

# St. Luke's Episcopal Church

Where all are welcome at the Lord's table

# April 24, 2022

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By now, most of you who have either been sitting in the pews or joining us online for worship have been made aware of our new live stream system and 'look' in presenting our services virtually. Hopefully, you will check out the online videos soon and let us know what you think. But believe me when I say that getting to this place has been quite a journey!

If you recall, we survived much of the COVID lockdown by prerecording segments of our worship and posting them to YouTube and our website. While we could not gather in our sanctuary, we were connected in spirit by the lessons and prayers of the people delivered from parishioner's living rooms or gardens, by the Gospel and sermons shared from our then-vacant sanctuary, by music selections offered from home or the church by members of our choir or via Rodney's exquisite organ and piano preludes/postludes--all mixed with beautiful sunlit or candle-lit images of our beloved worship spaces. We discovered that we could still be a community and that we could, in fact, embrace a larger community during the toughest of times. Grace indeed!

Continuing our virtual posting of services after the lockdown was never questioned. We did, however, come to realize that we needed to grow into and embrace (get ready for it) digital evangelism in a more deliberate way. So, the decision was made to explore the possibilities of creating a more high-quality online presence and gain an understanding of the benefits and trials of pursuing such an effort. A small team including Tom Dresselhouse, Michael Sullivan and myself visited four churches to view and learn about their systems, gather information on resources/vendors, and, finally, prepare and present a proposal to the vestry. Upon approval of the proposal, we moved forward with a three-camera set-up operated via an all-in-one livestream production system. We have been blessed with a volunteer, Taylor Wilkey, to lead our live stream ministry and who will train and mentor a team of operators. Taylor is an experienced Podcast Producer and currently serves as co-moderator for the Rhode Island Episcopal Diocese's Tea Time Theology podcast.

So, what's next? After launching the new live stream system on Easter Sunday, our worship services will now be broadcast simultaneously on both Facebook and YouTube every Sunday. The services will remain on both platforms, so you can access them at any time during the live stream or after. Of course, we still want to see you in church, but when you want to revisit that inspired sermon or hear yet again that fabulous Hallelujah chorus, just go to Facebook or YouTube and relive the joy of those moments. Better yet, you can be a part of this thing called *digital evangelism*! You

#### Food Cupboard

**Quick Links** 

St. Luke's Church

Episcopal Diocese of Rhode Island

#### **The Episcopal Church**

<u>The Anglican</u> <u>Communion</u>

**Stay Connected** 



can share our online services with friends or neighbors who might be searching for a faith community, you can comment on the service or engage a conversation on the content of the sermon, or you can join us anywhere/anytime alone or with loved ones and view the service when being with us in person is not possible.

Now, you ask, how do I access St. Luke's online worship services?

1. Go to our website – a pop-up will appear with a link to instructions and links for accessing our services via Facebook and YouTube.

2. If you have a Facebook account, be sure to 'like' St. Luke's Facebook page and set your notifications to receive an alert when posts are made. If you do not have a Facebook account, no worries! In your browser, enter <u>https://www.facebook.com/stlukeseg</u>. Facebook will ask you if you would like to set up an account and you can simply click 'x' on the top right corner or click 'not now'. About 10 minutes before the service is to start, an opening slide with an image of the church and a QR code for the bulletin will appear. Stay with us and the service will start as scheduled.

3. Whether or not you have a YouTube account, you can search for St. Luke's 'channel' by entering 'St. Luke's Church East Greenwich' in the search bar. Or, if you have not already, you can search and subscribe to St. Luke's YouTube channel so that our videos are readily accessible when you log into your YouTube account. Again, set your YouTube account to issue a notification to you when videos are posted to St. Luke's channel.

Whew! This evangelism stuff is a bit of work when starting up. Hopefully, you will bear with us, viewing our services, 'liking' the video posts, and sharing them with others. We have an incredible community at St. Luke's, and we are called to share the good news....so, as Fr. Tim often says, "let's do this thing!"

Peace my friends, Deborah Collins

## This Sunday at St. Luke's

The Second Sunday of Easter Click above for the lessons

7:45am Holy Eucharist with Sermon

10:15am Holy Eucharist with Sermon with Baptisms

We are glad to offer Facebook livestream and YouTube livestream for our 10:15 Sunday services.

To access the livestream for Facebook or YouTube, <u>Click Here</u> for the link found on our website.

Please contact Mtr. Tanya with any questions at tanya@stlukeseg.org

<u>Click Here</u> to download a copy of the parish prayer list.

The Rev. Timothy T. Rich, rector, preaching

Covid Update

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

<u>Click Here</u> 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.

## Treasurer's Notes

# From the Treasurer

#### March Month End

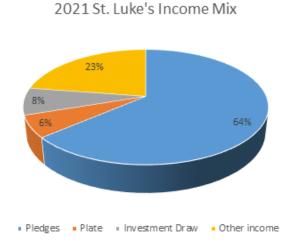
March 2022	2022 YTD	Budget	Var	2021 YTD	Var
Pledge Income	\$163,853	\$148,000	\$15,853	\$153,246	\$10,607
Loose Plate	\$14,091	\$5,600	\$8,491	\$3,463	\$10,628
Other Personal Inc.	\$14,519	\$8,800	\$5,719	\$21,426	(\$6,907)
Total Personal Inc.	\$192,463	\$162,400	\$30,063	\$178,135	\$14,328
Total Other Inc	\$22,123	\$26,915	(\$4,792)	\$81,604	(\$59,481)
Total Income	\$214,586	\$189,315	\$25,271	\$259,739	(\$45,153)
			\$0		
Staff Expenses	\$114,832	\$118,991	(\$4,159)	\$108,888	\$5,944
Facilities Expenses	\$34,256	\$33,877	\$379	\$24,675	\$9,581
Program Expenses	\$4,356	\$8,225	(\$3,869)	\$5,402	(\$1,046)
Outreach & Appor.	\$20,527	\$20,574	(\$47)	\$23,790	(\$3,263)
Total Expenses	\$173,986	\$181,768	(\$7,782)	\$162,754	\$11,232
Net Income	\$40,600	\$7,547	\$33,053	\$96,984	(\$56,384)

Notes:

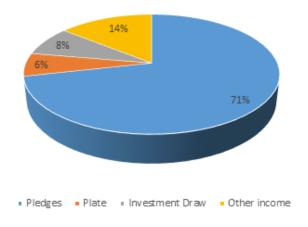
- Income is continuing its strong trend
- Expenses for the most part are in line and under control
- Utilities are roughly \$3,500 over budget

First quarter has come to a close – I'd like to join the leadership team in thanking all of you. Your continued love of this Parish is always amazing!

Peace and Grace, Mike



# 2022 Projected St. Luke's Income Mix



# 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!











# Adult Faith Formation Book Study

# **Adult Faith Formation 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."

As we journey through Easter, I hope you'll join me and others in continuing to read Peter Gomes' The Scandalous Gospel. Please read Chapter 7 in preparation for our next class.

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

<u>Click Here</u> to join the meeting! Zoom information is below:

Meeting ID: 867 3899 9469 Passcode: 427552

I look forward to continuing to share this with you all.

Easter blessings- Tim

#### Safe Church Training

#### Safe Church Training: Registration Now Open

Diocesan Safe Church Trainers will conduct this important training in-person for lay leaders and church staff on Saturday, May 14th Rhode Island at St. John's in Barrington with from 9am to 12:30pm. Coffee and snacks will be provided.

Universal training is required for church employees, volunteers working with youth, home visitors and church leaders including vestry members, volunteer program leaders and Altar Guild. Certification of training shall be renewed every three years.

The obligation to seek and serve Christ in all persons and to respect the dignity of every human being is binding for all the baptized. This Safe Church Training session will show with best practices and policies, how to help keep church safe for children and our vulnerable populations.

#### Click Here to register.

#### Loaves and Fishes

## Loaves and Fishes Run

In March we had a strategy session with Father Tim to brainstorm ideas on how we could carry out our mission during the time when the traditional food truck run to Woonsocket was on hold. The reason for the hold was not having people to serve because the State offered shelter and food to the homeless during the pandemic. The State's homeless support was scheduled to end on March 31 <sup>st</sup> but has been extended to June 30<sup>th</sup>. Our planning session concluded by stating that we would continue to support the people at the East Greenwich Hotel with twenty sandwich bags per week. We also will continue with the Women's Shelter in Woonsocket as well as Dorcas by providing for the refugees they support.

For our run on April 30, 2022, Father Tim has asked that the current confirmation class assemble and deliver the contents for the bag lunches for the East Greenwich Hotel. The items needed per bag are detailed on the SignUp Genius.

Our friends at the Woonsocket Women's Shelter have asked if we might be able to provide window fans to help keep rooms cooler in the upcoming months. New or gently used window fans can be dropped off at the St. Luke's atrium. We hope to deliver twenty fans by the end of April or beginning of May. A suggested fan is a Penguin 9" twin window fan available locally or online for approximately \$40.00.



Dorcas, www.diiri.org, has asked if we could assist in helping with the Afghanistan relocations in the Providence area. They could use men's and women's toiletries, cleaning products, summer clothing for children, men and women, including sneakers and flip flops. Further details are on the SignUp Genius. <u>Click Here</u> for our April 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 April  $30^{\text{th}}$ . Your generosity is most appreciated and allows us to continue helping those in need. Thank you.

#### Loaves & Fishes

#### **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!

#### 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 <u>episcopalrelief.org</u> 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.

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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. <u>Click Here</u> 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 Blackburn Room on the 3 <sup>rd</sup> 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 23, 2022 – 10 am!)

East Greenwich Recycling Day

# EAST GREENWICH E-WASTE RECYCLING & PAPER SHREDDING DAY



'Suggested donation: \$5 per box of paper (\$15 max) • \$1 per e-waste item (\$10 max) 'Pick up available (e-waste only) from 4/18 to 4/22 (contact above) charges may apply 'Donations of non -perishable food for the RI Community Food Bank will also be accepted!

**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, <u>please</u> <u>complete this form</u>. An appropriate thanksgiving will be included during the prayers.

Any questions? Please email Christina (<u>cimondi@stlukeseg.org</u>) 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 **<u>Click Here!</u>** 

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

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