

St. Luke's Times

St. Luke's Episcopal Church

March 2016

A Word from the Rector



We all know the saying "March comes in like a lion goes out like a lamb." While that is usually referring to the weather, there is some truth for us liturgically this March. We will begin right in the middle of Lent, with its penitential feeling and finish with our triumphal season of Easter. And of course separating those two seasons the season of Holy Week.

I know from my own experience and from hearing from many of you Holy Week is a great and very busy time here at St. Luke's. Most of what you are accustomed to will continue. We will begin our observance on Palm/Passion Sunday in the Auditorium of Fryer Hall. Then (weather permitting) we will process outside to the church or indoors if not. The Seder will be held

on Saturday night following the 5:30 service. Monday and Tuesday evening there will be a simple said Eucharist in the chapel. Wednesday the service of Tenebrae will be offered. Maundy Thursday will be slightly different. We will begin with the Agape meal. This will be followed by the usual Maundy Thursday liturgy and then the vigil in the chapel. On Good Friday the Stations of the Cross service walking through Metuchen will happen in the morning. The Ecumenical Preaching service will be from Noon to 3 pm. At 7 pm we will have Stations of the Cross and at 7:30 pm the Good Friday Liturgy of the Day. Saturday at 9 am we will offer the Prayer Book Service for Holy Saturday. The Easter Vigil will again be held at 8:00 pm. And Easter Day the usual services with an Easter Egg Hunt following the 10 am.

I hope that you will consider joining us for all of the Holy Week offerings and of course come to one of the Easter Services. The Vigil does count as

going to church on Easter!

I also want to tell you about my trip to Ecuador. First it was wonderful and I thank you for giving me the time to go and the funds to go. Ecuador is a beautiful country. There was of course a purpose to the trip and that was to establish a parish to parish relationship with a church in the Diocese of Ecuador Central. I can happily report "Mission Accomplished!" We are in the early stages of this relationship with La Iglesia de Buen Pastor in Quito. We have been praying for them every weekend at the Eucharist and they are doing the same. We are hoping to have some of their youth submit artwork for the summer Nails on the Wall exhibit. There will be a lot of corresponding between the different groups in the parish. I also hope to be able to lead a trip to visit them in 2017. Look for more details in the coming months.

May the rest of your Lent be blessed.

Fr. Ed+

Edmund W. Zelley
Rector

Carol A. Pepe,
Deacons

Karl Watson,
Organist & Choirmaster

Julia Jenson,
Director,
Schola Cantorum

Karina M. Davis
Administrative Assistant
to the Rector

Wardens
Kathy McNulty
Debbie Wisniewski

Vestry
Chuck Gudorp
Carla Elfeld Smith
Rosalie DiSimone-Weiss
George F. Poppe III
Barbara Brosnan Rivera
Katherine Young
William (Bill) Noble
Nancy Torok
Kasi LeGrand

Beth Lucas
Treasurer

Courtney Macdonald
Assistant Treasurer

Linda Zeh,
Financial Secretary

George Poppe
Capital Funds

Outreach Committee Report

The Outreach Committee was formed in January by Father Ed. Nino La Stella was named chair of the committee with Katherine Young being the vestry liaison. The Outreach Committee meets the 4th Wednesday of the Month. The following is the report to the vestry for March.

Outreach Committee is tasked:

1. To coordinate activities thus prevent ministry events calendar conflict!
2. To brain storm among the members to offer assistance and valuable suggestions for strengthening each ministry !
3. To develop and present a monthly report to the vestry on each individual ministry under the umbrella of the Outreach Committee!

Outreach Committee Ministries include: Ladies Who Tie Knots, Seaman's Church Institute – Christmas at Sea, Amandla Crossing, Men's Shelter Collection, Christmas Toy Drive, Food Pantry Collection, Clothing Drive, Crop Walk, Hot Meals Ministry at St. Mark Soup Kitchen, and Sisters and Brothers All Global Ministry of St. Luke Episcopal Church which includes. Clip a Dollar for the the Good Shepherd Home for Children in Bamenda, Cameroon, West Africa, Sister parish Buen Pastor in Quito, Ecuador and Responding to The Right Rev. William H. (Chip) Stokes call to identify what possible response is to be made locally to the refugee crisis!

Leaders of each ministry identified by Father Edmund Zelle are Linda Zeh, Diane Lebida, Betty Waters, Katherine Young, John Sharp, Jim Mandler, Patrick Conley, and Nino La Stella

Christmas Toy Drive - Addressed Hands of Hope Letter received by Fr. Zelle on February 10th. The letter:

- Thanked us for stepping in after super storm Sandy necessitated a change of venue for the Toy

Distribution.

- Acknowledged with gratitude their continued use of our venue for the last four years.
- Expressed their decision to bring the Christmas toy distribution and associated Christmas party back to St. James.

Jim Mandler, Linda Zeh and Karina Davis lent their experience and knowledge of the issue to guide the conversation. The letter and their added information allowed the committee members to evaluate the situation and recommend the following:

- Plan A: Considering the good will of the volunteers this event developed and the number of volunteers, it is suggested we send a survey to each volunteer to establish one their desire to continue and our need for a new chairperson/s for the event. The survey will help us develop plan B
- Plan B maintain being a Christmas toy drive collection center. We would not have to host a party to distribute toys directly but could donate the toys collected to agencies that would distribute the toys. Such as:
 - Amandla's Crossing
 - Hands of Hope
 - Lighthouse Ministry in Perth Amboy
 - Trenton Diocese for local leads
 - St. Mark Church

Pantry Outreach the committee recommends that our monthly food pantry collection go to local (**being our focus**) agencies. Such as:

- Hands of Hope - with right of first refusal
- Metuchen Edison Interfaith Clergy Association which distributes food from Neve Shalom Temple and First Presbyterian
- St. Mark seems to have good support for food donation. The would be last considered if the first two on our list are meeting their food donation quotas.

Ladies Who Knots Linda Zeh reported that the ministry is half

through the year. Their ministry year runs from September to June. They are well under budget while handily able to supply the blankets to our service people.

Hot Meals Ministry to St. Mark's Soup Kitchen Jim Mandler reported that the ministry is well under budget because of the generous anonymous donations of food. There is a strong relationship with the possibility of developing other areas for future support.

Christmas at Sea - Betty Waters proudly reports that their ministry is under budget thanks to the wise stewardship of Linda Zeh.

Men's Shelter Collection Linda reported that the monthly collection will be reinstated.

Amandla Crossing - no report

Sisters and Brothers All - Global Ministry of St. Luke Church

- *Clip a Dollar for the the Good Shepherd Home for Children in Bamenda, Cameroon, West Africa (Karina Davis delivered Katherine Young's report)*
- Cedric our sponsored child at the Good Shepherd Home for Children in Bamenda, Cameroon, West Africa has been placed with a family member.
- The committee members suggested that we reach out to the local community of Sisters to sponsor another child. Ask for name and photo
- Make the child a presence to the members of our parish
- Have one student bring up picture of our sponsored child at Fr. Ed's sermon to the youth
- Have Sunday school students sign a birthday card

- *Buen Pastor* Fr. Ed. reported that he is in constant contact with the Rector of Buen Pastor and will be asking how we may best strengthen our sister parish status. He sees it as a two way street of enriching possibilities.

(Continued on next page)

Outreach Committee Report - Continued

- Asked the committee members keep current with developments
- Make Buen Pastor a monthly agenda item

• *Response to Bishop's call for local ministries to develop around Refugee Crisis* Nino LaStella reported:

- St. Luke hosted an Episcopal Convocation on the theme of Refugee resettlement to gather information and network
- In attendance: The Right Rev. William H. (Chip) Stokes, Rectors of several area Episcopal Churches, Members of the

Congregation of Neve Shalom, Members of the Coalition of the Interfaith Resettlement Project from Highland Park and New Brunswick representing the Reform Church of Highland Park, State Senator Joseph Vitale, Representatives from the two agencies licensed to resettle refugees in our area Church World Service and International Rescue Committee. Members of St. Luke were represented: Carl Klapper and his daughter, Florence Tracy, Deacon Carol Pepe, Nino La Stella.

- Sisters and Brothers All has a

web presence as a Facebook page.

Web address:

<https://www.facebook.com/Sisters-Brothers-All-1525595187753692/>

- There will be a follow meeting of Sisters and Brothers All: Refugee Response mid -March. DTBA.

Next Meeting of Outreach Committee will be March 30 at 7pm.

March report respectfully presented by!
Nino La Stella!

What's Up Warden? - Many Hands Make Light Work

March marks the beginning of what can be labeled as a new era for Saint Luke's.

At the February Vestry meeting a new approach to managing the church's finances was approved. With Debbie Wisniewski's move from interim treasurer to Warden it's an opportune time to implement a structure that allows several of Saint Luke's parishioners to participate in overseeing the church's financial activity.

Saint Luke's new Treasure is Beth Lucas. Beth will supervise the payroll, the writing of checks, input of data into the ACS system and prepare monthly reports for the vestry as well as attend meetings related to her function.

The new structure revives the role of Assistant Treasurer. Serving in this role will be Courtney Macdonald, whose primary activity will be check writing and input of data into the ACS system.

A new team of parishioners form the new Finance/Audit Committee. This team's activities will include oversight of the annual audit and taking the lead on financial matters

arising from Saint Luke's business. Two of the current items these folks will address include the liquidation of an Israeli savings bond given to the church and follow up on Saint Luke's tax liability. George Poppe will chair this newest committee. Working alongside George on this committee will be Financial Secretary, Linda Zeh, Beth Lucas, Sue Molineaux, Tim Molineaux, Evan Davis, Ann Jensen and Stacey Negron Sheckelt.

Lisa Kiernan has been providing accounting support to Saint Luke's since early 2015. Lisa came to us recommended by the Diocesan office in Trenton to assist with the treasury transition. Beginning this month Lisa's support activities will be expanded to include preparation of the parochial report, prepare the annual budget and load the data into ACS, oversee bank reconciliations and guide the Finance/Audit team in the audit process.

Additionally, Mike Fresco, CPA will remain as a resource on tax issues. Mike came aboard in 2015 when Saint Luke's received notice

from the IRS of an outstanding tax liability. Mike will be called upon when necessary.

It is my belief that this new structure will allow for more thorough oversight of Saint Luke's finances and spread the workload such that no one person will be encumbered by the responsibilities associated Saint Luke's treasury.

As part of the new structure, checks will be cut twice per month; once in the middle and once at the end. For the end of March 2016, the last day to request a check will be 3/18/16. Checks will be distributed the week of 4/4/16, after Holy Week.

I must thank Debbie Wisniewski for her considerable time and talent devoted to Saint Luke's treasury. Without Debbie's commitment to the process of remediating Saint Luke's financial issues it is probable that our parish would still be learning of new items to sort out.

I wish you all a Happy Saint Patrick's Day, a Blessed Holy Week and a Joyous Easter.

~Kathy

Holy Week Events

Saturday, March 19, 2016

6:00 pm
Passover Seder



Palm Sunday

Saturday, March 19, 2016
5:30pm
Sunday, March 20, 2016
8 am & 10 am



Service begins in the auditorium and then there is a procession into the church.

Holy Monday

March 21, 2016
Holy Eucharist in Chapel
7:00 pm



Holy Tuesday

March 22, 2016
Holy Eucharist in Chapel
7:00 pm

Holy Wednesday

March 23, 2016
Tenebrae
7:00 pm



Maundy Thursday

March 24, 2016

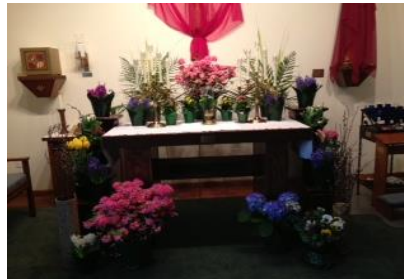
6:00 pm
Agape Meal



7:00 pm
Holy Eucharist with Feet Washing



Vigil at the Altar of Repose
Through the night



Good Friday

March 25, 2016

Way of the Cross
9:00 am



Seven Last Words
Ecumenical Service
12:00 Noon

Stations of the Cross
7pm

Good Friday Service
7:30 pm

Holy Saturday

March 26, 2016

9am
Service for Holy Saturday

8:00 pm
Easter Vigil with Baptism



Easter Sunday

March 27, 2016
8 am Rite I



10 am Rite II
Services

Followed by Coffee Hour
And Easter Egg Hunt



~ March 2016~

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
		1 8 Morning Prayer 5:30 Evening Prayer	2 8 Morning Prayer 10:00 Healing Service followed by Bible Study 5:30 Evening Prayer 7:00 Lenten Soup and Salad	3 8 Morning Prayer 3:30 Schola Cantorum rehearsal 5:30 Evening Prayer 7:00 Twisted Stitches 7:30 Choir Rehearsal	4 Diocesan Convention 8 Morning Prayer 12:00 Men's Lunch at Houlihan's 5:30 Evening Prayer 7:00 Stations of the Cross	5 Diocesan Convention 9:00 Flea Market 5:30 Holy Eucharist
6 8:00 Holy Eucharist 9 Early Bird Education 10:00 Holy Eucharist followed by Coffee Hour 11:15 Sunday School 12:00 Schola 5:30 6pm Round Table	7 8 Morning Prayer 1:00 Ladies Who Tie Knots 5:30 Evening Prayer 7:00 Holy Week Planning Meeting 7:00 Metuchen Garden Club	8 8 Morning Prayer 5:30 Evening Prayer	9 8 Morning Prayer 10:00 Healing Service followed by Bible Study 5:30 Evening Prayer 7:00 Lenten Soup and Salad 7:00 St. Veronica's Guild	10 8 Morning Prayer 3:30 Schola Cantorum rehearsal 5:30 Evening Prayer 7:30 Choir Rehearsal	11 8 Morning Prayer 5:30 Evening Prayer 7:00 Stations of the Cross	12 10:00 Vestry Retreat and Vestry Meeting 5:30 Holy Eucharist
13 8:00 Holy Eucharist 9 Early Bird Education 10:00 Holy Eucharist followed by Coffee Hour 5:30Worship for the Autism Community 12:00 Schola 6pm Round Table	14 8 Morning Prayer 5:30 Evening Prayer	15 8 Morning Prayer 5:30 Evening Prayer	16 8 Morning Prayer 10:00 Healing Service 5:30 Evening Prayer 7:00 Lenten Soup and Salad	17 8 Morning Prayer 3:30 Schola Cantorum rehearsal 5:30 Evening Prayer 7:30 Choir Rehearsal	18 8 Morning Prayer 11:30 Ladies Luncheon at Panera' 5:30 Evening Prayer 7:00 Stations of the Cross	19 5:30 Holy Eucharist 6:00 Seder
20 Palm Sunday 8:00 Holy Eucharist 9 Early Bird Education 10:00 Holy Eucharist followed by Coffee Hour 12:00 Schola 5:30 6pm Round Table	21 8 Morning Prayer 1:00 Ladies Who Tie Knots 5:30 Evening Prayer	22 8 Morning Prayer 5:30 Evening Prayer 7:30 Choir Rehearsal	23 8 Morning Prayer 10:00 Healing Service 5:30 Evening Prayer 7:00 Tenebrae 7:00 St. Veronica's Guild	24 Maundy Thursday 8 Morning Prayer 3:30 Schola Cantorum rehearsal 5:30 Evening Prayer 6:00 Agape Meal 7:00 Maundy Thursday Service	25 Good Friday Office Closed 8 Morning Prayer 9 Way of the Cross 12 The Seven Last Words – Ecumenical Service 5:30 Evening Prayer 7:00 Good Friday Service	26 Holy Saturday 8:00 Easter Vigil
27Easter Day 8:00 Holy Eucharist 10:00 Holy Eucharist followed by Coffee Hour and Easter Egg Hunt	28 Easter Monday Office Closed 8 Morning Prayer 1:00 Ladies Who Tie Knots 5:30 Evening Prayer	29 8 Morning Prayer 5:30 Evening Prayer	30 8 Morning Prayer 10:00 Healing Service 5:30 Evening Prayer 7:00 Outreach Committee Meeting	31 8 Morning Prayer 3:30 Schola Cantorum rehearsal 5:30 Evening Prayer		

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Metuchen**

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Calendar:

calendarwiz.com/stlukesmetuchen



We're on the Web!

www.stlukesmetuchen.org



**FISH &
CHIPS
DINNER**

at
Trinity Episcopal Church
650 Rahway Avenue at Trinity Lane
Woodbridge NJ 07095
www.trinitywoodbridge.org

Sunday, April 3, 2016
4:00 PM to 6:00 PM
Catering by Thistle

Adults \$15 Children under 8—\$8

Call 732-634-7422 ext. 10 for tickets
Or fax to 732-634-7085

Thank you to Sexton Robbie Robbins

Robbie Robbins received a standing ovation during the 10am service on Sunday, February 28th as a Thank you for his three plus years of service as Sexton at St. Luke's.

Robbie left his job at St. Luke's to accept a full time position with the Edison Free Public Library as the Bookmobile Driver.

Robbie's dedication and hard work will be missed but we are happy that we will still see him and Denise in the pews on Sunday mornings.

