



St. Luke's Episcopal Church

House Call Newsletter

November 2022

A Time to Celebrate, A Time to Pray



May you be made strong with all the strength that comes from his glorious power, and may you be prepared to endure everything with patience, while joyfully giving thanks to the Father, who has enabled you to share in the inheritance of the saints in the light.

Colossians 1:11-12, NRSV

November is an exceptionally busy and celebratory month in our Episcopal church year. The festivities begin on November 1st with All Saints Day, when we commemorate all the saints, known and unknown, who have gone before us. Those we celebrate on All Saints Day weren't "perfect" Christians. They, like us, were human and fallible. We honor them as saints because their faith shone brightly through their lives, acknowledged and acclaimed by many. We honor the Holy Family, the Apostles, the Patriarchs and Prophets, and the many saints who expressed our faith over the centuries as teachers, martyrs and mystics. By celebrating them we are connected to them in the Christian family, part of the "great cloud of witnesses" to Christ's teachings and sacrifice.

This year, we'll celebrate All Saints on November 6th, the first Sunday after the holy day. We'll renew our own baptismal vows and, with them, our mystic communion with the family of saints. We'll also renew our commitment to our St. Luke's family, making our pledges to support our church in the coming year. For the past three weeks, we've contemplated our path, our people and our purpose. November 6th will give us an opportunity to act on what we've prayerfully considered, enabling our church to continue blessing our members and our community.

Thanksgiving is coming this month, of course, and we'll gratefully rejoice in the bounty that God has so generously bestowed on us. Then, on Sunday, November 27th, we'll begin the new church year with the first week of Advent, when we'll joyfully await the nativity of our LORD.

November and December tend to be especially busy times, and our joyful anticipation can be undercut by stress and overwork. This year, when making your holiday preparations, please take time now and then to rest and pray. We celebrate and give thanks because we know that God is good and gracious, and that Jesus gave himself for us and taught us how to live. May joy in that knowledge brighten your November.

Blessings,
Pastor Lauren+

Vestry Highlights

October Vestry Highlights

- Adaptive maintenance of the restoration site is ongoing. Permitting is almost complete. Midshipmen will participate with a 'clean up' on Saturday, November 5.
- Racial Reconciliation Collaboration banner selection is scheduled for the October 26 meeting.
- Anne Arms will represent St. Luke's as our delegate to the Diocesan Convention, November 11-12; Phyllis Suhr will serve as our alternate delegate. They will report on convention business during services Sunday, November 13.
- The rectory rental is under new management with a new lease signed. A new dryer was purchased, and a damaged tree removed.
- Preparing lunches for the Lighthouse Shelter two Sundays per month will continue through 2023.
- The vestry committed to our shared ministry allocation to the Diocese - \$19, 277.
- Pastor Lauren reported she will conduct communion services at Ginger Cove and The Gardens.
- St. Luke's will be a venue site for the Annapolis Jazz & Roots Festival on November 11 and 13.

Complete vestry meeting notes, including all reports, are available for review in the church office. Ask Dalyn for the notebook.

Submitted by,
Dianne Crews
Registrar

A Note from the Treasurer

Many thanks to everyone for your continuing financial support. As a reminder, there are several ways by which you may keep your pledge up to date and provide other contributions:

- Drop your contribution in the collection plate on Sunday morning

- Send a check to the church (1101 Bay Ridge Avenue, Annapolis, MD 21403)
- Send payment to the church using your bank's automatic bill pay service, which often does not carry a fee
- Contribute online securely with Givelify (<https://goo.gl/Q4b37L> or visit our website at www.stlukeseastport.org and click on the Giving link at the top of the page). This method deducts a service fee of approximately 3% for each transaction, and so reduces your total gift amount to the church. Please consider adding an additional amount to each gift to cover this fee.

Please contact Pete Stark, Treasurer, at 410-269-9760 or starkhe2@yahoo.com for any questions or assistance.

Treasurer's Report: 2022 Finances

As of September 30, 2022

<u>Operating</u>	<u>Actual</u>	<u>Planned</u>
<u>Income</u>		
Pledges	104,849	93,750
Other	<u>30,927</u>	<u>24,410</u>
Total Income	135,776	118,160
<u>Operating</u>		
<u>Expenses:</u>	<u>120,435</u>	<u>109,231</u>
<u>Net Gain</u>	<u>15,341</u>	<u>8,929</u>
<u>Assets</u>		
Checking	57,458	
Investments	76,030	

Returning from COVID

COVID continues to be active in Anne Arundel County. New cases are declining, but the vestry remains concerned for the health and well-being of our congregation. We are continuing hybrid worship, allowing those who either have the virus or are particularly susceptible to join our services on Facebook or Zoom rather than in-person. If you are ill, please join

us virtually until you are fully recovered. Masks are no longer required in church, but please feel very free to wear them if you are more comfortable doing so. Please be kind to those who choose to mask. When in church, keep a polite social distance from others, and refrain from physical contact like hugs and handshakes unless you are sure it is welcome.

We will continue to offer the Eucharist by shallow intinction, where the celebrant dips the edge of the wafer into the wine before giving it to the congregant. This practice, recommended by the Diocese of Maryland, minimizes the risk of COVID transmission. Rev. Lauren+ tests for COVID each week and uses hand sanitizer to further reduce the risk of contagion. We will continue to offer hospitality after services. The vestry will continue to monitor COVID in Anne Arundel and adjust our practices as circumstances evolve. Thank you for your understanding as we strive to keep each other safe while we worship and socialize.

All Saints, All Souls or Both?

All Saints' Day is one of the seven principal feasts of the Episcopal Church, but you may also have heard of All Souls Day, an optional observance on November 2nd that extends the Feast of All Saints. According to An Episcopal Dictionary of the Church, "while All Saints' is to remember all the saints, popular piety felt the need to distinguish between outstanding saints and those who are unknown in the wider fellowship of the church, especially family members and friends." The tradition of commemorating all the faithful departed first appeared in our 1979 Prayer Book. We, along with many of our fellow Episcopalians, will take the [via media](#) and commemorate all the faithful departed in our All Saints' Day celebration on **November 6th**.

The Vestry: Administrative Board of the Church

My name is Claire Miller and I was elected to the Vestry in February of 2022 for a 3 year term. The warmth and spirit of the congregation encouraged me to make St. Luke's my church home, and I have found a "community" within our community in the choir, centering prayer group, EfM group, the Environmental Committee, and the Vestry.

The Vestry recently learned that a member of the congregation was curious about what we do and would like us to be more visible. So our Vestry team will be writing monthly articles in the House Call to share an insider's perspective on the administration of St. Luke's.

The Vestry meets on the third Saturday of each month for about 2 hours on Zoom. We open with worship and a reading of our Vestry norms. Rev. Lauren prepares a list of topics for discussion, and we also hear and discuss reports from our treasurer, wardens, and our Priest-in-Charge.

For the last couple of months, the Vestry has been working with Rev. Lauren and our Environmental Committee on some maintenance needs in the restoration. Our primary concern was the safety of those who use the restoration as the bobcat platforms were in a state of serious decay, given the incredible amount of wet weather we had this year.

The Vestry is the decision-making body so we heard the proposed plan, discussed questions, and approved the outlay of environmental funds to repair two platforms and remove two others. St. Luke's has a separate environmental budget and the monies in that budget come from fundraising efforts with GreenGive and grants.

Our contractor, Underwood & Associates installed two substantial platforms over the bioswales making our interior walking trails accessible once again. Underwood also did a substantial amount of invasive removal on the front of the property under the guidance of Chuck Gallegos, co-lead of the Environmental Committee. The Vestry was thrilled with our "facelift" and excited that our church building and front grounds are visible to Bay Ridge Avenue once again. Hopefully you are too. If you have questions about our ongoing Vestry work, please don't hesitate to ask a Vestry member during coffee hour. Our name tags have the word Vestry on them. You can also send questions via email to the Vestry via Dalyn, our administrator, at office@stlukeseastport.org.



THE EPISCOPAL DIOCESE OF MARYLAND

238th Diocesan Convention

The 238th Diocesan Convention will take place **November 11-12, 2022** at the Turf Valley Resort and Conference Center in Ellicott City. St. Luke's will be represented by Anne Arms (delegate), Phyllis Suhr (alternate) and Pastor Lauren+. This convention will, among other things, begin the important work of selecting our new Bishop. Accordingly, we pray:

Beloved and everliving God, who bestows the gift of careful discernment on all who labor for your Church, bless the work of our Diocesan Convention. Grant all who participate wisdom, prudence, clear vision, and the ability to hear your counsel and carry out your will. In the name of Jesus Christ, head of the Church and Savior of the world, we pray. Amen.

Anyone for Advent Book Study?

Advent is always a joyous season, but holiday preparations and year-end work can make the season hectic. Reading and worshipping together can bring a welcome moment of peace amidst the hubbub. If you would be interested in participating in a Wednesday at 7:00 PM Zoom book group over the four weeks of Advent, please speak to Pastor Lauren+. Possible titles for study include *Braiding Sweetgrass: Indigenous Wisdom, Scientific Knowledge and the Teachings of Plants*, *The Women of Christmas*, and Richard Rohr's *Preparing for Christmas: Daily Meditations for Advent*.

Light House Shelter Meal Support Ministry

St. Luke's is providing lunches to the Lighthouse Shelter twice a month. Lesley Margerrison will coordinate the preparation and Linda Elkington will manage shopping for supplies. Everyone is invited to help make sandwiches after services during fellowship. We are asking for volunteers to deliver the lunches to the shelter (on Hudson St., off West St.) for the month of December. The sign-up sheet is located on the bulletin board downstairs.

For more information please contact Lesley Margerrison at lmargerrison@gmail.com

Hospitality Hour

St. Luke's offers a hospitality hour immediately following our Sunday services. Volunteer hosts are asked to set up the beverage station and bring light fare for persons attending the Sunday Service to enjoy.

The sign-up sheet for hosting Hospitality Hour on Sunday mornings is located downstairs in the Undercroft. The Fall/Winter sign up is posted. Anyone is welcome to sign up to host. If you haven't hosted before, contact our Hospitality Hour coordinator, Kathy Dinin, to learn more: dinin.kathryn@gmail.com or 914-241-3966. Kathy can also help pair you with someone else if you don't want to host on your own.

Lunch Bunch

The Lunch Bunch is a weekly gathering for fellowship through sharing a meal. This Dutch treat meal takes place **Wednesdays at 12:00 p.m.** at [Adam's Ribs](#) in the Eastport Shopping Center, right next to the church. Who is invited? Everyone! Lunch Bunch is an open event organized by members of St. Luke's. Contact Dianne Crews 410-268-9741 or Helen Wheeler 410-224-3882 for more information. Friends and visitors are always welcome. No RSVP necessary.

Environmental Committee Meeting

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. **There will be a special planning meeting on Thursday, November 3 7pm via Zoom.** The agenda will focus on the Midshipmen Workday scheduled for Saturday, November 5.

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

Contemplative Prayer



The Contemplative Prayer Practice continues to meet remotely via Zoom on **Fridays at 10 a.m.**

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 eleanorevewaldman@gmail.com or 757-387-2367 and Chuck Gallegos at gallegoscl@verizon.net or 410-571-0562.



St. Anne's Episcopal Rainbow Group

This ministry welcomes the fellowship and inclusion of LGBTQ+ individuals, their families, and allies, into parish life and worship at St. Anne's. Organized in 2018, the Rainbow Group continues to receive strong support from all of St. Anne's clergy, staff, and parishioners, to serve the many LGBTQ+ individuals and families of the Parish.

On **Friday, November 18 at 6 p.m.**, we will meet for an old fashioned "pitch-in" dinner (with each of us preparing a delectable culinary contribution) at the Parish House on Friday evening. Beverages will be provided. Once again, we will have a special guest. Please invite a guest(s) to join you. RSVP to Joseph Clapsaddle at clapsaddle@roadrunner.com

Eastport Memorial Labyrinth Walk



The Labyrinth is an ancient tool for walking meditation and prayer, common to many faith traditions and cultures. Our journey to the center of the Labyrinth and back out again can be a powerful source of healing, inspiration, and peace.

Labyrinth Walks will continue in 2023. Watch for additional details. **The next walk will be January 14, 2023.**

For questions, contact the parish office at 410-268-5419 or office@stlukeeastport.org.

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." Please drop them at the parish office.

Holiday Office Closure

The office will be closed on Thursday, November 24, 2022 for the Thanksgiving holiday.

Daylight Savings

Daylight Savings Time **ends Sunday, November 6, 2021**. Don't forget to set your clocks back one hour on Saturday night! This is also a good time to replace the batteries in all your smoke and carbon monoxide detectors.

St. Margaret's Women's Guild Holiday Bazaar & White Elephant Sale

November 12, 9 a.m. - 2 p.m.



The poster is framed by a green garland with white and red ornaments. At the top left is the St. Margaret's Women's Guild logo, a circular emblem divided into four quadrants labeled 'Local', 'Church', 'Global', and 'Women's Guild'. To the right of the logo, the text 'Holiday Bazaar!' is written in a red, cursive font. Below this, 'White Elephant Sale!' is written in a green, cursive font. In the center is a drawing of a white elephant wearing a red Santa hat. To the right of the elephant is a small green ornament with the word 'hope' written on it. Below the elephant, the date and time 'November 12 9am - 2pm' and the address '1601 Pleasant Plains Road Annapolis, MD 21409' are listed. Below the address, 'Door Prizes!' is written in a red, cursive font. At the bottom left, 'Crafters and Vendors:' is written in a black, serif font, followed by a list of names: 'Creative Memories, SimpLeigh Divine Creations, Jos Decoupage Plates, Kelly Abbotts Books, Pampered Chef, Seonty, Mer Made By Me, Capers Framers, and Shelves, Nana's Gnomes, Boone's Sweet & Savory Bistro, Sea Dreams Coastal Arts, Starr's Sweets, Khunying Jewelry Pansy Poy Designs, Fusion Ltd., Mary Kay, Helen's Crafts, Barb & Lew Planterion'. At the bottom center is a small green ornament with the word 'joy' written on it.

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 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.

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. 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 for the December edition of House Call is no later than **Monday, November 28**. Submissions may be emailed to the office at office@stlukeseastport.org

Claggett Center Happenings



The poster features a background of a sunlit field with trees and a path. At the top left, there are several sunflowers. The Claggett Center logo is at the top center. Below the logo, the text 'Fall 2022 Adult Retreats' is written in a bold, black, serif font. Below this, a list of four retreats is provided: 'Fall Golf Retreat: September 19-23, 2022', 'Fall Alumni Reunion Retreat: October 7-9, 2022', 'Spiritual Practices Retreat: October 28-30, 2022', and 'Blue Christmas Retreat: December 16-18, 2022'. At the bottom left, the text 'Visit claggettcenter.org/adult-programs' is written in a black, serif font.

Visit www.claggettcenter.org for details.



Prayer List

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).

November Birthdays

- 4 Michele Morgado
- 5 Ann McGinness
- 6 Nancy Jones
- 8 Connie Harold
- 9 Keyarria Varonica Riley
- 13 Phyllis Suhr
- 25 Vrej Zarikian

November Anniversaries

- 5 Fred and Sally Sandford
- 9 Mike and Eve Waldman
- 9 Natasia Thompson and Jorge Nieto

Ongoing Needs: Sunniah Ngonzi Magogo; Connie Harold; the Palermo Family; Heather Cook; Sydney Ponturo; Sally and Fred Sandford; Patty Peterson (friend of Helen & Jack Wheeler); Hilda Uribe (friend of Avedis & Olgui Zarikian); David Fogle; Jimmy Riccardi; Deacon Bob McCoy; Karen Sears-Wright (mother of Lexi Wright); Deacon Mary Walton; Olgui Zarikian; Lance Binnal (friend of Kathleen Rewa); Patricia; Linda Cunningham; Sarah Lamming; Lee Riley; Dagmar Kohring; Kathy Kotowski (friend of Eve & Mike Waldman); Jennifer Miles (friend of Kathleen Rewa); the Rev. Patti Sachs; Lucy Sprigg; Nelida Godfrey (family friend of Avedis & Olgui Zarikian); Lawrence Coleman;

Immediate Needs: **Christine** Kingerski (friend of Dan Ramirez); **Nicole** DeVino (friend of Dianne Crews); **Ken** Crisman (son-in-law's father of Sharon Williams); the Rev. **John** Keydel; the **McGregor** family; **Anita** (sister of Elaine Kazlauskas); **Jack** Wheeler; **Amy** and **Miriam** Hilliard, **Bill** Hodges, and **Mike** Mauzer; **Josh** Thrift (extended family member of Sharon Williams); **Lance** Landseadel (husband of Rev. Lauren Bloom); **Pat** Russell (friend of Mike & Eve Waldman); **Nancy** Lear and **family**; **Sean** Green (son of Rae Miller).

St. Luke's Episcopal Church

410-268-5419 ~ office@stlukeseastport.org
www.stlukeseastport.org ~ Tw: [@stlukeseastport](https://twitter.com/stlukeseastport)
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. Lauren M. Bloom, Priest-in-Charge
lbloom@stlukeseastport.org
Dr. Ildar Khannanov, Director of Music
drkhannanov@gmail.com
Dalyn Huntley, Administrative Assistant
office@stlukeseastport.org
The Rev. Norman Crews, Priest Associate

Parish Officers

Richard Wilson-Smith, Senior Warden
443-822-1978, richard@openpathproducts.com
Helen Leitch, Junior Warden
410-263-2783, leitchhelen@verizon.net
Pete Stark, Treasurer
410-269-9760, starkhe2@yahoo.com
Dianne Crews, Registrar
410-268-9741, dmackcrn@verzion.net

Ministry Contacts

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

November 2002 House Call