

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

September 2025

The mission of St. Luke's Lutheran Church is to share the good news of Jesus through word and sacrament, serving, teaching, and welcoming our community.

St. Luke's Lutheran Church

95 Eastchester Road New Rochelle, NY 10801

Coverage Pastor: Rev. John Backe

Sunday Worship: 10 A.M.

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

Visit us on Facebook!

Newsletter

Editor: Pat Fredericks

PASTOR'S MESSAGE SEPTEMBER NEWSLETTER

During my years of ministry, I've probably said "the church is not a building, it's the people" several times. That's true, but the other is true as well. Our church building is a major asset for our mission and ministry. It is the place we gather to sing, pray, and share in fellowship over food and conversation. In some ways it is also our "face" that we show the community.

Our building was given to us by faithful people as a way to provide a place for us to continue to proclaim the good news and serve our neighbors. It is a gift we will pass on to those who follow. Maintaining and improving the building is a way we demonstrate our hope for the future and our commitment to our mission now.

In the past few months, we have upgraded the fellowship hall to make it more attractive and welcoming. A section of the roof has been repaired to maintain the integrity of the building. That roof will be blessed on Rally Day, September 7, at the conclusion of our worship. A new boiler has been installed for more efficient heating, better stewardship of our finances and the environment. The parking lot will be resurfaced to enhance our appearance to the community.

We will report on other projects as they come up. We want you to be aware of all of this work as we prepare our Stewardship planning later in the Fall.

PRAYER LIST



We plan a change in the way we administer and maintain our prayer list. Prayer is central to our faith life. We invite you to submit names of friends, family members, neighbors or coworkers in need of prayer for whatever reason. Going forward, names will remain on the list for a limited time. When submitting a name, you can request that it stay longer. We ask that you notify the office when the name should be removed. We will clear the current list and gather the new list beginning in October. The next newsletter will have more details on submitting names.

MISSION STATEMENT

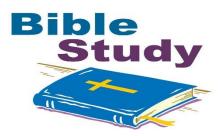
A congregational mission statement is a way to briefly and clearly identify the shared understanding of the purpose of that congregation. The statement that St. Luke's has had is too long, and, more importantly, too few people knew what it was. The Church Council has approved a new statement drawn from the heart of the existing, longer one. You will begin to see it in more places and hear it at some gatherings. Here it is:



The mission of St. Luke's Lutheran Church is to share the good news of Jesus through word and sacrament, serving, teaching, and welcoming our community,

BIBLE STUDY

There will be Bible study discussion of the Lord's prayer following Sunday morning worship on September 14, October 12 and November 9. You are invited to attend any or all.



COUNCIL REPORT

It's Rally Day!! Welcome Back!

Greetings from your Church Council.

Welcome back from summer vacations... we are so excited to see everyone. We have had a very busy summer at St. Luke's:



We had our weekly worship services, coffee hours and cooking for Hope. We had our Annual Christmas in July service and Ice Cream Social on July 13th.

We are so grateful to Pastor John (Backe), as our coverage Pastor (from May 1st to Dec. 31st, 2025), as well as our Supply Pastor a few times a month. He will be available for counseling, emergencies, and Pastoral Care as needed. Please contact Carla to schedule. He has helped us to reach out to our shut ins and the sick. He has reached out to our members that we haven't seen in a while and is helping us to update our membership list. He is also leading adult bible study; check the bulletins for dates. They will be short on time but long on content. All are welcome!

Thank you to Pastor Mark Brown for continuing to lead us in worship.

Iryna has led 3 sight reading classes. She is excited to get started again with the Sr. Choir. Please reach out to her for more info... the more voices the better!

The new boiler is IN! The new roof is being installed. Thank you to Leam, our property manager, and Gregory, our sexton, for keeping our church in good shape.

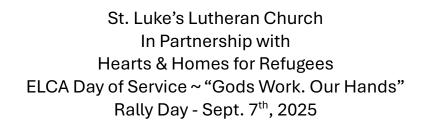
Rally Day is Sunday, Sept. 7th. I found this postcard online, it's a little before my time but I remember before the days of email, getting these post cards from Evelyn Haas.

Save the Date: Oct 17-19th Family Retreat at Koinonia, Oct 28th Gratitude Brunch and Nov 8th Annual Holiday Boutique.

Thank you to ALL that keeps this church going... we are truly blessed!

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



Please join us after church, during the picnic, in making kits for refugee families as part of the ELCA's annual day of service:

1 kit will consist of the following essential items which are not covered by SNAP:

Toothpaste & Toothbrushes

Soap (bar/liquid soap for bathroom and hand soap for kitchen)

Dishwashing soap

Household cleaning spray (like Fantastik or Lysol)

All-purpose floor cleaner (like Fabuloso)

Feminine products (pads)

Shampoo & Conditioner

Disposable Razors & Shaving Cream

Laundry detergent

Plastic Wrap

Aluminum foil

Ziploc bags

Please donate the supplies for either 1 full kit or donate any of the items above and we will assemble them together.

Members and Sunday School children will also be making welcome cards for the families which will be added to the kits – Aija Sears will lead this craft activity!

Hearts & Homes currently has 28 households participating in Community Sponsorship in mid & lower Westchester, and potentially another 11 households (if they include all their Ukrainian clients). They could also serve another 10 cases residing in Rockland and Orange County.

They would also be delighted if anyone from our congregation wants to sign up for their driving roster – they could use help with this distribution (you would choose which destination you want to sign up for) – to do that, please sign up here:

https://www.heartsandhomesforrefugees.org/howcanihelp

ANY questions please contact Angelika (ANGELIKA.RIDULFO@TELEKOM.COM)

St. Luke's Lutheran Church Sunday School



RALLY DAY

Sept. 7th 2025

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 mmcevov33@aol.com



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

HAPPY FALL from the Fellowship Committee

Welcome Fall! For a lot of us it's our favorite time of year... back to school! Back to Sunday School, seeing how much the children have grown over the summer, people return from vacations, planning for the new year!

We are already busy with Rally Day and Picnic, supporting "God's Work Our Hands" donating much needed supplies to Hearts and Home Refugees, making cards to cheer their day. And that's just Sunday the 7th!



October 17-19th is our annual church family retreat to Koinonia. If you haven't attended before, please consider it. We have a great weekend of Fun, Faith and Fellowship!

October 28th is our Congregation Gratitude Brunch. We are all so grateful to still be together, to be thriving and we should celebrate that.



November 8th is our Holiday Boutique. We have many new vendors, we will have Photos with Santa, great food cooking in the café, delish baked goods and of course rummage and raffles galore! PLEASE sign up for an hour or two and be part of our St. Luke's Family Fundraiser!

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!

Thank you to Pastor John Backe for his continuing service as our Coverage Pastor, and to he and Pastor Mark Brown, who led us in worship every week. We are so grateful to you.

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

IT'S TIME FOR SUNDAY SCHOOL

Welcome Back to Sunday School! Welcome back Avery and Max!!! We missed you! Avery and Max were in Singapore the last few years but are now home to stay... Welcome Justin. Justin is 3 years old and he and his family were recently baptized at St. Luke's.

Rally Day is Sunday, Sept. 7th. See the flyer on page 5. Please invite your friends, family, neighbors....Please share the flyer! All are welcome and we have space for all!





ALSO, while you are sharing that, 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.

Please continue to use your child's own tithing envelopes for Sunday donations. It helps to defray the costs of everything we do for the children. If you need them, please ask. In the meantime, any envelope will do. We would also welcome any donations from the congregation!!! Please continue to support the Sunday School with your contributions.

This year we have a wider range of grade levels for our Sunday School. From 3 years old to 6th graders. We are planning to work on more grade level material, even if they are in the same room.

God Bless you and your families.... Hope to see you all Sunday!

Please visit our website: www.Slnr.org and Facebook page: 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

COOKING FOR HOPE



August's Hope Cook was particularly challenging, since a larger meal was prepared with a smaller team, but August's lead chefs, Bill Rodriguez and Joan Bast, stepped up to make sure the job got done! Our thanks also to Angelika Ridulfo and Joan Bast for "undertaking" the food shop.

September's Hope Cook will be Sunday, September 14th.
All are invited to help!



BOOK CLUB CORNER

After our summer hiatus, St. Luke's Book Club will meet on September 18, Thurs. at 12:30 P.M.

We will gather for lunch and a lively discussion at Barnes & Noble in Scarsdale. Our summer read was a fascinating book titled *The God of Small Things* by Arundhati Roy. The author writes a passionate and tragic story in vivid and imaginative language. This outstanding first novel won the Booker Prize in 1997.



2025 Fall Titles

October Audition: A Novel by Katie Kitamura

November *The Correspondent* by Virginia Evans

December *Orbital* by Samantha Harvey

You are most welcome to attend any or all of these discussions.

Books Are The Plane

And The Train

And The Road

They Are The

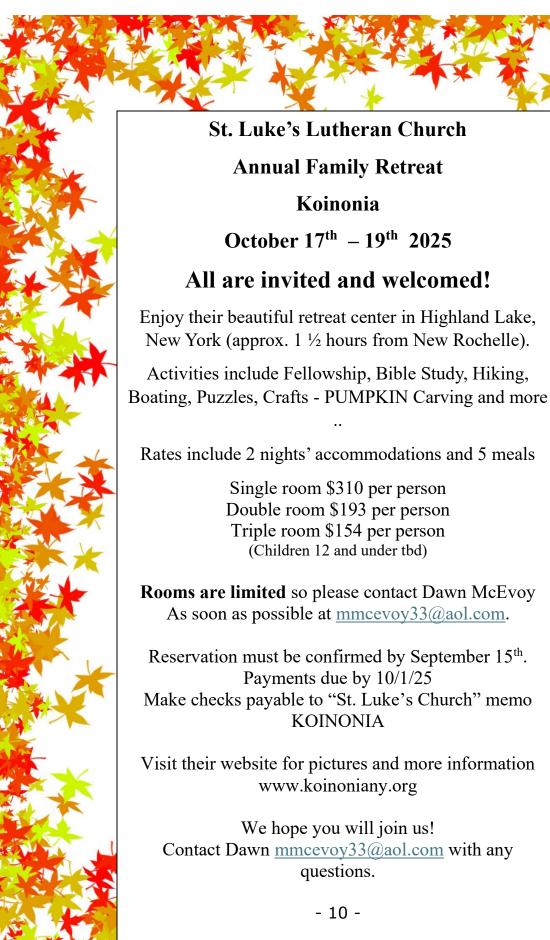
Destination

And the

Journey.

They Are Home

----- Anna Quindlen



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	Robert Bissinger	
9/4	Walter Glatz	9/19	Jennifer O'Garro	
9/6	Denise Link		Susan Olsen-Forsberg	
9/9	Pastor Bill Damrow	9/20	Adin Triolo	
	Christopher Fredericks	9/23	Judith Amato	
	Graeme Buehrer	9/25	Noah Conroy	
9/11	Michael O'Neill	9/27	William Ungewitter	
9/12	Susanne Kuligowski	9/28	Patricia Zyloney	
9/14	Patrick Johansen Shiels		Petrona Ennis-Welch	
9/17	Ward Henderson			

Anniversaries

9/4	Susanne & Bruce Kuligowski
9/11	Brad & Patricia Fredericks
9/15	Henry & Rosemarie Doerr
9/18	Paula Hayes & Robert Tupper
9/21	Leam & Dawn McEvoy
	Robert & Faith Bissinger
9/25	Denise & Corey Link
9/28	Matthew & Arianne Damrow



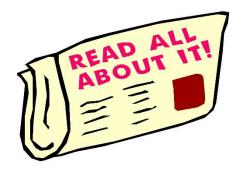
Thank you to the Patrons of St. Luke's Voice - 2025

Jennifer Archer Art Rankis Nancy Sigler 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".

St. Luke's Lutheran Church – September 2025

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
All Sundays 9a-Choir Rehearsal 10a-Choir 10a-Sunday School 11a-Coffee Hour	1 Labor Day Office Closed	2	3	4	5 7:15p-Boy Scouts	6 9:30a-A.A. Men's Group 12p-Sensory Taekwon-Do
7 Rally Day/Hearts & Home 10a-Worship with Rev. Backe 10a-Blessing of Sun. Sch. Staff & Children 10a-Choir 10a-Sunday Sch. Begins 11a-Coffee Hour, Host: Sunday School	8	9	10	11	12 7:15p-Boy Scouts	9:30a-A.A. Men's Group 12p-Sensory Taekwon-Do
14 10a-Worship with Rev. Backe 10a-Sunday Sch. 11a-Coffee Hour, Host: Altar Guild 11a-Bible Study 11a-Cooking for HOPE	15 10a-HOPE Food Pickup	16	17	18 12:30p-Book Club at Barnes & Noble	19 7:15p-Boy Scouts	20 9:30a-A.A. Men's Group 12p-Sensory Taekwon-Do
21 Worship with Rev. Brown 10a-Sunday School 11a-Coffee Hour, Host: Choir	22 7p-Church Council	23	24	25	26 7:15p-Boy Scouts	27 9:30a-A.A. Men's Group 12p-Sensory Taekwon-Do
28 Worship with Rev. Brown 10a-Sunday School 11a-Coffee Hour, Host: Social Ministry	29	30		OCTOBER Koinonia Family Retreat Oct 17- 19th. Gratitude Bunch - Sunday, Oct. 26th		