



TIDINGS

News & Notes from Saint Luke's Parish

Today's Services

8:00 AM	Holy Eucharist (<i>Church</i>)
10:00 AM	Holy Eucharist (<i>Church</i>)
11:00 AM	Family Worship (<i>Outside of AYCC</i>)
5:00 PM	Come as You Are Service (<i>AYCC</i>)

Coffee Hour

8:45 AM	AYCC
11:00 AM	Outdoor Cloister
6:00 PM	AYCC

For Children & Youth

7:45 AM-11 AM	Childcare (<i>Birth-36 months</i>) <i>Education Building</i>
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9:50 AM	Church School <i>Education Building</i>
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Crayons & coloring pages, pencils & activity pages, and Board Books are available at the Children's Kiosk located in the Narthex.

The Forum

"Bible Women" Series | 9:00 AM

This January, Saint Luke's clergy and staff will offer a special three-part series entitled "Bible Women: Famous, Forgotten, and Faithful." Come meet some of the heroines of our faith—some you may know, many you may not. This series will be held in-person and livestreamed. Our series ends with Rev. Derek Stefanovsky.

January 23, 2022

The Third Sunday after the Epiphany

Dear Friends,

We are currently in the midst of the "Week of Prayer for Christian Unity," observed annually January 18-25 by the overwhelming majority of Christians globally. What is the Week of Prayer for Christian Unity? For well over 100 years, this week has been dedicated to praying and working for visible signs of unity and cooperation among the various churches and denominations. It harkens back to the prayer of Jesus himself in John's gospel:

"The glory that you have given me I have given them, so that they may be one, as we are one, I in them and you in me, that they may become completely one, so that the world may know that you have sent me and have loved them even as you have loved me."

While disagreements with each other are a reality of the world we live in, as Christians we are called to do all we can to work together on shared goals where possible, to pray together when we can, and to pray for each other, all so that we may indeed live out that prayer of Jesus that we may all be one. We do this not towards our own ends, but to the end that the Church may be built up, that divisions may cease, that more people may follow Jesus as Lord and Savior, and that the world may be a better place and more reflective of God's hopes and desires. It is challenging work to say the least, but it is work worth doing.

I was struck this past Wednesday in our 8th grade Confirmation class as we discussed the Nicene Creed. We didn't intend to do so during this symbolic week, but the irony was not lost on me! The Nicene Creed is one of the great ecumenical treasures of Christianity, shared and used by the overwhelming majority of global Christians. As Episcopalians, we use it to confess our core beliefs almost every Sunday. It, along with the Holy Scriptures and the sacraments of Baptism and Eucharist, are the core sources of unity among Christians, even despite our many differences. With all this in mind, I invite you to join me in this prayer for Christian unity, prayed every morning at Lambeth Palace (home of the Archbishop of Canterbury, and the ecumenical Community of St. Anselm of young adults age 20-35): "Lord Jesus, who prayed that we might all be one. We pray to you for the unity of Christians, according to your will, according to your means. May your Spirit enable us to experience the suffering caused by division, to see our sin and to hope beyond all hope. Amen."

Peace,

Derek+

Outdoor Family Worship | 11:00 AM

Join us outside after the 10am service for Family Worship! We'll have a brief service followed by fun activities, hot cocoa, and a bonfire!

This Week

Epiphany Foundations

Tuesday, January 25, 7:00 PM

Our year-long Tuesday evening adult education offering resumes in the new year with our Epiphany series: "The Life and Ministry of Jesus." We are reading the Gospel of Luke together over 6 weeks, reflecting on the question Jesus asks Peter: "who do you say that I am?" Missed the first session? It's not too late to join. Contact Ryan Fleenor to learn more. This series will be held over Zoom.

Choir Rehearsals on Hiatus

All parish choirs will be on hiatus for the month of January, due to the recent spike in COVID cases.

Monday, January 24

Morning Prayer, 8:00 AM

Janet Phyne Memorial & Interment, 1:00 PM

Tuesday, January 25

Morning Prayer, 8:00 AM

Epiphany Foundations, 7:00 PM

Wednesday, January 26

Morning Prayer, 8:00 AM

Holy Eucharist, 10:00 AM

Meditation Group, 6:00 PM

Thursday, January 27

Morning Prayer, 8:00 AM

Community Supper (to-go), 5:00 PM

Friday, January 28

Morning Prayer, 8:00 AM

Saturday, January 29

Vestry Retreat, 9:00 AM

Next Sunday The Fourth Sunday after the Epiphany January 30

Sunday's Readings: Jeremiah 1:4-10, 1 Corinthians 13:1-13, Luke 4:21-30, Psalm 71:1-6

Please note: there will be no 8:00 AM or 5:00 PM CAYA service this Sunday—we will all worship together at the 10:00 AM service.

Guest Preacher: The Rev. Canon Scott Gunn

We are delighted to welcome the Rev. Scott Gunn as our guest preacher for the 10:00 AM Eucharist next Sunday. Gunn is an Episcopal priest and executive director of Forward Movement, the publishers of *Day by Day*. He is also a highly sought-after speaker, retreat leader, and author.

RenewalWorks Survey Launches

Next Sunday also marks the launch of a next step in our strategic planning process, and we need your input and perspective. Much like the Spiritual Life Initiative of 2013-2014, we will be intentionally taking stock of our spiritual health and how Saint Luke's helps us grow in faith. A group of parishioners, led by Jennifer Kepner and Michael Moore, will be reflecting this winter on where we are and where we are called to be. This process will begin with a Spiritual Life Inventory to be completed by as many parishioners as possible. You will receive an email link to the survey on January 30. Paper copies will also be available.

Annual Meeting

The 165th Annual Meeting for Saint Luke's Parish will be held on Sunday, January 30, 2022, immediately following the 10:00 AM Eucharist. There will only be one service that Sunday, so our hope is that the entire parish will worship together at 10:00 AM (either in-person or online) and then remain together for the Annual Meeting at 11:00 AM. The Annual Meeting will be both in-person and live-streamed, and parishioners will be able to participate and vote through Zoom. Childcare and activities for older children will be available.

We will gather to celebrate the past year and look ahead to the year to come, with reports from parish leadership. We will thank retiring Vestry members—including Sally Houlihan (Senior Warden), Adam Vandervoort (Treasurer), Kristen Nelson (Clerk), Joan Bergen, and David Gray—and elect the Executive Committee and new members to the Vestry. The candidates are:

Executive Committee (1-year terms):

Senior Warden: Rob Hulick
Bolton

Junior Warden: Wendy Moore

Treasurer: Bill Bowman

Clerk: Lisa Baird

Vestry Members (3-year terms):

Class of 2024 (*to fill out the remainder of Lisa Baird's term*): Chris

Class of 2025: Barclay Bowen, Fred Elliot, and Mimi Griffith

Finally, the 2021 Annual Report will be made available electronically this week.

News & Upcoming Events

Worship

Evensong

Saturday, February 5, 5:00 PM

The gentlemen of the Parish Choir will present "Taste and See," the Third Annual Evensong & Trappist Beer Tasting. Following Evensong, join us for an outdoor reception under the Cloister, featuring tastings of delicious, hand-crafted, Trappist beers from St. Joseph's Abbey in Spencer, MA.

Morning Prayer and Wednesday Eucharist

Looking to worship in smaller gatherings? Morning Prayer, a simple 20 minute service of Psalms, Bible readings and prayers, continues to be held weekday mornings at 8:00 AM. We also offer a Holy Eucharist on Wednesdays at

Grow

The Stress of Life: a scientific perspective on stress, health, and the power of spiritual practices

Wednesday, February 9, 7:00 PM

Alexandra ("Daisy") Crosswell, Ph.D., will be in conversation with Andrea McDonough for the evening, discussing her research as a psychological scientist studying how life stress gets under our skin to change our biological functioning. Together we will learn the pathways that connect the mind and body and learn how to harness the power of spiritual practices to combat the negative health effects of stress. This event will be held on Zoom. Email caringconnections@saintlukesdarien.org to learn more!

February Forums

In honor of Black History Month, Saint Luke's will focus on our baptismal promise "to strive for justice and peace among all people, and respect the dignity of every human being," particularly focused on racial reconciliation and justice. Our Sunday Forums (9:00 AM, AYCC & online) will feature guests Ranjit Mathews, Craig Townsend, and Mark Bozzuti-Jones. Parishioners are also invited to read Bozzuti-Jones's new book, "Face to the Rising Sun: Reflections on Spirituals and Justice."

Holy Land Pilgrimage

January 27-February 8, 2023

Join a group of fellow parishioners for the trip of a lifetime to walk in the footsteps of Jesus in the Land of the Holy One. The Rev. Ryan Fleenor and Canon Iyad Qumri co-lead this pilgrimage. More info and registration forms available at www.saintlukesdarien.org/holy-land.

Connect

Youth S'mores and Compline

Saturday, January 29, 7:00 PM

Bring a lawn chair and we will provide the bonfire and s'mores! Please email Naomi with any questions!

Are you new? Need a nametag?

Our next official new member welcome is not until after Easter, but if you are new to Saint Luke's, we would love to be able to welcome you now. Contact Maggie Domont (Maggie.domont@saintlukesdarien.org) to begin receiving our weekly emails, get a nametag, or just introduce yourself. We are delighted you are here.

Serve

Youth Drive Thru Food Drive

Saturday, February 5, 10:00 AM to 2:00 PM

The youth are hosting a DRIVE-THRU Food Drive in the Circle Drive! Please wear your mask, leave donations in your trunk, and volunteers will unload when you arrive! Please consider donating your food items in a reusable grocery bag. These bags are reused by the families we serve. Your contribution helps feed over 5,000 neighbors in need.

Person-to-Person Volunteer Opportunities

P2P is looking for volunteers as we head into the new year! Consider signing up to help at one of the following events:

- Clothing center: every weekday from 9-11 AM or 11AM - 1PM
- Food Pantry: Monday- Saturday from 9AM-1PM
- Food Deliveries: every weekday from 1-2PM

Contact Wendy Moore at moorewendy@me.com to sign up or for more information!

Join the Community Supper Team!

Our Community Supper Ministry is looking to fill a spot in the Veggie Prep team! If you've been wanting to join the ministry, this is a great opportunity! The Veggie Prep team cook on Thursdays from 1:00 to 3:00 PM. Email Fran Principe at mfprincipe@yahoo.com for more information!

Support Miranda's YASC Journey

Our Interim Director of Communications, Miranda Wilson, will be departing for Geneva, Switzerland in February to serve in the Young Adult Service Corps of the Episcopal Church. To learn more about YASC and to support Miranda's fundraising goal, visit saintlukesdarien.org/give/yasc/.

Prayer List

For the Church

In our Anglican Cycle of Prayer, we pray for Hong Kong Sheng Kung Hui.

In our Diocese, we pray for Epiphany, Durham; St. Gabriel's, East Berlin; St. Stephen's, East Haddam; and All Saints', East Hartford.

In our parish cycle of prayer, we give thanks for all Confirmation teachers and the work of our Youth Ministries committee.

Thanksgiving & Celebrations

We give thanks for the birth of Charlie Parker Curtis, Ellen Sisson's grandchild, this past week.

We give thanks for the service of our retiring vestry members: Sally Houlihan (Senior Warden), Adam Vandervoort (Treasurer), Kristen Nelson (Clerk), Joan Bergen, and David Gray.

We give thanks for those who have made financial contributions to our 2022 stewardship campaign.

We give thanks for our Saint Luke's Parish School Community including students, parents, teachers and staff, as well as our new families who will be joining us in the fall of 2022.

Those who have requested our prayers

For members and friends of the parish who are sick, sorrowful, or in any kind of trouble: Ashton, Aldin, Allison, Bari, Basil, Betsy, Bridgette, Caroline, Charlie, Charlotte, Chris, Darlene, Gill, Jack, Jane, Jessica, Joe & Ginny, John, Kelsey, Lee, Lynne, Mark Caudle, Mary Shaw, Nancy, Pat, Patience, Patricia, Sharon, Sheila, and Tony.

For our outreach partner, Future 5.

We pray for God's wisdom and grace to be with the Bishop Transition Committee as they prepare a slate of candidates for election as the next Bishop of Connecticut in May 2022.

We pray for all those involved in and affected by the hostage situation at Congregation Beth Israel of Colleyville, Texas. We give thanks for the FBI, negotiators, and special ops team that ensured the hostages were rescued safely. Let us stand together with our Jewish brothers and sisters, in unity and peace, and pray for their healing and wellbeing.

Those who have died

We commend to God's care and keeping Janet Phyfe, whose memorial is being held tomorrow.

All who have died from COVID-19.

About these Prayers

Saint Luke's is a community committed to prayer. Holding one another's joys, sorrows, and concerns before God in prayer is a spiritual practice at the heart of our life together. We encourage you to pray throughout the week for these members of our parish family.

We invite you to add yourself or others to the Saint Luke's prayer list by submitting a prayer request card, notifying Candy Wheelock at [\(203-655-1456\)](mailto:candy.wheelock@saintlukesdarien.org) or visiting our website.

Hospitalization or Pastoral Issues

Please notify us if you or a family member is hospitalized and/or in need of a pastoral call or visit. We often have no other way of knowing a visit is needed. Please email a member of the clergy or call the Parish Office (203-655-1456) to reach the priest-on-call.

Sharing Holy Communion

If illness prevents you or a loved one from joining us for regularly scheduled services, a priest or a lay eucharistic visitor can share Holy Communion with you at home or in a health care facility. Please contact Cindy Scam at 203-655-1456 or cindy.scam@saintlukesdarien.org.

Celebrations

If you would like to ask for prayers for the celebrations in your life or in the life of a loved one, please contact Cindy Scam at 203-655-1456 or cindy.scam@saintlukesdarien.org.

Flowers

The Flower Guild adorns the church with flowers and greens thanks to donations given in memory of loved ones or in thanksgiving for special occasions. The names are listed in the service bulletins. If you would like to make a gift of flowers, please contact Lynn Biggart at 203-655-3343 or sevenbiggs@aol.com.

12 Step Groups

Saint Luke's hosts multiple 12 Step Recovery and Support groups, including AA, AlAnon, Alateen, and Fabulous Women of Wednesday. Call the Parish Office at 203-655-1456 for meeting times, or see our online calendar.