



St. Luke's Episcopal Church

Where all are welcome at the Lord's table

weekly

March 20, 2022

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Dear Brothers and Sisters,

At the end of February, our Adult Faith Formation met via Zoom to watch a video by Rob Bell called Lump, a reference to the lump on his bed that was his child hiding under the blankets after his lies had been discovered. *Lump* is perhaps also a reference to the lump that would have been in his throat as he tried to think about how to be the father he needed to be. His child had taken a little ball that did not belong to him and had lied about it, and he had hit his brother and lied about it, but when Rob pulled back the covers, he saw his child had been crying for hours and clearly knew that he had been wrong. He thought about the amends his child would need to make, apologizing to his brother and to whomever was the rightful owner of the ball, but in that moment, he simply held his child and told him he loved him no matter what, which was such a relief that his child planted himself on his dad, and holding him tight, began to cry again. Rob simply repeated again and again: "There is nothing you can do to make me love you less. I love you no matter what." And then he reminds us that God feels the same way about you and me. It's such an important reminder, one that I don't know if any of us can ever hear enough. There is nothing that can separate us from the love of God, no matter what. Period. Forever.

And then there are the next steps. Each of us is loved by God, each of us is beloved no matter what- it is so important that we know that it is true for us and equally true for each person we encounter. And there are steps for reconciliation. We are deeply, fully, completely loved. And we are called to deeply, fully, completely love God and our neighbor. And when we miss that mark, we must repent and ask for forgiveness. We cannot be reconciled to God and to one another if we do not ask for forgiveness.

Repentance is hard, and it's a step most of us would like to just skip. It's uncomfortable to admit when we're wrong and name how we've hurt someone else. It is humbling, and it can feel very vulnerable because we must acknowledge we weren't the person that God created us to be. Rob's son had to apologize to his brother for hitting him and to the rightful owner of the ball he had taken. He had to acknowledge that he had hurt his brother. He had to acknowledge he had stolen something that did not belong to him.

The story *begins* with recognizing we're wrong and turning to our God, who loves us abundantly and without condition. But it does not end there. The story *continues* as we name our wrongdoing, our sin, to one another, ask for forgiveness from those we have harmed, and amend our lives by doing better as we go forward. The story *continues* when we forgive others as we have been forgiven. The story *continues* as we extend mercy and love to others, aware

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that mercy and love have been extended to us. We short-circuit the process when we expect forgiveness without being willing to repent.

The joy is that we know the end of the story already. If we can humble ourselves, acknowledging our sins to God and to one another, we can trust that God forgives. In Psalm 51, the psalmist proclaims: "The sacrifice acceptable to God is a broken spirit; a broken and contrite heart, O God, you will not despise." When we confess our sin, God sees our contrite heart, and his mercy rushes to meet us. We can hope that our sisters and brothers will forgive us too, knowing that we all sin we all need mercy from God and from each other.

This Lent, I hope you will join me in reflecting on the ways we have not loved God and one another as we are commanded to do. Consider how you can repent to God and those you have hurt, trusting that nothing can separate you from the love of God, trusting that God's goodness and mercy pursues us all the days of our lives. And then let us amend our lives so that we can more faithfully be the people God created us to be.

Lenten Blessings,
Mother Tanya

This Sunday at St. Luke's

[The Third Sunday in Lent](#)

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.
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.

Journeying to Easter with St. Luke's

Journeying to Easter with St. Luke's

Ash Wednesday

March 2, 2022

Holy Eucharist
with imposition of ashes
12pm & 7pm

Wednesday Evenings

7pm beginning March 9th

Adult Faith Formation
Book Study via Zoom

*The Scandalous Gospel of Jesus:
What's so Good about the Good News?*
by Peter J. Gomes

Thursday Evenings at 6pm

Simple Eucharist
with reflection

Evensong

Sunday, March 27th at 4pm

Follow Our Lenten Blog

<https://stlukeseg.org>

99 Peirce St. | East Greenwich
www.stlukeseg.org

Holy Week Services

Palm Sunday, April 10th

Holy Eucharist
7:45am & 10:15am

Monday

Holy Eucharist at 7pm

Tuesday

Holy Eucharist at 7pm

Wednesday

Holy Eucharist at 7pm

Maundy Thursday

Holy Eucharist at 6pm
with supper, foot washing,
& stripping of the altar

Good Friday Two Services

from the Prayer Book at 12pm
with music from Taizé at 7pm

Easter Vigil

Holy Eucharist Saturday at 7pm

Easter Sunday, April 17th

Holy Eucharist at 7:45am &
10:15am, both with choir,
trumpet, and timpani



St. Luke's Episcopal Church
Where all are welcome at the Lord's table



EASTER Flower & Music Memorials



Names Must Be Submitted
To The Office On Or Before
April 3, 2022

Checks should be made payable to St. Luke's Church, Indicating "Flower Memorials" or "Music Memorials". Suggested Donation is \$10 per name. Email requests to cimondi@stlukeseg.org, drop checks in the Sunday Offertory, bring by the Office, or Drop in the Mail to: 99 Peirce Street, East Greenwich, RI 02818

Covid Update

St. Luke's Has Shifted to a Mask-Optional Practice

[Click Here](#) to view Fr. Tim's message regarding updated COVID protocols.

Our Healing Service Has Resumed

Every Tuesday at Noon St. Luke's will be offering a healing service with Eucharist.
All are invited to attend.

Evensong

As people have worshipped for centuries,
come join in this timeless experience of
sung Evening Prayer – a respite of prayer,
scripture, beautiful music, & meditation.

Evensong

THE FOURTH SUNDAY IN LENT
MARCH 27 AT 4:00 P.M.

Sung by the Canterbury Choir
and members of the St. Cecilia Choir
featuring Evening Canticles by Herbert Sumsion
and Felix Mendelssohn's "Hear My Prayer"
with Arielle Rogers-Wilkey, soloist



St. Luke's Episcopal Church

Where all are welcome at the Lord's table

99 Peirce Street, East Greenwich, RI
401-884-4116 | www.stlukeseg.org

Treasurer's Notes

From the Treasurer

February Month End

	2022 YTD	Budget	%	2021	Var
Pledge Income	\$119,173	\$116,000	\$3,173	\$113,826	\$5,347
Loose Plate	\$10,513	\$3,800	\$6,713	\$1,549	\$8,964
Other Personal Inc.	\$11,143	\$7,033	\$4,110	\$15,737	(\$4,594)
Total Personal Inc.	\$140,829	\$126,833	\$13,996	\$131,112	\$9,717
Total Other Inc	\$4,484	\$9,249	-\$4,765	\$66,437	(\$61,953)
Total Income	\$145,313	\$136,082	\$9,231	\$197,549	(\$52,236)
Staff Expenses	\$76,165	\$79,139	(\$2,974)	\$72,533	\$3,632
Facilities Expenses	\$25,972	\$19,188	\$6,784	\$13,231	\$12,741
Program Expenses	\$1,983	\$5,483	(\$3,500)	\$2,489	(\$506)
Outreach Expenses	\$369	\$400	(\$31)	\$1,769	(\$1,400)
Total Expenses	\$117,813	\$117,526	\$287	\$105,403	\$12,410
Net Income	\$27,500	\$18,555	\$8,945	\$92,146	(\$64,646)
Capital Expenditures					
Sewer Lining	\$55,000				

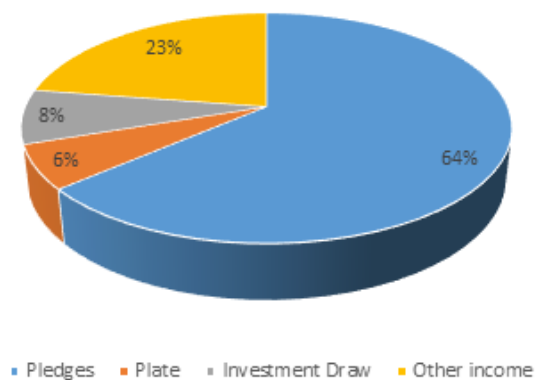
Notes:

Facilities Expenses coming in high – the repairs are budgeted, just hitting earlier in the year
 \$4,100 down payment for new door on the south side near the food pantry
 \$2,410 cost of the full appraisal for insurance coverage
 \$2,800 repair of the small ante room ceiling
 Utilities - \$2,219 over budget – probably a combination of rates and weather
 Rental Income is still running under budget

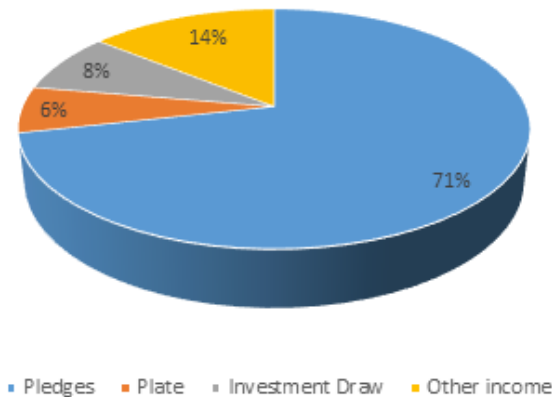
The sewer lining repair has been completed and paid for.

Many blessings,
 Mike

2021 St. Luke's Income Mix



2022 Projected St. Luke's Income Mix



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!



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.

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

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

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

Adult Faith Formation Lenten Book Study

Adult Faith Formation Lenten Book Study

"Jesus came preaching, but the church wound up preaching Jesus. Why does the church insist on making Jesus the *object* of its attention rather than heeding his *message*? (The late) Harvard minister, Peter J. Gomes, believes that excessive focus on the Bible and doctrines about Jesus have led the Christian church astray. To recover the transformative power of the gospel Gomes says we must go beyond the Bible and rediscover how to live out Jesus' original revolutionary message of hope. "

(Gomes writes,) "... *Hope is not merely the optimistic view that somehow everything will turn out all right in the end if everyone just does as we do. Hope is the more rugged, the more muscular view that even if things don't turn out all right and aren't all right, we endure through and beyond the times that disappoint or threaten to destroy us.*"

This Lent, I hope you'll join me and others in reading Peter Gomes' *The Scandalous Gospel*. Please read Chapter 3 in preparation for our next class.

All classes will run by way of Zoom, Wednesday evenings from 7:00-8:30.

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

Meeting ID: 867 3899 9469

Passcode: 427552

I look forward to sharing this part of my Lenten journey with you all.

Lenten blessings- Tim

St. Luke's Lenten Blog

St. Luke's Lenten Blog

The season of Lent has traditionally been one of reflection and repentance. Repentance, *metanoia* in Greek, literally means a physical turning around; as Christians repentance is the call to turn back to our God who loves us.

Our St. Luke's Lenten Blog is a wonderful resource for prayer and reflection during the season. Posts are written by members of our St. Luke's community and based on the lectionary Scripture assigned for the day. Writers reflect on a theme, phrase, or even word that has struck them in a particular way. **Our blog has begun, with posts available on our website and Facebook page.** The blog will go through Easter Day.

We would love for you to contribute a post to our blog! You don't need to be an expert or even have experience writing about Scripture; just an open heart and willingness to share. If you would like to write a short (1-3 paragraph) reflection, please email Mtr Tanya at tanya@stlukeseg.org, and she will send you a set of daily readings and more detailed instructions.

Corporate Communion

Corporate Communion

Dear Parents,

The Corporate Communion program at St. Luke's is about to begin! It is open to all children in the 3rd and 4th grades.

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 1991 *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 bench marks for participation in the Eucharist.

Corporate Communion is a remarkable communion instruction, *not preparation class*. It is designed to offer age-appropriate theology, liturgy and tradition to children. **Children are not the future of the church, they are the church today.** This class honors their full membership in the Body of Christ, and equips us grownups for the vows we made at their Baptism that we would support them in their life in Christ.

Corporate Communion classes at St Luke's will begin at 9am and will meet on following dates:

3/20 Meet and Greet/Sharing a Meal
3/27 Storing Telling
4/3 These Holy Things
4/10 Church tour with Father Tim
4/23 Rehearsal 11:00 - 12:00 and Ice Cream Social at St Luke's
4/24 These Holy Things/Praying Together/Angel
5/1 Corporate Communion Celebration at the 10:15 Service

We will meet in the Blackburn Room and will practice social distancing.

Please contact me at Theresa@stlukeseg.org for a registration form or call me at 415 233 0761 if you have any questions or concerns.

Blessings,
Theresa Deiters Muscat

Our Dining Room Is Open

Our Dining Room Is Open!

We have been granted a Certificate of Occupancy for the dining room and are free to use it for gatherings! Please contact Christina to reserve a time. There are 120 new stackable chairs and 21 folding tables available, along with bench seating for an additional 20. The accessible lift is in operation for those who need it to access the space. The lift also serves the auditorium and both floors of the education wing.

Food cannot yet be prepared in the kitchen pending a final health inspection, and the audio-visual system is not yet installed due to lengthy supply chain delays. There is still some construction equipment behind screens as the contractor finishes up some final punch list items. And we are still in the process of restocking the kitchen, so there are some boxes in the space. But the chairs are much more comfortable, the lighting is no longer glaring, and the space is now easily accessible to all. So consider holding your group's next meeting in our newly refurbished dining room!

Loaves and Fishes

Loaves & Fishes

Our February run showed a continuation of the decline in people available for us to serve. We are having a strategy session with Father Tim in March to explore our role going forward.

For March we will still provide bag lunches to the West Warwick site and our neighbors at the East Greenwich Hotel. The Women's Shelter in West Warwick needs assistance with new twin bed sheets and pillow cases. This allows them to give sheets to clients when they leave the shelter.

DORCAS, www.diiri.org, has asked if we could assist in helping with the Afghanistan relocations in the Providence area. They could use shampoo, soaps, cleaning products, household items and small kitchen appliances.

For our run on March 26, 2022, we will be asking for bag lunches to be prepared at your home and delivered to St Luke's Atrium by 12:00 PM on that date.

The SignUp Genius details the needs for each bag, the sheets and pillow cases and the items for DORCAS.

[Click Here](#) for the March sign-up!

The donations for the Women's Shelter and DORCAS can be dropped off at St Luke's atrium any time up to noon on March 26th.

Your generosity is most appreciated and allows us to continue helping those in need.

Thank you.

Undie Sundays!

As things start to improve around the state, the community we serve is in need of certain items, so we will be reinstating “UNDIE SUNDAYS”. On the first Sunday of every month we are calling on your generosity to provide us with new underwear and socks for men and women. You can leave these items in the church atrium where a basket will be provided in front of the office. Thank you!

Theology on Tap

Theology on Tap

Monday March 28 @ 7:00pm – All men of St. Luke’s are invited

We’re back! In person!

St. Luke’s Men’s group – Theology on Tap: We’ve successfully weathered several months of Zoom meetings and now are set to resume in-person TOT meetings, in the new Dining room. You are invited to join us on **Monday, March 28, @ 7:00pm** for conversation and community. I plan to send out some brief readings to those on the distribution list, for discussion.

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

Help Ukrainian Families

Help Ukrainian Families

As we pray for an end to violence and for those fleeing Ukraine, please also pray for Episcopal Relief & Development and other ecumenical agencies working to respond to the current crisis. Specific needs will change as the crisis evolves. As of right now, there is a need for cash, blankets and hygiene supplies. Let’s support Episcopal Relief & Development as they help families fleeing the violence. Visit episcopalrelief.org for more information.

Ways to Support Community Embrace Golf Classic

Community Embrace Golf Classic

...
Potowomut Golf Club

...
**Monday
May 9, 2022**



SAVE THE DATE ... And Get Involved!

- Contribute to the Silent Auction
- Connect us with or be a Sponsor
- Share the date and ask your friends and neighbors to sign up for a day of golf and/or dinner, and auction surprises

To learn more about the tournament, please scan the QR code below or go to:

<https://communityembracegolfclassic.eventbrite.com>



Contact Tournament Co-Chairs: Bill Warburton (bill.warburton@cox.net) or Jon Jacaruso (jonjacaruso@live.com) to help with sponsors or learn more about the event.

.....

*Contact Marcia Gladue (marciagladue@gmail.com), Mimi West (mimiwest@aol.com), or Corie Jacaruso (coriemaloney@hotmail.com) to discuss ideas for the Silent Auction. **They will be present in the atrium on two Sundays, March 20 and April 1, from 9-11:30am to receive your contributions. Nothing should be left in the office.***

Photos Wanted!

Photos Wanted!

Do you have photos of St Luke's church or at any events that we have hosted? As we work to increase our digital footprint, we would love the opportunity to share photos from our parishioners on our social media and communication channels. If you have photos that you'd like to share with us, please email them to Emma Peterson, our Social Media Specialist & Digital Evangelist, at Emma@StLukesEG.org.

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

Coffee Hour

Coffee Hour is Back!

We are pleased to announce that Coffee Hour is back! As Covid restrictions are being lifted somewhat, we feel it's the right time to bring back Coffee Hour.

We need your help! There is a quarterly sign-up sheet posted across from the office under our beautiful mosaic. Both services have spots to sign up to host a Sunday. We will continue to host in the atrium until our kitchen is ready. Our sexton makes the urn of coffee in the morning. The host provides juice, creamer for the coffee (although powdered coffee creamer is available in a pinch), and some baked goods of some sort. All supplies like cups, napkins, sugar, utensils are all located in the cupboard in the Blackburn Room. There are a few platters you can use to put goodies on. A table is set up in the atrium with a tablecloth on it. Afterwards, we ask that the coffee urn be washed out and set out to dry in the sink area of the Blackburn Room.

You can host with a friend, you can host with your kids, you can host solo - it's a wonderful way to be part of our St. Luke's hospitality – welcoming new faces and encouraging us all to reconnect in person after so many months of being apart. Jesus equated our love for each other and our neighbors with our love for Him. "Truly I tell you, whatever you did for one of the least of these brothers and sisters of mine, you did for me." (Matthew 25:40)

Thank you for your help making St. Luke's a loving and welcoming space!

In His Service,
Tracy Sampson (10:15am service)
401-447-0472
Marcia Gladue (7:45am service)
401-241-1821

Grief Support Group



Grief is hard work!

It is even more difficult when we feel like we need to
figure it out all on our own!

But ...

We Need Not Walk Alone!

St. Luke's has just started a Grief Support Group for Widows and Widowers.
If your spouse has died within the last few years, this group is for you!

Please join us in the Auditorium on the 3rd Saturday each month at 10 am and
let's navigate through this challenging journey of grief together!

I work as a Bereavement Specialist for Southcoast VNA and a large portion
of what I do is to facilitate Grief Support Groups.

I am so very grateful for the opportunity to facilitate a group
with my St. Luke's family.

Feel free to reach out if you have any questions!

Nancy Arnold - nancearnold@yahoo.com
(Our next meeting of the group will be Saturday, April 16, 2022 - 10 am!)

Internet Safety Tips

INTERNET SAFETY

Tips for staying safe & secure online

USE STRONG PASSWORDS

- Use a unique password for each of your most sensitive accounts (think email or banking)
- Use a long passphrase such as the title of the last book you read; add in punctuation for extra security. For example: *ILoveGoingtoStLukes143!*
- Don't include personal information in your password



DON'T TAKE THE BAIT

- Be cautious of any email or text that:
- Tries to create a sense of urgency or instill fear
 - Uses a generic greeting or closure
 - Contains an unexpected link or attachment
 - Includes a request for private or sensitive information



SHARING ON SOCIAL

- Never share sensitive information on social media - it's not just your friends out there!
- Don't add people to your network if you don't know them in real life
- Avoid questionnaires, "free giveaways", and contests - these are typically designed to elicit sensitive information



KEEP YOUR PERSONAL INFO PRIVATE

- Never enter financial information on an insecure website (look for the padlock or "https://")
- When signing up for something online, read the terms & conditions. If it's free, your data is usually the cost!



TRUST BUT VERIFY

- Always trust your gut!
- Never be afraid to independently verify a request; especially when it's financial.....call the sender directly using a number that you have or that you look up online



COMMON CYBER SCHEMES

- The following themes are commonly used by attackers:
- Romance scams
 - Tech support
 - Grandparent scam (posing as a relative looking for financial assistance)
 - Government impersonation
 - Sweepstakes/charity/lottery



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!

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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