



# St. Luke's Episcopal Church

Where all are welcome at the Lord's table

weekly

November 7, 2021

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Greetings!

One of our local Baptist ministers recently shared a story about a hiking trip he took to Arizona this fall. He began near Flagstaff, which is in the northern part of the state. There are mountains, pine trees, and aspen groves surrounding the town. It's beautiful. But once you leave the Flagstaff area and head north, you're in the high desert, and so the scenery becomes pretty...tan. It's craggy with desert plants. There are elk and coyotes, and they are both uncomfortably close. When he hiked there, the elk were in rut, so they were particularly rambunctious and loud. There are low-lying cacti that can cause damage before you even see them. There are rattlesnakes. I know the area; and if I was imagining a place to go to relax, this would not be the place.

Then he shared something that I had not thought of - with the recent wildfires, a lot of the landscape was completely charred. Places that might have been natural landmarks were unrecognizable. Arizona regularly experiences wildfires, but in recent years the fire season has started earlier, lasted longer, and been increasingly brutal. Water is always a scarce resource, with land so dry that when it rains the ground cannot absorb it quickly enough and flash floods often come cascading down from the higher elevations to low lying ravines, carrying debris and boulders that smash into whatever is in their path. In that parched environment, fires are incredibly destructive.

Given time, though, sometimes after a few seasons and often with a process that takes longer than we'd like, fires are also harbingers of new life. When we lived in Idaho, we would take a monthly road trip to see my in-laws in Oregon. It was not uncommon for wildfires to break out near I-84, and so we would sometimes drive by an area that had been on fire but was quelled, seeing the blackened earth that followed the flames, the landscape looking bleak and desolate. It was always a surprise when, after many months, the blackened earth would begin to yield fresh new life, often a shockingly green and verdant sight among the monotonously brown high desert. I learned that there are seeds whose hulls are hard to protect them from the harsh desert climate, and it is only with fire that the hulls are broken and the seeds can begin to grow.

In some ways, we have been in a prolonged season of wildfire. Many of the natural landmarks that tell us where we are have been upended, sometimes flattened, sometimes vanished. There are stories of grief, of looking out onto the horizon and not being able to make sense of what we're seeing. Sometimes the world looks unforgiving and we wonder how anything good will come of it again. Sometimes we think the fire has ended only for flames to flare again. When

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things look their most bleak, when things are charred around us, my prayer is that we remember that death is never the end of the story. New life can come from utterly unexpected places. Places that have been barren for seasons can yield new blossoms. Let us wait together with persistence for the surprise of new life in our midst.

Blessings to you all,  
Mtr Tanya

## **This Sunday at St. Luke's**

### [All Saints' Sunday](#)

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](mailto:tanya@stlukeseg.org).

[Click Here](#) to download a copy of the parish prayer list.

The Rev. Tanya Watt, assistant rector, preaching

**Fall Back!**



## 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 Are The Sunday Bulletin QR Codes:**

**7:45 Service**



10:15 Service



OR

[Click Here](#) to view our 7:45 Sunday Bulletin!

[Click Here](#) to view our 10:15 Sunday Bulletin!

## Treasurer's Notes

### From the Treasurer

October Month End

| Oct-21              | 2021 YTD  | Budget     | Var      | 2020 YTD   | Var       |
|---------------------|-----------|------------|----------|------------|-----------|
| Pledge Income       | \$389,596 | \$361,000  | 28,596   | \$345,903  | \$43,693  |
| Loose Plate         | \$29,184  | \$18,000   | 11,184   | \$16,323   | \$12,861  |
| Other Personal Inc. | \$57,436  | \$48,483   | 8,953    | \$53,967   | \$3,469   |
| Total Personal Inc. | \$476,216 | \$427,483  | 48,733   | \$416,193  | \$60,023  |
| Total Other Inc     | \$121,882 | \$129,338  | (7,456)  | \$93,137   | \$28,745  |
| Total Income        | \$598,098 | \$556,821  | 41,277   | \$509,330  | \$88,768  |
|                     |           |            |          |            |           |
| Staff Expenses      | \$368,262 | \$374,411  | (6,149)  | \$348,809  | \$19,453  |
| Facilities Expenses | \$89,517  | \$94,873   | (5,356)  | \$98,363   | (\$8,846) |
| Program Expenses    | \$16,129  | \$32,000   | (15,871) | \$19,745   | (\$3,616) |
| Outreach Expenses   | \$9,714   | \$8,631    | 1,083    | \$11,883   | (\$2,169) |
| Total Expenses      | \$550,708 | \$576,496  | (25,788) | \$557,669  | (\$6,961) |
|                     |           |            | 0        |            |           |
| Net Income          | \$47,390  | (\$19,675) | 67,065   | (\$48,339) | \$95,729  |

Income is down slightly for the month:

- Pre-Paid pledges earlier in the year means a little less income at the end
- Parking lot rental income came in late
- We did receive \$450 van parking and \$246 from the Big Sister Bin
- Bought a new computer for Youth Faith coordinator (Theresa)

No other expenses to note.

Grace and Blessings,  
Mike

### Vanco and PayPal QR Codes If You Would Like To Donate



Vanco



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



| Online Banking  | Zelle Transfer  | VANCO Payment Solutions   | Direct Payment From IRA   |
|---|---|---|---|
| <p><b>Bill Pay</b> – 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.</p> <p><b>Benefits:</b> 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><b>Zelle Payment</b> – with Zelle payment transfer, you can add St. Luke's Church by using the <a href="mailto:giving@stlukeseg.org">giving@stlukeseg.org</a> address.</p> <p><b>Benefits:</b> 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><b>VANCO Payments</b> – 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</p> <p><b>Benefits:</b> 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><b>Direct Transfer</b> – If you are 70 ½ or older, you can instruct your IRA provider to make a Qualified Charitable Distribution directly from your IRA.</p> <p><b>Benefits:</b> 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> |
| No cost to you or the Church.   | No cost to you or the Church  | Transaction Fees for the Church   | No cost to you or the Church  |

## Adult Faith Formation

### Adult Faith Formation

The Adult Faith Formation Steering Committee invites you to a screening of *My Name is Pauli Murray* in the sanctuary on **Wednesday, November 10<sup>th</sup>, from 7:00 - 9:00pm**. Following the movie, St. Luke's parishioner and steering committee member Dr. Patricia Warburton and Mtr Tanya, our Assistant Rector, will facilitate a period of reflection and conversation.

Writing for the Episcopal News Service, Egan Millard notes: “ In the new documentary ‘ My Name Is Pauli Murray,’ filmmakers Betsy West and Julie Cohen paint a picture of an unsung trailblazer who remains relatively unknown despite her lasting influence on American society. Episcopalians know her as the first African American woman to be ordained a priest and as a pioneer in the struggles for racial and gender equality. But many may not know about other important aspects of her life, such as her struggle to come to terms with her gender identity in an era long before transgender people were accepted in mainstream society.

...The film, which incorporates excerpts from Murray's diaries and memoirs, shows how she laid

the groundwork for future achievements for racial and gender equality. [Murray is celebrated on July 1](#) in The Episcopal Church's 'Holy Women, Holy Men' calendar of saints."

We hope you will join us as we watch this documentary and reflect together on what we can learn from Pauli's story.

**On November 17, the AFF class will begin reading Barbara Brown Taylor's *Learning to Walk in the Darkness*.** In this book Taylor writes, "Darkness is shorthand for anything that scares me-- either because I am sure that I do not have the resources to survive it or because I do not want to find out. (But) I have learned things in the dark that I could never have learned in the light, things that have saved my life over and over again, so that there is really only one conclusion. I need the darkness as much as I need light."

About the author, Time magazine writes, "Few souls are as synched to the world's mysteries as Barbara Brown Taylor's... Taylor writes spiritual nonfiction that rivals the poetic power of C.S. Lewis and Frederick Buechner."

Please join the AFF class as she guides us through a spirituality of the nighttime and teaches us how to find God even in darkness.

Read the introduction and chapter 1 in preparation for the first class.

## 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@stlukeseg.org](mailto:tanya@stlukeseg.org), and she will send you a set of daily readings and more detailed instructions.

## Choral Evensong

# CHORAL EVENSONG

*Featuring music of William Mundy,  
Richard Sheppard, Charles Villiers Stanford,  
and H. Balfour Gardiner*



*Sung by the combined choirs of Grace Church and  
St. Luke's, East Greenwich*

**Sunday, November 14 at 4 PM**  
*Grace Church in Providence ~ 300 Westminister Street*

## Loaves and Fishes

### Loaves and Fishes

Our profound thanks to all of you who donated time and gifts that enabled us to have a successful October event. It is because of your commitment that we are able to carry out our mission.

In October, Saint Luke's Loaves and Fishes joined Help the Homeless RI to provide lunches for the underserved in the West Warwick community. This was our first visit to the site and despite growing pains of working with a new organization, it was a meaningful and rewarding day. 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.

We provided 30 bagged lunches to West Warwick and 20 to our neighbors residing in the East Greenwich Hotel. This begins what we plan to be a monthly sharing of bagged lunches.

As an extension of our Loaves & Fishes ministry, we have been in contact with the Woonsocket

Transitional Family Shelter. In October, we provided them with new pillows, sheets 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.

For November, the Shelter has asked if we could provide twin size blankets and winter hats and gloves. Details are available on the SignUp Genius and we will be accepting donations at the Church for a November 22<sup>nd</sup> delivery. Thank you for your continued support and dedication. Questions? Please contact Linda Wegrzyn at [Ldwez@cox.net](mailto:Ldwez@cox.net).

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 and starts at 10:30 AM. Please leave all donated items off at the church before then. We will leave around noon and return by 2:00 PM.

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](mailto:joyce836@gmail.com) or Caroline Sparhawk at [cdsparhawk@verizon.net](mailto:cdsparhawk@verizon.net). (\* At this time, we will only be handing out socks and underwear.)

**\*\*WHERE TO LEAVE DONATIONS:** For clothing and 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](mailto:saintlukesfeedingministry@gmail.com).

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

## 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



### **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](mailto: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](http://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**

**Our next Pastoral Care Meeting will take place on November 10 at 10 am in the Blackburn Room.**

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

### **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](mailto: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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