



St. Luke's Episcopal Church

Where all are welcome at the Lord's table

weekly

April 18, 2021

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Greetings!

It is truly a hopeful sign that the Covid-19 vaccine is becoming more available, and the side effects of the shot are far preferable to getting the virus itself, I reminded myself as I lay on the chaise with fever and chills. I thought of the things I'd hoped to get done that day; we're moving out of our rental and into the house we've just purchased, but there was no way I was packing a box or driving a carload from Newport to West Warwick. I faded fitfully in and out of sleep, unable to get comfortable and rest, unable to stay awake and be productive.

As I lay there, I thought about the article I'd read that explained that the side effects of the shot mean the body is producing an immunologic response; instead of being a sign of dysfunction, it's a sign that the shot is working. Our bodies are remarkable, strong and capable, fragile and easily wounded. It's part of our design that we have both capabilities and limitations. Though our personal capabilities and limitations may be unique to us, that we have them is not unique at all.

My mom called to check in on me. We talked for a little bit, but as the conversation went on my energy dropped and she told me she loved me and to get some rest. I remembered when Tim and I moved from Arizona to Rhode Island; my stepdad has a heart condition and so he and my mom were extremely careful, hardly leaving the house. The advice before we moved was that if you turned your heads away from one another you could hug a family member for a few seconds. As I hugged my mom before I got in the car for the drive across the country, we totally violated that rule. Our heads turned away from each other, we embraced tightly for far beyond a few seconds, not knowing when we would get to hug each other again.

I remembered my friend Martha, who died last spring from Covid. She was in fragile health, but she was fierce and feisty. She had been on my discernment

Stay Connected



committee when I was feeling called to ordained ministry. I had asked her to serve particularly because I knew she would not be afraid to say no if she felt the call wasn't there. She cared more about the truth than my feelings. She was candid and did not suffer fools. She lived alone, and when her health declined she made the decision to move to an assisted living facility where she was absolutely flourishing. She had made many new friends, and old friends were coming to see her in a steady stream of visitors. She had a new chapter to write, but her book was cut short.

I remembered when Martha died and our friend Gini, the rector at St. John's where we had both attended, rushed over to the home, donned PPE, and anointed Martha with last rites. I was overwhelmed with a sense of gratitude that Gini rushed over; absent the virus, Martha would have definitely wanted that. And I was overwhelmed with a sense of terror that Gini would expose herself to the virus as she responded to her ministerial call. I remembered crying in grief for Martha and fear for Gini.

I thought of Good Friday, of sitting at the foot of the cross and mourning loss, and of Holy Saturday and clinging to my mom in the in-between time, and of Easter, and new life, and resurrection. I thought about the little things, like how happy my stepdad was when he got to go to the golf course again following his second vaccination. I thought about the bigger things, like how much it means to see people feeling safe enough to come to worship at St. Luke's following their own vaccinations.

A day or two after it began, my fever subsided. I was left exhausted but grateful, totally aware of my privilege in having access to a vaccine that did not exist a year ago. It feels like hope. A friend of mine posted on Facebook about following the greatest commandment: loving God, loving ourselves, and loving our neighbors enough that we do what we can to take care of each other, including getting vaccinated when we can. So let us go forth in love, trusting that the God who walks with us in our mourning rejoices with us when morning comes.

Easter blessings,
Mtr. Tanya

This Sunday at St. Luke's

The Third Sunday of Easter

Click above for the lessons

Streaming Service of Morning Prayer:

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

Livestream In-Person 10:15 Service:

Our Livestream In-Person Services are also available on our Facebook Page. You don't have to have a Facebook account to join us. [Click Here](#) to access our page. If you have a Facebook account and you like our page, (click the button with the "thumbs up"), you'll be notified when our livestreams begin. It is our shared prayer and worship that binds us together as the body of Christ in this world, and we look forward to you joining us!

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

The Rev. Timothy T. Rich, rector, preaching

St. Luke's Social Hour

Virtual 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 our meeting! See below for Meeting ID and Password that will be needed to join.

Meeting ID: 889 7757 6106

Passcode: 860459

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

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 Services using Sign-Up Genius, please
[Click Here!](#) for our April Sign-Up Genius**

We will also be 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

Beginning April 14, the Adult Faith Formation Group will be reading *Love Is the Way*, by our presiding bishop, the Most Rev. Michael Curry. About this book the Archbishop of Canterbury writes, "Drawing on his own life and experiences, (Curry) shows us that time and time again, when love is threatened by circumstances-- be it poverty, racism, violence, injustice, or the abuse of power-- that same love has the power to shine through."

Come and celebrate the Easter season with us by reflecting upon the power of this love to change our lives.

As in recent months, the class will meet over Zoom on Wednesdays from 7:00-8:30PM. Please read Chapter 8 in preparation for our first meeting. And, as always, expense should be no obstacle to participation. If you need assistance in acquiring the book, let Tim or Tanya know.

We look forward to sharing the discussions with you!

Please [Click Here](#) to join! Please see below for meeting information:

Meeting ID: 867 3899 9469

Passcode: 427552

Kid's Compline

Kid's Compline Service via Zoom

We are offering a family friendly prayer service on Thursdays at 7 pm in the spirit of compline, crafted especially with children in mind. Compline is a night prayer that marks the closing of the day. It's great to have the chance to pray and think about scripture together, and we'd love to have you join us!

[Click Here](#) to join the service! Meeting information is below:

Meeting ID: 838 6319 3679

Passcode: 136624

Treasurer's Announcement

Treasurer's Announcement

| | 2021 YTD | Budget | % | 2020 YTD | Var. |
|---------------------|-----------|-----------|---------|-----------|------------|
| Pledge Income | \$153,246 | \$143,000 | 107.17% | \$141,049 | \$12,197 |
| Loose Plate | \$3,463 | \$5,400 | 64.13% | \$7,537 | (\$4,074) |
| Other Personal Inc. | \$21,426 | \$14,150 | 151.42% | \$22,049 | (\$623) |
| Total Personal Inc. | \$178,135 | \$162,550 | 109.59% | \$170,635 | \$7,500 |
| Total Other Inc. | \$81,604 | \$85,396 | 95.56% | \$13,104 | \$68,500 |
| Total Income | \$259,739 | \$247,946 | 104.76% | \$183,739 | \$76,000 |
| | | | | | |
| Staff Expenses | \$108,888 | \$112,032 | 97.19% | \$111,188 | (\$2,300) |
| Facilities Expenses | \$24,675 | \$33,009 | 74.75% | \$40,000 | (\$15,325) |
| Program Expenses | \$5,402 | \$8,625 | 62.63% | \$6,669 | (\$1,267) |
| Outreach Expenses | \$1,953 | \$553 | 353.16% | \$553 | \$1,400 |
| Total Expenses | \$162,754 | \$174,193 | 93.43% | \$182,069 | (\$19,315) |
| | | | | | |
| Net Income | \$96,984 | \$73,754 | 131.50% | \$1,669 | \$95,315 |

Notes:

So, we're still in good shape, just better than last month.

We are over budget in income as well as over last year's numbers.

We are under budget in expenses as well as under last year's numbers.

I join the leadership team in extending our thanks and appreciation for all the support that you continue to provide! None of this happens without you!

Grace and Peace,
Mike

Pledge Envelopes

If you have requested pledge envelopes,
they are located in the atrium.

Corporate Communion

Corporate Communion Program

The Corporate Communion program at St. Luke's is about to begin.

Children understand the symbolism and significance of the Eucharist in ways that are often surprising and delightful. It is no wonder that Jesus said, "Let the little children come to me!"

Since the 1991 *Prayerbook*, our church has lived into the theology that Baptism is full initiation into the Body of Christ, moving away from the idea that Confirmation and "understanding" are

the bench marks for participation in the Eucharist.

Corporate Communion is a remarkable communion instruction, not preparation class. It is designed to offer age appropriate theology, liturgy and tradition to children.

Children are not the future of the church, they are the church today. This class honors their full membership in the Body of Christ, and equips us grownups for the vows we made at their Baptism that we would support them in their life in Christ.

Corporate Communion classes at St. Luke's will begin at 9am and will meet on the following dates:

5/2 Meet and Greet/Sharing a Meal

5/9 Story Telling/These Holy Things

5/16 Church Tour with Father Tim

5/23 These Holy Things/Praying Together/Angel

6/5 Rehearsal 12:00-1:00 and Ice Cream Social at St. Luke's

6/6 Corporate Communion Celebration at the 10:15 service

We will meet downstairs in the dining room and will practice social distancing.

Please contact me at theresa@stlukeseg.org for a registration form or call me at 415-233-0761 if you have any questions or concerns.

Blessings,
Theresa Deiters Muscat

St. Luke's Yard Sale

ST. LUKE'S YARD SALE



Save the
Date!

MAY

—
22

—
2021

**7AM TO
NOON**

St. Luke's is taking part in the Annual Hill & Harbor Yard Sale!

We are looking for donations of gently used items such as toys, books, DVD's, clothing, tools, sporting equipment, home goods, small working appliances or electronics, and furniture.

We will be scheduling drop off times for your donations starting a week prior to the sale... so stay tuned!

How else can you help?

We'll need volunteers to help sort/price items and work the day of the sale. We'll also need volunteers with trucks for clean-up and clear-out! A Sign-up Genius for volunteers will be distributed soon. Questions in the meantime go to:

Jon Jacaruso at jonjacaruso@live.com

St. Luke's RaiseRight Program

More Spring Bonuses for You and St. Luke's!

Take a night off from cooking and raise funds for St. Luke's!

Treat yourself to takeout or delivery this month. Whether you're craving pasta, pizza, a burger or something else, there's a gift card for every type of cuisine.



Add the RaiseRight app to your phone today and help raise additional funds for St. Luke's! Scan the QR code below to get more details on the app. Most importantly, when downloading the app, please enter the following enrollment code to specify St. Luke's as your charitable organization of choice: FEB88LAC73L81



Create opportunities for what matters most to you—right from your phone. Buy gift cards from 750+ brands to earn on your daily purchases. It's simply the right way to fundraise.



Stay tuned for more information on this exciting opportunity to support St. Luke's!

Thank you,
Mark & Susan Cordle, Deborah Collins & Jeremy Stowe
Your Faithful RaiseRight Project Team

Pastoral Care

Pastoral Care Ministry

Prayer is a powerful way for us to support each other and build community. If you would like to add someone to our parish prayer list, please use the online Prayer List Request Form. It is available on our website under our Parish Life tab and here in our Weekly Newsletter. The prayer list is updated weekly. 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 form, you will help us to keep in touch. [Click Here](#) for our Prayer List Request Form.

Thank you and stay well.

The Pastoral Care Ministry

Property Committee

Property Monthly Meetings to Begin April 22

As Spring begins to revitalize us, our gardens and indoor facility are also looking to be revitalized, repaired. We will begin meeting on Thursday, April 22, from 9:00-11:30 am. There will be no breakfast, but individual snacks will be available - please bring your own drink. Masks will be required to be worn both inside and outside.

All are welcome to come regardless of experience. We would love to see some new faces! Indoor tasks can range from simple cleaning to regluing baseboard protectors. Outdoors we will be mostly cleaning up from winter this month and preparing a few new beds for planting.

Questions can be addressed to Bob Brockway (rwbrockway@verizon.net) for inside tasks; Cindi Lovejoy (benem@cox.net) for outdoor tasks (Jack Newton is still in Florida enjoying the sun but will be back next month).

We look forward to seeing you and welcoming Spring together!

Women of Grace

Women of Grace - Listening Hearts Discussion on May 10th

Our next meeting will be Monday, May 10 at 7pm - please mark your calendars! The Rev. Pam Gregory will lead us in a discussion of the Listening Hearts program for lay discernment. Based on the book Listening Hearts: Discerning Call in Community by Suzanne Farnham, the program provides "simple reflections and exercises drawn from scripture and from Quaker and Ignatian traditions, to help make the spiritual practice of discernment accessible to everyone, not just clergy". New or used copies of the book can be purchased online or in bookstores. For our May 10 discussion, you only need to read through page 67.

Women of Grace meets once a month via Zoom. Each gathering opens with prayer and a period of fellowship, followed by the evening's discussion, and ends with a prayer or reflection. We start at 7pm and promise to say our final AMEN by 9pm!

If you are not currently on our mailing list or if you need help finding the book, please email Deborah Collins (collinstn01@gmail.com).

Handmade Crosses

Handmade Crosses

Hi, my name is David Clifton. I have grown up here at St. Luke's. From being in the choir, to being part of the youth group, to going to ECC for many years, and to be able serve as an Acolyte on the alter. And through it all was my family (mom, dad, and 2 sisters) and my St. Luke's family (too many of you to list by name). When my dad passed away in 2018, I came to ask GOD and my St. Luke's family for support. That is when Fr. Tim, Fr. Dante, and our Deacon Christine became part of my family. And it was and still is being very supportive.

I took dad passing very hard, so to help myself get through that time, I had to put my creative

mind to work. I had to find something that I could do. So I went to the internet, and starting looking at things that I could make. One thing caught my eye, it was a cross. Not an ordinary cross, but a cross that was made out of something that I had seen all the time growing up. The cross was made out of horseshoe nails. Yes, I said horseshoe nails, the nails that are used to put shoes on horses. The cross was called a "Disciple's Cross", it looked nice but I knew that with a little bit of extra work, I could make it something that dad would like. So, I got some supplies and I made two prototypes. I took them to church and showed them to the Deacon (who loved them) and who (at the time) 'BLESSED' them. I gave one to mom and I took the other one. At that time, I asked the clergy if they wanted one and what color(s) they wanted it to be. Now that is when things started to take off, the Deacon said that having the acolytes make their own cross would be another way to teach them about 'HOLY WEEK'. So a workshop was setup one Sunday after church and all of the acolytes each made their own cross. On Palm Sunday of 2019, Fr. Tim 'BLESSED' the acolytes' crosses and the crosses were then passed out to the acolytes. And it was a very nice site, to see something that I had helped the acolytes make, in the memory of dad, being wore around the necks of the acolytes on Easter Sunday 2019.

Every now and then, I end up making one for a friend of the family, or for a birthday present for a member of the church. Well, now I am writing this to ask any member of my church family, if they would like me to make them a cross. I have included a photo of a finished cross along with a QR code that you can scan to send me an email. Now Mother Tanya and the other Fr. Tim, have become part of our family and I have already made, had 'BLESSED', and delivered their crosses.

God be with you,
David

This Cross Belongs to Our Bishop



St. Luke's Feeding Ministries

St. Luke's Feeding Ministries Update!

Like most other things, Covid restrictions have had an impact on the usual rhythm on Christ Community Kitchen (CCK), Lunch on The Hill (LOTH) and Loaves and Fishes (LFRI). Throughout the year the leadership of the feeding ministries have been collaborating in finding new ways to help our community and those in need. March was a very active month.



St. Luke's parishioners also provided support to the Sayles Street Shelter. A site that we have had a long relationship with through our LFRI runs. The shelter offers transitional housing along with a wide range of services and life skills training such as parenting support, employment training, GED, mental health and substance abuse counseling. Saint Luke's delivery of diapers, pull-ups, brushes, men's socks and deodorant, baby lotion, shampoo and kids' hair ties was deeply appreciated by those in the Shelter.

Our Feeding Ministries collaborated to provide sorely needed toiletries to the Community Care Alliance Program in Woonsocket. This non-profit program recently opened a drop-in center called Safe Haven. The center is located around the corner from the bus stop, a cornerstone of our monthly LFRI run for years. When they reached out through LFRI, we provided cases of toothpaste, toothbrushes, mouthwash, shampoo, soap, deodorant, feminine hygiene, hand towels, sanitizer, and wipes. Those who delivered the donations were inspired to see the wonderful work being done by Safe Haven and happy to reconnect with some of our LFRI friends.

Moving forward we are exploring how to build on these efforts with a vision of establishing ways of continuing our support on a regular basis. Keep an eye out for ways that you can be a part of these outreach efforts. As details are available, we plan on reaching out through SignUpGenius for your help.

If you would like additional information, feel free to reach out to the Feeding Ministries through the office.

St. Luke's Choirs

St. Luke's Choirs Sing for You!

As a special gift from the Canterbury, St. Cecilia, and Angel Choirs to our St. Luke's family and friends, choir members compiled a special 'arrangement' of "How Can I Keep From Singing". The music is from an American folk song originally composed by Baptist minister Robert Wadworth Lowry in 1868 with the four-part arrangement published by Jeffrey Honoré in 1991. The choirs performed this piece at their 2019 Spring Concert and happily recreated that performance in this video (also available on St. Luke's website and Facebook page).



St. Luke's Choirs Sing For You!

Big Brothers and Big Sisters

Big Brothers and Big Sisters Donations

In our continuing efforts to be a good neighbor and serve our local community, we have added a new addition to the St Luke's parking lot! The clothing bin is a result of joining in a new partnership between the Episcopal Diocese and Big Brother Big Sister of Rhode Island. It will serve as a collection point for community donations of clothing, shoes and other cloth items. Please drop off your bagged items at your convenience.



Especially for Children

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

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:

Canned mandarin oranges, canned pineapple, chicken and beef stock, hash, kidney beans, Italian dressing, ranch dressing, vegetable oil, regular instant coffee, and beef and chicken gravy.

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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