



# St. Luke's Episcopal Church

Where all are welcome at the Lord's table

weekly

August 1, 2021

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Greetings!

There's no denying, life is a journey, full of trials and triumphs, moments of ease and moments of effort. The constant in this journey is that we are accompanied by our God (our work is to keep eyes and ears open for signs to that effect) and we are informed by our faith (our work is to read, reflect, and never forget).

I share this observation with you as it seems that the Delta variant of the COVID-19 virus is creating new trials and requiring renewed efforts.

I imagine most of us rejoiced when liberated from earlier mask mandates, and likewise, felt a moment of triumph as vaccines were developed and found to be highly successful in preventing infection. The finding that not only were we protected, once vaccinated, from serious illness, but also that it was unlikely we could spread the virus to others more vulnerable, seemed to give many of us a new lease on life. There's no missing the renewed joy that has been in the warm summer air.

But despite these joyous feelings, I often have noted, the virus is not sentimental, and we must follow science not sentiment as we make our way. This approach served us well when we decided to suspend in-person worship for two periods of time over the past year and a half; this approach served us well again as we gradually resumed gathering in person this spring. Because of our attention to science and our respect for protocols, we were able to avoid any spread of the virus by way of church activities.

I remain grateful to the steering committee who helped chart the course for these past several months. And I am equally grateful to all of you who were supportive and observant as our practices shifted with the times.

Now it seems that we must again change our practices. As of this writing, the CDC tracker shows that

Stay Connected



Rhode Island is in the "Substantial Transmission" category-with total new cases in the week of July 24 reaching a figure of 55 per 100,000. This number is up from 29 cases per 100,000 just one week ago. The number of new cases reported yesterday was 145.

In addition, our test positive rate is also climbing, rising from 1.0% for the week beginning July 17 to 1.8% for the week beginning July 24. Yesterday's test positive figure was 2.6%.

Equally troubling are the findings that those vaccinated are experiencing "breakthrough" infections and, once infected, are able to transmit the virus to others (whether they be vaccinated or not). Thankfully, breakthrough infections remain relatively infrequent and in the vast majority of circumstances the vaccines continue to protect against serious illness. But nonetheless, the recent developments have shifted the CDC's recommendations and, as before, I believe we must pay attention to their counsel.

I have called a meeting for this evening (July 29) of the COVID Response Steering Committee to discuss these trends and the CDC's recommendations. In advance of the entire group gathering, I have been able to talk with two members and we have **agreed that at the very least we should resume our mask-wearing and contact-tracing practices effective this Sunday, August 1.**

The larger group will discuss other elements of our Sunday experience tonight but, up against our Weekly publication deadline, I wanted to get this information out to you right away. Stay tuned for further communications as decisions are made.

I, like I imagine many of you, am saddened by what feels like a step backward in this particular journey. And yet, with each passing day we are one day closer to truly containing this virus. I am heartened that in one form or another I get to spend these days with all of you. And I am strengthened by the belief that God shares this journey with us all.

May you be well physically, emotionally, and spiritually. May you find the strength, faith, and resilience to continue the journey with hope. And throughout it all, may God bless you with that peace which passes all understanding.

Peace,  
*Jim*

## The Tenth 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](mailto: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 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!**

### **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**

	2021 YTD	Budget	%	2020 YTD	Var
Pledge Income	\$294,610	\$270,000	109.11%	\$252,380	\$42,230
Loose Plate	\$18,032	\$10,800	166.96%	\$11,289	\$6,743
Other Personal Inc.	\$47,068	\$37,383	125.91%	\$33,718	\$13,350
Total Personal Inc.	\$359,710	\$318,183	113.05%	\$297,387	\$62,323
Total Other Inc	\$100,696	\$108,341	92.94%	\$77,956	\$22,740
Total Income	\$460,406	\$426,524	107.94%	\$375,343	\$85,063
Staff Expenses	\$256,610	\$261,568	98.10%	\$238,959	\$17,651
Facilities Expenses	\$53,307	\$68,998	77.26%	\$66,400	(\$13,093)
Program Expenses	\$12,584	\$21,375	58.87%	\$12,911	(\$327)
Outreach Expenses	\$9,160	\$8,078	113.39%	\$5,089	\$4,071
Total Expenses	\$379,375	\$406,626	93.30%	\$379,573	(\$198)
Net Income	\$81,031	\$19,899	407.21%	(\$4,230)	\$85,261

Your continued support of St. Luke's has kept us on track. All this AND the capital campaign for the kitchen is a tremendous testament to all of you - the Parishioners that make it all happen. I Join Fr. Tim and Mtr. Tanya and the leadership team in thanking each and every one of you!

Grace and Peace,  
Mike

## Pledge Envelopes

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

## Adult Faith

### Adult Faith Formation

"We see what we look for and we look for what we know." How can two people look at the same thing and see something completely different? **Join us for Adult Faith Formation via Zoom on Wednesday, August 4th, at 7 pm**, as we view the video Conversations on Hidden Bias, Pt. 1 with Howard J. Ross. We are grateful that St. Luke's parishioner and Adult Faith Formation Steering Committee member, Dr. Patricia Warburton, will facilitate a reflection period following the video. We look forward to an intellectually engaging evening and hope to see you there!

[Click Here](#) to join our meeting! Zoom Information is below:

Meeting ID: 867 3899 9469  
Passcode: 427552

## 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

## 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](mailto:cimondi@stlukeseg.org)).

## Tribute To Our 2021 Graduates

### **Tribute to Our Grads on St. Luke's Facebook!**

Enjoy a video tribute to our 2021 graduates! Learn of their transition from high school to college, from college to pursuing next steps, and the many varied accomplishments of these wonderful young people.

Congratulations and Godspeed to them and their families!



**St. Luke's Episcopal Church**  
*Where all are welcome at the Lord's table*

**Tribute to St. Luke's 2021 Graduates**

**[Click Here](#)** to view St. Luke's videos page and the graduates' tribute!

## **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

## **Main Street Strolls**



# STROLLS 2021

2020-2020



## 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](mailto:collinstn01@gmail.com)

## St. Luke's RaiseRight Program

### Summer Bonuses for You and St. Luke's!

Go on a summer adventure and give back to St. Luke's!

Camping trips, weddings, family reunions and traveling to bucket list destinations. Raise money for St. Luke's on all your Summer Adventures when you buy flight, gas, hotels and more, using RaiseRight E-Gift Cards.





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 Birthdays, Anniversaries, and Special Days of Thanksgiving

### **St. Luke's Birthdays, Anniversaries, & Special Days of Thanksgiving**

Would you like to celebrate your birthday, anniversary, graduation or other special day with St. Luke's?

We are compiling a list of parishioners' birthdays, anniversaries, and other important dates. If you would like to have a thanksgiving offered during the weekly Prayers of the People, **please complete this form**. An appropriate thanksgiving will be included during the prayers.

Any questions? Please email Christina ([cimondi@stlukeseg.org](mailto:cimondi@stlukeseg.org)) or call the parish office (401-884-4116). Happy Celebrating!

## 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](mailto:cimondi@stlukeseg.org) | <http://stlukeseg.org>  
99 Peirce Street  
East Greenwich, RI 02818