

St. Luke's Voice

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

September 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

God's Adventure at Any Age

Outside my window this summer I've been watching construction being done on the water lines and then the gas lines along Eastchester Road. Orange traffic cones are connected by orange and white striped connectors with the clear message: "Caution! Stay away!"

I wonder if we are too good at this. While a part of life surely is the wisdom to be prudent and cautious, a whole other part of being alive is to be venturesome and creative, to take risks for the sense of growing and embracing new and undiscovered aspects of oneself and the world.

Of course, taking vacations in the summer is one way to "vacate" the routine and encounter something different. Jesus often left the crowds and went to a separate place to pray and gain a new perspective. I don't know that it was a vacation but it was stepping away from cautious living for the sake of the Father's will.

September is the beginning of new ventures for our children and adults as they go to school to learn new things. It is the time of Sunday School, adult education, renewed Sunday worship, Confirmation classes, choir rehearsal and a host of similar ways to embrace the risky gospel of Jesus Christ – not "caution" but rather "boldly go forth" with readiness to embrace the new!

On Rally Day Sunday, September 10, we will also bid farewell and God-speed to long time members and leader Douglas and Dorothy Smith as they move and begin a new life in Florida, living near their son, daughter-in-law and grandchildren. That too is a new adventure! They will be deeply missed by us all, of course. But they go boldly forth to their new adventure and exciting times.

I am reminded time and again that adventure is never perfect. Besides risk there is ample room for imperfection or finding a new way when the old ways cannot work. This summer our sexton, Eduardo, who does most of the heavy lifting for St. Luke's, is recovering from hernia surgery. No heavy lifting. But we will find ways to get the job done because we are community, the people of God.

In a similar manner, our organist and choir director, Iryna, sliced off a part of her finger and it is healing nicely. Yet somehow, she now manages to use all nine fingers and a knuckle to get the job done. That is another way to overcome the tried and true when life throws a wrench into the usual ways of doing things. We adapt and support one another.

May we do the same for sharing the gospel of Jesus Christ. Instead of caution, let's share the good news! Instead of seeing parts of our lives as beginning and ending, let's see all times as an invitation from God to begin a new adventure, whether we are eight or eighty. May we adapt and support one another as the Christian community of St. Luke's to find new ways to bring the love of God to all people. Let's live with fewer traffic cones in our lives and embrace God's adventure!

In Christ,

Pastor Bill Damrow



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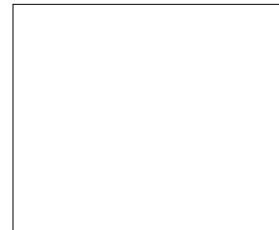
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September

**RALLY DAY is Sunday,
September 10!
Come to church! Enroll in a class!**

RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED



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