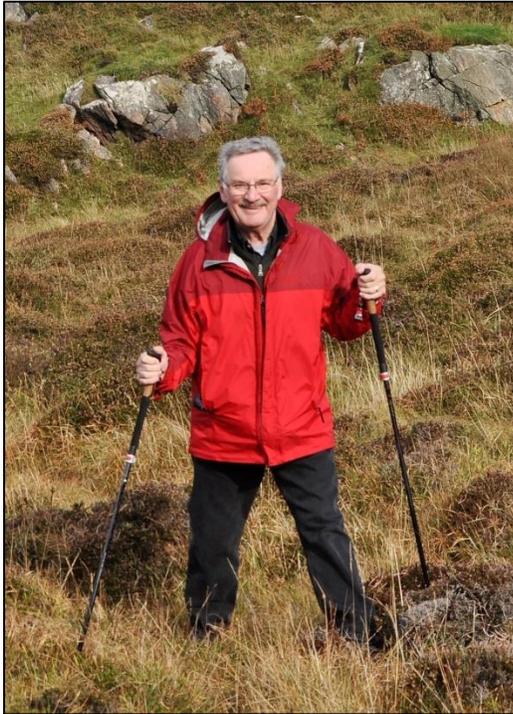


# St. Luke's Episcopal Church

## House Call Newsletter

### December 2021 - January 2022

#### Note from the Interim Rector



In the Devotional Book *Celtic Daily Prayer: The Journey Begins*; Ronald Rolheiser writes about the core values of the Northumbria Community on availability and vulnerability.

When we don't know quite how to properly do or to act simply bring the alphabet of our lives before God and if we are available and vulnerable God will form the words, the prayer, the ideas in our hearts and minds. Some days this alphabet may be dancing and song and others blandness, pain, despair or even boredom but it is our life's alphabet at that moment.

If we offer that alphabet to God, it may then become clear how we are to act, pray, sing, dance, and serve others.

Blessings  
Fr. David

Dear friends,

There is a story told about a Jewish farmer, who did not make it home before sunset one Sabbath. He was forced to spend the day in the field waiting for sunset the next day before being able to return home.

Upon his return home he was met by a rather perturbed rabbi who chided him for his carelessness. Finally the rabbi asked him: what did you do out there all day in the field? Did you at least pray!

The farmer answered: Rabbi, I am not a clever man, I don't know how to pray properly. What I did was simply to recite the alphabet all day and let God form the words himself.

## November Vestry Highlights

- Mike and Eve Waldman presented an update of Food Pantry.
- Draft 2022 budget presented
- Stewardship report received
- Vestry Nominating Committee announced – Dianne Crews, Chair; Alastair McGregor; Nancy Jones.
- Leave Taking Letter received from The Rev. Diana Carroll
- Letter of Agreement received from The Rev. David Showers
- Pastor Diana expressed gratitude to the vestry and congregation

The next vestry meeting is Saturday, November 20 at 9:30am.

*Dianne Crews*  
Registrar

## Treasurer’s Report

### Oct 2021

Income;	Actual	Budget
Pledges	129,428	112,500
Other	<u>74,206</u>	<u>77,914</u>
Total Income	203,634	152,120
<b>Expenses:</b>	<u>184,482</u>	<u>164,873</u>
<b>Net gain</b>	<u>19,152</u>	<u>12,753</u>
Checking	9,908	
Investments	72,276	

## Stewardship Thank you

Thank you so much to the **32** individuals and households who have made a pledge of financial support for St. Luke's as of November 30. Your generosity is what makes all of our congregation's work and worship possible.

The total amount pledged so far for 2022 is **\$109,024**  
We have received 7 new pledges, 9 increased pledges, 5

decreased pledges, and 11 pledges at the same rate as 2021.

**If you plan to support St. Luke's in 2022 and have not yet made a pledge, we encourage you to do so as soon as possible.** You can either make a pledge online or mail your physical pledge card to the church office. Pledges are both an act of commitment to our church community and an essential part of our financial planning process for the year ahead. Thank you!

## Save St. Luke’s Money!

We are deeply grateful to everyone who has continued to give so faithfully to St. Luke’s throughout this challenging time. Many of you have made use of our online giving program Givelify to schedule regular donations. Thank you!

You may not be aware that **for every Givelify donation, a 3% fee is charged.** This comes out of the donation itself, reducing the amount that comes to the church. Over time, these fees collectively add up to hundreds of dollars!

If you give online, please consider one of these options to help St. Luke’s save money:

1. Increase your online gift by 3% to offset the fee.
2. Use your bank’s online bill-paying feature to have a check mailed to the church on a regular basis at no additional cost to you.
3. Contact our Treasurer, Pete Stark, to set up a regular direct bank transfer (ACH) from your checking account to ours.

And don’t forget, if you are receiving distributions from an IRA, you can have contributions go directly to St. Luke’s from the IRA, and they will not be taxed as a distribution. This is especially helpful if you are no longer itemizing deductions on your tax returns.

## Celebrate the Birth of Christ! Christmas Services

*Join us for worship in person, by Zoom,  
phone or on Facebook Live*

**Friday, December 24**  
**Christmas Eve**  
**4 pm** Hybrid Worship

**Sunday, December 26**  
First Sunday after Christmas  
**10 am** Hybrid Worship

**Sunday, January 2**  
Second Sunday after Christmas  
**10 am** Hybrid Worship

*Streamed from St. Luke's Sanctuary*

<https://zoom.us/j/4102685419>

Join by phone: 1-301-715-8592  
Enter Meeting ID: 410 268 5419

[www.facebook.com/stlukeseastport](http://www.facebook.com/stlukeseastport)

## Christmas Flower Dedications

Christmas flower donations are now being accepted. You can send a check to St. Luke's with "Christmas Flowers" in the memo line or [click the link here](#) to complete the online dedication form with your information.

Remember to include the name(s) of those in whose memory or honor the flowers are given. Please submit your dedications no later than **December 19**.

## Hybrid Worship Continues

### What to expect if you come in person:

Those attending in person are required to mask, regardless of vaccination status. We are not requiring social distancing, however we ask that you refrain from making physical contact (i.e. hugs and handshakes) with those outside your household, including during the passing of the peace.

Some windows will be opened to provide greater ventilation, so **please dress warmly!**

The service has been shortened slightly to reduce the total length of time we are together. Music is a combination of live singing accompanied by Dr. Ildar Khannanov and recorded music sung by our virtual choir. Under new guidance from the Episcopal Diocese of Maryland, **the congregation is permitted to sing with masks on.**

On Sundays, we have begun using an option for Holy Communion recommended by the bishop known as "shallow intinction". The celebrant alone will dip (intinct) the edge of each wafer into the wine before placing it in the hands of the recipient. Intinction by individual worshippers will no longer be permitted in this diocese due to the associated health risks.

There is not an in-person Hospitality Hour for the time being.

Please read the Episcopal Diocese of Maryland's [Covenant for Regathering with Less Mitigation](#) before attending in person.

### What to expect if you attend on Zoom, by phone, or through Facebook Live:

Our goal is to enable those who attend worship remotely to be fully included in the service as much as possible. We are exploring ways to increase interaction between those who are in person and those joining remotely.

The video originates on Zoom and is shared from there to Facebook. Those online are able to hear and see what is happening in the sanctuary, and those in the sanctuary are able to hear those on Zoom when desired

(for instance, a Reader or Intercessor may serve remotely).

The worship bulletin is shared on the screen. The text of the worship service is also available to download from our website (and at the links further down in this email) as a seasonal worship booklet and weekly inserts.

Social time follows the service for those on Zoom.

### What about other forms of gathering?

- **Masks are still required of everyone when entering the building, regardless of vaccination status.**
- St. Luke's Food Pantry continues to operate on Tuesday mornings from 11 am to noon under their revised protocols. Donations are received at the church on Monday mornings between 10 and 11 am.
- The Friday Morning Contemplative Prayer Group is meeting solely on Zoom at this time.
- Small groups, such as committees, are encouraged to meet outdoors or on Zoom. If you are meeting in person at the church (even outside) or using the church Zoom account, **please make sure to check the calendar for space/Zoom availability and schedule your meeting with Dalyn Huntley.**
- With permission of the Vestry, Alcoholics Anonymous has resumed meeting indoors in the Undercroft on Monday evenings at their old time of 5:45 to 6:45 pm. Cub Scout Pack 153 meets on Thursday evenings in the Undercroft and in the amphitheater area. Other outside groups will be considered on a case-by-case basis.

## Holy Communion for Remote Worship

Following diocesan guidelines, we are again distributing Holy Communion to be received by remote worshippers during our hybrid worship service. Prepackaged wine and bread are consecrated on a Sunday and made available for pickup from the church at a designated time.

The next date for pickup will be **Saturday, December 18 from 2 to 3 pm** to receive during the following day. If you are unable to pick up from the church during that

time, please contact Dalyn Huntley to make alternate arrangements (410-268-5419 or [office@stlukeseastport.org](mailto:office@stlukeseastport.org)).

## Stewardship Stories

*During Stewardship Season, the second reading each Sunday is replaced by a series of "Contemporary Epistles" shared by our own members on the theme of Stewardship. The talk below was given by Dianne Crews on Sunday, October 17, 2021.*

Every perfect gift comes from God.

I have had an ongoing love affair with the church for 75 years – ever since my dad dropped me off for Sunday School at the East Weymouth Congregational Church when I was 5 years old. He did not attend regularly but was willing to drive me each Sunday. I have perfect recollection of one Sunday afternoon when two men from the church came to our house. They were dressed in their Sunday best. They brought flip charts with graphs and illustrations all about the church and church programs. They were asking my dad to contribute with a pledge. I don't know if he did it, but I know the impression of that afternoon has never left me. The determination to share my gifts and talents has been part of my life ever since.

I am grateful for those early years in the church. My pastor, Sunday School teachers and other members of the church loved me and encouraged me. They nurtured my gifts and talents. I joined other choir members in worship and praise. I developed leadership and organizational skills in my youth fellowship. I looked forward to worship and prayer wherever I found myself. All this formation strengthened my commitment to serve God in the church.

I looked at my nursing career as my ministry. All my God given gifts helped me heal and comfort both physically and spiritually. God's call to Annapolis 49 years ago gave me the opportunity to continue to serve in many ways. Being part of this community of St. Luke's for the past 20 years has made it easy to share the love of God with our neighbors.

However, as I have aged and my physical and mental abilities have waned, I have had to reassess how to continue to serve. Thankfully, a few years ago Norm and

I became members of the Legacy Society. This is not a 'fancy- dancy' group. There is no big initiation – no formal ritual – no monthly Zoom meetings. It only takes a commitment to want to continue to share your assets after you die.

We are not rich, but we have been blessed with good health and a good life. We wanted to be sure St. Luke's shared a portion of those blessings after we were gone. We did not want to count on our children to honor our wishes, so we did it legally. While we were drawing up our advanced directives, will and trust, we indicated how to contribute to St. Luke's. We told Pastor Diana that we had done this. She notified the diocese, and we were enrolled in the Legacy Society. That's how easy it was, and I urge all of you to do the same. In fact, do it tomorrow! If you want more information about the Legacy Society, just contact me.

The Stewardship theme for this year is – Every perfect gift comes from God. So, I urge all of you to show your love for God today, by sharing your gifts - time, talents, skills, and treasury - with St. Luke's. Then, join the Legacy Society so your gifts can continue to give in the future.

All good gifts around us are sent from Heaven above. So thank the Lord, Oh, thank the Lord for all his love. Amen

## Winter Walks at the Eastport Memorial Labyrinth

**Walking in the Light**  
**Saturday, December 11**  
**12 Noon to 1 pm**

Our December theme is "Walking in the Light". Have you thought about what is your source of Light? The sun, the moon, a celestial body or a candle. Or is it a more spiritual light? Join our walk and explore your source of light.

**Justice Walk**  
**Saturday, January 8**  
**12 Noon to 1 pm**

We meet at the log amphitheater just below the labyrinth for an introduction, and then we gather there

again for conversation following the walk. Masks are OPTIONAL but encouraged for those that are unvaccinated. Labyrinth walks take place rain or shine, so please dress for the weather.

We strive to make our events as accessible and inclusive as possible. The grassy path of the Eastport Memorial Labyrinth is wide and flat enough to navigate with a wheelchair or walker. A hand-held labyrinth is also available as an alternative to walking.

Labyrinth walks are held at the Eastport Memorial Labyrinth on the front of the grounds of St. Luke's on the second Saturday of each month from noon to 1 pm. Everyone is always welcome.

For questions, contact the parish office at 410-268-5419 or [office@stlukeseastport.org](mailto:office@stlukeseastport.org).

## Leitch Memorial Trees Dedicated



*Pictured left to right: Jeff Leitch, Alice Hall, Susan Leitch, Jennifer Wang, Helen Leitch, and April the dog.*

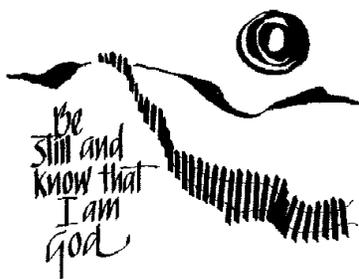
St. Luke's member Helen Leitch and her family have given two redbud trees in memory of Helen's husband Tommy and his older sister Nancy Thompson Brown. The trees were planted this fall between the gazebo and the Memorial Garden by USNA Midshipmen. On Sunday, November 14, Helen gathered with her three children and long-time friend Alice Hall for a dedication ceremony led by Pastor Diana.

## Environmental Committee Meetings

The Environmental Committee at St. Luke's seeks to spread environmental stewardship through education, advocacy, and volunteerism on a teaching campus that heals the human spirit while caring for creation. **The next meetings will be held remotely via Zoom at 7 pm on December 9, 2021 and January 13, 2022.**

All are welcome to attend. For questions, contact Chuck Gallegos ([gallegoscl@verizon.net](mailto:gallegoscl@verizon.net)) or Anne Arms ([armspna@aol.com](mailto:armspna@aol.com)).

## Contemplative Prayer



The Contemplative Prayer Practice continues to meet remotely via Zoom on Fridays at 10 am. Due to the holiday there will be **no meeting on Friday, December 24 and December 31.**

This practice invites us to experience rest and internal nourishment through silent prayer together. Anyone is welcome to join at any time. No experience necessary. For more information, contact co-facilitators Eve Waldman at [eleanoreevewaldman@gmail.com](mailto:eleanoreevewaldman@gmail.com) or 757-387-2367 and Chuck Gallegos at [gallegoscl@verizon.net](mailto:gallegoscl@verizon.net) or 410-571-0562.

## Calendar Donations

Many of us receive too many calendars in the mail at this time of year – yes already!

For several years members and friends of St. Luke's have donated our extra calendars to the Baltimore International Seafarer's Center for distribution to worldwide seafarers. "Serving those who go down to the sea in ships." **Collection deadline is Sunday, December 12.** Please give your extra calendars to Helen Wheeler or drop them at the parish office.

## Flower Ministry & Dedications

As we continue into 2022 with our Sunday worship services in the sanctuary, we are continuing the tradition of beautifying our worship space with two flower arrangements each week. These arrangements are funded through individual donations. If you would like to dedicate the flowers for a particular Sunday in 2022 in memory of someone or in honor of a special occasion, please contact our administrative assistant Dalyn Huntley at [office@stlukeseastport.org](mailto:office@stlukeseastport.org) or at 410-268-5419. The requested donation amount is \$50 and may be made either by check or online with the memo "Flowers." Following the service, the flowers are delivered to a member of the congregation to enjoy.

You don't need to be able to arrange flowers to join the Flower Ministry! We also need drivers who can pick up arrangements from our florist. If you're interested in learning more, contact Anne Arms at 707-479-4303 or [ARMSPNA@aol.com](mailto:ARMSPNA@aol.com).

## General Convention in Baltimore next Summer

The 80th General Convention of The Episcopal Church will take place **July 7 - 14, 2022**, at the Baltimore Convention Center. Anyone can attend the worship services, observe the House of Deputies and House of Bishops, and visit the exhibit hall. Worship services and legislative proceedings are also streamed online.

If you are interested in volunteering for one or two days, sign up here:

[https://dfms.formstack.com/forms/volunteer\\_interest](https://dfms.formstack.com/forms/volunteer_interest)

If you are interested in being a volunteer supervisor (minimum commitment of five days), click here:

[https://episcopaldioceseofmaryland.formstack.com/forms/gc\\_volunteer\\_supervisors](https://episcopaldioceseofmaryland.formstack.com/forms/gc_volunteer_supervisors)

## Save the Date for the Annual Meeting

The Annual Parish Meeting will take place **on Sunday, February 13** following the worship service. At this meeting, we will be electing three members of the vestry to serve three-year terms. The nominating committee for vestry candidates is Dianne Crews, Nancy

Jones and Alastair McGregor. They are currently seeking out persons who may feel called to this ministry. Please contact them if you have questions or are interested in serving. Names and bios for the nominees will be published at least one month prior to the meeting.

The written Annual Report includes brief reports from each of our ministry areas, as well as information on finances and budget. If you are the primary leader of a ministry, you should be hearing from Dalyn Huntley in early January about providing a report. Reports are due to Dalyn by **January 20** and will be made available to the congregation on February 3.

## The Claggett Center Adult Retreats

### Women's Weekend – January 14-16, 2022 Regathering & Re-creating: God Makes All Things New

Women of all ages and backgrounds gather at Claggett for the 21<sup>st</sup> annual Women's weekend! Featuring keynote addresses from clergy and lay leaders throughout the dioceses, workshops to restore your spirit and inspire your creativity, and plentiful time for fellowship and rest.

### Men's Retreat – February 11-13, 2022

Keynote speaker, the Rev. Rick Larabee, leads inspiring sessions for men to reflect on God's work in the church and our lives. Enjoy small- and large-group sessions, fireside chats with new and old friends, and explore the campus in the stillness of winter.

### Writers' Retreat – March 7-10, 2022 Tell Your Story

In its fourth year, the Writer's Retreat provides an opportunity for professionals and serious amateurs to hone their craft and find inspiration. Balance time to rest and write with expert workshops on a variety of topics and supportive sharing sessions with peers.

Registration and Additional Information can be found at <https://www.claggettcenter.org/adult-programs>

## Are you on our email list?

If you have an email address but are not receiving our weekly email newsletters each Wednesday, please let us know by emailing [office@stlukeseastport.org](mailto:office@stlukeseastport.org). These

weekly emails are an important means of communicating information to our community in between editions of the House Call. If you are not on email but would like to have a printout of the weekly "News from St. Luke's" sent to you by hard copy, please contact Dalyn Huntley in the church office: 410-268-5419.

## House Call Deadline

The deadline for submission of materials to the next edition of House Call is no later than **Tuesday, January 18 2022**. Submissions may be emailed to the office at [office@stlukeseastport.org](mailto:office@stlukeseastport.org)

## Holiday Closures

The Parish Office will be closed for the holiday from **Monday, December 27 through Thursday, December 30**.

The Food Pantry will be **closed on Tuesday, December 28, 2021** and will reopen on Tuesday, January 4, 2022.



St. Luke's has a long-standing tradition of remembering the birthdays and anniversaries of our members with a card and in the newsletter, as well as praying for those who are present on the preceding Sunday. If you are new to the St. Luke's community or unsure if we have your birthday/anniversary, please let us know when it is! Send the information to the office by phone or email (410-268-5419 or [office@stlukeseastport.org](mailto:office@stlukeseastport.org)).

### December Birthdays

1	Diana McGregor
5	Dianne Crews, Jack Wheeler
22	Andrew Schaner
24	Chuck Gallegos
26	Felix Hernandez, Holly Every
27	Sydney Ponturo

### December Anniversaries

15 Amanda & Joshua Reynolds

### January Birthdays

8 Alastair McGregor  
16 Ildar Khannanov  
21 Sharon Williams  
23 Pete Stark  
29 Heather Ackroyd

### January Anniversaries

26 Sandie Kirkland and Betsy Love

## Prayer List

**Ongoing Needs:** Connie Harold; the Palermo Family; Heather Cook; Sydney Ponturo; Sally and Fred Sandford; Nicole DeVino (friend of Dianne Crews); Patty Peterson (friend of Helen & Jack Wheeler); Hilda Uribe (friend of Avedis & Olgui Zarikian); David Fogle; Jimmy Riccardi; Chuck Suhr; Deacon Bob McCoy; Karen Sears-Wright (mother of Lexi Wright); Deacon Mary Walton; Olgui Zarikian; Lance Binnal (friend of Kathleen Rewa); Patricia; Bill Huebl; Linda Cunningham; Sarah Lamming; Diana and Alastair McGregor.

**Immediate Needs:** Bill Beachy (uncle of Pastor Diana); John Lamming (father of Sarah Lamming); Ned; Vince Musgrave (son-in-law of Dianne & Norm Crews+); Kathy Kotowski (friend of Eve & Mike Waldman); Dagmar Kohring; Lucy Sprigg; Paul Craley; Lee Riley; Jack Wheeler; Jennifer Miles (friend of Kathleen Rewa); the Rev. Patti Sachs; Andy Shaw (son of Eve & Mike Waldman); Steve Agriesti.

**Thanksgiving for Healing:** Brynn Brouse (cousin of Diana Carroll+).

## St. Luke's Episcopal Church

410-268-5419 ~ [office@stlukeseastport.org](mailto:office@stlukeseastport.org)  
[www.stlukeseastport.org](http://www.stlukeseastport.org) ~ Tw: [@stlukeseastport](https://twitter.com/stlukeseastport)  
[www.facebook.com/stlukeseastport](https://www.facebook.com/stlukeseastport)

### Episcopal Diocese of Maryland

The Rt. Rev. Eugene Taylor Sutton, Bishop  
The Rt. Rev. Robert W. Ihloff, Assisting Bishop

### Parish Staff

The Rev. David G. Showers, Interim Rector  
[fathershowers@stlukeseastport.org](mailto:fathershowers@stlukeseastport.org)  
Dr. Ildar Khannanov, Director of Music  
[drkhannanov@gmail.com](mailto:drkhannanov@gmail.com)  
Dalyn Huntley, Administrative Assistant  
[office@stlukeseastport.org](mailto:office@stlukeseastport.org)  
The Rev. Norman Crews, Priest Associate

### Parish Officers

Richard Wilson-Smith, Senior Warden  
443-822-1978, [richard@openpathproducts.com](mailto:richard@openpathproducts.com)  
Helen Leitch, Junior Warden  
410-263-2783, [leitchhelen@verizon.net](mailto:leitchhelen@verizon.net)  
Pete Stark, Treasurer  
410-269-9760, [starkhe2@yahoo.com](mailto:starkhe2@yahoo.com)  
Avedis Zarikian, Assistant Treasurer  
410-713-7842, [avedis3e@outlook.com](mailto:avedis3e@outlook.com)  
Dianne Crews, Registrar  
410-268-9741, [dmackcrn@verzion.net](mailto:dmackcrn@verzion.net)

### Ministry Contacts

Altar Guild	Dawn Moorehead 443-852-0371, <a href="mailto:dmorehead9@aol.com">dmorehead9@aol.com</a>
Environmental Committee	Chuck Gallegos 443-758-3036, <a href="mailto:gallegoscl@verizon.net">gallegoscl@verizon.net</a> Anne Arms 707-479-4303, <a href="mailto:armspna@aol.com">armspna@aol.com</a>
Food Pantry	Mike Waldman 757-387-2251, <a href="mailto:mwaldman@juno.com">mwaldman@juno.com</a>
Flower Ministry	Anne Arms 707-479-4303, <a href="mailto:armspna@aol.com">armspna@aol.com</a>
Labyrinth Committee	Anne Arms 707-479-4303, <a href="mailto:armspna@aol.com">armspna@aol.com</a>

# December 2021 – January 2022 House Call

St. Luke's Episcopal Church  
1101 Bay Ridge Avenue  
Annapolis, MD 21403