



St. Luke's Episcopal Church

Where all are welcome at the Lord's table

weekly

October 25, 2020

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Greetings!

Have you seen the 2021 Commitment Campaign video? If you haven't, here's the link <https://youtu.be/1caDWg9MwK8>. And if you have, it's worth a second watch. It is a powerful reminder: What searching questions do you wrestle with? What basic ideas of meaning and purpose have you been pondering? Whether through real or projected experience, we have all been living much closer these days alongside that thin veil with eternity. This pandemic has ripped away much of the noise and clutter in our lives and left us in the disquieting presence of our most basic questions.

I hope that St. Luke's has been a place that has helped you in your search for answers. Not just in these times of heightened existence, but in all times when the need for answers is no less real -- just maybe buried a little more deeply by the distractions we pile up in our lives. I hope you have found St. Luke's to be a place that helps you cut through all that and meets you at your place of greatest need. I know it has for me. St. Luke's is a place and a community that re-focuses me, and yes, brings me into a closer presence with who I am trying to understand God to be. It is a powerful combination of a place that helps me *connect* with others and our shared humanity, that gives me *hope* for a better future and a kinder world, that helps me *pray* and draw nearer to a God that is both holy and compassionate, and provides a place for me to *act* upon my desire to serve others and be the type of person God inspires us to be. And ... wait for it ... if you've been paying attention to our 2021 Commitment Campaign tagline, a place to *give*.

Oh no, you're thinking, not another letter about money. This article was going so well up to now. But this is still about everything I have been talking about. For two very real reasons. First, choosing what to do with our money is just as basic and fundamental to who we are as anything else. Money does not suddenly exit the arena when we turn to deeper thoughts. It underpins all that we do and follows us to all that we hold

important. And second, St. Luke's simply cannot function without money. If we can't pay the salaries of those who lead and run our church, if we do not maintain the building that makes our gathering possible, if we do not fund the programs that teach us and allow us to reach out and help our neighbors, then we can no longer be the church we are. And we can no longer be that place that meets us and the world at its most fundamental need.

Every time we talk about money I cannot help but hear the echoes of public television and radio fundraisers. "Think about what public television means to you and give ..." It sounds a lot like what I have just been saying. But I invite you to think about it a little differently. Not so transactionally. Not payment for value received. But more like our church family sitting around the kitchen table trying to figure out our finances. I know this strays a little close to those cheesy "kitchen table" political ads. But the point is, St. Luke's is not an organization that operates on its own accord where we simply choose to tune in or not, support or not, dip in and dip out. St. Luke's is us. It is the place we make it through our participation, through our prayers, and through the money we give to keep it running. There is no "it", only "us".

So I ask you to please join me in supporting our church. Help keep St. Luke's a place where we can all continue to search for answers to those deep questions we wrestle with. A place where we can continue to support each other in our searches and guide each other along the way. A place where we can serve our neighbors and fulfill our purpose. A place that helps us draw nearer to God. A place where we can dare to hope. A place that meets us at our deepest need.

Sincerely,

Gary Schweizer
Senior Warden

This Sunday at St. Luke's

[The Twenty-first Sunday after Pentecost](#)

Click above for the lessons

Streaming Service of Morning Prayer.

Watch our worship service this weekend on [Facebook](#) or on [YouTube](#).

[Click here](#) to download a copy of the parish prayer list.

The Rev. Timothy T. Rich, rector, preaching

Daylight Saving Time

Don't Forget To Set Your Clocks Back!



From The Treasurer

A Note From Our Treasurer

	2020 Loose Plate	2017 - 2019 AVG	2020 Pledge	2017 - 2019 AVG	2020 Total Personal Income	2017 - 2019 AVG	2020 Total Income	2017 - 2019 AVG
Jan	\$2,160	\$2,299	\$63,078	\$78,622	\$72,657	\$88,895	\$75,342	\$90,776
Feb	\$3,437	\$2,912	\$50,603	\$37,426	\$61,819	\$47,474	\$63,443	\$49,902
Mar	\$1,940	\$2,761	\$27,369	\$34,891	\$36,159	\$40,825	\$44,954	\$52,128
Apr	\$1,541	\$7,067	\$43,101	\$44,440	\$49,185	\$74,924	\$49,705	\$78,053
May	\$930	\$2,782	\$24,607	\$35,205	\$29,163	\$42,481	*\$84,382	\$44,702
Jun	\$684	\$2,079	\$22,756	\$32,083	\$24,940	\$38,559	\$32,690	\$48,461
Jul	\$597	\$1,923	\$20,868	\$35,309	\$23,465	\$43,115	\$24,829	\$44,344
Aug	\$1,676	\$1,076	\$37,988	\$24,154	\$45,887	\$35,947	\$52,263	\$37,215
Sep	\$1,269	\$3,094	\$21,844	\$33,417	\$29,709	\$42,647	\$37,284	\$53,458
Sub	\$14,234	\$25,993	\$312,214	\$355,547	\$372,984	\$454,867	\$464,892	\$499,039
Oct	\$0	\$3,758	\$0	\$36,707	\$0	\$46,492	\$0	\$50,515
Nov	\$0	\$2,909	\$0	\$31,988	\$0	\$42,370	\$0	\$45,522
Dec	\$0	\$8,435	\$0	\$45,205	\$0	\$80,007	\$0	\$96,269
Total	\$14,234	\$41,095	\$312,214	\$469,447	\$372,984	\$623,736	\$464,892	\$691,345

*PPP Loan received May

2020 has been a challenging year in more ways than we care to think about. It is certainly *not* the New Year we dreamed of or expected to see as we raised a toast at midnight on 12/31/2019.

Since the pandemic hit, we have shared results as we went along, ever thankful for the support the members of St. Luke's were able to provide. Our cash flow was sufficient for us to pay the bills without drawing down our endowments.

But the pandemic has hurt us, as you can see from the chart above - income is down across the board. And while we were able to curb some spending and bring in money from the PPP program, we will still face a shortfall (currently projected at \$20,000) at year end, and an

uncertain financial picture going forward in 2021.

If you are behind in your pledge, and can catch up in the fourth quarter, it would help us. We know some can't - layoffs and furloughs didn't pass over our congregation. If you are able to provide support, please do.

St. Luke's means many things to our parishioners - I'm sure we all can provide a different story on what we derive from it.

But again, I and the rest of the leadership team are so grateful for all you give and do for our Parish!

Thank you,

Michael Sullivan

All Saint's Day

All Saint's Day

In anticipation of All Saint's Day, please submit any names of those who have passed in the last year if you would like us to include them in our Sunday bulletin to Christina, cimondi@stlukeseg.org or call the office, by Wednesday, October 28.

Sign-Up Genius

Please Remember To Use Sign-Up Genius!

Now that we are approaching maximum capacity for attendance, please remember to sign up for Sunday Worship!

[Click Here](#) for Sign-Up Genius!

Reopening Announcement

Father Tim Announces Our Reopening!

We are so excited to welcome everyone back to St. Luke's!

Please **[Click Here](#)** to read Father Tim's Reopening Letter to the parish!

[Click Here](#) to view Father Tim's video message!

To Sign Up for Sunday Service using Sign-Up Genius, please [Click Here!](#)

We will also begin using a QR Code for our Sunday Bulletin which can be scanned by using a SmartPhone! This will give worshipers the option to view our bulletin on their phone during Sunday Service or to print the bulletin and bring it to the church.

We will provide hard copies as well.

Here Is The Sunday Bulletin QR Code:



OR

[Click Here](#) to view our Sunday Bulletin!

Adult Faith Formation

Adult Faith Formation

AFF is offering a study of Jim Wallis' *Christ in Crisis? Reclaiming Jesus in a Time of Fear, Hate, and Violence*. About this book it was written:

In *Christ in Crisis* Jim Wallis provides a path of spiritual healing and solidarity to help us heal the divide separating Americans today. Building on "Reclaiming Jesus"-the declaration he and other church leaders wrote in May 2018 to address America's current crisis-Wallis argues that Christians have become disconnected from Jesus and need to revisit their spiritual foundations. By pointing to eight questions Jesus asked or is asked, Wallis provides a means to measure whether we are truly aligned with the moral and spiritual foundations of our Christian faith.

"Christians have often remembered, re-discovered, and returned to their obedient discipleship of Jesus Christ-both personal and public-in times of trouble. It's called coming home," Wallis reminds us. While he addresses the dividing lines and dangers facing our nation, the religious and cultural commentator's focus isn't politics; it's faith. As he has done throughout his career, Wallis offers comfort, empathy, and a practical roadmap.

Please join us for what promises to be a timely and important study.

You can order the book on Amazon. If you need help obtaining a copy, please email Father Tim.

[Click Here](#) to join our Adult Faith Zoom Meeting. See below for Meeting ID and Password:

Meeting ID: 824 0211 3780

Password: 948103

Peace,
Tim

Youth Faith Formation

Youth Faith Formation

Fr. Tim has put together an excellent group of people to thoughtfully consider how to offer formation in the safest way possible. Masks will be required, 6 feet of distance will be between people, classes when possible will be held outside, and we hope to establish stable groups. Keep your eyes open for more details on our plan from Fr. Tim! We want you and your children to be as safe as possible, and we are eager to resume formation so that we can *grow in hope and faith* together!

But we need your help. **Please fill out a registration form for each of your children as soon as possible to help us plan.** Even if you're not completely sure you'd like your child to participate this year, by filling out the registration form you give us a way to stay in touch with you as our plans progress. The form is online only this year and can be found **here**. Questions? Feel free to reach out to Mother Tanya: tanya@stlukeseg.org or 684-2844.

Pastoral Care

Pastoral Care Ministry - Prayer List Request Form

Click Here for our new convenient way to request to add someone to our Prayer List. Our new form is also available on our website under our Parish Life tab and is available at the back of the church where the prayer list is kept. Our online form is easy to fill out or you can fill out the hard copy at the back of the church and return it to the office or put it in the basket on Sunday. The prayer list is updated weekly and available for all of us to view in this newsletter. The Pastoral Care Ministry continues to pray for all on the prayer list and send cards to the homebound and those in the hospital. By filling out the information on this new form, you will help us to keep in touch.

Thank you and stay well.

The Pastoral Care Ministry

Especially for Children

To watch Godly Play online please **Click Here!**

Looking for Helpers / Looking for Help

Several of you have already reached out, volunteering to help those in need. If you are healthy and in a low risk category, and would like to be added to a volunteer list please email our **Church Administrator**. We are working on creating a team of individuals who can help out as the need arises.

With all of the precautions and guidance coming from the Governor, CDC, and the Department of Health, we are aware that some members of our community may have difficulty getting access to basics like food, medication, and other necessities. If you find yourself in need, please contact our **Church Administrator** for assistance.

Food Cupboard

Greetings from our Food Cupboard!

We are reaching out to update you on some of our needs during this challenging time. Our thoughts and prayers are with all of our families that they are able to stay healthy and safe.

Please consider donating these items:

Mashed Potatoes, Potato Sides (AuGratin, etc), Chicken/Turkey/Beef Gravy, Canned Pears, Canned Mixed Fruit, Pasta Sauce (Canned/Jars), Apple Sauce, Hearty Soups, Canned Hash, Canned Beef Stew, Ramen Noodles, Sugar, Ketchup, Flour, Italian or Ranch Salad Dressing

Thank you!

EG Interfaith Food Cupboard

St. Lukes Episcopal Church | (401) 884-4116
cimondi@stlukeseg.org | <http://stlukeseg.org>
99 Peirce Street
East Greenwich, RI 02818

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