



St. Luke's Episcopal Church

Where all are welcome at the Lord's table

weekly

September 12, 2021

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Greetings!

This week is Kickoff Sunday! I can hardly believe it. Last year at this time, we had a sort-of kind-of kickoff, but everyone kept telling me that I was missing the essence of what a real start to the program year feels like at St. Luke's. And they were right! The pandemic has altered everyone's sense of "normal". We continue to abide by the best practices suggested by the CDC and RIDOH, but even still the energy around the church this year is very different than it was last year. Masks are mandated when inside and optional for vaccinated folks when outside, but we can be inside together! And though we are masked, the congregation can sing! Youth Faith Formation begins next Sunday, September 19th, (registration will be available in the atrium Sunday, or you can fill out [this form](#)), and Adult Faith Formation resumes via Zoom on Wednesday, September 15th! Rodney is working on plans for our choirs- and what an amazing joy it has been to hear our choristers sing! Last year there were times I'd enter the church and the space itself felt lonely, like it was anticipating people who could not come. This year the church feels like it's brimming with energy and hope, as though the church itself is eager for us to gather together again. I'm so glad to be here, so glad to get to celebrate our kickoff together, so glad for the good work being done with good people who care for one another.

There are so many ways to be involved at St. Luke's, and beginning this week Sundays in September will feature some of them during coffee hour following the services. One of the loveliest ministries at St. Luke's is our Godly Play youth formation for kids who are pre-K through 5th grades. As Theresa Deiters Muscat writes below, "Godly play assumes that children have some experience of the mystery of the presence of God in their lives, but they sometimes lack the language, permission and understanding to express and enjoy this in our culture. In this room during Godly Play we encourage each child to express their understanding, their experience, and their response to God's presence in their lives." Godly Play is truly one of the most wonderful ways our children can grow in their faith, and I am delighted to share Theresa's introduction to it below. Our robust Youth Faith Formation programs are one of the amazing gifts St. Luke's offers, and we are always glad to talk with you if you want to learn more.

Every blessing to you today and always,
Mtr Tanya

GODLY PLAY

Godly Play at St. Luke's begins Sunday, September 19, 2021! Grades

Food Cupboard

3-5 meet from 9:30 to 10:05 and pre-k through 2 meet promptly from 10:10, the children then join their parents in the church at the Peace.

Quick Links

St. Luke's Church

Episcopal Diocese of Rhode Island

The Episcopal Church

The Anglican Communion

Stay Connected



Godly Play is part of the wonderful and unique curriculum that Youth Faith Formation offers here at St. Luke's. St Luke's has invested in this program for children who are in pre-k though 5th grades.

Each Sunday the children meet in the very unique and special environment we call the Godly Play Room. In the Godly Play Room the children meet with two guides, their storyteller and their greeter. Everything in this room was designed and made especially for children. *They sit in community (a circle) on the floor and are treated to a parable, silence, sacred stories, and sacred liturgy in order to discover God, themselves, one another and the world around them.*

Godly play assumes that children have some experience of the mystery of the presence of God in their lives, but they sometimes lack the language, permission and understanding to express and enjoy this in our culture. In this room during Godly Play we encourage each child to express their understanding, their experience, and their response to God's presence in their lives. They are encouraged to WONDER.....

What is Godly Play? Godly Play is what Jerome Berryman calls his interpretation of Montessori religious education. It is an imaginative approach to working with children, an approach that supports, challenges, nourishes and guides their spiritual quest.

The children enter the space after being individually greeted by name. They choose a carpet square or the much coveted puffs and find their place in the circle. They then get ready for the presentation. A candle is lit and a prayer is offered. The presentation often coincides with what is happening in church. We try as best as we can to follow the liturgical calendar. After the presentation, they are invited to respond and share their **wonderings**. *Then they then get to choose what they want to work with in the room.* The desert box is a fan favorite. Everything in the space is for them...art supplies, books, and a year's worth of lesson materials. We end with sharing a feast and a prayer.

If you are curious about seeing Godly Play in action. I encourage you to check it out on it The Godly Play YouTube channel. I am always looking to expand our team of storytellers and greeters. If you are interested in volunteering, please contact me at Theresa@stlukeseg.org or call me at 415 233 0761. I would be happy to answer all your questions and invite you to join the team.

Blessings,
Theresa Deiters Muscat
415 233 0761



This Sunday at St. Luke's

The Sixteenth 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 Fr. Tim's message regarding renewed COVID Cautions. As of Sunday, August 1, we have resumed our mask-wearing and contact tracing practices.

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!

Kick Off Sunday!

St. Luke's Kickoff Sunday!

We would love to have you share this with your friends!

St. Luke's Kickoff Sunday

September 12, 2021 at 10:15

Blessing of Youth Faith Formation Teachers

Registration for all Youth Faith Formation

Faith Formation Classes begin September 19

Godly Play (Two Sessions: Grades PreK - 2 @ 10:15 & Grades 3 - 5 @ 9:30)

Youth Faith Formation (Two Groups: Grades 6 - 8 & 9 - 11 @ 9:30)

Choir Returns!

Angel Choir (Grades K - 2) | St. Cecilia (Grades 3 - 12) | Canterbury (Adult)

Adult Faith Formation

Resumes via Zoom @ 7pm September 15

Featured Ministries Each Sunday of September in Atrium

Teacher Commissioning

**Thank you to our teachers who have volunteered to lend a hand
to open the hearts and minds of our youth!**

Nursery

Karen Phelps
Heather Johnson

Godly Play Storytellers and Greeters

Theresa Deiters Muscat
Aileen Sprague
Erica Simo
Lisa Rivera
Holly O'Brien
Jacob Trombino
Kate Goldbitz
Mary Semeraro
Mikayla Tudino
Corie Jacaruso

Youth Faith

Michael Grady
Stacey Nakasian
Tom Sprague
Allie Poirier

Royal School of Church Music (RSCM)

Sally House
Ben Lovejoy



Treasurer's Notes

From the Treasurer

August Month End

Aug-21	2021 YTD	Budget	Var	2020 YTD	Var
Pledge Income	\$331,226	\$294,000	37,226	\$290,437	\$40,789
Loose Plate	\$20,868	\$12,000	8,868	\$12,965	\$7,903
Other Personal Inc.	\$50,776	\$41,067	9,709	\$39,941	\$10,835
Total Personal Inc.	\$402,870	\$347,067	55,803	\$343,343	\$59,527
Total Other Inc	\$103,220	\$110,890	(7,670)	\$84,334	\$18,886
Total Income	\$506,090	\$457,957	48,133	\$427,677	\$78,413
Staff Expenses	\$293,954	\$299,099	(5,145)	\$275,931	\$18,023
Facilities Expenses	\$63,715	\$76,652	(12,937)	\$71,434	(\$7,719)
Program Expenses	\$13,300	\$24,250	(10,950)	\$14,594	(\$1,294)
Outreach Expenses	\$9,345	\$8,263	1,082	\$11,514	(\$2,169)
Total Expenses	\$434,478	\$461,528	(27,050)	\$436,575	(\$2,097)
			0		
Net Income	\$71,612	(\$3,571)	75,183	(\$8,898)	\$80,510

August results continue to be strong as the leadership team has continued to restrain spending as we work our way through these difficult times. And meanwhile, all of you have shown your continued support for which we express our humble thanks for all you do!

Grace and Peace,
Mike

Here are some other options available if you would like to donate to St. Luke's!



<p>Online Banking Bill Pay – with online bill pay, you add St. Luke’s Church as a payee, enter our address of 99 Peirce St. East Greenwich, RI 02818 and schedule your payment. Benefits: Ease of use – if you already use online bill pay, then you are familiar with making payments this way. You can schedule single payments, or set up regular payments in advance. No cost to you or the Church.</p>	<p>Zelle Transfer Zelle Payment – with Zelle payment transfer, you can add St. Luke’s Church by using the giving@stlukeseg.org address. Benefits: Ease of use – if you already use Zelle, then you are familiar with making payments this way. This only makes one payment at a time, so you have to initiate each payment. No cost to you or the Church</p>	<p>VANCO Payment Solutions VANCO Payments – With VANCO payments, you create your individual account on the VANCO site, set up how you want to pay, and the funds are deposited in the Church’s account Benefits: If you like points or miles, then this is your site! VANCO is the only option that accepts credit cards. Like Online Banking, you can set up recurring payments or make single payments Transaction Fees for the Church</p>	<p>Direct Payment From IRA Direct Transfer – If you are 70 ½ or older, you can instruct your IRA provider to make a Qualified Charitable Distribution directly from your IRA. Benefits: Any funds paid this way are not reported as taxable income to you. You can make your entire yearly pledge with one payment, help satisfy your required distribution, and incur no tax on the income. No cost to you or the Church</p>
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Adult Faith Formation

Adult Faith Formation

Adult Faith Formation will resume on Wednesday, September 15th, at 7pm via Zoom.

Our book for this season is *The Universal Christ: How a Forgotten Reality can Change Everything we See, Hope for, and Believe* by Richard Rohr. Rohr reminds us that we believe that "one God created all things", and he invites us to "reopen [the] ancient door of faith with a key, and that key is the proper understanding of a word that many of us use often...That word is *Christ*." Please join us as we explore our faith in Christ more deeply.

Please read the Foreword, "Before We Begin", and Part 1, Chapter 1: "Christ is not Jesus' Last Name" in anticipation of our first class.

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

Meeting ID: 867 3899 9469
Passcode: 427552

Godly Play

Godly Play

Godly Play begins Sunday, September 19th!

We’re excited to welcome your children! We have two sessions: 3rd - 5th grade will meet from 9:30 - 10:10 and PreK - 2nd grade will meet at 10:15 with the children joining their parents at the church service as we exchange the Peace. To join us, you need to complete two steps:

1. Please complete the youth registration form [Here](#) or pick up a hard copy form from the atrium at the church.
2. Please sign up for the dates your children will attend using our Sign-Up Genius - [Click Here](#). With the safety of our volunteers and kids in mind, at this time classes are limited to six children.

Questions? Contact Theresa Deiters, Director of Youth Formation, at (415) 233-0761.

Youth Faith Formation

Youth Faith Formation

"Blessed are those who find wisdom, those who gain understanding." Proverbs 3:13

We are looking forward to an exciting year of Faith Formation at St. Luke's! Our first Sunday in

class together will be September 19th. Every year our hearts are warmed as we watch your children grow in height and spirituality.

PreK-2nd Grade will meet at 10:15 downstairs in the Godly Play Room. Please try to be there by 10:05. Children will join their parents in our 10:15 service before Eucharist, at the Peace.

3rd - 5th Grade will meet 9:30 - 10:10 downstairs in the Godly Play Room. Please try to get them there by 9:25 so we can start on time.

6th - 8th Grade will meet 9:30 - 10:10 upstairs in Room 9 with leaders Mike Grady and Stacey Nakasian.

9th - 11th Grade will meet 9:30 - 10:10 upstairs in Room 7 with leaders Tom Sprague and Ali Poirer.

There is no registration fee! We are looking for some new Godly Play storytellers and greeters this year. If you'd like to learn more about serving in that ministry, please contact Theresa Deiters Muscat, our Director of Youth Faith Formation, at (415) 233-0761.

To help us as we prepare for the upcoming year, please complete the form located [Here](#) and look for a paper form coming in the mail to you soon. We will also have forms available in our atrium. Our faith teaches us to care for the most vulnerable among us, and in keeping with that we will be observing CDC, State, and Diocesan guidelines to keep our classes as safe as possible.

Please contact Theresa at the number above or Mtr Tanya at (401) 684-2844 with any questions or concerns. We look forward to growing in our faith together!

Corporate Communion

Children understand the symbolism and significance of the Eucharist in ways that are often surprising and delightful. It is no wonder that Jesus said, "Let the little children come to me!" Since the 1979 *Prayerbook*, our church has lived into the theology that Baptism is full initiation into the Body of Christ, moving away from the idea that Confirmation and "understanding" are the benchmarks for participation in the Eucharist. The book we use is an *instruction not preparation* book. It offers age-appropriate theology, liturgy, and tradition to children.

The Corporate Communion program at St. Luke's is offered each Spring. It is generally for children in the 3 or 4 grade. It is a 6 week class that takes place on Sunday's, from 9:30-10:10. CC culminates with a celebration on the last Sunday at the 10:15 service. The instructor, Erica Simo has taught the program for many years. She is kind, insightful and faithful. The children are given an instruction book called *This Bread and This Cup*, a personal journal and a beautiful gift is presented to them on the last Sunday of the program.

Our children are not the future of the church, they are the church of today. If you are interested in signing up for this program for the Spring of 2022, please feel free to reach out to me. I would be happy to answer any questions you may have and add your child's name to the class list.

Blessings,
Theresa Deiters Muscat
415 233 0761

Calling All Singers!

Calling All Singers! Come sing in a choir!

Our choirs resume after Labor Day. Have you considered participation in one of our choirs for you and/or your children? St. Luke's supports an active choral ministry, and new members of all ages are invited to sing. **We will be following current CDC and state guidance for Covid safety protocols.**

Contact Rodney Ayers, Minister of Music, for more information (rodney@stlukeseg.org)

REHEARSAL SCHEDULE

Angel Choir

PreK - 2nd Graders - Wednesdays at 4:30pm - beginning September 15

St. Cecilia Choir

3rd-12th grade Choristers - Fridays at 4pm - beginning September 10

Canterbury Choir

Adult Choir - Thursdays at 7:30pm - beginning September 9



Theology on Tap

Theology On Tap – Kickoff

Monday, September 20 @ 7 pm – All men of St. Luke's are invited!

If you would like to reconnect with church friends or meet some new ones, we would love to have you join us for the September TOT meeting, as we kickoff our 2021-22 year. TOT is a casual group of St. Luke's men, who enjoy meeting monthly for occasional service projects, guided discussion and mostly good conversation and fellowship. Everyone is welcome and we all leave feeling enriched.

If you have questions, suggestions, or want to get added to the email distribution list, contact Brent Bostick at 908-230-7569 or brentbostick1@gmail.com

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

Loaves and Fishes

Loaves and Fishes

We'd like to thank everyone who donated supplies and food to this month's Loaves and Fishes run to the Family Shelter in Woonsocket. The meals, backpacks with school supplies, underwear, and other supplies were very much appreciated by the shelter. It felt great to help the people there who are in such desperate need. Keep your eye out for plans for our next run on September 25th. The shelter staff identified a need in the future for bath towels, facecloths, and used DVD players. We couldn't continue this mission without your support."



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

main street

*East Greenwich
Chamber of Commerce*

STROLLS

20

2021



**St. Luke's at
Taste of East Greenwich Stroll
Thursday, September 16 -- 5pm to 8pm**

St. Luke's will be there to celebrate this community wide event -- meeting and greeting our neighbors. Local restaurants will be serving up samples from their kitchens -- so, be prepared to feast!

You will find us at 294 Main Street...
home of Walsh & Associates.

Join us!

St. Luke's RaiseRight Program

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

Enjoy the rest of summer and raise funds for St. Luke's!

Make the most of the final month of summer. Whether you're squeezing in another trip, home project or party with friends, buy everything you need with e-cards from RaiseRight and raise money for a cause you care about.



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) 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).



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

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