

St. Luke's Voice

St. Luke's Lutheran Church, New Rochelle, N.Y.

March 2017

St. Luke's Lutheran Church

A Congregation of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America (ELCA)

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SUNDAY SERVICE:

HOLY COMMUNION:

10:00 A.M.

SUNDAY SCHOOL— JUNE

10:00 A.M.

FELLOWSHIP:

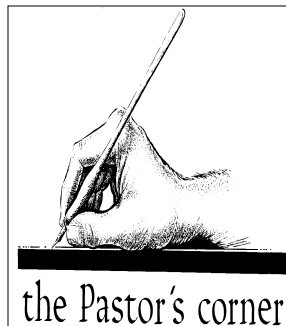
11:15 A.M.

LENT VESPERS :

WEDNESDAYS 7:30

P.M. BEGINS MARCH 1

The Age of Anxiety



the Pastor's corner

We live in anxious times. No doubt there are days when we wonder what the future will bring. We wonder just how much effect we really have in powers beyond our grasp, in the turn of events in our lives that are overwhelming. Whether it is living each day or the turn of world events, anxiety is part of it.

Yet it has been so for a much longer time than most suspect. I think of a symphony the late Leonard Bernstein wrote in 1948 and revised in 1965, based on the poem by W.H. Auden. It is called "Age of Anxiety". Yes, that long ago!

"We would rather be ruined than changed
We would rather die in our dread
Than climb the cross of the moment
And let our illusions die."

W.H. Auden, The Age of Anxiety: A Baroque Eclogue

Yet in Christ we have so much more to engage the world than anxiety. In Christ, we have humility, hope, forgiveness and wisdom. One of my favorite passages from Jesus' Sermon on the Mount is in the sixth chapter - "Therefore I tell you, do not be anxious about your life.... look at the birds of the air... which of you by being anxious can add one cubit to his lifespan? Seek first His kingdom and his righteousness. Do not be anxious..." (Matthew 6: 25-34)

We have to stop fretting. This is one of the results of Lenten discipline. Whether it is by prayer, fasting, charity, daily forgiveness or any other practice of Lent, the point is to focus on God's presence and strength, Christ's gift of the Cross and to seek first His kingdom and righteousness, unafraid of less gracious powers. We need to immerse ourselves in the baptismal waters that proclaim the love of God that casts out fear.

I am told that we have liturgies of the early church that date back to the second century. Those who were about to enter the church community would take off their old clothes as a means of putting off the old, anxiety-ridden life and walk down into the water. The waiting priest placed them under the water saying, "Buried with Him in baptism." As they rose from the water, the priest continued, "Risen to new life in Christ." They put on new clothes as a symbol of putting on Christ. The reason for this burial form of baptism was to make the members of the Christ community go through "dying" and get it over with. Once they were no longer anxious about Caesar's persecutions of the church, they were free to boldly proclaim the gospel.

"You can't scare dead people", concludes the writer, M. Craig Barnes.

You can't scare dead people who rise to the new self-less life in Christ. There are things to be deeply concerned about but when the gospel remains front and center we stand strong in hope. "Where your treasure is there will your heart be also." (Matthew 6:21)

Let's let the springtime of the soul, Lent, refocus us from fear and anxiety and on to Jesus, who overcomes the world, its brokenness, its princes and kings. Christ invites us to lose our lives to find them.

And to find Him.

In Christ,

Pastor Bill Damrow

ASH WEDNESDAY - LENT BEGINS!



Ash Wednesday is upon us – March 1st! *The Ash Wednesday Liturgy of Holy Communion is at 8:00 p.m.* Ashes are also offered earlier at 12 noon.

WITH AWE & LOVE - EVENING PRAYER IN LENT

We meet in the church for a brief quiet time of self-reflection and examination during our Lenten pilgrimage. *Service of Evening Prayer* is a restful time for five Wednesdays in Lent (March 8, 15, 22, 29 and April 5) from 7:30 -8:00 p.m. Candles, silence and simple brief worship offer a meeting place with God. Our focus this year? --- “*With Awe and Love*”, the essentials of our living faith, based on Martin Luther’s Small Catechism. Come for a half hour in the glow of quiet prayer and candles in God’s presence.

THE 500 MILE JOURNEY Guest Preacher & Speaker, Rev. Kathleen Koran

Last year Rev. Kathleen Koran, Assistant to Bishop Rimbo, walked the 500-mile journey from France to Spain, called “The Camino” or “The Road to the Shrine of St. James” with her husband and sister. Rev. Koran will join us the first Sunday in Lent, preaching on Sunday, March 5 at 10 a.m. She will share her experiences of spiritual pilgrimage, people that she met, and what it means for us on our own spiritual pilgrimage. Following worship, Pastor Koran will further share her experiences along “The Way”. There will be time for open conversation on the experience and questions. Bring a friend!

PRAYING FOR THE WORLD & OUR COUNTRY IN LENT

You are invited at the midpoint of Lent to a small gathering after Evening Prayer on Wednesday, March 22 in the Council Room at 8:15 p.m. to **PRAY FOR THE WORLD**, including of course our own country. With a large map before us we will once again identify some of the nations, places, and people in need of healing, hope, peace and prayer.



THE POWER OF FORGIVENESS - NEW EDUCATION PROGRAM

Our theme for Lent is an emphasis on forgiveness in our lives and the life of the world. Forgiveness is at the heart of our journey with God and the life, death, resurrection and teaching of Jesus Christ. But how do we practice this forgiveness, the heart of Christ in our lives? On three Sundays in March and one in April at 11:30 a.m. we will meet for a brief Bible study, video introduction and open conversation.

The Origin of Forgiveness (March 12)
What is Forgiveness? (March 19)
Why Do We Need to Forgive? (March 26)
How Forgiveness is Possible (April 2)



Sessions are on Sundays, from 11:30 – 12:30 p.m. and meet in the Church Council room, or in Martin Luther Hall if larger space is needed. Everyone is invited! Email RSVP at PastorBillDamrow@aol.com if you plan to attend or signup in the narthex.

CENTERING PRAYER BEGINS

God is inviting us to enter an intimate relationship with Him through the quietness of prayer. In Centering Prayer, we experience God's presence.

Please join us anytime in this prayer of the heart in the Church Council Room on **Thursdays, beginning March 2nd through April 6th, from 7:30 to 8:15 p.m.** The time together will be led by *Nancy Sigler, Diaconate Intern* (nls11@optonline.net)

Centering Prayer emphasizes prayer as a personal relationship with God and as movement beyond *conversation* with Christ to *communion* with Christ. Together we will sit in the quietness of prayer, finding our deepest center in the presence of God.

2017 REGISTRATION FOR FIRST COMMUNION



Instruction for First Communion begins for Second Graders and above on Sundays, April 30 (Part 1) and May 7 (Part 2), from 1:30 to 2:30 p.m. Approval must come from the pastor after instruction for First Communion. Receiving First Holy Communion will be during the worship service on Sunday, May 21 at 10:00 a.m. Parents should enroll their child immediately by calling the Church Office at 632-2116 or email StLuke654@aol.com, if they have not done so already.

LETTERS OF APPRECIATION

From The Rev. Daniel Rift, Director, ELCA World Hunger and Disaster Appeal, dated January 17, 2017; thank you for St. Luke's collected gift of \$500 to Lutheran Disaster Response, designated for the Syria Conflict Relief. Check their website through www.elca.org.

Thank You!

From Joanne Knudson, Interim Director of Koinonia Lutheran Camp, dated January 11, 2017; thank you for the recent donation of \$392. Be sure to check out their website at www.koinoniany.org.

Save The Date.... Mark Your Calendars

FOR THESE UPCOMING EVENTS:

May 6, 2017

“Reformation, Recital and Reception ~ A 500th Anniversary Celebration”

Presented by the Worship & Music and Fellowship Committees
Recital begins at 4pm in the Sanctuary, reception immediately following.

June 3, 2017

St. Luke's second Annual Spring Sale

June 10, 2017

St. Luke's Annual Congregation Picnic

HAPPY SPRING (?)

From the Sunday School. . .



Please parents mark your calendars... Easter Sunday, April 16th is our annual bake sale. It is our only fundraising event. Please contribute a baked good to sell as well as coming to shop after church on Easter Sunday.

Our Easter Pageant is Sunday, April 30th. We would love for ALL of the children to participate. We have parts and songs for all ages. We plan the pageant for after Easter vacation so all children can attend. Please let us know if you cannot. We will rehearse during Sunday school as well as a mandatory dress rehearsal, Saturday April 29th.

ALL children should have received their new envelopes. It is important that they bring them every week. If you have not received yours, please see your child's teacher.

And from the Youth Group. . .

Thank you to the youth that helped to set up for the dinner and the Pancake Supper.

We will be discussing more ways to be involved in the church and the community during Sunday School. We are currently planning for the rest of the spring. Please, parents, make sure you read your emails and update the kids on the schedule, if you are not receiving them let me know.

EVANGELISM & SOCIAL MEDIA MOMENT

- ❖ Little Luther continues to travel and you never know where he will end up-Want to know? Check out the link to the Little Luther Facebook page.
- ❖ There are many members and friends who are still having issues with receiving the St. Luke's Voice and e-blasts. Please contact the church office or Renee Taylor in church as soon as you can so the issue can be resolved timely.



CHURCH COUNCIL INSTALLATION

On Sunday, February 26th, we installed the members of the Church Council for 2017. We thank the following members for their leadership:

Susanne Kuligowski, President
Julia Ungewitter, Vice President
Steve Olsen, Treasurer
Doug Smith, Financial Secretary
Rupert Thompson, Assistant Financial Secretary
Angelika Ridulfo, Secretary
Jennifer Archer
Cathie Behrend
Elizabeth Brent

Len Elmer
Pat Fredericks
Jeremy Harris
Larry Head
Dawn McEvoy
Jack McLaughlin
Ed O'Garro
Ray Rankis
Tom Roksvold
Nancy Sigler

BOOK CLUB CORNER

When Breathe Becomes Air, a recent memoir, written by Paul Kalinithi was our February book club selection. Ray Rankis served as our facilitator for this profoundly moving book. Ray led us through Kalinithi's memoir by reading carefully chosen excerpts. Each member reading in turn as we all delved into these provocative passages.

Kalinithi chronicles his transformation from a naive Yale medical student into a neurosurgeon at Stanford, and finally into a patient and new father confronting his own mortality.

What makes life worth living in the face of death?

What does it mean to have a child, to nurture a new life as another fades away?

What is the meaning of human existence?

These are some of the questions Kalinithi wrestles with as he struggles to tell his story.

Ray Rankis, like the author, challenged us to contemplate the most central aspects of human life: hope, fear, love, hate, beauty, envy, honor, weakness, striving, suffering and virtue. We journeyed, with Paul Kalinithi, as he faced death with integrity. We shared the fullness of human experience with this remarkable and amazing writer and physician.



Our next book is Anna Quindlen's 2016 novel, *Miller's Valley*. It is a masterly study of family, memory, loss, and ultimately of finding true identity and a new vision of home. We will meet at 7:30 PM on Thursday, March 16, in St. Luke's kitchen. All are welcome to join us.

Happy Reading!

AROUND THE PARISH

In our prayers this month are those hospitalized, with health concerns or in transition, especially Doug Smith, Barbara McLaughlin, Dawn McEvoy, Scott Fredericks and Lawrence & Koni Harding; those undergoing further tests or treatments, those in our Sunday prayers and those who have died in the faith and the grieving, especially Gail and Steve Olsen upon the death of their nephew William Nevins, Jr.

MARCH BIRTHDAYS & ANNIVERSARIES



3/1	Glenn Tippet Raymond Rankis	3/15	Edmond O'Garro Steven Olsen
3/2	Catherine O'Rourke	3/17	Amy Amato-Bromberg
3/3	Melissa McEvoy Russell Norris Jeannette Carlson Fernita Ross	3/18	Daniel Brisson Ethan Samreth
3/6	Nancy Sigler Joseph Triolo	3/19	Zachary Carter
3/7	Jack Finegan	3/21	Lydia Bersito
3/9	Barbara Klemenn	3/23	Scott Fredericks
3/10	Adam Brent	3/24	Lori Walker
3/11	Mark Fontecchio Diane Sammons	3/25	Beverley James
3/12	Christine Trulli	3/26	Marissa Wirak
3/13	Grace O'Rourke	3/27	Stacey Haymon Donna Elmer
3/14	Jacob Kuligowski	3/28	Patricia Damrow
		3/30	Fred Weichert Douglas Lucy Sonia Schlupp

Anniversaries

3/1	Mr. & Mrs. M Kenneth Lucy
3/5	Lorraine & Walter Helfer
3/25	Lynda & Anthony Pasqua
3/30	John & Barbara McLaughlin



WORSHIP ASSISTANTS – March 2017

USHERS:

Mar.1 Rupert Thompson, Karen Jantzen, Ed O'Garro, Lenard Garrett - Ash Wed.

5 Denise Tolles, Walt Mitze, Beth Mitze, Ward Henderson
12 Henry Doerr, Rosemarie Doerr, Lydia Bersito, Petrona Bissett
19 Rupert Thompson, Ray Rankis, Jennifer Archer, Karen Jantzen
26 Peter Johnson, Walt Mitze, Beth Mitze, Bob Maresca

ACOLYTES

1	Jennifer O'Garro-Ash Wed.	Mar.	19	Sara Battaglino
5	Chris Battaglino	Mar.	26	Erik Roksvold
12	Chris Battaglino			

CRUCIFER

1 Rachel Elmer - Ash Wed.

COUNCILPERSON:

1	Ed O'Garro - Ash Wed.	Mar.	19	Jennifer Archer
5	Susanne Kuligowski	Mar.	26	Len Elmer
12	Larry Head			

COMMUNION ASSISTANT

1	Nancy Sigler - Ash Wed.	Mar.	19	Angelika Ridulfo
5	Rosalind Carter	Mar.	26	Robert Brent
12	Nancy Sigler			

LECTORS

1	Renee Taylor - Ash Wed.	Mar.	19	Denise Tolles
5	Robert Brent	Mar.	26	Martin Ungewitter
12	Rosalind Wallace			

ALTAR GUILD

1	Renee Taylor, Nancy Sigler -Ash Wed.	Mar.	19	Nancy Sigler, Renee Taylor
5	Irene Breen, Jennifer Archer	Mar.	26	Pat Fredericks, Irene Breen
12	Pat Fredericks, Susanne Kuligowski			

COUNTERS

1	----- (Ash Wed.)	Mar.	19	D. Smith, T. Daniele
5	D. Smith, N. Sigler	Mar.	26	R. Thompson, P. Johnson
12	T. Brooks, K. Jantzen			

COFFEE HOUR

1	----- (Ash Wed.)	Mar.	19	Sr. Choir
5	Fellowship	Mar.	26	Youth Group
12	Altar Guild			

If you cannot keep your scheduled assignment, please make arrangements to **switch with someone** and **let the church office know** early that week. Thank you.

[Abbreviations-BB: Banner Bearer, C: Crucifer, A: Acolyte, TB: Torch Bearer]

ST. LUKE'S LUTHERAN CHURCH - MARCH 2017

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
<u>All Sundays</u> 9a-Sr. Choir Rehearsal 10a-Choirs 10a-Sunday School Cont.	<u>Continued</u> 11:15a-Jr. Choir Rehearsal 11:15a-Coffee Hour		1 ASH WEDNESDAY 12p-Distribution of Ashes 8p-Ash Wed. Service 8p-Sr. Choir	2 7:30p-Centering Prayer	3 7:15p-Boy Scouts	4 9:30a-A.A. Men's Group
5 Pilgrimage Sunday 10a-Eucharist 11:15a-Guest: Rev. Kathleen Koran "El Camino (The Road) a 500 Mile Walk With God"	6 7p-A.A. Mtg.	7 7:30p-Sunday School Staff Mtg.	9:30a-Clergy Sermon Study 7:30-Lenten Vespers Host: Sunday School 8:15p-Choir Rehearsal	9 7:30p-Centering Prayer	10 7:15p-Boy Scouts	11 9:30a-A.A. Men's Group Daylight Saving Time Ends. Turn clocks ahead 1 hr.
12 10a-Eucharist 11:30a-Adult Ed. "The Power of Forgiveness"	13 7p-A.A. Mtg.	14 7:30p-Church Council Mtg.	15 9:30a-Clergy Sermon Study 7:30-Lenten Vespers Host: Altar Guild 8:15p-Choir Rehearsal	16 7:30p-Centering Prayer	17 6p-Setup/Boy Scouts Pasta Night St. Patrick's Day	18 9:30a-A.A. Men's Group 6-9p-Kuligowski Party
19 10a-Eucharist 11:30a-Adult Ed. "The Power of Forgiveness"	20 7p-A.A. Mtg <i>.Spring Begins</i>	21	9:30a-Clergy Sermon Study 7:30-Lenten Vespers Host: Sr. Choir 8:15p-Prayer for the World 8:15p-Choir Rehearsal	23 7:30p-Centering Prayer	24 7:15p-Boy Scouts	25 9:30a-A.A. Men's Group
26 10a-Eucharist 11:30a-Adult Ed. "The Power of Forgiveness"	27 7p-A.A. Mtg.	28	29 9:30a-Clergy Sermon Study 7:30-Lenten Vespers Host: Church Council 8:15p-Choir Rehearsal	30 7:30p-Centering Prayer	31 7:15p-Boy Scouts	April 1 9:30a-A.A. Men's Group

Thank you to the Patrons of St. Luke's Voice – 2017

Jennifer M. Archer

Jean Carlson

Mr. & Mrs. John Gerretsen

Lorraine & Walter Helfer

Margaret Lenz

Robert Lepple

Bob Maresca

Art Rankis

Ray Rankis

Fernita E. Ross

Aija Sears

Nancy Sigler

Madeline & William Tappert

Christel Tippet

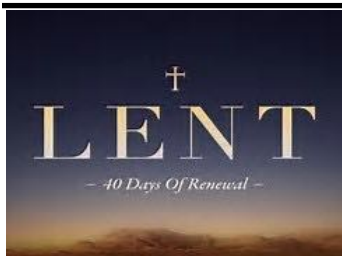
Ernest & Rosalind Wallace

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To become a patron, just make a contribution of \$25.00 send to St. Luke's Lutheran Church, 95 Eastchester Rd., New Rochelle, NY 10801. Please designate the gift toward "Patron of Newsletter".



RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED



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Lent Issue

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