



St. Luke's Episcopal Church

Where all are welcome at the Lord's table

weekly

July 4, 2021

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Greetings!

I have a dear friend who has dated a lot of people, but I knew she was serious about her current partner when I saw Facebook posts of them hiking together. She's not exactly the hiking type, but there she was, out in nature, trying something new. I finally got to meet her partner a few weeks ago, and over a delightful lunch I heard some of their hiking stories. My friend shared her surprise at how much she enjoys hiking but lamented her slow pace. Evidently there's an app that estimates the time a hike typically takes. She had taken six hours to do what was supposed to be a three-hour hike, and as she began to berate herself for being so slow, her partner put her hand on her shoulder and gently said: "It takes the time it takes." There was no judgment, no passive aggressive or competitive tone lingering beneath the surface. Just gently, it takes the time it takes. I've thought of that so often since I heard those words.

I thought about it again when Ellen Abell read from Ecclesiastes at Anne Mackie's funeral: for everything there is a season. Seasons take the time they take. There is a season for joy and a season for grief. For our Adult Faith Forum this week, we read chapter four from Henri Nouwen's *Following Jesus*. In it, he reflects on the call to take up our cross, naming that we do not have to invent a cross or take on Jesus' cross, but we have to be willing to name our own pain and suffering, to be present to it, and to take it in prayer to our God who deeply, viscerally understands it. To ignore our pain or suffering is to be alienated from something that is part of our shared human condition. We all suffer, we all experience pain, but our world often wants us to rush by it, or to sell us a quick fix, or to tell us to stop dwelling on it. Nouwen had a lovely insight: "[There was a time when people] felt their pain and let the fruits of grief grow in them." I was so struck by that phrase: the fruits of grief.

Reading that I thought about my backyard garden, where fruits are just beginning to grow. I was so excited to plant, but it felt like after the joy of planting nothing

Stay Connected



was happening. I pulled weeds, I saw little seedlings that made me hope something might pop up, but for weeks it seemed that my efforts were pointless. Then, just yesterday, I saw that not only were there tomatoes, but one was ripening a beautiful red. Peas are coming from my plants. Strawberries are trying again to blossom after a sneaky robin stole my first fruit. Those are the burgeoning fruits of my garden, fruits that have taken the time they take to come forth. I wonder what the fruits of grief are.

When my grandpa died, I noticed that my dad became more reflective. He began to ask different kinds of questions about life than he had before. Our conversations took a different turn as he became more willing to share part of his emotional life with me. Perhaps reflection and vulnerability are fruits of grief. Several years ago, I had a colleague who lost her son to a motorcycle accident. She had always been very task oriented and expected people to work to very high standards. We were talking one day a few months after her son had died, and she told me about how hard it was to focus on her tasks at work. She began to intentionally develop compassion for herself, being gentle with herself when she couldn't meet the standards she previously had, and as she developed that for herself, she began to develop it for others too. She realized that we all are carrying some burden, some grief, and that we all benefit when we are gentler with one another. Perhaps compassion is another fruit of grief.

As we emerge from the pandemic, I've noticed that some of us want to rush back to normalcy, we want to gloss over or forget the pains of the past year. It's such a human thing- no one wants to dwell on such a miserable experience. I wonder what fruits of grief we miss, though, if we rush too quickly back to the way things were. Our grief, our suffering, our burdens are real. If we do not name them, we become disconnected from our lived experience. We forget the lessons of compassion and gentleness, of reflection and vulnerability that we encountered. When we remember these, when we let the fruits of grief grow within us and then harvest them, we can share the fruits with others. We can be present to others in their own times of grief and pain. We can lighten our load by sharing our burdens with one another. We can increase our joy by sharing it with one another, too.

We are emerging from the pandemic at different paces. Be kind to yourself and to each other. We have lived through a long season of large and small losses, large and small joys, of making things work in circumstances no one could have imagined. Let us

remember the lessons we've learned over the last year. Let us name our joys in thanksgiving to God and our sufferings and sorrows in lament to God. There is no perfect timeline, there is no one right way. We walk this road together, and it takes the time it takes.

Blessings,
Mtr. Tanya

This Sunday at St. Luke's

The Sixth 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

Church Picnic

SAVE THE DATE! - Church Picnic

Sunday, July 11th

Goddard Park Carousel

10:15 - Worship Service

Followed by a Church BBQ and Picnic

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

St. Luke's will be providing the hamburgers & hot dogs. Remaining cautious, we are asking each family to bring your own side dish and dessert. St. Luke's will also provide Lemonade and Water as beverage.

[Click Here](#) to sign up through Sign-up Genius, sign-up on the sheet in the atrium, call the church at 884-4116, or email at cimondi@stlukeseg.org by Wednesday, July 7th. We want to make sure there will be enough hot dogs and hamburgers for everyone.

We also need a few volunteers to arrange and clean the tables and chairs at the Carousel at 8:15am before the church service. This year, we need a few helpers to serve Hamburgers and Hot dogs and a few helpers to clean up after the picnic.

Thank you to the men of Theology on Tap for transporting the grill, tables, and other equipment to the park, and prepping the burgs and dogs and cooking them.

Please contact Lois McLoughlin at 401-885-3104 or Christina in church office at 884-4116 if you have any questions.

The 7:45 service will be held at St. Luke's as usual, and it will be live-streamed.

The 10:15 service will not be live-streamed on July 11.



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!

Kitchen Renovation Update

Dear St. Luke's Parishioners,

Progress continues on the kitchen, dining room and accessible lift renovations.

Demolition is mostly complete. The old kitchen cabinets, kitchen equipment and dining room ceiling have been removed. Usually, hidden problems are uncovered during demolition. In our case, however, we actually had a bit of good news when we saw what was above the dining room ceiling. The existing framing can mostly be reused. It already forms most of the soffits and coffers needed to support the new ceiling. Definitely not what we expected to be up there above the old low flat ceiling! Holdenworks has been trueing up and reinforcing it, but we will realize some savings in framing costs. We will use that savings to relocate some existing plumbing lines that run down the middle of the dining room ceiling. We were originally going to frame around them, resulting in a slightly lower ceiling at the center beam. But now we can have a consistent bottom of soffit at about 8'-6" high, with about 9'-0" high coffers in between.

Some dining room soffit drywall boards have been installed, and framing to support new food code-compliant washable wall panels in the kitchen is underway. Orders have been placed for the accessible lift, light fixtures, commercial kitchen equipment, and wood veneer cabinets for the kitchen and servery. Peter Lofgren, our architect, went up to the cabinet fabrication shop this week to review and confirm the final cabinet details before they go into production.

National Grid has received our work order payment which will allow them to begin upgrading the electrical service from the street to our building. The new 3-phase service will allow us to streamline the main electrical panels in the kitchen area and use more electrically efficient kitchen appliances. It will also allow for dining room and auditorium air conditioning systems to be added in the future.

The Kitchen Improvements Committee has had a couple of productive meetings on site with Peter and Holdenworks. It has been so helpful to have collaborative in-person meetings on the site during this pandemic-subsiding time. We first met to flesh out the dining room finishes that will be put back into the project thanks to the recent additional funding we received. The built-in benches under the windows will be re-clad with warm-colored clear poly pine boards. At the pilasters between the windows, we have decided to go with a painted drywall finish (to

cover the existing concrete block) with wood paneling boxing out just the lower part to conceal the existing unit heaters. These wood box enclosures will have a new decorative grille at the face of the heater and will be removable to allow for maintenance. We all felt that this approach will feel lighter than cladding the entire pilaster with wood panels all the way up to the ceiling. And it will provide an opportunity to place artwork that can provide interest and color in the room. This slightly less expensive approach will also allow us to cover the last remaining bits of concrete block wall with drywall. No more visible concrete block in the dining room!

We have decided to go with simpler moveable screens to shield the tables and chairs when they are stored in the far corners. These screens will also double as marker boards on one side. This will be a more flexible solution than sliding wall panels, and will allow for views over them to the corner windows for a brighter, lighter feel. We are looking at options to dress up the existing doors and windows that open to the underside of the loggia. We do still need to work around the reality that the area just outside is needed for trash and recycling storage, so screening unsightly views is a key consideration. More on that to come.

We have removed the two built-in benches along the blank wall between the stair entrance and the courtyard windows. They will be replaced with a long buffet counter with storage cabinets below -- for use by the groups that rent out our space. This cabinetry will also create a uniform backdrop for the audio-visual presentation setup, and will house AV equipment in a lockable cabinet.

This leads us to the second meeting we had on site -- with an audio-visual consultant. A projection screen and ceiling-mounted projector will be set up facing the blank wall area between the stairs and the courtyard. Both lecture-style and conference table setups can be set up with this orientation. AV jacks will be located on the cabinet behind and to the side of the screen so that standing presentations can be made from a lectern. Jacks will also be provided in the columns on either side of this area so that seated presentations can be made from a conference table. Ceiling speakers will be dispersed and calibrated to provide even sound throughout the dining room. We are going with a simple pull-down projector screen rather than a motorized one (which would eventually break). Instead, we are putting cost toward a higher quality screen surface that will provide a brighter, clearer projected image.

I'm so excited to be able to report all this progress. Of course, none of this would have been possible without the tremendous generosity of all of you. While we await final costs for all the new scope, it is generally falling in line with our projections of what the additional amount of funding will afford. I am, as ever, so grateful. More progress and more updates to follow. Thank you for being a part of making this all happen.

Peace,
Gary Schweizer

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 is 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 5. 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 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).

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

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

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

