

VITAL signs

THE PULSE OF SAINT LUKE'S PARISH LIFE

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Happy Spring!



St. Luke's Social Events..... Past and Future

St. Luke's held the first Spring Dinner on May 4. The menu was roast chicken, Italian roast potatoes, vegetable, salad, roll and dessert. About 75 people were in attendance. There was great fellowship, and many were able to meet Father Jon for the first time!

Upcoming events being planned include a wine, cheese, and coffee night in late September and a repeat of our very successful Roast Pork Dinner and Silent Auction for early November.

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On Saturday, June 17 from 9 am until 12 noon we will 'Spring Clean Up' of the church grounds. Please bring your own garden tool, rakes, shovels etc. Many hands make light work. A sign up sheet is on the bulletin board. Free coffee and donuts for all workers.

A word from Fr. Jon

While Peter was still speaking [about Jesus], the Holy Spirit fell upon all who heard the word. The circumcised believers who had come with Peter were astounded that the gift of the Holy Spirit had been poured out even on the Gentiles, for they heard them speaking in tongues and extolling God. Then Peter said, "Can anyone withhold the water for baptizing these people who have received the Holy Spirit just as we have?"

Acts 10:44-47



The first Sunday of June is the feast of Pentecost, where we recall the coming of the Holy Spirit to Jesus' disciples in the aftermath of His death and resurrection to send them out into the world to be His body as he ascends to reside with the Father. The Jewish festival that Jesus and the disciples would have known as Pentecost is today more usually called, by our Jewish brothers and sisters, Shavuot, and it marks the day when Moses was given the Torah, or the Law.

In the same way that the Torah defined the people of God from whom Jesus arose, the coming of the Holy Spirit marks us as God's people, by adoption, through the life, death and resurrection of Christ.

In the passage from Acts above, we find St. Peter and his companions being amazed and shocked at this expansion of God's people through the action of the Holy Spirit. For me though, what's really amazing in this passage isn't the work of the Spirit, it's that the disciples recognized and accepted it. It is difficult for us to imagine how scandalous such an idea would have seemed to Peter and the earliest followers of Jesus.

In our day, the Holy Spirit continues her work of opening our eyes and hearts to the ever more inclusive circle of God's people. Truly, Christ's arms on the cross were opened wide that He might embrace the whole of humanity. How might the Holy Spirit be opening our eyes at this time? What new ways of being God's people are we being invited in to? How might we discern where and to whom we've been called?



A handwritten signature in cursive script.

Focus on the Prayer Book

The Book of Common Prayer is the keystone of the Anglican way of faith. Most of the Prayer Books in our pews may fall open to page 355, the beginning of the Eucharist service, but in truth it is a treasure trove of useful resources for the Christian life. The vision of the authors of the prayer book was that it, with the Bible, would provide every believer with all the essential tools they would need to live the life of a faithful Christian. Over the next year or so, we'll be exploring all the different sections of the BCP in this newsletter. But before we get into it; let's look at some of the history and background of the BCP.

The Book of Common Prayer was first created in 1549 for use in the Church of England and was primarily the work of Thomas Cranmer, who was the Archbishop of Canterbury at that time. It was created out of a desire to have worship in the English language, instead of Latin, as the Protestant Reformation developed in England. When Queen Mary ascended the throne and tried to re-establish the Roman Catholic Church, Thomas Cranmer was burned at the stake for his efforts.

The definitive version of the Prayer Book was published in 1662 and remains the official Prayer Book for the Church of England to this day. Here in the United States, in the aftermath of the American Revolution, the remnants of the Church of England in America formed the Episcopal Church in 1784 and in 1789 published the first American Book of Common Prayer, modelled closely (but not slavishly) on the English one. It has been revised several times, most recently in 1979.

The 1979 revision was controversial at the time, but most Episcopalians have come to

treasure it. This revision for the first time offered variations of the Eucharistic service, all of which are modelled on ancient forms from the earliest church. It also established the idea that the Eucharist was to be the primary form of worship on Sundays. Previously, many Episcopal Churches did Morning Prayer most Sundays with Eucharist only once per month. The other most significant change was to understand the liturgy as the work of all the gathered people and not just the priest.

In the years since then, the Episcopal Church has authorized several additional liturgical resources to be used in complement to the BCP. The most notable of these is called *Enriching Our Worship* (EOW). EOW offers alternative forms of many elements of the service that were

written to use more inclusive language; ie; not always referring to God in the masculine. By using the BCP, we ensure that our whole Church holds to the core Anglican idea of Common Prayer; of a people at prayer together. The BCP also shields us from the passions and whims of any individual, helping us hold together as

church across time and space. In fact, the Canons and Rubrics of the church hold that only the BCP and other materials authorized by the Episcopal Church (such as EOW) are to be used for principal services of worship (such as Sunday mornings). Here at St. Luke's, though we use a bulletin for most services, the materials within will be drawn from the BCP and other authorized materials.

As we will discover in this series, the BCP is a great resource for home use and daily devotion. If you do not have your own copy, I would be happy to give you one.





OUTREACH NEWS

This year Outreach will again host a sale to raise funds for our projects. We will have a Treasure and Bake sale on Saturday, July 15, 2017 and again will invite vendors to set up outside for free. The vendors' presence lets the community know that there is an event happening. The dates for the beginning of donations are:

Treasures June 1st

Baked goods July 13-15th

The signup sheet for bakers and helpers will be up on June 1st.

In the latter part of June when school gets out for the summer the kids celebrate, but for parents who struggle to put food on the table there is constant worry. We will have a special six-week food collection to help stock the St. Charles Food Pantry to sustain struggling families over the summer. The collection will begin on June 12, 2017 and end on July 24, 2017. Some suggestions for the collection are tuna, peanut butter, jelly, boxed mac and cheese, canned soups,

crackers, spaghetti and sauce, canned vegetables. Please join us in this initiative and make this summer food collection a huge success.

Thanks to our congregation for the generous response for our Samaritan Center collection. This year we collected 538 items. This is our fourth year collecting these items and our donations were timely as the Samaritan Center was almost out of shampoo.

Outreach committee remains committed to creating Welcome kits for new Meals on Wheels clients. So far we have created 180 kits. We check with Meals on Wheels quarterly to see how many kits they have on hand and determine if it is time to create more. We have managed to accumulate all the items for the kits for \$1.00 or less by shopping at Wegmans, Price Chopper, Walmart and Dollar Tree. This is funded by the Outreach budget.

As always, we are open to suggestions for new Outreach fundraising and Outreach projects. Please contact Eileen Robertson at 673-4324.

Congratulations!



Jeremiah Hart-Zavoli graduates on June 17th from West Genesee High School. He will attend OCC in the fall where he plans to major in history.

David and Sharon Hoare's granddaughter **Amanda Hoare** graduates June 17 from Liverpool High School. Granddaughter **Abby Hoare** graduates June 25 from Honeoye Falls-Lima High School.

Sam Leitermann-Long received his Masters In Mathematics Education from Syracuse University on May 13, 2017

Eileen Robertson's granddaughter **Amanda Naylor** graduated Magna Cum Laude with a Bachelor of Science degree in Cyber Security and Forensic Investigation from Utica College on May 7, 2017.

MARK THE DATE - AUGUST 12 - 11-3PM

Family fun! Towpath Day

As our boats travel along the mile section from Sims Store to the Aqueduct, we will have a series of ten tableaux celebrating 200 years of the Erie Canal that changed the face of our country.

A 5K Mule Skinner Run sponsored by the Solvay- Geddes Camillus Rotary Club will be held at 9 A.M.

In addition, there will be vendors and demonstrations, kids stuff, and Home Depot activities; steam engine display and food court.

Entertainment will include: Morris Dancers; OHA presentation of Sluices, Locks and Hoggies; Diamond Someday; and Soda Ash Six. In the evening there will be a concert by Symphoria and fireworks over the aqueduct.

Come on down and help us with the St. Luke's Ice Cream Booth.

For more information, call Liz Beebe at 315-391-7020.



**Our St. Luke's Picnic will be held on Welcome Back Sunday in September.
The July-August Vital Signs will have additional information.**

Food Pantry



This is an easy ministry to support. No meetings to attend no phone calls to make. All you need to do is buy something extra at the grocery store and put it in our grocery cart. One item from each person would fill our basket each week. The pantry is always in need of our help. Thank you.



Happy
Father's Day
June 18

THANKS & PRAYERS

june

We Ask Your Thoughts & Prayers for...

Annelise, Marilyn Farrell, Patricia Smarzo, Helen, Mark, Christine, Elizabeth, Peter, Carol Petroff, John, Bill Bishop, Cindi Dundon, Margaret Harvey, Mary Kate, Eileen Mitchell and Ann

(Note: Call the church office to add anyone to our Sunday prayer list. However, the name will stay on for only one month. You must call each month to have the name put back on the list.)

Also Members of the Armed Forces:

Note: We will continue to pray for our loved ones serving in the military, but only for those who are deployed in harm's way. Please call the church office to submit a name.)

Happy Birthday

- 5 Edward Kaish
Heather Woodworth
- 7 Shirley Chrisfield
- 18 Nora Kelley
- 22 Charles Vitagliano
- 24 Gerry Wright
- 27 Emma Catalano
- 30 Phyllis Schwartz

Happy Anniversary

- 8 Bill & Lena Bishop
- 30 Rich & Alison Conley



Altar Flowers

We have several dates open for altar flowers, July 2, 9, 16 and 30. Altar flowers can be given in memory of a loved one or in thanksgiving for a special occasion. Please call the church office to reserve a Sunday, 315-487-1771.

Every year, Christians around the world celebrate the Pentecost. This year, this Christian tradition will fall on June 4, Sunday.

For Christians, the Pentecost signifies an important event in the Holy Bible. This celebration commemorates the time of Jesus Christ's ascension into heaven, as well as the time when the Holy Spirit descended upon His disciples and blessed them. This event is recounted in the New Testament in Acts 2:1-13, where the Holy Spirit takes the form of wind and tongues of fire.

Acts 2:1-4 reads: "And when the day of Pentecost was fully come, they were all with one accord in one place. And suddenly there came a sound from heaven as of a rushing mighty wind, and it filled all the house where they were sitting. And there appeared unto them cloven tongues like as of fire, and it sat upon each of them. And they were all filled with the Holy Ghost, and began to speak in other tongues, as the Spirit gave them utterance."

Derived from the Greek term "[Pentekoste](#)" which means "50th," the Pentecost also signifies the 50th day after the celebration of Easter Sunday. Each time Pentecost Sunday comes around, Christians around the world are urged to take a leap of faith, as the event is also believed to represent the birth of the true church of Christ when the Apostles began to preach His message and perform His ministry among people.

Similar to Easter Sunday, the Pentecost is a celebration inaugurated by the Church. Although there are some of those who do not believe that Christ lived again and ascended into heaven after His death, the Pentecost remains as one of the most anticipated celebrations of the Christian community every year. Today, the date of the Pentecost is determined by counting the seventh Sunday following Easter Sunday.



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A vibrant community bringing all to God's healing embrace.