



# Luke's Log

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### Planting Seeds



### September 2019

*"The foundational spiritual question is this: Does one's life give any evidence of an encounter with God?"*

Richard Rohr Meditation: Participation from The Center for Action and Contemplation on Sunday, August 11, 2019.

Well, it's been a little over a year since I moved to Grants Pass to serve as rector at St. Luke's Episcopal Church. Here are the frequently asked questions that I get in and out of the church. How do you like it so far? My response, so far so good. Are you adjusting to living in a small town? I am, it's not so bad. I can always go the big, bad city of Medford! I am doing well and all the people I've encountered and friendly, polite and helpful.

Whenever you move to a new church or begin a new job no matter where, there are always expectations to deal with. In this case, there are expectations from members of the congregation, from the Diocese, the community and I have my own expectations of self and the congregation.

What are some of the things we expect from our church? To be a place of community, fellowship and support where we come to share the Word of God. How are some of the ways we contribute and participate in the worship and building of community in our churches or do we expect to contribute at all? Do we expect to come to worship, no questions asked and no commitment required? What is church for you? A social club, an exclusive club, a community that keeps you from being alone, a house of worship for all of God's people. When you come to church, are you open to experience God, your neighbor or are you troubled by the burdens of the week just ended? God accepts all comers.

What does church expect from us? When we walk through the doors on

Sunday, what is the condition of your soul? What do we do with the Word of God that we hear each Sunday? Does it stay in church or do we take it with us trying to live it through our actions and choices. Do you allow the Word of God to transform and change you into that "New Creation" that the apostle Paul talks about in 2 Corinthians 5:17 (NRSV) *"So if anyone is in Christ, there is a new creation: everything old has passed away; see, everything has become new!"*

Are we in the process of becoming new in Christ? If so, awesome! If not, why not, what's keeping you from becoming that "New Creation? What are the obstructions?

So how would you, I, we respond to the question that is at the beginning of this article? Does your life show any evidence of your encounter with the living God and the Word that became flesh and dwells among us Jesus his son?

Rev. Ernestine †



### Special points of interest:

- Treasurer's Report
- Progressive Dinner

*More information Inside!*

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## Treasurer's Report — by Myrna Rafalovich



### Year to Date 2019

2019 Pledge Budget	\$61,333.00
Paid Pledges	<u>\$61,995.00</u>
In the Black	<b>\$661.00</b>

### As of August 31, 2019: for the month of August:

Current Budget	\$7,667.00
Paid Pledges	<u>\$10,627.00</u>
In the Black for August	<b>\$2,960.00</b>

## Special Dates & Events

**Sept. 2** (Mon.) Labor Day — offices closed

**Sept. 4** (Wed.) 7:00 p.m. Choir practice starts up again

**Sept. 8** (Sun.) National Grandparents Day; 11:30 a.m. Potluck Lunch; 2:00 p.m. Ultreya

**Sept. 11** (Wed.) Patriot Day; 11:00 a.m. Pastoral Care Meeting

**Sept. 14** (Sat.) Holy Cross Day

**Sept. 15 — Oct. 15** Hispanic Heritage Month

**Sept. 17** (Tues.) Constitution Day

**Sept. 21** (Sat.) St. Matthew, Apostle & Evangelist; 6-9 p.m. Progressive Dinner (see article); ECW Annual Meeting at Holy Spirit, Sutherlin

**Sept. 22** (Sun) 11:30 a.m. Worship Committee Meeting; African Team Ministries Sale

**Sept. 23** (Mon.) First Day of Fall

**Sept. 29** (Sun.) 11:30 a.m. Altar Guild Meeting' African Team Ministries Sale

**Sept. 30** (Mon.) St. Michael & All Angels



## Office Note

If you are new to St. Luke's and would like to be on our newsletter mailing list, be contacted by the rector, find out more about ministries, and/or be added in as a new parishioner, please fill out a yellow information sheet located in the vestibule and place it in the collection plate or get it to the parish office. We want to know you and welcome you! Thank you.

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## Sr. Warden's Report — by Jim Huber

August 26, 2019



Dear Fellow Parishioners,

I confess to being one of those kinds of people who delight in making lists of things to do and then taking even greater delight in scratching them off, once done. There are some items however, that never seem to get done, but let's not talk about them!

I thought it would be a good way to wrap up August, the last month of glorious summer, with a list of things that are going on at St. Luke's. Of course, there is always the danger that something gets overlooked and doesn't make the list, so let me add the caveat that the list probably is incomplete and that I apologize beforehand if someone feels shortchanged.

To begin, last Saturday was a busy day as several people showed up to paint the new shed. Thanks and compliments to the painters, as it was very professionally done. While that was underway, another group was moving pews behind the altar to create a V-shape. This was accomplished at no cost except for a lot of effort, with the objective in mind to improve and enhance the quality of the sound of the Choir.

Energy flows toward a Progressive Dinner planned for September 21, with proceeds going to the Choir. In the following month, we will host a rummage sale on October 12 with proceeds going to the Altar Guild. While we also had great ambitions of staging a music concert sometime in the fall, a Concert Committee has been formed and decided to move it to next year. The goal is have a gentleman named Lasana Kanneh from Liberia perform for attendees. While hopefully he will be the star, other activities also are planned for the evening.

Twenty-six people responded to the questionnaire that will guide the Strategic Planning Committee in their work. Although the deadline for submitting responses has passed, the Committee gladly will forgive tardiness and accept your answers. (If you have not filled one out, please do so.) I also noticed in last week's bulletin that our year-to-date pledge shortfall has shrunk to a little over \$800.00, which is very positive and encouraging financial news.

Finally, I would be remiss not to mention those other, on-going activities that are integral parts of our Church life. Work of the Altar Guild, the Healing Ministry and the Pastoral Care Team come to mind. Our efforts to help feed, clothe and provide school supplies to the children of Ft. Vannoy also must be remembered.

In the past, we have talked about the importance of giving of our time, treasures and talents. Ours is an impressive list of activities and events, proof indeed that we are doing exactly that. So, a hearty congratulations to all of us is well deserved!

The next time you see a fellow parishioner take a moment to look him or her in the eye, smile, shake a hand or give a pat on the back, happy and proud in the knowledge that we are a people who know how to get things done!

Sincerely,

Jim Huber, Senior Warden





- 1 Bruce Mimnaugh
- 10 Dick Griffiths
- 12 Marlene Brown
- 13 Durfee Bedsole
- 15 Blenda Wingate
- 22 Joanne Taxelius
- 25 Carrie Tanner



## Jr. Warden's Report — by Dennis James

On August 24 and 27 volunteers Phill Coash, Bridget Garvin, Jim Huber, Concetta and Darrell Buckner, John Kirschner and Mimi Johnston painted the new storage shed for the church.

The old shed will be removed soon after the contents are stored in the new building. Shelving will be provided this Fall. Shelving will be portable and flexible.

If anyone would like to take the old shed once vacant, please contact the church office. After that, we will list the old shed on Freecycle.org. If that does not remove it a professional recycler will be used.



Choir practice starts up again on Wednesday, Sept. 4th at 7:00 p.m. The choir practices each week in the sanctuary, usually for an hour and a half. If you like to sing, like music and want to enjoy fellowship with other singers, please come and join us.



The annual Progressive Dinner is September 21, Saturday. Our theme this year is Argentina. We will have three houses to visit. First is Susan Lee Hall's house for appetizers,. Second is Laurel's for the main dish and third is Suzanne's for dessert. Unfortunately, we can only accommodate 26 or 27 people. If you are interested in coming, the reservation list is on the kitchen door. Go ahead and add your name even if the list is full. We do have times when people change their minds and decide not to come.

This is a fundraiser for our Choir. There is no set fee but we would hope that you donate \$25 or more per person. It is a great bargain and lots of fun.

The progression will begin at 6 pm and end somewhere around 9 pm. If you have any questions about it, just send me a message at [adrox1@gmail.com](mailto:adrox1@gmail.com). Laurel Samson

**Saint Luke's  
Episcopal Church**

224 NW D Street  
Grants Pass, OR 97526-2042

Phone: 541-476-2493

Fax: 541-476-9942

Email:

stlukesgrantspass@gmail.com

**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 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.



**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**  
(614) 599-0098

rectorstlukesgp@gmail.com

**ST. LUKE'S OFFICERS & VESTRY**

Jim Huber, Sr. Warden (2021)  
Dennis James (2020) Jr. Warden  
Myrna Rafalovich, Treasurer  
Laurel Samson, Clerk of the Vestry  
Concetta Buckner (2022)  
Bridget Garvin (2021)  
Susan Lee Hall (2020)  
Juli Mimnaugh (2021)  
Michael Riding (2021)  
Hana Rubens (2020)  
Lee Smith (2022)  
Scott Swindells (2020)