



St. Luke's Episcopal Church

Where all are welcome at the Lord's table

weekly

May 19, 2024

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Dear Brothers and Sisters,

This Sunday, Pentecost Sunday, (don't forget to wear red and that our service will be at 9:00am!), we will baptize eight children ranging from newborn to nearly twelve years old. It's such a privilege to play a part in these baptisms, and I always get goosebumps when I hear the congregation respond to the question, "*Will you who witness these vows do all in your power to support these persons in their life in Christ?*" with a loud and joyful, "*We will!*"

Adding to the joy of this Sunday's service will be the singing of our Angel Choir, now eleven voices strong! Rodney, ably assisted by Catherine Pilkington, has done an amazing job of renewing this choir following the COVID-related suspension.

Next Sunday, May 26, at the 10:00am service, the Corporate Communion class concludes their five-week long study of the Eucharist. Erica Simo and Lisa Rivard have done a wonderful job providing instruction for this class. Just a week ago I led the eight youth on a tour of the campus. It's one of my favorite things I do all year. We moved from the choir loft to the sacristy to the bell tower to the "secret chapel" to the Loaves and Fishes/Dorcas storage space (the original Sunday School rooms) to the cemetery, to our memorial gardens, finally ending in the St. Luke's Community Kitchen. They were wide-eyed and wonderful throughout it all. I can't wait to have them stand around the altar table with me as we celebrate their efforts.

Then, on June 2, at the 10:00 service, the Bishop will confirm nine teenagers (and one adult). For the past two years these teens have been meeting with Tom Sprague, Stacey Nakasian, and me, preparing for their confirmation. They have discussed the core elements of our Christian faith, the Bible, prayer, Church history, the Book of Common Prayer, the sacraments, world religions, and practical ethics according to the Episcopal Church's understanding. I have so enjoyed these conversations and often marveled at their thoughtfulness. It will be a privilege to present them for confirmation.

Over the years, I have heard people comment, "The children are the future of the church." While I appreciate the affection and concern captured in such comments, I want to say, "Right now, already, the children are the church." They animate the church; they serve the church; they influence the church; they make the church what it is, today. Truly, they are the church-- past, present, and future.

I rejoice in the life the children bring to St. Luke's. I am so thankful to Rodney, Theresa, Amy, and all the youth faith formation volunteers who have nurtured that life. (The teachers will be honored June 2 as well.) And I applaud the entire parish's understanding of these youth: an understanding which accepts their occasionally boisterous presence, which supports the parents who labor to get their children dressed and ready for church, and which celebrates their various accomplishments and milestones.

The youth are a blessing to us, just as we provide a blessing to them. And in that exchange, God blesses us all.

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Pentecost blessings,
Tim

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Stay Connected



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 Day Of Pentecost

Click above for the lessons.

9:00 am Holy Eucharist with Sermon & Baptisms

Nursery Opens at 8:45 am

Godly Play and Youth Faith Formation classes will not be held this Sunday.

We are glad to offer YouTube livestream for our 9 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

Celebration of Our Ministry with Fr. Tim & Diane



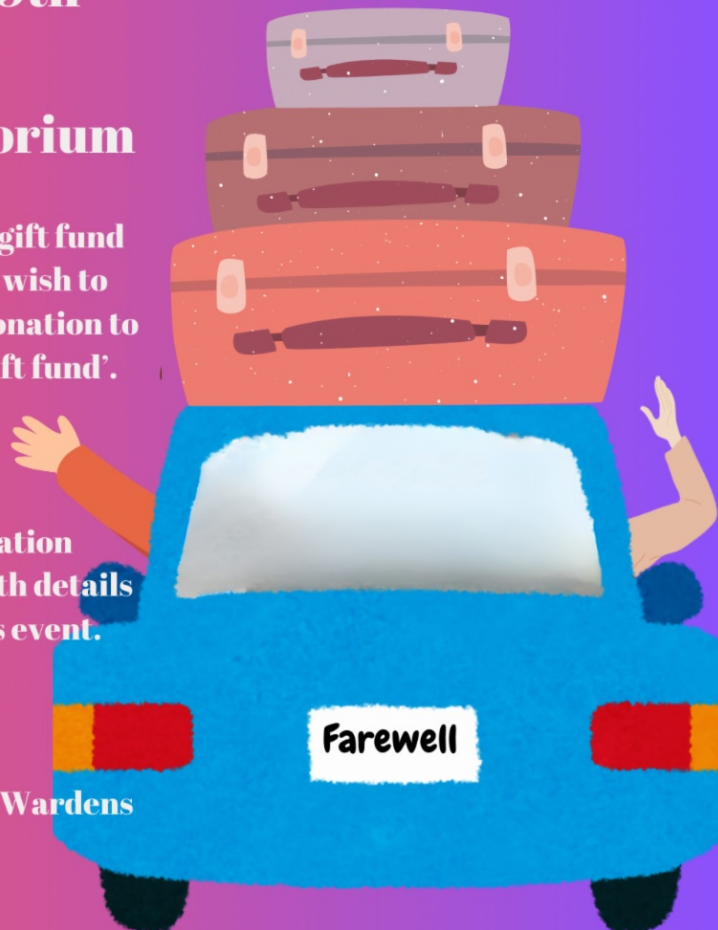
**Please join us for
Tim & Diane's Farewell Reception**

**Sunday, June 9th
5:00 pm
St. Luke's Auditorium**

**We are putting together a gift fund
for Tim and Diane. If you wish to
contribute, please send a donation to
St. Luke's with notation 'gift fund'.**

**A Sign-Up Genius invitation
will be coming out soon with details
on areas to help with this event.**

Hosted by Wardens & Past Wardens



Pentecost Service - One Service Only!

Pentecost Service

Wear Red!



Newcomers' Brunch

Newcomers' Brunch - Sunday May 19th (after the 9 am service)

Are you new to St. Luke's? Have you been away for a while and have found your way back? Or have you been attending for a while but never been formally welcomed? If you answered 'yes' to any of these questions, then the Newcomers' Brunch is for you! Please join in a time of fellowship, food, and information about St. Luke's on Sunday, May 19th. Brunch will begin immediately following the 9 a.m. service in the St. Luke's dining room. Kindly RSVP to Jan Burch by Wednesday, May 15th. Email: jburch1608@yahoo.com Call or text: (401) 529-8918

Q&A with Fr. Tim and Rev. Jonathan



With Fr. Tim & Rev.
Jonathan on May 26 at
both services!
Bring your questions!

The Bishop Is Coming!

THE BISHOP IS COMING!

On June 2nd, Bishop Knisely will
be presiding at both of our Sunday Services

Please come out and give the Bishop a hearty St. Luke's Reception!

Spring Concert

ST. LUKE'S EPISCOPAL CHURCH PRESENTS



A Spring Concert

What a Beautiful Creation

Featuring the
St. Cecilia Choir,
Angel Choir,
Canterbury Choir,
and the Amigos singing
a wide variety of music,
including a world
premiere by Roger Cichy.

Sunday, June 2nd
at 4:00pm

99 Peirce Street
East Greenwich, RI 02818
www.StLukesEG.org
(401) 884-4116



Celebrating Our Graduates

Celebrating Our Graduates!

Please let us know who may be graduating in your family from high school or college so that we can celebrate this wonderful accomplishment! Reach out to our office at 884-4116 or cimondi@stlukese.org and let us know their names!



We are embarking on a transition to a new Rector

The Wardens and Vestry are currently interviewing Interim candidates, which should continue into May. In the meantime, we invite your questions and comments as the transition process continues to unfold.

Deborah Collins, Sr. Warden & Jacob Trombino, Jr. Warden

Fr. Tim makes his announcement

- March-April: Wardens met with Canon Dena Cleaver-Bartholomew; Canon Dena met with Parish and led Town Hall
- April-May: Prayer team begins work on prayer to share in June
- **Mid-April into May: Wardens and vestry receive materials and complete interviews with Interim candidates** ★ We are here
- May: Vestry reviews process for filling/completing teams -- Prayer, Communications, Profile, and Search
- May-June: Communications team starts website review and Search site
- Overall transition process estimated to be 12-18 months, more to come ...

The Transition begins

- Early-mid summer: Interim Rector identified – supply clergy fill in as needed
- Summer: Vestry reviews profile & search committee processes aligned with Diocesan activities to engage parish at large
- Mid/late fall: Interim & Wardens make recommendations to Diocese regarding transition timeline
- Late fall/early winter: Diocesan-led History Event with parish to provide foundation for online profile
- Winter: Diocesan-led parish small-group conversations to further inform online church profile
- More to come on Interim selection, team formation, Diocesan engagement with congregation, and church profile development ...

The Search Begins

- A national search will be conducted -- we expect to attract many amazing candidates as St. Luke's is considered a highly favorable site
- Rector applications will come from the national church to the Diocese, who vets and sends qualified applicants to our Search Team and vestry
- More to come as the search process commences ...

St. Luke's Annual Report

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.

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:

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

Treasurer's Notes

From the Treasurer

April Month End

April	2024 YTD	Budget	Var.	Ann. Budget
Total Income	\$277,265	\$243,867	\$33,398	\$716,650
Total Expenses	\$255,685	\$261,298	(\$5,613)	\$767,967
Net Income	\$21,580	(\$17,432)	\$39,012	(\$51,317)

Notes:

- \$33,398 ahead of budget - \$29,123 of which is Pledge Income.
- \$5,685 under budget in spending - most items are in line with the exception of utilities and the copier expenses.

Thank you for your continued support! Yes, I think you are all amazing!

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. 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. 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 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. 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

St. Luke's Live Stream Ministry

Live Stream Ministry

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!!

Theology on Tap

Theology on Tap

June 3 @ 5 pm – TOT will be hosting St. Luke's CCK Dinner followed by our monthly meeting at 7 pm in the Dining Rm

Theology on Tap (TOT) is St. Luke's men's group, who meet monthly for exploration of spiritual and secular topics, occasional service projects and mostly community and conversation. Regardless of the event or topic, TOT is an experience where we all feel connected and uplifted when we leave.

On Monday, June 3rd, the men of TOT plan to host St. Luke's CCK Dinner at 5 pm and then we will meet at 7:00pm after the dinner for our monthly meeting. It will be a time for lively conversation and camaraderie. All men of St. Luke's are invited to join us.

If you would like to participate, text or email
Brent Bostick: brentbostick1@gmail.com or 908-230-7569

Christ's Community Kitchen Dinner

Christ's Community Kitchen



**St. Luke's Church Dining Room
June 3, 2024
From 5-6:30 pm**

St. Luke's is hosting a Good Old-Fashioned Cookout with Burgers, Hot Dogs, Corn, Salads, and Deserts 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

The April run started on a wet and soggy day but by arrival time in Woonsocket the skies had cleared. The result was fewer people when we first arrived but over the next hour we served more than forty plus people. The need continues and other churches reported much higher numbers on better weather days.

For May we will maintain the bag count at 120 with 20 bags going to the Hotel in East Greenwich. With the warmer weather we are now asking for summer tee shirts as shown in the SignUp Genius. Food offerings will be cheeseburgers, 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 May 18, 2024.**

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**.

[Click Here](#) to sign up!

If you are not receiving the SignUp Genius in your e-mail and would like to do so, please send an e-mail to: saintslukesfeedingministry@gmail.com

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** for men and women.

We are also in need of **T-Shirts, 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 June 12 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.

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.

At this time, these are the only items Dorcas can accept.

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 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
May 25, 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 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).



Conservation Tip For April

Recycling Tip For May

Let's celebrate EARTH DAY all year long. Want to know how to do that effectively?

View the 2-minute tips presentation by the RI Recycling Facility in Johnston for information on what can go in your recycling bin at: <https://m.youtube.com/watch?v=4L7Ch8Nyrw&t=30s>

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!](#)

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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