



St. Luke's Episcopal Church

Where all are welcome at the Lord's table

weekly

June 13, 2021

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Greetings!

At the Annual Meeting in January of 2020, Gary Schweizer, senior warden and the chair of the kitchen design committee, introduced to you a vision for our new kitchen. While the scope of work was significant, and came with an equally significant price tag, Gary provided us immense cause for confidence and excitement with the news that Linda and Al Potter had made a lead gift to kick-off our campaign.

In the months that followed, a pandemic descended upon us. But the fundraising efforts persisted, including a parish-wide campaign, numerous grant requests, special gifts, and an amazing golf tournament fundraiser which, among many things, celebrated the life of Ron Clement.

Throughout it all, I have been so deeply moved by the generosity and dedication of your responses.

Although there are many who deserve our great gratitude, I will reserve that for a later time. For now, let me say this: We have been so wonderfully served by Gary's leadership.

Please read his letter which follows. While I don't want to steal his thunder, I will assure you, it is filled with more breathtaking news!

Peace,
Jim

Dear St. Luke's Parishioners,

I have lots of good news to share about the kitchen project! Good news on top of good news. Pressed down, shaken together and running over. You've got to read this one to the end. No skimming this week.

CONSTRUCTION:



Yes, I said construction! We have an executed Agreement with Holdenworks to build the project. They have been on site this week and are beginning to mobilize. We are working out logistics, chains of communication, and protocols to keep the church and our guest's programs running while we build out the kitchen, dining room and elevator. Some of the first signs you will see will be a dumpster, a port-a-john, and selective interior demolition. The kitchen and dining room are now a construction zone. For your safety, please do not enter the lower level of the parish hall. It will be locked off when the contractor is not on site.

Meanwhile, we are processing the first requisition for payment which will allow the contractor to purchase long-lead items such as the elevator, kitchen equipment, light fixtures and mechanical equipment.

We are on the move! I am so excited to be at this point!

FUNDRAISING:

The final project costs came in very close to where we thought they would be when we established the current \$75,000 campaign relaunch goal. So we are on track with our fundraising assumption.

As I hope you have heard by now, we were awarded a \$20,000 grant from the Diocesan Resource Fund. Thanks to a tremendous effort from our Fundraising Committee: Bill Warburton, Jon Jacaruso, Deborah Collins, and Lindsey Yates-Grimley. And with an assist from our dynamic duo, John and Rob Walsh, who bring that special magic to all they do. Thank you all. Your skill and effort really paid off. And I am so grateful to the Diocese for their support.

Pledge response from our renewed fundraising drive has been fantastic. We have had 19 new pledges to date. They have been of varying amounts, and all given in great faith and generosity. I am so touched and grateful for the support you have all shown for this project and the ministries and fellowship it underpins.

A very special gift has been given by Chris and Jen Young, son and daughter-in-law of long-time parishioners Pete and Pat Young. They have donated \$25,000 to the project as a memorial to Pete who passed away recently. What an incredible gift and act of generosity. We are so grateful to the Young family for honoring the memory of Pete in this way. It is an honor to us to have this project associated with his memory. It will live on in every meal served, every gathering

enjoyed, every kindness shared and every new memory made in our renovated facilities.

So all told, including the DRF grant, the Pete Young memorial gift, recent pledges, the original pledges, the golf fundraiser, the Ron Clement memorial gift and other grants, we are within a few thousand dollars of our total fundraising goal! What a blessing! And what a testament to the generosity of our parishioners, our community partners, and the hard work of so many who have brought it to this point! I am so grateful.

ALMOST THERE:

Our budget does include \$15,000 in contingency which, at 3% is a little light for a renovation project. As hard as we have tried to anticipate issues, once the demolition and work begins there will be unexpected surprises. There always are in renovation projects.

Also, there are \$17,000 in unfulfilled pledges from the original pledge drive, and \$9,000 from the current drive. I have a high degree of confidence that most of the pledges will be honored, but there is still a small element of uncertainty. So, we are still hoping for some additional cushion. It is not too late to add your own contribution. If you lost your pledge card or can't figure out the online giving, just call the office. We'll sort it out with you. But it is so good to know we are nearly there!

MORE GOOD NEWS:

But the good news does not end here. Dick and Pam Kelly have come forward with an additional donation of \$44,000 to fund much of what we had cut out of the project in order to lower costs! This includes built-in cabinetry in the dining room to house AV equipment, sliding screens that will help obscure tables and chairs stored in the corner of the room, wood veneer panels to cover the concrete block pilasters between the windows in the dining room, new dining room window shades, and refurbishment of the built-in dining room wood benches.

I am absolutely floored by this generosity, and so pleased that we will be able to add the finishing touches that we had imagined from the beginning. They will make our dining room an even lovelier place for our guests to dine in and our St. Luke's family to gather in for years to come.

YOUR GENEROSITY:

I continue to be amazed, time and again, by the

generosity of our St. Luke's family. And with the depth of faith and thoughtful intention from which it comes. Large amounts, small amounts, it is the same blend of faith, careful consideration, intention and creativity. Look, I get it. Money is a very personal thing, and it is a very essential thing. Your expression of faith through giving is yours and yours alone. St. Luke's will never be a place that presumes to speak for God and tell you what to do with your money. We will never be a place that applies guilt to prod giving. We will never be an authority of presumption or demand. Because "we" is just that - "we". There is no demand from on high. There is only us reaching up and reaching out to each other and our neighbors.

Father Tim mentioned this during our vestry meeting this week, and forgive me Father Tim for stealing your insight, but one of the lasting memories of a shared and challenging endeavor such as this are the stories of the effort, the sacrifice and the giving that went into bringing it about.

And there are so many stories to share. From Daniel Dresselhouse, who won the golf tournament raffle last year and turned around and donated the winnings to the kitchen project. To the Clements and the Youngs who have so touchingly given in memory of Ron Clement and Pete Young. To an anonymous community organization that donated to our project in an endorsement of all we do in our feeding ministries. To so many of you in big and small ways who saw a windfall from your forced reduced activity this past year, who recognized the blessing that your hardship was much less than many endured, and turned that into a donation to this project. To the Kellys, who recognizing just such blessings, asked what we needed to get back to the original project vision we had had to cut. And to the Potters, whose original large donation brought us to the ballpark so that we could even start playing the game. As they shared so eloquently last year, their giving was a deep act of faith and deliberation, no glib check-writing, and it is clear that their example inspired and energized a deeper generosity in all of us.

GRATITUDE:

This is perhaps too long of a victory lap. And I will save all the stories of "sweat equity" for another time. But although construction is only just beginning and there are sure to be more challenges ahead, it is important to mark this milestone. To recognize the generosity and deep acts of faith that have brought us to where we are today. With a project well-funded and about to turn into physical reality.

There are so many other stories and generousities that could be shared. Some we will never know of, as I know many of them will remain personal expressions between your hearts and God's.

All I can say is how deeply thankful I am to all of you. And for your beautiful and deeply spiritual support of our shared endeavor.

Peace,
Gary Schweizer

This Sunday at St. Luke's

The Third Sunday after Pentecost

Click above for the lessons

7:45am Holy Eucharist with Sermon

10:15am Holy Eucharist with Sermon

We are glad to offer a Facebook livestream for our 10:15 am Sunday services. To access the livestream, please follow the instructions below:

1. Our Facebook page can be accessed by [Clicking Here](#).
2. You do not need a Facebook account to access this page. If you do have an account, 'liking' our page ahead of the service will allow Facebook to send you a notification when the livestream begins. If you do not have an account, Facebook will ask if you would like to set one up. Simply click the 'x' at the top right corner to close that box or click 'not now'.
3. The livestream will be accessible from St. Luke's Facebook page near the time the prelude begins. If you have liked our page, simply click on the notification you will receive from Facebook when it starts to view the video.
4. If you have not liked our page, you may have to scroll down the page to find the livestream while it is happening due to the way Facebook works. Once the livestream concludes, the video of the service will be available at the top of our page, (so you will not have to scroll to find it).

Please contact our Assistant Rector, Mother Tanya, with any questions. She can be reached at tanya@stlukeseg.org.

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

The Rev. Tanya Watt, assistant rector, preaching

Reopening Announcement

St. Luke's is Reopening!

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

[Click Here](#) to view Father Tim's Reopening Letter!

**To Sign Up for Sunday Services using Sign-Up Genius, please
[Click Here!](#) for our June 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 worshippers 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!

Celebrating Our Graduates

Congratulations To Our St. Luke's Graduates!

**Reid Bentsen
Perseus Borgia
Genevieve Cava
Alex Cerullo
Benjamin Cerullo
Zoe Hagenburg
Haley Heeks
Nora Jenkins
Kevin Jordan
Luke Muoio
Laurel Ann Pilkington
Micaela Rich
Matthew Tibbitts
Kai Yates**



Treasurer's Note

From the Treasurer

We continue to beat the budget and last year's numbers.

	2021 YTD	Budget	%	2020 YTD	Var.
Pledge Income	\$235,664	\$216,000	109.10%	\$208,756	\$26,908
Loose Plate	\$10,237	\$9,200	111.27%	\$10,008	\$229
Other Personal Inc.	\$38,561	\$26,117	147.65%	\$30,218	\$8,343
Total Personal Inc.	\$284,462	\$251,317	113.19%	\$248,982	\$35,480
Total Other Inc.	\$85,190	\$90,493	94.14%	\$68,789	\$16,401
Total Income	\$369,652	\$341,810	108.15%	\$317,771	\$51,881
Staff Expenses	\$182,775	\$186,256	98.13%	\$173,904	\$8,871
Facilities Expenses	\$36,186	\$49,716	72.79%	\$51,974	(\$15,788)
Program Expenses	\$9,998	\$15,625	63.99%	\$10,662	(\$664)
Outreach Expenses	\$4,970	\$5,000	99.40%	\$4,721	\$249
Total Expenses	\$272,489	\$292,597	93.13%	\$280,588	(\$8,099)
Net Income	\$97,163	\$49,214	197.43%	\$37,183	\$59,980

Adult Faith Formation

Adult Faith Formation

Wednesdays at 7 pm via Zoom

Our book study will be on **Henri Nouwen's *Following Jesus: Finding Our Way Home in an Age of Anxiety***. One reviewer notes: "...this book will not only soothe your soul, but also reinvigorate your faith." Please read Chapter 2. In the Introduction, you'll find the following beautiful prayer:

Dear Lord,

Be with me today. Listen to my confusion and help me know how to live it. I don't know the words. I don't know the way. Show me the way. You are a quiet God. Help me to listen to your voice in a noisy world. I want to be with you. I know you are peace. I know you are joy. Help me to be a peaceful and joyful person. These are the fruits of living close to you. Bring me close to you, dear Lord. Amen.

You may purchase the book at your local bookstore or online. Expense should be no obstacle to participation -- if you need assistance in acquiring the book, please let Tim or Tanya know. We look forward to seeing you then!

[Click Here](#) to join the meeting! Zoom information is below:

Meeting ID: 867 3899 9469

Passcode: 427552

Pledge Envelopes

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

Coffee Hour

Coffee Hour Volunteers

People don't come to coffee hour just for a cup of joe; they want a human connection, something we all have missed during the pandemic! Here's a place where we build community one cup at a time.

We need your help! Father Tim would like to resume Coffee Hour. For now, we are only offering coffee and juice- no food.

As usual, our sexton, Tim, will set up the coffee urn in the morning. The Coffee Hour host simply needs to set up the coffee "station" with cups, sugars, creamer and napkins. These supplies (except the creamer) are all kept in the armoire in the Blackburn Room. There will be a table set up in the narthex near the stairs where you can set up a juice "station" with small juice cups and napkins. Tablecloths can be found in the armoire also.

So, the host would bring half and half as well as some type of juice. Everything else is provided. After the 10:15am service's coffee hour, the urns would need to be cleaned out and stored in the Blackburn Room and you would need to ensure that coffee grounds go in the trash.

Please consider signing up for an upcoming Sunday so we can properly extend our hospitality and reconnect. Christina put the sign-up sheet on the wall across from the office. You can sign up at church or call Christina in the office at 401-884-4116 and she'll add you to the list.

We look forward to seeing you all soon,

Tracy
401-447-0472

Marcia
401-241-1821

Property Committee

Property Monthly Meeting

Summer is almost here and with it heat and sometimes drought conditions. We will be meeting on Thursday, June 17, from 9:00-Noon. There will be no breakfast, but individual snacks will be available - please bring your own drink. Masks recommended for those unvaccinated.

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 weeding, watering, and preparing a few new beds for planting. If you are not able to come in the morning, perhaps you would like to be part of a watering crew to come and water once a month.

Questions can be addressed to Bob Brockway (rwbrockway@verizon.net) for inside tasks, Jack Newton (jcn10954@verizon.net or Cindi Lovejoy (benem@cox.net) for outdoor tasks.

We look forward to seeing you and welcoming Summer together!

Women of Grace - End of Year Pot Luck!

Women of Grace will wrap up the year with a Pot Luck Dinner on Tuesday, June 22 at 6pm - please mark your calendars! It is astounding to recall the range of conversations, experiences, insights and stories we have shared. Now, it is time to celebrate a return to gathering together!

Per our tradition, we will open with prayer and reflection, then move on to reconnecting, sharing, and, YES, hugs! Start thinking about an appetizer, entrée, casserole, salad, side dish, dessert, etc. that you would like to bring and confirm with our host - Deborah Collins (collinstn01@gmail.com), 305 Fletcher Road, North Kingstown, RI.

If you are not yet on the WoG mailing list, please let Deborah know and she will add you to our communications and/or updates on the dinner. Looking forward to seeing you on the 22nd!

St. Luke's Bag Lunches for Buddies

St. Luke's Bag Lunches for Buddies

**We are in need of volunteers for our Friday delivery next week!
Please let us know if you would like to help!**



When was the last time you lovingly packed a bag lunch for your kids? Yesterday? Yesteryear?

Well, St. Luke's has begun a new "feeding ministry" to make 30+ bag lunches weekly and deliver them to Community Care Alliance in Woonsocket, a day shelter located just around the corner from our Loaves & Fishes truck run stop (on hold during the COVID pandemic).

If you would like to participate in this outreach to our friends in need, [Click Here](#) for our SignUpGenius where you will find all the details.

And, thanks in advance from the many folks we help nourish and who help nourish us, spiritually.

Rob Walsh

Pastoral Care Ministry

Thank you, Donna Jordan! After 13 years of thoughtful, caring leadership, Donna has chosen to step down as chair of the Pastoral Care Committee. We are indebted to her for her kindness, generosity, and dedication to this ministry. So many of us have benefitted from her notes of encouragement, her prayers, and her coordination of the efforts of the committee. The Pastoral Care Committee is a wonderful group of parishioners committed to being present to members of our community in our times of need, and Donna has been a living example of beautiful and unceasing dedication to this ministry. We are grateful that she will continue as a member of the committee going forward. Dotty Fleming, who has worked closely with Donna, has begun her tenure as chair of the committee, and we are grateful for the many gifts Dotty brings to this work. Thank you to Donna for such a wonderful legacy of love and compassion, and thank you to Dotty for continuing to carry the torch!

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

St. Luke's RaiseRight Program

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

Get ready for graduation season and raise funds for St. Luke's!

Party planning, gift buying, outfit shopping - there's plenty to do before graduation season begins. Get gift cards to make your prep more impactful.



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

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 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:

Kidney beans, cannellini beans, baked beans, pasta sauce, rice/pasta sides, ramen noodles, cooking stock, canned pineapple, hash, chili, yellow cake mix, Italian or ranch dressing, ketchup, juice (64 oz), crackers, cookies and mayonnaise.

Thank you!

EG Interfaith Food Cupboard

99 Peirce Street
East Greenwich, RI 02818

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