



SEPTEMBER 2022

Light in the Shadows

Let your light shine before others, so that they may see your good works and give glory to your Father in Heaven." Matt. 5:16

VESTRY CHANGES

Within the past week, the St. Luke's Vestry received email resignations from two Vestry Members: Meredith Wagner and Janet Hunter. Meredith's resignation was not a surprise since we all knew she had sold her house in Springfield and was moving to Keene, NH, where her Tom had lived, where they had friends, and where her new house was closer to where Meredith's daughter also lives in NH. Since moving to Springfield not that long ago and entering the doors of St. Luke's, Meredith quickly established her interest in and commitment to the church as a member of the Lunch Bunch, participant in church events, and member of the Vestry. While we are happy Meredith is now settled in her new home, we will miss her friendly, positive self as we wish her much health and happiness in her new surroundings.

Nurse Janet Hunter has been a long-time member of the parish and Vestry, Altar Guild, church events, and outreach efforts, as well as a prime organizer of the recent Pig Roast. Although she was once briefly retired, her new full-time employment and increased demands on her time and energy have encouraged her to remove herself from Vestry duties. However, she remains on Altar Guild and, we hope, will still be involved in many church activities.

Faced with the sudden exodus of two important Vestry members in the middle of the year, the Vestry turned to two well-known members of the congregation for assistance, and they responded quickly and enthusiastically to the call. Thus, Eileen Widger, practicing nurse, Mistress of the Altar Guild, and also prime mover of the Pig Roast, among other activities, will join the Vestry to finish out Meredith's term. And Colleen Garvey, who missed Chester when she moved out of state only to return to the area recently by buying a house in Andover and who looks forward to the resumption of the Lunch Bunch and her help at the Christmas Market and Plant Sale, agreed to finish out Janet Hunter's term.

Accordingly, in compliance with Diocesan canons, St. Luke's constitution, and Vestry rules, the Vestry approved by unanimous email vote the appointment of Eileen and Colleen to fill the two empty Vestry positions until the ladies could stand for election at the next church Annual Meeting in early 2023. This arrangement was done swiftly, so that Eileen and Colleen would be able to attend the next Vestry Meeting on September 13 as voting members. Thus, the Vestry will not miss a beat, and while sad to lose Meredith and Janet, we are delighted to have Eileen and Colleen, two dedicated and experienced St. Luke's parishioners, as new Vestry members. Please thank Eileen and Colleen for their willingness to serve when you see them next.



ST. LUKE'S SIGN

Please look closely at the newly refurbished sign positioned at the front of the Church. The sign stands as a welcoming beacon to all who pass by the church. Rick Hunter not only improved it, but also added the service time placard. Thank you, Richard, for your excellent work and commitment to St. Luke's.

VESTRY MEETING HIGHLIGHTS

The August 9 Vestry Meeting was held in person and by Zoom. Because many Vestry members were out of town and unable to attend the meeting, there was no quorum. Therefore, no action was taken, as well as no minutes. However, the following topics were reported by those who did attend.

The Vestry reviewed the June/July financials and the financial situation over the past couple of months and acknowledged several areas of need: to have someone take on the weekly collection deposits; to find someone to assume the responsibility for snow removal; and to review the 2022 Vestry Retreat when all members could be in attendance. Since that meeting, the collection plate has once again been passed during the Sunday service.

Because of upcoming vacations, the Sunday Services from September 11 through October 2 will not offer Zoom coverage. The services will continue in person, followed by coffee hour.

ALTAR GUILD NEEDS

Because of additional health, professional, or volunteer demands, plus a relocation to another state, the Altar Guild needs additional members to help take care of the linens and other elements that enable the preparation for scheduled church services. Specifically, members who serve in the care of the altar and the sanctuary ensure that things necessary for worship are in place and that God is honored in the setting. Singly or in pairs, men and women prepare and care for the vessels, linens, vestments, articles, flowers, and supplies for the Eucharist, weddings, burials, and Sunday, Wednesday, or special services. Duties are rotated, and Eileen Widger can explain them and provide any needed instruction. Please contact Eileen at twidger@sbcglobal.net or 802-875-4604 to find out more about what is involved in this important and spiritual duty.

Hummingbird

She moves among the nasturtiums,
a needle going in and out, in and out,
sewing me to this garden.
(How many angels can dance on the tip
of a hummingbird's tongue?)
She dips her head in for only a moment,
then backs away,
and pauses after each blossom
and gives a tiny chirp, just a chip, just a ch—
(is it “Ahh?,” or “Thank you?,” or “Amen?”).
Then moves to another blossom, and
another moment, and another, and another.
She works every blossom in the garden,
one by one, sip after tiniest sip.
For her it is not patience, not acceptance,
but simply breakfast.

Our souls are not fed by great feasts
but a thousand tiny prayers.

Steve Garnaas-Holmes
August 16, 2022, *Unfolding Light*



MIDWEEK SERVICE

Starting on Wednesday August 31, the short midweek Eucharistic Service will take place from 5:30 to approximately 6 PM, rather than from 5 to 5:30 PM. Please feel free to drop in to enjoy this casual, quiet, meditative service without music.

Meanwhile the Willises finished making and packaging all the individual lidded containers of coleslaw that would be loaded into a cooler the next day for easy distribution at the church.

Saturday August 20. Jesse, ably assisted by friend Jamie Hoyt, completed all preparations at their end, making sauces and getting the pig ready for carving. Meanwhile, just before 9 AM when the Willises arrived, James and Beth Salisbury were already there ready to spring into action. Before the other troops began to arrive, James had already begun to slice paper strips to provide “tickets” for the event, and tents, tables, and chairs began to be placed around the lawn, plus tables for cold drinks, water, and coffee. The outside crew for set-up and take-down boasted James Salistury, Tom Widger, John DesLauriers, David Carey, Rick Hunter, Dave and Lillian Willis, and Marjorie Carey and Cecilia Detrich, who were helping inside and out, wherever needed. David Carey raced home to get a separate umbrella to protect Cashiers Marjorie Carey and David Willis from strong sun.

Inside. Two different shifts to organize the container/bag assembly and food-filling lines took place from 10-11 and 2:30-end), under the direction of Janet Hunter, planner of the delivery system and organizer of the Kitchen Crew, with help at one or both shifts from Marcia Clinton, Cecilia Detrich, Lynda Farmer, Susan Ostrowski, Beth Salisbury, Seale White, and Eileen Widger.

Outside. With all arrangements in place, people checked in with the Cashiers, got their tickets, and went to their chosen table, where runners served them their bag of supplies and a clamshell with compartments filled with potato salad and hot baked beans. The diners then took their clamshell to the pork table for their barbecued pork, roll, and choice of sauces. They could also help themselves to a cold soft drink, water, or hot coffee from separate tables near Willard Hall. With food and drink at hand, they enjoyed conversation with the other people at their table.

(Continued on next page)



Cecilia with three scientists from Massachusetts who were excited to make the trip back to Chester to partake of the Pig Roast.



Waiting to fill clamshells, l to r: Janet, Cecilia, Marjorie, Seale Marcia. Out of the picture on the other side of the table: Beth.



Jesse watches while Cecilia checks out how people will be served the hot pork, rolls, and sauces.





Young guests playing lawn games. Here Cornhole, with Swing Toss in the background.



Nothing of value was left from the 100-pound pig.



The Pig Roast ran from 4-7, but our amazing crew had everything cleaned up by 7:30 PM.

Summary and Request for Input. The weather cooperated. People cooperated, even the public when we ran out of food – some side dishes running out before others – after preparing to feed 100 and actually feeding 120. Altogether it was a most positive experience for a first-time endeavor, and we learned a lot. Now we’d like to learn more from you who attended (or couldn’t). Was the timing good or should the event be earlier in the summer or early fall? Did you like the pre-packaged presentation that provided the opportunity for take-out? Although the containers limited the size of various helpings, were the portions large enough? Did you feel free to ask for seconds?

Because the cost of the side dishes was donated, the main expenses were serving containers and flatware and the pig and sauce ingredients. Did you think the entry cost reasonable? Did you like the menu of barbecued pork, sauces, rolls, baked beans, potato salad, coleslaw, and cookies? Did you like the flavored sparkling drinks? We are eager to receive your input. For easy, concise record keeping, please send your comments to Lillian Willis at lbwillisct@comcast.net.



Pig barbecue master Henry Jesse Pixley and Jamie Hoyt, his most gracious helper.

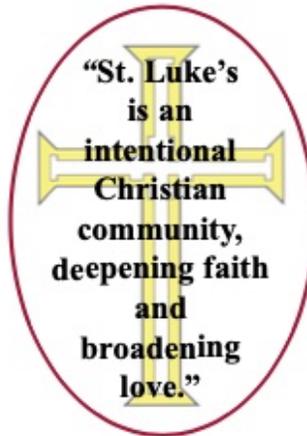
Grateful thanks to all St. Luke’s Volunteers and especially to most skilled and gracious barbecue master Jesse and his helper Jamie.

Church Services

Sunday services at 10 AM are both in person and by Zoom, except from September 11 through October 2, and are followed by coffee hour.

On Wednesdays at 5:30 PM Bruce MacDuffie leads a short Eucharistic service without music.

Please join us.



September Celebrations

Birthdays:

- 2 Lynda Farmer
- 2 Bonnie Johnson
- 5 Matthew Stretton
- 7 Jim Sullivan
- 11 Jim Kowalski
- 11 Sean Whalen
- 15 Al Haumann
- 21 Deb Brown
- 23 Beth Salisbury
- 26 Eileen Widger
- 27 Penny Buchanan
- 28 Leona Hensel-Whalen
- 29 Walter Rich

Anniversaries:

- 4 Jim Kowalski & Anne Brewer
- 18 Gregory & Betsy Adamovich
- 19 James & Beth Salisbury
- 20 Andrew & Ellie Pennell
- 24 David & Pat Cherry

St. Luke's Financial Update

	July 2022	YTD 2022	Annual Budget	YTD % of Budget
Pledge & Plate Income	\$ 2,476.00	\$ 25,520.00	\$ 42,325.00	60%
Other Operating Income	\$ 62.22	\$ 17,922.11	\$ 33,950.00	53%
Restricted Income	\$ 540.00	\$ 811.92	\$ 2,790.00	29%
Total Income	\$ 3,078.22	\$ 44,254.03	\$ 79,065.00	56%
Regular Expense	\$ 3,750.05	\$ 35,199.87	\$ 79,100.71	45%
Restricted Expense	\$ 495.28	\$ 617.28	\$ 2,590.00	24%
Total Expense	\$ 4,245.33	\$ 35,817.15	\$ 81,690.71	44%
Net Ordinary Income (loss)	\$ (1,167.11)	\$ 8,436.88	\$ (2,625.71)	-321%
Draw on Investments	\$ - .00	\$ - .00	\$ 6,500.00	0%
Net Ordinary Income	\$ (1,167.11)	\$ 8,436.88	\$ 3,874.29	

We are one month into the 3rd quarter and income is within 2% of budget while expenses are 14% below. One correction in this report I should mention - the Annual Budget line for Draw on Investments previously shown was incorrect. The figure of \$6,500 shown here was as presented at the annual meeting. After deducting the Diocesan Loan principal payments, totaling \$3,858.33 for 2022 from the Net Ordinary Income shown above, our actual Net Income equates to \$15.96.



One of the famous St. Luke's red dahlia tubers from the church Plant Sale.

St. Luke's Episcopal Church



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OCTOBER LITS Deadline Sept. 20

Send all articles, photos, etc.,
 to Lillian Willis at
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