

St. Luke's Voice

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

October 2020

St. Luke's

Lutheran

Church

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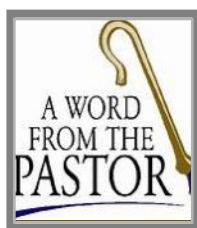
For Sunday
Worship

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Newsletter Editor: Pat
Fredericks.

Renee Taylor: Produc-
tion.

Six Months In



It's hard to believe that it has been six months since all our lives changed. Six months. Half a year.

One of our parishioners said to me recently on the phone, "Do you ever feel crazy?" I burst out laughing. "Everyday!", I replied. Maybe it was a rhetorical question, but it so hit the nail on the head that a burst of transparent laughter was my most honest reaction.

Yes, things look the same but aren't. Covid continues to touch every aspect of our lives. The day and week are unpredictable. Even as we plan to worship indoors beginning October 18, the mayor of New Rochelle sent a warning to residents that Coronavirus cases are rising in the city of New Rochelle.

The six-month mark has impact. There is no denying it. Our emotions, mental and physical capacities are affected as are our spiritual lives. That is okay, if we recognize the impact.

Professor Aisha Ahmad of the University of Toronto has lived and worked through multiple long-haul crises and offers a humanizing perspective in "Forbes" magazine of where we are now. "The six-month mark in any sustained crisis is always difficult", she says. "We have all adjusted to this 'new normal' but might now feel like we're running out of steam. Yet, at best, we are only one third of the way through this marathon. How can we keep going? First, in my experience, this is a very normal time to struggle or slump. I always hit a wall six months into a new assignment in a disaster zone. It's like clockwork."

The good news: we are not alone with our fellow human beings who might be experiencing fatigue with this whole thing. It's real and it's normal. "It will break naturally in about four to six weeks if you ride it out". And then we adapt and find new ways for the next phase. We roll with it today. Take some space from the everyday struggle.

October is a beautiful month to see the colorful change of season. Sit outside. Enter the silence. Gold, green, and amber leaves fall into a crisp upsweep of a breeze. The clouds roll in the blue sky. A bird flies high, just as they have since prehistory. In a sense, everyday is the first day of Creation.

As we go through these strange days we need to bask in the love of Christ. St. Theresa of Lisieux said, "I understood that the Church has a heart and that this heart is burning with love; that it is love alone which makes the members work, that if love were to die away apostles would no longer preach the Gospel, martyrs would refuse to shed their blood. I understood that love comprises all vocations, that love is everything, that it embraces all times and all places because it is eternal!"

While we ride through these times together, knowing we need one another, may we daily return in light silence to the source of infinite love, Jesus Christ. Each day has its blessing. Strength for the journey; God's presence, acceptance and offered embrace. Take time each day to receive it all.

Everyday is the first day of Creation.

Peace,

Pastor Bill Damrow



STEWARDSHIP 2020 for 2021

Generosity – Journey with Jesus

Matthew 6:25-33 *Therefore I tell you, do not worry about your life...But strive first for the kingdom of God and his righteousness, and all these things will be given to you as well.*

Emphasis – Following Jesus

In the Sermon on the Mount, Jesus teaches the crowds and his disciples about their relationship with God and their discipleship in the world. In these verses, Jesus speaks about how God provides for our every need and how undue concern for our possessions can get in the way of our living as his disciples.

These words speak to us today as we wrestle with the daily realities of our lives. We often find ourselves over-scheduled, over-extended, and over-drawn. Our lives are cluttered with too many commitments, too many Zoom calls, too many possessions. We can be consumed by it all—we wonder “Will I have enough?” We fear not wearing the right clothes, not driving the right car, not having the latest electronic toy, not living in the right house. Too often our things define who we are.

Jesus comes to us in the midst of our fears and announces— “Do not worry! God has provided for all of your needs!” What does it mean for us to live in relationship with Jesus? How might our daily discipleship help us to live more simply, trusting in God’s abundance?

Beginning in October you will receive a with an invitation to prayerfully consider maintaining or increasing your commitment pledge for 2021. As you may know several of our sources of income this year have been reduced by the CoronaVirus19 pandemic, from the preschool to outside uses of our facility. *It is very much on us this year as a congregation to support our church. Please consider this prayerfully when you make your pledge.*

LOYALTY SUNDAY

Loyalty Sunday, the final opportunity to offer our **2021 financial pledge cards** is fittingly on Christ the King Sunday, **November 22, 2020**. A Prayer of Thanksgiving to God will be offered during the Service.



HELPING HANDS' PROJECT



Social Ministry's Helping Hands' project involved 22 members and friends of St. Luke's. Thank you everyone who donated, or delivered items on the Wish List for this Guatemalan refugee family. You were all so generous and gave hope and support to Anabela, her sister and nephew as they settle in Westchester County.

St Luke's volunteers spent over 20 hours sourcing, organizing, and delivering items on Anabela's wish list. This included \$450 in gift cards as well as shoes, clothes, a stroller, onesies, an activity mat, Pampers, baby wipes and a crib. These goods were valued at \$700.

Thank you all for mailing or delivering these items to St. Luke's as Anabela's privacy needs to be respected. Thanks, too, to Lisa Connors' friend Winifred who helped communicate in Spanish. The Brent's delivered the bulk of the Wish List on Sunday, September 13 to great smiles and thanks. There was even a little bag of games, and books for Anabela's 6 year old nephew. A Costco gift card arrived the following week as did the stroller/car seat combination from Buybuybaby.

Social Ministry wishes to thank Catholic Charities and Hearts and Homes for Refugees in Westchester for initiating and supporting this project.

HELP US SHARE THE GOOD NEWS OF CHRIST WITH OTHERS ON FACEBOOK



The St. Luke's Facebook page has been up and running for a few months now. If you haven't done so yet, please like our page at <https://www.facebook.com/slnr.org/> or search for St. Luke's New Rochelle, so you will see all of our posts in your newsfeed. In addition, please share our posts so your friends can enjoy our worship service too. You can also invite them to our page.

Be sure you are on the St. Luke's public page and not the private group. Currently the public page has been used to post our worship service every week, but as time goes on we will use it to promote our church and the many activities and events we have, as well as our Sunday School.

THE RE-OPENING COMMITTEE

Outside services (weather permitting) are continuing at St. Luke's through October 11th. Attendance has been good - see some pictures on the next page.. The Church Council met in special session to hear a report from the Re-Opening Committee. After some discussion and consideration, Council has given its okay for the Re-Opening Committee to begin planning for indoor services which would begin on Sunday, October 18th.



Outdoor Worship at St. Luke's - Sunday, September 20th

ST. LUKE'S COOKS FOR HOPE

Inspired by cooler weather, the Hope Cook Team prepared a hearty, colorful meatball stew in the church's brand new ovens! The next Hope Cook is Saturday October 17th. If you would like to be part of October's elite masked team, please email Denise Tolles at ddink629@aol.com."



NEW CHAIR OF WORSHIP & MUSIC COMMITTEE

Julia Ungewitter is the new chair of the Worship and Music committee succeeding Elizabeth Brent. Julia's nomination and election took place on September 14 when the committee met on Zoom. Discussion followed about the two Outdoor Worship services that had taken place and the committee expressed their thanks to Peter Johnson for setting up the outdoor sound system and to Iryna Arbatska for the meditation music.

Pastor discussed the possibilities of having a future Worship service with Holy Communion for all, that would be held via Zoom to bring the whole congregation together again.



In the discussion about the possibilities of Indoor Worship, it was suggested that the committee research the purchase of medical grade air purifiers and pass this information on to the Church Council.

HAPPY FALL from your FELLOWSHIP COMMITTEE

What a beautiful season it is... the leaves are already starting to change, the air is a little colder and God's beauty and Grace are abundant!

We continue to wish that you and your families are safe and healthy.

We have been enjoying our outdoor services with our members that can attend. We hope those that haven't been able to attend have been viewing the service online. We look forward to seeing you inside and in person as soon as it is safe.

We are planning another "Virtual" Coffee Hour. Please look for the email to come soon. If anyone needs anything at all, please let us know.

Anyone who wants to help others, we know HOPE Community Services is always in need.

Stay strong St Luke's... 'Til we meet again.
Pat Damrow and Dawn McEvoy

BOOK CLUB CORNER

Here is St. Luke's Book Club Fall 2020 Reading List for the fall:

Thursday, October 22nd -- *The Giver of Stars* by JoJo Moyes

Thursday, November 19th -- *The Book of Longings*
by Sue Monk Kidd

Thursday, December 17th -- *Where Do We Go From Here?*
Chaos or Community by Martin Luther King, Jr.



St. Luke's Book Club will continue to meet remotely, once a month, at 7 p.m., via ZOOM. Everyone is welcome to join us! If you would like to read with us, please send an email to Ktembo@aol.com, so you can be included on our Zoom invitation.

From the SUNDAY SCHOOL... HAPPY HALLOWEEN

Here is wishing all our Sunday school families a beautiful fall. If the children are in school or learning remotely, get outside; see all of God's creation around you. Breathe in the fresh air; play in the sun.

Please remember that Sunday school has been sending weekly lessons to all its families, since this has begun. We will continue to do so until Sunday School resumes in person.



This past week we even sent some new songs for the children to learn. We hope you are sharing them with the children and as a family.

Don't forget Sunday School, your spiritual education, is just as important as your scholastic one!

Take us with you on your journey! Continue sharing the GOOD NEWS!

God Bless you and your families....

Stay safe and stay strong St. Luke's!!!
Dawn, Jen, Vicky, Shari, Jacob, Karen and Traci

AROUND THE PARISH



*In Our
Thoughts
and Prayers*

In Our Prayers this month are all those hospitalized, with health concerns, in transition, all those undergoing further tests or treatments or healing, those who have died in the Lord and the grieving.

OCTOBER BIRTHDAYS & ANNIVERSARIES

Birthdays

10/1	Catherine Behrend	10/18	Maxwell Harris
10/2	Simon James O'Rourke	10/19	Cindy Finegan
10/3	Jennifer Archer		Elizabeth Brent
10/6	Ryan Head	10/22	May Njie
10/8	Paul O'Riordan-Shimkin	10/23	Tyler Head
10/9	Robert Brisson	10/24	Kenneth Lucy
10/10	Dawn McEvoy		Rosalind Wallace
	Jason Head	10/25	John T. Amato
10/11	Harold Schombert, Jr.		Gabrielle Rubicco-Tamburro
10/12	Silvia Moreno	10/27	Michael Wirak
	Elijah Malachi Shellukindo	10/29	Anna Shiels
10/13	Richard Tobin		Nathaniel Ross
10/16	Jonathan Diaz		Hiro Smith
10/17	Debra Luiso		Hailey Farney
	Stephen O'Rourke		Jeremy Harris
	Joseph Ferraro		Iryna Arbatska
10/18	Caitlin Fredericks	10/30	Kris Haymon



Anniversaries

10/3	Mr. & Mrs. Robert Doerr
10/12	Robert & Karen DiBicarri
	Sherry Fraser & John Pulvermiller
	Daniel & Amy Bromberg
10/13	Mark & Jillian Fontecchio
10/16	Edmond & Camille O'Garro
	Lucy Hoffman & Mike Guido

ST. LUKE'S LUTHERAN CHURCH – OCTOBER 2020

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
All meetings except worship are via Zoom				1	2	3
4 WORSHIP OUTDOORS 10a Registration required 12:30p-Adult Ed. "Get Your Life Back"	5	6 7:30p-Re-opening Committee	7 10a-Clergy Sermon Study 7p-Choir Rehearsal 7:30p-Finance Committee	8 7:30p-Social Ministry	9	10
11 WORSHIP OUTDOORS 10a Registration required 12:30p-Adult Ed. "Get Your Life Back"	12 <i>Columbus Day</i> <i>Office Closed</i>	13 7:30a-Church Council Mtg.	14 10a-SYNOD Clergy Webinar "Faith Amidst Covid" 7p-Choir Rehearsal	15 7p-SYNOD Webinar for Congregation Leaders	16	17
18 <i>St. Luke the Evangelist & Physician</i> 10a-Projected	19 10a-HOPE Food Pickup	20 7:30p-Worship & Music	21 10a-Clergy Sermon Study 7p-Choir Rehearsal	22 7p- Book Club	23	24
Worship Indoors Registration required 12:30p-Adult Ed. "Get Your Life Back"						
25 10a-Projected	26	27	28 10a-Clergy Sermon Study 7p-Choir Rehearsal	29	30 Preschool Halloween Party	31 <i>Daylight Saving Time</i> Turn clocks back 1 hour
Worship Indoors Registration required 12:30p-Adult Ed. "Get Your Life Back"						Nov. 1 All Saints Day

Thank you to the Patrons of St. Luke's Voice – 2020

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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".



RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED



St. Luke's

Voice

October 2020

**St. Luke's Lutheran
Church (ELCA)**

95 Eastchester Rd.
New Rochelle, New
York

10801-1209

Please Open

Immediately:

TIME DATED

MATERIAL

