

## NEWS FROM THE PRIEST

July is behind us and in August, the busyness of getting back with some regularity to the needs of St. Luke's will be taking place. After taking a recess for the last couple of months the vestry will begin meeting again on August 26th. A few of the important topics for discussion at the next vestry meeting will be the electronic sign repair, devising a plan for the "active shooter procedure," which is a requirement of the diocese and is to be submitted to the diocese no later than September 9. We will also discuss various ministries that will begin in September: (8:00 worship and bible study to name a couple).



August will be a busy month for us at St. Luke's. Not only are we doing the community dinner and outreach Sunday there is the rummage sale on the 4th. Plus we will be celebrating three baptisms on two consecutive Sundays (12th and 19th).

As you are reading this edition of the Vine it will be after I have preached my sermon on the 29th, which I am working on as I write this article. In case you were not in church that Sunday I preached on the importance of sharing and the joy it brings.

As your priest, when I lead the worship service each Sunday, I have the profound opportunity to look out upon the congregation and see the joy being shared by and through each other's ministries and the love each of you have for others. I know each of you experience this joy in your own unique way. What brings joy to some is expressed differently by others but it is still joy.

I have been the priest-in-charge at St. Luke's long enough that some of you feel comfortable to come to me with some of your concerns about different issues within the church that are important to you and I am always thankful when you let me know those concerns. After listening to those concerns I have taken steps to address some issues and other times, after discussion with other leaders of the church I feel no actions is needed at this time. If anyone believes their voice and concerns are not being heard I encourage you to get involved in the leadership of St. Luke's. Serve on the vestry or simply let your concerns be known to the vestry so that you know you have a voice. It has been my experience when I have served in leadership positions within the diocese, I always have a voice but action is usually slow coming, if it comes at all. What I think is important is not always important to the policy makers.

No matter where I go the question I am asked more than any other is "How do you like it at St. Luke's and are you happy there?" My answer is always the same, "Yes, I love it at St. Luke's and it is a joy being there." I am joyful because God called me to be at St. Luke's and I am joyful because of the way all of you have made me feel as you welcomed me into your church family. I am joyful because since I have been at St. Luke's new faces are in the congregation almost weekly. Some are visitors passing through. Some are those looking for a church to worship, some come back and some don't. I am joyful because St. Luke's has a great diversity within its congregation, (babies, young children, young adults, those about to be married and those who want to serve God any way they can). I am joyful because I know the Holy Spirit is present at St. Luke's and working miracles. God bless you all for helping to make my call a joyful one.



### 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

**CALLING ALL MINISTERS AND PRIESTS:** We are all ministers and priests at St. Luke's. We have many ministry positions to fill. If you would like to serve one or more of our ministries, we would love to connect you with the chairperson(s). We need acolytes, readers, altar guild ladies, greeters, counters, fellowship servers, Door to Door Meals helpers. We have no cliques or closed groups at St. Luke's. We welcome everyone to join in as we work together to serve God.



**VESTRY** will reconvene Sunday, August 26, following the 10:30 service. Beginning in September we will return to the third Sunday of each month, meeting at about 11:45. Anyone is welcome to attend our vestry meetings. If you just wish to listen and observe, or if you have something you want to share, you are welcome. If you have issues or complaints, or would just like to have a voice, you might want to throw your name into the running for an open position in January. In just four months, we will be looking for members to replace those who will be finishing their terms. If you have been received into membership, you are eligible.

**BAPTISMS** will take place on Sunday, August 12. Our office manager, Callie Benedict and her husband, Hank, will be presenting their daughters, Mariska and Mariah for Holy Baptism. Fr. Gene will preside. Following services, the Benedict family will offer fellowship refreshments in the parish hall. We hope you will be present to welcome them. Callie was baptized in an Episcopal church in Virginia. We are happy Callie has chosen to share her daughters with us and we will raise them up.

On August 19, Paul and Sara Bennett will be with us and will present their daughter, Elizabeth for Holy Baptism. Paul's father, Fr. Art, will be performing the baptismal rites for his granddaughter. It will be so great to see Paul, Sara, and Andrew again and to be introduced to Elizabeth. There will be a luncheon reception following the service. It is always great to have the Bennett family with us and on this special day there will no doubt be a room full of them. So, plan to attend and visit and celebrate with them. You might have to stand in line to get to hold that sweet baby girl.

**ECW** will have a potluck meal Thursday, August 23 at 5:00 pm, at St. Luke's. All women of St. Luke's are considered to be Episcopal Church Women, so we hope all the ladies will plan to attend. We will share ideas about crafts for the fall bazaar and just have a good time sharing delicious food and enjoying each others company.

As summer comes to an unofficial conclusion at the end of this month, we will be picking up speed preparing for all the activities coming in the fall. Schools will be back in session, the town will be buzzing with the County Fair and the Ohio River Sternwheel Festival; our eight o'clock service will resume; the children will have Sunday School if all goes as planned; and our bible study will begin to meet again. Bazaar workshops will begin weekly meetings to prepare and plan for second Saturday in November, and our Convention Delegates will be off to Convention November 3rd. Wow! I am exhausted just listing it all here. It's exciting to be part of a happening church and a happening town and to share the good news of Christ through our Sunday services and community outreach programs. I hope those who have been away this summer will return to share our ministries. God's blessings to everyone as we experience this last month of summer.

*Carol*

## AUGUST EVENTS

- 5 11th Sunday After Pentecost HE 10:30 AM  
Food Basket Collection
- 7 Community Dinner 5 PM
- 12 12th Sunday After Pentecost HE  
and Benedict Baptisms 10:30 AM  
Outreach Sunday  
Door-to-Door Meal 1 PM
- 19 13th Sunday After Pentecost HE  
and Bennett Baptism 10:30 AM
- 23 ECW potluck meal 5 PM
- 26 14th Sunday after Pentecost HE 10:30 AM
- 26 Vestry Meeting 11:45 AM
- 27 The Vine Newsletter Deadline

## AUGUST BIRTHDAYS

- 1 Andrew Bennett
- 4 Larry Pfeiffer
- 8 Sandia Sommer
- 8 Brenda Schultheis
- 12 Mike Reifer
- 12 Sarah Bennett
- 15 Jacie Hays
- 15 Gavin Wharton
- 16 Sydney Gammon
- 17 Mark Ullman
- 19 Lara Shepherd
- 20 Charlie Sommer



- Aug 1 Kirby & Lisa Vore Galloway
- Aug 4 Judy & Larry Pfeiffer

### ST. LUKE'S BY THE NUMBERS— JULY

#### Sunday Worship Attendance:

July 1 —	41
July 8 —	35
July 15 —	35
July 22 —	29
July 29 -	42
Average July 2018 —	36
Average July 2017 —	42

#### Crisis Intervention

Rent—	1
Food Card—	0
Gasoline Cards —	4

#### Outreach

Community Dinner—	33
Door-to-Door Meal—	42

## **LOVE FOR JUDY DAY**

As we continue our prayers for Judy Wurtzbacher's fight against Multiple Myeloma, we have decided to dedicate our next day of worship to her!

On August 5, 2018 at our 10:30 service, in honor of Judy, please wear a hat to church. Prizes will be handed out for Most Colorful Hat, Funniest Hat, and Best Oldies Hat. There will be a collection jar in the parish hall to go towards a gift for her!

Judy, please know that while you are at OSU (with a pretty awesome view, by the way) you are loved and you are being thought about every day! Keep up the hard work!

Contributed by Callie Benedict



## **CONGRATULATIONS TO REBECCA KEELEY AND MICHAEL SHUMAR ON THEIR ENGAGEMENT!**

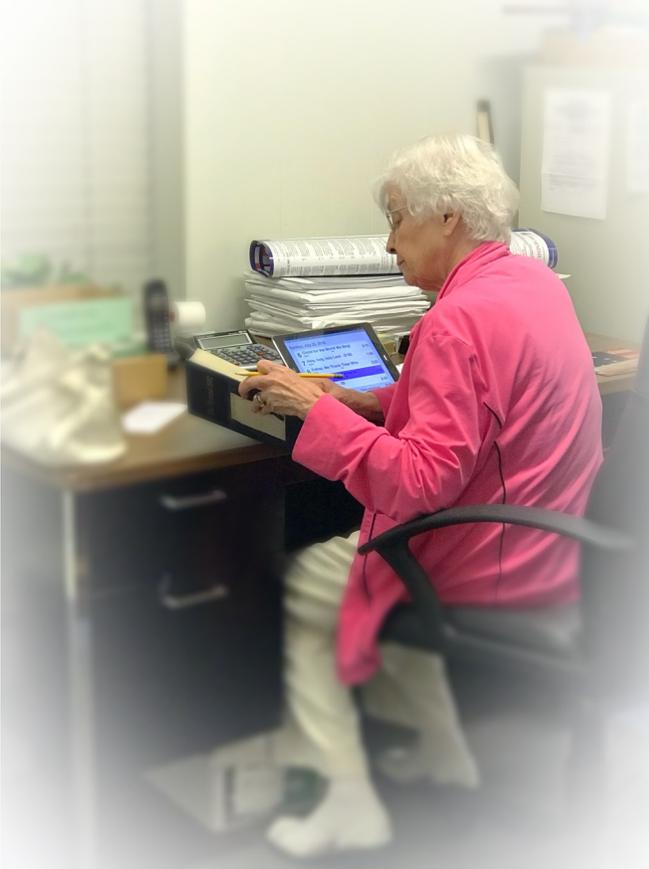
Rebecca's mother, Gillian Keeley of Marietta, and Michael's parents, David and Susan Shumar of Cincinnati, announce their engagement.

The bride-to-be is studying veterinary medicine at Lincoln Memorial University and the prospective bridegroom holds a master's of education at Lincoln Memorial University.

The wedding will be in July 2019.



## THE SOUND OF MUSIC



Jan Huggins comes to church faithfully once a week to work on her music ministry. Her time includes reading the lessons, comparing the lessons with the book, "The Episcopal Musician's Handbook: 62nd Edition. Lectionary Year C," and referring back to Fr. David's music selections from the year before. Once her selected music has been downloaded to the church tablet for the service, she comes in and plays each song while singing from the hymnal. Jan makes sure the music sounds good from the download, that it's the correct song, and that it has the right number of verses. When she needs to do more studying to prepare upcoming weeks, she works diligently in the library until her selections feel, and sound, right. Thank you to Jan and those she consults with to make each Sunday sound beautiful.

Contributed Callie Benedict

## A VISIT FROM THE QUEEN

The American Queen docked in Marietta on July 16 and July 18. She was built in 1995 with 222 state rooms holding up to 436 guests. She is 418 feet long and 89 feet wide and is operated by a crew of 160 workers. The American Queen is said to be the largest river steamboat ever built. Marietta enjoyed the tourists and benefited from the economy boost. Locals young and old alike awed at the size of this beautiful boat and listened happily to her calliope music once she set sail on the Ohio River again. You could catch people all long both sides of the river, waving a warm farewell to the American Queen when she made her final departure on the 18th around 4:00 pm.



OB18

Contributed by Callie Benedict



## ECW FUNDRAISER

Unfortunately, the ECW did not receive enough pre-orders to proceed with the cookbook publisher. An “in-house” publication will be pursued sometime this winter. The ladies have initiated an alternative fundraiser—t-shirts! The “Top 10 Reasons for Being an Episcopalian” shirts sell for \$12 each, and the signup/order form is on the table in the parish hall.



We couldn't resist including this picture of 2 princesses in front of the Queen!

*If you have news to share with the Parish, please submit it to the office no later than August 27.*

*Submissions may be emailed to: [teeb84@gmail.com](mailto:teeb84@gmail.com)*