

## NEWS FROM THE PRIEST

The Gospel lesson for Sunday, August 4, 2019, has me meditating about two things: greed and “being rich toward God.”

I attend two clergy bible studies weekly. One in Parkersburg and one in Marietta. These meetings assist me in preparing my sermon for Sunday as well as being a way to discuss how a priest should live their life so that they can be “rich toward God.”

I also spend a lot of time reading commentaries and articles on the scripture lessons. When I write a sermon and meditate on those readings, I am prepared to deliver the sermon God wants me to preach. Sometimes the message is an easy subject, other times it is not. This lesson's topics are hard to talk about because it gets at the core of who we are as Christians.

The first topic from this particular Gospel lesson is greed. All of us are greedy in one way or another. Greed is not always a bad thing. Greed has been the primary motivating factor in almost every event in our life. Without the want for “things” most of us would not work. We want a roof over our heads; we need to have food; we like to drive a vehicle because it makes it easier for us to live the kind of life we want.

I have heard it said many times, “money is not the root of all evil, the love of money is.” It is because we work hard for our money that we don't want to let loose of it unless it is for something we deem as being important.



### THE STAFF

Priest-in-Charge	—Rev. Gene Sheppard
Sexton—	John Brown
Secretary—	Lisa Hardman-Harris
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
- Ben Windland (2020)
- Mary Marshall (2020)
- Becky Young (2021)
- Marybeth Peebles (2021)
- Mark McKarnin (2022)
- Grant Shepherd (2022)

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## NEWS FROM THE PRIEST *(continued from page*

Greed is also an addiction. Think of any addiction you know of and it always includes wanting more. More drugs; more money; more things and it usually gives us a “high” when we get whatever it is we are craving.

Greed and love of money has ruined many people with good intentions. Greed leaves behind insecure children and unhappy families and more often than not shortens the lives of those who always worry about not having enough.

No one likes taking about money especially when it comes time to make a pledge to the church we attend. I would like to suggest that making a pledge to the church we attend is one way of “being rich toward God.”

I have learned firsthand that sharing what wealth we have with God leads to a more productive and satisfying life. It gives me an inner peace that I could never have imagined and I am content knowing I am “being rich toward God.”

How can we be rich toward God? Give a portion of our income to our church; Give a portion of our time serving God; Spend time with God in prayer and meditation daily; Live a life that others see as an example of loving God; We know we are rich toward God when we lay down at night and feel content.

When I was in seminary, I visited a Shaker community. Shakers live a life of simplicity and love of serving God. I remember a Shaker song. I can’t remember all of it but I remember the following lines:

Tis a gift to be simple, tis a gift to be free  
Tis the gift to come down where we ought to be  
And when we find ourselves in the place just right  
Twill be in the valley of love and delight.

**Fr. Gene+**

On Sunday, July 21 at the 8AM service, the Marvin family presented their daughter for Holy Baptism. Welcome, little one, to the family of Christ!



## FROM THE SENIOR WARDEN



Rummage sale items are accumulating in the parish hall and the collecting room upstairs is full of donated items. This week on Tuesday and Thursday several members came to help price items. Some of our usual workers had scheduled appointments this week, but thankfully we still had a good showing of volunteers. The sorting and pricing will continue the week of the sale, August 24. We remind you that this is an all-church member fund raiser, not an ECW project. All members and interested persons are encouraged to assist whenever and however they are able.

Our seminarian, Paul Bennett, and his family, Sarah, Andrew, and Elizabeth returned to St. Luke's two Sundays past. It was great as usual to see them and to see how much Andrew and Elizabeth have changed since their last visit. Andrew will be entering kindergarten this fall and Elizabeth is on a fast track to anywhere her short little legs will get her. How delightful to watch them grow. Andrew was still a toddler when they left for Seminary and Elizabeth was not yet born. Time has flown for us. Perhaps it does not fly for Paul and Sarah, but they have managed well through the process. We look forward to Paul returning to preach whenever possible and we eagerly await the celebration of his graduation and ordination next year.

The presence and the sounds of the young children in church was the most beautiful music to many of us. We had two beautiful little girls and three charming little boys. Our pre-teen, Kavant, was also present and served as the Acolyte. It just doesn't get any better than a day with children participating in our service. I pray we will see and hear more of those young voices on many Sunday mornings in the future. Thank you to Alisha for providing care in the nursery quarters upstairs and thank you to the parents for bringing the children into the second half of the service and including them in the service of communion. The exuberance and interaction of the children in the fellowship hall following service is another delight to behold. It was an "all things bright and beautiful" day for me and I hope for others.

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**FROM THE SR. WARDEN (continued from page 3)**

We remind you to check the church calendar for the events scheduled and read the Friday Updates to stay informed of the latest news in or about the church. The Vestry will return from their summer sabbatical on August 18, following the 10:30 service. Any and all are invited to come listen in and observe. We will need new vestry members in six months. If you are feeling a call to enter that ministry, you might want to see how it works. Have something you wish to say? We welcome any and all inquiries or suggestions.

Do you want to serve fellowship on a Sunday? See Judy Pfeiffer/ Do you want to help prepare the Door to Door carry out meals one Sunday per month? See Marybeth Peebles. Would you like to serve as a greeter? See Hazel Boettcher. Want to be a Sunday reader or acolyte? See Marybeth. Want to sing with the choir? See Jan Huggins. Want to serve on the Altar Guild? See Becky Young or Judy Pfeiffer. All our ministries have room for more volunteers. We welcome all with open arms.

Happy harvest season to all our gardeners. Thank you to Larry and Judy and anyone else who has been bringing in their garden produce to share. Even though we will no longer have a bazaar to donate our canned goods, we welcome any and all donations to be sold on a Sunday morning, with the proceeds going to the ECW to aid their ability to continue helping various organizations. Do not let anything go to waste. The food pantries will also welcome and distribute your donations of produce

Blessings to all,

*Carol*

**ST. LUKE'S BY THE  
NUMBERS — JULY**

**Sunday Worship Attendance:**

**Jul 7 — 34**  
**Jul 14 — 48**  
**Jul 21 — 40**  
**Jul 28 — 67**

**Crisis Intervention**  
**Gasoline Cards — 8**  
**Food Cards — 1**

## ECW NEWS

# Royale English Tea

To Celebrate the new Downton Abbey Movie

**Saturday, September 21, 2019 2PM**

**St. Luke's Episcopal Church**

**Parish Hall**

**320 2nd St, Marietta, Ohio**

Do not forget your Royal Attire, hats and gloves!



Traditional English Fare will be Served

**Tickets \$20 each — available at St. Luke's Office (M-F, 9-Noon), or by calling (740) 373-5132**

**To reserve a table for your group, contact Tracy at 304-991-1957**

All proceeds benefit St. Luke's Episcopal Church Women organization, helping local, national, & global persons in need.

Instead of the Annual Fall Bazaar, the ECW has decided to host a Royale English Tea, coinciding with the release of the Downton Abbey movie. Tickets are available from any member of the ECW or by contacting the church office.

The next ECW meeting will be on Monday, August 26 at 6PM in the Parish Hall. Light refreshments (potluck style) and Royale English Tea planning is on the agenda. All women of St. Luke's are welcome to attend.

Our Annual Rummage Sale is coming up in just a few weeks, on Saturday, August 24. This is an all-parish event and many showed up



this past week to sort and price items; tremendous progress was made! Signup sheets/work schedules are on the mission table in the Parish Hall. Please pray about how you can help and sign up so we know how many we can expect to help. You may still bring items into the church any week-day morning from 9 - 12. Too big? Too heavy? Need help? Call the church office to make arrangements.



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



1	Kirby & Lisa Vore Galloway
4	Judy & Larry Pfeiffer
9	Charlie & Jhie Sommer



**Sep 21**—Royale English Tea—ECW fundraiser.

**Oct 5 & 6**—Presiding Bishop Michael Curry will be speaking to the public in Wheeling, WV at the WestBanco Arena. See details in the graphic to the right.

The Way of Love  
with  
**Bishop Michael Curry**  
Wheeling, WV



**October 5 & 6, 2019**

What you should know:

- Public event, WestBanco Arena October 5, 3 p.m.
- Tickets needed for October 5 event
- Liturgy and Coffee Hour, St. Matthews' October 6
- Make event and hotels reservations now
- For more information, visit [stmatts.com](http://stmatts.com)

# AUGUST

# 2019

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
				1 Bible Study 8:30 - Library	2 Harvest of Hope Delivery	3
4 HE 1-8:00 AM HE 2-10:30 AM FOOD BASKET COLLECTION	5 WOMEN'S WAY AA 6:30 - 8:30 PM (LIBRARY)	6 COMMUNITY MEAL 5:00 PM	7	8 Bible Study 8:30 - Library	9 AA - 8:30 PM	10
11 HE 1-8:00 AM HE 2-10:30 AM Outreach Sunday, Door to Door - 1pm	12 WOMEN'S WAY AA 6:30 - 8:30 PM (LIBRARY)	13	14	15 Bible Study 8:30 - Library	16 AA - 8:30 PM	17
18 HE 1 - 8:00 AM HE 2 - 10:30 AM Vestry Meeting	19 WOMEN'S WAY AA 6:30 - 8:30 PM (LIBRARY)	20	21 LEGAL CLINIC 6 - 8PM (Library and Fellowship Hall)	22 Bible Study 8:30 - Library	23 AA - 8:30 PM	24 RUMMAGE SALE 8:00 - 2:00
25 HE 1 - 8:00 AM HE 2 - 10:30 AM	26 ECW Tea Planning 6:00 PM WOMEN'S WAY AA 6:30 - 8:30 PM (LIBRARY)	27	28 Daisy Scouts 4:30 - 5:30 Parish Hall	29 Bible Study 8:30 - Library	30 Sanctuary Reserved 4:00 - 8:00 PM AA - 8:30 PM	31 Parish Hall Reserved for Private Wedding 9:00 AM - 6:00 PM

# BISHOP BREIDENTHAL VISITS ST. LUKE'S

At the 10:30 am service on Sunday, July 14, parishioners and visitors of St. Luke's enjoyed a visit from our Bishop, Rt. Rev. Thomas E. Breidenthal. Prior to the service, he met with Judy and Larry Pfeiffer's family (baptism of their great-granddaughter, Josephine), Paul and Becky Young (reaffirmation), and Tammy Mendenhall (confirmation) and James Wright. Following the Holy Eucharist with Baptism, Confirmation and Reaffirmation, everyone enjoyed light refreshments and cake. The Vestry and Bishop Breidenthal then had a brief meeting. It was wonderful to see so many in attendance and to also spend some time with our bishop.



# REBECCA KEELEY & MICHAEL SHUMAR WEDDING



Above: The Bride & Groom, with the Bride's family. They were so happy to be together after so many years apart.

Below: Mother of the Bride, Gillian, danced the night away (and she wasn't the only one!)



On Saturday, July 13, Rebecca Keeley, member of St. Luke's and daughter of Gillian Keeley, was united in marriage to Michael Shumar, son of David and Susan Shumar. Many from St. Luke's attended and had a lovely evening dancing. At the end of the reception, wedding guests were invited to the rooftop of the Lafayette Hotel to watch fireworks over the Ohio River. It was a very special evening.



Above: Our retired rector, Rev. Davide Ruppe and Sr. Warden, Carol Cisler, taking a spin around the dance floor.

Below: Gillian was able to convince Father Gene to show us his moves.



Left: Beautiful fireworks over the Ohio River.

## SEMINARIAN NEWS



Our Seminarian, Paul Bennett, came to see us on July 28th at the 10:30 am service. Many commented about the evident growth in Paul as he delivered his sermon. The church was full and everyone was happy to see Paul and his family. Please continue to keep Paul, Sarah, Andrew, and Elizabeth in your prayers.



If you have news to share with the Parish, please email your story and photos to  
The Vine Editor, Tracy Reifer at [teebs84@gmail.com](mailto:teebs84@gmail.com)