



St. Luke's Episcopal Church

House Call Newsletter

June 2022

Note from the Interim Rector

Dear friends,

My time away during the month of May was a time of reconnecting with family I had not seen in over two years and an opportunity for Bruce to attend the Spiritual Directors International conference in Santa Fe, New Mexico. The trip was across 12 states and 4,750 miles. Aidan got to visit his "dog cousins" Duke, Scooter, and Sunshine. We discovered he is a good traveler even on ten hour drives. Driving that many miles across vast swaths of the country you experience how different the landscape can be. While driving in Kansas, the highway went alongside a nine mile long wind turbine farm. In New Mexico, I saw old fashioned wind mills used to pump water for herds of cattle. While in Santa Fe I visited the oldest church in America, the San Miguel Chapel built in 1610. Major repairs were done in 1710, 1887, and 1955. Some sights along the road were a bit jarring, like the billboard proclaiming Equality is Stronger than Hate with a Confederate flag flying next to it!

While visiting in family homes I came across some post-a-notes on refrigerators, and desks. Here is a sample of them.

Practice Pause:

Pause before judging

Pause before assuming

Pause before accusing

Pause when you are about to react harshly

And you will avoid doing and saying things you will regret later.

As bad as you might want to address it
Some things are better left unsaid.

Stand back

Stand humble

And let God fight this battle

The most important skill in life
Is to learn the acceptance of that
Which you had not planned for yourself.

Be careful not to dehumanize
Those you disagree with.
In our self-righteousness
We can become the very thing
We criticize in others
And not even know it.

I arrived back in Maryland very aware of how good and fragile life can be. I hope to strengthen and savor even more my connections with family and friends.

Warmly,

Father David

Vestry Highlights

May Vestry Meeting Highlights

- St. Luke's will follow Diocesan protocols regarding future Covid guidelines.
- Deacon Lauren and Dianne Crews will coordinate participation in the Pride Parade and Interfaith Pride Service, June 4/5.
- Joy Phillips is in communication with Sunniah. Contributions to her college fund will start in June.
- Deacon Lauren is researching ideas for Children's Formation to start in the Fall.
- Lighthouse Shelter is now receiving bag lunches. We need a coordinator to resume that ministry each Sunday morning.
- Vestry retreat will be held at the church Saturday, July 16.
- Avedis Zarikian has resigned as Assistant Treasurer. The vestry expressed sincere gratitude for his dedication.
- Deacon Lauren extended an invitation to attend her Ordination to the Priesthood, on June 18 at The Church of the Redeemer.
- Next vestry meeting has been changed to Saturday, June 25 at 10am via Zoom.

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.stlukeeastport.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.

Treasurer's Report: 2022 Finances

As of April 30, 2022

<u>Income</u>	<u>Actual</u>	<u>Planned</u>
Pledges	27,918	41,667
Other	<u>13,342</u>	<u>10,849</u>
Total Income	41,260	52,516
<u>Expenses:</u>	<u>47,603</u>	<u>48,415</u>
<u>Net Gain</u>	<u>-6343</u>	<u>4101</u>
<u>Assets</u>		
Checking	31,927	
Investments	95,384	

Hybrid Worship Spring Updates

We are continuing to offer our regular 10 am Sunday worship service in a hybrid format. This means that worshipers have the option to participate in person in the sanctuary, on Zoom, by phone, and on Facebook Live.

What to expect if you come in person:

Those attending in person are welcome to wear masks, **but masks are no longer mandatory.**

We are not requiring social distancing, however, we ask that you refrain from making physical contact (i.e. handshakes) with those outside your household, including during the passing of the peace.

Some windows will be opened to provide greater ventilation.

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.

We are 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 worshipers will no longer be permitted in this diocese due to the associated health risks.

Please read the Episcopal Diocese of Maryland's Green Phase [Guidelines for Regathering](#) 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.

A brief social time follows the service for those on Zoom.

What about other forms of gathering?

- St. Luke's Food Pantry continues to operate on Tuesday mornings from 11 am to noon under their revised protocols. **Masks are still required of everyone, regardless of vaccination status.** 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. 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 and Wednesday 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.

GreenGive 2022

St. Luke's Restoration of Nature is a co-host of GreenGive, an online fundraising and engagement-building initiative to expand participation in 11 Anne Arundel County waterway and environmental organizations.

What is GreenGive?

GreenGive is a day of giving starting **on June 7 at 5 pm through June 8 at midnight** that harnesses the collective power of individuals like you to provide the critical funds needed to protect our local waters and lands.

You can join with us "for the greener good" by giving online during the [GreenGive](#), and by spreading the word about GreenGive in your community, your workplace, or your congregation. New to the GreenGive? Find out more at [greengive.org](#) and follow us on [Facebook](#).

The GreenGive Partner Organizations



Priestly Ordination of The Rev. Lauren M. Bloom

Rev. Lauren graduated from Virginia Theological Seminary in May and will now go on to receive [Priestly](#)

[Ordination](#) on **Saturday, June 18th at 10:30 AM** at the [Church of the Redeemer](#) in Baltimore. The Rt. Rev. Eugene Taylor Sutton will be presiding. Masks will be required.

If you are interested in carpooling please contact Anne Arms at 707-479-4303 or armspna@aol.com.

Annapolis Pride Parade 2022



Diocese of Maryland Awards \$180K in Grants from Reparations Fund

On May 26, the Diocese of Maryland awarded \$180K in grant money to its inaugural class of organizations doing the work of restoring African American and Black Communities within the geography of the diocese.

The six organizations, awarded \$30,000 each, include nonprofits, church-affiliated initiatives and youth centers committed to providing economic, education, housing, and environmental and health-care resources to Black children and families.

The grant winners included the [Samaritan Community](#), [St. Luke's Youth Center \(SLYC\)](#) and [Next One Up](#), based in Baltimore City; Calvert Concept Charitable Corp., a start-up in Calvert County; [I Believe In Me](#) in Frederick; and [Anne Arundel Connecting Together](#) (ACT) in Anne Arundel County.

The Episcopal Diocese of Maryland voted at its general convention in 2019 to study the subject of reparations, which included a finding that most, if not all, of its churches built before 1860 included labor or materials crafted by enslaved people.

A year later, the reparations fund was established at its annual convention with \$1 million in seed money, which was to be invested back in Maryland communities hindered by slavery's legacy and ongoing systemic racism. The fund now exceeds \$1 million because of additional contributions in the two years since its founding.

"The legacy of 350-plus years of discrimination against persons of African descent have taken a toll on this nation. And it has affected all of us," Bishop Sutton said. "None of us may have been guilty, but all of us have a responsibility. Today is an indication of the responsibility we are taking."

[\(Above excerpt from the Washington Post, May 27, 2022\)](#)

St. Luke's Eastport was one of the first congregations to contribute to the Reparations Fund. In 2020, the Vestry voted to devote .05 percent of its 2021 annual budget to the Fund, and the church also took up an offering to add to our contribution. In 2021, St. Luke's gave \$2,275 to the Reparations Fund. The Vestry is pleased to see that the local organization, Anne Arundel Connecting Together (ACT), received a grant, as St. Luke's Eastport was involved in supporting the launch of this organization. The Vestry has pledged .05 percent of the 2022 budget to the Reparations Fund and the church will take up a collection again for individual donations.

Light House Shelter Meal Service Support

We would like to start making lunches again for the Lighthouse Shelter on Sunday morning after church. This is a ministry St. Luke's has provided consistently for over 20 years!

We have a volunteer to purchase all the necessary supplies. (That is the hardest part!) We need a volunteer to coordinate the making/delivery of the lunches each Sunday. This is more of an organizing/delegating task and not too time consuming. Remember - everyone pitches in to get the job done!

Please contact Dianne Crews at dmackcrn@verizon.net or 410-268-9741 if you are interested or want more information

Join a Team!

We invite you to consider joining one of these ministry teams, which are open to everyone:

Worship Planning Team
Environmental Committee
Labyrinth Committee
Flower Ministry
Altar Guild
Readers/Intercessors
Altar Servers

Many of these teams meet regularly over Zoom, and the meetings are open to everyone. For meeting times and more information, contact the office at office@stlukeseastport.org or 410-268-5419

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 in **July, August and September** is now available downstairs in the Undercroft. Anyone is

welcome to sign up to host. If you haven't hosted before, contact our Hospitality Hour coordinator, Kathy Dinin, to learn more: 914-241-3966 or dinin.kathryn@gmail.com. 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 each **Wednesday at 12:00 pm** 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. The monthly meetings have been moved to the **FIRST Thursday of each month**. The next meeting will be held on **Thursday July 7** remotely via Zoom at 7 pm.

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 am**.

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.

Eastport Memorial Labyrinth



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.

Save the date, the next Labyrinth walk will be held at on **Saturday, July 9** from noon to 1 pm.

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

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.

The 80th General Convention

In the interest of health and safety, the Presiding Officers have asked that the 80th General Convention be shortened, with a focus on the essential business needed for the governance of the Church. A working group consisting of senior staff and leadership from the House of Bishops, the House of Deputies, and the General Convention Office has been appointed by the Presiding Officers to begin work immediately, with recommendations expected later this month. When details of any changes are decided, they will be widely communicated, including on our email list. If you are not already on the General Convention email list, please sign up here: <https://www.generalconvention.org/gco-eneews-signup>.



Updates will also be posted on www.generalconvention.org, so please bookmark that site.

We continue to appreciate the faithfulness, grace, and flexibility of our leadership across the Church.

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 Summer edition of House Call is no later than **Monday, June 23, 2022**. Submissions may be emailed to the office at office@stlukeseastport.org



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).

June Birthdays

- 1 Katherine Govoro
- 7 Sunniah Magogo
- 13 Bartel Williams Sr.
- 17 Elizabeth Sammis
- 21 Dan Ramirez

Prayer List

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; Bill Huebl; Linda Cunningham; Sarah Lamming; Alastair McGregor; Lee Riley; Dagmar Kohring; Kathy Kotowski (friend of Eve & Mike Waldman).

Immediate Needs: Ned (friend of Dianne Crews); Lucy Sprigg; Jack Wheeler; Jennifer Miles (friend of Kathleen Rewa); the Rev. Patti Sachs; Christine Kingerski (friend of Dan Ramirez); the Suhr Family; Betty Meade (mother of Rae

Miller); Diana McGregor; Nicole DeVino (friend of Dianne Crews); Cam Hennessee; the Sugg Family.

For the Departed: Cliff Sharp (uncle of Del Thompson)

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. David G. Showers, Interim Rector
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Ministry Contacts

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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

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