



St. Luke's Episcopal Church

Where all are welcome at the Lord's table

weekly

June 26, 2022

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Dear Brothers and Sisters,

By the time you read this I will be out of Rhode Island and quite possibly out of the country; after a weekend stay in Baltimore to celebrate a family wedding, Diane and I are heading to Italy for our “honeymoon,” some ten years in the planning. Whenever you read this and wherever I might be, I can assure you my heart will be filled with gratitude.

Besides being grateful for the ten years of marriage Diane and I have enjoyed, I am grateful for the ten years I have served as your rector. Bill Warburton’s words last Sunday were so surprising as to leave me nearly speechless—nearly. 😊 These past ten years at St. Luke’s have been the most gratifying of my ministry in large part because of your faith, your commitment, and your kindness. The difference you have made in my life, the lives of one another, and the lives of the greater East Greenwich community cannot be overstated, and I feel so very grateful to share life and church with you all.

I also feel grateful to go away, confident in the attentive leadership of our wardens, Bill Warburton and Deborah Collins. They are so dedicated and thoughtful, quick to answer the phone and ready to respond to whatever needs arise. Really, we all owe them a great debt of thanks.

And finally, I am grateful beyond words for the gifted staff with whom I share ministry. We are so well served by them all the time, but I am especially grateful that I might leave town confident in all that they will do. If you have a pastoral need, please feel free to contact Tanya. Her cell# is (623) 640-4637. And if you have any questions about parish life, contact Christina—she runs the show anyhow! Her email address is cimondi@stlukeseg.org.

Wayne Muller, in his book entitled *Sabbath*, writes, “In today’s world with its relentless emphasis on success and productivity, we have lost the necessary rhythm of life, the balance between work and rest. Constantly striving, we feel exhausted and deprived in the midst of great abundance. We long for time with friends and family, we long for a moment to ourselves.” Honestly, his words capture a bit of both my exhaustion and my longing. (I wonder, do they resonate for you as well?)

I am grateful for a vocation that values sabbath time. I am grateful for a church that supports my time away. I am grateful for the privilege and resources that make taking sabbath time in a place such as Italy possible. And I am grateful for the expectation that I will return to you, people whom I will miss, people whom I cherish.

See you July 17!

Quick Links

[St. Luke's Church](#)

[Episcopal Diocese of
Rhode Island](#)

[The Episcopal Church](#)

[The Anglican
Communion](#)

Gratefully yours,
Tim

Stay Connected



This Sunday at St. Luke's

[The Third 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. Tanya Watt, assistant 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.

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

May Month End

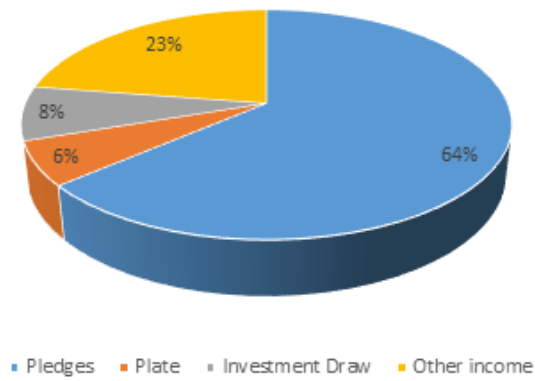
May	2022 YTD	Budget	Var	2021	Var
Pledge Income	\$234,457	\$230,000	\$4,457	\$235,664	(\$1,207)
Loose Plate	\$23,334	\$12,100	\$11,234	\$10,237	\$13,097
Other Personal Inc.	\$28,209	\$18,133	\$10,076	\$38,561	(\$10,352)
Total Personal Inc.	\$286,000	\$260,233	\$25,767	\$284,462	\$1,538
Total Other Inc	\$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:

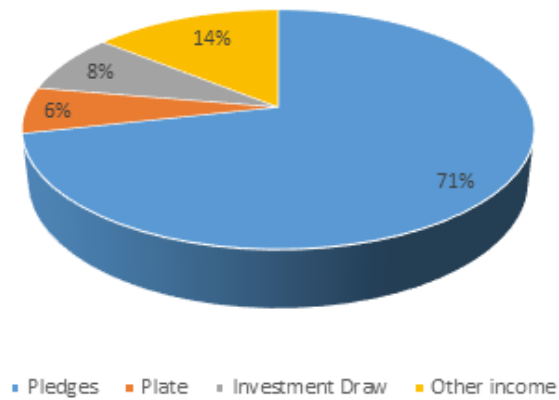
- **Income** – Personal Offerings (Pledge and Loose Plate) are up slightly while rental income is down. We have received some gifts, so total income is \$17,050 (5.7%) ahead of budget. If you exclude the \$65,000 from 2021, we would be \$9,019 (3.0%) ahead of last year.
- **Expenses** – Staff expenses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

Loaves and 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!

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

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

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99 Peirce Street
East Greenwich, RI 02818

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