



St. Luke's Episcopal Church

Where all are welcome at the Lord's table

weekly

June 20, 2021

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Greetings!

Okay, so you know how sometimes you keep seeing or hearing a similar message over and over again and you get the sense that maybe the Holy Spirit is trying to speak to you and you should pay attention? That's what I've been experiencing lately. There are two messages that keep popping up in different ways: first, we need to pay attention to the small and ordinary things of life; second, God needs each of us to be who God created us to be. We are each uniquely created, and we are each uniquely called.

It started last week with our Gospel reading about the Kingdom of God being like a tiny mustard seed that sprouts into a giant shrub, which sounds like the least exciting way of describing something as amazing as the Kingdom of God. The Kingdom of God is described in gentle, ordinary ways in Jesus' parables, as the seeds that inexplicably grow when they have been sown, or a mustard bush that bursts forth from the tiniest of seeds. I want fireworks, I get mustard seeds. Then in our Adult Faith Forum, where we're reading Henri Nouwen's *Following Jesus: Finding our way home in an age of anxiety*, the theme was again repeated. We need not look for the dramatic, or the splashy. We do not have to know the whole journey to take the first faithful step. Nouwen says: "Following does not require dramatic gestures...The great secret of the spiritual life is that you already know the small steps...You only have to take one step at a time." (p. 42) So following Jesus does not require fireworks. It requires faithfulness in taking one small step, attentiveness to the little things that make up our lives, attuning ourselves to the voice of the Holy Spirit who is already in our midst, as near to us as our own breath. The little, ordinary moments matter. The little choices we make carry us to our next step. And each moment we can choose to be faithful, to be who God created us to be.

Then there is the second message. The Holy Spirit is practically shouting this one to me: God needs

The Anglican Communion

Stay Connected



each of us to be who we are created to be. God needs you to be you. I was thinking about that mustard seed again and the Greek word *telos*, the full capacity of any object. The *telos* of the mustard seed is the mustard shrub- the full capacity of its creation. For us, our *telos* is the fullness of who God created us to be. We are each created in the image of God, and each have unique gifts to offer. It brings no glory to God for us to pretend that we don't have something to share, and when we each share our gifts, the glory of God is amplified. While reading Nouwen this theme surfaced again, with the exciting insight that though we are each made in the image of God, none of us is called to be just like God. None of us is Jesus. We are ourselves. And when we are fully ourselves, we become a beautiful piece of a mosaic, reflecting God's love to one another and the world. Nouwen says: "Following Jesus means to live our life in his spirit, in his light, in his heart, but with our spirit, with our light, with our heart...It means that we become persons who discover our own vocation, our own unique call, in a whole new way." (p. 46) Life would be colorless and bland if we were all the same; but we are uniquely and wonderfully made, we are uniquely and wonderfully called! And friends, if you are broken, if you are wounded, if you have scars, you are in good company. God works new life from unexpected places and brings light to places that seemed irrepressibly dark. Broken or whole, wounded or healed, we are each deeply beloved. God calls each of us by name, beckoning us into new life.

We each have a call, and we need to listen to how God is speaking to us right now, how the Holy Spirit is moving right now. That so often shows up in the ordinary moments of our lives. Forget waiting for the perfect moment before you respond to God's work in your life. The perfect moment is now! Paul Brookes shared a Leonard Cohen poem with us on Wednesday during our Adult Faith Forum: "Ring the bells that still can ring, forget your perfect offering. There is a crack in everything. That's how the light gets in." And there is no hiding the light in each of us!

Grace and peace to you all,
Mtr. Tanya

This Sunday at St. Luke's

The Fourth 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. Timothy T. Rich, 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!

SignUpGenius is no longer necessary!

When not totally shut down for in-person worship this past year, the SignUpGenius helped us remain compliant and safe upon our return to in-person worship.

Beginning this Sunday, June 20, parishioners will no longer be required to "sign-up" to attend either the 7:45am or 10:15am services.

Hallelujah!

We are 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!

Church Picnic

SAVE THE DATE! - Church Picnic

Sunday, July 11th

Goddard Park Carousel

**10:15 - Worship Service
ONLY 10:15**

Followed by a Picnic - Details to Follow Soon!

Please save the date and join us for a wonderful day!

We will have our 7:45 service as usual.



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**



Summer Office Hours

CHRISTINA'S SUMMER OFFICE HOURS

July through Labor Day, Christina will be in the office from 8 am - 4 pm, Monday - Thursday.
The office will be closed on Fridays.

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 3. 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

Women of Grace

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!

Seeking Lay Eucharistic Ministers

Seeking Lay Eucharistic Ministers!

Reopening the church has been such a joy! As we continue to move closer to our normal pattern of worship, we look forward to returning to the communion rail during the Eucharist. Part of that move will include welcoming Lay Eucharistic Ministers back to the altar to help in the distribution of communion. Serving as a LEM is a simple but gratifying way of participating in feeding the gathered Body of Christ during our worship services. If you have any questions about this ministry, please talk with Fr. Tim or Mtr. Tanya. If you're interested in joining our list of volunteers, please let Christina know! (cimondi@stlukeseg.org).

Loaves and Fishes

Return of Loaves & Fishes!

After two months of making and delivering lunches (Bags for Buddies) to Safe Haven Warming Center in Woonsocket, we will be redirecting our energies toward a soft relaunch of Loaves & Fishes on Saturday, July 24. More info to come!

This will be our triumphant return to this cherished ministry, which made its last run in February 2020.

Thank you to everyone who made bag lunches and provided clothing for the past two months!

Be on the lookout for more details about our July 24 run!



Pastoral Care

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

Main Street Strolls

STROLLS 2021

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St. Luke's Takes to Main Street!

It's official !!

East Greenwich will once again host its highly popular
Main Street Strolls each month from June to September!

St. Luke's and The Three Amigos will be there to celebrate this community wide event -- singing, greeting and enjoying our neighbors. You will find us each month at 294 Main Street -- home of Walsh & Associates.

Mark your calendar and join us!

Dogs on Parade Thursday, June 24, 5pm - 8pm

To participate in parade with your pet, meet behind Back to Basics at 5:30pm ...
parade starts at 6pm and ends at Town Hall

Arts on Main/Chalk the Block Thursday, July 15th, 5pm - 8pm

Music on Main Thursday, August 19th, 5pm - 8pm

Taste of EG Thursday, September 16, 5pm - 8pm

If you would like to volunteer with hosting the St. Luke's booth,
please contact Deborah Collins at collinstn01@gmail.com

Casting Call!

Casting Call!

On July 27 St. Luke's will be the filming site for the upcoming indie movie, "Poor Paul", a romantic comedy/musical. They will be filming a wedding scene in and around our sanctuary.

The director is looking for extras to attend the wedding as well as youth for a children's choir to sing a short song. As I said to the director, you have come to the right place!

For the youth, they will need to be at St. Luke's from 3:00-5:00PM. They will need a waiver signed by parent or guardian, per SAG requirements. I will pass that waiver on to any interested parties.

For the wedding guests, they will need to be present from 3:00-6:00, dressed in your most glorious wedding attire (glamorous dresses and fancy hats appreciated for the women; suits, ties, for the men-- no tuxes though).

The more the merrier for the adults. He is hoping for 10 or more for the youth choir. I told him I thought we could accommodate.

Come and participate in this fun day! Maybe this will be the start of a new career for you?!!

If you have any questions, let me know. Please call the office or email Christina, cimondi@stlukeseg.org, if you are interested in participating.

I'll see you in the film!!

Peace,
Tim

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

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

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

