



St. Luke's Episcopal Church Newsletter

Late Pentecost/Fall 2018

A Letter from Our Rector



What You Do Matters

Last week, I was walking through the parking lot in Farmington and spotted a bumper sticker on a Maryland car. It said, "What you do Matters". Seeing that in such a random place proves to me that God is truly everywhere!

This is true in every aspect of our lives and crucial in our lives as Christians. The world is looking to us to see if we really 'walk the walk' and not just 'talk the talk'. We have Jesus' example to follow and the encouragement of St. Paul, James, and others throughout the ages.

In the letter of James he writes, 'In the same way, faith by itself, if it is not accompanied by action, is dead.' (James 2:17) Faith that saves produces deeds. We can't help wanting to do good works, but they do take a bit of effort. Paul writes to the people of Galacia these words of encouragement: 'The only thing that counts is faith expressing itself through love.' (Gal 5:6) How do we express love? By outward signs--from hugging a loved one to working as a volunteer at the Food Pantry in Wilton, to giving to the church of our time, talent and treasure.

The world is watching to see what the Christian will do, not what the Christian will say. People are tired of hearing us talk, they want to see us carry out our faith in actions of love.

The question you need to ask yourself is, 'What have I done today that shows my Christian faith to the world?' It does matter!

Mother Sue+

Sunday School



Sunday School has begun, meeting at 8:45 am most Sundays through May. We welcome children from pre-school through grade 5. This year we will use the Episcopal Children's Primary Curriculum.

We begin the year with stories from the Pentateuch-the first five books of the Old Testament- Noah, Abraham and Sarah, Isaac and Rebekah's Twins and more.

Each Sunday we will have a time of Bible reading, crafts/work sheets and occasionally food crafts.

We will continue to use the God Box for prayers

and our chain for thank you.

~Justy Nazar



The Church Website, Social Media

Have you "liked" St. Luke's Facebook page? If not, please do and share with your other friends on Facebook! We only post about once per week so as not to annoy and we are careful about what we do post. I am trying to keep the website current, as well. If you have anything you would like posted, please let me know.

~Lisa Lindsay

Stewardship

It is that time of year when everyone at St. Luke's can look forward to mail from the Stewardship committee! This year will be much the same with one or two additions. In order to call attention to the need for pledges, the blessing of the pledge cards will take place during the offertory on the first Sunday of December. It will be a way to call attention to the financial gifts we give to St. Luke's during the year and a way to say thank you to God. Another way to call attention is to have a couple of testimonials from parish members. Any volunteers?

Mother Sue +

A new roof and sound system for St. Luke's

Due to several anonymous donations we will be able to replace our roof this October. Hahnel Brothers will begin the roof work around the 15th of October. They (and we) hope to have it done before the snow flies! Pray for good weather so they will get it done in the 6-8 weeks allotted for the job. Thank you donors!

Brenda Holman has been researching a new sound system for the sanctuary which will be installed in the next month. She has signed an agreement with Power Sound of New England and they are scheduled to install the system during the week of October 16th. This is a gift from Brenda so we can all hear the lessons, sermon, and the entire service each week. Thank you Brenda!

~Mother Sue+



What is UTO? The United Thank Offering (UTO) is a ministry of The Episcopal Church for the mission of the whole church. Through UTO, men, women, and children nurture the habit of giving daily thanks to God. These prayers of thanksgiving start when we recognize and name our many daily blessings. Those who

participate in UTO discover that thankfulness leads to generosity. UTO is entrusted to promote thank offerings, to receive the offerings, and to distribute the monies to support mission and ministry throughout The Episcopal Church and Provinces of the Anglican Communion.

The date of our ingathering will be announced soon. UTO boxes and envelopes are located on undercroft info table and in the narthex (on the table by the front door). Please see Jeannine LeVigne with any questions. She is our UTO organizer. Thank you.

~Lisa Lindsay



WECO

Thank you to Justy who will be giving me her notes going forward so I can include them in the newsletters...

WECO is an organization of five local churches and the food pantry who meet once a month nine months of the year, at the Methodist Church, to let each other know what is going on in our congregations and any issues we are having.

Congregational Church: Sept 16 they will have the South Strong Road Crew singing. Sept. 23 a church service at the reunion barn at 1:30--all welcome Next week a quilt, hanging in the church and made by the church ladies will be dedicated. Thrift Shop is going very well and they helped a Jay family, for free, who had been burned out.

Dryden Baptist: They had a music team visiting with a great testimony in June They have a Bible study after church at Life Perks-Lori Lewis played the harp for them this past week. Food bags have been delivered along with school supplies to Cushing and the Academy schools.

St. Lukes: Retreat at Camp Bishopswood for adults. Big yard/food sale coming up on Sept 8th. Loss of one of our long time parishioners. Sunday School beginning on Sept 9th with a backpack blessing.

Methodist: Money is coming along for organ repair. Oct. 3-Baked bean/hotdog dinner with casseroles -fund raiser for the organ. Nov. 7th Harvest supper fund raiser. They will continue with their new service time at 10:30. Food Pantry Doing well with lots of garden produce coming in. Ecumenical service from the blueberry festival gave \$219.00 to the food pantry. Franklin Savings Bank is celebrating & giving each employee \$150.00 for a charity of their choice. Two folks have given to the food pantry.

Assembly of God: Absent this meeting.

~Justy Nazar



Fall Book Study

On September 18th at 10:15, we will begin discussion of the first two chapters of the book, “Too Busy NOT to Pray” by Bill Hybels. The study lasts for 8 weeks, ending on November 6th and will cover two chapters per week.

The back cover of the book is a great synopsis of what’s inside: *“For decades Too Busy Not to Pray has stood as a classic on prayer, helping Christians all over the world slow down to draw near to God. Two truths haven’t changed over the years: God is the same powerful, just, holy God he’s always been. And true prayer-prayer that changes us and allows us to participate in God’s work in the world-can’t happen on the fly. Too busy not to pray broadens our vision for what our eternal, powerful God does when his people slow down to pray.”*

I pray you will get a book (\$5.00 each) and be a part of the group on September 18th!

Halloween at St. Luke’s



It was another busy Halloween on High St. last year! Estimates are of 300 people coming through the front door. So, please start planning your costume. We should be heating up the cider by 4 or 4:30 pm.

We will need:

- *Two carved pumpkins for jack-o-lanterns
- *Apple cider—eight gallons
- *Candy, candy, candy
- *In addition to donations, we need kitchen angels (to supply the upstairs with cold and hot cider), two people to serve cider, and two or three to hand out candy. Costumes strongly encouraged.

~Lisa Lindsay

November 21st
9 am - Noon
By pre-order

**Thanksgiving
PIE SALE**



Bakers needed!
Watch for sign-ups
in November

St. Luke's Youth Group



As of this writing, the youth group has just had our first meeting. We ate pizza and watched a movie that created great discussion. The youth group is for kids in 6th – 12th grades. We will present some skits during the year to the congregation, participate in outreach events and have fun!

The next meeting will be Friday, October 19th. More details next month.

Mother Sue +



Notes from the Office

I'm having a little trouble writing this note as I think about our friend Tony who we lost last month. My own dad used to say that "ribbing someone is a form of flattery—of showing they like you." Tony "ribbed" me with some regularity and so I hope that was one sign of our friendship. He was also one of the first to notice if I got my hair cut and was always quick with praise and thanks for anything I'd done around here. I looked at Tony as everyone's dad. And he was one of the first to welcome my husband Scott who joined a little after I did. He knew Tony and Carolyn (and Bill Berry and Dick Condon) from UMF. I miss Tony's voice, his smile, his laugh, his wisdom, and his love for this parish. He has left quite a legacy. This newsletter is dedicated to him.

I am back in school year mode. My office hours are generally Tues – Fri mornings with some flexibility built in. My work on the Discernment Committee for the 10th Bishop of Maine continues for just one more month. We have narrowed the field, thanks in large part, to the guidance of our fearless leader, Fr. John Balicki of St. Mark's, Waterville. We are now planning our retreat where we will bring a group of candidates and spouses/partners for three days and nights of conversations, worship, meals, and a little downtime. At the end of the retreat, we will recommend our finalists to the diocesan Standing Committee. There will be a special convention in February to elect our next bishop and he or she will start next June! Whew!



In last fall's newsletter, I covered all of the volunteer opportunities at St. Luke's. This year, I direct you to the bulletin board in the undercroft, where Mary Kalel has done a great job of showing these to you. If you are interested in any of these volunteer opportunities and ministries,

please reach out to me or Mother Sue or a member of the vestry and we can get you pointed in the right direction. Thank you to all in the parish who give of their time and talents.

I'd also like to take this opportunity to welcome those who have joined St. Luke's over the last several months. Please lean on your fellow parishioners with any questions. If you have anything you would like to submit to me to include in the newsletter, please do! I'm always looking for content.

Last year, without our usual organizer Corey, we took a Christmas off from the Angel Tree, but we plan to bring it back this year. I am looking for a family in need through Care and Comfort or the Wilton schools. The tree and tags will go out once Advent starts.

~Lisa Lindsay



On Sunday, October 7th, we will have the yearly pet blessing at about 9:15 am before the service starts. We will say a prayer together and Mother Sue will give each pet an individual blessing. We are going to try to promote this event this year with flyers in Wilton and Farmington. All from the community are welcome.

Lifetime Psalm (from the Episcopal Church website)

Praise my soul, our good Lord.
Sing songs to God's name,
for God has brought my life
into fresh waters when I was thirsty.
God has fed me with the Bread of Life
when I was starving.
God has sustained me along all my days
and never has put me to shame.
Praise my soul, our good Lord,
for such abundant goodness.

Poetry Corner



Lines Written in the Days of Growing Darkness

Every year we have been
witness to it: how the
world descends
into a rich mash, in order that
it may resume.
And therefore
who would cry out

to the petals on the ground
to stay,
knowing, as we must,
how the vivacity of *what was* is married

to the vitality of *what will* be?
I don't say
it's easy, but
what else will do

if the love one claims to have for the world
be true?
So let us go on

though the sun be swinging east,
and the ponds be cold and black,
and the sweets of the year be doomed.



— MARY OLIVER

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

Web Address: www.stlukeswilton.org

St. Luke's Who to Contact

Priest-In-Charge	The Rev. Suzanne Cole	897-5621
Sr. Warden:	Brenda Holman	778-3397
Jr. Warden:	Carolyn McLaughlin	645-2312
Clerk:	Jeannine LeVigne	860-8487
Treasurer:	Dick Condon	778-4425

Other Vestry Members:

Carolyn McLaughlin, Ed Ferreira, Michelle Ouellette, Chris Cox,
Mary Kalel

Parish Administrator:	Lisa Lindsay	645-2639
Altar Guild Director:	Chris Cox	645-2829
Church School:	Justy Nazar	645-2783
Acolyte Mentor:	Brenda Holman	778-3397
Newsletter:	Lisa Lindsay	645-2639
Episcopal Church Women:	Carolyn McLaughlin	645-2312
Lectors/Lay Readers:	Lisa Lindsay	645-2639
Hospitality:	Mary Kalel	508-341-8408