



St. Luke's Episcopal Church

Where all are welcome at the Lord's table

weekly

October 4, 2020

In This Issue

[This Sunday at St. Luke's](#)

[Social Hour](#)

[Sign-Up Genius](#)

[Blessing of the Animals](#)

[Reopening Announcement](#)

[Adult Faith Formation](#)

[Youth Faith Formation](#)

[Women of Grace](#)

[Tea Time Theology](#)

[Especially for Children](#)

[Making Masks and Free Masks and Gloves](#)

[Creating Connections](#)

[Looking for Helpers / Looking for Help](#)

[Food Cupboard](#)

Quick Links

[St. Luke's Church](#)

[Episcopal Diocese of Rhode Island](#)

[The Episcopal Church](#)

[The Anglican Communion](#)

Stay Connected



Greetings!

This Sunday we celebrate the Feast of St. Francis! St. Francis is one of my absolute most favorite saints. While we often remember him as a friend to animals and nature (which he was!), he was also considered pretty eccentric in his time. He turned his entire life to faithfully living out the gospel. He gave everything he owned away, including the right to inherit his father's property, reminding us of what Jesus taught: our true treasure is in heaven. He spent time with outcasts- with the poor, even with lepers who had been completely shunned and abandoned by society because of fear of their disease. He was deeply committed to being completely present with the most marginalized, the most stigmatized, among us. He was called a fool, and then God's fool, and then a fool for Christ. And if being a fool means abdicating everything the world says is important and instead turning your life completely over to Christ, then he was absolutely a fool! And the world is so much better for his foolish witness of unconditional love.

Several years ago, my husband and I realized that we no longer had a home in the Roman Catholic Church. It was a painful realization, and we struggled to regain our footing as our faith life seemed untethered. One night as we were scrolling through movies we might stream, my husband selected Brother Sun, Sister Moon, a film about St. Francis made in 1972 and directed by Franco Zeffirelli. I was annoyed- this was not the romantic comedy I had hoped we'd land on. The opening of the movie shows Francis coming back from war with a serious illness, and the song that plays is a little gruesome- it has the line "I slept soaking wet while the worms ate my bread"- ick. But as the movie played on, St. Francis' life unfolded before us in a beautiful and intense way. He recovered from his illness, but no longer found joy or satisfaction in normal life. His awareness of the grandeur of God's creation intensified, and he began to see the face of Christ in his sisters and brothers in an utterly new, unexpected way. He realized that the God who had created him also created his sisters and brothers

suffering from leprosy. The God who created him called him to live in community, in harmony with all of creation. As the movie played on, I found myself utterly transfixed by the telling of the story.

I thought about that story many times over the coming weeks and months. I watched it so many times that it became committed to memory. It became the seed of many conversations in our household- what it means to live faithfully, whether we could be more intentional in seeking Christ in the faces of our sisters and brothers, how money is both a source of blessing and a source of grief when our relationship with it becomes distorted. The story of St. Francis became one of our guiding lights as our faith lives were reoriented.

So, I *cannot wait* to get to bless animals at the 10:15 service on Sunday! (We will be outside- so don't forget to bring a chair or blanket with you!) St. Francis left us a wonderful legacy of love and care for creation, and it is a joy to celebrate with the creatures we love and who love us! But as we remember St. Francis, let's celebrate the fullness of his legacy. The invisible outcasts among us were visible to him. The marginalized knew unconditional love because of him. He walked gently on the earth. We are richer because of his faithfulness.

Blessings to you all!
Mother Tanya

This Sunday at St. Luke's

[The Feast of St. Francis of Assisi](#)

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

Sunday Social Hour

**Please join us for a virtual Sunday Social Hour at 5:00 pm this Sunday!
We look forward to seeing our St. Luke's Family!**

Zoom Meeting Information is below:

[Click Here](#) to join meeting. See below for Meeting ID and Password that will be needed to join.

Meeting ID: 878 8319 6969

Password: 354670

This information will also be posted on our Weekend Invitation to Worship!

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!

Blessing of the Animals

**Join Us For Our Blessing Of The Animals On October 4, 2020!
Bring a Chair or Blanket, a Mask and your Pet!
We look forward to seeing you!!**

BLESSING OF THE ANIMALS

OCTOBER 4, 2020

Academy Field Behind Swift Gym

Holy Eucharist at 10:15

Blessing of the Animals at 11:00

ALL ARE WELCOME FOR BOTH!

Bring a chair or blanket for
the service!



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

The Next Adult Faith Formation Study to Begin Wednesday, October 7 at 7:00pm

Our next AFF offering will be 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: 869 4380 5018

Password: 424524

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.

Women of Grace

Women of Grace

In October, the Women of Grace will meet **Thursday evening, October 8**. We are pleased to welcome The Rev. Tanya Watt, St. Luke's Assistant Rector, as our speaker/discussion leader. Mother Tanya will speak on creating a *rule of life*. If you check out The Episcopal Church's webpage on [The Way of Love](#), you will find some background material on shaping a personal rule of life. Featured on that webpage is a workbook, *Living Intentionally* by Br. David Vryhof, which states that "a rule of life allows us to clarify our deepest values, our most important relationships, our most authentic hopes and dreams, our most meaningful work, our highest priorities. It allows us to live with intention and purpose in the present moment". Please join us to welcome Mother Tanya and learn about a rule of life.

Women of Grace meets once a month via Zoom. Each gathering begins with a period of fellowship, followed by the evening's discussion, and ends with a prayer, reflection or compline. We start at 7pm and promise to say our final AMEN by 9pm! Details for linking via Zoom and any additional information for the discussion will be emailed to the WOG list the week prior to the meeting. If you are not currently on our mailing list, you may email Deborah Collins (collinstn01@gmail.com) to add your name and email address and receive updates on meetings.

Tea Time Theology: Diocese of RI Podcast

The Diocese of Rhode Island has created a new podcast called **Tea Time Theology**. Below is a note from one of the people involved in this project announcing it to the Diocese. As with much in our Diocesan life, St. Luke's has been involved with this new effort. The audio and recording work has been done by Taylor Wilkey, and our Associate Rector was interviewed for an episode to air in June. Be sure to tune in and listen to voices from around our Diocese.

Hello Rhode Island Episcopalians!

Do you have questions about faith, church, and spirituality? So do we! Tea Time Theology is the new podcast sponsored by the Episcopal Diocese of Rhode Island, whose goal is to create space to have real and meaningful conversations about faith.

Our first episode will be dropping on April 14th . Please follow our social medias! We are @teatimetheology on Twitter, Instagram, and Facebook. You will be able to listen on: Stitcher, Google Podcast, and The Apple Podcast App.

Thanks,
Ivy

Especially for Children

To watch Godly Play online please [Click Here!](#)

Mask Making and Free Masks and Gloves

If you are looking for something hands-on to do to help out during this time of COVID-19, here is a project that might be right for you. There is an increasing demand for face masks in our communities: both masks for medical professions and masks for every day use in the wider community. While we cannot make the N95 masks for medical professions, there are a lot of resources out there for making everyday masks. If you are a person who knows how to sew (sewer/sewist/master of the sewing needle) please consider joining the efforts of people around the country to make home-sewn masks. [The Mask Now Coalition](#) is one such organization sharing information and patterns for masks.

HOME DELIVERY OF FREE FACE MASKS AND SANITARY GLOVES

I will be glad to deliver free surplus blue face masks and white latex gloves to the homes of people who need them and will use them appropriately.

Please contact Timothy Barcott. 401-397-6700. Weekday evenings.

Creating Connections

As we seek ways to connect while we are physically apart we want to hear how you are doing! We invite you to share with us the ways you are finding joy, gratitude, and God in the midst of our physical separation. Take a short video, snap a photo, record yourself singing a song, write a reflection or poem, share a favorite prayer! Be creative! Please send your pictures, videos, and other reflections to us at connections@stlukese.org. As we receive these stories and reflection we are going to share them on our parish Facebook and Instagram accounts, as well as here in the St. Luke's Weekly. We are making joy, and grace, and gratitude, and God's love contagious!

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:

Pancake Syrup, Beef Stew, Hash, Small Canned Hams, Chili, Coffee, Vegetable Oil, Crackers, Cookies, Hearty Soups, Chicken Noodle Soup, Pasta Sides, Gravy (Chicken and Beef), Ketchup and Mustard, Pasta Sauce

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

Copyright © 2020. All Rights Reserved.