
St. Luke's Voice

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

April 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
SLNR.org

Visit us on Facebook!

Newsletter
Editor: Pat Fredericks

Repent and Return, Rinse and Repeat

I tend to think that Luke's gospel is more about forgiveness, John's gospel is more about Love, Mark is more about urgency and Matthew is more about rules. In some ways there is truth in these but when we read through each book, we see how much more each one is. We think of Paul as being about Grace, but he uses the word "wrath" quite a lot and John is the one who writes about God's "grace upon grace." Matthew goes on about "do's and "don't's but he also gives us the command to love the least among us, to free the captives.

As I read through Luke, and I look for all the healing and forgiveness I also have to allow space for other emphases. Luke in his two-volume work, Luke-Acts, emphasizes repentance more than any other New Testament (NT) author. Nearly one half, or twenty-five of the fifty-eight uses of the primary NT terms for repentance (Greek *metanoeo* and *metanoia*) occur in Luke-Acts. Meanwhile, there is not even one use of either term in John's Gospel. Not as surprising is the twelve times it appears in Revelation. (Matthew and Mark use those terms eight and four times respectively.) Luke, who gives us the father who forgives the prodigal son and Jesus who forgives from the very cross also wants us to think about repentance.

Some people think Lutherans are light on sin and judgement but we're not. Luther says, "sin boldly", sure, but then says "but let your trust in Christ be stronger and rejoice in Christ Pray hard for you are quite a sinner." We need this balance of God's justice and God's mercy, to remember God's love is stronger than anything and is powerful enough to transform our hard hearts.

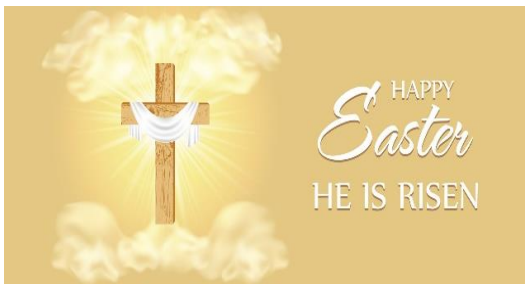
I'm taking some courses at United Lutheran Seminary and one book I'm reading is "The Theological Crisis of the Civil War". It describes how pervasive Protestant thought was in the United States and how many institutions including our government were suffused with Christian precepts and proverbs. The distinctive thing about American Evangelical Christianity was (and is) a sense that the Bible was easily accessible and clearly directing our lives and our national policy. The main question of the day, slavery, was hotly debated with both sides saying the Bible clearly and compellingly supported their view.

~Continued on page 2

The Bible is more complicated than that and we should read it humbly and with an open mind and heart. The strong influence of Christianity in Nineteenth Century America, a Christianity that proclaimed a Bible that was clear and unambiguous, played its part in leading people to think that God was on their side and that they would stop at nothing, not even forego war to insist they knew what the Bible said.

The moral case for slavery that the south especially advanced was completely flawed, of course, but for either side to say the Bible gave clear guidance on the matter was way too simplistic. Reading Luke, you see some strong themes like forgiveness and healing but we should not overlook countervailing themes that give us pause and give our attempt to follow our faith more humility and balance.

COUNCIL REPORT



Happy Easter St. Luke's!

Lenten season is in full swing. Thank you to all the church leaders who volunteer every week for Vespers and Worship Services. Thank you, Confirmands, for reading. Thank you, the congregation, that attends!

We are very fortunate to have Pastor Brown and Pastor Backe leading the services.

Don't forget, Pastor O'Hanlon will be confirming 4 of our Sunday School students, Anna Shiels, Nathan McCusker, Charlotte and Amelia Blake on April 27th and there will be a reception after in the fellowship hall.

Pastor John Backe has agreed to be our new coverage Pastor starting May 1st, as well as remaining one of our supply Pastors. So, we will see him a few Sundays a month as well as at meetings. He is also planning an Adult Ed class.

The engineers have come, we are awaiting additional reports for the Boiler replacement and options we may have. We have an estimate to repairing our Bell as well as replacing it with an electric, programmable bell. We have estimates for the Roof and Parking Lot. Once the weather is warmer, we can move forward with those repairs as well. We will keep you posted and of course call a congregation meeting to approve moving forward.

Our staff are all very busy keeping our church clean, in order and filled with music. Susanne will resume our strategic planning meetings after Easter.

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

We are continuing to work hard to build our church and its ministry. What a Blessing this Easter is for all of us!

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



Lenten Vespers March 12, 19, 26; April 2, 9

Evening Prayer/Vespers at 7:00 p.m. 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

<u>Palm Sunday</u>	April 13	Holy Communion
<u>Holy Thursday</u>	April 17	Holy Communion Stripping of the Altar
<u>Good Friday</u>	April 18	Dramatic Tenebrae & Hymns - Gradual darkness! Readings from St. John



<u>Easter Sunday</u>		Festival Celebration!
<u>The Resurrection of our Lord!</u>	April 20	Holy Communion

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

ST. LUKE'S COOKS FOR HOPE



Pictured above: The Hope Cook Team as they prepared a meal for Hope Community Services on March 16th. In the photo are Leam McEvoy, Olivia Connors, Joan Bast and Bill Rodriguez.

There will be no Hope Cook in April because of the Easter holiday.
Stay tuned for the May Hope Cook date.

BOOK CLUB CORNER

ST. LUKE'S BOOK CLUB 2025

There never yet have been, nor are there now, too many good books. --- Martin Luther

DATES: APRIL 24, MAY 22, AND JUNE 26

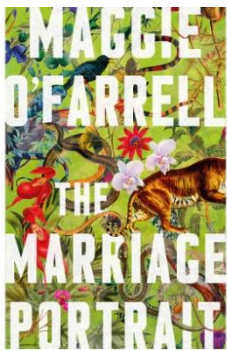
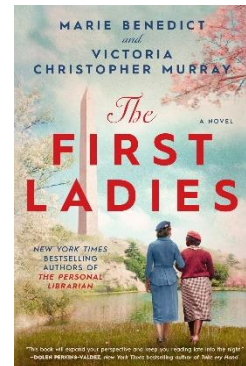
TIME: 12:30 P.M., THURSDAYS

PLACE: BARNES & NOBLE, SCARSDALE, N.Y.

APRIL 24, THURSDAY

THE FIRST LADIES

by MARIE BENEDICT AND VICTORIA CHRISTOPHER MURRAY

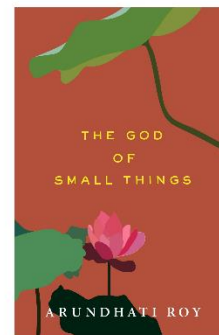


MAY 24, THURSDAY

THE MARRIAGE PORTRAIT by MAGGIE O' FARRELL

JUNE 26, THURSDAY

THE GOD OF SMALL THINGS by ARUNDHATI ROY



EASTER BLESSINGS
from the Fellowship
Committee



Happy Easter to our St. Luke's Family. God's Blessings!

It's feeling like spring finally... April is here!

Our Annual Women's Retreat to Koinonia is now April 24-27th. 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.



We will be celebrating 4 confirmands on April 27th...
Anna Shiels, Nathan McCusker, Amelia and Charlotte Blake.
Congratulations to them and their families.
Please join us after church service for a reception in their honor.

May 10th 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, new vendors and so much more... PLEASE COME OUT and SUPPORT US!!!

We are hoping to plan a fellowship event for a Sunday after church.
Stay Tuned.

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 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

HAPPY EASTER
From the Sunday School



Happy Easter everyone.... Wasn't it just Christmas? The kids are excited for their Easter Pageant and again including their parents. Thank you for being such good sports.

Our Easter Pageant is on April 6th, before instead of after Easter, since Easter is late this year. But that means Easter could be beautiful weather for an Egg hunt!

April 27th is Confirmation Day! Our Confirmands, Anna Shiels, Amelia and Charlotte Blake and Nathan McCusker have been working towards this day for over a year. Please all come and celebrate with them. There will be a reception after church in the fellowship hall.



May 10th will be our Mother's Day Spring sale. We need your donations, and your support. PLEASE come on Saturday, shop, eat, bring your friends. It's a labor of love and welcomes the community.

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 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
Karen Fontecchio – Asst. Superintendent
Traci Daniele – Treasurer
Teachers – Melissa McEvoy, Shari Taylor,
Jacob Kuligowski, Vicky McEvoy

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.

APRIL BIRTHDAYS & ANNIVERSARIES

Birthdays

4/1	Paula Hayes	4/21	Robert Doerr
4/4	Claudia Rubicco	4/22	Cidney Montalvo
	Frank Saavedra		Stephanie Elmer
4/8	Rachel Kimber		Rachel Elmer
4/12	Daniel D. Brisson	4/25	Elizabeth Mitze
	Erik Jantzen	4/27	Margaret Lenz-Nicolais
4/15	Erika Johnson	4/28	Sanjay Smith
4/17	Brad Fredericks	4/30	Logan Head

Anniversaries

4/4	Zachary & Rosalind Carter
4/8	Traci & Ermenegildo Daniele
4/16	Linda Skillen & Jose Saavedra
4/18	Len & Donna Elmer
4/23	Gloria & Laurence Head
4/29	Jeremy & Rachelle Harris

A decorative banner with a background of colorful balloons in shades of blue, yellow, pink, and green. The text "BIRTHDAYS AND ANNIVERSARIES" is written in a large, bold, purple, serif font across the center of the banner.

**BIRTHDAYS
AND
ANNIVERSARIES**



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

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



MOTHER'S DAY

95 Eastchester Road New
Rochelle, NY

SPRING SALE

Saturday, May 10th

10am – 3pm

RUMMAGE ~ RAFFLES

PLANTS

HANDMADE ITEMS ~ JEWELRY

GIFTS ~ AVON ~ MARY KAY

PAPARAZZI ~ TASTEFULLY SIMPLE

BAKED GOODS ~ CAFÉ AND MORE...

Contact mmcevoy33@aol.com with questions

St. Luke's Lutheran Church – April 2025

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
<u>All Sundays</u> 9a-Choir Rehearsal 10a-Choir 10a-Sunday School 11a-Coffee Hour		1	2 7p-Lenten Vespers 7p-Confirmation Class	3	4 7:15p-Boy Scouts	5 9:30a-A.A. Men's Group
6 10a-Worship with Rev. Backe 10a-Sunday School Easter Pageant 11:a-Coffee Hour, Host: Social Ministry	7	8	9 7p- Lenten Vespers 7p-Confirmation Class	10	11 7:15p-Boy Scouts	12 9:30a-A.A. Men's Group
13 Passion/Palm Sunday 10a-Worship Service with Rev. Brown 10a-Blessing of Palms No Sunday School 11a-Coffee Hour, Host: Fellowship	14	15	16 7p-Confirmation Class	17 Maundy Thurs. Liturgy 7p-Worship Service with Rev. Backe	18 Good Friday/Tenebrae 7p-Worship Service with Rev. Backe No Boy Scouts	9:30a-A.A. Men's Group
20 Resurrection of Our Lord/Easter Day 10a-Worship Service with Rev. Backe No Sunday School 11a-Coffee Hour, Host: Council	21	22	23	24 12:30a-Book Club at Barnes & Noble	25 St. Luke's Women's Retreat Apr. 25-27 7p-Boy Scouts	26 9:30a-A.A. Men's Group
27 Confirmation 10a-Worship with Rev. O'Hanlon 10a-Confirmation 10a-Sunday School 11a-Confirmation Reception. / Coffee Hour, Host: Altar Guild	28 7p-Church Council Mtg.	29	30			

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".

