

WITAMAL

signs

THE PULSE OF SAINT LUKE'S PARISH LIFE

Volume 15 Issue 10 November 2018 St Luke's Episcopal Church Camillus, New York



For all things are for your
sakes, that the abundant
grace might through the
thanksgiving of many
redound to the glory of
God.

2 Corinthians 4:15



Second Sunday

Our cooperative regional youth and family ministry program, Second Sunday, has gotten off to a good start. We have met twice now, and the response has been wonderful! Our inaugural meeting was in Marcellus, and last month we were here at St Luke's where twenty young people and half again as many grown-ups gathered for conversation, learning, worship, and, of course, pizza. We conclude with an informal eucharist where the youths form their own and lead the singing.

There is a high school group, a middle school group, and a parents group who all meet to explore how Christ can inspire and guide us in our lives. Our own Bob Shafer is the Middle School leader while the high school group is led by Erin Moore from St John's Marcellus and the parents group is facilitated by The Rev Steven Moore, Rector at St John's.

We began with commitment from St James, Skaneateles, St John's Marcellus, and ourselves but as of our last meeting have also been joined by St Mark the Evangelist, just down the road from us. We are hoping that this might be a model other parishes could follow and that it might lead to even greater ministry cooperation in other endeavors amongst ourselves.



Published monthly by
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Ready for 2019?

November kicks off our annual planning, budgeting and stewardship efforts as we prepare for 2019. There are so many good things happening at St Luke's and it's all because of the generosity of our members. and not just financial generosity, but most importantly, gifts of time, effort, creativity,

imagination, love, and prayers.

When Christ ascended, he left behind a group of friends, united in love and purpose to carry on his work and to share his story. We are inheritors of the efforts of those first disciples two millennia ago. We have been entrusted with the gift of sharing Christ's story and continuing his ministry; what a wonderful responsibility! It is heartening to be part of a congregation that so regularly displays its commitment and love to the mission and ministry of our Lord, Jesus Christ.

As we plan and prepare for 2019, I pray that the Holy Spirit will enliven us and inspire us to creatively and enthusiastically find ways to expand what we do for the benefit of ourselves and our whole community.



A Word

Here at the church it is the season of looking ahead; we're planning Christmas liturgies and events, beginning to think of a budget for next year, and putting the final touches on our stewardship campaign, not to mention that Advent starts a whole new church year. It is pretty easy to be swept up into the busyness of preparations and planning. And it is necessary and important work. Sometimes though, when we're looking ahead, we can miss the little things appearing all around us that might be worth paying attention to. I know I'm certainly prone to this.



The fourth commandment is to "remember the Sabbath and keep it holy." Of course, the biblical model was to have a whole day of sabbath, but the essential intent of God's design was to ensure that we have balance in our lives and that we take time to notice God and the wonderfulness of God's abundant creation. In this busy season, the "holiday season," I'm planning for myself and encouraging you to take some sabbatical time each day; to set down tasks and planning and just be, listening and looking for God all around me, to notice that each day is holy. Let's celebrate a "holy-day" season this year

Peace to you all

Fr Jon

Unexpected Connections

I was sitting in a coffee shop at the Virginia Theological Seminary last month when a young man came up to me and said; "Excuse me, but are you the Rector of St Luke's n Camillus, NY?" I can't even begin to describe how unexpected that was: to quote St Luke, "I was much perplexed at his words and pondered what sort of greeting this might be." He then told me that his name was Josh Barrett and that he had attended St Luke's for several years while he was at OCC, before going transferring to a four-year university. He also said that he had loved it here and still kept in touch with us through our website and social media and had recognized me from my photos there. Now he is a student at Virginia Theological Seminary, preparing for ordination. It was a delight to meet him and to know that this congregation had been a loving refuge to a young man entering into the world on his own and had made a lasting impression and a real difference in his life. also, he says "hi" to everyone!





OUTREACH NEWS

Don't forget that we are still collecting items for the Thanksgiving food drive and mitten tree. We will collect them until November 11, 2018. In addition to hats, scarves, gloves and mittens we are looking for socks for our tree. We have been in contact with In My Father's Kitchen and their most pressing need is socks for the homeless population they serve.

This year we are going to change our Christmas Outreach. Instead of fulfilling Salvation Army gift tags, we will be collecting for Episcopal Relief and Development. We can allocate our funds through the catalog that Episcopal Relief and Development publishes each fall, or we can send our donation to the general fund for Episcopal Relief and Development.

From November 11, 2018 thru December 2, 2018 we will be collecting gently used winter outerwear to donate to In My Father's Kitchen. These items will be distributed to the population that IMFK serves in our community.



Thanksgiving Food Drive

As we have done in the past we give extra to help with the Thanksgiving Food Drive to support the food pantry. Thank you for your generous giving.

November 4

Canned Vegetables and Quick Breads

November 11

Oatmeal and Cereal



St. Luke's Welcomes Bishop DeDe

Our bishop, the Right Rev. DeDe Duncan Probe, visited St Luke's on October 21st at both services. This is her first official episcopal visit to St. Luke's since she was consecrated as bishop nearly two years ago. As she prepared to enter the sanctuary, she knocked three times on the doors with her crozier.

By ancient tradition, newly consecrated bishops knock on the doors of their cathedrals three times. Three times represents the Holy Trinity of Father, Son, and Holy Spirit - it is meant to symbolize God's chosen servant come to take up their role as shepherd through the office of bishop. By knocking and asking entrance, the ceremony also is a reminder that bishops are not lords over their diocese, but are meant to be servants.



In the past, St. Paul's in downtown Syracuse was the Cathedral and the home of the bishop's offices, but our diocese has chosen to go without an official cathedral, with St. Paul's reverting to its former status as parish church. So, in a sense, wherever the bishop is on a given Sunday in the diocese, that place is the bishop's "home," thus the cathedral for the day.

From the Wardens

It has been a busy autumn at St. Luke's. The Bishop visitation on October 14 was inspiring.

Fund raising efforts to support our Outreach Programs are well underway. The **Run Sherry Run Event** raised \$1342. And the **Wine Tasting** raised \$600. Our **Roast Pork Dinner and Silent Auction** netted a gain of \$1779. Thanks to all who participated!

As we approach Thanksgiving, it is important to pause and be mindful of how blessed we are with our St. Luke's faith community. Please remember to bring items for the "Mitten Tree" (include socks too), and the food pantry. Thanksgiving blessings to all!

Bambi Carkey and Bob Shafer



ANNUAL ROAST PORK DINNER & SILENT AUCTION



We had a great turnout for the dinner, serving about 100 people including many walk-ins from the area. We had to setup additional tables. The silent auction had about 90 individual auction items including jewelry, crafts, area retail gift cards and numerous gift baskets. There was great fellowship with many full tables heavily involved in conversation. The event raised nearly \$1800 in support of St. Luke's ministries. Thank you all to those that attended, those that donated items, and those that helped setup, serve, and cleanup!



THANKS & PRAYERS

november

We Ask Your Thoughts & Prayers for...

Patricia Smarzo, Helen, Mark, Paul, John, Elizabeth, Fran Smith, Fred, Mary, Marilyn, Shirley, Bob Shields, 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

- 11/2 Peter Woodworth
- 11/3 Milt Stevenson
- 11/3 Jeremiah Hart-Zavoli
- 11/5 Bob Tackman

- 11/6 Peter Bullock
- 11/10 Elisabeth Beebe
- 11/11 Jim Nightingale
- 11/14 Megan Conley
- 11/21 Richard Chrisfield
- 11/24 Christine LaPage
- 11/28 Nikki White
- 11/29 Jennifer Latter
- 11/30 Mary Stevenson

Happy Anniversary

- 11 Peter and Heather Woodworth



Christmas Flowers

It is not too early to think about Christmas Flower Memorials. Complete one of the Altar Flower Forms found at each entrance or call the church office 315-487-1771. Donation is \$15.00



Holiday Services

The "Holidays" are almost upon us (and already here, it seems, at many retailers) and as the root of "holiday" is "holy day;" we will be marking them with worship.

In honor of Thanksgiving, the Camillus area clergy will be offering an ecumenical Service of Thanksgiving on the evening of Nov 18th at St Michael's Lutheran Church at the corner of Hinsdale and West Genesee. We will share more details as they become available.



We will be celebrating the Incarnation here at St Luke's with two services on Christmas Eve and a service on Christmas Day. On Christmas Eve there will be an informal, family-friendly Holy communion service at 3pm with some Christmas treats after and later in the evening we will celebrate a Festal Eucharist at 8:00pm followed by a champagne reception. On Christmas day we will celebrate a simple Eucharist at 11:00am.



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We have an 'email' prayer chain. If you are interested in belonging please talk to Cheryl Lorenz 330-631-1902. If she doesn't answer just leave her a message.

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