

---

# St. Luke's Voice

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

October 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

Rev. John Backe  
917-795-2392

**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

## PASTOR'S OCTOBER MESSAGE

Some hymns provide a simple statement of a very important concept. How Firm a Foundation is one of those. The foundation of our faith is Jesus himself, enduring and solid. I believe that is the case at St. Luke's, we stand on that firm foundation.

But a foundation is just the beginning of a building, more needs to be done. With that in mind, our Stewardship Campaign this year calls on another hymn. Secure on our foundation, we go forth praying and singing **Build Us Up, Lord**. This means many things for our future:

**Build Up Our Faith, Lord.** Help us grow in worship and prayer.

**Build Up Our Service, Lord.** Give us strength and resources in caring for our neighbors in need. Lead us as we join with others in seeking justice to eliminate the systems that perpetuate those needs.

**Build Up Our Patience, Lord.** We wait on the work of the Spirit in our discernment of our mission and a pastoral leader.

**Build Up Our Fellowship, Lord.** Lead us in sharing our time, talent and riches in building our congregation by serving on committees and in other activities.

**Build Up Our Sharing, Lord.** Move us to give of our material resources that are needed for the maintenance and growth of our congregation.

You will hear more in the coming weeks about how we plan to build up St. Luke's in the year ahead. **BUILD US UP, LORD.**



## NEWS From the CHURCH COUNCIL

I am thankful! We all have so much to be thankful for. In our own personal lives but also as a church.

We are thankful to our Congregation for their commitment and generosity. Without each and every one of you, we would not have a Church.

We are thankful to Pastor Backe for leading our Church.

We are thankful to Pastor Backe and Pastor Brown for worshipping with us on Sundays.

We are also thankful ~

to our Organist and Choir Director Iryna and the choir for leading us in beautiful music.

for our Altar Guild for making our church beautiful and prepared for worship every Sunday.

to our Treasurer and Financial Secretary and counters that keep our finances in order.

to our Church Council for keeping our church running smoothly.

to our Social Ministry committee for their outreach to the community and service to others.

to our HOPE cooks for shopping and preparing the monthly meal.

to our Sunday School, for their time and dedication to the children of St. Luke's.

to our Stewardship committee for leading us in our annual giving campaign.

to our Fellowship committee for planning and facilitating our social events.

to our Newsletter Editor, for keeping everyone in touch with the church.

to our Book Club, Parish Health, Worship, Membership, Audit and Ad Hoc Committees,  
for all that they do to further our ministries.

to our Property Committee for keeping our church in good working condition.

to our Custodians for keeping our church clean.

to our Secretary Carla, for ALL that she does to keep our church going.

Lastly, and most important, we are thankful to God, for all things and for giving us another day!

The new boiler is IN! The new roof is being installed. Thank you to Leam and Brett for making this happen!

### **Save the Dates:**

Oct 17-19<sup>th</sup> Family Retreat at Koinonia, Oct 26<sup>th</sup> Gratitude Brunch and Nov 8<sup>th</sup> Annual Holiday Boutique.

I am Thankful... and 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





## SOCIAL MINISTRY NEWS AND NOTES

This September, our congregation came together in meaningful ways to put our faith into action, connect with one another, and continue our commitment to serving our neighbors in need.



As part of the ELCA-wide “God’s Work. Our Hands.” weekend, we assembled kits for refugees and created welcome cards —simple but powerful gifts of comfort and care for families starting anew. The completed kits and cards were delivered to the Hearts & Homes for Refugees (HHR) office by members of our Social Ministry team. We are deeply grateful to everyone who helped make this effort a great success!

Two weeks later, we were honored to host Amy Robertson from Hearts & Homes for Refugees (HHR) as a guest speaker during Coffee Hour. Amy shared about the mission and work of HHR, an organization we have already partnered with on several projects.

*(See pictures on next page)*

Her talk was inspiring and reminded us that there are many ways to serve personally as well. To explore opportunities where your talents can make a difference, visit:

- [Hearts & Homes for Refugees](https://www.heartsandhomesforrefugees.org/howcanihelp)
- <https://www.heartsandhomesforrefugees.org/howcanihelp>

In addition, we continued to care for our shut-ins by bringing Holy Communion to homes, sending cards of comfort, and making home visits as well. You remain in our prayers every Sunday.

Looking ahead, October will be a planning month as we prepare for the busy year-end seasons to come. Some of our Committee Members will retreat at Koinonia to strengthen our partnership with this Christian Faith Community and take the opportunity to collaborate.

Stay tuned for the upcoming happenings in November and December—flyers will be sent out soon!

Peace,  
Angelika Ridulfo

Committee Members: Jennifer Archer, Joan Bast, Patricia Fredericks, Susanne Kuligowski, Leam McEvoy, Camille O’Garro, Bill Rodriguez, Denise Tolles, Pastor John Backe









**St. Luke's Lutheran Church**

**Annual Family Retreat**

**Koinonia**

**October 17<sup>th</sup> – 19<sup>th</sup> 2025**

**All are invited and welcome!**

Enjoy their beautiful retreat center in Highland Lake, New York  
(approx. 1 ½ hours from New Rochelle).

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

Rates include 2 nights' accommodation and 5 meals

Single room \$310 per person

Double room \$193 per person

Triple room \$154 per person

(Children 12 and under tbd)

**Rooms are limited** so please contact Dawn McEvoy

As soon as possible at [mmcevoy33@aol.com](mailto:mmcevoy33@aol.com).

Reservation must be confirmed by September 15<sup>th</sup>.

Payments due by 10/1/25

Make checks payable to "St. Luke's Church" memo KOINONIA

Visit their website for pictures and  
more information [www.koinonian.org](http://www.koinonian.org)

We hope you will join us!

Contact Dawn [mmcevoy33@aol.com](mailto:mmcevoy33@aol.com) with any questions.



# HAPPY FALL from the SUNDAY SCHOOL

Happy Fall Y'all!

We are so excited to have the children back in Sunday School... we are now the Fantastic FIVE!



Coming up this month and next we have our Gratitude Brunch Oct 26<sup>th</sup> and Holiday Boutique Nov. 8<sup>th</sup>. Please plan to attend both. Sign-up sheet is in the narthex for the Gratitude Brunch; All are Welcome!

We will share more information on the Holiday Boutique in the coming weeks, but we really need your help and participation! Come shop, buy raffle tickets, have lunch! Hope to see you all there!



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 Sunday School envelopes to help pay for supplies, costumes, and special treats. It helps to defray the costs of everything we do for the children. If you need envelopes, 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 6<sup>th</sup> 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](http://www.Slnr.org) and Facebook page: [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



## COOKING FOR HOPE



### Meal Ministry

Our next Hope Cook is Sunday, October 19<sup>th</sup>. Since this is also the weekend of the Koinonia Family Retreat, we particularly need some help in the kitchen. All are welcome! Many hands make light work!!

## BOOK CLUB CORNER

St. Luke's Book Club met on September 18<sup>th</sup> to discuss our summer read, *The God of Small Things* by Arundhati Roy. Our discussion was informative and challenging as we thought about the tragic content of the book, told in vivid and passionate language by the author.

Our remaining fall titles are listed below. Everyone is invited to join us at any or all upcoming discussions. We meet at Barnes and Noble in Eastchester on Thursdays, at 12:30p.m. Speak to Jennifer Archer or any member of the Book Club for the specific dates.

### 2025 Fall Titles

<b>October</b>	<i>Audition: A Novel</i> by Katie Kitamura
<b>November</b>	<i>The Correspondent</i> by Virginia Evans
<b>December</b>	<i>Orbital</i> by Samantha Harvey



## MARK YOUR CALENDARS TO SAVE THE DATES



### SAVE THE DATE:

The installation service for Bishop Katrina Foster will be held on Saturday, November 22, at 1 p.m. in the Cathedral Church of St. John the Divine in Manhattan. All are welcome.

### REMINDER:

Daylight Saving Time begins on November 2. Turn your clocks **BACK** one hour.





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

# Gratitude Brunch

## Oct. 26<sup>th</sup>, 2025

*"Build us up Lord"*



Please join us Sunday,  
October 26<sup>th</sup> 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. 19th

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

Or use the sign up sheet in  
the Narthex.

All are Welcome!



# WELCOME OCTOBER!

## From ST. LUKE'S FELLOWSHIP COMMITTEE

Our Gratitude Brunch is Oct 26<sup>th</sup>. It is a chance to share our gratitude for all of God's blessings, especially in our church. We are so thankful to still all be together and thriving! Please see the flyer on the previous page and the sign-up sheet in the Narthex. Leam, Bill, and Joan will be cooking up our traditional Oktoberfest Brats and kraut, and we are hoping for some homemade side dishes including, but not limited to, German potato salad.



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

November 8<sup>th</sup> is our Holiday Boutique. We have many new vendors, will have Photos with Santa, face painting, great food cooking in the café, delish baked goods and of course rummage and raffles galore! PLEASE sign up for an hour or two or just make time to come shop, eat, 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 both he and Pastor Mark Brown, for leading us in worship every week. We are so grateful to you. They will be at the helm for us well into April and Easter!

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**



## 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.

**PRAYER LIST UPDATES:** We are revising our Prayer List. We will remove names after a month or unless instructed otherwise. If you have a name to add, contact the church office.

## OCTOBER BIRTHDAYS & ANNIVERSARIES

### BIRTHDAYS

10/1	Catherine Behrend	10/23	Tyler Head
10/3	Jennifer Archer	10/24	Rosalind Wallace
	Liliana Palmeri	10/25	John T. Amato
10/6	Ryan Head		Gabrielle Rubicco-Tamburro
10/8	Paul O'Riordan-Shimkin	10/27	Michael Wirak
10/9	Robert Brisson	10/29	Anna Shiels
10/10	Dawn McEvoy		Nathaniel Ross
10/12	Silvia Moreno		Jeremy Harris
	Elijah Malachi Shellukindo		Iryna Arbatska
10/17	Joseph Ferraro	10/30	Kris Haymon
10/18	Caitlin Fredericks		
	Maxwell Harris		

### ANNIVERSARIES

10/3	M/M Robert Doerr
10/12	Sherry Fraser & John Pulvermiller
10/16	Edmond & Camille O'Garro
	Lucy Hoffman & Mike Guido



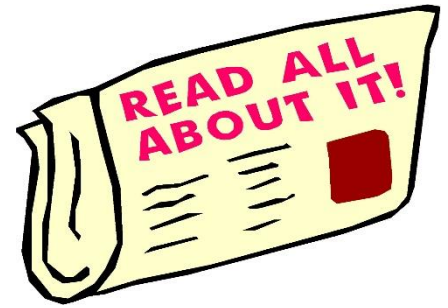
## **Thank you to the Patrons of St. Luke's Voice – 2025**

Jennifer Archer  
Art Rankis

Nancy Sigler  
Ernest & Rosalind Wallace

Aija Sears

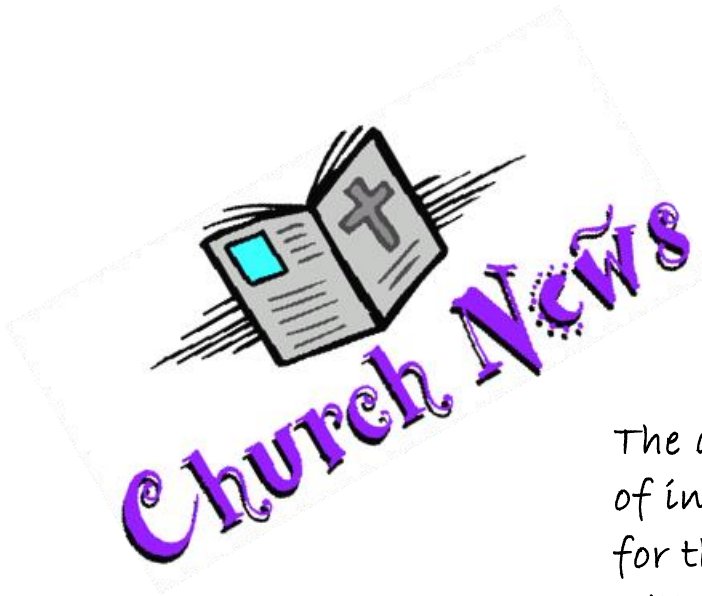
Patrons are those who wish to make a gift to help support the publication of St. Luke's Voice.



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".



The deadline for submission of information and articles for the next issue (November) will be Saturday, October 25<sup>th</sup>



# ST. LUKE'S LUTHERAN CHURCH – OCTOBER 2025

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
All Sundays 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 12p-Sensory Taekwon-Do
5 10a-Worship Service with Rev. Mark Brown 10a-Sunday School 11a-Coffee Hour: Host: Fellowship	6	7	8	9	10 7:15p-Boy Scouts	11 9:30a-A.A. Men's Group 12p-Sensory Taekwon-Do
12 10a-Worship Service with Rev. John Backe 10a-Sunday School 11a-Coffee Hour, Host: Church Council 11a-Bible Study	13 <i>Columbus Day Office Closed</i>	14	15	16	17 7:15p-Boy Scouts  <i>Koinonia Family Retreat Oct. 17-19</i>	18 9:30a-A.A. Men's Group 12p-Sensory Taekwon-Do
19 10a-Worship Service with Rev. Mark Brown 10a-Sunday School 11a-Coffee Hour: Host: Sunday School 11a-Cooking for HOPE	20 10a-Hope Food Pickup 7p-Church Council	21	22	23 12:30p-Book Club Mtg. at Barnes & Noble	24 7:15p-Boy Scouts	25 9:30a-A.A. Men's Group 12p-Sensory Taekwon-Do
26 <i>Reformation Sunday/Gratitude Brunch</i> 10a-Worship Service with Rev. John Backe 10a-Sunday School 11a-Gratitude Brunch, Host:Stewardship/ Fellowship Collection: Coats &Rummage Items	27 7p-Basketball Group Begins	28	29	30	31 7:15p-Boy Scouts	<i>Nov. 8 - Holiday Boutique, 10am-3pm</i>  <i>Nov. 22-Installation of Rev. Katrina Foster as Bishop of MNYS, Cathedral of St. John the Divine, Manhattan at 1 p.m.</i>