

WITALE

signs

THE PULSE OF SAINT LUKE'S PARISH LIFE

Volume 22 Issue 4 March/April 2024 St Luke's Episcopal Church Camillus, New York

...but he had not agreed with the
iders. He was from the town of Arimathea in
God to come. ⁵²He went to Pilate and asked
own from the cross and wrapped it in a long
nat had been carved out of rock. ⁵⁴This was
ration,* as the Sabbath was about to begin.

⁵⁵As his body was taken away, the women
his body was placed. ⁵⁶Then they went home
his body. But by the time they were finished
required by the law.

Jesus Rises from the Dead (239/Matt)

24 But very early on Sunday morning
they had prepared. ²They four

23:46 Ps 31:5. 23:47a Greek the centurion. 23:
23:54 Greek It was the day of preparation. 24:1

our faith in Christ does. It is never too late to turn
his misery. Jesus had mercy on this criminal who
ve in him. Our lives will be much more useful and
art to God early, but even those who repent at the
...with God in paradise.



Wardens Report

New Years. Annual Meeting. Bishop’s Visitation. Super Bowl. Pancake Supper. Ash Wednesday. Lent. March Madness. Does anyone else feel like they’re part of a Fast and Furious remake this year? While there’s seemingly an awful lot going on to start 2024, I’m sure it’s no different than previous years (although the Bishop only comes around every third year!). It was great to host the Bishop and we were blessed to have a lengthy question and answer exchange over coffee hour. And as we assured her, St. Luke’s chapel roof is just fine! That doesn’t mean that some other areas of the church needed some sprucing up. Under Bob Shafer’s leadership along with help from Father Jon and the Wardens, we were able to remove the 25+ year old carpet from the altar and uncover the original hardwood floor. With a little sweeping, wet mopping and Rejuvenate floor restorer, it looks like new again. Similarly, we needed to replace a faucet in the kitchen that had stopped working. Thanks to David Hoag and Jack Young for their plumbing expertise. Still a running list of fixes and repairs we’re addressing. If you notice something of concern, please bring it to the attention of one of your Wardens, Jack or Milt, but be patient as this all-volunteer job just doesn’t pay enough for 24/7/365 service.

If you haven’t had the chance to attend a Friday Lenten Dinner, you’re really missing out on some great homemade soups. Still a couple of opportunities to join the combined parishes of St. Luke’s and St.

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Mark’s. Check the schedule for which parish is hosting on the bulletin board; quick 15-minute service and lesson commencing at 6:30 PM.

As we look hard at our budget, utilities represent better than 10% of our annual budget. Over six (6) years of record keeping our cost for utilities for the church have gone up in total less than 4% with substantive 12 month decreases over the period in 12 month intervals. Interesting enough our 6-year totals for the “Supply” side of the bill were down 27% and 8.5% for gas and electricity respectively. However the other cost, namely “Delivery”, which is the portion of the bill for which the rates are controlled by National GRID and the PSC were up respectively for gas and electricity 38.2% and 36.36%. Reviewing our contracted rates, delivery charges, and overall consumption, it’s difficult to get a handle on how we can better manage our gas and electric use. With the pending installation of our smart meter, this should be able to give us a day-by-day usage and allow us to be better informed consumers and better manage our usage.



A Word

I invite you, therefore, in the name of the Church, to the observance of a holy Lent, by self-examination and repentance; by prayer, fasting, and self-denial; and by reading and meditating on God's holy Word. BCP p265



These words, from the invitation read by the minister as part of the Ash Wednesday service really get at the heart of what Lent is about. Lent originated as a time for new Christians to focus their minds and spirits on their coming union with Christ in baptism. In those ancient days, most baptisms were of adults, not children, and represented a significant (and dangerous) choice. If we can imagine, as our forebears did, baptism as a kind of death of the old self and the birth of a new self, then we can begin to see Lent as a period of grief almost, of saying goodbye, and preparing ourselves for what awaits. The forty days of Lent comes from Jesus's time in the wilderness, where he said goodbye to his old self and determined to live into the purpose for which he was created, facing many temptations, and overcoming them in order to be able to share the good news that the kingdom of heaven has come near.

This experience was so meaningful to so many who undoubtedly felt so connected to Jesus through it, that they began setting aside time each year to renew that experience and reinvigorate their own faith. And the disciplines outlined, self-examination, repentance, self-denial, and immersion in God's Holy Word offer us the pathway to get in touch with God in deeper ways and to forge a stronger connection with Jesus in our own lives.

I pray that this is a meaningful season for you this year, and that together we might become an ever truer reflection of God's love that lights up the world.

Blessings,
Jon

Chancel Refurbishment

Recently, we decided to remove the carpeting on the top level of the chancel where the altar sits. That carpet was laid down in 2022, and was a gift from Mother Julie Calhoun-Bryant when she was departing. After more than 20 years of service though, it was starting to be a little worn. When the Sacristy was expanded a couple of years ago we noticed that the floor under the carpet appeared to be in good shape, but it has taken until now to actually decide to make the change. A big thanks goes to Bob Shafer who led the effort

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MINUTES FROM THE ANNUAL MEETING AT ST. LUKE'S EPISCOPAL CHURCH

FEBRUARY 26, 2024

Attendance

Rector: Jon White

Wardens: Jack Young and Milt Stevenson

Vestry Members: Rich Conley, Mary Parish, Debbie Kaszubinski, Jim Shake, Sherry Brescia, Jerry Wright, and Eileen Robertson

Treasurer: Sherry Brescia

Vestry Clerk: Alison Conley

Opening prayer

Jon began the meeting at 7:00 p.m. with a prayer.

Review of previous minutes

Mary made a motion to approve the minutes from the January 8, 2024 vestry minutes. Rich seconded the motion, which was unanimously approved.

Reports

Treasurer- verbal report from Sherry

There's not much going on in the first month of 2024. Our cash balance is just under \$33,000 (it was \$4500 last year at this time). We have \$141,000 for investments, a nice increase in the past year. We haven't gotten any rental income in January and there was nothing in this week's checks. Sherry asked if we know if we'll be raising rent for the daycare. Milt said "not yet." Sherry said thanks to Jim Shake and Bob Shafer the 2022 audit is done, and now we need to do the 2023 audit by an outside person. We have to figure out who we'll ask to do this for us.

Milt said the one expense to Solvay Bank is the interest we have to pay on our loan. The interest is about \$135 a month. Solvay Bank said they didn't receive our checks for a few months, but we did send them the checks (they never cashed them). Sherry had to make one large payment to cover several months' worth.

Eileen made a motion to accept the financial report. Debbie seconded the motion, which was unanimously approved.

Wardens:

Milt said the first Friday dinner went well at St. Mark's. We were able to get the rug removed from the altar, and the altar looks great. Bob Shafer, Milt, and Jack worked together on this with some help from Jon. We put in a check for the flooring from Milt's family foundation, which will please Karen. Milt plans to have the flooring installed in the summer when the daycare is on vacation. We'll look at a few bids for the job. Rich thanked Milt for his family's generosity.

Jack said we put a new faucet in the room adjacent to the kitchen for the kids to use at daycare. Dave Hoag installed it. Jack will send out a report soon about the utilities. Our

consumption was up about 13% for gas and our electric consumption was down 6%. The delivery cost is out of our control, but it's gone up substantially over the years. We'll be getting Smart technology that will track our usage hourly. Jon said we have a Smart thermostat that Jerry can control somewhat.

Rector:

It's Lent and we had a nice turnout last Friday at St. Mark's for dinner and a service. Ash Wednesday went well with good turnouts at both parishes. We sent ashes to all of our homebound parishioners and got good feedback on that. The joint Shrove pancake dinner was a success. We did a short service for the Imposition of Ashes on Tuesday night. Jon has done some visits to Shirley Chrisfield, Audrey Kerswell, and Ginny Unkless. Attendance was down for Ash Wednesday because we only did one service at St. Luke's this year. Attendance has been pretty solid on Sundays and online. We had the Bishop's visit, and she seemed happy about how it went. She asked Jon about the state of our roof, and he assured her ours is still decent.

New Business

Approve Parochial Report

We won't approve this tonight, but we'll send the parochial report around via email tomorrow. Please say yes or no for approval tomorrow so we can send it in.

Holy Week and Easter

Similar schedule as last year for Holy Week with Tenebrae on Wednesday at St. Mark's, Maundy Thursday service at St. Luke's, Good Friday services at both churches noon at lukes and 7:00 at Mark's, We'll do the Easter Vigil Easter Sunday at 9:00.

Parish Hall Floor Replacement

Milt discussed this earlier in the evening. Jon really appreciates the donation for the flooring for the kitchen and parish hall. We'll replace the molding, too. Jon wanted to know how we'll choose the color. The wardens will figure this out. Rich asked if we should paint the parish hall before laying the floor, but we painted fairly recently so there is no need to do this.

Old Business

Plant Sale

Deb heard from 3 different places and has answers from two of them. She got them down to \$15 for 10-inch geranium hanging baskets. Eileen thought we would want pots rather than hanging baskets but others thought hanging baskets would be more popular. Eileen wondered where the money to pay for the flowers up front would come from.

Adjourn- Debbie made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 7:45 p.m. Jim seconded the motion, which was unanimously approved.

The next vestry meeting will be on March 25, 2024 at 7 p.m.

Respectfully submitted by Alison Conley, Vestry Clerk



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with the assistance of Jack Young and Milt Stevenson. After removing the carpet the floor was cleaned and a new coat of polish applied and it looked great. We also took advantage of the opportunity and polished up the lower level as well.



Lent, Holy Week, and Easter

We hope everyone is experiencing a blessed Lent this year and that if you've chosen to give something up or take on something new that it is going well and helping you find a deeper relationship with God.

During Lent we will be having our weekly "Fridays in Lent" service and supper going back and forth between here and St Mark's. We have a short contemplative service beginning at 6:30 followed by a shared meal and conversation. I hope you can join in.

Easter is on March 31st this year, which is pretty early, and as usual we will be preparing to celebrate the Resurrection in the services of Holy Week, which recount the final days of Jesus before his crucifixion. The Schedule for Holy Week is:

Here is the schedule during March	7pm Wednesday Mar 27	at St Mark's Tenebrae:
Friday March 1 at St Luke's		the Service of Darkness
Friday March 8 at St Mark's	7pm Thursday Mar 28	at St Luke's Maundy Thursday
Friday March 15 at St Luke's	Noon Friday Mar 29	at St Luke's Good Friday
Friday March 22 at St Mark's	7pm Friday Mar 29	at St Mark's Good Friday
	7pm Saturday Mar 30	at St Luke's Easter Vigil



THANKS & PRAYERS

march/april



We Ask Your Thoughts & Prayers for...

Tish, Diane Synakowski, Shirley Chrisfield, Michael, Stephen, Jennifer Brady, Mary Lynch, Carol Greis, Andy, Lynn, Sue Fullerton, Joe Marshall, Mark Miller, Kristen O'Hara, Anna, Ken & Barb Guy, Carol Andrews, Audrey Kerswell, George Hoare, Nick & Mary Alice Zimmer, Carolyn Woodworth, Marilyn Farrell, Dawn Noble, Sandy Vitagliano, Jacki, Ann Klackzo, Kathleen Hart-Zavoli, Luke, Maryjane, Sherry, Mariano, Deb True, LaShawn Dunn, Norma Bullock, Diana Toth, Roger, Justin, Jim & Kathy Fitzgerald, Janice Konkus, Bernadette, Andrew, Fr. Fritz and Diyah Israel. (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.)

March Birthdays

3 Jon White

- 7 Rich Conley
Jeryl Wright
- 13 Sedona Brown
- 14 Nicholas Gilsey
- 15 Alison Conley
- 23 Madison Mitchell
- 26 Bob Shafer
- 29 Kara & Sean Conley

March Anniversary

17 Jeryl & Gerry Wright

April Birthdays

- 2 Luke Wiley
- 10 Nathaniel Woodworth
- 18 Tanner Woodworth
- 24 William Erlenback II

April Anniversaries

- 16 Vladmiro & Kathleen Hart Zavoli
- 17 Jim & Betsy Shake

Easter Flowers If you would like to donate to the Easter Flowers, please fill out a form on the table in the hall or let Deb in the office know by Sunday, March 24. You can sign up now and pay later.



Day Light Savings Time
March 10



Outreach News

Outreach will continue to collect sample size personal care items for the Samaritan Center. We will collect all of Lent and deliver the items after Easter.

This spring the Junk in the Trunk sale will be on Saturday May 18.

As a general fund raiser for the Church, we will be offering hanging baskets for preorder. The baskets are 10" in diameter with 4 to 5 colors of geraniums. We are working with a local greenhouse and more details are forthcoming when we firm up are plans with the grower.

As always, if you have ideas for Outreach projects, please contact Eileen Robertson at 315-673-4324.

