



St. Luke's Episcopal Church

Where all are welcome at the Lord's table

weekly

June 9, 2024

In This Issue

[St. Luke's TikTok, Instagram and Facebook](#)

[This Sunday at St. Luke's](#)

[Celebration Of Our Ministry With Fr. Tim & Diane](#)

[Summer Office Hours](#)

[Transition](#)

[Treasurer's Notes](#)

[GloriDays](#)

[St. Luke's Live Stream Ministry](#)

[St. Luke's Church Directory](#)

[Women of Grace](#)

[Christ's Community Kitchen Dinner](#)

[Lunch On The Hill](#)

[Loaves & Fishes](#)

[Pastoral Care](#)

[Property Questions](#)

Dear Brothers and Sisters,

I've been procrastinating when it comes to writing this letter. (And for those of you who know me and are thinking "What's new?", wipe that smirk off your face!) I've not wanted to talk much about what happens after June 16, when I am no longer your rector. But now, that day just two weeks away, talk about it I/we must.

I have said many times before, but it's worth repeating: being the rector of St. Luke's has been one of the greatest blessings of my ministry—really, of my life. We have shared so many special, dare I say, sacred, moments over these past twelve years. We have celebrated together Sundays and seasons and all kinds of life-transitions, sometimes with tears of joy, sometimes with tears of sorrow, always with a sense of God's abiding presence. I could not be more grateful. I could not love this parish more deeply.

In fact, it is precisely because of the quality of what we have shared and because of my deep love for the parish that I write this note to say, after Diane and I leave, the shape and form of our contact with you must change. I can no longer be your pastor. I can no longer be your priest (which means I cannot officiate at your weddings, funerals, or baptisms). I can no longer discuss with you matters related to the life of St. Luke's.

Painful as it is to imagine all this, honoring these shifting roles and boundaries is critical to the future vitality of St. Luke's and essential in establishing a new (and no-doubt equally wonderful) relationship with the clergy to come.

These terms of engagement must be adhered to strictly over the first few years, and then, after you have developed a relationship with your next rector, remain in place except for those special circumstances as determined by her/him.

To read in its entirety the Diocesan-issued *Covenant of Departure*, you can click here: [Covenant-of-Departure-RI.pdf \(episcopalri.org\)](#)

All of this said, please know that over the years to come, our relationship will be changed but not ended. Christina will have my new email address once it is set up. (And for at least the month of July my St. Luke's email will remain active.) I look forward to hearing about your life-transitions. I look forward to seeing baby and wedding photos. And if you're ever in Los Angeles, please do reach out!

My dear friends, admittedly, much will be different as we navigate this transition. What will remain the same though, no matter my role, is that you will always be in my thoughts and prayers. And likewise, what will never change, regardless of my zip code, is the place you will reside deep in my heart.

Peace,
Tim

**Music On The Hill
Concerts**

**Help Ukrainian
Families**

Dorcas Donations

Photos Wanted!

Coffee Hour

**Grief Support
Group**

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

St. Luke's Choirs

**Conservation Tip
For April**

**Big Brothers and
Big Sisters**

**Especially for
Children**

**East Greenwich
Food Cupboard**

Quick Links

St. Luke's Church

**Episcopal Diocese
of Rhode Island**

**The Episcopal
Church**

**The Anglican
Communion**

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 Third Sunday after Pentecost

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

Godly Play and Youth Faith Formation classes begin at 9:45 am. Godly Play and Youth Faith Formation classes have ended and will resume in September.

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

Celebration of Our Ministry with Fr. Tim & Diane

Celebration of Our Ministry With Fr. Tim and Diane

June 9, 2024

The Wardens and Past Wardens will be hosting a Celebration of Our Ministry with Fr. Tim and Diane on June 9, 2024, from 5:00 - 7:00 pm in our Auditorium

Handheld finger foods will be provided by the Vestry. Your help with the celebration is needed with setup, serving and providing mini desserts.

Details are included in the Sign-Up Genius and on the Sign-Up Board in the Atrium at church.

[Click Here](#) to sign up!



**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



Summer Office Hours



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.



St. Luke's transition to a new Rector ...

We have confirmed an Interim Rector starting July 1!

The Rev. Pam Gregory & Pastor Jonathan Malone will lead services on June 23 and June 30.

Please feel free to reach out to your wardens and vestry as you have questions.

Fr. Tim's Announcement

- March 1: Wardens met with Canon Dena Cleaver-Bartholomew to review transition process
- April 14: Canon Dena Cleaver-Bartholomew met with Parish to preach, pray and conduct Town Hall
- April-May: Prayer team began drafting prayer to share in June
- Mid-May: Wardens and vestry began review of Interim candidates
- 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

- May 26: Sr. Warden confirms selection of Interim Rector
- June 23 & 30: Paster Jonathan & The Rev. Pam preach/officiate -- Transition Prayer begins
- July 7: Interim Rector's first service at St. Luke's
- Mid-fall: Interim & Wardens make recommendations to Diocese regarding transition timeline
- Late fall: Diocesan-led History Event with parish
- Late fall/early winter: Profile and Search Committees established
- Winter: Diocesan-led small-group parish conversations to inform church profile ...



We are here



The Search Begins

- December/January: A national search will be initiated
- Rector applications will come from the national church to the Diocese; the Diocese vets and sends qualified applicants to our Search Team and vestry
- More to come as the search process commences ...

Treasurer's Notes

From the Treasurer

May Month End

May	2024 YTD	Budget	Var.	Ann. Budget
Total Income	\$349,133	\$315,746	\$33,387	\$716,650
Total Expenses	\$319,954	\$321,374	(\$1,420)	\$767,967
Net Income	\$29,179	(\$5,628)	\$34,807	(\$51,317)

Notes:

We continue to perform well against the 2024 budget.

- Income is \$33,387 ahead, of which \$32,407 is pledge income.
- Expenses are slightly under budget overall.

Thank you for all you continue to 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
<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

2024 GloriDays



2024 GloriDays

June 21 - 23, 2024

Camp 7th Heaven Exeter, RI



Did you know that this past January, Amy Weigand celebrated 5 years breast cancer-free? To celebrate this important milestone, she will be walking in GloriDays June 21-23, a 44-mile walk in Exeter, RI, to raise money for the Gloria Gemma Breast Cancer Resource Foundation. Gloria Gemma was a crucial part of her recovery through surgery, chemo, radiation, and today! They have

provided classes, meals for her family, and emotional encouragement every step of the way. By raising funds, she will pass along similar support for other Rhode Island families dealing with a breast cancer diagnosis. If you would like to donate to help fund her walk, please follow this link: <https://gloriagemma.rallybound.org/2024-gloridays/AmyWeigand> or contact Amy directly at amy@stlukeseg.org Thank you!

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!!

Women of Grace

Women of Grace

Women of Grace will have their last meeting before summer break on **Monday, June 10th, at 6:00pm**. This meeting is our "potluck" dinner and will be held at the Lukens' residence at 31 Reynolds St., EG - a few blocks away from the church. It is a social evening allowing for much fellowship and a wonderful opportunity to spend time together. There will be some discussion regarding the year's program and suggestions for future meetings. Kindly rsvp to Deb Lukens at (908)500-4573 or deblukens73@gmail.com.

Christ's Community Kitchen Dinner

Christ's Community Kitchen



Our dinners will resume on September 30. Thank you for your support of this special ministry! We look forward to seeing you in September!

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

The May run was on another rainy day at St Luke's but no rain in Woonsocket. The Spirit watches out for us! We were greeted by approximately 70 people with a few more coming during our visit. The need is still strong.

For June 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 June 15, 2024.**

[Click Here](#) to sign up!

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** .

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!

The Food for Backpacks mission would like to thank its many volunteers this past year. With their dedication and overwhelming generosity we have been able to provide enough food for 5 meals for 17-20 families each month. The East Greenwich School Department greatly appreciated the incredible efforts of our enthusiastic team of 14 volunteers.

Astonishingly we provided over 3,000 meals during this school year! This averaged \$5 per person per meal, totaling over \$15,000 in food donations. Food in-secure families with children in our school system were guaranteed 1 weekend each month when they were generously fed by the support of our amazing team.

We are looking forward to restarting The Food for Backpack Program at the beginning of the new school year in September. Please consider joining us and becoming part of this passionate mission.

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.

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 BOX
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

Music On The Hill Concerts At St. Luke's

MUSIC ON THE HILL CONCERTS AT ST LUKE'S

Three Divas

Tuesday, May 28, 7:00pm

From the world's great opera houses and concert halls, the three divas are back with favorites by Delibes, Mozart, Rossini, Tchaikovsky and more.

Lori Phillips, soprano; Mary Phillips, mezzo-soprano;
Judith Lynn Stillman, piano

Four Hands

Wednesday, May 29, 7:00pm

Duets for four-hands piano and percussion, as much fun to watch as they are to hear. Brahms, Steve Reich, and more.

Peter Ferry and Piero Guimaraes, percussion; Millar Piano Duo: Lisa Raposa Millar and Gregory Millar

Mendelssohn Octet

Wednesday, June 5, 7:00pm

Sparkling jewels for string quartet and soprano, and Mendelssohn's epic Octet for Strings.

Anton Miller, Ertan Torgul, Lina Bahn, Kristen Pellegrino, violins; Rita Porfiris and Sebastian Ruth, violas; Jennifer Kloetzel and Trevor Handy, cellos;
Diana McVey, soprano

(S)Heroes

Saturday, June 8, 7:00pm

The popular trio IonSound Project returns to share an adventurous new program devoted to women composers.

IonSound Project: Kathleen Costello, clarinet; Elisa Kohanski, cello;
Jack Kurutz, piano

Tickets are \$30, free for students. Purchase at the door, with cash or check, or online at [Music on the Hill Events - 7 Upcoming Activities and Tickets | Eventbrite](#)

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 International needs the items listed above to help our refugee families get through the summer. Please place items in the Dorcas bin in the church atrium.

Questions? Please reach out to Nancy Rudicil at aer39th@netzero.net or Cathi Sloan at 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
June 22, 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).



Conservation Tip For June

Conservation Tip for June

Interested in doing a fun and educational project with your children, grandchildren or neighbors' children? Consider taking them on a Foraging Trip to search for edible plants such as...sassafras for tea, wild cherries for pies, walnuts for snacking and many more surprising plants.

Your young ones and teens will have a great time and learn about new foods and how our earth provides nourishment. For information on how to do this successfully, check out the website: <https://www.sierraclub.org/sierra/2023-2-summer/material-world/art-modern-foraging>

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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