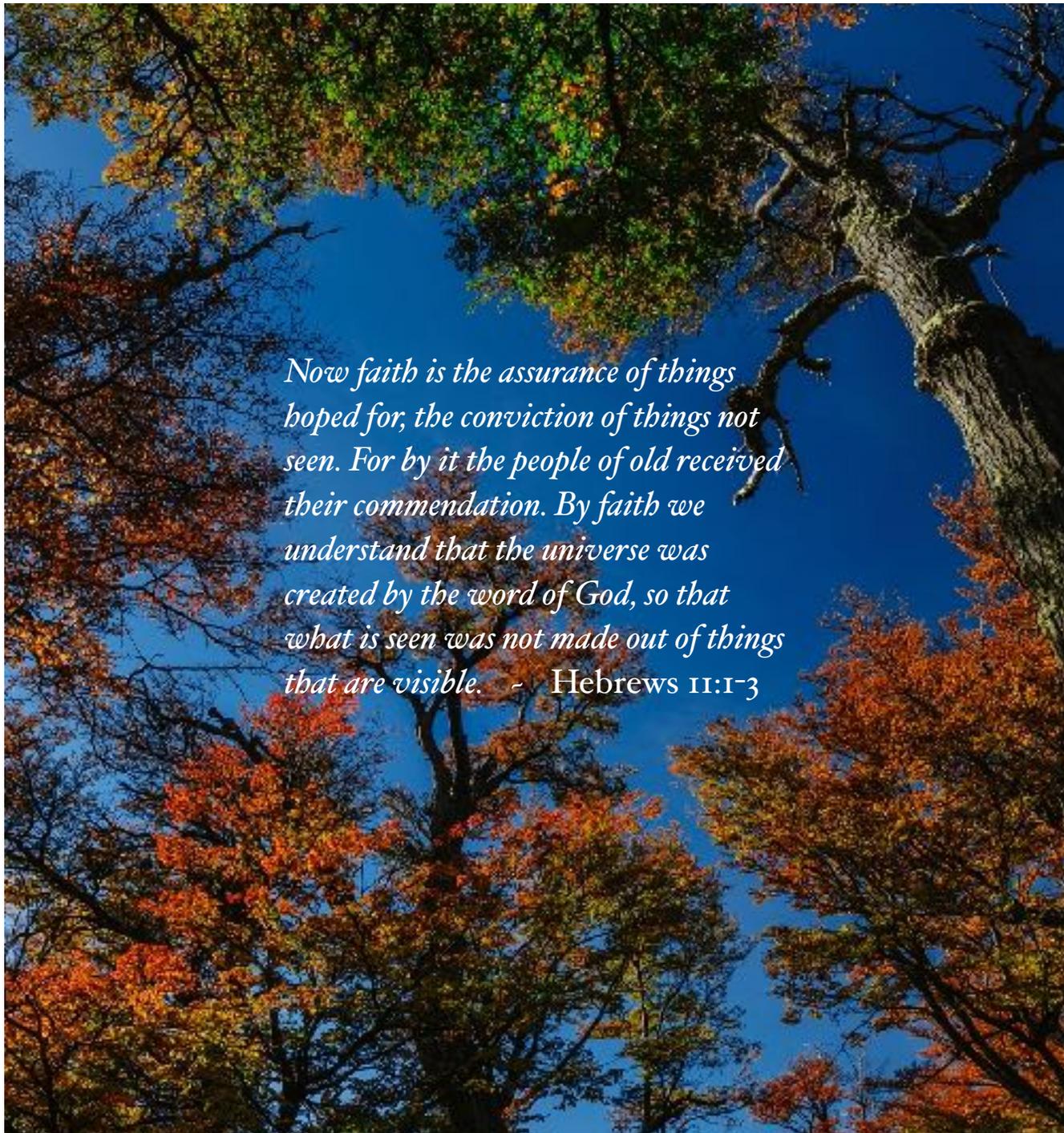


# WITALL

## signs

THE PULSE OF SAINT LUKE'S PARISH LIFE

Volume 19 Issue 9 October 2022 St Luke's Episcopal Church Camillus, New York



*Now faith is the assurance of things hoped for, the conviction of things not seen. For by it the people of old received their commendation. By faith we understand that the universe was created by the word of God, so that what is seen was not made out of things that are visible. - Hebrews 11:1-3*



## Warden's Message

Greetings all. I guess its official we can say goodbye to summer and Happy Fall. The nights are getting colder, the pumpkins and corn stalks are out, and the leaves are changing. Fall is a very scenic time of year and its exciting to prepare for some of our favorite holidays.

Looking at whats going on at St. Luke's, it really only the usual things. Food pantry runs, they are grateful for, and still working and finishing up on the basement clean-up. The raffle for the hand made Tiffany style lamp in progress. If you haven't purchased your tickets yet, you had better hurry. The drawing will be October 23d. We had some work done in one of the classrooms to turn it into a nursery for the daycare. We are discussing partnering with the daycare to re-do the kitchen and parish hall floors. I'm sure you have noticed how bad they are. Will keep you posted on this as it will be a larger than normal expense that's not budgeted for.

Finances were reviewed at our September Vestry meeting. We're trending right about where we had budgeted to be, just a little over, which will offset when some checks are deposited. Thanks to all for trying to stay current with pledges. Also at our meeting a discussion regarding a joint Thanksgiving dinner with St. Mark's was discussed. More details to follow. We thank Jim and Betsy Shake for being our Episcopal Relief and Development partners for St. Luke's. They will keep us updated.

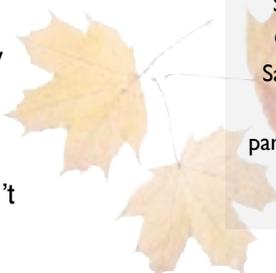
Lastly, we would ask that all of us keep the residents of Florida and other states affected by Hurricane Ian in our thoughts and prayers. The devastation is beyond belief and pray they can somehow recover.

Blessings to all, Milt and Bob

## Two Parish Dinner

Save the Date – Sunday, October 30 at 3pm for our first joint parish Sunday Dinner with St Mark's. Our main dish will be ham and St Luke's members will provide the desserts and drinks while St Mark's will bring the sides and rolls. The dinner will be held at St Mark's parish hall which is at 1612 W. Genesee St (next door to the Brooklyn Pickle). There's a small parking lot on the east

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(city) side of the church plus parking on St Mark's Ave or in the next door lots for the Hazard Branch library or Porter School.

## Ministry Opportunities with St Mark's

One of the real benefits of our shared ministry with St Mark's is an opportunity to do ministry together. St Mark's has a number of ministries that directly serve the westside, making a positive difference in people's lives and you can join in. Below is a description of several ministries that offer you an opportunity to bring your time and talents. If interested please contact Deb Denny, St Mark's admin by email at [stmarkssyracuse@gmail.com](mailto:stmarkssyracuse@gmail.com) or by phone at 315-488-8511.

## Clothes Closet

The clothes closet offers gently used clothing and personal items at a nominal cost (25¢ per item). The clothes closet is currently open the second Saturday(10:30-12:30) and third Thursday(3-6pm) of each month. Donations are also always appreciated.

## Green Café

Open on the second Saturday of each month when the Clothes Closet is open, the café offers a light breakfast and hot beverage for shoppers at the clothes Closet and for anyone else who drops in.

*Continued on page 7*

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## A Word

*"Do not store up for yourselves treasures on earth, where moth and rust consume and where thieves break in and steal; but store up for yourselves treasures in heaven, where neither moth nor rust consumes and where thieves do not break in and steal. For where your treasure is, there your heart will be also. Matthew 6:19-21*

I recently travelled back to Indiana after my mother moved out of the house where she's lived for nearly 50 years. She isn't able to get around as well or as confidently as she used to and since my stepfather's death, managing things has become quite difficult for her. Thankfully, she was able to move in with my niece and I get the sense she appreciates the slightly busier and more chaotic situation there.

Though her house won't be readied for sale until springtime, I needed to fetch a few items that were given to me plus some things that were mine from when I was quite a bit younger. It seems as though my parents just packed up everything that was mine after I left for the Navy and it was mostly still there, unsorted, and tucked away since the early 80's. My son is excited to receive my Lincoln Logs, but to be honest, a lot of it probably isn't worth keeping.

When I was younger I couldn't wait to leave that house, while at the same time it has been a kind of "home." A (mostly) unchanging point of stability in a life that's otherwise seen a lot of changes. So, the thought of someday soon visiting it for the last time has drawn forth all sorts of feelings.

Like many of you, I've gotten to place in my life where many of the places of my life have either been changed so much as to be unrecognizable or have just disappeared entirely. Of course, this change is just one more of the kinds of changes I've already been through so many times. But it is still an experience that has to be gone through; it can't be avoided or put off indefinitely.

Thankfully, as a follower of Jesus, I know that there are some things which will never change or perish, the love of God, Jesus' gift of redemption, the presence of the Holy Spirit, and the power of the sacraments.

These are the treasures that Jesus speaks of; the unfailing promises which God has offered us. If we anchor ourselves only to the things and promises of this world; then we miss out on the fulness of God's abundance. I will be saddened to see my childhood pass out of my life; but I also am hopeful that it will be a place where a new family might build their lives and their memories. And as always, the invitation of Jesus will beckon me to move always forward.

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## *Vestry Minutes*

St. Luke's Episcopal Church  
5402 West Genesee Street, Camillus, NY 13031

September 26, 2022

### **Attendance**

Rector: Jon White

Wardens: Bob Shafer and Milt Stevenson

Vestry Members: Rich Conley, Jack Young, Mary Parish, and Jim Shake

Treasurer: Sherry Brescia

Vestry Clerk: Alison Conley

Absent: Debbie Kaszubinski

### **Opening prayer**

Jon began the meeting at 7:05 p.m. with a prayer.

Review of previous minutes

Bob pointed out that the defibrillator was donated and then refurbished. Alison will make this correction. Sherry made a motion to approve the minutes from the August 29, 2022 vestry meeting. Rich seconded the motion, which was unanimously approved.

### **Reports**

Treasurer- verbal report by Sherry

Sherry sent out the Financial Reports for June, July, and August in early September. Pledge contributions have caught up in September. We now have about \$12,000 in our checking account, and expect to get a check for \$12,000 from the daycare this week. All of the bills are paid through September. Sherry just sent Saint Mark's the invoice for September.

Rich asked if we should still send out the reminders about pledge payments, but Sherry doesn't feel we need to do this any more.

Bob and Jim will pick a time to do the audit before the end of the year.

Jon asked if there were any more questions for Sherry, but there were not any. Jack made a motion to accept the financial report. Rich seconded the motion, which was unanimously approved.

### **Wardens**

Milt reports:

Milt said we had a successful clean up in the church basement thanks to Bob Shafer, Peter Bullock, and Milt Stevenson. Milt attended a nice Episcopal service in Phoenix attended by college students, and enjoyed having young people at the service.

Bob reports:

Bob made an appointment for October 29th to get rid of the TVs and computer equipment that are in the basement. Bob will get them there in the bed of his truck. Rich offered to help. Bob made one trip to the food bank. Bob arranged for a meeting with Solvay Bank on 10/19/22 at 4:30 at St. Luke's.

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Members of the Finance Committee and any other interested members are encouraged to attend. Sherry will attend online.

Rector-

The partnership with St. Mark's Church is going well. Cindi and the hospitality chairperson from St. Mark's are planning a joint dinner. Jon started three Sacred Ground groups, with good conversations at both St. Luke's and St. Mark's. Norma Bullock would like to do a Christmas wreath raffle. There was a news van out in front of the church because Karen (daycare director) was interviewed about her knowledge about a boy who was being abused by his mother. Church attendance was better in September than it was for a couple of years. Jon has done some home visits.

### **New Business**

Construction Projects with Daycare

Bob said that Karen (daycare director) wants to start a nursery at the daycare. We needed to add a little ramp at the exit door, and add a second sink in the room, which we did. Karen has a \$12,000 grant to fund the labor portion of installing a new vinyl laminate floor in the kitchen and parish hall. St. Luke's would be responsible for the materials only. Bob got an estimate for \$3900 for a high quality laminate at North Syracuse Sales. The work would be done in April by someone Karen knows. We will get another estimate or two for the cost of materials. Rich suggested we could take up a separate collection for this project. Other vestry members agreed with Rich.

Bob made a motion for us to move forward with the project. Milt seconded the motion, which was unanimously approved.

Utility Bills- topic added by Jack Young

Jack sent out an email entitled Energy Consumption- St. Lukes 2017 to Present, complete with a graph. We all know that energy costs (and the cost of almost everything!) are rising. Jon said that Jack's involvement with the gas and electric supply has saved St. Luke's a good deal of money the past five years. Jack offered to consult with St. Mark's about their energy bill to see if he can save them some money, too.

### **Old Business**

ERD Partnership

Jim and Betsy Shake are willing to be the ERD Congressional Ministry Partners. ERD will send them materials for St. Luke's such as monthly newsletters. There are programs to do in Advent and Lent. Jon thanked Jim and Betsy for volunteering for this role.

Steering Committee

The first meeting of the Steering Committee for the partnership with St. Mark's Church will be on 9/28 at 5 pm at St. Mark's.

Dinner with St. Mark's

Discussed under the Rector's Report section.

Adjourn-

Sherry made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 7:52 p.m. Jack seconded the motion, which was unanimously approved.

The next vestry meeting will be on 10/24/22 at 7:00 p.m.

Respectfully submitted by Alison Conley, Vestry Clerk

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## Thanksgiving Food Drive and Mitten Tree

As we approach late fall and the holiday season it's time to think about our neighbors in need. St. Charles, our local food pantry, can use all the support we can offer. Let us help ease some food anxiety for our neighbors in need by generously supporting the Thanksgiving Food Drive to benefit St. Charles Food Pantry. The items we donate will assist St. Charles' Food Pantry as they provide food to the families they serve in the Camillus, Fairmount, Westvale and Solvay areas.

You may wish to make a monetary donation in lieu of bringing food to Church. Please mark your monetary donations **Food Drive** so the counters know how to earmark the donation or write a check to St Charles food pantry and send directly to Marie Cullen at 404 Parsons Drive Syracuse NY 13219. The food drive will begin on Sunday, October 9, 2022, and run through Sunday, November 13, 2022. Food donation suggestions:

- October 09**     Sauce and Pasta
- October 16**     Peanut Butter and Jelly
- October 23**     Canned Fruit and Soup
- October 30**     Canned Vegetables and Quick Bread

### Sacred Ground

It is not too late to join one of our Sacred Ground groups. There are three groups who will meet once per month over the next year.

Sacred Ground is a film- and readings-based dialogue series on race, grounded in faith. Small groups are invited to walk through chapters of America's history of race and racism, while weaving in threads of family story, economic class, and political and regional identity. The 11-part series is built around an online curriculum of documentary films and readings. Sacred Ground is part of Becoming Beloved Community, The Episcopal Church's long-term commitment to racial healing, reconciliation, and justice in our personal lives, our ministries, and our society.

The next meetings will be:

- Monday October 17<sup>th</sup> at 10am at St Luke's
- Tuesday October 18<sup>th</sup> at 10am at St Mark's
- Tuesday October 18<sup>th</sup> at 6pm at St Luke's

**November 6**     Oatmeal and Cereal

**November 13**    Stuffing Mix and Cranberries

This year we will put up the tree in church for your Mitten tree donations. This early collection of hats, scarves, mittens, gloves and socks allows for distribution of these items before the winter cold arrives.

Thank all of you for your continued support.



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# THANKS & PRAYERS

## October

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

Tish, Doug and Carol Law, Diane Synakowski, Fran Smith, Dick and Shirley Chrisfield, Michael Carolyn, Jennifer Brady, Joanne, Steve, Mary Lynch, Carol Greis, Joan Conley, Jen Downey, Andy, Lynn, Jane Brescia, Kevin and Sue Fullerton, Joe Marshall, Mark Miller, Kristen O'Hara, Lisa, Elizabeth, Anna, Adam and Brea, Ken and Barb Guy, Donna Sweeney, Beth Abbott, Carol Andrews, Erin Kohan, Silas, Audrey Kerswell, Cheri Henderson, Moe Parish, and George Hoare (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.)

### ***St Lukes's Day***

Sunday October 16. We will offer special prayers for health care providers.  
Contact Sara by email or drop names off at the church.

*Opportunities Continued from page 3*

### **Community Dinners**

Open on the third Thursday of each month when the Clothes Closet is open, the café offers a family style dinner for shoppers at the clothes Closet and for anyone else who drops in. A great opportunity for cooks!

### **Food \$en\$e**

Food \$en\$e is a monthly food buying co-op for anyone who wants to stretch their

### ***Happy Birthday***

4 Elizabeth Young  
11 Eileen Robertson  
Toby White  
15 Audrey Kerswell  
20 Debbie Pierson  
22 Nancy Michell  
Sandy Vitagliano  
25 Kate Williams  
29 Frances Warren



*Still time to take a chance!  
Drawing October 23rd.*

grocery dollars. Food \$en\$e provides a monthly box of 12-15 staple grocery items at a discounted price. There are no qualifications, no subscriptions, and no requirements to participate in Food \$en\$e. Volunteers are needed to take orders and to help with the once-per-month food pickup day (always a Wednesday, mid-day)

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*Blessing of the Animals @ St. Lukes and St. Marks*

