



St. Luke's Episcopal Church

Where all are welcome at the Lord's table

weekly

October 3, 2021

In This Issue

[This Sunday at St. Luke's](#)

[Reopening Announcement](#)

[Treasurer Announcement](#)

[Lay Eucharistic Minister and Lay Reader Training](#)

[Adult Faith Formation](#)

[Nursery and Godly Play](#)

[Youth Faith Formation](#)

[Blessing Of The Animals!](#)

[Calling All Singers!](#)

[Celebration of a New Ministry](#)

[Women of Grace](#)

[Coffee Hour](#)

[Loaves and Fishes](#)

[Dorcas Donations](#)

[Pastoral Care](#)

[St. Luke's RaiseRight Program](#)

[St. Luke's Birthdays, Anniversaries, and Special Days of Thanksgiving](#)

[St. Luke's Choirs](#)

Greetings!

If you have men who will exclude any of God's creatures from the shelter of compassion and pity, you will have men who will deal likewise with their fellow men. -St. Francis of Assisi

In celebrating the life and values of St. Francis of Assisi, this Sunday we will be blessing any and all animals brought to the 10:15 service. It is one of my favorite Sundays of the year.

I love meeting the dogs, cats, rabbits, and other pets which make up your families. I love seeing the affection you feel for these animals, as you hold them tenderly and present them for a blessing. And I love the energy and joy these animals bring to our worship. Not only is the content of our worship changed on this Sunday, but I find so too are we changed as we worship—at least for this one day.

Someone asked me recently, “Why do we bless animals when we celebrate the Feast Day of St. Francis?” I gave a quick response but later did a bit more research myself. And the first link I found when googling the question explained, “St. Francis loved all of God’s creatures and followed God’s example of kindness, mercy, compassion, and love for all of God’s creation.”

Upon first reading, this explanation hardly seemed to add new content to my own understanding. But then I read it a second time, and what struck me was the final phrase, “... love for all of God’s creation.” It occurred to me, in celebrating St. Francis, we tend to focus on the warm, fuzzy objects of his concern, without giving equal time and consideration to the entirety of his concern—that is “all of God’s creation.”

Francis had love not just for animals but for all of God’s creation, believing that the divine was present in nature as well as in humanity. His life of simplicity was born not only out of humility but also out of a reverence for the earth. While there’s no indication that he took the creation stories in Genesis literally, there is every indication he took those stories seriously. He saw God’s hand in everything and everyone around him. Which is why in the Roman Catholic tradition, St. Francis is the patron saint not just of animals but also of ecology (In 1979 Pope John Paul II declared Francis the Patron Saint of Ecologists).

Francis was in many ways the first to practice a “creation spirituality,” which expands the Christian focus to something broader than simply a concern for human salvation.

[Big Brothers and Big Sisters](#)

[Especially for Children](#)

[Food Cupboard](#)

Quick Links

[St. Luke's Church](#)

[Episcopal Diocese of Rhode Island](#)

[The Episcopal Church](#)

[The Anglican Communion](#)

Stay Connected



It seems to me a sad irony that in the week prior to celebrating his life and remembering his witness, the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service announces that 22 different animals and one plant should be moved from the endangered species list and declared extinct.

Now, truth be told, I am much more a humanist than an environmentalist. But as I reflect upon this latest announcement and additional forecasts, I think I hear Francis weep.

So this coming week, in celebrating the Feast Day of St. Francis, I plan to do more than simply bless the animals on Sunday and take my beloved Brinkley for a long walk on Monday (the actual Feast Day). I plan to sit at my computer and read a bit more about these extinctions—and about creation spirituality. And having done so, I plan to pray intentionally for what I have learned and the will to amend my life according to it all.

Will this make a huge difference to our earth? Maybe not. But it just may alter my focus as I live on this earth. And it certainly will change my celebration of the Feast Day of St. Francis.

Sunday morning, I hope you will bring your beloved animal for that familiar and joy-filled blessing. And then, in the hours which follow, I invite you to join me in a celebration of St. Francis Day which remembers that he loved all of God's creation.

Peace,
Tim

This Sunday at St. Luke's

[The Nineteenth 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 7:45 am Sunday service on October 3. 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

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!

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,

Are you a PayPal user? PayPal has recently reworked it's handling of donations as a service to its customers, lowering the fee schedules for the charities involved. We have established a new relationship; and if you would like to use it, the QR code can be found next to the VANCO code below.

So if you are already a PayPal user, you can just log in and donate using this established method.



Vanco



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.</p> <p>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.</p> <p>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</p> <p>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.</p> <p>No cost to you or the Church</p>
--	---	---	--

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.

We will be reviewing Chapters 2 and 3 during our next class.

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

Meeting ID: 867 3899 9469
Passcode: 427552

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.

Youth Faith Formation - UPDATE

"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! Every year our hearts are warmed as we watch your children grow in height and spirituality.

We will offer two sessions: We will meet at 9:30 **upstairs in the Auditorium**, and we will also have a second session that will meet at 10:15 **upstairs in the Auditorium**.

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 register, please complete the form located [Here](#). We will also have forms available in our atrium, in our classrooms and on our website.

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

BLESSING OF THE ANIMALS

OCTOBER 3, 2021

Academy Field Behind Swift Gym

Holy Eucharist at 10:15

Blessing of the Animals at 11:00

ALL ARE WELCOME FOR BOTH!

Bring a chair or blanket!

Mask required if unvaccinated.



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



Celebration of a New Ministry

*The Wardens, Vestry, and Congregation of
Trinity Church*

*cordially invite you to attend
the Celebration of a New Ministry
at which*

The Rt. Rev. W. Nicholas Knisely

Bishop of Rhode Island

Will institute

The Rev. Timothy J. Watt

As the Rector of the Parish



The Feast of St. Francis of Assisi [Observed]

Your prayers and presence are requested

at the service and reception

on Saturday, the 2nd of October,

two thousand twenty-one,

at six o'clock in the evening

One Queen Anne Square, Newport, Rhode Island

Clergy are requested to wear white stoles

Reception to follow

RSVP 401-846-0660 or cdias@trinitynewport.org

Women of Grace – Poetry Revisited!

Women of Grace opens its Fall 2021 season on Monday, October 4 at 7pm.

Jen Cormier will share a composite of our reflections from last December on what WoG has meant to them. In addition to enjoying Jen's creative work, we will explore what has happened in our lives and through WoG in the past year. To get a sense of Jen and her writing, please take a moment to view her blog (<https://thedoorthewoods.com/>) ... a meditative retreat!

Women of Grace typically meets on the first Monday of each month. Each meeting runs from 7pm to 9pm including some social time, discussion, and spiritual reflection or prayer. Our October 4th meeting will be held in-person at the home of Tricia Radigan: 270 Fletcher Road, North Kingstown, RI. We are grateful to Tricia for opening her home to us and look forward to good weather so that we may enjoy an evening on her lovely veranda. Going into homes urges us to take the utmost care in holding these in-person meetings. Thus, we respectfully ask that all who come are fully vaccinated.

Two final notes! First, we need a prayer/reflection volunteer to open and close the October meeting. Second, as the host, Tricia will provide coffee/tea, some assorted beverages, and a cake. We need volunteers to bring wine, a couple of desserts or fruit, and some savory appetizers like cheese and crackers to share with the group.

Please respond via email or phone to Deborah Collins (collinstn01@gmail.com; 401-885-4116) to (1) volunteer a prayer or reflection, (2) or indicate your contribution to the evening's light appetizers, and (3) to confirm your attendance. See you then!

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

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!



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

St. Luke's RaiseRight Program

Fall Back Into Your School Routine And Raise Additional Funds For St. Luke's!

From packing lunches to buying new clothes and fueling early mornings with much-needed coffee, your school routine is ramping up. Use RaiseRight E-cards to purchase all the things your family needs 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



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

Copyright © 2020. All Rights Reserved.