

NEWS FROM THE PRIEST

Most of us celebrate the 4th of July in our own way, but nothing is scheduled at the church in July other than what we usually do on a monthly basis. The vestry will not meet in July but that does not mean the members of St. Luke's are not working hard. The garden is beautiful thanks to those individuals who serve in that ministry. The Community Meal and Outreach Sunday is not taking July off, so those wonderful ministries are alive and well. Unless something comes up that is not planned, I will be at St. Luke's for all five Sunday services in July.

Just to give everyone a heads up for August, there will be three baptisms on two consecutive Sundays, the 12th and 19th. On the 12th our newest family at St Luke's, the Benedict family, will present their two daughters, Mariska and Mariah for baptism. On the 19th the Bennett family will present their daughter, Elizabeth for baptism with Fr. Art doing the baptism and myself as celebrant. Paul, Sarah and Andrew are extremely excited about Elizabeth being baptized at St. Luke's.

After one of my sermons a few weeks ago, someone asked me if I really believed St. Luke's had a bright future. My answer was an emphatically, "yes." Of course I am looking at St. Luke's with "new eyes" and I am a positive person but look around at our wonderful congregation. Look at the children and see how they play together in the parish hall after church. Listen to those "little voices" we hear while the worship service is going on. Observe how the congregation passes the "peace." Of course we have differences but show me a growing church that doesn't.

As a reminder, I am still planning on beginning 8:00 worship services in September, as well as Bible Study on Thursday evenings. I am looking at some other programs but want to present them to the vestry before any decision is made. If any of you have ideas about programs you would like St. Luke's to initiate let me know.

Thank you, to each and every one of you for your various ministries at St. Luke's.

Fr. Gene+



THE STAFF

Priest-in-Charge —	Rev. Gene Sheppard
Sexton —	John Brown
Secretary —	Callie Benedict
Co-Treasurer —	Hazel Boettcher
Co Treasurer —	Sandia Sommer

THE VESTRY

- Sr. Warden — Carol Cisler (2019)
- Jr. Warden — Cliff Essig (2019)
- Clerk for the Vestry — Lindsay Mullen
- Matt Crim (2019)
- Lara Shepherd (2019)
- Ben Windland (2020)
- Mary Marshall (2020)
- Becky Young (2021)
- Marybeth Peebles (2021)

FROM THE SENIOR WARDEN

SAFE CHURCH TRAINING is scheduled for August 18, 9:00 am to 3:00 pm. \$10 charge for lunch at the Proctor Center, London, OH. No charge for the training. If you wish to renew your safe church training certificate, or have a desire to work with the children or youth in our church, this training is required, in person, at the Proctor Center. There are presently, three spots left, according to the diocesan site, online: diosohio.com to register.

Speaking of children/youth, we are so happy to see and hear the youngsters in church this summer. We hope to see more and more young people in the near future. There is an attendant upstairs to receive the children and she does provide activities for them. There will be no attendant on July 12 and 19, but if you have need for the nursery, one of our members can stay with the children during church services.

We hope to provide a Sunday School program this fall, and Fr. Gene has expressed an interest in meeting with the children at some point during the morning service, or perhaps while the parents are enjoying the fellowship hour following the morning service. All this is to be explored soon.

Fr. Gene has been getting to know St. Luke's over the past four months. He is still learning names and trying to put the faces and the names together. He has been making visitations to the shut-ins. Fr. Gene and I meet weekly to discuss the things we feel we need to address in taking care of the congregation, plan the services of the future, share ideas to explore for the future at St. Luke's. Fr. Gene is the Priest-in-Charge. That title means he is the *part time pastor*. His duties include being in the office two days each week; making time to meet with members who request audience with him; consulting with the staff; coordinating with the wardens and committees; writing his sermons; going to lunch with the Sr. Warden to discuss personal and church issues; making phone calls; writing emails; and taking Eucharist to hospital or home bound members. Then, there is Sunday morning. At present we do the 10:30 service, but Fr. Gene intends to offer an 8:00 service once again, starting in September. If you need to meet with Fr. Gene at any point, feel free to contact him. He is willing to adjust his schedule whenever possible.

There has been some concern from the acolyte ministers about serving the early service. Fr. Gene has stated he does not need acolytes at 8:00. He has served in other churches with no acolytes, so he is willing to do our early service sans acolytes. If there are one or two people only, he is not concerned. If you are a dedicated eight-o-clocker, please watch for the date we will begin this service this fall. We want everyone to have a choice. If 8:00 am is your comfort zone, we want to respect that. Vestry persons who open the church may show up between 9:00 and 9:30 am to do your duties and get the coffee pots operating, then continue your duties. Fr. Gene is willing to unlock the front door and turn the lights on. It's not a big deal (or dill as the TV commercial says). We can make it work.

Speaking of making coffee: There are some questioning why we no longer use the big coffee maker on Sunday mornings. Answer: we got tired of pouring 40 cups of coffee down the sink after coffee hour. The two 12 pots of regular and one pot of 12 decaf, makes 36 (approximately) cups. If that is not providing enough coffee, we can return to using the large pot, making 40 cups, one pot of decaf in the 12 cup pot. If we find a lot of coffee going down the drain once again, we will return to the small pots. We try to serve and please everyone, but that is never possible. But, we are willing to try and try again. My research has determined there is about a 3% difference between decaf and regular in caffeine content. So, go for the taste and forget the zip. You'll just get a 3% less buzz. Cheers!

Blessings to all. Have a safe July. *Carol*



JULY EVENTS

- 1 6th Sunday After Pentecost HE 10:30 AM
Food Basket Collection
- 3 Community Dinner 5 PM
- 4 Happy 4th of July!
- 8 7th Sunday After Pentecost HE 10:30 AM
Outreach Sunday
Door-to-Door Meal 1 PM
- 12 ECW Cookbook Meeting 10 AM
- 15 8th Sunday After Pentecost HE 10:30 AM
No Nursery Care Available
- 22 9th Sunday after Pentecost HE 10:30 AM
No Nursery Care Available
- 27 The Vine Newsletter Deadline
- 29 10th Sunday after Pentecost HE 10:30 AM



JULY BIRTHDAYS

- 2 Mariah Benedict
- 10 Fr. Gene
- 15 Dick Spindler
Zella Rumer
- 25 David Marshall
- 27 Ben Windland
- 31 Aran Barney



July 17 Dennis & Hazel Boettcher

ST. LUKE'S BY THE NUMBERS— JUNE

Sunday Worship Attendance:

June 3 — 40
June 10 — 42
June 17 — 41
June 24 — 33

Average June 2018 — 39

Crisis Intervention

Rent—2
Food Card— 1
Hotel—1

ST. LUKE'S YARD SALE APPROACHING

St. Luke's Annual Yard Sale is ONLY a month away - - August 4th.

Please continue to bring your sale items in. If you are unable to take them upstairs, please leave them on the long pew in the parish hall or near it and notify Dennis or Hazel.

I hope no one is planning to be on vacation or out of town that weekend. The date has been set for many months. We need all hands on deck to make this run successfully. Last year we were somewhat short of helping hands and backs and feet!! This is an ALL parish event so please support wherever your abilities lay.

Sorting and pricing will commence with a vengeance July 9th. Scheduling info will be located on the Ministry Table in the Parish Hall. A couple hours of time from each person make it go swiftly. Thank you in advance. Hazel

WEBSITE REMINDER—we post the Friday Updates, Monthly Calendar, and The Vine on our website. If you can't find something in your email, you can check the website for information.

<http://stlukesmarietta.org/>

MEDITATION GARDEN IMPROVEMENTS



St. Luke's has done a lot of work to open our Meditation Garden. It is open to everyone daily from Dawn to Dusk. It is a great place to come and reflect, especially by the fountain. We have also worked on a serene walking path that starts and ends at our Meditation Garden.

From the beginning to the end of each of our lives, we are on a journey; a journey to discover who we are and who God is. When Jesus sent 72 followers out to preach the Gospel, he asked them to tell people they met that "the Kingdom of God is near you."

Start at St. Luke's Meditation Garden, taking a right onto 2nd Street. Then turn left onto Scammel St. to Muskingum Park. There you can walk along the City Bike Path. You will see a sandstone statue depicting the early pioneers who came by flatboat down the Ohio River, stopping here. Continue along the Bike Path to the Fort Harmar Bridge. Cross this bridge, taking pause at the overlook areas. At the end of the bridge, walk left down Gilman Avenue. Take a left onto Maple Street. Then cross back over the old Railroad Bridge. As you exit the bridge walkway, turn right and continue down Front Street to the historic Lafayette Hotel. You will pass the fountain and follow the walkway above the boatlanding that continues along the Bike Path. Leave the river bank and walk up 2nd Street to return to St. Luke's Meditation Garden. Once you return, spend a few moments in quiet, remembering that God made you, sustains you, continually calls you back into a relationship, and loves you endlessly.

We will soon update you with the beautiful meaning behind this walking path as told by Carol C.



ECW COOKBOOK

The ladies of the ECW will meet the 2nd Thursday of July, to determine if enough pre-orders have been received to proceed with finalizing the cookbook. If you wish to place an order, you may contact any of the women of the ECW.

MISC. NOTES

3rd Street Sign is still out of commission. Troubleshooting work continues....

WASCO, Inc. is looking for some new friends to come in and enjoy activities with us. We are also able to come to your establishment if that would be easier. If you would be interested in making new friends and coming to hang out with us, please contact Alicia Simms. asimms@wascoinc.org

WASCO:
340 Muskingum Dr.
Marietta, OH 45750
740-373-3418 ext. 209

Father Gene has been busy painting the doors of the church. When you notice how fresh and clean the doors look, please be sure to thank him for his hard work.

If you have news to share with the Parish, please submit it to the office no later than July 26.

Submissions may be emailed to: teebs84@gmail.com