



St. Luke's Episcopal Church

Where all are welcome at the Lord's table

weekly

October 24, 2021

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Greetings!

When I was serving as a chaplain intern at St. Andrew's Episcopal School in Maryland, I visited a kindergarten class where the conversation had turned to some of the things we know about God. "God loves everyone," I said. Incredulously, a little boy asked: "Even *robbers*?" "Yes," I replied. The class gasped.

And so we talked about how God's love doesn't depend on whether we've done something good or something bad, but persists no matter what we do. I asked if anyone had ever been mean to their brother or sister or lied to their mom or dad. Much squirming ensued. I've done that, too, I said. They were shocked. But my brother still loves me, and so does my mom and dad. They nodded. God's love is so big that even if we're mean to someone, or lie to someone, or do something we shouldn't have done, God's love for us continues. There is nothing we can do to make God love us any less.

They had many other questions, including asking if God was everywhere did that mean they were sitting on him, but I mostly remember our conversation about the love of God. At some point in our lives, many of us wonder if God's love for us is real. Sometimes we wonder if we could possibly deserve a love that is immense beyond our ability to imagine it and does not decrease at all, even when we fail. The truth is that the question of whether we deserve God's love misses the point entirely. We can fret over it, but while we do God's love for us persists. The only thing to do is open our hearts to the love that is already present, the love that existed before time even began, the love that knows us and calls each of us by name.

The love that we read about in the gospels is agape, a love that persists without any conditions, a love that always calls us to our very best selves, a love that wants the very best for us. That is the love God has for us, that is the love God calls us to share with one another. But it is difficult to share that kind of love with others if we are unwilling to receive it ourselves. So today I invite you to pause, breathe deeply, and turn your awareness to the presence of God in your midst. Open your hearts to the love that is as near to you as your own breath. God is full of loving-kindness, of mercy that heals our most wounded places. God's love does not have limits. Receive the gift that is already given to you, and then share that gift with others.

Grace and peace to you,
Mtr Tanya

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Stay Connected



This Sunday at St. Luke's

[The Twenty-second 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.

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 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!

St. Luke's Commitment Campaign

**All year long, St. Luke's gives to you and through you
to help others. So please make a pledge for 2022. It's a gift you can see and feel
making a difference every day.**



Reopening Announcement

St. Luke's has Reopened!

We are so excited to welcome everyone back to St. Luke's!

Click Here to view Fr. Tim's message regarding updated COVID protocols.

As of Sunday, August 1, we have resumed our mask-wearing and contact tracing practices.

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!

Mark Your Calendars!

Mark Your Calendar!

Sunday, October 31st, our 10:15 Celebration will be outdoors behind Swift Gym!

Kids are invited to come in costume!

Adults are welcome to do the same 😊

Bring your own chair or blanket for comfort.

Treasurer's Notes

From the Treasurer

September Month End

Sep-21	2021 YTD	Budget	Var	2020 YTD	Var
Pledge Income	\$359,914	\$324,000	35,914	\$312,281	\$47,633
Loose Plate	\$24,388	\$15,000	9,388	\$14,234	\$10,154
Other Personal Inc.	\$54,102	\$44,750	9,352	\$46,537	\$7,565
Total Personal Inc.	\$438,404	\$383,750	54,654	\$373,052	\$65,352
Total Other Inc	\$120,227	\$126,489	(6,262)	\$91,909	\$28,318
Total Income	\$558,631	\$510,239	48,392	\$464,961	\$93,670
Staff Expenses	\$331,153	\$336,880	(5,727)	\$312,777	\$18,376
Facilities Expenses	\$78,358	\$87,990	(9,632)	\$94,078	(\$15,720)
Program Expenses	\$14,841	\$27,125	(12,284)	\$17,201	(\$2,360)
Outreach Expenses	\$9,529	\$8,447	1,082	\$11,698	(\$2,169)
Total Expenses	\$494,497	\$520,365	(25,868)	\$506,740	(\$12,243)
			0		
Net Income	\$64,134	(\$10,126)	74,260	(\$41,780)	\$105,914

End of the 3rd quarter, and the St. Luke's team (that's all of you!) continues to perform well!

Dave Savage had a busy month coordinating some repair work:

- Stained Glass Window has been repaired

- Flat roof has been repaired near the tower
- Ceiling and some plaster repair was done

Vanco and PayPal QR Codes If You Would Like To Donate



Vanco



PayPal

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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Lay Eucharistic Minister and Lay Reader Training



Adult Faith Formation

Adult Faith Formation

Wednesdays 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. You can see Richard Rohr speak about his book at the [video](#) posted by the Center for Action and Contemplation.

Please read Chapters 6 and 7 in preparation for our final class on *The Universal Christ*.

There will be no Adult Faith Forum on Wednesday, November 3rd.

Click Here to join the meeting! Zoom Meeting Information is below:

Meeting ID: 867 3899 9469

Passcode: 427552

Youth Faith Formation



Nursery and Godly Play

Nursery

We are happy to welcome your children back! Our nursery has reopened for both services. Please sign-up on our Sign-Up Genius page found [Here](#). We are limited to six children per service.

Godly Play

Godly Play has begun!

We're excited to welcome your children! We have two sessions: 9:30 and 10:15 in the auditorium. 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](#).

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

Advent Blog

St. Luke's Advent Blog

It's hard to believe, but the season of Advent is nearly here! As we experienced together last year, our St. Luke's Advent Blog is a wonderful resource for prayer and reflection. Posts are based on the lectionary Scripture assigned for the day, with writers reflecting on a theme, phrase, or even word that has struck them in a particular way. You don't need to be an expert or even have

experience writing about Scripture; just an open heart and willingness to share.

We are in need of writers! If you would like to write a short (1-3 paragraph) reflection for our blog, please email Mtr Tanya at tanya@stlukese.org, and she will send you a set of daily readings and more detailed instructions.

Kitchen Improvement Committee

Kitchen Improvement Committee Needs Your Help **October 25 @ 6:00PM**

The Kitchen Improvement Committee needs your help. On Monday, Oct 25, at 6:00 pm, we will be moving 200 folding chairs and 8 tables from the Dining Room to the Auditorium. Moving the chairs and tables will provide room for cabinetry and equipment when they arrive and to get them out of the way as we work to complete construction.

Many hands make work light! We should be able to finish in an hour if we get enough help! Let me know if you can help.

Thank,
Steve McLoughlin
smcloughlin2@aol.com

Theology On Tap

Theology on Tap

Monday, October 25, at 7 pm – All Men Of St. Luke's Are Invited!

I'm pleased to report that St. Luke's Men's group – Theology on Tap – is now meeting in person (with masks) at the church each month. In September, we saw how fulfilling it was to reconnect and interact again and we plan to meet again this month on Monday, October 25, at 7 pm in the Blackburn Room.

TOT is a casual group of St. Luke's men, who enjoy meeting monthly for occasional service projects, guided discussions and mostly good conversation and fellowship. Everyone is welcome and we all leave feeling enriched.

If you have any 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

Saint Luke's Loaves & Fishes

Our Run Will Be Held On October 23, 2021

In October Saint Luke's Loaves and Fishes will join Help the Homeless RI to provide lunches for the underserved in the West Warwick community. Help the Homeless works within our communities to create a statewide effort to help the homeless providing meals and other items. Additional information is available at <https://www.facebook.com/helpthehomelessri/>. We are excited about working with them in our outreach efforts.

Saint Luke's will be providing bagged lunches (30) to supplement the hot lunch provided by Help the Homeless in West Warwick. We will also begin what we plan to be a monthly sharing of bagged lunches (20) with our neighbors residing in the East Greenwich Hotel.

As an extension of our Loaves & Fishes ministry, we have been in contact with the Woonsocket Transitional Family Shelter. In October we are planning on assisting them with new pillows and gently used twin sheet sets for the shelter. When a family moves out, they are allowed to take these items to their new location, so the shelter is always in need of more.

If you are new to the ministry, there are several ways to be involved, including donating items, helping prep and going on the run. Here is the link to sign up:

<https://www.signupgenius.com/go/10C0F4EA8AF2CA7FDC34-stlukes>

Prep work begins at St. Luke's starts at 10 a.m. Please leave all donated items off at the church before then. We will leave around 11:30 a.m. and return by 2:00 p.m.

If you would like to help with the clothing, we can always use you! Much of that work is done at different times during the month. Email Joyce Harvey at joyce836@gmail.com or Caroline Sparhawk at cdsparhawk@verizon.net. (* At this time, we will only be handing out socks, underwear.)

****WHERE TO LEAVE DONATIONS:** For clothing and nonperishable items dropped off before the run date, please leave them in the church office or right outside the office. Please do NOT leave items in the preschool room. On the day of the run, leave items in the main lobby.

We are updating our contact list. If you would like to be removed, have corrected or preferred information please let us know at - saintlukesfeedingministry@gmail.com.

If you have questions, please contact us at saintlukesfeedingministry@gmail.com or by calling the Saint Luke's office. Thank you for your continued support and dedication!

Also, as an extension of our Loaves & Fishes ministry, we have been in contact with the Woonsocket Transitional Family Shelter to periodically fill their needs. In August, we were able to deliver backpacks and this month we were able to deliver towels and DVD players.

A huge thank you goes out to Julia Poore who saw our request and collected over 35 towels by putting flyers out around town and to the Sparhawks for the DVD collection. We are now requesting new pillows and gently used twin sheet sets for the shelter. When a family moves out, they are allowed to take these items to their new location so the shelter is always in need of more.

We will be accepting donations at the church for an October 28th delivery.

Questions? Please contact Linda Wegrzyn at Ldwez@cox.net

Thank you for your continued support and dedication!



Afghan Evacuees

Afghan Evacuees Arriving Soon

In the coming weeks Rhode Island will welcome around 50 Afghan families who were evacuated when the U.S. withdrew from Afghanistan. Dorcas International Institute of Rhode Island is coordinating their placement, but finding suitable and sustainable housing for so many newcomers at once is proving very difficult in our extremely tight housing market. Here's how you can help!

- Do you know of any low-cost rentals?
- Are you a realtor, or do you know any realtors specializing in rentals who could be on the lookout for suitable properties?
- Do you have a vacant property, in-law apartment, garage apartment, etc., that you could spare for a time?

If you have any hot leads, please contact Ann Rheault, 401-218-2383 or annrheault@gmail.com and I will pass them on to our contact at Dorcas.

Stay tuned for more ways to help out.

For more info visit diiri.org/proudly-welcoming-all-to-rhode-island.

Dorcas Donations

Dorcas Donations

We are now collecting donations for our Dorcas Ministry! We are looking for better sportswear and clothing suitable for job interviews. Please drop off in the atrium under the mosaic and label as Dorcas. Thanks so much for 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

Medicare Patient Resource Center

Medicare Plans Patient Resource Center

We were contacted by a group called The Medicare Plans Patient Resource Center. They have created a website with extensive information and resources for those who are eligible to enroll in Medicare. They asked us to share information they have specifically curated for people in Rhode Island. If you are interested in accessing this resource, their information is below:

Navigating Medicare's plans, benefits, and enrollments can be challenging and time consuming. The Medicare Plans Patient Resource Center offers resources to fully understand your Medicare rights with data-driven, fact-based information from Medicare industry experts and health professionals. The Resource Center can be accessed [here](#).

St. Luke's RaiseRight Program

Embrace The Fall Season And Raise Additional Funds For St. Luke's!

Fall is officially here; the season of warm drinks, cozy sweaters and home-made comfort food. Use RaiseRight E-cards to purchase all the things you need to embrace the season and raise additional funds for St. Luke's!



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

