



St. Luke's Episcopal Church

Where all are welcome at the Lord's table

weekly

June 19, 2022

In This Issue

[This Sunday at St. Luke's](#)

[Covid Update](#)

[Summer Office Hours](#)

[Treasurer Announcement](#)

[Adult Faith Formation Book Study](#)

[Safe Church Training](#)

[Gardens & Grounds](#)

[Loaves & Fishes](#)

[Episcopal Charities](#)

[Usher Ministry](#)

[Help Ukrainian Families](#)

[Dorcas Donations](#)

[Photos Wanted!](#)

[Pastoral Care](#)

[Coffee Hour](#)

[Grief Support Group](#)

[St. Luke's Birthdays, Anniversaries, and Special Days of Thanksgiving](#)

[St. Luke's Choirs](#)

[Big Brothers and Big Sisters](#)

[Especially for Children](#)

Dear Brothers and Sisters,

I had a classmate in seminary whose dad died by suicide a year or so before our studies started. I can't even imagine that grief. She is a little younger than me, living without the father she loved. She had walked a rare path, one that had exposed her to the most deeply painful parts of our human experience. When I met her, she was pregnant with her first child. I did not know the story of her loss, only the visible story of the joy she was expecting. She was radiant and hopeful, but also had this deeply pensive way about her. Over the course of our years of together, I began to hear her talk about the way that deep grief and deep joy could coincide with one another. She has a wisdom that comes from having experienced both.

One of the reflections I heard her share was how we need to honor the joy of the good things that happen in our lives and the pain of the bad things that happen. So often we want to gloss over bad things and hurry on to the next thing. But rushing away from our pain or our grief means we don't fully live our human experience. When we don't sit with our own pain, we find it more difficult to sit with others in theirs. When we don't acknowledge our own grief, we can find it hard to empathize with others in theirs. When we run away from our pain, we can't fully experience joy- we don't know our own depths and so can't appreciate our own heights.

She encouraged us to honor the little griefs in our lives, those moments of loss that might seem inconsequential, but without acknowledging them we can miss the opportunity to name the fullness of our humanity. She shared this wisdom again at the beginning of the pandemic, when we were disoriented without really knowing why. We were all grieving but had not yet put words to it. We were grieving the loss of life as we had known it, of a sense of "normal", not to mention the deeper losses when someone died or had their health irrevocably altered. All of these losses can be a source of grief, but without naming them we can move into a sort of state of despair. As Christians, we are called to hope, but faithful hope means we acknowledge and lament those things that our sense of justice tells us should be different.

I thought of this again last week, the first night of the public hearings into the Capitol riot. At first, I didn't want to watch. I've been so overwhelmed by the news lately that I've been really careful about how much I'm consuming. My heart is raw, and the news can be so abrasive. But after initially turning away, I changed my mind and watched some of the hearing. The video shown was horrific. Seeing how cavalierly some people manipulated others- it was gut-wrenching. As I watched the Capitol police try to repel the rioters, I thought of a conversation I had earlier with a retired cop, who told

[Food Cupboard](#)

Quick Links

[St. Luke's Church](#)

[Episcopal Diocese of Rhode Island](#)

[The Episcopal Church](#)

[The Anglican Communion](#)

Stay Connected



me about how traumatic it can be to see the worst of humanity. I saw the image of the noose that had been made and saw the crowds hunt for Nancy Pelosi and Mike Pence. It was awful. And I grieved. My heart was heavy, and I lamented.

We can forget that lament is a genuine part of our Biblical heritage, that our faith ancestors cried out to God in their own grief, and they expected God to hear them. Faithful lament comes from that part of our souls that long for justice and peace, that long for God's kingdom to come, that seeks for the world to be made right. Faithful lament begins with our crying out to God in our anguish, but it does not end there. Faithful lament always calls us to ethical action. Sometimes, that ethical action is grand- action that pursues legislative changes or protests in the streets. Sometimes that ethical action is reaffirming our own commitment to live in a way that is aligned with our hope in God. Grief and faithful lament remind us of who we are, and who God is, and who God created us to be. When we lament, we name our hope for things to be different, for God's kingdom to come.

In this season there is joy and hope. In this season there is grief and lament. Both coexist as part of the fullness of our human experience. Both can be faithful. Both remind us that God is near, that God intimately knows our joys and our sufferings. Both remind us that there is work yet to be done. So let us do the work God has given us to do, let us be who God created us to be, and let us encourage one another on the way.

Blessings,
Mtr Tanya

This Sunday at St. Luke's

[The Second 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. Timothy T. Rich, rector, preaching

Covid Update

[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.



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

May Month End

May	2022 YTD	Budget	Var	2021	Var
Pledge Income	\$234,457	\$230,000	\$4,457	\$235,664	(\$1,207)
Loose Plate	\$23,334	\$12,100	\$11,234	\$10,237	\$13,097
Other Personal Inc.	\$28,209	\$18,133	\$10,076	\$38,561	(\$10,352)
Total Personal Inc.	\$286,000	\$260,233	\$25,767	\$284,462	\$1,538
Total Other Inc	\$27,671	\$36,388	(\$8,717)	\$85,190	(\$57,519)
Total Income	\$313,671	\$296,621	\$17,050	\$369,652	(\$55,981)
Staff Expenses	\$193,486	\$198,697	(\$5,211)	\$182,775	\$10,711
Facilities Expenses	\$56,487	\$50,806	\$5,681	\$36,186	\$20,301
Program Expenses	\$9,293	\$15,058	(\$5,765)	\$9,998	(\$705)
Outreach Expenses	\$40,812	\$40,890	(\$78)	\$43,531	(\$2,719)
Total Expenses	\$300,241	\$305,451	(\$5,210)	\$272,489	\$27,752
Net Income	\$13,429	(\$8,820)	\$22,249	\$97,163	(\$83,734)
Capital Expenditures Sewer Lining	\$55,000			Includes 65,000 PPP Money	

Notes:

- **Income** – Personal Offerings (Pledge and Loose Plate) are up slightly while rental income is down. We have received some gifts, so total income is \$17,050 (5.7%) ahead of budget. If you exclude the \$65,000 from 2021, we would be \$9,019 (3.0%) ahead of last year.

- **Expenses** – Staff expenses and Program expenses are under budget by \$5,211 (2.6%) and \$5,765 (38.3%) respectively while Facilities expenses are over budget by \$5,681 (11.2%). Total expenses are under budget by \$5,210 (1.7%).

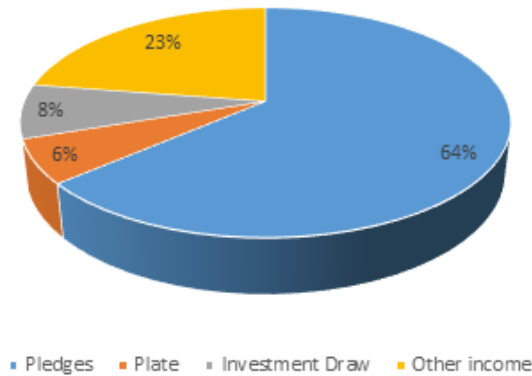
- **Bottom line** – we are \$22,249 ahead of budget. Budgeted loss at years end was \$74,000, so if we can continue the loss will be less.

- **Ideal Staffing** – If St. Luke's were staffed at the level we discussed at the town hall meeting

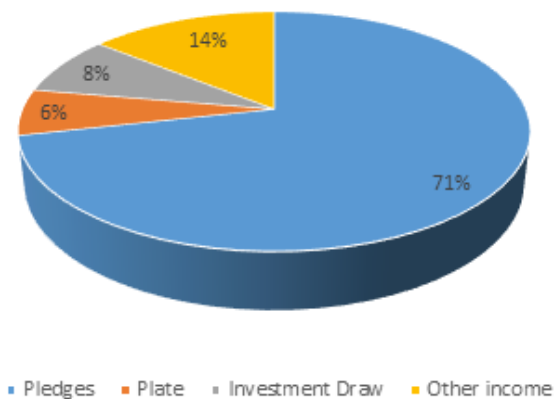
in April, it would have meant an additional \$45,503 (January – May) in expenses.

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!



<p>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.</p>	<p>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</p>	<p>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</p>	<p>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</p>
--	---	---	--

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@stlukeseg.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.

Gardens and Grounds

Gardens and Grounds

Families! Retirees! Friends!

Come to the garden and spend time with God’s creation.

Gardens and Grounds are pleased to offer “Adopt A Garden” as a way to spread the love. We have trees, flowers, bird nests, bunnies, and always weeds. You can share the love by adopting a small section of our gardens for the summer. Pick the time convenient for you and come weed and water your section of St. Luke’s!

Following our 10:15 service on June 19th we will meet in the dining room and pick garden areas and show you what you need to know (where the water is, what is weed). Email : [Cindi Lovejoybenem@cox.net](mailto:CindiLovejoybenem@cox.net) with questions.

Other opportunities for working in the garden include:

Twilighters: We meet every other week from 3-5 pm for fun and weeding. Our next meeting is June 22. Come join us!

Monthly Gardens and Grounds: We meet each month on the third Thursday to work on larger projects involving planting, pruning, preparing beds as well as weeding. Love to have you join us for work, fellowship and food! Our next meeting is this Thursday, June 16, from 9-noon. Snack, water and coffee is provided.

Come join us for some fun in the sun! Speak to Jack Newton on Sunday or email Cindi Lovejoy benem@cox.net

Loaves and Fishes

Loaves & Fishes Run

The truck is back!



Yes, after fifteen months we will be serving the Woonsocket Community from the Loaves & Fishes canteen truck. We are most excited to be able to advise you of this event. Our mission is preparing and delivering food and clothing to those in need. For the past fifteen months we have struggled to achieve the personal contact with you and those whom we serve. Now that opportunity has returned, and we hope that you can join us on Saturday morning, June 18, 2022. For more information on the role of Loaves and Fishes please visit their web site: <https://www.lfri.org/our-mission/>

For June we gather together at St Luke's in the auditorium, not at your homes, and will be preparing bag lunches. We will meet in the Auditorium and the SignUp Genius details our needs and delivery time. We will be preparing sixty bags for delivery to Woonsocket and twenty bags for the Hotel in East Greenwich. [Click Here](#) to sign up!

We are continuing to support the Women's Shelter in Woonsocket and Dorcas in Providence. Their needs are detailed in the SignUp Genius and include socks, underwear, diapers and wipes. Donations for the Women's Shelter and Dorcas can be dropped off at St Luke's atrium any time up to 11:00 AM on June 18th.

We want to thank you for all of your support because without you we cannot carry out our mission.

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 **episcopalpri.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

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 sportswear. 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

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, June 18, 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

Copyright © 2020. All Rights Reserved.