

WITAM! *signs* WITAM!

THE PULSE OF SAINT LUKE'S PARISH LIFE

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WARDENS REPORT

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St. Luke's experienced a wonderful end to 2017, during December. December 3 was Consecration Sunday during which Parishioners 2018 pledge gifts were collected. The service was followed by a wonderful catered soup, salad and sandwich luncheon. The generosity of St. Luke's parishioners has resulted in a substantial increase in pledging over last year.

Thursday, December 7 was the beginning First Thursday Supper which was hosted by Bob Shafer and Cindi Dundon. It was well attended with great food and fellow-ship. The next one will be January 4 with Fr. Jon hosting.

Consecration Sunday coincided with the First Sunday of Advent with all of the anticipation and joys that it brings. St. Luke's enjoyed a wonderful series of Advent Sundays. The Greening of The Church and Altar occurred on December 17. The many ornaments and ceramic Nativity pieces were retrieved from storage, the tree was decorated, wreaths were hung and Nativity scenes were placed. Following was a wonderful lunch of soups, sandwiches, and goodies prepared by the Hospitality group and helpers.

The decorated space enhanced the multiple services which Fr. Jon led on Christmas Eve and Christmas Day. The four services, including family centered and Festal services, allowed parishioners and extended family members multiple opportunities to attend. Attendance was wonderful – thank you Fr. Jon for your efforts. The Festal service was followed by a gathering for champagne and chocolates in the church library. We hope this is the start of a new tradition!

The end of January will bring the St. Luke's Annual Meeting (January 28 - single service at 9:15am) where incoming Vestry and Wardens will be elected, outgoing volunteers thanked, and the 2018 budget discussed and approved. The ministry groups are preparing their reports on 2017 activities and 2018 plans. The meeting will be followed by a potluck luncheon and lots of St. Luke's fellowship.

Bambi Carkey
 Jeryl Wright
 Wardens



Annual Meeting January 28, 9:15am



A word...

Happy New Year to you all; I pray 2018 is a year of blessings for you and that you have the opportunity to feel the presence of God in your lives throughout.

I am excited to be beginning my first full year with everyone at St Luke's. Hard to believe that just a year ago I was preparing for my first trip to meet with the Search Committee and Vestry. And now here we are together and I can hardly say how much I have enjoyed these first months with you. It has been a real blessing and I look forward to many more Januarys together to come.



It seems natural at the turn of a year to take stock of what the past year offered and to anticipate what the next year might bring. So, first the taking stock.

Moving is a big pain, but the early part of my year was wholly taken up in the planning, execution and recovery of our moving back to New York. I calculated that I'd had 26 addresses in the past 32 years, but moving never seems to get easier. It was an extended process for me and my family as I came a couple of months before the rest could follow, but we got through it and everyone loves our new home in Central New York.

Getting used to a new parish and a (slightly) new way of doing things proved more challenging than I'd anticipated. I tell people it was like going to Canada, almost everything looks the same, but the subtle differences can easily trip you up. Thanks to excellent support, especially from Cathy Martin and Jeryl Wright, I think I've gotten the hang of things. I feel very much at home here at St Luke's.

As to the anticipating; I hope to see the continuation of the many good things I've already encountered in our life together. People keep showing up for worship, volunteers keep doing the myriad tasks needed to keep us going, generous supporters provide the resources we need and wonderful staff hold it all together and I have great confidence all those will continue and grow.

At the center of our common life is Christ. He is our example, our inspiration, our savior – our Lord and allegiance. If we continue to hold Christ close in our hearts and keep him at the center of our community life together, then I feel we can all trust that the Holy Spirit will lead us wherever we need to go and that we will be given all the resources we need to accomplish the work we have been given to do.

Peace and blessings



Greening of the Church

Lots of folks gathered after church on a cold Sunday in December to decorate the church for Christmas and to bring forth the (quite heavy) nativity sets. It was a fun event with lots of treats to keep everyone's energy up for the task at hand.

Sadly, the gremlins got in and toppled the tree later in the week, but with a little effort from Cathy Martin and Fr Jon, it was all fixed and ready for our Christmas services!



St. Luke's Christmas Celebration



Warrant of Annual Meeting of the Parish of St. Luke's Episcopal Church Camillus, New York Sunday, January 28, 2018

On January 28 the Annual Meeting will begin at 9:15 am per New York State Incorporation Law, and in accordance with Diocesan Canon Law.

The purpose of the meeting is to:

- 1 Elect one warden for a 2 year term.
- 2 Elect 3 vestry persons, each for a term of three years.
- 3 Receive Annual reports of the Rector, Wardens, Treasurer/Finance, Acolytes, Altar Guild, Buildings and Grounds, Fellowship, Music, Nominating, Outreach, Pastoral Care, Public Relations, Sunday School, Vital Signs and Youth.

Qualifications to vote are, you must be 18 years of age, belonging to St. Luke's Episcopal Church, Camillus, New York with registry of baptism on record at St. Luke's, financially support the ministry of St. Luke's, and having been in regular attendance at least 12 months prior to January 28, 2018. These qualifications are in accordance with the laws of the Episcopal Church, the Diocese of Central New York, and the canons of St. Luke's Church.

Alison Conley
Clerk of the Vestry
January 2018

OUTREACH NEWS

Our holiday Outreach programs were a great success. We delivered a small gift to Meals on Wheels and discovered that they are out of Welcome kits for new clients. We will be ordering the necessary items from Dollar Tree and create 36 Welcome kits. Round up your sample size personal hygiene items as we will again collect these items for the Samaritan Center. This collection will commence on Ash Wednesday and go thru Easter. The approximate date for the annual

Bake and Treasure sale will be Saturday, July 14, 2018. Sign up sheets will be posted in May.





THANKS & PRAYERS

january

We Ask Your Thoughts & Prayers for...

Adrian Amaya, Patricia Smarzo, Helen, Mark, Paul, John, Elizabeth, Everlee, Corey, Casey Halpin, Carol Petroff, 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 Dawne Latter
- 8 Hannah Stevenson
- 11 Bambi Carkey
- 16 Virginia Unckless
- 21 Olivia Snyder
- 22 Reginald Smith
- 29 Marie Tackman



Food Pantry

Please remember the food pantry when you do your own shopping. Cold weather means the food pantry is need of heartier gifts, soups, canned stews, macaroni and cheese, spaghetti and sauces. Thank you.



Lunch Bunch

Our Christmas Lunch was cancelled in December due to the weather. We will get together later this month and enjoy a rescheduled Christmas lunch at Kirby's. Date to be announced. If you bought a gift for the December get together bring the gift with you. More details later this month in the bulletin. Hope you will come.

...and your spare change, pennies for the deaf.



*Lord, You make all things new.
You bring hope alive in our hearts
and cause our Spirits to be born again.
Thank you for this new year
for all the potential it holds.
Come and kindle in us a mighty flame.
So that in our time, many will see
the wonders of God and live forever to praise
Your glorious name.*

Snow, snow, snow
*Beaches and tropical sunsets
are beautiful, but there's really
nothing quite like a sunny
winter's day and fresh blanket
of snow.*

