



St. Luke's Episcopal Church

Where all are welcome at the Lord's table

weekly

July 24, 2022

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Dear Brothers and Sisters,

As I reflect on my time at St. Luke's, I've been contemplating those things that make it such a special place. First, there are truly remarkable people here. Our lay leadership is amazing: faithful, supportive, and oriented toward gratitude for the present and hope for the future. People show up for the church and for one another, finding ways to connect even when the church building was closed due to the pandemic. People lead in so many ways, from vestry to altar guild to youth faith formation to the property committee...come by any day of the week and you'll see someone working on something for the good of our church and our community.

Then there's Father Tim's charismatic, energetic presence, a source of joy, love, and encouragement for so many. Rodney is a true Minister of Music; he calls out the best in our choir and brings passion, joy, and discipline to his work. Discipline is the root of discipleship, and I think of the disciplined work that Rodney and Tim both put in to encourage our shared life of faith. Christina is the face of St. Luke's; for many she is the first person they encounter when they enter our church, and what a blessing she is. I often tell her she's worth her weight in gold, and I mean it. Theresa, our Godly Play coordinator, is incredibly creative and dedicated to her vocation of working with our youth. She is deeply prayerful and beautifully present to the youngest members of our congregation. Emma, our Social Media Evangelist, is taking our digital presence to new and exciting places, reaching people in ways that we haven't before. We benefit so much from her incredible gifts. Karen, the head of our nursery, has lifelong relationships with many of the families in our church, watching the children she cared for as infants as they grow. Sexton Tim cares deeply about the needs of our facility.

The biggest part of what makes St. Luke's so special is definitely the people. But it's not *only* the people. When you enter St. Luke's, there is a sense of intentional hospitality and welcome, where people don't feel like strangers for very long. There is a sense of vitality, energy, and life. There is a groundedness- the hope that persists here is not ephemeral, but it runs deep because it is rooted in a faith that does not end.

In Paul's first letter to the Corinthians, he tells us that in the end what remains is faith, hope, and love, and that the greatest of these is love. The love that he speaks of is not romantic love, but rather the unconditional love that God has for each of us and that we are called to share with one another. Agape is that love that calls us to our very best selves and demands that we seek the very best for one another. Faith, hope, and love are at the heart of what makes St. Luke's a remarkable community: faith in God and faith that we are beloved,

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made in God's very image; hope in the future, hope that persists because it is anchored in trust that God is always near; and love, a love that continually calls us to be the people God created us to be, a love that always seeks the best for one another, a love that is alive.

I am grateful to have been invited to enter into this remarkable community of faith, hope, and love, and when I leave at the end of July, I will continue to carry you in my heart.

Blessings,
Mother Tanya

Stay Connected



This Sunday at St. Luke's

The Seventh Sunday after Pentecost

Click above for the lessons

7:45 am Holy Eucharist with Sermon

10:15 am Holy Eucharist with Baptisms

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.

Brunch for Mother Tanya

Brunch For Mother Tanya

**Immediately Following Our 10:15 Service -
July 31**

Please join us for brunch to celebrate Mother Tanya!

As many of you know, our Assistant Rector, The Rev. Tanya Watt, concludes her ministry at St.

Luke's on July 31. In her two years with us, she has won the hearts of many with her great pastoral gifts and warm smile. We have been blessed to be able to work with her, and she will be greatly missed!

Please [Click Here](#) to RSVP through Sign-Up Genius!



Church Picnic

Church Picnic

Sunday, August 21st

Goddard Park Carousel

10:15 – Worship Service

Followed by a Church BBQ and Picnic

PLEASE SAVE THE DATE AND JOIN US FOR A WONDERFUL DAY!



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	2022 YTD	Budget	Var	2021	Var
Pledge Income	\$254,316	\$262,000	(\$7,684)	\$265,360	(\$11,044)
Loose Plate	\$28,856	\$13,900	\$14,956	\$14,302	\$14,554
Other Personal Inc.	\$44,783	\$19,900	\$24,883	\$42,984	\$1,799
Total Personal Inc.	\$327,955	\$295,800	\$32,155	\$322,646	\$5,309
Total Other Inc	\$46,850	\$53,065	(\$6,215)	\$99,371	(\$52,521)
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.

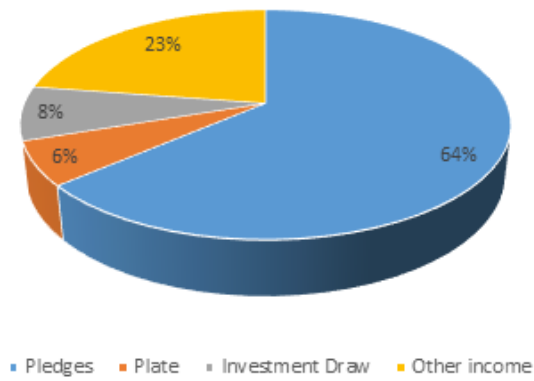
· **Expenses** – We’ve spent \$12,857 of the golf tournament money, so that has been brought into the P&L as noted. Another \$3,865 of the boiler repairs have been made (total to date \$7,430). Staff expenses and Program expenses are under budget by a total of \$11,356 (4.4%) while Facilities expenses 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)

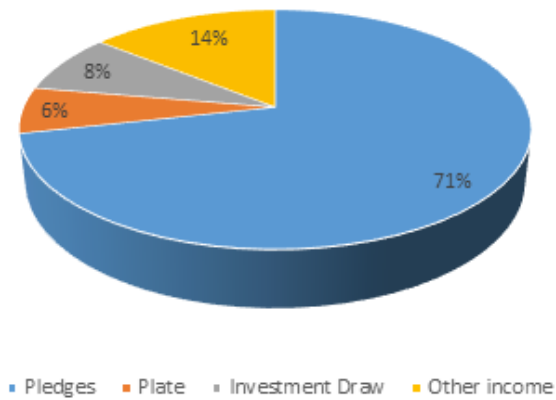
· **Ideal Staffing** – If St. Luke’s were staffed at the level we discussed at the town hall meeting in April, it would have meant an additional \$54,604 (January – June) in expenses.

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



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

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!

Job Opening

Job Opening - Part-time Coordinator for Youth and Family Programs

While it is Fr. Tim’s policy not to hire parishioners, if you have any friends who may be interested, please let us know.

St. Luke’s Church, an inclusive, thriving, multi-generational, and joy-filled church, located in the heart of East Greenwich, is looking for a part-time program coordinator (15-18 hours per week) to expand our ministries with youth and their families.

Essential hopes and expectations include oversight of our youth faith formation offerings (curriculum selection and preparation, teacher recruitment and support), enhanced activities of a fledgling youth group, weekly communication with parents regarding how they might further their children’s faith formation at home, and the development of a one-week summer Vacation Bible School.

Additional responsibilities include regular collaboration with the ministry team, the creation of seasonal offerings, assisting the rector with confirmation classes (February through May), and planning for our every-other-year mission trip to the Dominican Republic.

Appropriate candidates must have a love for youth, and a comfort and familiarity with the Christian tradition. Experience working in a youth-related setting a must; a background in education is helpful but not required.

Other important qualities and attributes include:

- Creativity
- Good sense of humor
- Strong interpersonal skills
- Flexibility
- A demonstrated capacity to work well with others
- An energetic and energizing disposition

The weekly hours are flexible, although presence most Sunday mornings is required. With the exception of a Vacation Bible School, Faith Formation classes pause from June through August, allowing for 6 weeks of vacation time.

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 **summer 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 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, August 20, 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!

During the summer months, donations to the Food Cupboard usually fall off. At the same time, the need remains high. Please consider donating these items:

Oatmeal, baked beans, pasta sauce, canned potatoes, mashed potatoes, coffee, canned chili, crackers, beef & chicken gravy, canned peaches, pears and mandarin oranges, beef & chicken broth, Italian dressing.

Thank you!
EG Interfaith Food Cupboard

St. Luke's Episcopal Church | (401) 884-4116
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East Greenwich, RI 02818

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