

# St. Luke's Episcopal Church

## Newsletter — Pentecost/FALL

(Aug-Oct) 2012

*Dear People of St. Luke's,*

August is here, the lobster rolls have been sold, the Ecumenical Blueberry Festival service held, and we are gearing up for fall. I want to share with you something we are working on. As many of you know we began an after-school program for young children last January which ran regularly until May. We learned a lot, and have spent lots of time planning, and while there is further planning to do, things are coming together. The program will be called "Grace Place" and will serve kids from K-4th grade. The mission of Grace Place is to feed children with God's love through Bible stories and healthy food. Partly this mission is a reflection on our experience; but part of the inspiration also came from something Canon Karsten used to say: God shows His love for us by telling us stories; and by feeding us. (By the way, that is the structure of the regular liturgy.)

We hope to attract children from the community, as well as St. Luke's. To that end, two volunteers (I didn't twist any arms) will be visiting homes in our neighborhood in the near future. They'll take with them information, enthusiasm and a brochure.

We'll meet at church from 3:30 to 5:00 on Tuesdays and hope to begin a couple weeks after Labor Day. The regular schedule will include play time/physical activities, healthy snacks, Bible story time, and fun through crafts, drama, games, etc. The Bible stories and content will be based on the themes taken from our lectionary, our regular cycle of scripture readings, adapted for this purpose.

This is obviously an ambitious undertaking. We have high hopes, but do not underestimate the challenge. Yet, it seems like a concrete and faithful step in faith. It also fits, somehow. I think as a parish we do "get it" about God's love, and we certainly "get it" about food!

Pray for "Grace Place!"

Fr. Tim

### *Fellowship Opportunities this Fall...*



*Please join us this fall for some or all of our fellowship opportunities and projects. Coming up... a parish dinner celebration in September, our annual Blessing of the Pets service, the fall WECO community dinner, our first **St. Luke's Heritage Weekend this October** & much more!*

*see inside for details...*

# St. Luke's Mission In Action...



*KNOW,*  
*SHARE,*  
*SERVE...*

## ALTAR GUILD, EUCHARISTIC MINISTERS & GREETERS

Please consider assisting with welcoming others to St. Luke's worship services once or twice a month! Please contact Dn. Tom Deschaine if you can help with this effort. If you're shy, perhaps you could assist the Altar Guild with preparations to make St. Luke's welcoming & beautiful!

## SUNDAY LECTONARY

John Craig is dedicated to providing scheduled readers for worship services. Please choose an upcoming Sunday that works best for you and contact him to volunteer!

## PASTORAL CARE MINISTRY

Thank you to everyone involved in this outreach ministry! Cards, phone calls, visits, transportation and meals when needed have been greatly appreciated.

We could use more volunteers for this outreach ministry.

*If you would like to participate,  
please contact Fr. Tim or Janet Morris, coordinator.*

## The Hospitality Committee

We have a number of events scheduled for the fall & we are in need of prepared dishes and volunteers.

*Please contact Brenda Holman if you can assist this ministry!*

**BAKE SALE SUNDAYS: AUG 12TH, SEPT 9TH,  
& OCT 14TH (ST. LUKE'S HERITAGE SUNDAY!)**

## **DFP UPDATE...**

**Corey Walmer**

As most of you know, I've been involved in the diocesan Deacon Formation Program for the past two years. This program requires several components and with the fall comes yet another step in the "process." I'd like to share it with you! The DFP program is sponsored by the Diocese of Maine and coordinated by the Very Rev. Mary Lee Wiles, archdeacon for the diocese. Her job is to shepherd folks like me through the formational process.

Educational requirements include completion of Education for Ministry, a 4 year biblical studies program (completed in Wyoming) and clinical pastoral education (CPE) or similar alternative. I have completed this requirement through alternative programming—completion of a graduate certificate course in Contemplative Spirituality and Social Work and chaplaincy training at Franklin Memorial Hospital where I serve as a volunteer chaplain.

In addition to CPE, our cohort group (there are currently four deacons in formation), meets monthly for a day-long program focusing on a variety of topics including scripture, theology, ethics, liturgy, contemporary society, and theory and practice of ministry. The group also participates in at least two retreats together per year. We are expected to participate in community and private worship and study of scripture, attend at least one silent retreat, maintain a rule of life and have a spiritual director.

The program also requires community-based formation, and the after school program has satisfied this requirement. As well, I am required to take an extensive assessment (which replaces canonical exams). I will be working on this over the month of October. Interspersed throughout this journey have been conversations with Commission on Holy Orders, Standing Committee and quarterly letters to the Bishop.

Finally, the program requires a mentored practice component that takes place in another parish for six months or more. For me, this will begin the first of November at St. Mark's Waterville. I will be attending church there and participating in the life of that parish as I work under The Rev. John Balicki. I am looking forward to this but also feeling some sadness at having to be away from my church family. I hope to return at the end of June, 2013. Thank you all for the love and support on this journey.

Please keep me in your prayers and I will keep all of you at St. Luke's in mine.

*in Christ...*



## St. Luke's Heritage Weekend

This year is the first year we will celebrate our patron saint by having both a fellowship event, and educational events featuring an aspect of healing. This year our focus will be on addictions, and the events will span the entire weekend.

**Join us for Luke's Heritage Weekend, October 12th—14th!**

St. Luke's will host the Diocesan Committee on Alcoholism & Substance Dependencies on Friday, October 12, with a hospitality time of desserts, coffee & cider at 6:30 pm, followed by an educational program at 7PM.



The program will feature a panel of speakers including: The Rev. Nancy Platt, retired Episcopal priest, chairperson of the committee, and licensed alcohol and drug counselor in IL; a representative from Celebrate Recovery; and four individuals from St. Luke's. The topics will be various aspects of chemical dependency and treatment, such as "Alcoholism in a Nut Shell," "The Alcoholic's Spiritual Hunger," "How Al Anon Can Help," and "The Role of Clergy." Following all six speakers, there will be a question & answer period, "Everything you wanted to know about alcohol and substance abuse, but were afraid to ask."

Saturday morning, October 13, we feature two video presentations by Episcopal bishops on parish involvement in helping chemically dependent persons.

Sunday, October 14, at 9:30 AM, we will celebrate St. Luke's Day as a festival Eucharist, complete with red paraments and torch bearers; and a special acknowledgment of health care workers in the congregation.



***PLEASE COME CELEBRATE WITH US OCTOBER 12TH—14TH, AS WE LAUNCH OUR FIRST ANNUAL ST. LUKE'S HERITAGE WEEKEND TO CELEBRATE THE MINISTRY OF ST. LUKE!***

*Please contact Barbara Dufour (674-2958 or badufour@hotmail.com) for more info or to volunteer, thank you!*

*Parish Dinner to Celebrate*

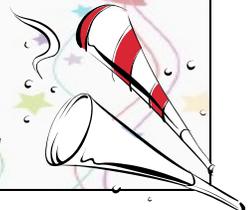
## The Walmers

*15 years at St. Luke's!*

*Saturday, September 15, at 5pm*

*Thank you Fr. Tim & Corey, for fifteen years of ministry & service at St. Luke's, we love you both!*

***RSVP by Sept. 9th, sign-up sheet in the undercroft, and please contact Brenda Holman if you can volunteer, thank you!***



## It is time to order the 2013 Episcopal calendars!

If you desire one or more, please use the sign-up sheet posted in the kitchen bulletin board, the cost will be \$5.50 each, payable when the order is received in late October or November. **Deadline for ordering is Sept. 25th, if you have any questions please call Ann Prentiss, thank you!**

### **AN UPDATE FROM THE TREASURER...**

The year has flown by, as they seem to do more and more quickly! Through July, we should have about 58% of our pledge goal, which for 2012 was \$112,000 - a couple of thousand more than we realized last year. We have received 53% and are thankful for that. A difference of 5% doesn't seem like much, but it amounts to around \$5000. That would be more than enough to make us current with the diocesan assessment (\$2000 mo.), which is currently paid through May. (I am hoping to pay June before August ends.)

In case anyone isn't already bored with figures, here are a few more. Pledges amount to 80% of our normal operating income. Parish fundraising (Lobster lunches, pie sale, yard sale, bake sales, Hannaford cards, etc.) give us another 7%. Income from our investment of the money from the sale of the former rectory - which goes toward the rector's housing allowance - is another 7%. Plate offerings, gifts, use of the building contributions etc. make up the rest.

Speaking of the Lobster Lunches: thanks to the hard work of many volunteers, the day at Farmington and the day at Wilton were very successful, with sellouts at both places. At Wilton, indeed, 25 more rolls were made and sold after we were officially "sold out."

The gross sales were \$11,941; lobster meat and all other expenses came to \$5917, so the NET realized was \$6024. The lobster effort is almost equivalent to an extra month of income for us.

Ending on a happy note, we are contracted again with Downeast Energy for our oil supply. We are down for 1800 gallons at \$3.04/gallon. This is a lot lower than last year and significantly lower than the rate as I write on August 22.

—Richard Condon

## UTO

(United Thank Offering)

## October Ingathering



Our UTO collection will be held in October. There are envelopes and UTO boxes for your offering available in the undercroft. As you know, the funds collected are used to provide grants for worthy projects and distributed internationally. We hope you will participate.

If you have any questions about UTO, please contact me at 207-622-9679 or by e-mail [tcdesch966@aol.com](mailto:tcdesch966@aol.com), or speak with me at church. Thank you!

—*Carlene Deschaine,*  
*UTO Chairperson*

### ***The Labyrinth***

**This Labyrinth  
in the garden  
brings us everywhere  
and brings us nowhere -  
a dream dance floor of our lives.  
Who do we dance with  
in this ever spiraling circle,  
friends, lovers,  
babies, children,  
teachers, artists,  
the poets  
the threatened and the threatening,  
the prophets and the soothsayers.  
They do not avoid us as we dance and twirl.  
We walk and we run.  
We crash and collide one  
with the other  
during our trip to the center.  
It is here, now, at the center  
that we rest,  
find our compass  
before we dance again,  
before we carry on with  
the dances of our lives.**

—*Carole W. Trickett*

## *Christian Education, Sunday School for fall...*

As Christ called the children to “come to me”: we call them to come and attend Sunday School this year! Our program will begin with a unit on the Bible, to help them better understand the Bible and the Word of God. We will continue with the beginning of God’s People and an interesting no-cook teaching lesson!

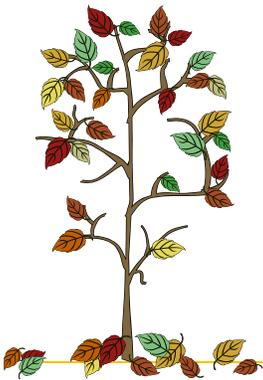
We are developing a session incorporating “Animals” unit from the new Episcopal Relief & Development “**Abundant Life**” curriculum, and work to provide a few animals for needy families through **Gifts for Life**.

Come and join us and we will have a great time learning about God and how to live our lives! *—Justy Nazar*



### **Sunday School begins & Choir returns September 9th**

*After Labor Day, Sunday the 9th, we will resume Sunday School  
& the Choir will return to singing for worship services.  
We hope you all enjoyed summer!*



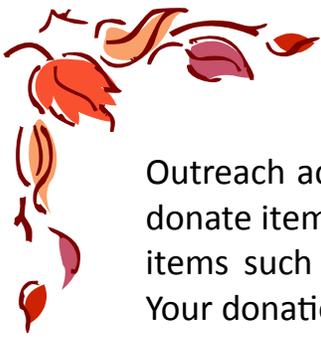
### *Sunday Eucharist Fall Schedule & Annual Blessing of the Pets Service Oct 7th*

St. Luke’s will be returning to offering an 8am Eucharist in addition to the 9:30 service on the first Sunday of the month only. Also, join us October 7th for the annual blessing of the pets, prior to 9:30 service.

### **SPEAKING OF SAYING THANKS...**

**As I noted above, we have some creative and effective fundraising strategies; in addition to lobster rolls there are the monthly bake sales, and use of Hannaford cards. The vestry is exploring the possibility of doing a kind of simple, unobtrusive Craig’s List type auction of used items we might have and be willing to part with. Stay tuned for further details. All these are forms of offering and help meet our basic needs as a parish.**

**Meanwhile, I think it’s important to remind us that there is another need: our own. In other words, we give not just because the Church needs it, which it obviously does; but also because we need to do it. We need the spiritual freedom to return to God in thanksgiving from what God has given us. “All things come of thee, O Lord...” We’ll be reminding ourselves that giving is thanksgiving, and is one of the ways we express our gratitude. Thanks for being folks with generous hearts!**



## Outreach Happenings at St. Luke's

Outreach activities are alive and well at St. Luke's, Wilton. Thanks to all who continue to donate items for the local food pantries. There is a great need for grocery items as well as items such as toothpaste, toilet tissue, laundry detergent, and other cleaning supplies. Your donations are greatly appreciated.

Chat with Carolyn or Tony McLaughlin about happenings at the local food pantries as they continue to volunteer their services in distributing items to those in need. The food pantries in both Wilton and Farmington receive the items folks bring to St. Luke's which is then redistributed to both places. In addition to canned food items requested, checks are welcomed as food may be purchased by pantry directors at the Auburn Food Bank at a fraction of the cost that one would pay in a grocery store.

In future months, when the weather is growing colder and the heat of summer has disappeared, a number of folks in the greater Wilton and Farmington area will be in need of assistance for home heating oil. Unfortunately, many people will not have the funds to purchase heating oil or propane fuel to heat their homes. Agencies that provide assistance may be limited due to shrinking funds for emergency situations. Your donations will be greatly appreciated in the near future in order to prevent suffering that occurs when homes are cold and poorly heated.



*Photos of the completed repairs; children are safe when attending school again!*

In addition to helping the food pantries and the Ecumenical Heating Fund, St. Luke's Church continues to assist St. Luc tru du Nord School in Haiti. In past years our donations have helped with teaching salaries and the Sunday School recently spear-headed an effort to send funds to the school to repair an enclosure wall.

"Knowledge is power. In Haiti, that old saying is certainly true. Even before the devastating 2010 earthquake leveled much of Port-au-Prince and the surrounding towns and villages, Haiti was beset by brutal poverty, and an inadequate infrastructure.

For example, only about half the people in Haiti are literate; 80% of the schools are private and few families can afford the cost of a school uniform, much less the tuition for their children; many Haitian families of five survive on the equivalent of \$1.50 a day." (1) Education is needed if the cycle of poverty is to be broken. Knowledge is power. Your donation of money from bottle returns is greatly appreciated. Others will report on other activities, such as the after-school program.

May we go in peace to love and serve the Lord. Wishing you peace, love and joy!

Deacon Tom Deschaine

<sup>(1)</sup> Quote taken from a letter from the American Friends Service Committee dated Sept. 20, 2011. AFSC-1501 Cherry Street, Philadelphia, PA 19102.

## GRACE PLACE NEEDS YOU!

Having earned a grant from the diocese, for our efforts with the Wilton Ecumenical After-School program designed to meet a number of critical needs for children in our community, our faith-based program will have funds to move forward this coming 2012-2013 school year.

**GRACE PLACE** after-school sessions will shift to Tuesday, allowing for more sessions than Mondays when considering the school schedule & holidays. Virginia Christopulos, will be assisting during weekly sessions, to support the session leaders and provide a familiar face for the children. We are also incorporating the new Episcopal "Abundant Life" curriculum, lectionary focus, and talents of St. Luke's members into our program & curriculum this year.

I will be providing administrative support to session leaders and assisting St. Luke's members with outreach to the community through: pamphlets, and publicity support; contacting community members, friends of St. Luke's and neighbors to see how they might help; assisting volunteers with preparing materials for activities, etc. Soon we will have our website up & running, with active links to registration forms & information, tied to our Church site.

Once a month, Benson (my dog companion, training to become a therapy pet partner) and I will conduct visitations to the after-school program. We will share stories with the children of visitations & other acts of grace and fellowship St. Luke's members have done in the community that month, like nursing home worship, children's reading sessions at Wilton Free Library, and other places about town (like the hospital). Benson & I will also visit a 9:30 Sunday worship once a month to keep everyone abreast of the progress & needs of the program.

We are developing the custom curriculum using the lectionary and multiple existing resources & programs. Folks involved in the program will be approaching you to do things like: assist for session or two that are not yet covered; assisting with specific events — a group supper for the parents of the children in the program in particular; or helping us in the planning, publicity, or leadership needs as we move forward.

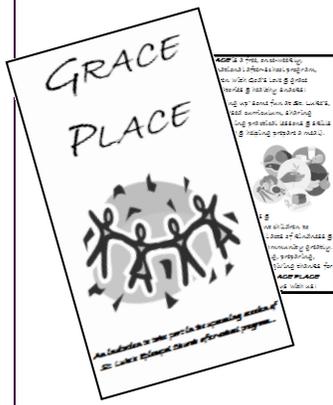
Special thanks to all those who assisted with sessions last year, we're looking forward to having your expertise & enthusiasm again this year! For those of you who haven't yet participated, please consider how you can share in this year's sessions and after-school outreach. Do you have a profession related to food, or a mission you volunteer for that provide those resources for the community? Do you have a favorite food, or related talent like gardening, featured in a Bible story that you could share?

We understand everyone's time is valuable, and you may not be able to participate on a weekly basis for many reason. However, we want the children to see a variety of St. Luke's folks over the course of the program; so would you grace the children with a story of how God & St. Luke's have fed you? Maybe you'd like simply to assist a session leader and Virginia with washing hands, saying grace, or sitting to listen to Bible story time with open ears and quiet mouths as an example to the little ones?

In short, we and the children need you to grace us with whatever you can—along with love, support, fellowship, and encouragement!

*Grace & Peace!*

—Gwen Doak



### GRACE PLACE

Tuesdays 3:30—5:00 pm

- 3:30-3:45 pm **PLAY!**  
(physical activity & games)
- 3:45-4:00 pm **GRACE!**  
(saying grace & sharing snacks)
- 4:00-4:15 pm **STORY!**  
(sharing company, Bible story time)
- 4:15-5:00 pm **FUN!**  
(activity & craft project incorporating art, music, drama, dance, special guests or games—exploring themes related to the story-time shared)

5:00 pm — Pick-up time!

Although the GRACE PLACE program is NOT a SAD#9 sponsored activity, we will run concurrently with the SAD#9 school schedule during September 2012—April 2013. We will not hold sessions on holidays that fall on Tuesdays or when snow days have been announced.

There is a bus stop in front of St. Luke's on High Street, and participants may be eligible to use this bus & stop with a signed release form from their parents. Alternate volunteer transportation may also be available.

Participants must have a parent's or guardians' signed permission to participate in GRACE PLACE, its sponsored fieldtrips & photos documenting & publicizing the program. We do not publish participants names without permission for safety & privacy.



## **MONTHLY BOOK CLUB**

The book discussion group will meet Thursday, August 30 at 4pm to discuss *Leaving Church* by Barbara Brown Taylor. This book relates the spiritual journey of an Episcopal priest, and is written in an engaging style. In September, the book will be *So You Think You Don't Know One* by the Rt. Rev. Chilton Knudsen & the Rev. Nancy Platt. Using case studies, this brief book explains substance dependency in the Church. If you think you don't know one, you will be surprised! Fr. Tim will lead this study.

### **THANKS TO OUR DIOCESE STAFF & ALL ST. LUKE'S MEMBERS WHO ATTENDED SAFE CHURCH TRAINING!**



Part of the Episcopal Church's ministry for those entrusted to its care, particularly the young & vulnerable, is to ensure that we are a safe place. We were fortunate to be able to host such a training, thanks to the Diocesan staff and all who registered. St. Luke's would like to extend special thanks to Vicki Wiederkehr & especially Rev. Rebecca Grant, Deacon at St. Mark's in Augusta.

**Saturday, Sept 8th: Fr. Tim will be attending Diocesan Council.**



**Diocesan Convention: Friday & Saturday, October 26th & 27th**

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!*

## ***THANK YOU, FROM FATHER TIM...***

This has been a unique summer for our family, what with a wedding and a reunion; but it has also meant I have been gone in the middle of July when I am normally here. As a result, I want to say thank you...



- for the new alb, given as part of a birthday. I'm not sure how long it's been, but I think the other one had at least 200,000 miles on it!
- to all who filled in while I was gone. It was nice not to worry on vacation.
- and huge thanks to all who labored in community to pull-off yet one more "lobster season." I well know how much work it is, and though it's also fun (for a finite period of time) it takes a lot of effort.
- for a painted office. I suppose I'd have gotten around to it... at some point... but it's really nice to look on freshly painted walls.
- for the ongoing stewardship of the building—for cleaning & rearranging, fire exit signs, flowers watered & grass mowed, bulletin boards redesigned, etc.
- and special thanks to those who are persevering doing things that are really important for which do not, perhaps, feel exciting right now.

## Labor Day Weekend

I will be away the weekend of August 31-September 2, helping my daughter move into an apartment in Boston (prayers requested). Following this Corey and I will be going down to the Hartford area to visit our son and his wife. We'll return the evening of Sept. 3. Dn. Tom will lead Morning Prayer with Dr. Rod Prior at 8:00 AM, and with Tom Doak at 9:30 AM.



### **WILTON COMMUNITY DINNER**

This fall the WECO community dinner will be 5pm, October 27th at the Wilton Congregational Church. We will be responsible for desserts.



### **WECO "Coffee & Conversation"— 8 AM FIRST THURSDAY EVERY MONTH**

**UPCOMING MEETINGS: Sept 6<sup>TH</sup> & Oct 4<sup>TH</sup> @ Wilton Methodist Church.**



**Boy Scouts of Troupe 518 will be holding a leadership recruitment meeting in the undercroft on Tuesday, September 11th.**

### **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, Janet O'Neil, or Gwen Doak for information.*



### **FOOD PANTRY ITEMS NEEDED...**

Please don't forget 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 for the food pantries, thank you!***



### **COFFEE FELLOWSHIP**

Coffee Hour is a ministry of hospitality and fellowship here at St. Luke's.  
Please sign up in the kitchen to support this ministry, thank you!



# 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:** [www.stlukesmainewesternmaine.episcopalmaine.org](http://www.stlukesmainewesternmaine.episcopalmaine.org)

---

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

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

**Deacon:** Tom Deschaine..... 622-9679

### ***Vestry:***

Sr. Warden: Janet Morris ..... 778-6019

Jr. Warden: Rick McKinney ..... 897-1029

Clerk: Irene Berry

Treasurer: Dick Condon

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

Barbara Black, Robert Condon, Chris Cook, Brenda Holman, Kevin Howley,  
Jeannine LeVigne, Rick McKinney, & Janet O'Neil

**Secretary:** Gwendolyn Doak ..... 645-2639

**Altar Guild Directress:** Ann Prentiss ..... 778-2300

**Chalice Bearers:** Tom Deschaine..... 622-9679

**Church School:** Justy Nazar..... 645-2783

**Acolyte Mentor:** Brenda Holman ..... 778-3397

**Newsletter:** Gwendolyn Doak..... 645-2639

### **Episcopal Church**

**Women (ECW):** Carolyn McLaughlin ..... 645-2312

**Lectors/Lay Readers:** John Craig ..... 778-0169