



St. Luke's Episcopal Church

Where all are welcome at the Lord's table

weekly

July 2, 2023

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Dear Brothers and Sisters,

This past Sunday, between services, I texted our associate pastor, Jonathan, to say, "It's more fun when you're around! Hope you're having fun in Puerto Rico." (Besides being on his negotiated summer hiatus, he's currently at the American Baptist's annual conference.) He responded, "I promise, I'm doing all I can to minimize the fun." Which, although undoubtedly a lie, does reflect his good sense of humor.

It's hard to believe Jonathan has been with us only since September. The affection he has for St. Luke's is certainly matched by the feelings we have for him. And as I sat thinking about this wonderful relationship it occurred to me, you all, the people of St. Luke's, are so generous with your hospitality, always ready to welcome a new face into the community.

This past Tuesday I had lunch with our former Assistant Rector, Tanya Watt. She's doing well as priest-in-charge of Trinity Church in Cranston. Her smile is as warm and wide as I had remembered. And her enthusiasm every bit as infectious.

The many subjects we covered in our conversation included a catch-up regarding household pets (which is to say, beloved members of the family 😊). As many of you know, not long after Tanya left St. Luke's, Tim and she lost their dear, sweet Daisy. It was not exactly unexpected but heartbreaking nonetheless. The good news she had to report was that they had welcomed into their home a new pup, Poppy, who had taken up a large and happy place in their home.

Towards the end of our conversation, she said to me, "You know, the only reason we were able to get Poppy is because we used some of the monies from the purse I received when leaving St. Luke's. So in a very real way, St. Luke's continues to live on in our hearts." I thought that such a lovely thing for her to say.

And as I drove away from lunch, I was reminded for the second time in just a couple of days how generous you all are—not only with your affections but your treasures too. (Not that I really needed any such reminders, having enjoyed a couple of weeks ago the coffee hour cake you provided me in honor of my 11th anniversary at St. Luke's.)

These relationships we share, so filled with gratitude, respect, and affection, we should never take for granted. Living in a time when loneliness is epidemic and differences too often lead to division if not outright animosity, we all should take a summer moment to give thanks for the community we enjoy. To be sure, St. Luke's is not perfect nor absent the occasional tensions. But I believe we are a church family to be recognized, celebrated, and treasured.

So, as summer descends (like a wet blanket) and some of us go our separate ways, I just want to say, to you and for you, "Thanks be to God."

Grief Support Group

Summer blessings,
Tim

**St. Luke's Birthdays,
Anniversaries, and
Special Days of
Thanksgiving**

St. Luke's Choirs

**Big Brothers and Big
Sisters**

Especially for Children

Food Cupboard

Quick Links

St. Luke's Church

**Episcopal Diocese of
Rhode Island**

The Episcopal Church

**The Anglican
Communion**

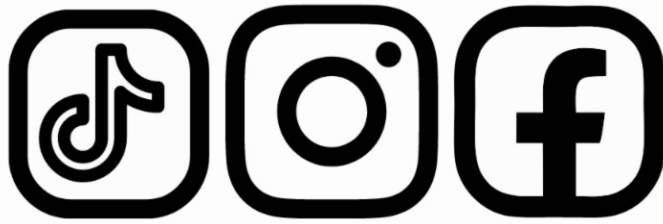
Stay Connected



Happy 4th of July!



St. Luke's TikTok, Instagram and Facebook



Stay up to date with all things St. Luke's, and follow us on **TikTok, Instagram, & Facebook @StLukesEG**

This Sunday at St. Luke's

The Fifth 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 YouTube livestream for our 10:15 am Sunday Service. Please [Click Here](#) to worship with us via YouTube.

[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 At Your Own Discretion Practice

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.

Centennial Celebration Bell Concerts



Tuesday Evening Bell Concerts

**TUESDAYS AT 7PM
THROUGH JULY**

Bring your favorite camping chair or blanket, pack some snacks and bring the family, and enjoy the music of our bells being played by new and veteran chimers.

Church Picnic

Church Picnic

Sunday, July 16th

Swift Gym Field

10:15 – Worship Service

Followed by a Church BBQ and Picnic

**(If raining, Worship will be in the Auditorium
and Picnic will be in the Dining Room)**

Mark your calendar and join us for our annual service and picnic in the Swift Gym Field on Sunday, July 16th. Invite your family and friends, bring your favorite camping chair or blanket and be sure to stay after the 10:15 service for our BBQ and Picnic.

Click Here to sign up or use the sign-up sheet in the atrium, call the church at 884-4116, or email at cimondi@stlukeseg.org by Wednesday, July 12th. This will help in planning for having enough hot dogs and hamburgers for everyone.

St. Luke's will be providing the Hamburgers and Hot Dogs, Lemonade & Water.

Here is how you can help:

- You can bring one of the side dishes in the sign-up genius.
- Help transport the grill, long tables, some folding chairs, grilling utensils, and other miscellaneous items from the church to Swift Gym Field on Sunday morning and return them to the church after the picnic. These things can be gathered on Saturday and stored at church until 8:30 Sunday Morning.
- Sign up to pitch in to help grill, bun and plate the burgers and hotdogs.

- Assist parishioners in serving food.
- Cleaning up after picnic.

Please sign up via Sign-up Genius if you are able to help!

Please contact Lois McLoughlin at 401-527-2926 or Christina in the church office at 884-4116 if you have any questions.

The 7:45 service will be held at St Luke's as usual.



Save The Date!

Step Out ... Step Up!

A Charity Event to Enhance
Spaces for Engaging
Our Community



Save the Date: September 30 -- 6:00pm to 10:00pm
Potowomut Golf Club

Adult Faith Formation

Adult Faith Formation

SUMMER MOVIE NIGHTS! Join us for dinner and a movie this summer!
Mission: JOY! Finding Happiness in Troubled Times

Experience the incredible friendship between the Dalai Lama and the late Archbishop Tutu. This film shares the humor and wisdom of two of the world's most beloved icons. Despite their difficult journeys, they made happiness a habit and found joy in adversity and fighting for a better world. Reviewers call this a laugh-out-loud film not to be missed!

We will watch this movie over the three summer evenings listed below, so you can easily join us as your schedule permits.

Meet us in the dining room for some food, a great movie, and a lively discussion. Mark your calendars now for these dates:

Wednesdays - June 21, July 19, August 16, 6:30-8pm

We'll provide the main course, please bring a side dish or dessert to share if you are able.

[Click Here](#) to sign up!

But even if you didn't sign up and find you can join us, PLEASE DO!

"In what turned out to be their last time together, we trace the epic life stories of these Nobel Peace Prize winners as they faced oppression, exile, death threats, cancer, and more – unbowed and still laughing. They are opposites in many ways, yet their friendship shows us that our shared humanity is bigger than our differences. Their life stories remind us that JOY is an inside job, that JOY and pain are inseparable, and that deep connection is one of the secrets to JOY!" Missionjoy.org

Treasurer's Notes

From the Treasurer

June Month End

June	2023 YTD	Budget	Var.	2022 YTD	Var.
Pledge Income	\$265,778	\$253,000	\$12,778	\$254,316	\$11,462
Loose Plate	\$21,324	\$24,400	(\$3,076)	\$28,856	(\$7,532)
Other Personal Inc.	\$21,487	\$14,250	\$7,237	\$44,783	(\$23,296)
Total Personal Inc.	\$308,589	\$291,650	\$16,939	\$327,955	(\$19,366)
Total Other Inc	\$49,330	\$51,950	(\$2,620)	\$46,850	\$2,480
Total Income	\$357,919	\$343,600	\$14,319	\$374,805	(\$16,886)
Staff Expenses	\$218,616	\$229,931	(\$11,315)	\$233,747	(\$15,131)
Facilities Expenses	\$66,267	\$77,287	(\$11,020)	\$82,662	(\$16,395)
Program Expenses	\$16,797	\$17,537	\$740	\$11,997	\$4,800
Outreach Expense	\$55,244	\$58,138	(\$2,894)	\$47,748	\$7,496
Total Expenses	\$356,925	\$382,893	(\$25,968)	\$376,228	(\$19,303)
Net Income	\$994	(\$39,293)	\$40,287	(\$1,422)	\$2,416

Notes:

- June Income was \$5,000 over budget with an additional \$4,000 gift to replace choir room windows that are failing.
- June expenses were within \$1,000 of budget.
- Bottom line is \$40,000 over budget and \$2,400 over last year at this time.

Thank you, again, for all you do!

Peace and Grace,
Mike

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!



Online Banking	Zelle Transfer	VANCO Payment Solutions	Direct Payment From IRA
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.	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.	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	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.	No cost to you or the Church	Transaction Fees for the Church	No cost to you or the Church

Tower Bell Apprentice Invitation

Tower Bell Apprentice Invitation

On Sunday, June 25, St. Luke's will be celebrating the 100th anniversary of the dedication of our church tower and the tower bells. As we prepare for this occasion and look toward the future, we're seeking individuals who would be interested to apprentice as tower bell ringers.

Each Sunday we enjoy the bells being played at the end of the 10:15am service most often by Bruce Dearnaley and frequently by Bruce Stevens. The two Bruces are excited to increase the roster of ringers so we have capable, experienced ringers able to play not only for Sundays, but for other special days and occasions.

Bruce Dearnaley is graciously offering training in playing the tower bells on multiple Tuesday evenings at 6:30pm through the rest of May and June. Might you or your child be interested? It promises to be rewarding and lots of fun! Contact Bruce at bdearnaley48@gmail.com or by phone at 401-575-1321 for more information.

Lunch on the Hill

Welcome Back – "Lunch On The Hill"

Matthew 25:35

I was hungry and you gave me food,

I was thirsty and you gave me drink,

I was a stranger and you welcomed me.....

Prior to shut down due to Covid, Saint Luke's "Lunch on the Hill" offered lunches every Wednesday to our surrounding community with a focus on the clients of the Food Pantry. **"Lunch On The Hill" has resumed lunches on the 2nd and 4th Wednesday every month.**

You may recall that in the past lunches had been provided by local restaurants with sides being provided by the host Church. Due to the current economy and shortage of labor, we will be moving ahead with a combination of lunches provided by a restaurant and lunches prepared in Saint Luke's Community Kitchen.

Saint Luke's/ EG Food Pantry will provide lunch on the 2nd Wednesday. Saint Luke's will prepare Sandwiches, sides, salads, desert etc. The EG food Pantry will assist in providing food to prepare.

Our Lady of Mercy (OLM)/ Wild Harvest will provide lunch on the 4th Wednesday. Wild Harvest will provide sandwiches and soup or a side. OLM will provide additional sides, salad, desert etc.

We are excited about resuming our outreach to our community and support to our neighbors.

Saint Luke's Here's how you can help:

Volunteers (3 or 4) from 9:30 to 12:30 needed to assist in preparation and serving of lunch on the 2nd Wednesday of the month.

Donations of deserts, baked goods, fruit by 10:00 am on the second Wednesday of the month.

For more information on how you can be part of this outreach ministry you can contact:

Steve McLoughlin
smcloughlin2@aol.com, 401 225 5540

Loaves and Fishes

Loaves And Fishes

Our June run had the largest number of participants since Covid. More than 50 people who were very grateful for our presence. With the closing of the State Homeless Shelters we expect attendance to continue to grow.

We will continue with 100 bags, twenty for the Hotel in East Greenwich and the remainder to Woonsocket. The offerings will be cheese burgers, hot dogs, peanut butter and jelly sandwiches, and the regular other items included in the bag are shown in the SignUp Genius. It is appreciated if all donations can be in the St Luke's kitchen by 10:00 AM on July 15th. **If you are dropping off items before July 15th please mark them for Loaves and Fishes.**

In signing up, there is no expectation that one person needs to fulfill the total amount of a particular item. When using the SignUp Genius, **please indicate how many of an item you will be donating** .

With the warmer weather we will be asking only for mid weight socks and women and men's underwear and tee shirts. The details are shown in the SignUp Genius.

[Click Here](#) to sign up!

Your generosity is most appreciated. It allows St Luke's to continue helping those in need.

Thank you.

Food for Backpacks!

Our Food for Backpacks ministry is delivering to East Greenwich food insecure families. The appreciation and gratitude was deeply felt by both the receiving and the giving. For many of the families weekends are especially difficult as school breakfasts and lunches are not provided. Our first team of volunteers all expressed it was a moving experience, were grateful to participate, and are excited to continue the service. If you are already on the volunteer list, we will be contacting you as we developed a rotating schedule. If you're not on the list and would like to know more

about it or would like to join with us, please contact:

Caroline Sparhawk : cdsparhawk@gmail.com

Joyce Harvey: joyce836@gmail.com



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!

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

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

Please check the Dorcas Website for items currently being accepted.
Due to limited space, Dorcas can't accept any additional items.

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.

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, September 23, 2023 – 10 am, after summer break)

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!

As we head into summer, the shelves are getting bare as the need goes up.

Needed this month: Cans of Hash, Chili, Spam, Beef Stew, Hearty Soups, Ravioli, Jelly/Jam, Mashed Potatoes, Cans and Jars of Pasta Sauce, Ground Coffee, Large Bottles of Juice, Vegetable Oil, Cans of Beef and Chicken Gravy, Cereal, Pancake Mix, Peanut Butter, and of course Monetary Donations are always welcome.

Thank you!
EG Interfaith Food Cupboard

St. Luke's Episcopal Church | (401) 884-4116
cimondi@stlukeseg.org | <http://stlukeseg.org>
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East Greenwich, RI 02818

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