



St. Luke's Episcopal Church

Where all are welcome at the Lord's table

August 18, 2024

Scam Notice

If you receive a text from the Interim Rector asking for gift card donations, it is not from him. Please delete and disregard. Fr. Jarrett's correct phone number is in the directory and has a 215 area code.

Interim Rector's E-pistle

Quick Links

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Back to the Skills and the Acronyms

For those who have been following my essays this summer, you know my love of skills, practices and acronyms. Today I want to offer to you part 1 of the D.E.A.R. W.O.M.A.N. Skill.

We all want to be effective in our interpersonal communications and we want to balance the need to stay in our integrity while minding the health of our relationships. As it says in Paul's letter to Ephesians, we are to "Speak the Truth in Love." 'In truth' because we regard honesty and integrity as primary virtues, and 'in love' because we always regard the good of the other and the good of our relationship to that person.

To finish reading, please scroll to the bottom...

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**

Worship and Formation at St. Luke's -- Week of August 18

Welcome to St. Luke's worship and formation offerings for the week of August 18. All the information you need to participate in either in-person or virtual offerings is provided below.

The Thirteenth Sunday after Pentecost: Click here for the lessons.

Sunday Worship: Please join us to celebrate Holy Eucharist on August 11 at 8:00 am or 10:00 am. To view or print the service bulletin, [click here](#). Printed copies of the bulletins will be provided at each service. For a copy of the prayer list, [click here](#).

Livestream Worship: Sunday's 10:00 am service of Holy Eucharist will be livestreamed via YouTube. To join us on YouTube, please [click here](#).

If you have not already done so, we invite you to subscribe to our [St. Luke's YouTube channel](#) -- just tap the 'Subscribe' button located at the top of St. Luke's channel page. You can view our archive of services and share our videos with other family members and friends to invite them into fellowship with you.

Weekday Morning Prayer: Fr. Jarrett Kerbel, Interim Rector, will be leading Morning Prayer Tuesday through Friday at 8:30 am. Weather permitting, he will meet parishioners in the Lychgate on Church Street. The Lychgate is the covered entrance to the church burial ground, also called a Resurrection Gate! Inclement weather will move the service to the Church Transept. Please feel free to come once a week or any combination of days. All Welcome!

Lectionary Bible Study: Tuesdays - August 20. Join Fr. Jarrett at 11:00 am (weather permitting) in the Lychgate of the Cemetery or otherwise in the Church Transept. We will study the readings for the Sunday ahead with special attention to the Gospel of John and the Epistle. If you are new to Bible Study, please give this short-term study a try. All thoughts, questions, and reflections are welcome!

Healing Service: Our healing services are offered every Tuesday at noon in the church sanctuary. Please join us as you are able.

Adult Faith Formation: Stay tuned for more updates!

Youth Faith Formation: Godly Play and Youth Faith Formation classes will resume September 15th - stay tuned and check your email for this week's newsletter, The Rhode to Emmaus!

When September Comes

August is upon us! Time to get organized for September and the start of the program year at St. Luke's. Here are some key details to help you prepare and participate.

Kick-Off Sunday will be September 8 - Following the 10 am service we will have a special Coffee Connections in the Parish Auditorium and a Ministry Fair for Liturgical Ministries and Children & Youth Formation. We encourage all Liturgical Ministries - Choirs, Altar Guild, Acolytes, LEMS, Readers, Ushers, Newcomers, etc. to prepare a recruiting table.

On Sunday, September 15 - Following the 10 am service we will have a second Coffee Connections in the Parish Auditorium and a Ministry Fair for every other non-liturgical ministry that wants to recruit - Adult Faith Formation, Feeding Ministries, Morning Prayer, Bible Study, Dorcas, Women of Grace, Properties, Gardens, Office Volunteers, etc.

Be sure to bring some attractive snacks for your tables to attract a crowd, wear name tags, and always stand in front of your table to connect with people actively. BYO Signup sheets and attractive materials to explain your ministry and the level of commitment required.

Following these ministry engagement activities, we will send out a Time and Talent survey to the whole parish to make sure no one is missed! Data from this survey will be shared with ministry leaders to follow-up.

Calling All Singers! Choirs resume in September!

The Choirs of St. Luke's resume their full schedule just after Labor Day. Have you considered participating in one of our choirs for you and/or your children? St. Luke's supports an active choral ministry and new members of all ages are invited to sing. Please contact Rodney Ayers, Minister of Music, for more information (401-884-4116 ext. 107 or rodney@stlukeseg.org)

REHEARSAL SCHEDULE

Canterbury Choir

Adult Choir - Beginning September 5
Thursdays at 7 pm

St Cecilia Choir

3rd-12th grade Choristers - Beginning September 6

Fridays at 4 pm

Angel Choir

PreK - 2nd Graders - Beginning September 11
Wednesdays at 4 pm

Come add your voice to the musical prayers and praises that resound throughout our St. Luke's community!

Please welcome our new Administration and Communications Manager!

We are overjoyed to welcome Suzie MacDonald-Bolsano as our new Administration and Communications Manager at St. Luke's!



Ms. Suzie MacDonald-Bolanos is a proud alumna of Smith College where she majored in Government. Suzie served as a Policy and Advocacy Fellow for the Episcopal Church's Office of Government Relations. As a Fellow, she created media for the Church's voter outreach campaign. Suzie is a life-long Episcopalian who wants to make a difference in the church and hopes to help support the active community at St. Luke's.

Her first day will be August 13. Come by and say hello to Suzie and express your thanks to Amy Weigand for stepping up to the temporary Admin role and doing such a fabulous job!

Office Hours & New Church Administrator Email

Going forward, the Parish Office will be open from 8 am - 4 pm, Monday - Friday. Suzie's email address is: admin@stlukeseg.org Please email her with all administrative questions and concerns.

Updating Our Prayer List

As of September 8th the current prayer list will be completely revised and updated. Please communicate with Suzie through either the Google form, prayer list document in the back of the church, email, or in person if you have someone you would like to have the church pray for or if you would like someone to remain on the list past September 8th. We would also like to know how long you would like them to stay on the list going forward.

Sign Fr Tim's Photo Frame

Make sure to stop by our table in the atrium under the mosaic to sign Fr. Tim's photo frame!

Please Wear Your Name Tags

As a way of welcoming Fr. Jarrett Kerbel and other newcomers, please wear your name tags moving forward!

Youth Census

We are working to update our church database for youth ages 5-18. Please fill out **THIS** Google form for each of your children. There are also paper forms on the tables outside the office if preferred. This form is for ALL youth, regardless of whether or not they are currently attending any of our faith formation offerings. We are working to create a variety of new programs and events, and this information will help with scheduling and family communication.

Volunteer Teachers Needed

Godly Play and Youth Faith Formation classes restart on September 15th! This year we will have three classes: Godly Play (PK-3rd grades), Youth Faith Formation 1 (grades 4 & 5), and Youth Faith Formation 2 (grades 6-8). We are looking for adult volunteer teachers in all three classes. Time commitments vary, but we're very flexible! Safe Church training is required. If interested or would like to know more, please email Amy Weigand our Director of Youth and Family Ministries: amy@stlukeseg.org

Save the Date for Transition Activities this Fall - Your presence is crucial.

On October 27 and December 8, we will have parish meetings after worship as part of the transition process. At our July meeting, the Vestry decided to have ONE SERVICE at 9 am on these days to worship as a unified congregation and to encourage turnout for these very important opportunities for reflection. This is your chance to have a voice, share your experiences of St. Luke's, listen to others, and work together with other members to shape the Parish Profile that will attract your next Rector.

Childcare and activities for younger children will be provided. Middle School and High School students are encouraged to attend. We urge all leaders throughout the parish to encourage your friends and family to attend.

October 27 will be the History Timeline exercise where we collectively reflect on the history of St. Lukes looking for strengths, weaknesses and patterns across time. What do we want to continue? What do we want to leave behind? How are we being called by God to adapt, grow and thrive in our particular gifts?

On December 8, the Congregational Conversation will have all parishioners working together to answer a series of 12 questions that describe the church and the Rector the church wants to find. All data collected at both the History and Congregational Conversation events will be incorporated into the Parish Profile by the Parish Profile Committee to be used to search for the new rector.

We are blessed to have the leadership of the Rev. Canon Dena Cleaver-Bartholomew, Canon to the Ordinary of the Diocese of Rhode Island, to lead both sessions.

If you have any questions or concerns, please don't hesitate to contact the Wardens or the Interim Rector.

Transition Journey

We invite you to visit St. Luke's website for periodic updates of the Rector search and transition process. You can scan the QR code to view the latest. As always, please feel free to reach out to the Wardens and Vestry members as you have questions or want to discuss further.



Transition - What's Ahead?



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

WE WELCOME OUR INTERIM RECTOR, THE REV. JARRETT KERBEL!

Visit our website for information on **October 27** and **December 8** transition events.

Please feel free to reach out to Fr. Jarrett, 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 21: Transition page launched on St. Luke's website (stlukeseg.org)
- June 23 & 30: Pastor Jonathan & The Rev. Pam preach/officiate -- Transition Prayer begins
- July 7: Interim Rector, Fr. Jarrett Kerbel, officiates first service at St. Luke's
- July 18: Interim Rector & Sr. Warden coordinate transition timeline with Diocese
- Sept/Oct: Profile and Search Committees established
- Oct 27: Diocesan-led History Event with parish
- Dec 8: Diocesan-led Congregational Conversation

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 ...

From the Treasurer

July	2024 YTD	Budget	Var.	Ann. Budget
Total Income	\$461,246	\$410,579	\$50,667	\$721,925
Total Expenses	\$450,352	\$473,603	(\$23,251)	\$788,483
Net Income	\$10,752	(\$63,023)	\$73,775	(\$66,558)

Ways to donate to St. Luke's



Online Banking	Zelle Transfer	PayPal and 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>No cost to you or the Church</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 will have to initiate each payment.</p> <p>No cost to you or the Church</p>	<p>PayPal and VANCO Payments – With PayPal and VANCO payments, you create your individual accounts on their sites, 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 these are your sites! They are the only options that accept credit cards. Like Online Banking, you can set up recurring payments or make single payments.</p> <p>Transaction Fees for the Church</p>	<p>Direct Transfer – If you are 70½ 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> <p>No cost to you or the Church</p>

Theology on Tap - Save the Date - Men's Retreat October 22-24, 2024

We are sponsoring an inclusive, intimate gathering, on October 22-24 (Tuesday – Thursday) for all St. Luke's Men who can attend. We envision three days of time together in an outdoor retreat setting where we'll work and eat together, while enjoying comfortable accommodations (our own beds, toilets, and space for group and private discussions). Our agenda will include a variety of optional outdoor activities, service work, guided group discussions, and time for conversation and meditation.

With an outdoor backdrop, we want to form, foster and deepen lasting friendships while growing the trust we have with each other, examining how our faith influences and guides our lives.

The Rev. Dr. Jonathan Malone has agreed to be the facilitator for the retreat, and we hope Fr. Jarratt will be able to join us as well.

Our goal for the retreat is consistent with our TOT Mission of building community within St. Luke's.

Mark your calendars for this event and save the date! Details on the logistics, venue, and cost will be coming in the next few weeks. Any questions call, ping or email Brent Bostick (908)230-7569 brentbostick1@gmail.com

Save the Date for a Fall Youth Retreat at ECC!



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Lunch on the Hill

St. Luke's will host again on Wednesday, August 28 at 11:15 am. Volunteers should plan to arrive by 9:45, to allow enough time to get organized and prepare lunch for our guests.

This month's tentative menu will include Hamburgers, Hot Dogs, Coleslaw, Baked Beans, Potato Chips, Dessert (Brownies/Cookies, Cupcakes), and Beverages (Iced tea, Coffee/cream). Fresh fruit (oranges, bananas, etc.) is always a welcome addition if you would like to bring some. For more information on how you can be part of this outreach ministry, contact Steve McLoughlin: smcloughlin2@aol.com or (401) 225-5540.

Handbell Choir

St. Luke's is happy to announce the start of our new handbell choir under the direction of parishioner and handbell expert Jeremy Langill. No prior experience is necessary. Rehearsals will be Sundays from 11:30am- 12:15pm beginning in late September and childcare will be provided. Please contact Rodney Ayers to signup or for more information, rodney@stlukeseg.org

Interim Rector's E-pistle Continued...

All practices, skills and habits are behaviors meant to develop virtue in our character over time. As a favorite scholar friend always reminds me, "If the choices we face in life were not difficult, we

would not need virtue.” In fact, the Holy Spirit working in us is always fortifying and forming us in virtue toward the goal of resembling Jesus.

So, D.E.A.R. stands for: Describe, Express, Assert, Reinforce. We use it when we need to address an interpersonal situation we might wish to avoid because we are uncomfortable. We want to handle the situation constructively but we are worried that we lack the skills.

Here is how D.E.A.R. works. After I have loaded the dishwasher, my wife gets up and rearranges the plates, glasses, cups and silverware therein. I am irked by her tidying up because I perceive it as criticism of me. So what do I do? I DESCRIBE what just happened in the most fact-based and neutral terms at my disposal. Next, I EXPRESS how her action affected me and what feelings and thoughts arose for me. Then, I ASSERT gently what I want in the future. For example, “Please accept that I am a competent user of the dishwasher and leave my loading alone.” Finally, I REINFORCE by pointing to our mutual self-interest in my proposed solution. For example, accepting my dishwashing work will allow you to move on to other things, and I promise, if any dishes come out dirty I will hand wash them.

To have a D.E.A.R. conversation it is best to pick a moment when you have some time and your emotions are in check. Ask your conversation partner to hear you out without back and forth until you are finished. My practice is to start such conversations with, “I love you and…” The “I love you” secures the relationship and removes fear of rejection or condemnation.

Next week we will finish this skill with “W.O.M.A.N.”

St. Luke's Episcopal Church | (401) 884-4116
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