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# St. Luke's Voice

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

March 2025

**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

## **For Such a Time as This**

In my talk after church a few weeks ago I talked about how we might start to think about the future. We need to understand the world around us, how to be listening and helping. I talked about how the pace of change is hard to keep up with and the breadth and depth of change is hard to comprehend. Part of this change is about technology, but another part is a change in values and social mores involving sexual orientation and gender, the nature of composition of families. These are a part of what is sometimes called the culture wars. Our society is becoming increasingly divided and hostile.

Following the many events surrounding the January Presidential Inauguration there was an unusual amount of attention to the sermon at the service of National Unity the day after the inauguration. The President and other observers took issue with some of what the Bishop said, remarks that she directed to the President. With that national media attention, something preachers and churches and Bishops are not used to, there was a flurry of opinions and statements and even proposed legislation against the Bishop. If you did not see the sermon, you can google Bishop Mariann Budde or you can make an appointment where we can let you view it. The following Sunday I shared a response from our Presiding Bishop, Elizabeth Eaton. There were a great many other responses from other Bishops and preachers each making different points.

It is unusual for churches like ours to have this kind of attention. We don't do dramatic things that make a big splash. We are among what is called the Mainline churches; these are older, established European churches. That label comes from an actual route in Philadelphia that had many of these churches which were larger and more prominent at the time.

The intersection of church and politics is complicated and hazardous. Last year I gave a presentation on Christian Nationalism describing this fusion of church and politics that has a horrible history. I can share this on request.

Our society is increasingly polarized, ever more divided and hostile. We need to recognize the causes of this, the things that drive this toxicity. If there is going to be a place where people can still come together across political and social differences, it will be our houses of worship.

*(continued on page 2)*

We don't always get the attention of the world in this time of blazing media messaging, but I believe we are the antidote to the divisiveness and isolation of our time. To step into that role will involve risks of negative reaction but it is a role we are called to by our gospel, a role for which we are richly gifted by God's Holy Spirit.

peace, Pastor Jim

## **ST. Luke's Lutheran Church -- Pastor Calendar**

**Updated at 1/29/25**

### **Worship Services**

Feb 2 – Mark Brown  
Feb 9 – Mark Brown  
Feb 16 -Samuel Reddimalla n/s – Susanne Kuligowski  
Feb 23 – John Backe

Mar 2 – Mark Brown  
**March 5 – Ash Wed (7pm) – John Backe**  
Mar 9 – John Backe  
**March 12 vespers – John Backe**  
Mar 16 - Mark Brown  
**Mar 19 Vespers –** Deacon Nancy Sigler  
Mar 23 - John Backe  
**Mar 26 vespers – John Backe**  
Mar 30 – Mark Brown

**April 2 Vespers –** Susanne Kuligowski  
April 6 – John Backe  
**April 9 Vespers –** Susanne Kuligowski  
April 13 - Palm Sunday - Mark Brown  
April 17 – Maundy Thursday (7pm) – John Backe  
April 18 – Good Friday (7pm) – John Backe  
April 20 – Easter Sunday – John Backe  
**April 27 – Confirmation Jim O'Hanlon**

May 4 & 18 – John Backe  
May 11 & 25<sup>th</sup> – Mark Brown  
June 1,8,15,22 – John Backe  
June 29 – Diane Wildow

**July 6,13,**  
July 20,27 – John Backe

Aug 3, 10, – John Backe  
Aug 23 - John Backe  
Aug 17, 31 – Mark Brown

Sept. 7 – Rally Day – John Backe

**9/21, 9/28 – Mark Brown**

**10/5, 10/19 – Mark Brown**

**11/2, 11/16 – Mark Brown**

**12/14, 12/28 – Mark Brown**



You are invited to join in worship  
at any or all these services.  
We look forward to seeing you.

## COUNCIL REPORT

Welcome Lenten Season...

Thank you all so much to those that attended the Annual Congregation meeting on Feb 23<sup>rd</sup>. After having to cancel due to the weather the first time we were blessed with great weather the second!

It was a very informative and encouraging meeting. Our church remains in great shape, spiritually and financially. We have more work to do, but together I believe ANYTHING is possible. Thank you all for your commitment and support.

Welcome to our new Church Council Members... Lydia Bersito, Camille O'Garro and welcome back Julia Ungewitter. We look forward to working with you. Thank you Traci Danielle, Melissa McEvoy and Ed O'Garro for your time and commitment to our Church council these past years. Your service has been invaluable.

We have so much to look forward to...

Lent Season, Vespers every Wednesday, Pastoral coverage every Sunday! Our current coverage Pastor, Pastor Jim O'Hanlon will be confirming four of our Sunday School students, Anna Shiels, Nathan McCusker, Charlotte and Amelia Blake. Our Supply Pastor, Pastor John Backe, has agreed to be our new coverage Pastor starting May 1<sup>st</sup>. So, we will see him a few Sundays a month as well as at meetings. He is also planning an Adult Ed class.

We have engineers coming this week to assess and make recommendations as to the replacement of our boiler. We have an estimate for repairing our Bell and looking for another. We have estimates for the Roof and Parking Lot. Once the weather is warmer, we can move forward with those repairs as well.

Our Sexton Steve Spady is doing a wonderful job. He has been so helpful.

Our Secretary Carla has been keeping me on task, so as not to forget anything. What a Godsend she has been. Could not keep it together without her.

Susanne will be continuing our strategic planning meetings on Sundays after church when nothing else is scheduled. Please join us and be part of planning for our future. And thanks to all of you I am confident we have one.

Thank you ALL... members, committees, chairpersons, staff and friends for keeping our beloved St. Luke's alive and thriving!

We are working hard to build our church and its ministry. God's Blessings to you all!

Respectfully Submitted,  
Dawn McEvoy, Church Council President

Denise Tolles, Vice President; Steve Olsen, Treasurer; Karen Fontecchio, Secretary; Lydia Bersito, Brett Buehrer, Donna Elmer, Camille O'Garro, Angelika Ridulfo and Julia Ungewitter. Traci Daniele, Finance Secretary

## FROM THE SOCIAL MINISTRY TEAM

*The Social Ministry Committee met in early February to brainstorm what we want to focus on in the year ahead - our Goal is to be the hands and feet of Christ!*

The key topics we want to concentrate on first are:

- *Reignite our Parish Health program for our sick and homebound members*
- *Reach out to our neighbors and invite them to join us for worship and events – invites to the Pancake Supper are a first step...*
- *Continue our partnership with HOPE to provide monthly meals & support clothing, toy – and turkey drives*

There are many more ideas & opportunities coming up, which we will 'advertise' during coffee hours on a flip-chart as they arise; everyone is invited to volunteer as they may be interested.

We are a small but mighty group and welcome any support!

Your Social Ministry Team



## COLLECTING FUNDS ON SOUPER BOWL SUNDAY

## COOKING FOR HOPE

The Cooking for Hope team will gather again on Sunday, March 16<sup>th</sup> to prepare a meal for Hope Community Services. If you are able to lend a helping hand, you would be most welcome. Many hands make light work!

*HAPPY SPRING  
from the Sunday School*



Thank you to ALL that donated to the Souperbowl collection during the annual meeting on Feb 23... Souper bowl Sunday was actually Feb. 9<sup>th</sup>, but due to the storm it was delayed. The confirmands created awesome posters, and the children and Sunday School collected over \$1000 for Lutheran World Hunger. We were a little below our goal of \$1600, but we were missing some of our generous members. It's not too late, you can give now!

As we look forward to Spring days, we also start celebrating the season of Lent leading up to Easter.

Next week is the pancake supper, March 4<sup>th</sup>. We have our confirmands coming to help set up and clean up! They will be making confirmation April 27<sup>th</sup>; please add to your calendar and come to support them. There will be a reception immediately following service.



We are hoping to have our Easter Pageant on April 5<sup>th</sup>, before instead of after Easter, since Easter is late this year. But that means Easter could be beautiful weather for an Egg hunt!

Share that Love! Tell your neighbors how great our church is. Jesus said go forth and be fishers of men... that includes children! We will always continue to welcome guests and new students to the Sunday School. All children aged 3 to High School are welcome.

All students have their own envelopes to use for Sunday donations. It helps to defray the costs of everything we do for the children. We would also welcome any donations from the congregation!!! 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](http://www.Slnr.org) and [@ slnr.org](https://www.facebook.com/slnr.org)

**LOVE and blessings to you all!**

Yours in Christ,

Dawn McEvoy – Superintendent

Email: [mmcevoy33@aol.com](mailto:mmcevoy33@aol.com)

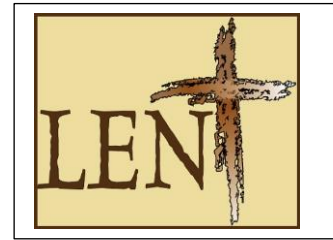
Karen Fontecchio – Asst. Superintendent

Traci Daniele – Treasurer

Teachers – Melissa McEvoy, Shari Taylor,

Jacob Kuligowski, Vicky McEvoy

WELCOME SPRING  
and LENT  
from the Fellowship Committee



Souper bowl Sunday was actually Feb 23<sup>rd</sup>, due to the storm that delayed our annual meeting as well on Feb 9<sup>th</sup>. The children and Sunday School collected over \$1000 for Lutheran World Hunger. We were a little below our goal of \$1600, but we were missing some of our generous members. It's not too late, you can give now!

The Lenten Season is approaching fast. We start with our Shrove Tuesday Pancake Supper on March 4<sup>th</sup> 5:30pm -7pm. Please join us and bring your friends. Angelika will be giving you note cards to share. Ask her on Sunday! Thank you in advance to Leam, Bill and Joan for flipping those pancakes!!



Our Annual Women's Retreat to Koinonia is now April 24-27<sup>th</sup>. We have the entire conference center. Please join us. All women over the age of 18 are welcome. Please see the flyer and contact me.

May 10<sup>th</sup> we will have our next SPRING Sale. It's for one day only. WE NEED YOUR SUPPORT! We will have plants for Mother's Day, raffles, rummage and so much more... PLEASE COME OUT & SUPPORT US!!

We continue to 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.

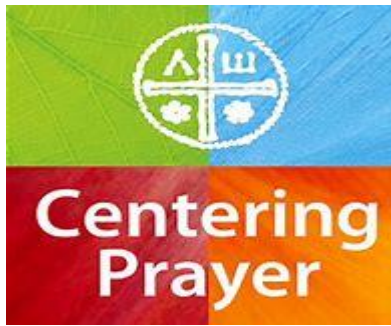
Thank you to our committee and all those with the time and talents to support our mission of unity and oneness in Christ. Our church is an amazing family because we are all part of it.

**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**





***Be still and know that I am God!***  
(Psalm 46:10)

Accept God's invitation to enter an intimate relationship with Him through the quietness of prayer. In Centering Prayer, we will experience God's presence within us. Centering Prayer emphasizes prayer as a personal relationship with God and as movement beyond conversation with Christ to communion with Christ.

Come join us for 20 minutes in the quietness of prayer, finding your deepest center, "awaking the profound depths of our being in the presence of God, who is the Source of our being and of our life."

Please join us anytime in this prayer of the heart after church on **three Sundays during Lent, 3/9/25, 3/23/25, and 3/30/25.**

RSVP to Synodical Deacon Nancy Sigler, at [sawnls805@gmail.com](mailto:sawnls805@gmail.com).

## **Thank you to the Patrons of St. Luke's Voice – 2025**

Jennifer Archer

Nancy Sigler

Art Rankis

Ernest & Rosalind Wallace

Aija Sears

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".

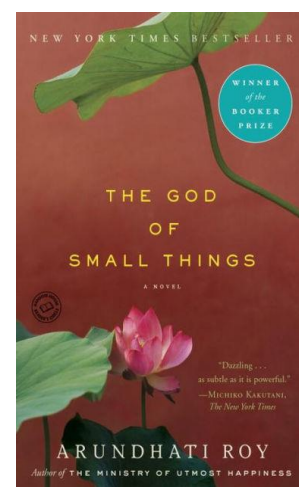
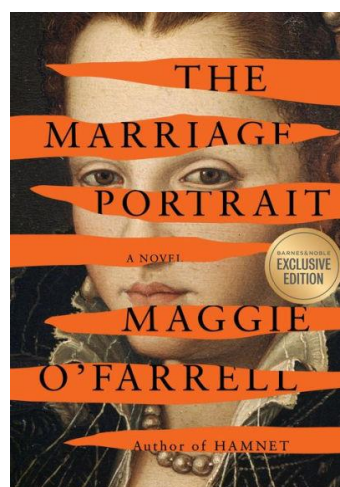
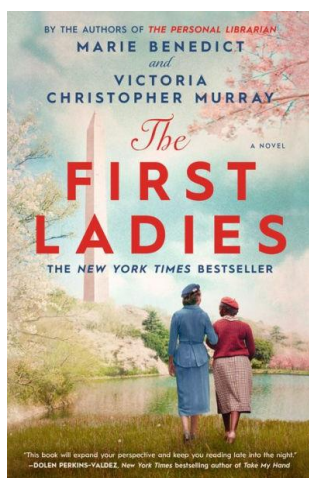
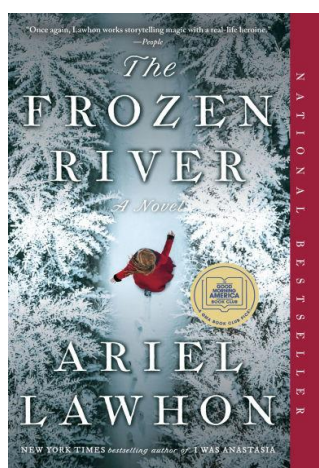


## BOOK CLUB CORNER

St. Luke's Book Club meets monthly at Barnes & Noble in Scarsdale. Everyone is welcome to join us!

In February, we read and discussed *JAMES* by Percival Everett. His novel is a brilliant reimagining of Mark Twain's *The Adventures of Huckleberry Finn*. Everett's perspective is told from the enslaved Jim's point of view. We see Jim's agency, intelligence and compassion as never before. *JAMES* is destined to be a new American classic.

### 2025 BOOKS: TITLES & AUTHORS



MARCH: ***A FROZEN RIVER***  
by Ariel Lawhon

APRIL: ***THE FIRST LADIES***  
by Marie Benedict and Victoria Christopher Murray

MAY: ***THE MARRIAGE PORTRAIT***  
by Maggie O'Farrell

JUNE: ***THE GOD OF SMALL THINGS***  
by Arundhati Roy

SUMMER READ: TBA



## ***St. Luke's Lutheran Church***

95 Eastchester Road, New Rochelle 10801



## **Pancake Supper**

**Tuesday, March 4, 2025**

**Dinner Served**

**5:30 - 7pm**

***ALL ARE INVITED!***

***Bring your families, your neighbors,  
your friends!!***

*Celebrate Shrove Tuesday, or Mardi Gras (French for Fat Tuesday), on the day before Ash Wednesday. "Shrove" of Shrove Tuesday is an old English way of saying Confession and Absolution. This is the most important feature of the Holiday. We confess our sins on Shrove Tuesday as a way of getting ready for Lent. Another way we celebrate is to prepare for the Lenten fast. Fasting helps us to remember that we are dust and to dust we shall return, and also that man may not live by bread alone but by every word that comes from the mouth of God. In centuries past the Lenten fast included abstaining from any rich or fatty foods... hence the name "Fat Tuesday". This is why we celebrate with our pancake supper!*

**Please join us!**

Please rsvp to [mmcevoy33@aol.com](mailto:mmcevoy33@aol.com) or sign up in the narthex.



## Ash Wednesday Service – March 5 at 7 p.m.



Evening Prayer/Vespers begins **Wednesday, March 12<sup>th</sup>** at 7:00 p.m. and all the Wednesdays in Lent. Come for the quiet meditation and simple liturgy, for the candles shining in darkness, and for the simple presence of Christ in our life together.

## Holy Week Schedule

|  |                 |  |
|--|-----------------|--|
| <b><u>Palm Sunday</u></b>  | <b>April 13</b> | <b>Holy Communion</b>  |
| <b><u>Holy Thursday</u></b><br><b>Stripping of the Altar</b>               | <b>April 17</b> | <b>Holy Communion</b>  |
| <b><u>Good Friday</u></b><br><br><b>Readings from St. John</b>             | <b>April 18</b> | <b>Dramatic Tenebrae &amp;<br/>Hymns - Gradual darkness!</b> |
| <b><u>Easter Sunday</u></b><br><b><u>The Resurrection of our Lord!</u></b> | <b>April 20</b> | <b>Festival Celebration!<br/>Holy Communion</b>              |

**All weekday services of worship are at 7:00 p.m. Sunday services are at 10:00 a.m.**



*The Easter season is fast approaching. If you would like to contribute to the beautification of the sanctuary by donating \$35.00 toward the Easter lily fund, please use the form to make your reservation.*

*Names of donors and loved ones will appear in the Easter Bulletin.*

*Donation for flowers: \$35.00*

**Deadline Date:** *April 13, 2025*

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**EASTER LILIES**

*In memory of* \_\_\_\_\_

*or in honor of* \_\_\_\_\_

*From* \_\_\_\_\_

*Please send to: St. Luke's Lutheran Church  
95 Eastchester Rd.  
New Rochelle, NY 10801*



**St. Luke's Women's Retreat**  
**April 25 - 27, 2025**  
**at Koinonia Conference & Retreat Center**  
**165 Lakeview Drive Rd, Highland Lake, NY 12743**

**Join us for a wonderful weekend with friends.**  
**Cost: \$200 double pp, \$300 single pp, Prices include**  
**cleaning, 5 meals, bible study, worship, crafts, hiking,**  
**boating (tbd) and more.**  
**Massages available for an additional fee (tbd)**

**RSVP to Dawn to reserve your room.**

**[Mmcevoy33@aol.com](mailto:Mmcevoy33@aol.com) or 347-604-3969**



## 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.

## MARCH BIRTHDAYS & ANNIVERSARIES

### Birthdays

3/3 Melissa McEvoy  
Jeannette Carlson  
Fernita Ross  
3/6 Nancy Sigler  
Joseph Triolo  
3/7 Jack Finegan  
3/10 Adam Brent  
3/11 Mark Fontecchio  
3/14 Jacob Kuligowski  
3/15 Edmond O'Garro  
Steven Olsen

3/17 Amy Amato-Bromberg  
3/18 Daniel Brisson  
3/19 Zachary Carter  
3/21 Lydia Bersito  
3/24 Lori Walker  
3/26 Marissa Wirak  
3/27 Donna Elmer  
Stacey Haymon  
3/28 Patricia Damrow



### Anniversaries

3/25 Lynda & Anthony Pasqua



# St. Luke's Lutheran Church – March 2025

| Sun   | Mon   | Tue  | Wed  | Thu                                      | Fri                    | Sat  |
|---|---|--|--|--|------------------------|--|
| <b><u>All Sundays</u></b><br>9:30a-Choir Rehearsal<br>10a-Choir<br>10a-Sunday School<br>11a-Coffee Hour   |   |  |  |  |                        | <i>1</i><br>9:30a– A.A. Men's Group<br>6-10p-McEvoy Party                                |
| 2 10a-Worship Service - Rev. Brown<br>10a-Sunday School<br>11a-Coffee Hour, Host: Fellowship  | 3<br>7p-Basketball Group                          | 4 <i>Shrove Tuesday</i><br><b>5:30-7p - Pancake Supper</b> | 5 <b>Ash Wednesday</b><br>7p-Worship Service & Choir | 6  | 7<br>7:15p– Boy Scouts | 8 9:30a– A.A. Men's Group<br><i>Daylight Savings Time Begins turn clocks ahead 1 hr.</i> |
| 9 10a-Worship with Rev. Backe<br>10a-Sunday School<br>11a-Coffee Hour, Host: Church Council<br>11a-Centering Prayer after worship w/Deacon Nancy Sigler         | 10<br>7p-Basketball Group                         | 11   | 12<br>7p- Lenten Vespers<br>7p-Confirmation Class    | 13                                       | 14<br>7:15p-Boy Scouts | 15<br>9:30a– A.A. Men's Group  |
| 16 10a-Worship Service with Rev. Brown<br>10a-Sunday School<br>11a-Coffee Hour, Host: Altar Guild<br>11a-Cooking: HOPE  | 17<br>10a-HOPE Food Pickup<br>7p-Basketball Group | 18   | 19<br>7p- Lenten Vespers                             | 20<br>12:30p-Book Club at Barnes & Noble | 21<br>7:15p-Boy Scouts | 22<br>9:30a– A.A. Men's Group  |
| 23 10a-Worship with Rev. Backe<br>10a-Sunday School<br>11a-Coffee Hour, Host: Sr. Choir<br>11a-Centering Prayer after worship w/Deacon Nancy Sigler             | 24<br>7p-Basketball Group<br>7p-Council Mtg.      | 25   | 26<br>7p-Lenten Vespers<br>7p-Confirmation Class     | 27                                       | 28<br>7:15p-Boy Scouts | 29<br>9:30a– A.A. Men's Group  |
| 30 10a-Worship Service with Rev. Brown<br>10a-Sunday School<br>11a-Coffee Hour, Host: Sunday School<br>11a-Centering Prayer after worship w/Deacon Nancy Sigler | 31<br>7p-Basketball Group<br>Last Practice        |  |  |  |                        |  |

