

St. Luke's Voice

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

April 2026

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
website: www.slnr.org

[https://www.instagram.com/
st.lukes_new_ro_sunday_school/](https://www.instagram.com/st.lukes_new_ro_sunday_school/)

Visit us on Facebook:
[https://
www.facebook.com/slnr.org/](https://www.facebook.com/slnr.org/)

Newsletter

Editor: Pat Fredericks

A MESSAGE FROM PASTOR JOHN

Let's talk about WORSHIP. Why? What's there to talk about? We all know what that is, right? We get together, sing (we hope songs we know), say some prayers, stand up, sit down (again & again), listen to a (wonderful) sermon, sing, share the Holy Communion and go home. That's it, what else is there to say? A lot. As we move into new phases of ministry in the Life of St. Luke's we need to explore and develop various types of worship experience that feed and nourish our spiritual growth.

WORSHIP in the Lutheran tradition is liturgical. That means we follow a particular calendar of church seasons (Advent, Lent etc.) and a general format. We begin with hearing the word of forgiveness and grace and conclude with sharing the sacraments. There are variations within that framework. Some services don't include communion. There can be a wide variety of musical styles. There are different ways to pray. Some seasons and services are more somber, some very celebratory.

This may all be known by those of us who have been part of the church for a long time. The task for us is to make sure worship is still meaningful, we still hear and experience God's presence and move into the world renewed and strengthened. We struggle to avoid just "going through the motions".

The second challenge is finding ways to make our worship service comfortable and accessible for people who may not have experienced it before.

In the past several months we have been trying some different things; new wording for the confession and services with requested hymns, for example. This newsletter has news about several things we will be trying in the coming months. Come and join us, bring a friend, co-worker or neighbor.



Holy Week

Celebrate Holy Week at St. Luke's Lutheran Church ~ 95 Eastchester Road,
New Rochelle
All are Welcome!!!

Maundy Thursday, April 2

with foot washing and stripping of the altar 7 p.m.

Good Friday, April 3

reading of the Passion of Christ 7 p.m.

Easter Sunday Festival of the Resurrection April 5 10 a.m.

UPCOMING SUNDAYS:

HYMN SING Sunday, April 12 10 a.m.

will be a service of singing a lot of familiar hymns without Holy Communion

NEW LIFE Sunday, April 19 10 a.m.

The Washing of Baptism for Juliana Soto

TRYING SOMETHING NEW Saturday, June 13 5 p.m.

We will have a worship opportunity on This will be in a different kind of service, sometimes called "contemporary". An informal gathering, more interactive and relaxed. Watch for more details.

REPORT FROM THE CHURCH COUNCIL

Easter Blessings to you and your families
from your Church Council!

It was great to break bread and corn beef with you on St. Patrick's Sunday; thank you Leam, Joan, Bill and Lydia for cooking for us.

Our annual Women's retreat is right around the corner, April 10-12th. We have rooms available for any adult female that would like to join us. Let me know.

Coming May 9th : our annual Spring Sale. We need your time and your treasures to make it a success; we also need you! Come shop, have lunch, tell your friends.

We continue to be a busy working Council doing all we can to help with the preservation and furtherance of our beloved church.

On that note, Pastor Nicole Schwalbe, Asst. to the Bishop, will be joining us for worship on Palm Sunday and again meeting with the council about our transition forward. We are working diligently to meet all criteria requested by the Synod.

Thank you to Pastor Backe for leading us in worship as well as Lenten Vespers on Wednesday nights. We hope to see you all on Easter Sunday!

Iryna is always looking for new members for choir... that means you!!! Even if you are not ready to join the Choir, please SING with the choir on Sundays! We need your voices! We are continuing to look for new Lectors and Communion Assistants, please see Susanne Kuligowski if you are interested; for Ushers, please see Denise Tolles to join her team. It takes a village, or a congregation, to make our church successful, every hour counts. Your time, your talents and your treasures are all meaningful to us.

PLEASE like, follow and join our Facebook page <https://www.facebook.com/slnr.org/>

Also visit our website, www.slnr.org . We need help managing the website, if you have skills and time and would like to help us with that, please contact me or Susanne.

Thank you for all you do to help maintain our church and our congregation!

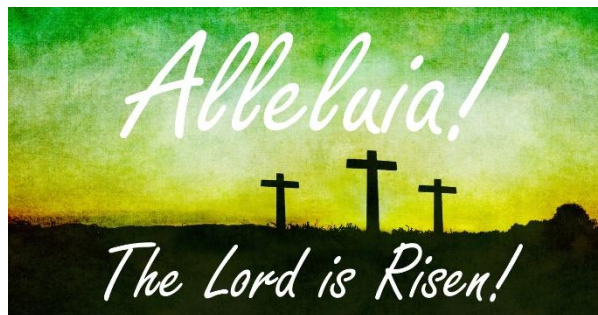
He Is Risen Indeed! Alleluia!

Your Church Council,
Dawn McEvoy, President



CELEBRATING 150 YEARS

1869 - 2019



EASTER BLESSINGS
From The FELLOWSHIP
COMMITTEE



Thank you all for all you do for our church and participating in our Fellowship Events. Thank to Leam, Joan, Bill and Lydia we had a delicious St. Patrick's Day lunch of Corned Beef and Cabbage and a Vegetarian Shepards Pie!

With Easter coming up and hopefully Spring weather, we are looking forward to our Annual Women's Retreat at Koinonia. Please email me if you plan to attend so we can reserve your rooms. See flyer on the next page for dates and prices. All adult women are welcome.



We are planning our Annual Spring Sale May 9th – in time for Mothers' Day! We need your help! We need you to tell your friends, your family, neighbors. Share the flyer with everyone and on your social medias. We can't do it without you! We will have plants, raffles, baked goods, great vendors and a café. PLEASE JOIN US!

Also, looking ahead to June we will be planning our end of the year picnic! Save the Date for June 14th!

Thank you to Carla, our Church secretary, Greg Hines, our custodian, and especially Pastor Backe, our coverage Pastor, and Pastor Brown, for leading us in Worship. We will have a few special guests worshipping with us this summer.

We continue to try to expand our presence in the community, through our social media page, the Chamber of Commerce and FB/Instagram groups. Please like and follow our page.

<https://www.facebook.com/slnr.org/>

website: www.slnr.org

God's Blessings

Yours In Christ, Dawn McEvoy, Chair

The Fellowship Committee

Leam, Melissa and Vicky McEvoy; Susanne and Jacob Kuligowski; Lydia Bersito;

Renee and Shari Taylor; Angelika Ridulfo; Julia Ungewitter and Traci Daniele

And again, thank you to our fabulous Kitchen help, Leam, Joan Bast and Bill Rodriquez.



St. Luke's Lutheran Church

Annual Women's Retreat to Koinonia

April 10-12, 2025

Faith, Fellowship, Fun

\$305 Single, \$195 Double, per person
(includes 5 meals and all activities.)

~ Massages available for additional fee ~

RESERVE YOUR ROOMS TODAY!



Contact Dawn McEvoy for more info or to reserve your room

mmcevoy33@aol.com or call 347-604-3969

ALL are welcome!

Visit Koinoniany.org for more info on Koinonia.

Located 165 Lakeview Drive Road Highland Lake, NY 12743



HAPPY EASTER
FROM THE
SUNDAY SCHOOL

Happy Easter Blessings to you all from the Sunday School.

I hope you got to participate in our Passion Reading on Palm Sunday. Most of our Sunday School children were on vacation, but we were resourceful and used Sunday School Alumni! Thank you Suanne, Renee, Karen, Ian and our Sunday School teachers Shari and Jacob!

A special thanks to Cait! You are a great Peter!

Easter Sunday, we will still be hosting our Easter Egg Hunt, so be sure to meet us in the fellowship hall after church. Your grandchildren, nieces, nephews, cousins or other guests are invited as well!

The Sunday School staff consists of:

Superintendent - Dawn McEvoy

Assistant Superintendent - Karen Fontecchio

Treasurer - Traci Daniele

Teachers – Melissa McEvoy, Shari Taylor, Jacob Kuligowski and Vicky McEvoy

We continue to teach and share the Good News in fun and educational ways.

The Sunday School children, small yet mighty! They are the future of this church!

Our Sunday school is self-sustaining through your contributions. You can help to support the Sunday school by using your child's Sunday school offering envelope every Sunday or you can just write us a check; make it payable to St. Luke's Sunday School. Your contributions enable us to maintain a high standard of excellence. Your blessed gifts are always appreciated. Thank you to those that have contributed. You have sustained our mission this year.

Thank you to our dedicated staff, the congregation, the parents and families.

We are always looking to increase Church and Sunday School membership. We have started to have more of a community presence and will work to increase that every year. If you have any ideas, please let us know. ALL are always welcome!



Respectfully Submitted, Dawn McEvoy – Superintendent

ST. LUKE'S IS ON SOCIAL MEDIA!



If you are on Facebook, please follow St. Luke's New Rochelle, NY. "Like" and "share" our posts. We need your help to spread the word about our church worship and events. We are currently working on our Instagram page.

We are looking for members or friends who can help us expand our social media presence. If you, or someone you know, are interested, please contact Dawn McEvoy or Susanne Kuligowski.

We are also looking for someone to help update our website. We look forward to hearing from you!

BOOK CLUB CORNER

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

--- Martin Luther

UPCOMING TITLES and AUTHORS

APRIL --- *QUEENS OF CRIME* by MARIE BENEDICT (Postponed from March)

And *ISOLA* by ALLEGRA GOODMAN

MAY --- *SOME BRIGHT NOWHERE* by ANN PACKER

JUNE --- *TELL ME EVERYTHING* by ELIZABETH STROUT

SUMMER READ: *THE LONELINESS OF SONIA AND SUNNY* by KIRAN DESAI

St. Luke's Book Club continues to meet monthly at Barnes & Noble in Scarsdale. We enjoy sharing lunch together as we review and discuss our current selection. Books can be comforting, astonishing and illuminating, changing the way we feel about and interact with the world around us.

The April Book Club meeting will be on Thursday, April 30th.

We welcome new members! Please consider joining us!



St. Luke's Lutheran Church

Mother's Day Spring Sale

May 9, 2026

10am – 3pm

95 Eastchester Road, New Rochelle, NY

PLANTS

RUMMAGE

RAFFLES

BAKE SALE, CAFÉ

AVON, Tastefully Simple, Mary Kay,

Ancient Brew Candles, Coily Girl Wreaths, Photo Magnets,

Face Painting and Balloons



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.

APRIL BIRTHDAYS & ANNIVERSARIES

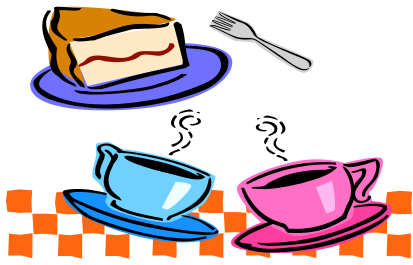
Birthdays

4/1	Paula Hayes	4/21	Robert Doerr
4/4	Claudia Rubicco Frank Saavedra	4/22	Cidney Montalvo Stephanie Elmer Rachel Elmer
4/8	Rachel Kimber	4/25	Elizabeth Mitze
4/12	Daniel D. Brisson Erik Jantzen	4/28	Sanjay Smith
4/17	Bradford Fredericks	4/30	Logan Head

Anniversaries

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





Coffee Hour Assignment Sheet Spring Summer 2026

<u>Date</u>	<u>Committee</u>
Mar 22 - Lent	Social Ministry
Mar 29 – Palm Sunday	Fellowship
Apr 5 – Easter	Sunday School
Apr 12 – Koinonia Women’s Retreat	Church Council
Apr 19	Altar Guild
Apr 26	Senior Choir
May 3	Social Ministry
May 10 – Mother’s Day	Fellowship
May 17	Sunday School
May 24	Church Council
May 31	Altar Guild
June 7	Senior Choir
June 14	Sunday School
June 21 Father’s Day	Fellowship
June 28	Social Ministry
July 5	Church Council
July 12	Altar Guild
July 19	Senior Choir
July 26	Social Ministry
Aug 2	Fellowship
Aug 9	Sunday School
Aug 16	Church Council
Aug 23	Altar Guild
Aug 30	Senior Choir
Sept 6 – RALLY DAY	Sunday School
Sept 13	Social Ministry

Please select members of your committee to honor your dates. You need to set up, clean up and bring milk, juice & dessert etc. You can use this time to promote your committee or upcoming events! If your committee would like to contribute coffee supplies that would be great too! Coffee Hour has become a great Fellowship hour, Thanks to all of you!
ANY questions or conflicts please contact Dawn McEvoy at email: mmcevoy33@aol.com (cell) 347-604-3969 . Thank you! *HELP and DONATIONS are WELCOME any Sunday!!*

Thank you to the Patrons of St. Luke's Voice – 2026

Jennifer Archer
Alexandra Palmeri
Art Rankis

Aija Sears
Nancy Sigler
Ernest & Rosalind Wallace



**The deadline for submission
of information and articles
for the May issue,
will be Sunday, April 26th**

ST. LUKE'S LUTHERAN CHURCH- APRIL 2026

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
<p><i>All Sundays</i> 9a-Choir Rehearsal 10a-Choir 10a-Sunday School 11a-Coffee Hour</p>			1	<p><i>2 Maundy Thursday</i> 7p-Maundy Thursday Service with Pastor Backe No Basketball</p>	<p><i>3 Good Friday/Tenebrae</i> 7p- Worship Service with Pastor Backe No Boy Scouts</p>	<p>4 9:30a-A.A. Men's Group 12p-Sensory Taekwon-Do</p>
<p><i>5 The Resurrection of Our Lord/Easter Sun.</i> 10a-Worship Service with Pastor Backe No Sunday School 11a-Coffee Hour, Host: Sunday School</p>	6	<p>7 6:30p-Basketball Last Practice</p>	8	9	<p>10 7p-Boy Scouts Women's Retreat at Koinonia 4/10-4/12</p>	<p>11 9:30a-A.A. Men's Group 12p-Sensory Taekwon-Do</p>
<p><i>12 HYMN SING</i> 10a- Worship Service with Lay Leader, Marty Ungewitter No Sunday School 11a-Coffee Hour, Host: Council</p>	13	14	15	16	<p>17 7:15p-Boy Scouts</p>	<p>18 9:30a-A.A. Men's Group 12p-Sensory Taekwon-Do</p>
<p>19 10a-Worship Service with Pastor Backe 10a-Baptism of Juliana Press 10a-Sunday School 11a-Coffee Hour, Host: Altar Guild 11a-Cooking for HOPE</p>	<p>20 10a-HOPE Food Pickup 7p-Church Council Mtg.</p>	21	22	23	<p>24 7:15p-Boy Scouts</p>	<p>25 9:30a-A.A. Men's Group 12p-Sensory Taekwon-Do</p>
<p>26 10a-Worship Service with Pastor Backe 10a-Sunday School 11a-Coffee Hour, Host: Choir</p>	27	28	29	<p>30 12:30p-Book Club At Barnes & Noble</p>	<p><i>May 9-Mother's Day Spring Sale</i></p>	