

# St. Luke's Voice

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

November 2020

St. Luke's

Lutheran

Church

95 EASTCHESTER  
ROAD  
NEW ROCHELLE,  
NEW YORK 10801

REV. DR. WILLIAM J.  
DAMROW, PASTOR

CHURCH: (914) 632-  
2116

EMAIL: STLUKE654  
@AOL.COM

CHECK OUR  
WEBSITE:  
[SLNR.org](http://SLNR.org)

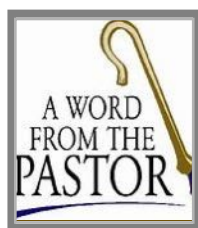
For Sunday  
Worship

[Visit us on Facebook!](#)

Newsletter Editor: Pat  
Fredericks.

Renee Taylor: Produc-  
tion.

## Where Do You See God Today?



Where do you see God in the world today?

Of the frequent feelings we hear people express living with the Covid-19 Pandemic, is a state of stress, anxiety, and depression. We all share some or all these feelings. We are all hurting. In a time of uncertainty and fear, we need care and connection to keep our spirits strong.

Beginning in November, St. Luke's will be hosting a support group open to all members, via Zoom. Sharing will be facilitated by Pastor Bill and Deacon Nancy Sigler. We need an avenue to express our feelings in safety, confidentiality, and mutual support. Please see the brief article in this newsletter and watch for the Zoom invite to the first meeting, Thursday, November 5 at 7:30 p.m.

We need to tend to our souls. Never is faith so needed as now – *"Now faith is the substance of things hoped for, the evidence of things not seen."* (Hebrews 11:1)

I have lived in places far enough from the city, that the lights did not obscure the many stars at night. One of the early stages of growing faith in my life came from looking up at the star tossed night sky and feeling the immensity of God. We are so small and God, like the heavens, is so great. It keeps things in perspective.

One of the great adjustments coming to live in New Rochelle is that the city lights reflect and obscure that same night sky. On a clear evening it looks like a mere dozen stars. It gives the impression that we humans are in charge and much greater than the heavens. Without immensity and grandeur, it feels like we are on our own, although the moon offers some distant comfort.

Recently I had a bit of epiphany – although the myriad stars are not visible, THEY ARE ALL THERE, out of eyesight. They are all there, sparkling and filling the sky, "looking down upon us". In the words of the Gerard Manley Hopkins poem "God's Grandeur"–

And for all this, nature is never spent;  
There lives the dearest freshness deep down things;  
And though the last lights off the black West went  
Oh, morning, at the brown brink eastward, springs —  
Because the Holy Ghost over the bent  
World broods with warm breast and with ah! bright wings.

This is a comfort and a natural example of how faith is "the evidence of things not seen". Just as the roots of a large neighborhood tree reach down and out into the earth, hidden from our eyes, so our faith has deep roots that we are not always aware of and God is alive and near even though our vision is often obscured by many things.

We need to return time and again to Jesus Christ and nature's reminders. The grandeur of God is very near. The presence of Jesus Christ and the Good News must be turned to again and again. God's Holy Spirit is with us in the living of *these* days. THEY ARE ALL HERE, as sure as the stars in the heavens.

Where do you see God today?

Peace,  
**Pastor Bill Damrow**

## STEWARDSHIP - "GENEROSITY: The Journey with Jesus."

In many ways these last few months have been long and unrelenting. The COVID-19 pandemic has left our world in a state of uncertainty, yet as Lutherans, we like to roll up our sleeves and get to work. Our church and its people continue to minister to our neighbors across the street and around the world., to those hurting and searching for peace.



You are a vital part of these ministries. You have stepped up to give to the church and support your neighbors. Staying in community is more important now than ever, and the church community is resilient because of the dedication of people such as you. As St. Paul points out in Romans 12:6-8, "We have gifts that differ according to the grace given to us; prophecy, in proportion to faith; ministry, in ministering; the teacher, in teaching; the exhorter, in exhortation; the giver, in generosity; the leader, in diligence; the compassionate, in cheerfulness."

Our journey with Jesus includes generosity in giving.

If you have not responded yet, please make your pledge for 2021. If you have not pledged in the past, we encourage you to do so now. Your weekly or monthly offering continues to be needed for the work of St. Luke's to continue.

Please consider increasing, if you can, or at least maintaining last year's pledge amount for 2021. Again, as you likely know, some of our church's outside sources of income have decreased as a result of the Coronavirus pandemic. Your stewardship is more necessary than ever this year.

Mailings went out in October and early November. Please complete your pledge card today and keep one copy for your records. *Return the other to St. Luke's* to help defray the cost of additional mailings.

Our pledges will be offered on **Loyalty Sunday, November 22**, the Sunday before *Thanksgiving*.

In Christ,  
***The Stewardship Ministry Committee***  
*Cathie Behrend, chair*  
*Thyra Brooks*  
*Pastor Damrow*  
*Jeremy Harris*  
*Renee Taylor*

*\*This article is edited from the most recent Stewardship letter*

## ALL SAINTS SUNDAY 2020

All Saints Sunday is observed on **Sunday, November 1**. We pray with gratitude for those who have died in the Lord and are now rejoicing with the whole communion of saints.

We invite you to email the Church Office ([StLuke654@aol.com](mailto:StLuke654@aol.com)) with the names of family and friends who have died to be added to our ***Book of Remembrance***.



## ST. LUKE'S PANDEMIC STRESS SUPPORT GROUP

Of the frequent feelings we hear people express living with the Covid-19 Pandemic, is a state of stress, anxiety, and depression. We all share some or all these feelings. We are all hurting. In a time of uncertainty and fear, we need care and connection to keep our spirits strong.

Beginning in November, St. Luke's will be hosting a support group open to all members, via Zoom. If there is interest, we may expand to twice a month. Sharing will be facilitated by Pastor Bill and Deacon Nancy Sigler. We need an avenue to express our feelings in safety, confidentiality, and mutual support.

Watch for the Zoom invite to the first meeting, the first Thursday of the month, Thursday, November 5, 7:30 - 8:30 p.m.

## LOYALTY SUNDAY



By Sunday, **November 22** you are invited to offer your **Pledge for the Year 2021**. Our pledges will be dedicated to God and God's church. Please mail your commitment card to the Church Office. (You may also email the information to the Church Office if you wish.)

## FOOD DRIVE FOR HOPE



Our Food Drive for Hope Community Services was Sunday, October 25<sup>th</sup>. We were set up for an easy, safe, drive through drop off.

Our goal was to collect 500 non-perishable food items on that day.

This year's Fall Food Drive was a first for St Luke's as it took place in the church parking lot. The goal on Sunday October 25 was to collect 500 non-perishable items between the hours of 11 am and 1 pm with people driving up and dropping off their donations. Popular

items included peanut butter, cans of tuna, chicken, beans, and boxes of cereal.

"Thanks for all your support," said Walter Ritz, Executive director at Hope Community Services. "It's never been more important than it is now."

The Drive was initiated by Pat Damrow from the Fellowship Committee and is part of a Feed the Northeast program run by Thrivent Financial. St. Luke's received a Thrivent Action Team grant to be used for an event held in October to collect 500 food items for a local food pantry. Our thanks to everyone who asked friends and neighbors to contribute and who generously donated to make our goal. Well done! Dawn McEvoy and Susanne Kuligowski promoted the event and Pat and Dawn delivered the items to Hope that Sunday.



St. Luke's hopes to be one of the first 100 completed Thrivent Action Teams in the Northeast to gather 500 items and so qualify for a \$500 check from Thrivent for Hope Community Services.

In addition to the many food items donated by church members for the Hope food pantry drive, 12 cans of tuna fish were donated by the St. Luke's Congregation (with money left from the Hope hot dinner budget) as a token of St. Luke's continuing commitment to hungry families.

If you missed the Food Drive, there is still an opportunity to help the hungry as the Social Ministry committee has applied to the ELCA World Hunger for a Matching Grant. If St. Luke's raises \$500 then the ELCA will match that.



## COOKING FOR HOPE AT ST. LUKE'S



The ace Cook Team of Joan Bast, Bill Rodriguez and Denise Tolles gathered on Saturday morning, Oct 17<sup>th</sup> to begin preparation of chicken paella for Hope Community Services. Happily they were joined by Gloria and Larry Head on Sunday to help complete the job! Lots of chopping, but a delicious result!

Here is a photo of this month's Hope food prep. The "Fake Paella" was a new recipe which looked and smelled delicious! The picture doesn't do the food justice.

## ANNUAL CONGREGATION BUDGET MEETING



A virtual Annual Budget Meeting will be Sunday, December 6 via Zoom. All active voting members (those who have received Holy Communion and made a contribution of record in the past year) are welcome to vote at the annual congregational meeting which helps our church enter the new year with a new budget.

The proposed budget will go out the Monday before on November 30 by email and hard copies earlier to those who do not have access to email.

# HAPPY THANKSGIVING

## from your Sunday School

We hope you all had a fun Halloween! We would love to see pictures! Please email us.

As Sunday School cannot yet meet in person, we hope you are sharing and enjoying the weekly lessons we have been sending. It is so important to continue learning and sharing God's Good News... especially during these trying times.

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

Take us with you on your journey!

God Bless you and your families....

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



St. Luke's returns to the sanctuary – Sunday, October 18<sup>th</sup> – carefully observing all safety measures.



Welcome, church family!

## HAPPY & BLESSED THANKSGIVING from the Fellowship Committee

We are repeating what we said in our last newsletter, as it is still timely....

*"We hope this newsletter finds everyone and their families safe and healthy.  
We know this has been difficult for all of us to stay separated from each other.  
We pray that we will be able to see you soon. "*

It has been an absolute joy to see our friends and family at the outdoor, and now indoor, Sunday Services. (See pictures on the previous page) We hope to see you again soon.

We are planning another "Virtual" Coffee Hour on November 15<sup>th</sup> at 11:30 am via zoom. Especially for those that cannot be present at Sunday Service. Please join us. A link will be emailed. Please look for the email or contact us if you do not receive it.

On Sunday October 24<sup>th</sup> we co-hosted a Food Drive for Hope Services. We received a Thrivent Action Grant and the chance for an additional grant if we collected 500 items. I hope next month we can tell you we reached our goal! Thank you to everyone that donated.

If anyone needs anything, please let us know. We are always here for you!

Stay strong St Luke's...

'Til we meet again...

Pat Damrow and Dawn McEvoy

[Mmcevoy33@aol.com](mailto:Mmcevoy33@aol.com)

[patdamrow@hotmail.com](mailto:patdamrow@hotmail.com)



## WORSHIP & MUSIC COMMITTEE NEWS

The Worship and Music Committee met on Tuesday, October 20<sup>th</sup>, for a lively discussion which included indoor Worship service and the possibility of Zoom Advent Vespers. We will continue to explore how we move forward as community during these unparalleled days. The committee is scheduled to meet again in December.

Stay safe and well,  
Julia Ungewitter

## WE NEED YOUR HELP! COUNTERS WANTED!!!



The Finance Committee is small yet mighty, but needs additional support. Please consider joining us on a Sunday after church services for approximately 1 hour, once per month.

Please contact Traci Daniele at [twdaniele@gmail.com](mailto:twdaniele@gmail.com) for more information or to sign up. Thank you for your consideration and support.

## ST. LUKE'S BOOK CLUB CORNER

St. Luke's summer read was *The Water Dancer* by Ta-Nehisi Coates. Our group met in late September via ZOOM to discuss this phenomenal book.

Coates' novel is a dramatic story of the atrocity inflicted on generations of women, men and children --- the violent and cruel separation of families.

His narrative reveals the war those enslaved waged simply to make lives with the people they loved. Harriet Tubman makes an important and memorable appearance as a key figure in Coates' amazing novel.

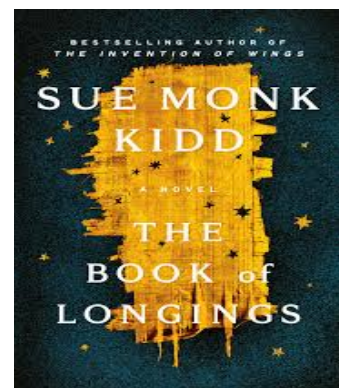
We discussed the meaning of family, the importance of memory, the skills of the enslaved, the corrosive effects of slavery, and the need for the resistance of injustice.

Ta-Nehisi Coates' contends:

*Until we reckon with our compounding moral debts, America will never be whole.*

Our November book is: *The Book of Longings* by Sue Monk Kidd. The novel begins:

*I am Ana. I was the wife of Jesus ben Joseph of Nazareth.* We will meet via ZOOM at 7:00 p.m. on Tuesday, November 17<sup>th</sup>.





## AROUND THE PARISH

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

*Our thoughts  
and prayers  
Are with you*

## NOVEMBER BIRTHDAYS & ANNIVERSARIES



### Birthdays

11/4 Brett Buehrer  
11/5 Peggy Lynch  
Kasandra Triolo  
Colin O'Garro  
11/6 Irene Breen  
11/7 John Emanuel  
Corey Shelukindo  
11/9 Traci Daniele

11/11 Steven Olsen, Jr  
Timothy Guido  
11/14 Dori DeCarlo  
James Breen  
11/15 Mason Dassler  
11/21 Martin Ungewitter  
11/22 Rosalind Carter  
11/28 Patricia Tobin  
11/29 Alexandra Archer

### Anniversaries

11/4 Walter & Elizabeth Mitze  
11/10 Henry & Christina Bast, Jr.  
11/20 Susan & Christopher Forsberg  
11/25 Harold & Carol Prout, Jr.

# ST. LUKE'S LUTHERAN CHURCH – NOVEMBER 2020

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
<b>1 All Saints Sunday</b> 10a-Service 12:00p-Adult Ed. Get Your Life Back”	2	<b>3 Election Day</b>	<b>4</b> 10a-Clergy Pericope Study via Zoom 7p-Choir Rehearsal	<b>5</b> 7:30p-Pandemic Stress Support Group	6	7
<b>8</b> 10a-Service 12:00p-Adult Ed. Get Your Life Back”-Last Class	<b>9 Veterans Day</b> <b>Office Closed</b>	<b>10</b> 7:30p-Church Council Mtg.	<b>11</b> 10a-Clergy Pericope Study via Zoom 7p-Choir Rehearsal	12	13	14
<b>15</b> 10a-Service 11:30a-Virtual Coffee Hour	16	<b>17</b> 7p-Reopening Committee	<b>18</b> 10a-Clergy Pericope Study via Zoom 7p-Choir Rehearsal	<b>19</b> 7p-St. Luke's Book Club 7:30p-Social Ministry	20	<b>21</b> Cooking for HOPE
<b>22 Loyalty &amp; Christ The King</b> 10a-Service	<b>23</b> 10a-Hope Food Pickup	24	<b>25</b> 10a-Clergy Pericope Study via Zoom 7p-Choir Rehearsal	<b>26 Thanksgiving Day</b> <b>Office Closed</b>	27	28
<b>29 1st Sunday of Advent</b> 10a-Service 10a-Lighting of the Advent Wreath	30	<b>Dec. 1</b>	<b>Dec. 2</b> Advent Vespers		<b>DEC. 6</b> <b>Annual Budget Mtg.</b>	All meetings except worship are via Zoom.

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

**Jennifer Archer**

**Margaret D' Andrea**

**Lorraine & Walter Helfer**

**Bob Maresca**

**Art Rankis**

**Aija Sears**

**Nancy Sigler**

**William & Madeline Tappert**

**Ernest & Rosalind Wallace**

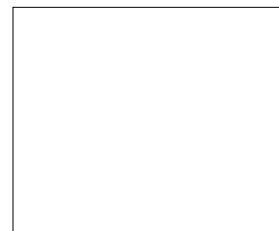
**Lilian Warren**

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".



**RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED**



*St. Luke's*  
*Voice*  
**November**  
**2020**

**St. Luke's Lutheran**  
**Church (ELCA)**  
95 Eastchester Rd.  
New Rochelle, New  
York  
10801-1209  
Please Open  
Immediately:

