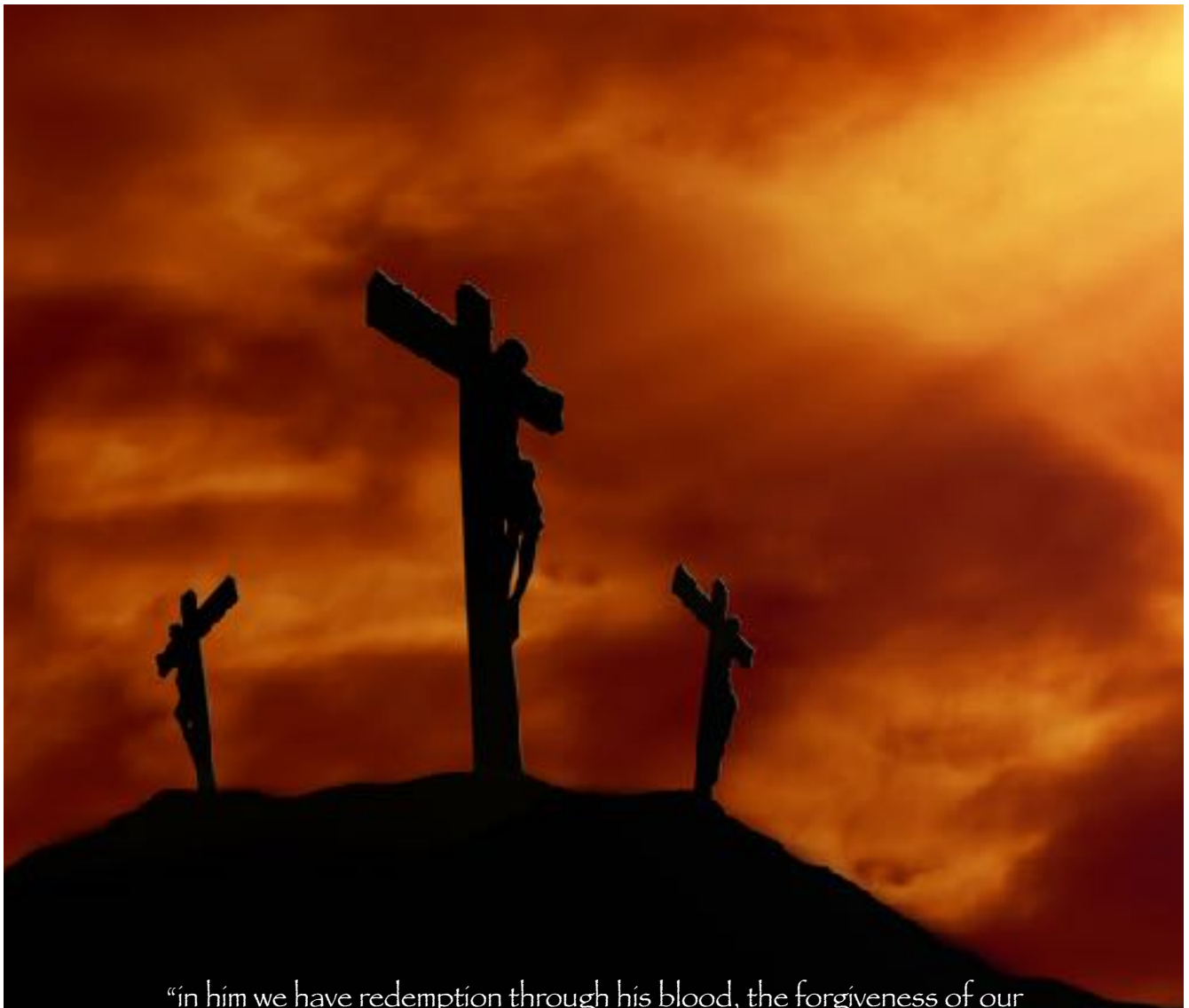


VITAL signs

THE PULSE OF SAINT LUKE'S PARISH LIFE

Volume 16 Issue 5 May 2019 St Luke's Episcopal Church Camillus, New York



“in him we have redemption through his blood, the forgiveness of our trespasses, according to the riches of his grace, which he lavished upon, us, in all wisdom and insight making know to us the mystery of his will, according to his purpose, which he set forth in Christ as a plan for the fullness of time, to unite all things in him, things in heaven and things on earth” Ephesians 1:7-10



Wardens' Message

Hello everyone and Happy Spring! We sure waited long enough for spring to get here and we hope you're able to get outside and enjoy it!

Updates on what's going on around St. Luke's: Our **finances** through the end of March are right on track. Our revenues are about \$1,500 better than budgeted thanks to some of you that prepaid. Thanks to all for keeping current! We also had three successful **Capital Campaign Dinners**. Reception of the need for our Capital Campaign was well received. A huge thank you to those who have already turned in cards and pledged! The outstanding news here is that we have pledges in for \$105,000+ over the next 3 years. This is fantastic considering we only have about half of the congregation pledge cards turned in. **If you haven't turned in a pledge card, please try to do so by April 30** so we know if and how much money we will need to take out a loan for. Even if you are unable to pledge, that's okay; please turn in your card anyway so we know. Again, thanks to all!

Speaking of the Capital Campaign, the **Finance Committee** met with Solvay Bank loan department regarding a loan should one be necessary. They suggested we take out a line of credit for the amounts we need and when we are done with projects, this would be turned into a loan with a fixed rate. The rate would be pretty low as we have the collateral from our investments. As I'm sure you have noticed, we already updated one of our bathrooms (out of necessity as floor was sinking!). The new counter top should be installed this week.

Looking ahead - please save **May 18 for Spring clean up** at the church from 8:30-12:00, and then at 6:00 come back for our **Chicken and Biscuit dinner**. These

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dinners are always a lot of fun and it's okay to BYOB. Spread the word to all your friends about our great dinners.

Lastly, a big shout out to **Tony's Restaurant on Burnett Ave.** They supplied the great food for our dinners and have supplied the food for all of our fund-raising dinners. They always give us a great deal, not to mention the great food! So, if you're ever on Burnett Ave., and looking for a place to eat, give them a try. Thanks everyone,
Bob and Eileen

Capital Campaign

We have completed the informational dinners related to our capital campaign to Secure Our Legacy by making several key needed repairs to our facilities. We are closing in on receiving pledges for half of the amount we need to raise.

We are looking to raise \$175,000 over the next three years, with four key projects making up 80% of the funds. They are: replacing the parish hall roof shingles, repaving the parking lot, updating and repairing the main bathrooms in the lobby, and repairing the sewer line at the rectory. Aside from those, there are a number of

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A Word...

May marks my second anniversary as Rector at St. Luke's. I know it is going well, because it feels both as though I have just arrived and also as though I have been here always. Well, at least that's how it is for me – your mileage may vary. At any rate; these past two years have been really excellent, and I look forward to many more anniversaries to come.

Anniversaries are good times though, for taking stock. My general sense is that things are going well for us at St Luke's; our spiritual life is growing; our worship life is bountiful, and we are seeing new people joining. We are also seeing opportunities for more fully living out Christ's mission in our local community through outreach, mission, and evangelism. At the same time, our challenges seem manageable, the biggest being addressing our building maintenance needs.

As we enter into the Easter season; and rejoice with the earliest disciples in Christ's resurrected presence let us not lose sight of the joy that lies at the heart of our faith, but face expectantly and confidently both the opportunities and challenges of Jesus' invitation to us to be His people.



Bible Study

Would you like to become more familiar with the story the Bible tells? Studying the story of the Bible is one aspect of the important core Christian practice of Study. By studying how God has worked and responded in the past we can more clearly see how God is at work in our world and in our lives today.

We will kick off the next session of our Monday Bible Study on May 6th with sessions at 1pm and 6pm. We'll be exploring three short stories of the Hebrew Scriptures; Jonah, Ruth, and Esther. Our Monday Bible study lasts an hour and includes the reading of a chapter or two, with Father Jon offering an in-depth look at the context, characters, and connections that help inform the story plus time for questions and reflections.

You are also invited to take part in a lectionary-based Bible study each Thursday at St. John's in Marcellus led by Deacon John Rohde. They will meet at noon each week in the St. John's parish hall to study and discuss the readings for the following Sunday. Participants are encouraged to bring a lunch.

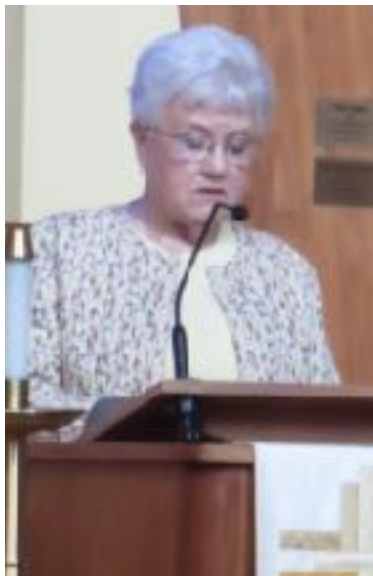


Campaign continued from page 2

smaller improvement and repair projects at the church and rectory we need to undertake.

We hope to meet our needs through donations, grants, and fundraisers. If you would like to participate in this campaign, please fill out and return a pledge card. Pledge cards are available in the back of the sanctuary along with more information and a poster charting our progress. If you are unable to make it to church and would like to participate, please call Cathy Martin in our office at 315-487-1771 to have one mailed to you.

Holy Week Images





Lucky winners of the Annual Lasagna Dinner drawing, Andy Greene and Bob Shafer. Jeryl Wright hand crafted the beautiful turned platter and maple box.

Chicken and Biscuit Dinner

Looking a little ahead on the calendar. We have a fund raiser Chicken and Biscuit dinner planned for Saturday, May 18 at 6 pm. Cost is \$10.00 per person, eat in or take out.



Outreach News

The date for the 11th annual Bake and Treasure sale will be Saturday, June 8, 2019. We will accept donations for the sale from May 1, 2019 through June 2, 2019. The sign-up sheet for workers and bakers will be posted in early May. Please consider signing up to work the sale. This is an important Outreach activity. The funds raised during this sale are used for Meals on for a small Christmas gift for Meals on Wheels clients and to make monetary donations to various charitable organizations that we support. We have made monetary donations to Meals on Wheels, St. Charles food pantry, the

Samaritan Center, In My Father's Kitchen and Episcopal Relief and Development.

We will again advertise free spaces for vendors. We will contact last years vendors to let them know that our date has changed.





CNY Autism Society

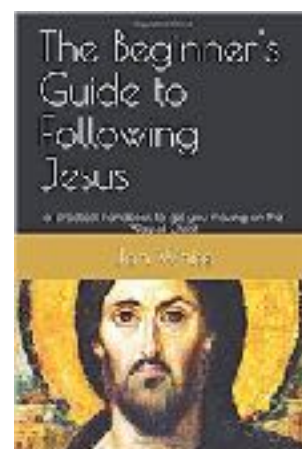
On February 22, 2019 Sherry Brescia presented a check for \$2684.00 to Jean Leiker for the CNY Autism Society. Sherry runs the NYS marathon in October and dedicated her run to the CNY Autism Society. The congregation of St. Luke's pledges funds to this worthwhile cause and Sherry's company, Holistic Blends, matches our funds up to \$3000.00. Our contact person, Jean Leiker, gave us some background on the CNY Autism Society. It began 14 years ago with 5 moms who had autistic children and wanted to create a "go to" organization for families to find out about local resources/opportunities. They recognized the need for inclusive recreational opportunities for their children. Their first success was a collaboration with the

east-area YMCA. Special education teachers and aides were hired to assist the children with participating successfully in the YMCA camp. Since then, CNY ASA has collaborated with the Y's camp program to enable children with autism to successfully attend and experience a recreational summer day camp program. CNY ASA has collaborated with the east-area and north-area YMCA's, Open Hand Theatre and AccessCNY's SAIL programs, to create opportunities for autistic children. It has also hosted an iCan Shine program, that teaches individuals with disabilities how to independently ride a bike, and offers a social programs for young adults.

Believing in Jesus

Believing in Jesus is one thing, but following Him, actually walking in his footsteps, can be a little more challenging. St. James wrote "be doers of the word, and not merely hearers who deceive themselves." When I first encountered Christ and was trying to figure out how to be a Christian; it was the question of "how do I do this exactly?" that I kept returning to. What I really wanted was someone to show me how to put it all together and offer some practical guidance on how to live a Christian life that was more than Sunday morning. I've been working on the answer for more than twenty years now. I discovered that, for me, the surest pathway to fulfilling the potential and call to be a follower of Christ was to be an imitator of Christ. If we do the things Jesus did; we will more closely be the people God created us to be. So I decided to write down the guidance that I was looking for

all those years ago and I'm happy to say that it's now available in book form from Amazon (paperback or Kindle editions). It's called [The Beginner's Guide to Following Jesus: a practical handbook to get you moving on the Way of Christ](#). Though it was aimed at those just starting out on their journey of faith; I think it could be helpful to anyone seeking to build a deeper foundation of faith. We will have a copy or two in the library for anyone interested.





In 1949, May was designated as Mental Health Awareness Month. The 2019 theme is "Body Image" - how we think and feel about our bodies. Let us keep in our prayers the millions of people who suffer from anxiety, depression, eating disorders, dementia, and other forms of mental illness. Amen



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.

THANKS & PRAYERS

may

We Ask Your Thoughts & Prayers for...

Elizabeth, Helen, Shirley, Marilyn, Mary, Eileen Mitchell, Fran Smith, Carol, Mark, Paul, Bunkoo, Elisa Delaney, Helen Anderson, Jane Kupp

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.)

Zeke Dodd

Happy Birthday

- 1 Father Edward Caldwell
- 2 Debbie Kaszubinski
- 4 Audrey Lunson
- 8 Jennifer Downey
- 18 Lillian Catalano
- 20 Bob Herold
- 29 Vladimiro Hart-Zavoli
David Hoare,
- 30 Ronald Caldwell

Happy Anniversary

- 4 Bob & Cathy Martin
- 13 Peter & Norma Bullock



Spring Clean Up

Hope you can help us clean up the church grounds on Saturday, May 18 from 8:30 am until 12 noon. Please bring your own yard tools. We'll supply the coffee and donuts. Many hands make light work. Thanks for helping.



JOIN US FOR WORSHIP

Sundays

Holy Eucharist, 8:00am (no music)

Holy Eucharist, 10:30am (music)

Wednesday

Holy Eucharist 10:00am

Followed by discussion & study

"We are an inclusive congregation striving to make Christ known to all people to through worship, prayer, service, study, and stewardship within a community of grace and love."