



*St. Luke's Episcopal Church*  
*Newsletter*  
*(Pentecost) August – October 2013*



**Dear People of St. Luke's,**

As I write this we are preparing for our first week of our two weeks' annual lobster roll sale. This year of course is different because the Farmington Merchant's Association moved the summer festival to June, so after some consideration we decided to just do deliveries. It is early to tell yet, but people who have phoned in orders have said they are very glad we're continuing—continuity in the midst of change.

The same theme of continuity and change applies around here as well. Gwen Doak, our secretary these past two years or so is leaving. I am grateful to Gwen for the many gifts she brought: look no further than the format of the newsletter, for instance. As well there are many behind the scenes touches she brought ranging from organization (I can always use more) to communicating with the wider community, to being instrumental in getting Grace Place going. Our new secretary is Lisa Lindsay, who has been learning the ropes. Lisa brings good cheer and skills in marketing, as well as fondness for this parish. Finally, I would be seriously remiss without thanking Emily Scribner, who stepped in many a time to get bulletins done, or other office tasks. We would not be at this point without her help.

Other examples:

- Corey's new role as Deacon. One of the things she will be doing is taking a regular look at the Prayers of the People, to keep the prayer list current and the formatting fresh. In our tradition it isn't totally free form; on the other hand, it's possible to get into a rut and just automatically do the same thing.
- We have decided to do Grace Place again this fall (see article below). In addition we're trying to do some advance recruiting; in order for it to work well we need some more kids, so we're going to begin to try to get the word out at the blueberry festival.
- Building spruce up. The building is in overall good shape, but as time passes things need doing. Rick McKinney has worked on a variety of things, including a long standing crack on the second story. John Sytsma has engaged in "work as prayer" (I'm sure lots of prayer got done) tackling the window putty job—a big job, and one which will need to take place over time. (Volunteers welcome).

- Scott Lindsay has been kindly mowing the lawn, which looks ship shape, in the midst of an extremely busy schedule. Justy has scrubbed children’s furniture. I’m not sure this has been done since the chairs were taken off the ark. All of this has been without prodding or even prompting.

(This is now an addendum, written Friday evening Aug 2 after the lobster roll sales for the Blueberry Festival.) We sold out, having delivered lunches all over the place. One person talked about buying one at the park in Farmington when they first moved here some thirty years ago.



But as good as the sandwiches are, I was again struck by how hard people worked together. I can’t begin to remember everybody involved, but there were flyers delivered all over the place, phone call after phone call taken (it rang relentlessly); people working to make the sandwiches, or the evening before stuffing the sacks in preparation, or holding down the fort throughout the morning and into the afternoon. Others worked behind the scenes, making brownies, and making more brownies

when we didn’t have enough. Still others worked out their routes and spent hours delivering. My mother-in-law even got into the act the first go around; I think it may have been the most fun she had in Maine. Anyway, I’m proud of *all* of you and grateful for your hard work. I think Carolyn summed up both the satisfaction and exhaustion when she said, “I think I’ll go jump in the lake!”

The point in all this is not just to highlight people’s effort or to say ‘thank you’—important as both those are. It is to say that the *community* continues to work together. Yes, we will need to continue to adapt to change—more on this later. But by attending to these pieces of community life we are moving forward. May God bless you all in the remainder of this summer season.

Faithfully,

Tim





## Grace Place Update from Rev. Corey Walmer

We are moving into August and as summer begins to wind down, we are preparing for another year of Grace Place at St. Luke's. Heading into our third year, we continue to play with new ideas to better provide quality programming to area kids while also being mindful of our human and financial resources. This year, we will be offering Grace Place on Fridays from 3:30-5 pm, beginning September 13th. This is a day that is not taken up with after school practices and at the end of the week, is also an opportunity to feed kids who may not have much food at home for the weekend.

This year, we plan to present a theme for a three-week period of time rather than three separate stories. The group will start with Creation, to include a visit from a guest artist. The second theme will be taken from the story of Joseph and focus on each child's unique place in the world. This series will include a visit from an area quilter and construction of coats of many colors to take home. On Friday, November 1st, Grace Place will celebrate All Saint's Day with guest visits from several "Saints" and a Saint's parade. The season in November will focus on praise and thanksgiving, to tentatively culminate in a communal meal with the children's families on November 22. The last three weeks before Christmas will focus on preparation and getting ready: setting the scene to meet Jesus, the baby, Jesus the Lord.

The program will continue with the successful format of gathering time with songs and movement, healthy snacks, a story and a project that ties the theme together. We will incorporate healthy food into the curriculum as much as possible, thus providing food for the body as well as the soul.

As always, it takes many hands to make Grace Place run smoothly. Several people have offered to participate every other week and we also welcome those who would like to come on a one-time basis to be an extra set of hands for cooking, making music or arts and crafts. You do not need to create a lesson plan or provide the food/supplies! Just be there to be the Church to these kids. It may be the only exposure they will ever get to the love of God.



## **Sunday School Begins & Choir Returns September 8th**

*On Sunday the 8<sup>th</sup>, the weekend after Labor Day, we will resume Sunday School & the Choir will return to singing for worship services.*

## Holy Conversations: What's next?

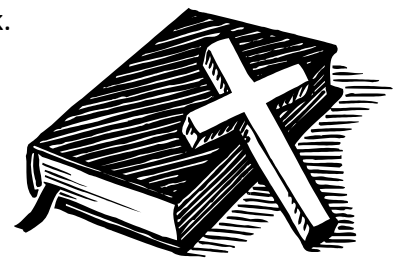
Over a period of some six weeks we engaged in a series of what Bp. Lane called “Holy Conversations,” which looked at a series of questions: *Who are we now? How did we get here? What is working/do we appreciate? What would we like to see change? What is going on in our “neighborhood”*—meaning both the immediate area of Wilton and the wider community, since we continue to serve an area.

Many of you participated, and offered input and suggestion. The feedback we received was valuable. It was not (of course) homogenous, which I take to be a good thing. For example, some people seek more social justice perspective; others are concerned that this be done in such a way that the church does not become one more arena for partisanship. I hear both. One concrete step we are taking in this regard is seeking to identify needs, including global ones, in the Prayers of the People. As I said in a sermon two weeks ago, the key here is praying for needs, not platforms.

All that said, the central purpose of the conversations remain. Who do we need to talk to? What can we realistically offer? What is our “niche?” (Someone pointed out, quite rightly, that it would be good to set some specific goals. But doing this presupposes further clarity on these larger issues). We came up with a fairly long list of public agencies and organizations which probably have helpful perspective. Yet, as someone else pointed out, what we also need are “backdoor conversations,” with people who are clear about where the needs are, because they are living them.

So back to the beginning: what next? The consensus is that we next discuss together the book *People of the Way*, which addresses the underlying reasons for having the conversations in the first place. Accordingly, I want to convene a group to go through the book.

Thanks again for your meaningful participation.



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*In order to accommodate varying schedules, and recognizing people's finite time, we will begin discussions of **"People of the Way"** on Sunday, September 8<sup>th</sup> at 8:45 a.m. (in place of Bible study). After completing the study, we'll resume our regular Bible study format.*

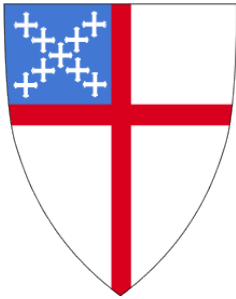
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## ***St. Luke's Annual Blessing of the Pets Service***

Please join us on the front lawn of St. Luke's on October 6<sup>th</sup> for the annual blessing of the pets, prior to the 9:30 service.

**Saturday, September 7<sup>th</sup>: Fr. Tim will be attending Diocesan Council.**



### **Diocesan Convention: Friday & Saturday, October 25th & 26th**

We'll be hearing about pre-convention meetings soon, and will pass the information along as soon as we can.

*Our delegates are Brenda Holman & Emily Scribner.*

*Thank you both!*



### **ST. LUKE'S YARD SALE**

This year we will hold our yard sale on Saturday, August 31<sup>st</sup> from 9:00 to 4:00 at the church. If you have things needing to be picked up you can call the McLaughlin's at 645-2312.

### ***Sudan Trip Update***

When I last talked with (Rev.) Annette, she let me know that she is going to south Sudan the end of August to do some teaching as part of her diocesan companion diocese program. She is also raising funds to help defray the cost, so if you would like to contribute, send any check made out to "Holy Cross Episcopal Church/Rev. Annette's Lui trip." The church address is: The Episcopal Church of the Holy Cross, 420 N. Main St., Poplar Bluff, Missouri 63001.

## **HANNAFORD GIFT CARDS—FUN FOR FALL!**

***Do you know someone who could use convenient gift certificates for fall & back-to-school shopping?  
Would you like to gift a student with groceries or other staples/supplies this semester?***



Hannaford Gift Cards are a simple solution! *Using the card for regular purchases and gifts benefits the church, as St. Luke's receives 5% of every \$1000 purchased, an easy way to support valued programs at St. Luke's.*  
*Please see Tony McLaughlin for more information.*

## **Please remember our Food Pantry needs this fall!**

For the month of **August we will be collecting EVAPORATED MILK**  
for **September we will collect TOILET PAPER**  
and for **October we will collect CANNED PUMPKIN**

These collections will be for the food pantries in Farmington and Wilton  
**Please bring these items to church with you.** Thank you!



## **COFFEE FELLOWSHIP**

**Coffee Hour** is a ministry of hospitality and fellowship here at St. Luke's. The sign-up sheet is located on the bulletin board in the undercroft by where we serve refreshments on Sunday mornings. Please consider joining in. Thank you!

## **THE HOSPITALITY COMMITTEE**

**Bake sale Sundays:** August 11<sup>th</sup>, September 8<sup>th</sup> and October 13<sup>th</sup>. Please consider donating (and purchasing!) homemade baked goods. Tell your friends and family! Please contact Brenda Holman if you can assist this ministry.



Chris Cox: August 1<sup>st</sup>  
Carolyn McLaughlin: August 3<sup>rd</sup>  
Cady Pillsbury: August 20<sup>th</sup>  
Toby Lindsay: August 25<sup>th</sup>  
Lisa Lindsay: September 19<sup>th</sup>  
Barbara Dufour: September 25<sup>th</sup>

# St. Luke's Episcopal Church

**59 High Street in Wilton, Maine  
P. O. Box 249, Farmington, ME 04938**

**207-645-2639**

**E-mail:** [stlukes@myfairpoint.net](mailto:stlukes@myfairpoint.net)

**Web Address:** [stlukeswilton.wordpress.com](http://stlukeswilton.wordpress.com)

## *St. Luke's Who to Contact...*

**Clergy:** .....Fr. Tim Walmer      645-2639 or 778-5752  
**Deacon:**.....Corey Walmer      778-5752

### ***Vestry:***

Sr. Warden: Janet Morris      778-6019  
Jr. Warden: Rick McKinney      897-1029  
Clerk:      Irene Berry  
Treasurer:      Dick Condon

### ***Other Vestry Members:***

John Sytsma, Robert Condon, Carolyn McLaughlin, Jeannine LeVigne,  
Rick McKinney, & Janet O'Neil

<b>Secretary:</b>	Lisa Lindsay	645-2639
<b>Altar Guild Directress:</b>	Ann Prentiss	778-2300
<b>Eucharistic Minister:</b>	Corey Walmer	778-5752
<b>Church School:</b>	Justy Nazar	645-2783
<b>Acolyte Mentor:</b>	Brenda Holman	778-3397
<b>Newsletter:</b>	Lisa Lindsay	645-2639
<b>Episcopal Church Women:</b>	Carolyn McLaughlin	645-2312
<b>Lectors/Lay Readers:</b>	John Craig	778-0169