



St. Luke's Episcopal Church

Where all are welcome at the Lord's table

weekly

July 25, 2021

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Greetings!

Over the last few weeks, I've run into people who, in the course of our conversations have said something to the effect of: "Everything happens for a reason" or "I guess it's just part of God's plan." I always cringe when I hear that. It's not that I'm unsympathetic to where that comes from- we long to trust God, and when things happen that baffle us or people are hurt and we can't imagine why, we hope that there's a greater reason, a greater purpose for it. If God loves us, why else would God allow suffering to exist?

I've heard something like that my whole life. My baby brother (who honestly hasn't been a baby for decades), was born with severe club feet. He was in casts and braces almost the entire time we were growing up. He also had ear infections that were so severe he couldn't hear properly and had to have several sets of tubes. Because of the ear infections, he was speech delayed. Many of my earliest memories are of being in the hospital with my mom and brother as he got his casts changed, new braces fit, or was examined by another specialist. My dad was early in his career as a Marine Corps officer, and so Mom was often on her own with two small kids. I remember when it occurred to me that she had managed all of that beginning in her early 20's, and I could not believe how easy she had made it all look. My brother and I always knew we were loved and special to her; she just took care of things and made things happen as though it was normal.

Because we were in the hospital so much, I saw many kids who were dealing with serious health issues. Some were recovering from severe burns, some did not have fully developed limbs, some had a myriad of health issues that clustered together in impossible knots. Here is one of my firm convictions: God did not need any of that to happen. God did not need those children to suffer. God did not need those families to suffer. Our God, who is Love Incarnate, did not need any of that to happen for a greater plan.

Stay Connected



Here is another of my firm convictions: God makes all things new. God brings light from places of darkness, God brings hope from places of hopelessness, God brings new life from death. Think of all of the decisions we make every day and the decisions those around us make. Our common life depends on one another. When we make choices, they don't just impact us but they impact those around us. Some of those choices bring pain, but some bring life. My brother had access to world class care at the Shriner's Hospital because there was a network of people who sought out kids like him and then made sure that their needs were met. Those kids became family to one another. Their families supported one another. We learned compassion and care and resilience and even joy that persists despite our circumstances. We learned that healing sometimes looks like someone's illness resolving and healing sometimes looks like learning to live fully with our wounds still present.

My baby brother is now a grown man, smart and kind, funny and loyal, a ridiculously hard worker, and just an all-around good person. He has not had an easy life; but if he meets you, he won't tell you about that. He'll want to hear your story; he'll want to know how you're doing. He's got a deeply empathetic heart that is a gift to those who get to call him friend. My brother has known light in times of darkness, and now he is a light to others.

This is our call too. We are people who believe that darkness does not own us because we are children of the light. We are people of resurrection. We are people who profess that new life comes from the most unexpected places. Our call is to name those places of hurt and grief, and then to faithfully, patiently, and expectantly be present so that when new life is revealed to us we are ready to proclaim it. That faithful living, that being present with one another in good times and bad, that attentiveness to joy and hope, that expectation of resurrection and new life, that is God's plan for us. So let us go forth into the world, rejoicing in the power of the Spirit.

Faithfully,
Mtr. Tanya

This Sunday at St. Luke's

[The Ninth Sunday after Pentecost](#)

Click above for the lessons

7:45am 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

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 the 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

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	\$265,360	\$248,000	107.00%	\$231,612	\$33,748
Loose Plate	\$14,302	\$10,000	143.02%	\$10,692	\$3,610
Other Personal Inc.	\$42,984	\$33,750	127.36%	\$31,718	\$11,266
Total Personal Inc.	\$322,646	\$291,750	110.59%	\$274,022	\$48,624
Total Other Inc	\$99,371	\$105,792	93.93%	\$76,593	\$22,778
Total Income	\$422,017	\$397,542	106.16%	\$350,615	\$71,402
Staff Expenses	\$220,107	\$224,037	98.25%	\$208,662	\$11,445
Facilities Expenses	\$49,060	\$61,095	80.30%	\$61,437	(\$12,377)
Program Expenses	\$10,822	\$18,500	58.50%	\$11,923	(\$1,101)
Outreach Expenses	\$8,976	\$7,894	113.71%	\$4,095	\$4,881
Total Expenses	\$330,227	\$351,474	93.95%	\$334,260	(\$4,033)
Net Income	\$91,790	\$46,069	199.24%	\$16,354	\$75,436

Financial results continue their encouraging trend. I am overwhelmed, but then I am often overwhelmed by the generosity of the parishioners around here!

Mike

Pledge Envelopes

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

Adult Faith

Adult Faith

"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 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!

We will not have Adult Faith Formation on July 21st or 28th.

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).

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!

Loaves and Fishes

Loaves & Fishes Run - July 24!

Welcome back everyone! It has been so wonderful to see so many of your beautiful faces in person again! We kept community and kept faith and here we are, slowly, coming out on the other side of it all. I am so excited to inform you all that as we are able to gather together once again, we are officially starting up our monthly Loaves and Fishes runs!

As so many of us know, the pandemic has affected everyone's lives so deeply, but none more so than those groups that were already marginalized pre-COVID. Please join us in reuniting with our brothers and sisters in Woonsocket on Saturday, July 24th. It will be a time filled with joy, as we catch up with old faces (and probably meet some new ones!).

Just a friendly reminder, if you can only sign up for a portion of a slot, do not let it deter you, any and all offerings are greatly appreciated! If you are new to the ministry, there are several ways to be involved, including donating items, helping prep and going on the run. If you'd like to come on the run but aren't sure how to help, there will be experienced volunteers on hand to guide you. Hope you can join us!

[Click Here](#) to sign up for our run on July 24!



Pastoral Care

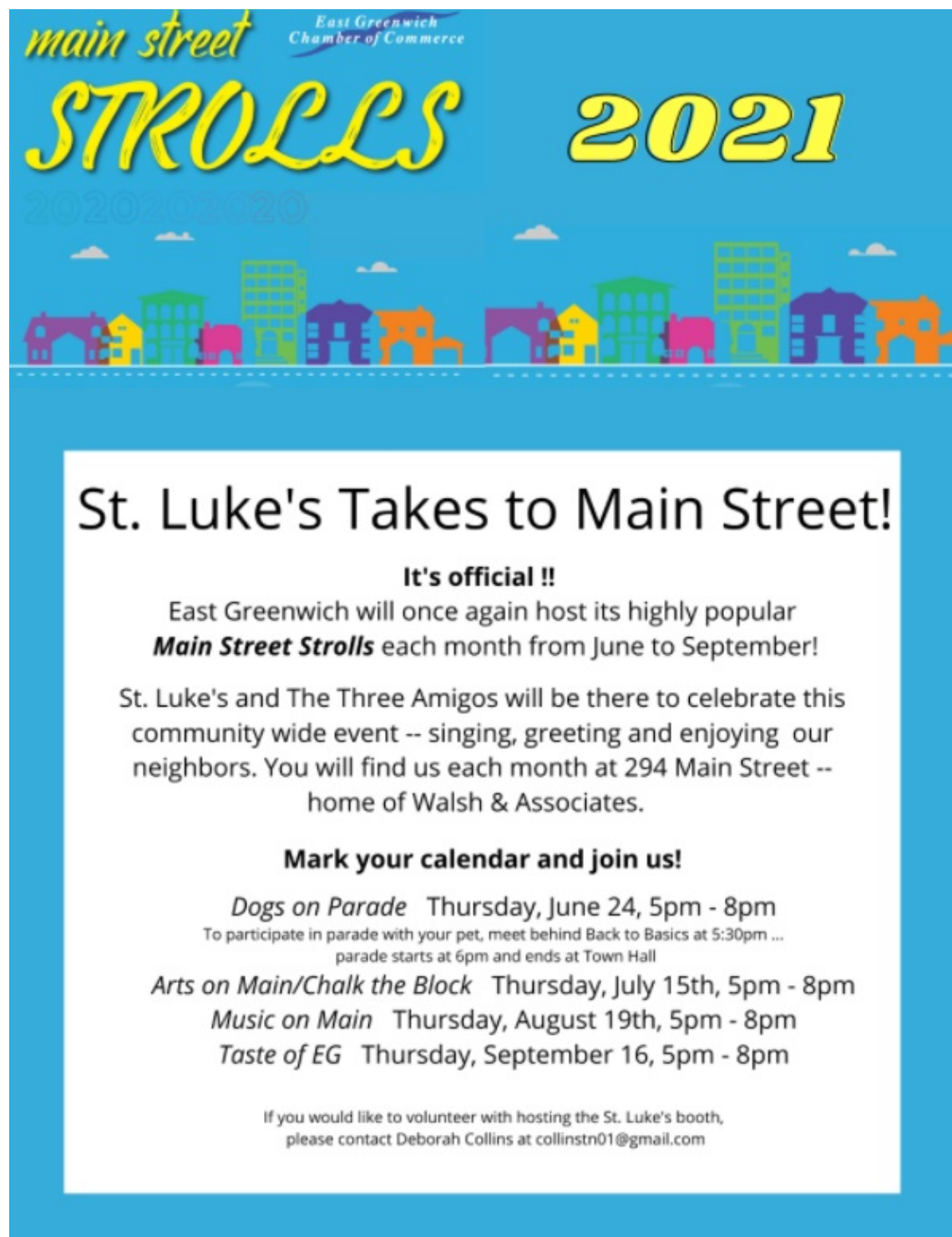
Pastoral Care Ministry

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

The poster features a blue background with a row of colorful, stylized buildings in shades of purple, yellow, green, and orange. At the top left, it says 'main street' in a cursive font, followed by 'East Greenwich Chamber of Commerce' in a smaller font. The main title 'STROLLS 2021' is written in large, bold, yellow letters. Below the title, the year '2020-2020' is faintly visible. The central text is enclosed in a white box with a blue border.

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 collinstrn01@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! **Of note, we are still looking for a few young people to participate in the choir!**

If you would like your child to participate, (entirely up to parents' discretion), these are the guidelines we've received from the director of the movie: Young choir members or participants who are not vaccinated will need to take a rapid Covid test not more than 48 hours in advance and provide proof they are negative for Covid.

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

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 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

