



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

September 2023

Trusting our Future to God

St. Luke's Lutheran Church

95 Eastchester Road
New Rochelle, NY 10801

Rev. Cricket Cooper,
Interim Pastor

Sunday Worship:
10 A.M.

phone: (914) 632-2116
StLuke654@aol.com
SLNR.org

Visit us on Facebook!

Newsletter
Editor: Pat Fredericks

"See, I am doing a new thing! Now it springs up; do you not perceive it? I am making a way in the wilderness and streams in the wasteland." -- Isaiah 43:19

As the calendar shifts from summer to fall, the light shifts from bright to soft, the days shift from gloriously long to shorter and shorter.... And it affects us- some are already, in late-August, mourning the loss of the light and heat.... Others (OK, me for one!) love everything about fall, and are ready to hit "fast-forward" to the cooler temperatures and that golden afternoon light.

It's human to look ahead, and feel happy or sad or even neutral about what is coming. But the honest truth is: We DON'T actually know what's coming. Things change in the blink of an eye. Things we might dread never come to pass, things we don't expect happen overnight.

Change is a Constant.

None of us knows what information is coming our way this fall, following the CAT survey, and conversations with those consultants and with representatives from the synod. But we can be sure that there will BE information, and we will need to look at it and talk about it. We may or may not agree with the possible solutions or indications, but we do need to be in conversation.

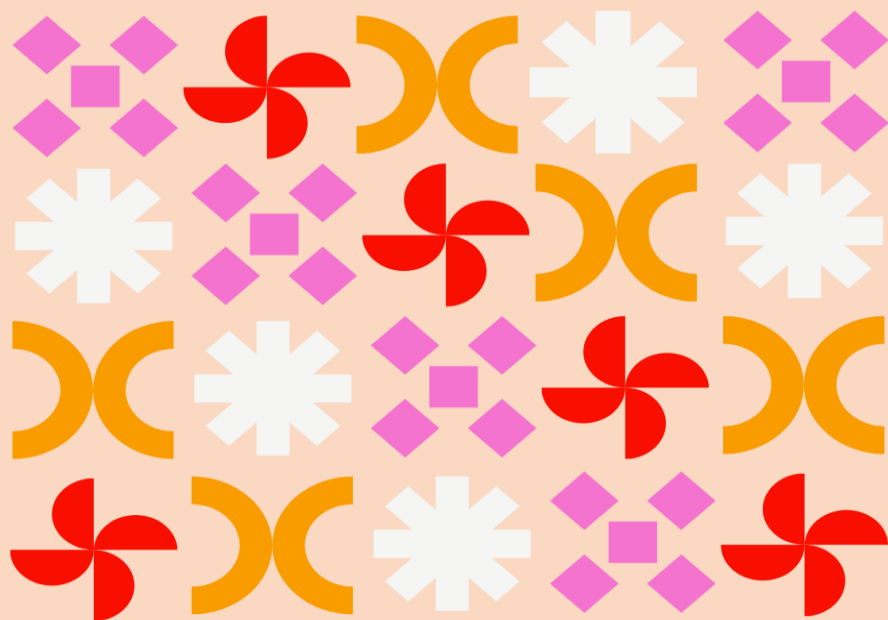
We will have our own personal feelings. We will judge some ideas as better than others. We will agree and disagree. And so, I want to call us all back to the Source of our lives, and remind us that things are always being Made New.

It is the work of God to refresh, renew, revision. It can "feel" good or bad, sweet or strange, safe or dangerous. But God will not let us go.

Can we see a future that is the same?
A future that is different?
And can we see God's hand in both?

ART FOR THE SOUL: MEDITATIVE ART EVENINGS

Join the Pastor Wednesday nights in September (6:30-8pm), for meditative and centering practices using arts and crafts. Getting out of our own heads and creating art gives us skills to focus and detach from the running commentary of the judging-mind.



JOIN US IN SEPT::::
Wednesdays at 6:30pm

Meditative Art Evenings

NO ART SKILL NEEDED!

**More info in the
September newsletter!**

**You do NOT have to be
“good at art” to
participate!**

These are meditative and
mindfulness experiences,
not “art class”!!!!

Materials will be
available.

PLEASE RSVP to
cricketuv@gmail.com
**so I have enough for
everyone!**

Basic instruction and
techniques will be
shared, and then much of
the time will include
working together in
silence, as music plays in
the background.
Sharing of your process
and insights is optional.
We will open and close
with prayer.

HOLY COW – Congregation Assessment Tool (C.A.T)

This summer St Luke's, at the suggestion of the Synod, engaged the services of Holy Cow Consulting to administer a self-study survey. One hundred (100) church members met the qualifications to participate, and 60 members completed the survey. The data is being analyzed by Holy Cow and we will receive a report shortly after Labor Day. The purpose of the survey was to gain insight into our congregation. It will help identify our strengths and weaknesses and measure the direction our members would like to go in the future. It will gauge our readiness for change and help identify how we can be successful as we proceed into the next steps of the transition process.

On September 11, Holy Cow will be conducting a Zoom meeting with the Church Council, the Transition Team, Pastor Cricket, and Pastor Chris Mietlowski, from the NY Metro Synod.

On Sunday September 24th, directly after the service at 11:15AM Holy Cow will be doing a Zoom presentation for the Congregation. We will have a screen set up in the gym for those who wish to stay after Church and participate, and of course we will send out the link for those who wish to view from home. There will be time for questions and answers and Pastor Chris will be available via Zoom also. The meeting will be recorded so anyone who misses it can view it later.

Thank you to everyone who participated in the C.A.T. survey this summer. I am looking forward to seeing the results and moving forward in the transition process.

Martha Johnson, Council VP

CHURCH COUNCIL SUMMER REPORT

Summer is typically a slower time for all Church organizations; however, the Church Council has had a very busy summer. There were several emergency property projects that were completed, a request for contingency funds to help address emergencies as they arise was sent out and we successfully launched a self-study survey through Holy Cow Consulting.

Property: Projects completed over the last few months are:

1. The roof over the kitchen was removed and replaced with a new sloping roof.
2. The skylight over the kitchen was leaking and replaced with a newly fabricated skylight.
3. Two trees that presented a danger in the playground area were removed and others were trimmed and braced as needed.
4. New code compliant smoke detectors were installed throughout the parsonage.
5. The second-floor bathroom of the parsonage was serviced by a plumber to correct blockages.
6. The exterior announcement board on the front of the property required replacement of the interior board. We are awaiting delivery of the parts.

(Continued on next page)

Contingency fund request:

A request for financial assistance to help increase our contingency fund to cover unforeseen issues that might arise was launched in May. To date \$15,460 has been raised. Unfortunately, most has already been spent on the emergency projects that were addressed this summer.

Finances:

The Church is currently running a YTD deficit of \$(11,778) vs a budgeted deficit of \$(41,061).

There is a positive variance in income due to \$15,460 in special giving for the contingency fund, \$4,700 increase in Current/Mission Support and \$2,600 in property envelopes. Expenses are trending very close to budget with a \$2,500 positive variance. While there are reasons to be hopeful, we are still at a loss of \$(11,778) as of July 31, 2023.

Finally, in February we voted to decrease the number of council members. Several members left the council to serve on the transition committee and others requested to step down. The current Council consists of:

Richard Tobin, President,	Term expires 2025
Martha Johnson, VP and Acting Secretary	Term expires 2025
Traci Danielle	Term expires 2025
Melissa McEvoy	Term expires 2025
Ed O'Garro	Term expires 2025
Walter Glatz	Term expires 2024
Steve Olsen	Term expires 2024
Julia Ungewitter	Term expires 2024



Next Council meeting is on Sept 11th with Holy Cow, and we will report on their findings in the next newsletter. There will also be a zoom meeting for the entire congregation with Holy Cow on Sept 24th directly after church. Login information will be shared closer to the presentation.

COOKING FOR HOPE

While we were sitting in on the meeting with Pastor Chris from the Synod, our Hope Cook team continued preparing a meal. Thanks to Angelika for shopping in June and thanks to Bill Rodriguez for single-handedly assembling the 13 trays of meatballs and tortellini during the meeting.

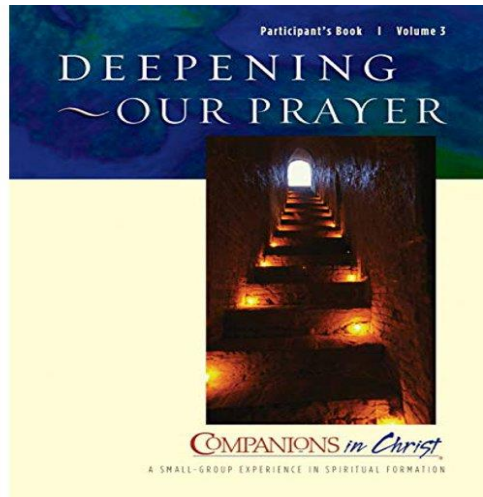


For August, The Hope Cook Team (Ken, Lisa and Olivia Connors, Patti Tobin, Angelika Ridulfo and Joan Bast) rapidly assembled the Hope dinner trays of pre-cooked chicken, fries, and string beans. Planning continues for fall meals.

The next HOPE Cook is scheduled for September 18th. Everyone is invited to lend a helping hand!

DEEPENING OUR PRAYER

A SMALL GROUP PROGRAM IN OUR SPIRITUALITY SERIES



Come join us for a 5-week small group study, Deepening Our Prayer, to experience new dimensions of prayer, try fresh ways of opening to God, and learn what it means to practice the presence of God.

Sessions are on Sundays after church in the Church Council Room on the following Sundays, 9/3, 9/10, 9/17, 10/1, & 10/8.

RSVP to Deacon Nancy Sigler at nls11@optonline.net
Order the book, "Deepening our Prayer (Participants Book)" in the Companions in Christ series for \$9.99 from Amazon or contact Nancy, who can order it for you.

Please read Chapter 1 prior to the first session on 9/3/23.

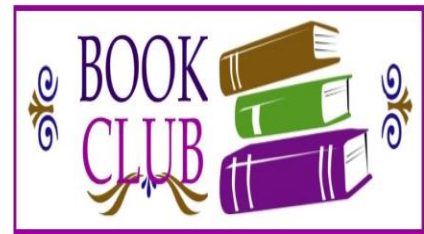
BOOK CLUB CORNER

St. Luke's Book Club will be meeting in person on Wednesday, September 20, at 12:30 P.M. Our meeting will be a luncheon held at Barnes and Noble Bookstore, 680 Post Road, Scarsdale, New York.

The Book Club chose two summer selections this year:

MASTER SLAVE HUSBAND WIFE, an epic journey from slavery to freedom, by Ilyon Woo, tells the incredible story of Ellen and William Craft's flight to freedom. The author immerses us in a beautifully written, thoroughly researched, and compelling story of courage, love, and yearning to be free. . . and REMARKABLY

BRIGHT CREATURES by Shelby Van Pelt, a story of family, community and optimism in spite of darkness. We encounter --- Marcellus the Octopus --- a most intriguing and satisfying character. This novel explores how loneliness can be transformed, even cracked open, with the slightest touch from another living thing.



FUNNY FARM, MY UNEXPECTED LIFE WITH 600 RESCUE ANIMALS, by Laura Zaleski, was an optional summer read. FUNNY FARM is a true story of promises kept, dreams fulfilled, and animals lost and found.

ANXIOUS PEOPLE, a novel by Fredrik Backman, is our book for October. We will be meeting via ZOOM or in person on Wednesday, October 18, 2023.

No entertainment is so cheap as reading nor any pleasure so lasting.

--- Lady Mary Wortley Montagu.

St. Luke's Lutheran Church

Sunday School



RALLY DAY

September 10th 2023

Service begins at 10am

Blessing of Backpacks,
Briefcases, Lunch boxes,
Diaper bags... etc.

Sunday School for
ALL children 3yrs -HS

Learn God's Good News!

Congregation reception
following Service
in Fellowship Hall

Meet the teachers!

*ALL ARE
WELCOME!!*

To register, or if you have any
questions, please contact
Dawn McEvoy, Superintendent,
at mmcevoy33@aol.com



St. Luke's Lutheran Church
95 Eastchester Road
New Rochelle, NY 10801
Website: SLNR.Org
Phone: 914-632-2116

WELCOME BACK TO SUNDAY SCHOOL

We have missed you!!! All Are Welcome!!!

We continue welcoming guests and new students to the Sunday School. If you would like to register, or if you have not registered yet, please do so by contacting me.

Rally Day is Sept. 10th. We will be having a reception after worship in the fellowship hall!

There will be a FREE WILL Offering! PLEASE continue to support our Sunday School with your contributions.

Children will start upstairs in church with their families and be called down to their classes.

All children aged 3 to High School are welcome. We have wonderful teachers that are all Sunday School grads including ME!

Please come and meet us during the reception!

All students should have their own envelopes to use for Sunday donations. We like to teach children the importance of tithing at an early age and your donations help us to do all the things we do for the Sunday School: their lessons, supplies, crafts, gifts, pageants, costumes, parties... We ask that all children use their envelopes; if the children do not have them, we will provide them. Please help to support the Sunday School with your contributions.



God Bless you and your families....
Hope to see you all Sunday!
Please visit our website and Facebook pages.
www.Slnr.org and [@slnr.org](https://www.facebook.com/slnr.org)

Yours in Christ,

Dawn McEvoy – Superintendent

Email: mmcevoy33@aol.com

Karen Fontecchio – Asst. Superintendent

Traci Daniele – Treasurer

Teachers – Melissa McEvoy, Vicky McEvoy,

Shari Taylor and Jacob Kuligowski

**St. Luke's Lutheran Church
Annual Family Retreat
Koinonia**

October 13 – 15th 2023

“Blest be the ties that Bind”

All are invited and welcome!



Enjoy their beautiful retreat center in Highland Lake, New York (approx. 1 ½ hours from New Rochelle)
165 Lakeview Drive Road
Highland Lake, NY
Rates include 2 nights' accommodations and 5 meals
Single room \$265 per person
Double room \$165 per person
Triple room \$445 in total
(Children 12 and under \$100 per person)

Activities include Fellowship, Bible Study, Hiking, Boating, Puzzles, Crafts - PUMPKIN Carving and more.

Rooms are limited so please contact Dawn McEvoy
As soon as possible at mmcevoy33@aol.com.

Reservation must be confirmed and paid by September 15th.
Make checks payable to “St. Luke's Church” memo KOINONIA

Visit their website for pictures and more information ~ www.koinonianany.org

We hope you will join us!



HAPPY FALL from the FELLOWSHIP COMMITTEE

Rally Day is the 10th of September . . . back from Summer Vacations and Back to Sunday School. All are invited to join us after worship for the reception.

Koinonia Family retreat is Oct 13-15- see Flyer on previous page – all are welcome! RSVP ASAP – space is limited!

October 29th is our annual Gratitude Brunch – Flyer with details on the next page.



Save the date for the Holiday Boutique, Nov 4th. Please share the flyer which can be found elsewhere in this issue.

Set up is the 3rd and cleanup is the 4th and the 5th.

PLEASE sign up to help with clean up on the 4th at 3pm.

It will only take 1 hour of your time. Sign up will be in the Narthex.

UPDATE on BUY A BRICK – Thanks to our Boy Scout troop and Alex, who earned his Eagle Scout award for his service project for St. Luke's Church our backyard looks fabulous! Not only did he take down the Brick Fireplace, he also cleaned up all the debris from the yard and cleaned up and replanted around our Meditation Garden. We are now ready to order the new bricks, but I keep putting it off hoping we will get more orders. As soon as I said we were ending the campaign, people asked about purchasing, therefore **I am going to give you one more chance to leave a legacy at St. Luke's !!!!**

Order your commemorative bricks for our Meditation Garden. We need to place the order very soon but we are hoping for one more push. We have 4x6 for \$100 and 8x8 for \$250. You can get a mini ONLY if you order a larger one for just \$25. A flyer for placing your order is on page 12 of this issue. Order yours today!

If you are on Facebook, please join our page.

“St. Luke's New Rochelle”.

Please visit our Website at SLNR.org.

Thank you to our committee and all those with the time and talents to support our mission of unity and oneness in Christ. Our church is an amazing family because we are all part of it.



Yours In Christ,

Dawn McEvoy email: Mmcevoy33@aol.com cell: 347-604-3969

Committee members: Julia Ungewitter, Angelika Ridulfo, Leam, Melissa and Vicky McEvoy, Susanne and Jacob Kuligowski, Renee, Bill and Shari Taylor, Lydia Bersito and Traci Daniele

*St. Luke's Lutheran Church
Stewardship and Fellowship Committees
Invite you to join us for a*

Gratitude Brunch

Oct. 29th, 2023



Please join us Sunday,
October 29th immediately
following Worship Service

In the Fellowship Hall

To recognize and appreciate
all that we have to be
thankful for....

As a Church and as a
Church Family.

There will be a free
will offering.

Please rsvp by Oct. 22nd

To Dawn McEvoy at

mmcevoy33@aol.com

Or use the sign up sheet in
the Narthex.

All are Welcome!



Last chance ...
MEDITATION GARDEN
BUY A BRICK

In honor of our 150th Anniversary we are adding to our beautiful Meditation Garden. For those we have loved and lost, for the milestones we have cherished, what better way to memorialize them. **THIS IS THE FINAL CHANCE** to add your lasting memory! To place your order, please use the form below:

In Honor of
 Janie Smith
 First Holy Communion

In Memory of
 Grandma
 Grandpa
 Rest In Peace
 We love and miss you

"4x8" Brick 3 Lines \$100

"8x8" Brick 6 Lines \$250

Mini Bricks are available as exact replicas of larger bricks WITH purchase only. Cost \$25 each.
 Approximately 1½"x 3" Brick 4"x8" (3 lines – 20 characters and spaces per line)

Brick 8"x8" (6 lines – 20 characters and spaces per line)

To order additional bricks, please make additional copies of this flyer.

YourName _____ Phone _____
 Address _____ Email _____
 City _____ State _____ Zip _____

_____ 4"x8" Brick(s) @ \$100 = _____ # _____ 8"x8" Brick(s) @\$250 = _____

_____ Mini Brick(s) @\$25 = _____ TOTAL ENCLOSED = \$ _____

.....
ALL PURCHASES AND DONATIONS ARE TAX DEDUCTIBLE. Please make checks payable to St. Luke's Lutheran Church and mail or deliver this form with your check to: **St. Luke's Church, 95 Eastchester Road, New Rochelle, NY 10801**
 If you have any questions, please contact Dawn McEvoy at 347-604-3969 or email mmcevoy33@aol.com

Thank you for your support!!!



Coffee Hour Assignment Sheet Spring Summer Fall 2023

<u>Date</u>	<u>Committee</u>
Sept 3	Sunday School
Sept 10 – Rally Day	Fellowship
Sept 17	Altar Guild
Sept 24	Senior Choir
Oct 1	Church Council
Oct 8	Social Ministry
Oct 15	Fellowship
Oct 22	Altar Guild
Oct 29	Fellowship
Nov 5	Sunday School
Nov 12	Senior Choir
Nov 19	Church Council
Nov 26	Social Ministry
Dec 3	Altar Guild
Dec 10	Fellowship
Dec 17	Sunday School
Dec 24	Senior Choir
Dec 31	Church Council
Jan 7	Social Ministry
Jan 14	Altar Guild

Please select members of your committee to honor your dates. You need to set up, clean up and bring milk, juice & dessert etc. You can use this time to promote your committee or upcoming events! If your committee would like to contribute coffee supplies that would be great too!

Coffee Hour has become a great Fellowship hour, Thanks to all of you!

ANY questions or conflicts please contact Dawn McEvoy at email: mmcevoy33@aol.com (cell) 347-604-3969 .

Thank you!

ALL HELP and DONATIONS are WELCOME any Sunday!!

AROUND THE PARISH



In Our Prayers this month are those hospitalized, with health concerns, or in transition or treatment, and all those in our Sunday prayers.

SEPTEMBER BIRTHDAYS & ANNIVERSARIES

Birthdays

9/2	Laurence Head	9/18	Karin Breen-Ahyoung
9/3	Patricia Elser	9/19	Jennifer O'Garro
	Danita Armstrong		Susan Olsen-Forsberg
9/4	Walter Glatz		Catherine Tobin
9/6	Denise Link	9/20	Victoria Santizo
9/9	Pastor Bill Damrow		Adin Triolo
	Christopher Fredericks	9/22	Dorothy Smith
	Graeme Buehrer	9/23	Judith Amato
9/11	Michael O'Neill	9/25	Fred Mallya
9/12	Susanne Kuligowski		Noah Conroy
9/14	Patrick Johansen Shiels	9/27	William Ungewitter
9/17	Ward Henderson	9/28	Patricia Zyloney
9/18	Madeline Tappert		Petrona Ennis-Welch
	Robert Bissinger		

Anniversaries

9/4	Susanne & Bruce Kuligowski
9/11	Brad & Patricia Fredericks
9/15	Henry & Rosemarie Doerr
9/18	Paula Hayes & Robert Tupper
9/20	Susan Johansen-Shiels & Patrick Shiels
9/21	Leam & Dawn McEvoy
	Robert & Faith Bissinger
9/22	John & Kristen Amato
9/25	Denise & Corey Link
9/28	Matthew & Arianne Damrow



*** SAVE THE DATE ***

November 4, 2023



Holiday Boutique

**St. Luke's Lutheran Church
95 Eastchester Road, New Rochelle
10 am to 3 pm**

**RUMMAGE SALE
RAFFLES!!!**

*New Holiday Merchandise
Beautiful Handcrafted Items*

**AVON, BAKE Sale
Tastefully Simple
Jewelry&Gifts, Books&Media**

**Tastefully Simple
"Christkindl " Booth**

Have Lunch at the CAFÉ !



St. Luke's Lutheran Church – September 2023

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
<p><u>All Sundays starting Sept. 10</u> 9a-Choir Rehearsal 10a-Choir 10a-Sunday School</p>	<p>(*Via Zoom)</p>				1	2 9:30a-A.A. Men's Group
<p>3 10a-Worship 11a-Coffee Hour, Host: Sunday School</p>	<p>4 Labor Day Office Closed</p>	<p>5 7:30p-Worship & Music*</p>	<p>6 10a-Prayer Group* 6:30p-Meditative Art</p>	7	<p>8 7:15p-Boy Scouts</p>	<p>9 9:30a-A.A. Men's Group</p>
<p>10 Rally Day 10a-Worship 10a-Sunday School Begins, Blessing of Sunday School Staff & Children 11a-Coffee Hour, Host: Fellowship</p>	<p>11 7:00p- Church Council Special Mtg.-Holy Cow*</p>	12	<p>13 10a-Prayer Group* 6:30p-Meditative Art</p>	14	<p>15 7:15p-Boy Scouts</p>	<p>16 9:30a-A.A. Men's Group</p>
<p>17 10a-Worship 10a-Sunday School 11a-Coffee Hour, Host: Altar Guild 11a-Cooking for HOPE</p>	<p>18 10a-HOPE Food Pickup</p>	19	<p>20 10a-Prayer Group* 12:30p-Book Club in person 6:30p-Meditative Art</p>	21	<p>22 7:15p-Boy Scouts</p>	<p>23 9:30a-A.A. Men's Group</p>
<p>24 10a-Worship 10a-Sunday School 11a-Coffee Hour, Host: Sr. Choir</p>	25	26	<p>27 10a-Prayer Group* 6:30p-Meditative Art</p>	28	<p>29 7:15p-Boy Scouts</p>	<p>30 9:30a-A.A. Men's Group</p>

Thank you to the Patrons of St. Luke's Voice – 2023

Jennifer Archer	Art Rankis
Traci Daniele	Aija Sears
Lorraine Helfer	Nancy Sigler
Walter Glatz	Bob Maresca
Ernest & Rosalind Wallace	

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".