



St. Luke's Episcopal Church

Where all are welcome at the Lord's table

weekly

March 31, 2024

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Bishop Knisely's Easter Message 2024

Easter Brings Hope In The Midst Of Doubt

There is good reason to be concerned for ourselves and our world this year. Our nation is heading into an election season that promises to be a recap of the last deeply divisive one; one that ended in a way not seen before in American history. We are experiencing increasingly stormy weather, regular flooding and beach erosion due to rising temperatures and sea levels, and we don't seem to be able to respond with any clear sense of urgency. And while the economy is doing well by most measures, the majority of us aren't feeling better off. And to top it off, we're watching regional wars break out across the globe, the flames of which might quickly spread.

There's good reason to be worried. There's good reason to be pessimistic. There is little reason to be hopeful. But Easter brings hope in the midst of doubt.

Easter changed everything, though only a small group of people understood that at the time. In the decades following the Resurrection, things didn't get better, they got worse. The Roman Empire destroyed the Temple in Jerusalem and drove Jesus' people from their ancestral home. Yet, despite the obvious unfolding calamity, the seeds of a new reality had been planted that were to change everything within a few centuries.

Sustaining our sense of hope is seldom easy, especially if we're focusing on the rush of events and thereby missing the arc of history. Easter is the ground of our hope, though often our hope is more of a spiritual discipline than a clear and present reality. To be an Easter people in a time such as this is to believe when it's difficult to believe. It's an act of faith.

That faith, if really present in us and our communities, is the most precious gift we can give to others; particularly those who despair of what might be. If you have eyes of faith, you can see seeds coming to flower today, things starting to change, things starting to be restored. Crime and violence are down across this nation, the pandemic is ebbing, carbon emissions are declining and extreme poverty around the world is in rapid decline. The troubles on the news these days are, when viewed through the lens of Easter, the birth pangs of the Kingdom of God, flowering all around for those who have eyes to see it.

Easter happened and it has changed everything. And I have faith that there's still more to come. Christ is risen indeed! Alleluia.

+Nicholas

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Stay Connected





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

This Sunday at St. Luke's

Easter Day

Click above for the lessons.

8:00 am Holy Eucharist with Sermon

10:00 am Holy Eucharist with Sermon

Nursery Opens at 7:45 am

There will be no Godly Play or Youth Faith Formation on Easter Sunday.

Godly Play and Youth Faith Formation classes begin at 10:00 am and 9:45 am. April 7 begins the series on climate justice for our Youth Faith Group with a focus on *Belonging to God's Beloved Creation*.

We are glad to offer YouTube livestream for our 10 am Holy Eucharist 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

Save The Date!

Save the Date!

Celebration of Fr. Tim and Diane
June 9, 2024 - 5:00pm

Father Tim Will Be Away

FATHER TIM WILL BE AWAY FROM APRIL 1-4

Father Tim will be away on vacation from April 1-4th. If you have a pastoral emergency, please contact Rev. Jonathan Malone by calling our office at 884-4116.

Transition – What's Ahead?

Town Hall Meeting, April 14, at 8:45 With Canon To The Ordinary Dena Cleaver-Bartholomew

As we complete our Lenten journey to Easter, we will embark on our transition to a new rector. A weekly communication will begin in April to outline the transition process and share informational updates. In the meantime, mark your calendars for an **April 14th Town Hall between the 8:00am and 10:00am services**. Dena Cleaver-Bartholomew, Canon to the Ordinary and the diocesan liaison to Office of Transition Ministry, will preach at both services and facilitate a Q&A session during the Town Hall. We look forward to seeing you there.

Easter Sunrise Service

Easter Sunrise Service

Join Fr. Tim, Pastor Jonathan, and other East Greenwich Clergy for a brief Easter Celebration at Sandy Point Beach at 6:30 am

Journey Through Lent Blog Series

Journey through Lent Blog Series – 2024

Beginning Ash Wednesday, February 14th,
and running thru Easter, March 31st

In what has become a tradition at St. Luke's, parishioners are invited to be our blog authors as they reflect and write on our daily scripture readings.

We now have all of our authors. Thank you!

Subscribe to the Lenten Blog Series

To receive daily email notifications of daily blog posts, subscribe by clicking on the QR code below and entering your email address on the 2024 Lenten blog page.

Or go to <https://stlukeseg.org/lenten-blog-2024>



2024 Lenten Blog

St. Luke's Annual Report

Electronic copies are available on our website and you can also [Click Here](#) to view our Annual Report.

Pledge Envelopes

If you have requested pledge envelopes, they are located in the atrium.

St. Luke's Golf Tournament

Community Embrace Golf Classic

.....

Potowomut Golf Club

.....

Monday - May 6, 2024



.....

Don't miss out on this amazing opportunity to raise funds for our community spaces that embrace, serve, and entertain our community! Mark you calendar now and *invite your friends and neighbors* to ...

- **Register a foursome or sign up as an individual player to participate in the full day's events:**
Foursome ticket - \$680 Individual ticket - \$170
- **Don't Golf? Then, register just to attend our social hour, dinner, and evening festivities!**
Dinner & Social tickets - \$85 per person
- **Cannot attend the event? Please support the Community Embrace mission by being or identifying a sponsor, purchasing or inviting others to purchase a tee sign, or making a tax-deductible donation...**
Sponsor opportunities: Pro - \$3,000 Eagle - \$2,500 Birdie - \$1,000 or 19th Hole - \$500
Tee Sign - \$150

To register for golf or for the dinner/silent auction or a donation, please scan the QR code below or go to:
<https://SLGolf2024.eventbrite.com>



Please contact Tournament Co-Chairs, Bill Warburton or Jon Jacaruso, at slgolfclassic@gmail.com to learn more about the event.

Corporate Communion

Corporate Communion

Dear Parents,

We are in the planning stages for the Corporate Communion program at St. Luke's Church. It is open to all children in the 4th grade.

Children understand the symbolism and significance of the Eucharist in ways that are often surprising and delightful. It is no wonder that Jesus said, "Let the little children come to me!"

Since the 1991 *Prayerbook*, our church has lived into the theology that Baptism is full initiation into the Body of Christ, moving away from the idea that Confirmation and "understanding" are the bench marks for participation in the Eucharist.

Corporate Communion is a remarkable communion instruction , *not preparation class* . It is designed

to offer age-appropriate theology, liturgy and tradition to children. **Children are not the future of the church; they are the church today.** This class honors their full membership in the Body of Christ, and equips us grownups for the vows we made at their Baptism that we would support them in their life in Christ.

Corporate Communion classes at St Luke's will begin at 9:00am to 10:00am on the following dates in the Blackburn Room on the first floor:

4/21 Meet and Greet/Sharing a Meal
4/28 Storing Telling
5/5 These Holy Things
5/12 Church Tour with Father Tim
5/19 These Holy Things/Praying Together/Angels
5/25 Rehearsal 11:30-12:30 & Ice Cream Social at St.Luke's
5/26 Corporate Communion Celebration at the 10:00 Service

Please contact me at theresa@stlukeseg.org for a registration form or call me at 415 233 0761 if you have any questions or concerns.

Blessings,
Theresa Deiters Muscat

Adult Faith Formation

Adult Faith Formation

**An Easter Study:
Wednesdays on Zoom April 10, 17, 24 and May 1, 8, 15**

**DANCING FROM THE INSIDE OUT: Graceful reflections on
Growing Older by Westina Matthews**

This collection of essays about ordinary events invites the reader to reflect on how God can be found throughout life. Matthews offers a personal and authentic voice that resonates with a wide audience in an easily accessible and understandable manner. These timely reflections are in keeping with the Most Rev. Michael B. Curry's call to "live into being the Jesus Movement by committing to evangelism and the work of reconciliation across the borders and boundaries that divide the human family of God."

Through thoughtful, poignant, humorous, and authentic reflections—shared from her journal and weekly email blogs—Matthews invites the reader to redefine themselves.

For April 10 - Read Chapter 1, "Dancing to Every Other Beat"
For April 17 - Read Chapter 2, "The Storms of Life"
For April 24 - Read Chapter 3, "Fighting a Hard Battle"
For May 1 - Read Chapter 7, "The Thin Place"
For May 8 - Read Chapter 8, "One Step Closer to God"
for May 15 - Read Chapter 10, "Remember to Breathe"

Each class will take place on Zoom, from 7:00-8:30. [Click Here](#) to join!

Zoom information is below:

**Meeting ID: 867 3899 9469
Passcode: 427552**

Youth Faith Formation

Youth Faith Formation

Youth Faith Sponsored Open Mic Night!

April 5 at 6 pm

Please join us on Friday, April 5, at 6 pm in St. Luke's Dining Room for our Open Mic Night! All ages and talents are welcome!

We'd love it if you could join us! Please email amy@stlukeseg.org to let us know if you would like to attend or if you have any questions.

[Click Here](#) to view our **St. Luke's Youth Faith Newsletter!**

St. Luke's Episcopal Church
Where all are welcome at the Lord's table

**THE ARKFULL
COFFEE HOUSE**

OPEN MIC NIGHT
ALL AGES AND TALENTS WELCOME!

**Friday
April
5**

**Doors Open at
6:00PM**

**Downstairs
Dining Room**

For more information, email amy@stlukeseg.org

St. Luke's Episcopal Church, 99 Peirce Street, East Greenwich, RI

February	2024 YTD	Budget	Var.	Ann. Budget
Total Income	\$151,243	\$127,758	\$23,485	\$716,650
Total Expenses	\$129,552	\$126,252	\$3,300	\$767,967
Net Income	\$21,691	\$1,506	\$20,185	(\$51,317)

Notes:

- Income - \$23,485 ahead of budget – most of this is found in pledge income (\$21,371).
- Expenses - \$3,300 over budget - \$2,055 in utilities and \$8,169 in copier cost are the largest culprits. The old copier vendor was bought out, and the new copier vendor has increased the cost per copy significantly.

Peace and Grace,
Mike

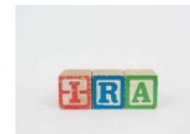
Vanco and PayPal QR Codes If You Would Like To Donate



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
<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

We have a busy year ahead and would love to invite volunteers to help operate our live stream videos that are posted on St. Luke's YouTube channel. If you are comfortable with computers and setting up camera shots, we need YOU!

Please contact Deborah Collins (collinstn01@gmail.com) if interested and we will get you trained and online shortly. In the meantime, check out St. Luke's videos at: <https://www.youtube.com/@StLukesEG/streams>

St. Luke's Church Directory

St. Luke's Church Directory – A Great Way to Connect!

Our 2023 church directory was distributed last year, and we have shared access to the mobile version of the directory to all households listed in the directory. We would love to add the many new households who have graced our pews since December 2022...and, update information for those of you who have moved, changed emails, or any other contact info. So, we invite all newcomers who are not currently in our directory, and all those whose info needs to be updated to contact us. Finally, it is not too late to add a picture to your listing – the more we have, the better to connect with each other. If you have any questions -- please contact Jan Burch at jburch1608@yahoo.com. Looking forward to seeing your faces in the directory!!

Women of Grace

Women of Grace

Monday, April 8, at 7 pm

Monday, April 8th, Women of Grace will be meeting in St. Luke's dining room at 7:00pm. The Diocese of RI has been encouraging parishes to become more mindful of protecting God's Creation as outlined in the Creation Care initiative. To that end, WofG is having a speaker from the RI Resource Recovery Corporation present on Recycling Right. What happens with those bottles and plastics I recycle? How does recycling help protect God's Creation? Please join us as we begin our journey supporting the Creation Care initiative.

Fellowship at 7:00pm. Feel free to bring a savory/sweet to share. An RSVP to deblukens73@gmail.com or (908)500-4573 is always appreciated.

Christ's Community Kitchen Dinner

Christ's Community Kitchen



St. Luke's Church Dining Room

April 29, 2024

From 5-6:30 pm

St. Luke's is hosting a wonderful dinner in our Dining Room!

Please join us!

Free Will Offering – All Are Welcome

Lunch on the Hill

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....

“Lunch On The Hill” Offers Lunches On The 2nd and 4th Wednesdays Every Month

Saint Luke's/ EG Food Pantry provides lunch on the 2nd Wednesday. Saint Luke's prepares sandwiches, sides, salads, dessert etc. The EG food Pantry assists in providing food to prepare. Olive Garden provides delicious soups to supplement our meals on both Wednesdays.

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

Our lunch guests have grown to see our gathering as a warm community of support during tough times as well as celebration of good times together. The “Community /Family” we provide is possible because of all the wonderful people that volunteer and support this outreach.

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

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

Donations of desserts, 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

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** for men and women.

We are also in need of **Sweatshirts and Hoodies**. 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

Our next Pastoral Care Meeting will be held on April 10 at 10 am in the Blackburn Rm.

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

Property Questions

Property Questions

Ways to contact the property manager concerning property issues and future projects:

1. LEAVE A NOTE IN MY OFFICE B0X
2. CELL PHONE 401-523-6414
3. EMAIL djmaceg@verizon.net
4. EMAIL CHRISTINA

That will give me time to reflect on your concerns and come up with some solutions.

Thanks for your attention,
Doug Macpherson

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

Thanks to the team, pictured below, an entire car full of clothes was sent to the Clothing Collaborative of Dorcas International. They were so appreciative and tell us they love working with St. Luke's.

Currently they need diapers, cleaning supplies and toiletries. Families served by Dorcas arrive with very little and most of them speak very little English. Picture the challenge of trying to shop when you can't read the labels! They are very thankful for the things we provide.

Current Needs:

Diaper Size 4, 5, & 6	Baby Wipes
Laundry Detergent	Fabric Softener
Toilet Paper	Paper Towels
Shampoo & Conditioner	Body Lotion

Men's clothing is still needed.

Questions?

Email Nancy Rudicil - aer39th@netzero.net or Cathi Sloan - cathisloan@gmail.com



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 4th 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
April 27, 2024 – 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 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!](#)

East Greenwich Food Cupboard

East Greenwich Food Cupboard

We are in need of canned hash, ground coffee, mashed potatoes, potato sides, flour, gravy, jelly/jam, canned chicken, pasta sauce, and brownie mix.

Thank you for your support!

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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