

St. Luke's Voice

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

May 2017

St. Luke's Lutheran Church

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

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Renee Taylor: eNews-
letter production

SUNDAY SERVICE:

HOLY COMMUNION:

10:00 A.M.

SUNDAY SCHOOL— JUNE

10:00 A.M.

FELLOWSHIP:

11:15 A.M.

The Benefits of Regular Church Attendance

Last month I shared some thoughts about church attendance from the point of view that God desires and deserves our public worship. This month let's look at the benefits of regular church attendance. I've edited down a long but wonderful article by Brett McKay who writes for a secular blog. It's worth stopping to reflect on the wonderful treasures that come to us, so familiar that we almost forget what we can share with others.

Greater Social Support

Experts say that two keys to fostering friendships are repeated and unplanned interactions and a setting that encourages vulnerability. Fellowship is part and parcel of the church. The New York Times reported a study that found "frequent churchgoers had larger social networks, with more contact with, more affection for, and more kinds of social support from those people than their unchurched counterparts." The network roster widens here when the chips are down.

A Chance to Remember/Reorient/Reflect/Re-center

Weekly church attendance invites us to reflect on our gratitude for the good things in our lives, reinforces our moral values, fosters reverence and humility, and re-focuses us on our larger purpose. It's a chance to re-center and re-orient our lives. Once every seven days we need to get back on track.

Builds Discipline

The structure provided by weekly church attendance is itself a spiritual discipline and in aspects of worship you're encountering one of the few things in modern life not tailored to your personal demands. And this – doubling the rate of religious attendance raises household income by 9.1 percent, a finding that holds even when other variables are controlled for.

The Rhythms of Ritual and Routine

To step through the threshold of many churches is to feel one has left the "profane" world in which one almost entirely lives, moves, and has their being, and entered into a bit of sacred time and space, refreshingly different from ordinary life. Stained glass windows replace cubicle board; candlelight displaces the glow of screens; ancient words supplant current headlines. We encounter a bigger perspective than in our own heads or the culture.

Stronger Marriage

Couples who attend church together are more likely to be happy, than couples who don't. Some of the benefits of religious participation appear to be temporal, not spiritual, and hold even for churchgoers who may be uncertain about their own devotion. Going to church reinforces a couple's shared values, lends the relationship a higher purpose, and establishes a tradition in which the pair spend time together, all things that build a solid marital friendship and contribute to a healthy relationship.

Coming up next month in the conclusion to this series, Further benefits of church attendance:

- The Rare Chance for Communal Singing
- Breaches Your Echo Chamber and Connects You with People from Different Walks of Life
- Contributes to Greater Free-Thinking and Your Diversity of Ideas
- Lessens Bitter Partisanship
- Ample Opportunities (and More Motivation) for Service
- Greater Mental and Physical Health

*In Christ,
Pastor Bill Damrow*

**REFORMATION CONCERT
May 6 at 4:00 p.m.!**

SERVICE FOR HEALING IN THE EASTER SEASON

St. Luke's will offer the Order for Healing within the Sunday morning liturgy on *Sunday, May 7, 2017* at 10 a.m.

The order of healing includes the reading of scripture and singing of hymns that emphasize God's healing hands. During worship, there will be opportunity to come and receive the pastor's laying on of hands and anointing with oil in the church's time honored tradition since the New Testament, as well as a personal prayer for healing and forgiveness in your life. We will also pray for those who provide medical care and support.



In its ministry of healing, the Church does not replace the gifts of God that come through the scientific community nor does it promise a cure. Rather, the Church offers and celebrates gifts such as these: God's presence with strength and comfort in time of suffering, God's promise of wholeness and peace, and God's love embodied in the community of faith. Bring a friend! Speaking of which...

THIS WILL ALSO BE OUR BI-ANNUAL "BRING A FRIEND SUNDAY", so please invite neighbors, friends and relatives to this service of healing, wholeness and reconciliation!

COME HEAR THE MUSIC

Come celebrate 500 years of Reformation and listen to our talented church family perform at the Reformation Recital on Saturday, May 6 at 4 p.m. in the Sanctuary. It's free, so bring your friends and relations. There is something for everyone.



The program will open with Cathy O'Rourke on flute and Iryna Arbatska on piano playing a suite by the brilliant Lutheran composer, J. S. Bach. Julia Ungewitter will remind us about the gift of God's grace that we all enjoy in her rendition of Amazing Grace. The children will join Robert Brent on guitar to sing about turning the world upside down as Martin Luther surely did. The O'Rourke family will perform a new version of an old favorite and Iryna will showcase her amazing musical talent playing a Chopin Ballade. Our very own Pat Damrow, Larry Head and Steve Olsen will join Julia to sing Jesus Joy of Man's Desiring and there will be a piano and organ duet too.

Martin Luther loved music, and encouraged everyone to sing by writing his own hymns and compiling a small hymn book, so at the end of the concert we will be asking you to raise your voice and the roof in one of his joyous compositions.

All are welcome to the reception afterwards in the Parish Hall where German desserts and other delights will be served. What a lovely way to spend a Saturday afternoon and enjoy the fellowship of our very special St. Luke's family!

NEWS FROM THE FELLOWSHIP COMMITTEE

Happy Mother's Day from the Fellowship Committee



well as many other member congregations.

We've just returned from our Annual Women's Retreat at Koinonia, April 21-23rd. What a wonderful time we had! If you have not been able to join us, please do next time. There is a family retreat, which can be for singles, couples or families with children, October 13-15th. We will have a flyer and more information as we get closer. We are a member congregation and as Joanne Knudson, the Interim Director, always reminds us, "they are there for us." Us, as in St. Luke's, as

On May 6th we will celebrate the Reformation with a Recital from 4-6pm. Please see the article on the previous page and the flyers around the church for more information. It is going to be a wonderful program! And it's FREE!

The Spring Sale is fast approaching. We will have a planning meeting on May 7th after church in the kitchen. Please feel free to email us with questions, suggestions etc., attend the meeting, and please distribute the flyer to all your family, neighbors and friends.

May 21st is First Holy Communion! The Sunday School will host a reception afterwards in the gym.



June 3rd we need all the help we can get to make the sale a bigger success than last year. There will be a sign-up sheet later in May. We need lots of help!

Lastly, our cook books are now ONLY \$5 EACH ... We would love to share them with you. Would make a great gift Mother's Day Gift or keep one for yourself. See us anytime!

Gratefully yours,
Pat and Dawn

P.S. Remember, our church is only as strong as its members and we are so lucky and so thankful to have such great friends and members as you. Thank you all for being part of St. Luke's fellowship this year. If anyone would like to join us, whether for an event or to join the committee please let us know... God bless you all

Pat Damrow email: PatDamrow@hotmail.com and Dawn McEvoy email: Mmcevoy33@aol.com

Fellowship events at St Luke's are collaboratively sponsored by the Fellowship committee, St. Luke's Sunday School, the Stewardship committee, the Evangelism committee and the Youth Group ... This is what Fellowship is all about and we are always looking for new faces to join us in furthering our fellowship ministry. If you would like to support any of the events or join the committee, please contact us.

ASCENSION THURSDAY



The Ascension of Our Lord, which occurred 40 days after Jesus Christ rose from the dead on Easter, is the final act of our redemption that Christ began on Good Friday. On this day, the risen Christ, in the sight of His apostles, ascended bodily into Heaven (Luke 24:51; Mark 16:19; Acts 1:9-11). This year the event is recognized in the Christian calendar on May 25th.

THE BOOK CLUB CORNER

Upcoming selections for St. Luke's Book Club:

May 18, Wed. *My Name is Lucy Barton* by Elizabeth Strout
June 15, Thurs. *The Japanese Lover* by Isabel Allende



All are welcome to join us!

The wonderful novel *Out Stealing Horses* by the prize-winning Norwegian author Pers Pettersen was our April selection. Nine members of St. Luke's Book Club gathered to discuss this fascinating book. The panoramic and gripping story of Trond Sander, a 67 year old man who has moved to a remote riverside cabin in the forest, is revealed through first person narration. "*All my life I have longed to be alone in a place like this.*"

Pettersen's terse and deliberate style allows the story to unfold in a calm and meticulous voice. The author subtly reveals Trond's inner emotions and conflicts. Trond's solitude is broken by his discovery that his neighbor is Trond's childhood friend's brother. The story begins in 1999, yet soon flashes back to the adventuresome and traumatic days of the summer and autumn of 1948.

We loved Pettersen's simplistic and emotional writing style. His minimalist opening works well with his straightforward, declarative sentences. We praised his descriptions of nature, and of the small quiet moments in everyday life. We traced the themes of loss, grief, isolation and redemption throughout the novel.

The Book Club meets in the kitchen at St. Luke's at 7:30 p.m. Join us!

HAPPY MOTHER'S DAY

from the Sunday School . .

Happy Mother's Day to all of our amazing moms! AND we hope you all had a glorious Easter. It was a gorgeous, perfect day. ***Christ Is Risen Indeed!***

Our Easter Pageant is Sunday, April 30th. Since we plan the pageant for after Easter vacation, we would love for ALL of the children to participate. We have parts and songs for all ages so every child can be in it. We have a full final rehearsal, Saturday, April 29th at 5p.m. PLEASE be sure your child or children are present or email me if they cannot be. We will meet at church Sunday morning at 9:30 to get the kids ready to process upstairs. As this Sunday is also Youth Sunday, all children will remain upstairs for the entire service. Immediately following is our Annual Sunday School Easter Egg Hunt, all children of all ages are invited!



Saturday, May 6th is the Reformation Recital and Reception at St Luke's, beginning at 4 p.m. All children are invited to sing; Robert Brent will accompany them on the guitar. The mandatory rehearsal for that is this Saturday at approximately 6 p.m. after pageant rehearsal. Again, all children are invited. If we need an additional rehearsal, we will have one after church on Sunday, before the Easter Egg Hunt.

Sunday, May 7th is BRING-A-FRIEND Sunday. We would love for you and the children to bring a friend to church and Sunday school. If you can let us know in advance, that would be very helpful for planning purposes, but if not it's ok.



Our Easter Bake Sale netted \$384. THANK YOU all for baking, buying and donating! We couldn't do what we do without you! PLEASE remember to send in your children's weekly envelopes. If you have not received them, please see their teacher. Your donations are so important to the success of the Sunday school for educational materials, seasonal events and church activities. It takes a Village and what a wonderful village we are.

Jacob Kuligowski is being honored by the Inter-religious Council on April 30th. I emailed that flyer. If you are attending, please let us know. We would love to have a St. Luke's table.

*Thank you, as always, for your support and cooperation, your Sunday School teachers & Staff:
Dawn McEvoy, Karen Fontecchio, Gloria Head, Jen Battaglino, Melissa McEvoy,
Jacob Kuligowski, Traci Daniele*

And from the Youth Group. . .

We are looking forward to the Youth Group assisting with the event on May 6th, as well as the Spring Sale during the weekend of June 3rd. We will discuss and have a signup sheet. Not all kids can work the café, but we also need them for the set up Friday, working the other tables and rummage on Saturday and cleaning up on Sunday.

Please, parents make sure you read your emails and update the kids on the schedule; if you are not receiving them let me know.

Dawn McEvoy... email me at mmcevoy33@aol.com

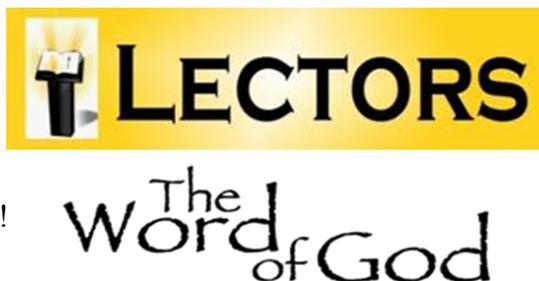
SOCIAL MINISTRY - MARK YOUR CALENDAR!



The Social Ministry Committee of St. Luke's has organized the next "Cooking for Hope" for Sunday, May 21st. If you are able to lend a hand that Sunday after worship service, your help would be most welcome.

LECTOR RETRAINING

We are offering retraining for current lectors on Sunday, May 18th from 11:15 a.m. to 12 noon. Lectors will receive instruction on our new and developing sound system, introduction to a new pronunciation guide for some of those difficult biblical names and places, guidelines and a few handouts on improving public reading. Thanks to all who serve!



EVANGELISM & SOCIAL MEDIA MOMENT

- ❖ Share the good news! All are Welcome! Worship with us! Bring A Friend Sunday is May 7th.
- ❖ 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 eblasts, or other issues like e-mail addresses that have to be updated. Please contact the church office or Renee Taylor in church as soon as you can so the issue can be resolved timely.

St. Luke's Lutheran Church
95 Eastchester Road, New Rochelle, NY

Invites you to



Bring A Friend Sunday, May 7th.

Worship Service begins at 10am

Sunday School is available for children
ages 3 and up!

ALL ARE WELCOME!

For more info please call the Church Office at (914-632-2116) or
E-mail: info@stlukesnewrochelle.org or
visit our website <http://stlukesnewrochelle.org/>

St. Luke's Lutheran Church
95 Eastchester Road, New Rochelle

Spring Sale

Saturday, June 3rd, 2017

RAFFLES

Café

BOOKS

BAKE Sale

Avon

Happy
Everything

ACCESSORIES

Jewelry

RUMMAGE !



10 am - 3 pm

NO EARLY BIRDS !

AROUND THE PARISH

In Our Prayers this month are Alan Fontecchio, Doug Smith, Shirley Bengé and Robert Brent, all recovering, all those hospitalized, with health concerns or in transition, those undergoing further tests or treatments, those in our Sunday prayers, those who have died in the Lord and the grieving.

Memorials have been received for:

William Mitze given by Walt & Beth Mitze
 Louise Moone given by Thrya Brooks
 Andre Thompson given by Carmen Thompson



MAY BIRTHDAYS & ANNIVERSARIES

Birthdays

5/1	Denise Tolles Shari Taylor	5/19	Tina Prout-Stoody
5/2	Thomas Breen Sean Taylor	5/20	Marcia Carol Hild
5/3	Mrs. Harold Waller	5/21	Victoria McEvoy
5/9	Aikande Mallya	5/22	Nancy LoPresti Michael Dassler
5/10	Carmen Thompson Faith Forsberg	5/24	Kyle James Matthew Brent
5/11	Karen DiBiccari	5/26	Douglas Smith Susan Johansen-Shiels Matthieu Rankis
5/12	Leam McEvoy Melissa Rubicco Samantha Eves	5/27	Roberta Dassler Karen Fontecchio
5/13	Christopher Rogiensi	5/28	Megan Fontecchio
5/15	Sherry Fraser-Pulvermiller	5/29	Margaret Lenz
5/17	David Hallman John Rubicco	5/31	Kristen Johnson

Anniversaries

5/3	Michael & Nadia Dassler
5/5	Erik & Kim Walder
5/18	Clifford & Roberta Dassler
5/19	Kristen & Matthew Head
5/21	Margaret & Michael Nicolais
5/22	Joan Bast-Rodriguez & William Rodriguez
5/29	Jason & Suzanne Head

WORSHIP ASSISTANTS - MAY 2017

[MAY 7 -Service for Healing; May 14- Mother's Day; May 21 – First Communion; May 28 – Memorial Day Weekend]

USHERS:

May 7	Denise Tolles, Petrona Brissett, Jennifer Archer, Bob Maresca
14	Henry Doerr, Rosemarie Doerr, Lydia Bersito, Lenard Garrett
21	Rupert Thompson, Peter Johnson, Ray Rankis, Dori DeCarlo
28	Karen Jantzen, Jeremy Harris, Bob Maresca, Ed O'Garro

ACOLYTES:

May 7	Grace O'Rourke	May 21	Madeline Buehrer
May 14	Sara Battaglino	May 28	Jacob Kuligowski

COUNCILPERSON:

May 7	Ray Rankis	May 21	Jennifer Archer
May 14	Julia Ungewitter	May 28	Ed O'Garro

COMMUNION ASSISTANTS:

May 7	Cathy O'Rourke	May 21	Larry Head
May 14	Brett Buehrer	May 28	Susanne Kuligowski

LECTORS:

May 7	Dori DeCarlo	May 21	Brett Buehrer
May 14	Robert Brent	May 28	Rosalind Wallace

ALTAR GUILD:

May 7	Nancy Silger, Susanne Kuligowski	May 21	Irene Breen, Jennifer Archer
May 14	Pat Zyloney, Renee Taylor	May 28	Pat Fredericks, Nancy Sigler

COUNTERS:

May 7	Thyra Brooks, Karen Jantzen	May 21	Rupert Thompson, Peter Johnson
May 14	Doug Smith, Traci Daniele	May 28	Doug Smith, Nancy Sigler

COFFEE HOUR

May 7	Youth Group	May 21	Evangelism
May 14	Social Ministry	May 28	Fellowship

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 - MAY 2017

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
<u>All Sundays</u> 9a-Sr. Choir Rehearsal 10a-Choir; 10a-Sunday School 11:15a-Jr. Choir Rehearsal 11:15a-Coffee Hour	1 7p-A.A. Mtg.	2 7:30p-Sunday School Staff Mtg.	3 9:30a-Clergy Sermon Study	4	5 7:15p-Boy Scouts	6 9:30a-A.A Men's Group 4p- Reformation & A 500th Anniversary Concert (Free) 5p- Reception
7 Service for Healing & Bring-A-Friend Sunday 10a-Eucharist 11:15a-Fellowship Mtg. 1:30p-First Communion Instruction Part 2	8 7p-A.A. Mtg.	9 7:30p-Church Council Mtg.	10 9:30a-Clergy Sermon Study	11	12 7:15p-Boy Scouts	13
14 Mother's Day 10a-Eucharist 10a-Blessing of Mothers 11:30a-Stewardship Mtg.	15 7p-A.A. Mtg.	16	17 9:30a-Clergy Sermon Study	18 7:30p-St. Luke's Book Club	19 7:15p-Boy Scouts	20
21 First Holy Communion 10a-Eucharist	22 7p-A.A. Mtg.	23	24 9:30a-Clergy Sermon Study	25 Ascension Thursday	26 7:15p-Boy Scouts	27
28 10a-Eucharist	29 Memorial Day Office Closed 7p-A.A. Mtg.	30	31 9:30a-Clergy Sermon Study	June 2 7p-Spring Sale Setup	June 3 10a-3p-Spring Sale at St. Luke's	June 3

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

Jennifer Archer

Margaret D'Andrea

Lorraine & Walter Helfer

Margaret Lenz

Bob Maresca

Art Rankis

Ray Rankis

Fernita Ross

Aija Sears

Nancy Sigler

William & Madeline Tappert

Ernest & Rosalind Wallace

Lilian Warren

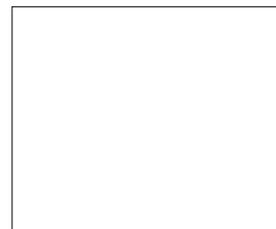
Patrons are those who wish to make a gift to help support the publication of St. Luke's Voice.

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".



REFORMATION CONCERT
May 6 at 4:00 p.m.!

RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED



St. Luke's
Voice
May 2017
Concert Issue
St. Luke's Lutheran
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95 Eastchester Rd.
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10801-1209
Please Open
Immediately:
TIME DATED

