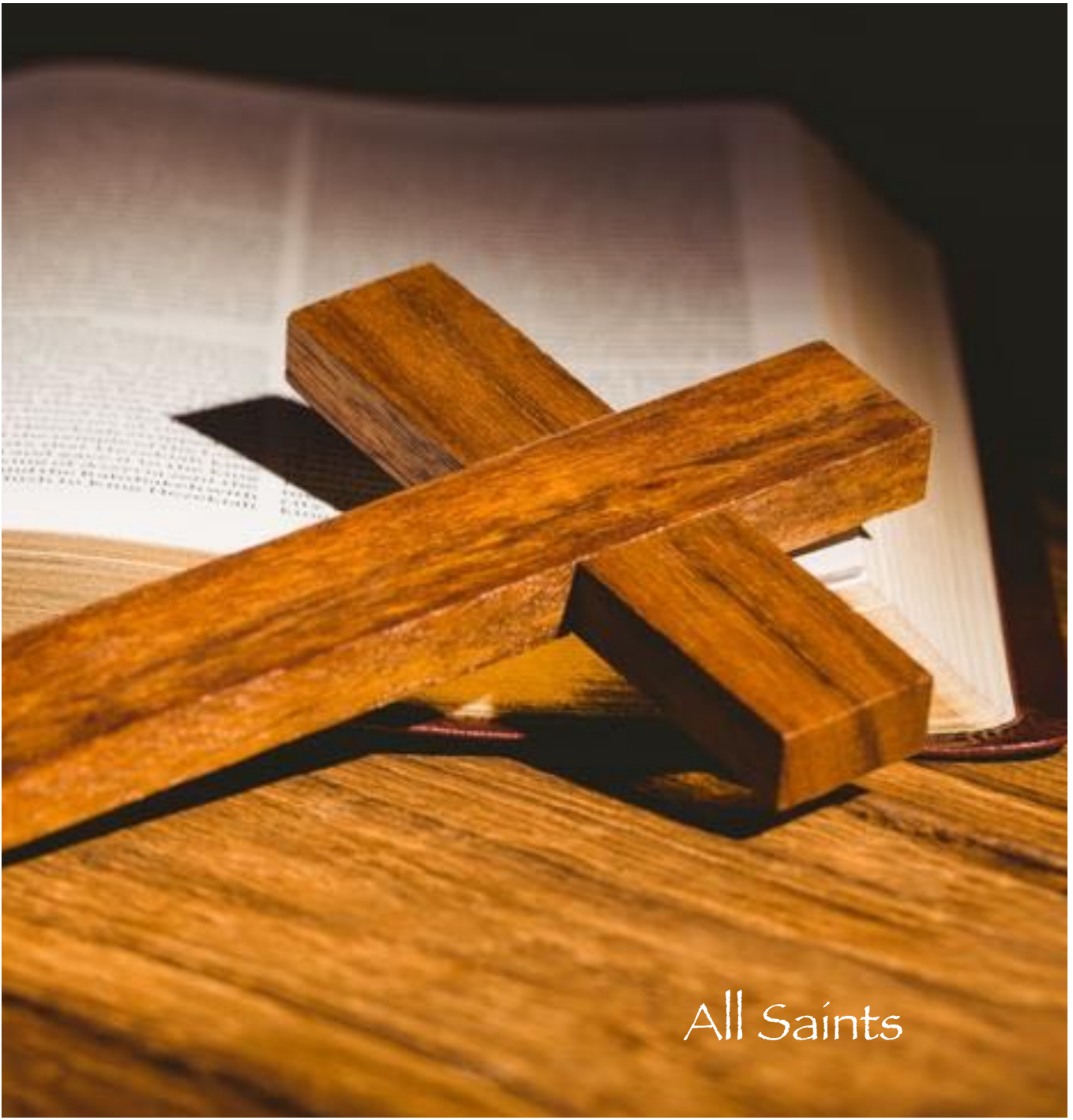


WITALL

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THE PULSE OF SAINT LUKE'S PARISH LIFE

Volume 19 Issue 10 November 2022 St Luke's Episcopal Church Camillus, New York



All Saints



Warden's Message

Father Jon greeted the congregation yesterday with regrets as “clearly God favors Notre Dame.” As a Syracuse native, my blood does run a bit orange but I don’t for a moment think God inserts himself in the outcome of a game, Notre Dame or otherwise. He has far greater things to work on! However, football season is well upon us and with it comes falling leaves and temperatures as we prepare ourselves for winter.

In Father Jon’s Sunday sermon, he reminded us that the only Jesus others are going to meet today are us. We are the people that Jesus left behind and the only way others will know Jesus are by our words and actions. Along these lines, the vestry has agreed to look at establishing a relationship with Episcopal Relief & Development organization whose mission is to provide relief in times of disaster and promotes sustainable development by identifying and addressing the root causes of suffering. More on what this relationship might look like will unfold in the weeks to come.

If you weren’t at our joint dinner with St. Mark’s, you missed not only a great meal but a chance to intermingle with our fellow Episcopalians from up the street. As our two parishes now share our priest, it was the first opportunity to get to know one another better. We’re sure it’s the first of many joint undertakings that will be forthcoming.

Lastly, God has charged us with being stewards for his creation including his fragile earth. As a sign of this we recently participated in Onondaga County Resource

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Recovery Agency’s E-waste drop-off. We had an array of old televisions, monitors, VCR-players, phones and various electronics that are no longer desirable in landfills. We filled an entire pickup including the passenger seat! We’re fortunate to live in a county that places an emphasis on resource conversation and recovery. If you want to know what the next E-waste drop-off event is or how or where to get rid of household paint, expired medicine, or batteries, visit OCRRA.org for more information.



Congratulations to Bambi Carkey for having the winning ticket!



A Word

A voice cries out: "In the wilderness prepare the way of the LORD, make straight in the desert a highway for our God. Isaiah 40:3

Isaiah first offered these words to tell of Jerusalem's restoration after the exile and John the Baptist later repurposed them to speak of the beginning of the public earthly ministry of Jesus.

Time and again we humans tend to lose our way, both individually and as societies. Individuals are prone to temptation and overreach, civilizations rise and fall, but God remains steadfast and sure. God remains our "sure and certain hope" in times of trouble.

And because we are prone to stumble and fall away from the Way of Christ, each of us will find at some point in our lives the need of a straight pathway back to God. But who is to make those paths for us?

I would hope that those pathways are being created within the community of faith, the church. At its best, the church is a place where we can be our honest selves, be welcomed, and be encouraged back to the way of Christ. In a sense, our mission is to be busily making paths for one another to walk in Christ's light.

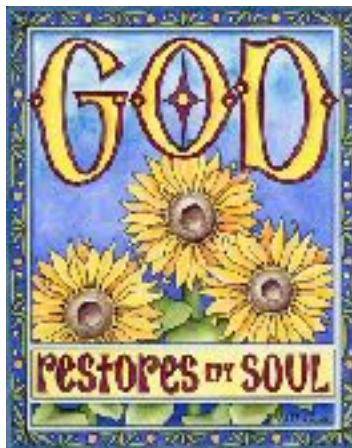
But even more than that, our mission is to be opening the gateways and clearing the path for those outside the church to discover the love of God for themselves.



Diocesan Convention

The 154th Convention of the Diocese of Central New York, "God Restores My Soul," will be held on Friday, November 11th and Saturday, November 12th. Our delegates from St Luke's are Jeryl Wright and Sedona Brown. You can purchase items with the official convention image [HERE](#).

Friday's activities will take place entirely online. On Saturday, delegates will have the option to attend online or at one of several regional in-person gatherings for the featured presentation, Faithfully Being the Church Today.



This presentation, drawing on resources from the College for Congregational Development, we'll reflect on the unique purpose and work of the congregation: to gather those called by God into Christ's body, the Church—a community of transformation of mind, heart, and action—and to send these same people into the world to be and act as God's loving and transforming presence. We'll also draw on the insights of St. Benedict on how to find God in our current situations—the people, the places, the time where we really are.

Vestry Minutes
St. Luke's Episcopal Church
5402 West Genesee Street, Camillus, NY 13031
October 24, 2022

Attendance

Rector: Jon White

Wardens: Bob Shafer and Milt Stevenson

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

Treasurer: Sherry Brescia

Vestry Clerk: Alison Conley

Opening prayer

Jon began the meeting at 7:02 p.m. with a prayer.

Review of previous minutes

Mary made a motion to approve the minutes from the September 26, 2022 vestry meeting. Debbie seconded the motion, which was unanimously approved.

Reports

Treasurer- verbal report by Sherry

We are in the positive by about \$2500 with our checking balance, which doesn't include the \$16,000 we just received from the daycare in October. Under Savings- Operating section, you can see we had to switch over about \$14,000 because of the gap generated by the late rental payment. Under Investments accounts, Sherry hasn't seen the quarterly statements yet but she thinks there will be growth in the figure. Under Revenues and Expenses, we're very close on contributions to date. We'll be over budget for rental income with the additional \$16,000. Under Total Payroll and Fringe Benefits, we see that the affiliation with St. Mark's will decrease our expenses. Everything else seems normal.

Wardens

Milt reports: Milt was traveling in a car with limited internet so did not report tonight

Bob reports:

Jim Shake and Bob Shafer still need to do the audit. This Friday Bob will be picking up the old tvs and computer equipment from the basement for disposal. Sherry told Bob she'll have the spreadsheets ready for the audit. The Finance Committee met with the representative from Solvay Bank last week. They will send us quarterly statements which will help us keep up with investment growth. We will have more frequent Finance Committee meetings to better monitor our investments (we let them lapse during Covid). Jack said our account performance was much lower than the Standard and Poor 500 Index. Gerry Wright, Bob Shafer, Rich Conley, and Jack Young were in attendance at the Finance Meeting. Sherry will get in touch with Sara to get a copy of the quarterly statements as will the Finance Committee members. Rich said we need to keep an eye on it for the next quarter. We could change to an index account from a managed account if needed. Sherry said we've seen a lot of changeover in the personnel at Solvay Bank.

Rector-



Our overall attendance has been solid so far in October. The in-person attendance has been very solid over the last two months. Jon is not sure what is happening with the new choir director but he will figure it out. Jon is looking forward to the dinner with St. Mark's on Sunday, and is pleased with how things are going at St. Mark's. Bambi Carkey, Jerry Wright, and Eileen Robertson are part of the joint steering committee and had their first meeting with St. Mark's. There is a lot of interest in joining with some of the hands-on things that are happening at St. Mark's. Our convention is virtual again this year. Jon said Christmas Day is a Sunday this year. He asked if we can have one service at St. Mark's at 11:00 Christmas morning that both congregations could attend instead of having a morning service at St. Luke's as we have done in the past. We would have a Christmas Eve service at St. Luke's as usual at 7 p.m., and he'll have a 4 p.m. service at St. Mark's. The vestry members agreed with this plan; no disagreement was expressed. Karen had mentioned that she would like to Venmo us the rental payments for the daycare. Sherry thought Venmo has a cap for payments, so this may not be possible. Sara is researching this for us now. We'll need to figure out the budget at the next meeting, which will look different because of the partnership with St. Mark's. Sherry will put something together to anticipate what it should be like, now that we have more income from the association with St. Mark's.

New Business

Candidates for election at Annual Meeting

It's time to start thinking about candidates for vestry so when we come together next month we can think of some names of people to ask. We will need to elect two vestry members (most likely for Sherry and Jack) and one warden to replace Bob. Sherry said she would continue on as a vestry member.

Old Business

Parish Hall Floor

Karen doesn't want it done until April so Bob will get estimates closer to that time.

ERD Ministry Partners

Jim reports that he finally heard back from someone at ERD, and he and his wife Betsy will be the congregational ministry partners with ERD. They have to do an online ERD course and watch a video. Jon did the ERD course already. To get the formal recognition status, a gift must be made to ERD. Jim will ask if that means a financial gift from the parish itself, or do they count gifts from individual members of the parish. He also will check if it must be a regular contribution or could be an annual one. Jim will let us know what he finds out. Jack suggested that perhaps St. Luke's could match contributions of the parishioners up to a certain amount. Jon said outreach may be willing to get involved with this, too. Jon said he appreciates Jim and Betsy for taking on the responsibility.

Adjourn-

Rich made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 7:42 p.m. Debbie seconded the motion, which was unanimously approved.

The next vestry meeting will be on 11/28/22 at 7:00 p.m.

Respectfully submitted by Alison Conley, Vestry Clerk

Advent

The First Sunday of Advent this year is Sunday November 27th, marking the beginning of a new year on the Christian calendar. Here at St Luke's the first thing you might notice is that the banners and hangings will switch away from the green they've been using since the second week after Pentecost to a plain linen and our gospel readings will be drawn primarily from Matthew's gospel (this past year has been Luke).



And of course, our Advent wreath will be making its annual appearance. You may be surprised to learn that the Advent wreath is a fairly recent innovation. It first emerged in

the 16th century among German Lutherans and at first the number and color of candles varied considerably. It was only in the late 19th century that the Advent wreath as we know it emerged and it wasn't until the 1930's that Advent wreaths began appearing in America.

Advent has traditionally been a time of self-reflection and transformation, much like Lent; and in recent times, an invitation to step away from the highly commercialized celebrations of Christmas. We hope you have a blessed Advent here at St Luke's.

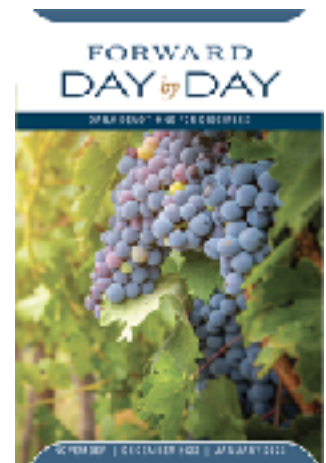
Forward Day by Day

New Forward Day by Day booklets are now available with daily meditations for November, December, and January. We also have large print versions available and we will mail them to anyone who is unable to pick one up at church; please contact Sara in our office to receive one (315-487-1771 or parishadministrator@stlukescamillus.com)

Forward Day by Day is a booklet of daily inspirational meditations reflecting on a specific Bible passage, chosen from the daily lectionary readings as listed in the Revised Common Lectionary or the Daily Office from the Episcopal Church's Book of Common Prayer.

The meditations are rich in substance and offer a wide range of witness and experiences. Each month's meditation is written by a different author.

Inspiring readers since the first issue was published in 1935, Forward Day by Day remains a significant resource for daily prayer and Bible study to more than a half million readers worldwide.





THANKS & PRAYERS

November

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, George Hoare, Mrs. Gavelin, and Gary and Jim Stour

(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.)

Happy Birthday

11/2 Peter Woodworth
11/3 Milt Stevenson

11/3 Jeremiah Hart-Zavoli
11/5 Bob Tackman
11/6 Peter Bullock
11/7 Jerry Williams
11/10 Elisabeth Beebe
11/11 Jim Nightingale
Margaret Harvey
11/14 Megan Conley
11/17 Elizabeth Eichelberger
11/21 Richard Chrisfield
11/24 Christine LaPage
11/28 Nikki White
11/29 Jennifer Latter



God grant to all who have died in the faith rest eternal. Especially we pray for members of our church who have died in the past year;
Donald Ruzekowicz, Sheila Lange,
Eileen Michell and Edward Caldwell



Getting to know each other at a delicious Harvest Dinner, St. Mark's hosting St. Luke's

