



St. Luke's Episcopal Church

Where all are welcome at the Lord's table

weekly

May 8, 2022

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Dear Brothers and Sisters,

I met my step-cousin Jenny before I met the woman who would become my step-mother. Jenny is about my age, and her brothers are about my brother Mark's age, and my dad had her family over for a cookout when my brother and I were visiting him one summer. My dad was stationed in Hawaii, and Jenny's Auntie Anne lived in California, so I didn't get to meet her. But Jenny and I became fast friends. Even at 12 or 13, she was one of those people who you instantly like, who is warm and friendly, funny and smart, and she even liked the same kind of music I did. I loved spending time with her that summer.

The next time I saw her, my dad and Jenny's aunt were married. We picked up almost exactly where we left off, talking about boys, (I was madly in love, so really it was me going on and on about one boy), and being silly together. For some reason we both knew the theme song from *Laverne and Shirley*, and though I don't know if we ever even watched the show or knew anything about it, we decided we were best friends just like them. When we talked on the phone a year later, she remembered the boy I had been madly in love with by name and asked about him.

Moving around as much as I did as a kid, I don't really have lifelong friends the way you do when you grow up in a hometown. But I do have Jenny. No matter how long it's been, when we see one another, we pick up right where we left off.

Our lives took really different paths; after college she became the Hawaiian ambassador for a cruise line and traveled the world. She went to many beautiful and exotic places, but perhaps the most envious I've ever been of her was when she was at the gazebo from *The Sound of Music*. Her life seemed so glamorous. A few years ago, she found out she was going to be a mother, a lifelong dream for her. Then she found out she was having twins, and so she settled down back in Hawaii with her ohana. Her twins are now four, impish and delightful. She is a single mom, full of gratitude for the children she never thought she would have.

Last winter, my dad called me. Jenny had cancer. He wasn't sure about the details. He had gone into full-on protector mode, wanting to defend her and her children from this terrible enemy. Then Anne called me. She was more composed, had more details, and they were grim. Jenny has a cancer that is so rare only four known cases exist in the world. The tumor had wrapped around and penetrated her nasal cavity, and they feared it was in her brain. The next thing I knew, Jenny was on her way to MD Anderson in Texas. A Gofundme had been set up by her friends, allowing her to move her children and

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parents to Texas with her so that they could be together during her treatment. Her treatments have become progressively more difficult, but after each one, she comes home, showers, and changes into a Wonder Woman costume. Her kids don superhero costumes too, and they talk about how they're all fighting cancer together. And then she sleeps for the rest of the day.

Support for Jenny has come in from all over the world. The friends she made remember her just as I do. She is uniquely kind and warm, and that has touched people in ways that have surprised her; people from decades ago remember her. People whose parents remembered her have donated to her Gofundme in their honor. I added her name to our prayer list and texted her a picture when it was in the bulletin, "Jenny Punohu"; she replied with gratitude, telling me prayers mean so much to her. She has always had a quiet faith that has sustained her, and she feels the power of prayer. My own prayer for her is that she is fortified and strengthened in her treatments and that her heart may know comfort and peace regardless of what comes next.

When we pray the names on our prayer list each Sunday, when we name each person on our prayer list out loud during our Tuesday Healing Eucharists, I am reminded that each person we remember is as beloved to someone as Jenny is to me. I am reminded that as Christians we are called to pray for one another, and to ask others to pray for us in our own times of need. I am reminded that prayer binds us to one another as members of the Body of Christ. I am reminded that prayer can attune us to how God is present in our lives and the lives of those who are dear to us. As Paul tells us in his letter to the Romans: "Rejoice in hope; be patient in affliction; persevere in prayer." May our hearts be set in that hope, patience, and perseverance, and may we know comfort and hope in our own times of affliction. May we remember one another as we pray without ceasing.

Easter blessings,
Mother Tanya

This Sunday at St. Luke's

[The Fourth 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, [Click Here](#) for the link found on our website.

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

[Click Here](#) 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](#)

[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.

Treasurer's Notes

From the Treasurer

April Month End

	2022 YTD	Budget	%	2021	Var
Pledge Income	\$195,733	\$198,000	(\$2,267)	\$201,135	(\$5,402)
Loose Plate	\$21,347	\$10,100	\$11,247	\$7,439	\$13,908
Other Personal Inc.	\$24,333	\$16,367	\$7,966	\$30,875	(\$6,542)
Total Personal Inc.	\$241,413	\$224,467	\$16,946	\$239,449	\$1,964
Total Other Inc	\$25,419	\$31,731	(\$6,312)	\$82,630	(\$57,211)
Total Income	\$266,832	\$256,198	\$10,634	\$322,079	(\$55,247)
Staff Expenses	\$154,079	\$158,844	(\$4,765)	\$145,450	\$8,629
Facilities Expenses	\$52,098	\$43,322	\$8,776	\$31,454	\$20,644
Program Expenses	\$7,092	\$12,317	(\$5,225)	\$6,498	\$594
Outreach Expenses	\$30,827	\$34,032	(\$3,205)	\$30,426	\$401
Total Expenses	\$244,096	\$248,515	(\$4,419)	\$213,828	\$30,268
Net Income	\$22,736	\$7,684	\$15,052	\$108,251	(\$85,515)
Capital Expenditures					
Sewer Lining	\$55,000			Includes \$65,000 PPP	

Notes:

Income -

Pledges are down slightly, but loose plate continues to over perform

Easter was \$6,609 – slightly over last year

Expenses -

Facilities expenses still over

- o Utilities up \$3,756

- o Property – new repairs for heating in auditorium of \$3,600 uncovered more work of almost \$10,000 that will be needed

- o Fire panel replacement will be \$2,200

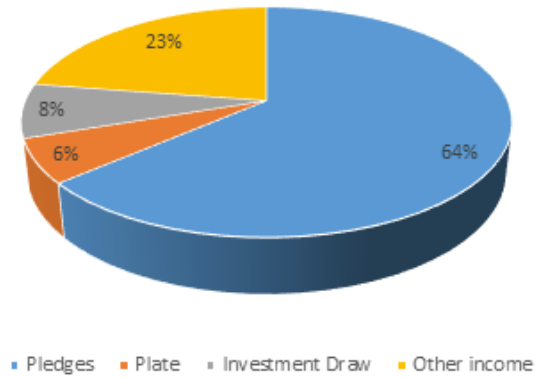
- o Parking lot sealing/stripping has been put on hold

- o At this point the expected property cost will be around \$3,800 over budget for the year, along with utility overages

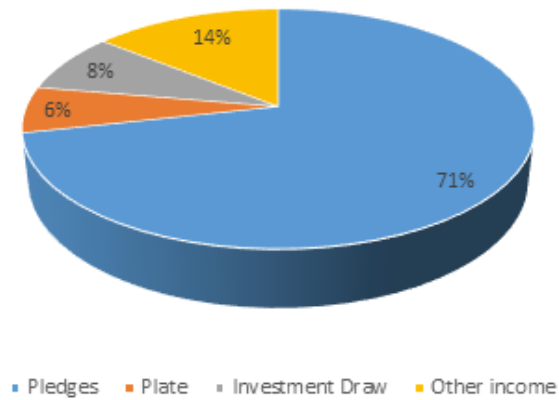
Overall, we're still ahead of the budget bottom line by \$15,052. Hard to say if the economy is affecting our income – we are definitely seeing it hit our expenses, though.

If you take off the \$65,000 in PPP money from last year's income, we would be roughly \$10,000 ahead of last year. But we were also closed last year until mid-March, and operated at a somewhat reduced capacity after that. So all that means is the pandemic is making any meaningful analysis somewhat difficult.

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!



<p>Online Banking</p> <p>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.</p> <p>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</p> <p>Zelle Payment – with Zelle payment transfer, you can add St. Luke's Church by using the giving@stlukeseg.org address.</p> <p>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</p> <p>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</p> <p>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</p> <p>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.</p> <p>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>
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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. You're welcome to join us at any point. Please read Chapter 9 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 continuing to share this with you all.

Easter blessings- Tim

Youth Faith Formation

St. Luke's Youth Group!

6th - 12th graders are invited to join us on Saturday, May 21st, at 2:00 as we create fused glass night lights at *Create! Color Art Studio*.

We will meet at the studio, which is located at the Salt Pond Plaza, 91 Point Judith Rd., Unit D-3, in Narragansett. If you need assistance coordinating transportation, please let Mtr Tanya know. We anticipate spending about two hours together at the studio and everyone will leave with their creation!

Cost is \$23, but don't let the cost keep you from joining the fun! If you need assistance, reach out to Mtr Tanya. **Reservations are required. Please RSVP to Mtr Tanya (tanya@stlukeseg.org) by the end of the day on Wednesday, May 18th.**

Community Embrace Golf Classic



**Community Embrace
Golf Classic, Dinner & Auction**

.....
Potowomut Golf Club
.....

Thanks to you, the Community Embrace event
is completely **sold out!** We will be sharing news of
the event and memories of the day later in May.

THANK YOU!!!

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, at St. John's in Barrington, RI, 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.

Women of Grace

Women of Grace – May Meeting

Our next meeting is set for Monday, May 16 -- please mark your calendars! If you are a fan of Anne Lamott's books, you will enjoy this next session. Laura Sullivan will lead us in a discussion of Lamott's *Dusk, Night, Dawn: On Revival and Courage*. Many of us know of this author and her previous works, including the best-selling *Help, Thanks, Wow; Grace (Eventually): Thoughts on Faith*; and *Almost Everything: Notes on Hope; Hallelujah Anyway*. Known for her pragmatic perspective, plucky faith, and pithy questions, Lamott encourages us to see the Grace within the challenge, affirm ourselves, and maintain a prayerful perspective. If you are inclined to read the book before our meeting, *Dusk, Night, Dawn* is a fairly short read (208 pages) and is available on Amazon.com or ThriftBooks at <https://www.thriftbooks.com/>

Once again, we will meet in St. Luke's dining room starting at 7:00pm with greetings, introductions, and refreshments. After an opening prayer, we will launch into our discussion and complete the evening gathering at 9:00pm. **In the meantime, we need volunteers for opening/closing prayers and refreshments!** Please respond via email or phone to Deborah Collins (collinstn01@gmail.com; 401-885-4116) to confirm your attendance and that of any guests, or to be added to our mailing list. This is always such a help in planning our evening together.

Loaves and Fishes

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 episcopalrelief.org for more information.

Dorcas Donations

Dorcas Donations

We are now collecting donations for our Dorcas Ministry! We are looking for seasonal items, spring/summer. Please drop off in the atrium under the mosaic and label as Dorcas. Thanks so much for your support!

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

Our next Pastoral Care meeting will be held on May 11 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

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 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

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

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