

# WITAMAL

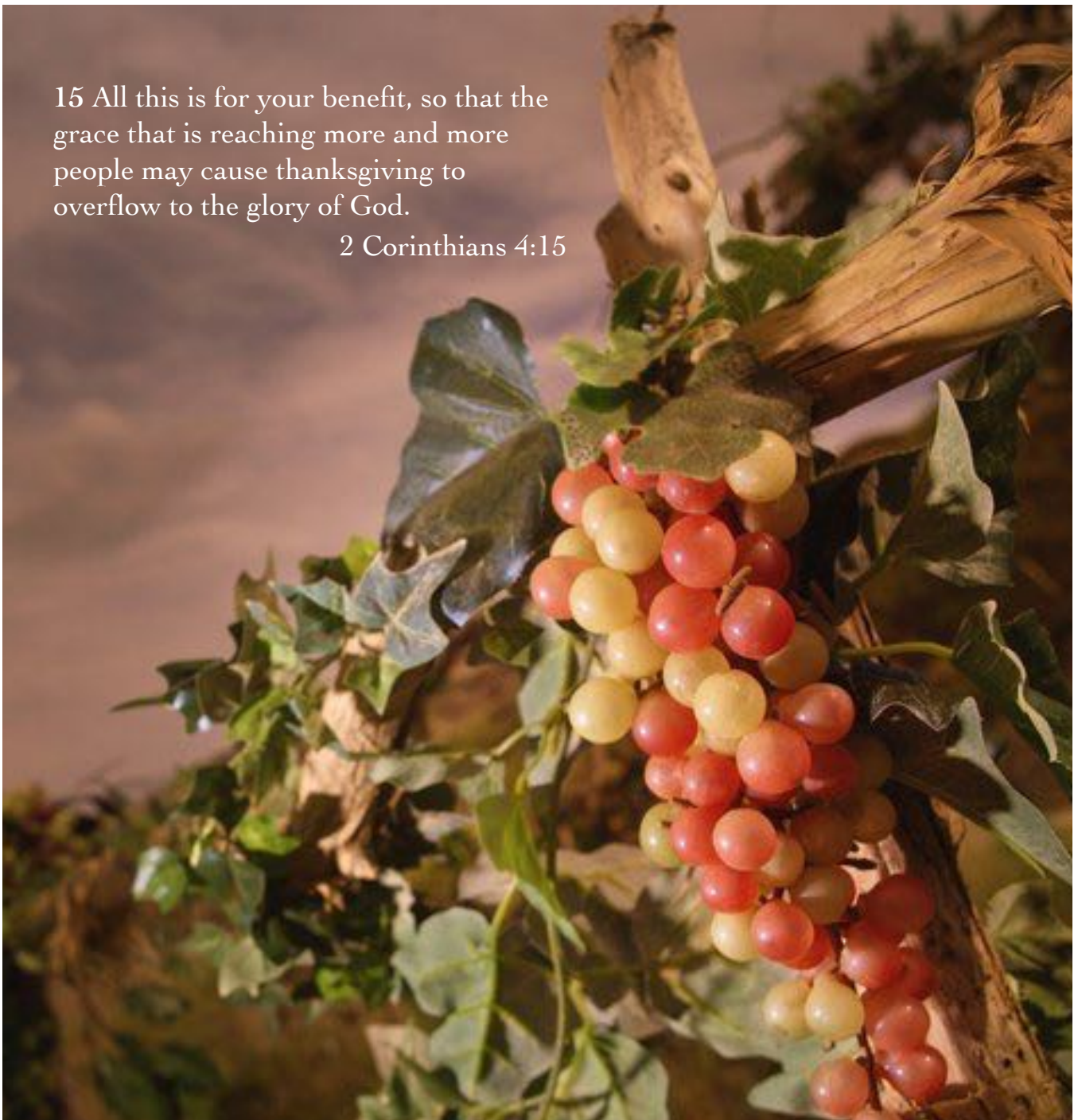
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THE PULSE OF SAINT LUKE'S PARISH LIFE

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15 All this is for your benefit, so that the grace that is reaching more and more people may cause thanksgiving to overflow to the glory of God.

2 Corinthians 4:15





# Stewardship

Save the Date! On Sunday, December 3, we will have a special service and luncheon to celebrate our parish, it's people and ministry, and to consecrate our financial commitments to the parish.

In psalm 26, there is this beautiful line; "LORD, I love the house in which you dwell and the place where your glory abides," that sums up how many of us feel about St Luke's. Gathered together in worship, fellowship, and mission, our parish feels alive with the Holy Spirit. It is your time, talent, and treasure that make it all possible and that's what we'll be celebrating on December 3rd.

We will have a single service at 10:00am. We are asking everyone to complete their

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pledge card and bring it with them that day. We will collect all of the cards and consecrate our communal commitment to God's glory as part of that service. After the service we will join together for a catered lunch in the parish hall. We ask that everyone please RSVP to Cathy Martin at 315-487-1771 to let us know if you'll be joining us or not.



## All Saints Sunday

We will celebrate All Saints Sunday on November 5. You are welcome to bring in pictures of your loved ones who have died. The pictures will be placed around the altar and they will be remembered in the Prayers of the People.

## A Word...

*It's late October as I write this, Halloween just around the corner, which also means All Saints Day and then Advent and Christmas close behind. The weather outside though doesn't seem to have gotten the memo — apple and pumpkin picking in shorts, grilling out still, and warm sunny days along the lake - not the usual Fall this year! Even trees seem reluctant to fall in line, with many holding bright green leaves still.*



*It's remarkable, and a little unsettling. Is this a portent of a new tomorrow or merely an aberration from the usual? Likely a little of both, but we should probably expect that the future won't exactly resemble the past. Changes abound around us, in nature, in society, and even in the church. God remains steadfast, but God's work in the world is ever creative and regenerative; working itself out in myriad new ways.*

*There is, allegedly, a Chinese curse, "may you live in interesting times." That takes a negative view of change. But Jesus' life, death, and resurrection as well as his promised return remind us that the amazing and the spectacular may be waiting for us just over the horizon. Like those first people who encountered Jesus, we may have no idea where our remarkable and unsettling future may lead us. But with Jesus as our guide, we may be confident as we take our first hesitant steps towards it.*

Blessings,

### Focus on the Prayer Book

#### PROPER LITURGIES FOR SPECIAL DAYS

This section contains the forms of worship used to bracket the season of Lent; Ash Wednesday at the beginning and Palm Sunday, Maundy Thursday, Good Friday, Holy Saturday and the Easter Vigil for the end.

This section marks the beginning of the liturgies contained in the Prayer Book. But what is a liturgy? Most of us associate the word liturgy with a form of worship. Originally though, liturgy meant a public work paid for with private money. In the ancient Roman Empire, oftentimes very wealthy persons would pay for a road or an aqueduct or public building entirely with their own money. The early church developed with a strong missionary sentiment and understood its purpose as being to benefit the whole of society. Former Archbishop of Canterbury William

*Continued on page 6*

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# Outreach News

The Thanksgiving food drive is well under way and the mitten tree is looking full. We will donate the items on the tree to St. Charles food pantry at the conclusion of the Thanksgiving food drive. The tree will remain up until December 17 and we will make a second donation to the food pantry. If you would like to make a monetary donation, please note Thanksgiving food drive on the face of your check.

We will again support the Salvation Army Angel tree holiday gift drive. Hopefully the Angel tree will be up with 60 tags around the 12<sup>th</sup> of November.

We recently delivered 36 Meals on Wheels Welcome kits for new clients. Again, this year we have a small gift for Meals on Wheels clients at Christmas. Those will be delivered to Meals on Wheels on Friday December 15.



## Autumn Greetings from the Wardens

Autumn is such a lovely time of year. There is something so glorious about the color of the leaves, the cool evenings, and not to mention, the calm before the storm of the Holidays! This Autumn we give thanks for having our Rector, Fr. Jon in place. He brings a tremendous energy and spirituality to St. Luke's, and we are grateful to God for the gift of Fr. Jon and his lovely family. We give thanks too for the people of St. Luke's, and the support of our fundraising efforts. We are able to support our community outreach projects through the generosity of our parish family. So, in the spirit of Thanksgiving let us be reminded of the blessings we have, the fellowship we share, the good works that we do, and the faith that binds us!

Autumn is also the time for our Diocesan Convention, November 10 & 11. This year our delegates are Bambi Carkey and Danielle Halpin. Look for a report in the December newsletter.

Thanksgiving blessings to all!

Jerry Wright & Bambi Carkey

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# Roast Pork Dinner and Silent Auction

**THIS Saturday, November 4 at 6 pm**

Delicious Roast Pork Dinner with apple and raisin chutney and a Silent Auction.

Tickets available after church or during the week at the church office.

**Open to all.**

Bring your neighbors, family and friends.

\$10 for adults, \$5 for children under 12 years.

## Blessing of the Animals

October 1 was a good day at St. Luke's for all God's creatures, be they of the two or four legged variety. A sizable group gathered on the church lawn for a very special "blessing of the animals" by Father Jon. A variety of dogs, bunnies and cats showed up. The well-behaved attendees were rewarded with treats for the occasion.



Temple said it best when he noted that “The Church is the only society that exists for the benefit of those who are not its members.” The worship of the church then, like the ancient Roman practice, is a public benefit completed out of private resources. We come together to prepare ourselves for going out to continue Christ’s work on behalf of the world.

Though Christians have marked these days for centuries, these particular liturgies are actually fairly recent additions to the Episcopal tradition. At the beginning of the English Reformation, in the sixteenth century, they were effectively jettisoned from Anglican worship because they were thought to be symptomatic of the “superstitious” nature of medieval Christianity to which the Reformers were opposed.

Ash Wednesday reappeared with a liturgy of its own in the 1892 Prayer Book. The others had assigned Scripture readings and Prayers in the 1892 Prayer book, but did not officially have separate liturgies until 1960 as part of the twentieth century Liturgical Movement. Ash Wednesday itself is quite ancient and has its origins in the very early Church. In those days, all Baptisms were done in a vigil service prior to Easter; in addition, those who had left the church or who had been expelled, but who were seeking readmission (called Penitents) were also readmitted at this time.

New Christians and Penitents were expected to undergo a period of fasting and intensive prayer prior to baptism. Being inspired by Jesus’ own period of fasting just after His baptism, this period of preparation by Penitents and New Christians eventually came to last 40 days. Since Sundays are all feast days (days when you aren’t supposed to fast), these forty days were spread across seven weeks and came to be the season of Lent. Ash Wednesday then, was marked as the beginning of this special period of baptismal preparation.

Palm Sunday originated in Jerusalem in the fourth century, where all the city’s Christians would re-enact Jesus’ entry into Jerusalem by processing to the actual sites the Sunday before Easter. In the Anglican tradition, Palm Sunday focused on the reading of the Passion gospel, but the current Prayer Book restored the ancient tradition of the procession with Palms, so that now the service begins with the triumph of Jesus’ entry into Jerusalem and ends with Christ’s death on the cross.

Maundy Thursday, Good Friday and Holy Saturday comprise the services for “Holy Week.” Holy Week services follow closely the Passion narrative’s recounting of Jesus’ final days. At Maundy Thursday, we gather as Jesus and his disciples did to remember the Last Supper; Good Friday marks the death of Christ; and Holy Saturday our sense of loss. Holy Week concludes in the Great Vigil of Easter which begins in the dark of death and concludes with the emergence of the light which is Christ.

These Special Liturgies mark the truth of the Resurrection, the central promise of God’s saving work in this world. In these traditions, we prepare ourselves to experience, once again, the emotionally packed experiences of Christ’s Passion, his willingness to die that we might know that God’s final word for us is not death, but life.



# THANKS & PRAYERS

## november

### ***We Ask Your Thoughts & Prayers for...***

Adrian Amaya, Patricia Smarzo, Nancy, Helen, Mark, Paul, John, Elizabeth, Carol Petroff, Larry McGlone, and Eileen Mitchell.

*(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***

- 2 Peter Woodworth
- 3 Milt Stevenson  
Jeremiah Hart-Zavoli

- 5 Bob Tackman
- 10 Elisabeth Beebe
- 11 Jim Nightingale
- 14 Megan Conley
- 21 Richard Chrisfield
- 24 Christine LaPage
- 29 Jennifer Latter
- 30 Mary Stevenson



### ***Happy Anniversary***

- 11 Peter and Heather Woodworth

## Christmas Flowers

It is not too early to begin thinking of Christmas Flower memorials. Please complete a flower form found at both entrances or just call the church office at 487-1771.



## Hurricane Relief Donations

Thank you for a huge response to our Episcopal Relief Fund to help hurricane victims. We ended up with a grand total of \$586.00. You all deserve a pat on the back.

## *Sympathy*

Our deepest sympathy to Margaret Harvey on the death of her husband, Alan. Rest eternal grant to him, O Lord. And let light perpetual shine upon him.

## Diocesan Convention coming

On November 10 and 11, our diocese will meet for its 149th annual convention. The theme this year is "Arms Wide Open" and the featured speaker is Dwight Zscheile. The Rev. Dwight Zscheile, Ph.D. is associate professor of congregational mission and leadership at Luther Seminary in St. Paul, Minnesota and a consultant with churches and other non-profit organizations. He also serves part-time as associate priest at St. Matthew's Episcopal Church in St. Paul. He is author of The Agile Church: Spirit-Led Innovation in an Uncertain Age and People of the Way: Renewing Episcopal Identity.

Entertainment will be provided by John Rohde and his band. The former Canon Jazz Musician at St. Paul's Church in Syracuse, John and his band provided worship music for St. Paul's monthly Jazz-Pop Mass for many years.

John is a featured soloist with the Central New York Jazz Orchestra and the Syracuse Symphony and has performed with touring acts Aretha Franklin, The Temptations, Natalie Cole, Frank Sinatra Jr., The Stylistics, Manhattan Transfer, Don Rickles, Clay Aiken and more.

The key feature of this year's convention is the launch of the Learning Communities Initiative. The bishop sees this effort as an effective tool to help congregations chart a future for themselves that is focused on bringing new people to faith. The vision is a group of congregations who commit to one another in a nine-month learning experience. Through prayer, skill-building, action and reflection they address their most pressing questions about the future, and will include three Saturday workshops and ongoing coaching calls with diocesan leaders and Dwight and Michael Binder.

The concrete goals for each congregation who participates will be training of lay spiritual leaders through workshops and coaching. These leaders will then engage and inspire members by helping them to learn to better discern and respond to God's leading; deepening the congregation's spiritual resilience and building connections with other congregations.



Everyone in the diocese is invited and encouraged to attend Dwight's keynote at Diocesan Convention and/or the special luncheon with Dwight and diocesan leaders where you can learn more about the initiative and ask questions.

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