob Walsh
 Dick Kelly
 Steve McLoughlin

I'd also like to recognize John Walsh's creative efforts in developing many of the committee's communications products.

Existing committee members bring a diverse talent set to the group, but most of us have been in the St. Luke's family for quite a while. I'd like to add members who represent our new and younger parishioners. Please see me, Father Tim, or Father Dante if you'd like to join us.

Yours in Christ,
 David Sampson



ST. ELIZABETH'S COMMUNITY WORSHIP

Under the leadership of Dorothy Fleming, St. Luke's continues a long tradition of providing a team of volunteers to assist with the weekly worship service. The service is held on Saturday afternoon at 3:30 pm. The volunteer arrives approximately 30 minutes earlier to prepare the chapel and the altar for the service. Our volunteers are scheduled once a month. They assist the residents getting to and from the chapel and assist the clergy as needed with the worship service. The volunteers then spend a few minutes putting the chapel and altar back in order. Usually this is all completed by 4:30 pm. The opportunity to provide this service to the residents of St. Elizabeth's is a very rewarding experience.

Respectfully submitted,
Dorothy Fleming



THE SEASONS

Once again, St. Luke's Church provides an Evening Service for the residents of the Seasons. This Eucharistic service is always at 4 p.m. on the 3rd Sunday of the month and fulfills the spiritual needs of the residents of the Seasons. It is a service of 25 minutes filled with the liturgy, the gospel reading, reflections regarding the reading and fellowship. This ministry is invaluable to all the residents of the Seasons shared by the 4 - 6, individuals that gratefully attend. Sometimes, the families choose to join in and they are always welcome! St. Luke's parishioners are always encouraged to participate at a service thereby continuing to nourish our friends with this loving outreach.

Joyfully Submitted,
Harry Waterman



THE GIVING TREE

The Giving Tree this year was another huge success! We were able to give twenty-seven families a brighter Christmas. Through the kindness and generosity of our parishioners, we were able to help families with children with toys, games, and books as well as warm clothing. We were able to grant wishes of winter coats, sweatshirts, hats and gloves for teens and the elderly. We had enough monetary donations and gift cards to help each family purchase food for the holiday. The overwhelming gratitude from all the recipients was seen and felt through their smiles and hugs at the distribution!

Thank you to everyone who contributed by buying, donating, wrapping, and organizing. YOU made Christmas special this year for so many families!

Respectfully submitted,
Judy Horton and Karen Fecteau



SAINT LUKE'S USHER MINISTRY - 2019

Dear friend, when you extend hospitality to Christian brothers and sisters, even when they are strangers, you make the faith visible. ... It's good work you're doing, helping these travelers on their way, hospitality worthy of God himself! (3 John, vs 5-6)



The Usher Ministry is made up of twelve teams of over 50 men & women who served regularly at scheduled, holiday and special services to assist in creating a welcoming, reverent and safe environment for worship. Several teams have made this a family ministry, including their entire family when they serve. If you are interested in joining us in this ministry please contact me or any of the ushers.

I would like to take this opportunity to extend thanks to the ushers and office staff for their dedication and support to this ministry.

*Respectfully submitted
Steve McLoughlin (Head Usher)*

Our Mission

The usher ministry offers the hospitality of Christ to people who come to worship, to collect and secure the gifts of the people, and to assure the order, comfort, and safety of the congregation, making St Luke's an inviting place to worship.

Talent

*Must like meeting and greeting people.
The ability to be friendly while dignified and appreciative of the setting.
Attentiveness to needs and poise in the unexpected.*

Time Involved

*Ushers serve on a rotational basis about every 6 weeks.
Ushers may specify a preference for services.
Arrive 30 minutes before service*

Who are the Ushers

*Individuals Men, Women, Young Adults
Couples
Families
You*



WOMEN OF GRACE – REPORT FOR 2019

Women of Grace is an amazing gathering of women, meeting monthly (mostly in homes of women willing to serve as hosts), lead by various people on a wide range of topics. Believing that ALL things are connected in ways that are often mysterious & coincidental (synchronistic), revealing the finger prints of God in our midst & through our lives, we gather to share our journeys of faith. It's important to us that there is no ONE person "in charge" of this group, encouraging everyone to participate in the ways in which they feel called. Sometimes that means volunteering to host the group – providing snacks, beverages (wine & equally attractive alternative/non-alcoholic beverages). Sometimes it means volunteering to facilitate the next gathering. Elizabeth McNamara, Liz Crawley & Nance Arnold were the original triad who gave birth to this group. Wanting a place for the women of St. Luke's to explore, lean into the questions, share experiences, pray together, discern together, (inclusive of friends & neighbors of parishioners... we welcome everyone!) ... Women of Grace was born! Thanks be to God! As a "retired" Episcopal priest (there really is no such animal!), I have been blessed to be welcomed into this experience called "Women of Grace." In the past year, I've sort of fallen into the role of facilitator in partnership with Elizabeth McNamara. Much of this been about communications (who, what, where kinds of things). Anyway, it's a wonderful group & if you haven't yet explored it with us, I think you'll be fed in body, mind & spirit. I KNOW you will be welcomed with open arms!



Here's a brief summary of some of the things we've done in 2019:

*** **Seeing God ourselves & the world** through the perspective of women who chose to live cloister lives in ancient times, facilitated by Theresa Deiters

*** Doreen Putnam facilitated a program on **Alzheimer's & dementia**, clarifying "the dementia umbrella with its many forms of dementia; talked about some of the early warning signs; shared a few stories of what care-givers & care-receivers live through while on their long journey. Fr. Tim had just given a sermon on kindness, compassion & understanding & using that theme to help participants to understand that as Christians we have a role in caring for dementia families within our parish & those beyond... with knowledge, compassion, kindness & understanding."

*** Patricia Warburton facilitated a conversation about **FORGIVENESS**... exploring requirements of forgiveness when there is repentance leading to reconciliation - & when that doesn't happen; the role of God's grace in the process of forgiveness; the necessity of honest self-examination & the inner struggle to accept responsibility as a prelude; forgiving ourselves as well as each other.

*** **In Lent**, we gathered in the church for a series of Lenten reflections/sermons & a celebration of the Holy Eucharist. On one occasion, Women of Grace then had a soup potluck in the kitchen at St. Luke's, followed by an exploration of the depth & variety of prayers in our Book of Common Prayer.
(I facilitated this exploration.)

*** Seventeen of us spent an October weekend at the Rose Farm Inn on Block Island for a retreat based on Psalm 139, which I facilitated... but only because we had to shift to Plan B. Original Plan A was for an amazing retreat created by Theresa Deiters, which due to unexpected surgery had to be postponed until this coming May 15-17... also at the Rose Farm Inn on Block Island. Watch for more details, as space is limited.

*** In October, Elizabeth McNamara facilitated a gathering that started at the E. Greenwich Library (across the street from St. Luke's) & then continued after around the kitchen table at church. **The speaker was a renowned leader for his work with immigration laws, policies & current events of immigrants on our southern border.**

*** In November we gathered to share quotes/sayings/poems/scripture verses that have been important to us. That was amazing! I'd had hopes we could compile them to share, but only one person turned theirs in... (It's never too late... Just sayin'!)

*** In December, Laura Sullivan shared reflections on the Advent theme of WAITING. She led us in exploring the challenges & blessings of waiting: waiting with faith, patience, anticipation, rather than Dread & foreboding. Drawing upon Scriptural passages, hymn texts, secular writings & music, the group discussed the benefits of waiting in an age of instant gratification, childhood memories of anticipating Christmas, & the meaning of 'waiting on the Lord.' With its four-week discipline of preparation & expectation, we came away with an appreciation of Advent's many messages, & considered the wisdom that tells us that "the best things are really worth waiting for."

Respectfully Submitted,
The Rev. Pam Gregory



2019 YOUTH FAITH FORMATION/GODLY PLAY ANNUAL REPORT

It was a fantastic year for Godly Play at Saint Luke's. Our biggest class is the PreK - 3rd grade with just over 25 eager students. It is a joy to watch their spirituality develop and mature each year. They are always excited to begin each Sunday with the lighting of the spirit candle and prayer. The children really enjoy the feast after the lesson. The 4-5th, grade class is small with just 9 students, but they are mighty. They are really building a tight knit family, always encouraging each other to share and explore the stories they learn each Sunday.

Godly Play does indeed take a village. We are very fortunate to have so many talented and dedicated storytellers and greeters each week. They know each of their students by name and are able to manage a very busy classroom with love and grace. Our staff includes Lisa Rivard, Erica Simo, Melissa Sylvester, Kate Goldbitz, Holly O'Brien, Aileen Sprague, Mikayla Tudino, Glenis Downing, Diane Rich, and Corie Jacaruse. These women are all talented and gifted and I am grateful for them every day.

We had 5 children in our Corporate Communion class that was led by the very talented Lisa Rivard and Erica Simo. These women have such a beautiful approach to the subject matter and the children thrive under their guidance and instruction. The best day in the Corporate Communion course is when Father Tim leads them on a church tour that includes all the double secret places only he knows!

Going forward, I look to expanding and enriching the program with some Godly Play training for some of our Storytellers. We have created such a beautiful Godly Play room, ideally I would like St Luke's to host a Godly Play training class here in the coming year.

Blessings,
Theresa Deiters-Muscat



This year we continued to look for ways to build upon our program. One of the major changes for the 2018-2019 program year was a shift in timing. Previously classes for grades 4 and above met at 9am until 10:10am, now they are meeting from 9:30am until 10:10am. The leaders of our classes have spoken positively about this change for both attendance and programming.

The biggest change for the 2019-2020 program cycle is the adoption of new curriculum. For the last several years we have been using the Journey to Adulthood curriculum. More specifically we used the Rite 13 track for our young people in grades 6-8 and the Journey to Adulthood (J2A) track for our young people in grades 9-11. For our 6-8th Grade class we switched to a curriculum titled “God Talks!” This topic-based youth formation program examines a single theme or concept in detail over a 2-5 week period of time with the goal of addressing the characteristics of spiritual development. During this program, the community acknowledges and celebrates the amazing creative power and potential of these young people. It is our hope that this will be a safe space for young people to explore new ideas and begin to form their own faith identity. For our 9th-11th grade class we have switched to a curriculum titled “t.b.d. think. believe. do.” This program focuses around three key words: think, believe, do (which also happens to be the name of the curriculum). In this class, young people will unpack various aspects of our life of faith, think more about what they believe, and work on incorporating those beliefs into their daily lives. The goal here is not to come away with a settled idea about the topic, instead t.b.d. focuses on *how* students think, not just *what* they think. While our high school seniors do not have a specific class, we have worked to help them grow into various ministries in the life of the parish. This is another step as they move more fully into adulthood.

Our older students had the opportunity to experience two rites of passage in 2019. First a group of these young people joined by their adult counterparts travelled to the Dominican Republic for our biennial mission trip. This is a transformational experience and the capstone of our youth faith formation program. In addition to this mission trip more than a dozen of these young people made the decision to be confirmed this year during Bishop Knisely’s annual visitation. As we look ahead to 2020 both the mission trip and confirmation preparations will begin. Young people in grades 9 and 10 who have not previously participated in these experiences should contact Fr. Dante or the leaders of the 9-11 class for more information.

In addition to our Sunday morning programs, we have continued to build upon the work of our youth group. The youth group typically meets twice a month for activities that balance play, service, and formation. Events this year have included a trip to the Jack-O-Lantern Spectacular at Roger Williams Park Zoo, going to a Taizé service at The Church of the Redeemer in Providence, two trips to United Skates of America, movie nights, making Christmas cards for CCK, a BYOL (Build You Own Liturgy) event, and more. It was a year of adventure, conversation, and plenty of pizza.

As we look ahead to 2020, I look back on 2019 with tremendous gratitude. Thank you to the teachers: Mike Grady, Stacey Nakasian, Ali Poirier, and Tom Sprague, thank you to the parents who have support the youth group: especially Anna Pilkington, Christine Scarber, Dave Fleming, and John Messier. Most importantly thank you to the parish for your continued support of this program.

Faithfully submitted,
The Rev. Dante A. Tavolaro, Associate Rector