



# St. Luke's Episcopal Church Newsletter

## Lent & Easter 2016

### Letter from our Interim Priest-in-Charge



First, let me say again how much I appreciate all that you have done to make me feel welcome here at St. Luke's. You have been very generous, and I thank you for that.

For my first newsletter item, I thought it might be helpful if I told you a little about myself. As only the vestry had information on me, such as it was, most of you don't know anything about me except I am an Episcopal priest,

semi-retired. So, here goes. It is a combination of spiritual and professional journey.

I was born and grew up in Ellsworth, Maine. In fact, the hospital where I was born still stands, although now it's apartments or some such. My parents had moved to Ellsworth in the late 30s, during the hurricane of 1938, to be exact. My first exposure to the Episcopal Church was the mission church of St. Dunstan's. Some of you may know that St. Dunstan's met for worship in a converted two-car garage and it was often referred to as "The Holy Garage" because of the amazing spirit there. I was baptized when I was 12 and confirmed a year later by the late Bishop Loring and consider myself to be a life-long Episcopalian.

I received BA and MS degrees in Zoology from the University of Maine. While at the University I became active in the Canterbury Club, was the head of the Altar Guild and even played the organ a few times.

My experiences of the Holy Garage and the community at St. Thomas, in Orono, were pivotal to my development, spiritually as well as personally. The essential thing about both of those churches was the presence of community. And I believe that is one of the most important things the Church can provide people today - a sense of community, a place to belong. I think St. Luke's does a good job of that. The beauty of the Episcopal Church is that you "don't have to park your brain at the door" as a friend was fond of saying. Community is certainly what I looked for in the various places I have lived through the years.

After graduation, I taught at Hope College and then Chatham College (where our former Bishop, Chilton, was my student). Subsequently, I went on to Tulane University in 1970 where I received a Ph.D. degree in Biology in 1974. From there I taught at The American University in Washington, DC until I retired as Associate Professor Emerita in 2000.

While still a faculty member, I explored a long-held call to the priesthood. I was fortunate to be able to take advantage of the association of American University with Wesley Theological

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Seminary next door and received an M. Div. degree from there in 1996. I also earned a Certificate of Anglican Studies from Episcopal Divinity School in Cambridge, MA. After my ordination to the priesthood in 1996, I served in a number of Interim positions in the Diocese of Washington, before I was called to be the Rector of St. Patrick's, in Brewer, from which I retired in 2008. I have subsequently served as supply in churches from Bangor to Calais to Millinocket and now here in Wilton.

One of my adventures has been in painting, first watercolor and now with pastels. I was started on that journey by my companion, Susie Mann. In seminary, we were required to take a non-theology type course so I chose Contemplative Drawing. I don't know how much contemplation there was, but I did learn to draw. While we were on vacation on Petit Manan, Downeast Maine, she decided I should take up watercolors and the rest is history as they say. I have won several awards with the painting and I will be glad when I finally get settled in here so that I can feel free to pick up the "brushes" or in my case, the pastels.

Susie died in August, 2012. We had been together 27 years and there is not a day goes by that I don't think of her. I had two brothers, my older brother, a musician in the Air Force, died of a heart attack at 35, and my younger brother, a physicist, died from cancer in his early 60s. I have several nieces and nephews and I have a wonderful grandniece, four years old, who lives in Windham, NH.

I told the search committee that we would have fun and I think my first month has been that. I have enjoyed getting to know you and I appreciate that you have made me a part of your life. I pray that we will continue to grow in the spirit and come to recognize what God is calling us to do and be in this community of St. Luke's in Wilton.

~Rev. Barbara Clarke

## **Lent/Easter Calendar Items of Note**



~ **Shrove Tuesday** Free Community Pancake Supper from 5 to 6:30 pm

~ **Ash Wednesday:** Service at 7:00 pm at St. Luke's + Ashes-to-Go in Wilton at 8 am and in Farmington at noon.

~ **Wednesday evening Lenten Series: Soup & Bread** at 6:00 pm followed by book discussion of, *Forgiven and Forgiving* by L. William Countryman. From Feb 17 – March 16.

~ **Palm Sunday Service** on Sunday, March 20 at 9:30 a.m. @ St. Luke's

~ **Maundy Thursday Service**, March 24 at 7:00 pm @ St. Luke's

~ **Good Friday Service** Noon at St. Luke's.

~ **Ecumenical Easter Sunrise Service** on Voter Hill on Sunday, March 27.

~ **Easter Service** at St. Luke's at 9:30 am followed by a fun Easter Egg Hunt for the children!

~ **Bishop Lane** will visit St. Luke's for the April 3<sup>rd</sup> service (the 2<sup>nd</sup> Sunday of Easter).

## THE SUNDAY SCHOOL LENTEN PROJECT 2016



Each year during Lent, the Sunday School class decides on a community service project. This year's project is very special to our church community as it involves our own Camp Bishopswood in Hope, Maine.

The camp has an issue with the septic system that is old, antiquated and well, just not working. They need \$18,000 to replace it.

That's a bit too much for us to give but a donation of \$500.00 would be a good start.

Let's all work together to raise that amount for our camp. One week we will be having a coin collection so start saving your change. ~Justy Nazar

### **Additional Information from Bishop Stephen T. Lane (from the camp website):**

The entire septic system at Bishopswood needs to be replaced before camp can open in June. The system includes holding tanks, pumps, pipelines and leach fields. In addition, new low water use toilets, showers and clothes washers will be installed. Some of this work can be accomplished in the cold of winter, but some will need to wait until after the spring thaw. That means the window for completion will be very tight in the spring.

Now is the time to make a gift toward this project. I have committed diocesan resources so that contracts can be made and work can begin, but there is no budget for this work. The Cathedral has committed a share of its capital campaign to the septic system, but these funds will only come in over time. The funding of this project is completely in the hands of all of us who love Bishopswood and want to see another generation of children benefit from its ministry.

### *PRAYER*

*O God, you made us in your own image and redeemed us through Jesus your Son: Look with compassion on the whole human family; take away the arrogance and hatred which infect our hearts; break down the walls that separate us; unite us in bonds of love; and work through our struggle and confusion to accomplish your purposes on earth; that, in your good time, all nations and races may serve you in harmony around your heavenly throne; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.*

*~From BCP, p815 For the Human Family*



While we are all thinking spring and waiting to be able to organize a spring clean-up, I have purchased some paint for the undercroft where the paint is peeling and more for the rector's bathroom. I would like to select some time in February to gather a few (or many) to get the painting done. Watch the bulletin for a date and for a sign-up sheet in the undercroft very soon. As we are mid-winter and enjoying our new pellet furnace, I would like to have some volunteers to take the ash can outside the back door and empty it from time to time. Perhaps the ashes could be used as an additive to gardens or the can just emptied. Scott has been emptying the furnace of ashes as needed, but the can fills quickly this time of year. Keep thinking spring in spite of all that we need to do outside!

~Carolyn McLaughlin



## Housekeeping

Wendy Brown has been St. Luke's housekeeper for quite a few years. She tends to the church every Thursday morning vacuuming, mopping, cleaning restrooms, dusting, and doing whatever else needs to be done. She has become a close friend to Lisa and Nora in the office. She always has a smile and a hug. She poses here with one of two new vacuums donated by a generous St. Luke's parishioner to make Wendy's job a little easier.

Wendy works at least 40 hours a week cleaning homes and businesses. While she does a great job, her real gift is caring for her clients. Some are ill or widowed and in need of cheer and company. She goes above and beyond her duties and allotted time to run errands, consult with family members, and keep company.

She lives in Temple with her husband, Kevin, a contractor who has done work for St. Luke's (most recently, the updates to the downstairs restroom). She is very close to her kids and grandbabies. Thanks, Wendy!

## New Vestry Member, Michelle Ouellette

Hello! I was born in Chester, Illinois in 1958. Chester is the home of "Popeye!" My maiden name is Gagnepain. There are only 38 families in the United States.

My family moved to Maine when I was 11 years old. I graduated from Jay High School in 1976. Fast forward—I married Victor Craig Ouellette on 7/30/83 and we had our daughter Kristen. I have three grandchildren: Megan, Trevor, and Gage. Megan turned 13 in December so I am the grandmother of a TEENAGER! How did this happen?

Neither Craig nor I remember the year we became members of the St. Luke's family. We do feel like a member of a family and that's what matters.

~Michelle Ouellette

## Meet Scott Lindsay



It is obvious that St. Luke's prospers since everyone, in their own way, makes a contribution of their time, energy and expertise. Though my expertise in anything is limited, I can offer some time and energy. I love any excuse to use motorized equipment. From green up in the spring until fall, I mow and trim the church lawn. Despite the growl of the 2-stroke engine, I find this quite relaxing. I like to plant some Begonia's in the shady planter by the bench out front, unless someone beats me to it. This bench is an inviting place to sit and people watch (by Wilton standards).

Though I made sure consent was given by the powers that be, I cleared quite a vigorous hedge from the north and south sides of the building, the latter permitting installation of the labyrinth, which was an effort of many. As many will do, including a kind neighbor on High Street, I will shovel and apply salt and sand to the front walkway, as slipping is a real crummy hazard we have all experienced.

My newest endeavor is ash boy. Those remarkable pellet furnaces can be monitored and adjusted from anywhere in the world with a cell phone, but they still need their ashes emptied about once a week. If you need any, it is in the steel barrel back the back door. When used sparingly, wood ash is a good source of potassium for plants or for buffering acidic soil. It is also good for coloring your face, hands and good clothes black, if the need arises.

~Scott Lindsay



*United Thank Offering (UTO) is a spiritual practice found throughout the Episcopal Church. When we find ourselves thankful for something, we put some change--it can be any amount--in "the blue box." Once or twice a year this small change is gathered up to become grants which make a real difference. **Boxes and envelopes are located around the church. Please see our UTO coordinator, Jeannine LeVigne, with any questions.** As many of you know, we had a HUGE collection last year. Thank you for your continued support.*

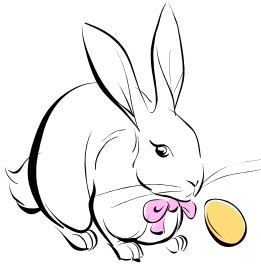
### *TOP TEN THINGS YOU CAN TRY FOR THE LENTEN SEASON:*

- 10. Try an electronic fast.** Give up TV, Facebook, texting, tweeting, e-mail and all things electronic for one day every week. (Or everyday of Lent!) Use the time to read & pray. Learn about fasting. (Learn more about media fasts.)
- 9. Start a prayer rhythm.** Each day of Lent, go to The Upper Room's prayer wall and pray for another person.
- 8. Go deeper into the Bible.** Take an online course on the "I Am" sayings of Jesus.
- 7. Forgive someone who doesn't deserve it (maybe even yourself.)** Study a book on forgiveness, such as *Forgiveness, the Passionate Journey*.
- 6. Give up soft drinks, fast food, tea or coffee.** Let Juliana's Ice Cream Fast inspire you to give up some food or drink as a way to grow closer to God. Give the money you save to help folks in a different part of the world who are in crisis. Pick a current global issue and help change the world.
- 5. Create a daily quiet time.** Spend 10 minutes a day in silence and prayer. Read a daily devotional for the season of Lent. See how it can help you add spiritual practice to your daily life beyond Lent.
- 4. Cultivate a life of gratitude.** Write someone a thank you letter each week and be aware of how many people have helped you along the way. Learn more about spiritual practice of gratitude.
- 3. Participate in a Lent Photo-a-Day practice** and pray each day with your camera in your hand. Start praying.
- 2. Volunteer one hour or more each week** with a local shelter, tutoring program, nursing home, prison ministry. Learn about the global issues and how you can help.
- 1. Pray for others you see** as you walk as you walk to and from classes or drive to and from work. Download the Nimbus Prayer app and pray as you go through your day.

Downloaded from [www.UpperRoom.org/Lent101](http://www.UpperRoom.org/Lent101)



Did you know that using Hannaford Gift Cards for regular purchases and gifts benefits the church, as St. Luke's receives 5% of every \$1000 purchased? This is an easy way to support valued programs at St. Luke's! It's very easy! Simply speak with Tony McLaughlin who will let you know what \$ amount cards he has. Write a check to him and you will have your card to use immediately at Hannaford!



### **Easter Egg Hunt at St. Luke's!**

Children enjoy an egg hunt inside the church immediately following the 9:30 am service on Easter Sunday. Bring the family and enjoy Easter day at St. Luke's!



### **EASTER ALTAR FLOWERS**

As in years past, we will decorate the altar for Easter. If you would like to remember a loved one, please include their name(s) on this form and return to the church office. Please also include your name and phone number or email in case we have questions.

*Donations and listings should be sent to the church office (or place in the collection plate) no later than **Sunday, March 20th** for inclusion in the bulletin, thank you.*

Honor/memory of: \_\_\_\_\_

Honor/memory of: \_\_\_\_\_

Requested by: \_\_\_\_\_ Email/phone: \_\_\_\_\_

# St. Luke's Episcopal Church

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**207-645-2639**

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## St. Luke's Who to Contact

<b>Priest-in-Charge</b>	Rev. Barbara J. Clarke	645-2639
<b>Deacon:</b>	Rev. Corey Walmer	778-5252
<b>Sr. Warden:</b>	Kevin Howley	645-4981
<b>Jr. Warden:</b>	Carolyn McLaughlin	645-2312
<b>Clerk:</b>	Irene Berry	
<b>Treasurer:</b>	Dick Condon	

## *Other Vestry Members:*

Ed Ferreira, Michelle Ouellette, Tony McLaughlin, Carolyn McLaughlin, Elecia Pillsbury, Michael Cooper

<b>Secretary:</b>	Lisa Lindsay	645-2639
<b>Altar Guild Directress:</b>	Sue Staples	441-8163
<b>Eucharistic Ministers:</b>	Rev. 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>ECW:</b>	Carolyn McLaughlin	645-2312
<b>Lectors/Lay Readers:</b>	Rev. Corey Walmer	778-5752
<b>Search Committee Chair:</b>	Brenda Holman	778-3397