



St. Luke's Episcopal Church

Where all are welcome at the Lord's table

weekly

July 3, 2022

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Dear Brothers and Sisters,

When people asked what I would be doing with my time off in June, they held their breath for a moment when I told them my in-laws were coming into town. There was a look like- is that a good thing? – and then an exhale and smile when I told them how lucky I am because my in-laws are truly wonderful people.

When I was first married, they gave me an example of the kind of marriage I wanted to have. They enjoy each other's company and even still flirt with one another. They're kind and funny and easy to be around. The first Thanksgiving after their son and I were married we attended mass with them. When the priest asked people to name things they were thankful for that year, Dad stood up and said they were most grateful for their new daughter-in-law. Then he sat down and gave me a little wink. My mother-in-law is equally wonderful. She goes out of her way to make sure all five of her daughters-in-law know we are loved and treasured just as we are. Mom and Dad love us, pray for us, and encourage us. Mom seems to love telling the people she meets that she has a son and daughter-in-law who are *both* Episcopal priests.

Before this visit, we hadn't seen Mom and Dad in three years, and they had never been to New England. When we were planning their visit, I asked Mom what she most wanted to do. She told me she most wanted to spend time with us, and she truly meant it. We planned an itinerary of all kinds of fun things- we took Dad to Fenway to see the Sox play on Father's Day. They love colonial history, and were very excited to tour Newport. Mom loves to garden and delighted in wandering around the grounds at Blithewold after we had afternoon tea. They had a great time, and so did we.

One of the things that surprised me during their visit was that on occasion Dad would quietly come alongside me and check in to see how I was doing. Many of you know that I manage a chronic illness, which is why I continue to mask up indoors. While I am well most of the time, the heat can be very hard on me. At my best, this time of year reminds me that I need to be compassionate with myself in the same way that I encourage others to be compassionate with themselves. At my worst, I can be annoyed and a little bitter that I have to be so careful to not overheat. Over the years, I have learned how to care for myself, but having an invisible illness means that I largely carry this awareness on my own. My husband loves me and looks out for me, but I had never had someone regularly come up beside me, without any fanfare, and just ask if I was okay. Dad asked when the people around us were otherwise occupied, and he didn't make a fuss. When I said I was okay he would look me in the eye and pause a moment, and say, "Okay then", and give me his little

Food Cupboard

Quick Links

St. Luke's Church

Episcopal Diocese of Rhode Island

The Episcopal Church

The Anglican Communion

Stay Connected



wink.

Dad is the kind of person who says exactly what he means. He is not given to big displays of emotion, although as the years have gone by his tender-heartedness has become a little more visible. That he asked how I was made me feel seen and known, it made me feel loved and cared for. He knew that I had to be careful, and he knew that I would be tempted to push myself. He wanted me to know that my well-being was important to him, that he loved me and he was looking out for me. Dad showed me agape, that unconditional love that always seeks the best for the other person.

It made me wonder what the world would be like if we did that for one another. Each of us is carrying a burden, most of the time invisible. Each of us can feel alone as we bear our burdens, sometimes because we do not wish to be vulnerable, sometimes because we do not want to burden others, sometimes because we don't know how to put words to the cries of our hearts. Sometimes the burdens feel big and sometimes small. But I wonder, what would it be like to come alongside someone as we exchange peace this Sunday and just quietly say, "Are you okay?", listening with an open heart to the answer they give. What would it be like if we were willing to be honest with each other, trusting one another to hold our answers with discretion and tenderness? What would it feel like to be seen and cared for by one another?

Sometimes I'm reminded that things don't have to be complicated. Dad came alongside me and asked, "Are you okay?", and my heart was filled with gratitude as I received his unconditional love.

Jesus told us to love one another as he has loved us.

And so I ask friends, are you okay? I am here if you need to talk through your answer, and I will hold your words in my heart.

Blessings,

Mother Tanya

This Sunday at St. Luke's

The Fourth Sunday after Pentecost

Click above for the lessons

7:45 am Holy Eucharist with Sermon

10:15 am Holy Eucharist with Sermon

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

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. Pam Gregory, preaching

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

Please [Click Here](#) to view Fr. Tim's message regarding our new 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.

Happy 4th of July

Our Office Will Be Closed On July 4th And July 5th
In Observance Of The 4th Of July Holiday



Summer Office Hours



CHRISTINA'S SUMMER OFFICE HOURS

July through Labor Day, Christina will be in the office from 8 am - 4 pm, Monday - Thursday.

The office will be closed on Fridays.

Treasurer's Notes

From the Treasurer

June Month End

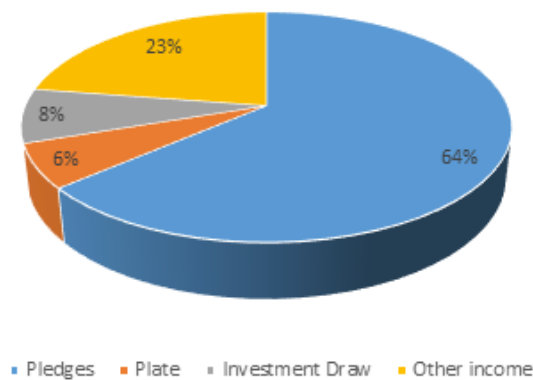
Total Income	\$374,805	\$348,865	\$25,940	\$422,017	(\$47,212)
Staff Expenses	\$233,747	\$238,550	(\$4,803)	\$220,107	\$13,640
Facilities Expenses	\$82,662	\$63,735	\$18,927	\$49,060	\$33,602
Program Expenses	\$11,997	\$18,550	(\$6,553)	\$10,822	\$1,175
Outreach Expense	\$47,748	\$40,890	\$6,858	\$48,924	(\$1,176)
Total Expenses	\$376,228	\$368,583	\$7,645	\$330,227	\$46,001
Net Income	(\$1,422)	(\$19,718)	\$18,296	\$91,790	(\$93,212)
Capital Expenditures Sewer Lining	\$55,000			Includes 65,000 PPP Money	
Golf Tour. Funds Used: New South Door AC in Choir Loft	\$12,857				

Notes:

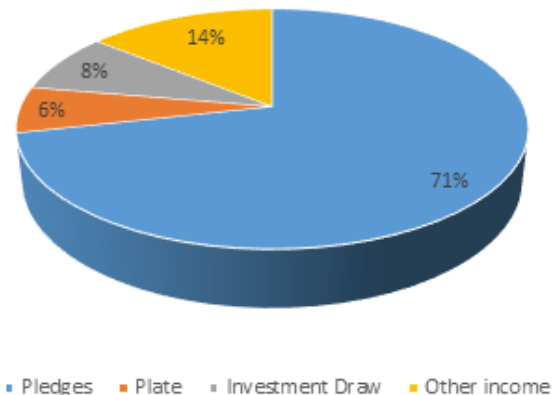
- **Income** – Pledge Income has fallen behind slightly – not alarming, but bears watching. Rental income is better, but still down. We have received some gifts and fund raising, so total income is \$25,940 (7.4%) ahead of budget.
- **Expenses** – We’ve spent \$12,857 of the golf tournament money, so that has been brought into the P&L as noted. Another \$3,865 of the boiler repairs have been made (total to date \$7,430). Staff expenses and Program expenses are under budget by a total of \$11,356 (4.4%) while Facilities expenses are over budget by \$18,927 (28.7%). Total expenses are over budget by \$7,645 (2.1% - this includes the \$12,857 of spending from the golf fund raiser)
- **Bottom line** – We are \$18,296 ahead of budget. Budgeted loss at years end was \$73,999, so if we can continue the loss will be less (\$55,703)
- **Ideal Staffing** – If St. Luke’s were staffed at the level we discussed at the town hall meeting in April, it would have meant an additional \$54,604 (January – June) in expenses.

Peace and Grace,
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

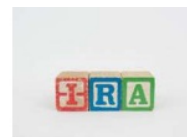


Vanco



PayPal

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



Online Banking	Zelle Transfer	VANCO Payment Solutions	Direct Payment From IRA
<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>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>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>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>
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 Book Study

Adult Faith Formation invites you to Sabbath in the Summer

Over this summer, Adult Faith Formation invites you to join us as we continue to read from *Sabbath: Finding rest, renewal, and delight in our busy lives* by Wayne Muller. We will meet for dinner and discussion from 6:00pm - 8:00pm in the dining room on July 20th and August 17th. You're invited to bring a dish to share as we reflect together on a chapter and practice from the book. You're asked to read the chapter (3-5 pages) and spend time on the practice before coming together.

July 20th: *"A Life well Lived"*
August 17th: *"The Pursuit of Happiness"*

As we orient our lives following the intensity of the pandemic, join us as we reflect on how we can honor our need for rest, re-creation, and renewal. We look forward to sharing this time with you!

Safe Church Training

Safe Church Training

Do you serve or hope to serve in a ministry with our youth or as a pastoral care visitor? Do you want to serve as a Lay Eucharistic Minister? If the Holy Spirit is nudging you, we want you to join in one - or more than one!- of the many ministries at St. Luke's!

So that we can maintain a safe environment for all of the beloved members of our community, Safe Church training is required of all of our lay volunteers. Please be in touch with Mother Tanya (tanya@stlukese.org) if you need to complete Safe Church training. You can complete it online on your own, or you can join us in the Blackburn Room on Saturday, July 16th, from 1-4 as we work through the online modules together.

Loaves and Fishes

Loaves & Fishes Run

June 18th was our first truck run in more than two years and we were happy with its success. We visited three different locations in Woonsocket and people remembered us and the truck. They offered to help spread the word that we would be back on July 16th.

With the ending of State housing assistance in June 2022 many of the people with whom we interacted are now living in the woods or other outdoor places. They identified the need for blankets, flat sheets and sleeping bags. The details are provided on the SignUp Genius.

We hope that you can join us on Saturday morning, July 16, 2022, to prepare the bags for Woonsocket and the East Greenwich Hotel and participate in the run. For more information on the role of Loaves and Fishes please visit their web site: <https://www.lfri.org/our-mission/>

For now, we will focus our efforts on Woonsocket as the Women's Shelter and Dorcas have both said they have no immediate needs but will advise us when their situation changes.

Here is a link to the July sign-up: <https://www.signupgenius.com/go/10C0F4EA8AF2CA7FDC34-saint5>

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!

Episcopal Charities

Episcopal Charities 2022

***"Let us not love with words or speech but with actions and in truth."
- 1 John 3:18***

Bishop Knisely, **in his recent letter to the Diocese**, began with this compelling quote from the

First Letter of John, as he reported on the ongoing efforts of Episcopal Charities in Rhode Island. As we know, the pandemic disrupted many of the ways we met with and supported each other, as worrisome data and precautionary measures restricted the one-on-one sharing and gathering we all value so much as we minister to each other.

Nevertheless, the many agencies and ministries that rely on grants from Episcopal Charities and Charities NOW have continued their work, because of, and in spite of, the effects of the pandemic. Now, as we know, the impact of inflation has added to the challenges. So many in our community struggle daily to provide for their families, find affordable healthcare, or simply fill the gas tank to drive to food pantries, meal sites, or other destinations for assistance.

Enclosed with the Bishop's letter was a list of **2021 Episcopal Charities Grants**, detailing the many non-profit agencies, church-based feeding ministries, community agencies and Diocesan-sponsored programs that received assistance from either an annual grant, or an immediate Charities NOW emergency grant. Each of those agencies, in their application for a grant, was asked to include a sponsorship letter from a parish in the Diocese. St. Luke's is listed four times as a sponsoring parish, and additionally for our ongoing feeding ministries, - clearly another indicator of our commitment to serving the community, and our ongoing support of Episcopal Charities.

Many of these agencies, and likely even more, will be submitting applications for 2022 grants. Those requests can only be honored only as far as the generous support we can provide through Episcopal Charities.

St. Luke's continues to be a leader in outreach and service to the community, which we do in so many ways, including our gifts to Episcopal Charities. Please consider how your generosity can make a difference to our neighbors in need, by **making your gift online**, or by mailing a check to Episcopal Charities, 275 North Main Street, Providence 02903. For more information, please log in **episcopalri.org/**

Thank you for your continued faithfulness.

Pam Dresselhouse & Laura Sullivan
Episcopal Charities Co-Chairs

Usher Ministry

St. Luke's Usher Ministry

**Ushers are needed for both the 7:45 and 10:15 services.
Additional information on requirements is detailed below.**

Please reach out to Steve McLoughlin or any of the ushers if you would like to know more or would like to be an usher. 401 225 5540 /smcloughlin2@aol.com

Dear friend, when you extend hospitality to Christian brothers and sisters, even when they are strangers, you make the faith visible. ... It's good work you're doing, helping these travelers on their way, hospitality worthy of God himself! (3 John, vs 5-6)

Our Mission

The usher ministry offers the hospitality of Christ to people who come to worship, to collect and secure the gifts of the people, and to assure the order, comfort, and safety of the congregation. Making St Luke's an inviting place to worship.

Talent

Must like meeting and greeting people.
The ability to be friendly while dignified and appreciative of the setting.
Attentiveness to needs and poise in the unexpected.

Time Involved

Usher teams serve on a rotational basis about every 4 -5 weeks.
Ushers may specify a preference for 7:45 am, 10:15 am, services.
Arrive 30 minutes before service

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 no longer accepting donations. We will resume in September. 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

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
(Our next meeting of the group will be Saturday, July 16, 2022 - 10 am)

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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