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# St. Luke's Voice

St. Luke's Lutheran Church, New Rochelle, NY

May 2024

## **St. Luke's**

## **Lutheran Church**

95 Eastchester Road  
New Rochelle, NY  
10801

Rev. James O'Hanlon,  
Coverage Pastor  
917 803-3974

## **Sunday Worship: 10 A.M.**

Phone: (914) 632-2116  
[StLuke654@aol.com](mailto:StLuke654@aol.com)  
SLNR.org

Visit us on Facebook!

## **Newsletter**

Editor: Pat Fredericks

### **And Who Is My Neighbor?**

25 Just then a lawyer stood up to test Jesus. 'Teacher,' he said, 'what must I do to inherit eternal life?' 26 Jesus said to him, 'What is written in the law? What do you read there?' 27 He answered, 'You shall love the Lord your God with all your heart, and with all your soul, and with all your strength, and with all your mind; and your neighbor as yourself.' 28 And he said to him, 'You have given the right answer; do this, and you will live.'

29 But wanting to justify himself, he asked Jesus, 'And who is my neighbor?' (Luke chapter ten)

This exchange with Jesus and the lawyer is one of my very favorite portions of my favorite Gospel. Among other things is the question the lawyer asks as a follow up: 'And who is my neighbor?' Like many of the most important questions in life there is not a simple, direct answer. It is a question we must ask each day and a question every church must deliberate on.

Many American Lutheran churches were born out of mass migrations. Norwegians, Slovaks, Finns, and Estonians and others were a part of 19<sup>th</sup> and early 20<sup>th</sup> century waves of immigrants. They started churches which grew rapidly with a flood of people who urgently needed to connect in a strange new land. The Immigration and Nationality Act of 1965 changed all that; waves of Europeans became a global influx. The mid-1960s was the highest rate of church attendance in American history, churches doubled in size in a matter of ten years. Immigration was only a part of that growth.

That change in immigration law is just one reason why the question 'And who is my neighbor?' is more complicated than ever. There is also a huge generation gap. This started in the 1960s but recently there is a widening gap between younger and older Americans. In some ways they live in different worlds.

Trying to keep a church growing takes on these huge complications and, on top of this, Americans have a very different view of religion today. Apart from looking for new church members, we are called to serve our neighbor. 'Who is my neighbor?' is a question for market research and data collection but it's also a mission that we are all charged with, a mission to love. We must love our neighbor, but how? We need to know who they are.

-- *peace,*

Pastor Jim O'Hanlon

## CHURCH COUNCIL REPORT

Happy Mother's Day, Blessed Memorial Day

Happy Spring, finally, from your church council. April showers truly do bring May Flowers!

There is a FULL Congregation meeting on Sunday, May 5<sup>th</sup> regarding the sale of the Parsonage. We need all voting members to attend. We must have a quorum. Please do your best to attend. We have sold all assets in the Parsonage, we have removed all other debris, we have had it cleaned top to bottom and believe we are ready to go to sale. We need your approval to hire the Attorney. We have also selected the real estate agent. We will update you on all of the above on the 5<sup>th</sup>.

Thank you again to all that made this happen. The council members, of course, especially Brett, Denise, Traci and Donna. As well as Lydia Bersito, Leam McEvoy and Susanne Kuligowski. We couldn't have done it without you!

We have formed a subcommittee to explore all options in replacing our sexton, Sylvia, who is retiring in mid-June. We have decided to hire a part time sexton for 8-10 hours a week. One that doesn't live on property. See insert below about that position. We, as a council, have determined that it is better to leave the sexton apartment empty for the time being since we do not know what our future Pastor role will look like. This way we have it if we need it. We have also had an inquiry from the preschool about renting it. So, we have options.

Thank you to the rest of the council who have also been committing their time and talents to help preserve our church and its future. Every member is doing their part to ensure our future.

Currently we have Pastors confirmed for every single Sunday through the end of August. We will start recruiting Supply Pastors for the fall, as it seems we will not be in the position to Call a New Pastor before then. We are very fortunate to have our coverage Pastor, Jim O'Hanlon, who has agreed to extend his commitment to August 31<sup>st</sup>. He has also agreed to begin Confirmation classes. There will be a Student and Parent dinner on Wednesday, May 8<sup>th</sup> at 7pm. All eligible children are welcome, please email me if you will be attending.

We want to also thank our Deacons and Lay Leaders who continue to support us and ensure we have all we need for weekly worship services. Thank you, Deacon Nancy Sigler, Deacon Renee Taylor, Susanne Kuligowski and Kris Haymon for your commitment.

Thank you to Carla LaBarbera, our Church Secretary, for all her help always! We truly appreciate her and all her work.

We are moving forward, business as usual, to maintain our church and its ministry. We will continue to keep you abreast of all updates as we have them. This is your church; we are just honored to be your council.

God Bless you all!

Respectfully Submitted,

Dawn McEvoy, Council President

Denise Tolles, Vice President; Steve Olsen, Treasurer; Traci Daniele, Finance Secretary

Melissa McEvoy, Secretary; Brett Buehrer, Donna Elmer, Karen Fontecchio, Ed O'Garro and Angelika Ridulfo

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***Dear St. Luke's Members,***

We are looking to hire a weekend sexton starting June 15th for approximately 10 hours per week at \$40 per hour. This is a short-term position lasting through the end of December with the possibility of extending into the new year. The Sexton would be required to handle all cleaning duties in and around the church, including but not limited to, setting up and breaking down Saturday and Sunday morning and special events, this would include some heavy lifting and physical capability.

If interested, please email your letter of interest or resume to [stluke654@aol.com](mailto:stluke654@aol.com)

## BOOK CLUB CORNER

*One book is enough, but a thousand books are not too many.*

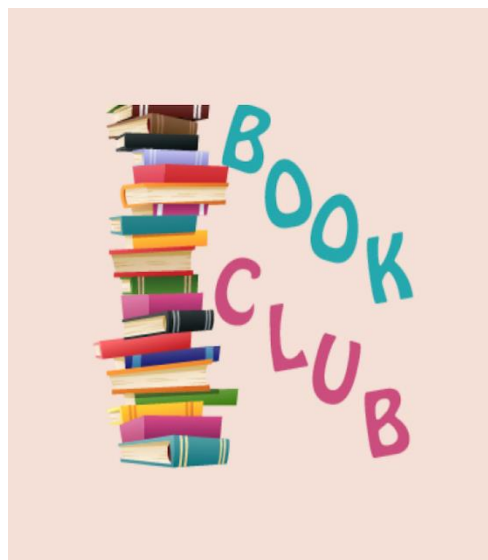
*~ Martin Luther*

### **SPRING 2024**

Thursday, May 23 ----- *THE WOMEN*  
BY KRISTIN HANNAH

Thursday, June 20 ----- *THE MUSEUM OF FAILURES*  
BY THRITY UMRIGAR

SUMMER SELECTION -----  
*THE COVENANT OF WATER*  
BY ABRAHAM VERGHESE



St. Luke's Book Club continues to meet monthly at Barnes & Noble in Scarsdale. In May and June, we will dine alfresco while discussing Kristin Hannah's and Thrity Umrigar's most recent novels.

Everyone is welcome to join us!

*Reading is an exercise in empathy; an exercise in walking in someone else's shoes for a while.*

*~ Malorie Blackman*

## COOKING FOR HOPE



The St. Luke's Community thanks Gloria and Larry Head for their generous donation of aluminum trays, which are essential, but expensive items, required for our food prep work for Hope Community Services. As you know, Gloria and Larry live in Texas now, so we are especially grateful that they have remembered St. Luke's and have contributed to our mission!

The Hope Cook Team (minus the Retreat Women!) carried on to prepare a delicious chicken and rice dish on April 14<sup>th</sup>. The next Hope Cook is May 19<sup>th</sup>. All are welcome!"



## BLESSED MOTHERS' DAY

*From the Fellowship Committee*



God Bless all our moms! Grandmas, Aunts, Sisters, Nieces, Cousins, friends, etc.! We are so blessed to have such a wonderful church, committed congregation and support! Thank you to you all!

Thank you to all that attended our pancake breakfast on Sunday, April 7<sup>th</sup>. Although attendance was way lower than we would have liked Leam, Joan and Bill, prepared a delicious breakfast for us. Thank you to the Sunday School for presenting such a wonderful Easter Pageant. So sorry for all that missed this awesome day.

Our Annual Women's Retreat to Koinonia was April 12-14<sup>th</sup>. We had an absolutely fabulous weekend with our friends. We hiked, boated, made crafts, did a crazy hard puzzle and yoga. We also had wonderful bible study led by Deacon Nancy and church service led by Exec Dir. Kathleen. (see article and picture on the next page) They have a new cook, who is awesome! We hope you will consider joining us October 18-20 for our annual family retreat.

Save the date for our congregational picnic which will be June 2<sup>nd</sup> after service in the fellowship hall. There will be a sign up in the Narthex. All are welcome!

We are going to start advertising to our wider community to welcome them to our church. Please help by also spreading the Good News. St. Luke's is open for business!

Thank you to our Deacons, lay leaders and all our supply Pastors for serving us every Sunday, we are so grateful for your commitment and dedication.

We look forward to seeing everyone at church and at coffee hours. Thank you to the committees for helping to make coffee hour so successful!



God's blessings to you and your families! God Bless our Congregation and our beloved church!

If you are on Facebook, please join our page. "St. Luke's New Rochelle". Please visit our Website at [SLNR.org](http://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](mailto: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

## KOINONIA WOMEN'S RETREAT



The Annual Koinonia Women's Retreat was held April 12-14 at Koinonia Lutheran Retreat in Highland, NY. Although rain in the forecast put a damper on Kayaking there was no shortage of activities or opportunities for Fellowship. Many of us started our day with clearing our minds and stretching our bodies during Yoga class held by Julia Ungewitter or took an early morning walk before breakfast. Our Deacon Nancy Sigler led our Bible Study and the theme of this year's retreat was "The Lord Is Our Shepherd". Afternoon activities were abounding: crafts, hiking, massages, reading or doing whatever made you relax and feel comfortable.

Saturday Night found us laughing and crying while watching "A Man Called Otto" with Tom Hanks while enjoying delicious snacks. Many thanks to Dawn McEvoy and our Fellowship Committee for organizing!



# HAPPY MOTHERS' DAY

from the SUNDAY SCHOOL!



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. 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.

God Bless our Moms, Grandmas, Aunts, Nieces, Sisters, WOMEN.. all that mother us!

Thank you to all that attended our Easter Pageant and Pancake Breakfast on April 8<sup>th</sup>. The children and staff did an absolutely wonderful job! They delivered the story of the Resurrection with only 3 children and 3 staff... very adaptable they are! We are so proud of them and thank their parents for all of their support!



**Save the Date for our end of year Congregational Picnic and Sunday School Promotions on June 2<sup>nd</sup>. That will be our last day of Sunday School till the Fall. See flyer elsewhere in this issue! Signup in Narthex.**

Children are always welcome in church and need to learn how to follow the bulletin and participate in the worship service... please continue coming over the summer. We have Pastors every week! We have been busy learning God's Good News in the New Testament from Jesus Birth to his Crucifixion and Resurrection. We try to include crafts and adding things to the bulletin board whenever we can. Look at the fabulous job Nicholas did with the bulletin board so far! All children aged 3 to High School are welcome. We have wonderful teachers that are all Sunday School grads including ME!

We have Sunday School each week at 10am till the end of church service. You can come down after worship to pick up your children. We prepare weekly lessons and crafts to teach God's Good News thru Bible stories. A child's Lutheran education is vital for their spiritual growth.

All students should have their own envelopes to use for the Sunday Donations. We like to teach them the importance of tithing at an early age and all of 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 then we will provide them. Please help to support the Sunday school with your contributions.

We are trying to reach out to the community to increase our Sunday School attendance. If you know of someplace, we can post information, please let us know.

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

*Yours in Christ,*  
*Dawn McEvoy – Superintendent*  
*Email: [mmcevoy33@aol.com](mailto:mmcevoy33@aol.com)*  
*Karen Fontecchio – Asst. Superintendent*

*Traci Daniele – Treasurer*  
*Teachers – Melissa McEvoy, Vicky McEvoy,*  
*Shari Taylor and Jacob Kuligowski*



# *End of Year Congregation Picnic/BBQ*

**Hosted by the Sunday School**

Please join us for our end of year celebration –

All are WELCOME! Please rsvp.

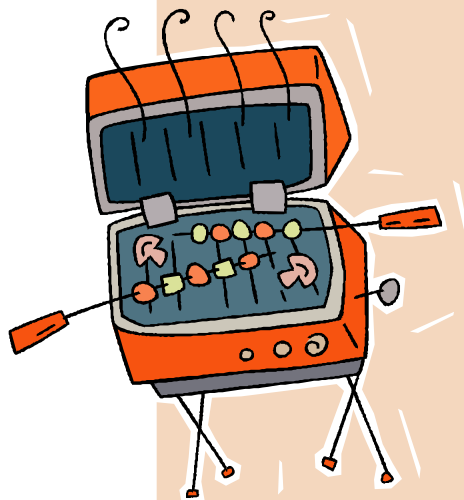
June 2<sup>nd</sup> at 11am

immediately following service in Fellowship Hall and Backyard

***RSVP to:***

**Dawn at [mmcevoy33@aol.com](mailto:mmcevoy33@aol.com)**

**or use sign up in Narthex.**



St. Like's Lutheran Church  
95 Eastchester Road  
New Rochelle, NY 10801



## 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.



## MAY BIRTHDAYS AND ANNIVERSARIES

### Birthdays

5/1	Shari Taylor	5/21	Victoria McEvoy
5/2	Thomas Breen	5/22	Nancy LoPresti
	Sean Taylor		Michael Dassler
5/6	Olivia Connors	5/24	Matthew Brent
5/10	Carmen Thompson		Conor Ahyoung
	Faith Forsberg	5/26	Douglas Smith
5/11	Karen DiBiccari		Susan Johansen-Shiels
5/12	Leam McEvoy		Matthieu Rankis
	Melissa Rubicco	5/27	Roberta Dassler
5/15	Sherry Fraser-Pulvermiller		Karen Fontecchio
5/16	Daniel Brisson	5/28	Megan Fontecchio
5/17	John Rubicco	5//31	Kristen Johnson-Head

### Anniversaries

5/3	Michael & Nadia Dassler
5/15	Richard & Patricia Tobin
5/18	Clifford & Roberta Dassler
5/18	Kristen & Matthew Head
5/21	Margaret & Michael Nicolais
5/22	Joan Bast-Rodriguez & William Rodriguez

# ST. LUKE'S LUTHERAN CHURCH – MAY 2024

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
<b><u>All Sundays</u></b> 9a-Choir Rehearsal 10a-Choir 10a-Sunday School 11a-Coffee Hour			1	2	3 7:15p-Boy Scouts	4 9:30a-A.A. Men's Group
5 10a-Worship with Rev. John Backe 10a-Sunday School 11a-Coffee Hour, Host: Church Council <b>Congregational Mtg. after worship</b>	6	7	8 <b>7p-Confirmation Class: Get to Know You Dinner with Pastor O'Hanlon at St. Luke's</b>	9	10 No Boy Scouts	11 9:30a-A.A. Men's Group
12 <b>Mother's Day</b> 10a-Worship with Rev. John Backe 10a-Blessing of Mothers 10a-Sunday School 11a-Coffee Hour, Host: Fellowship	13	14	15	16	17 7:15p-Boy Scouts	18 9:30a-A.A. Men's Group
19 10a-Worship with Rev. Mark Brown 10a-Sunday School 11a-Coffee Hour, Host: Sr. Choir 11a-Cooking for HOPE; 2p-Memorial Svc.-Margaret Lenz	20 10a-HOPE Food Pickup 7p-Church Council Mtg.	21	22	23 1:30p-Book Club at Barnes & Noble	24 No Boy Scouts	25 9:30a-A.A. Men's Group
26 10a-Worship with Rev. John Backe No Sunday School 11a-Coffee Hour, Host: Sunday School	27 <b>Memorial Day Office Closed</b>	28	29	30 Setup for Preschool Learning Center Graduation	31 10a-Preschool Learning Center Graduation 7:15p-Boy Scouts	<b>June 2</b> Sun. Sch. Promotions/ Congregation Picnic/BBQ

## **Thank you to the Patrons of St. Luke's Voice – 2024**

Jennifer Archer  
Dawn McEvoy

Art Rankis  
Aija Sears  
Ernest & Rosalind Wallace

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

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