



Luke's Log

Planting Seeds



December 2018

For a child has been born for us, a son given to us; authority rests upon his shoulders; and he is named Wonderful Counselor, Mighty God, Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace.

Isaiah 9:6

Thanksgiving has come and gone, and most of us now turn our focus to Christmas and the New Year. But we still need to get through the season of Advent. As a liturgical church, we celebrate Advent; four Sundays before Christmas. The name "Advent" comes from

the Latin word *adventus*, meaning "arrival." Advent is a time of preparation for the second coming of Jesus Christ, so we are asked to examine ourselves and reflect on where we are in our spiritual life. We are to wait, be watchful and be prepared. We live in a world of instant gratification and I know very few people who want to wait for anything. I pray that in our hurrying and scurrying, we will carve out some time to gage where we are in our lives as we wait for Jesus.

For us, Christmas finally arrives and not a minute too soon. A time that is joyful and celebratory for some, but not for all. It can be challenging and difficult for others. In our busy-ness, let us set aside time to remember what Christmas truly symbolizes for many of us. God created out of love, and at Christmas, God once again acts out of love for us. God sends his son into the world in human form to

share our humanity and serve as the example for our lives. God chose to come to us as a helpless infant, totally dependent on his parents and family to provide for him. He was born in a manger and he and his family had to flee to Egypt for fear of Herod; they too were refugees. (Matthew 2:13)

We give gifts, share feasts, enjoy family and loved ones over the holidays. Let's also give the gift of love, joy and peace, following the example of our Lord and Savior.

I wish for you all Happy Holidays, and a very Merry Christmas, Happy Hanukkah!

Rev. Ernestein †



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Special points of interest:

- Jr. Warden's Report
- ECW Advent Tea

More information Inside!

Sr. Warden's Report — by Juli Mimnaugh

The United Thank Offering boxes were distributed at our Harvest Celebration Sunday. If you did not receive one of the boxes there are more available. For those who are not familiar with UTO, it is the ministry of the Episcopal Church for the mission of the whole church. "Through UTO, men, women, and children nurture the habit of giving daily thanks to God. These prayers of thanksgiving start when we recognize and name our many daily blessings"

Our UTO program will run until Lent. We are hopeful that you will be so blessed that you will need more than one box. You may not think that the coins you put in your box add up to much but with all of us participating we can help make a difference.

My mother never spent a dime— she saved it. When she and my dad had the opportunity to buy property for their first house she had the money she had saved by not spending a dime. My mother-in-law thought a little bigger and never spent a quarter so when she and my father-in-law retired they had the money for their dream trip to Norway. Little coins added up and the blessings did, too.

Many of you are reading *The Great Spiritual Migration* by Brian D. McLaren and find his message of love encouraging, particularly during this time of year. I would like to share an email from one of my high school classmates. The "girls" of '64 meet monthly for dinner just to keep in touch. Jean moved back to Grants Pass from California a few years ago when she retired. She sent out an email requesting donations for the California fire victims. She and her husband, Vince, were planning to take a truckload of necessities to those fire survivors. Here is what she experienced on that trip. This is her email as written and un-edited:

Re: Paradise Fire

Hi Again, I want to update you on our trip to Chico to deliver the donations. Vince and I left early Thurs a m. We were a little concerned having heard that they were not accepting more donations.

First stop Chico airport where they are housing dogs and cats in two separate areas. We had the pickup half full of animal supplies and they were thrilled. There were many volunteers and animals were treated very well with quite a lot of room and volunteers walking dogs.

Next stop Salvation Army with 90 percent of the UHaul being delivered. Our donations were so wanted and so appreciated. The first lady to greet us cried when she saw we were from Oregon. The manager came out to thank us and hug and talked until the unloading was finished. She and 20 other workers had lost their houses. Her husband barely got out. She was at work and he was at home asleep and had turned off his cellphone. That's what happened to many of the older victims. Fire started 7:00-7:30 a m and they knew nothing about it until too late. So very tragic.

Next stop Walmart parking lot with a tent/car city for people who couldn't get into shelters. We saved the sleeping bags, tents, pads, etc. for these people. Also, we had gift card and toiletries, tooth brushes/past, hand wipes, etc. Again, so needed and appreciated. A grown man in a big Ford 350 truck cried with appreciation.

I went into the tent city to hand out the gift cards. Many sad stories. I'll share the one that still breaks my heart. I met 2 ladies one holding a baby. They lost their house and everything. They now have a tent and a car. It was grandma, daughter, three year old granddaughter and 2 WEEK old grandbaby. They couldn't stay in a shelter because of norovirus infection spreading through many shelters and the baby can't be anywhere near it. The fire started 2 days after bringing baby home. It is so hard to imagine having a new baby in those conditions. I gave extra cards and anything we had left that could help them. Then I spent 15 minutes holding and snuggling the baby girl. *(continued)*

Sr. Warden's Report (continued)

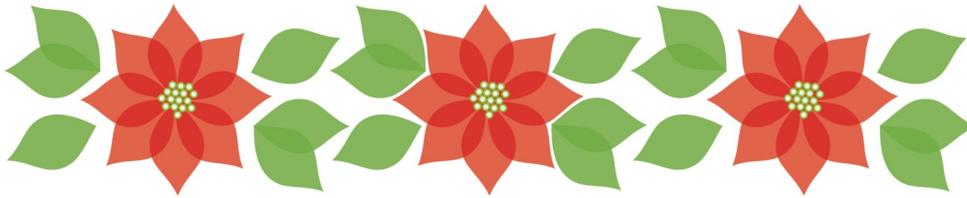
Your donations made a huge difference to many people. I don't know what their future holds but you helped make the present a little more bearable. Everything we brought was needed and so appreciated.

Thank you for responding to our plea and making this journey possible.

Jean and Vince

I thought this was so inspiring and an example of how we can each make a difference by doing what we can, a true example of what it means to be a Christian. May your blessings be great and please share the joy of the season.

Juli Mimnaugh



Treasurer's Report - by Myrna Rafalovich



As of November 30, 2018

Pledged Amount	\$83,369.00
Pledge Payments	<u>\$74,230.00</u>
Shortfall	<\$9,139.00>

Jr. Warden's Report — by Dennis James

I have discovered that many members of St. Luke's congregation are unaware of changes taking place to the church facilities besides the installation of new carpeting and the painting of the Parish Hall.

This, therefore, is an update to the progress so far:

1. The window of the chapel and window to the Choir Room have been painted and refinished.
2. All stained-glass windows to the church have been re-covered with UV resistant "Lexan."
3. The alley door has been replaced.
4. The vandalism to the siding and sign in the 4th Street alley have been corrected.

Things still to be done:

1. Windows in the sanctuary will be replaced in December.
2. The red doors should be replaced in December.
3. The doors opening on the handicap access will be replaced in 2019.

Thank you's to Gardening Angels Michael and Judy Anzalone for their work with Arvelle Carey, Nick Vagle and Lee Smith in spreading bark. This should be finished shortly.

Thanks again to all who have contributed in making St. Luke's shine.

Dennis James



Episcopal Church Women's Tea by Joan Collins

On Saturday, December 8, we will have our annual Advent Tea. This year we will have a high tea from 1 to 3:00 p.m. Hats are optional! All women of the Episcopal Church are members of the ECW. Please join us for an afternoon of fellowship and enjoy a light meal.

Tea Party

Special Dates & Events



Dec. 6 (Thurs.) 6:00 p.m. Pub Theology at Climate City

Dec. 8 (Sat.) 1-3 ECW Advent Tea

Dec. 10 (Mon.) The Rev. Ernestein leaves for Tampa, returns Monday, Dec. 17 (no Adult Formation Dec. 11 or 12; no mid-week eucharist Dec. 12)

Dec. 13 (Thurs.) Faith House Wreath picked up; 5:30 Cursillo (in Library); 4-8 Audubon Society

Dec. 20 (Thurs.) Christmas Basket assembly and distribution; 6:00 p.m. Pub Theology at Climate City; 7:00 Vestry Meeting (*note new date*)

Dec. 21 (Fri.) St. James the Apostle; Winter Begins

Dec. 22 (Sat.) The Greening of the Church (*time to be announced*)

Dec. 23 (Sun.) A Festival of Lessons & Carols at the 10:00 a.m. service



Dec. 24 (Mon.) The Eve of the Nativity; 10:00 p.m. Carol Singing; 10:30 p.m. Christmas Eve Candlelight Eucharist

Dec. 25 (Tues.) Christmas Day; Parish Office closed; Rev. Ernestein out through Dec. 29th

Dec. 26 (Wed.) St. Stephen, Deacon & Martyr; no mid-week eucharist, Adult Formation or Choir practice

Dec. 27 (Thurs.) St. John, Apostle & Evangelist

Dec. 28 (Fri.) The Holy Innocents

Dec. 30 (Sun.) No Choir at 10:00 a.m. service



Dec. 31 (Mon) New Year's Eve (Parish Office closed Jan. 1; no Men's Breakfast)



4	Frances Widdison	27	Miriam Roberts
6	Lee Smith	30	Fiona Allen
21	Ruth d'Albenas		

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St. Luke's Episcopal Church publishes Luke's Log monthly. **Submit articles to our email address or to the parish office by the 20th of the month.** For more information, visit our website above.

IDENTITY STATEMENT FOR ST. LUKE'S

St. Luke's Episcopal Church is a community of diverse and unique individuals and families, joined together in the Body of Christ. We are a family united by worship, discovering God's purpose in our lives and using our gifts in service to him, to one another, and to the world.

We believe the historic Christian creeds. We carry on the heritage of Christian worship, celebrating the biblical faith with traditional and contemporary forms. We encounter God in word and sacrament, in music and prayer, and in one another.

We offer opportunities for education, spiritual growth, service, fellowship, and the giving and receiving of pastoral care

We seek, through worship and service, to show forth in the world the healing love of Jesus.



**ST. LUKE'S SERVICES
SUNDAY MORNING**

8:00 a.m. Holy
Eucharist, Rite II

10:00 a.m. Holy
Eucharist, Rite II
Nursery available

WEDNESDAY

12:15 p.m. Mid-week
Eucharist

MONDAY—THURSDAY

7:45 a.m. Morning
Prayer

FRIDAY — 7:15 a.m.

**ST. LUKE'S MISSION
STATEMENT**

*Love. Faith. Reason.
Community.*

*We reach out in joy and
in Christ's name to one
another, our community,
and the world.*

**ST. LUKE'S
OFFICE HOURS**

M, T, Th 9 am-1 pm

Wed. 9 am-5 pm

Closed Friday

541-476-2493

THE REV. ERNESTEIN C. FLEMISTER, RECTOR

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ST. LUKE'S OFFICERS & VESTRY

Juli Mimnaugh, Sr. Warden
Dennis James (2019) Jr. Warden
Myrna Rafalovich, Treasurer
Laurel Samson, Clerk of the Vestry
Bridget Garvin (2021)
Susan Lee Hall (2020)
Alison Huber (2019)
Juli Mimnaugh (2021)
Michael Riding (2021)
Hana Rubens (2019)
Scott Swindells (2020)