



# Luke's Log

## St. Luke's Rector's Report by Rev. Ernestein C. Flemister

This is my second annual report to you, the people of St. Luke's Episcopal Church, Grants Pass, Oregon. After a year and a half, I have a better feel and understanding of St. Luke's and Grants Pass. I have listened, heard, and talked to many of you about St. Luke's. I have heard about your wishes, hopes and dreams for St. Luke's and I pray that we can discern what Almighty God is calling us to be and do in this place. I know what has been said about who we are and what had been said about who we want to be, but I don't know if we are prepared to make the necessary sacri-

fices to get there. It is a very challenging time in the life of a congregation when we're growing older and want to see our beloved community transition and grow into a flourishing space for all to be fed and nourished. What legacy do we want to leave in Grants Pass? What are and what will people say about St. Luke's Episcopal Church?

I hope we can be a "Healthy Congregation" that will look inward and outward and be the messengers of the "Good News" of Jesus Christ. To truly make that possible, we need intentional prayer to discern what is God's will and be determined to follow it without fear and filled with courage and wisdom. We need to pray and understand the sacrifices and changes that need to take place.

And above all, we need to be courageous and trust God to guide and help us overcome our fear of the unknown. We need to be open to the possibilities that God has in store for us and not fear the opportunities that come our way. For with God, all things are possible.

Faithfully submitted,

Ernestein C. Flemister ✠  
Rector

*Editor's note: Rector's Report and others from the Annual Meeting on Jan. 26th have been reprinted for your information as the Rev. Ernestein recuperates from surgery.*

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### Special points of interest:

- Treasurer's Report
- Sr. Warden's Report

More information Inside!

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## Treasurer's Report — by Myrna Rafalovich



### Year to Date 2019

2019 Pledges	\$92,000.00
Pledge Payments	<u>\$89,248.00</u>
Shortfall	<b>\$2,752.00</b>

### From the Annual Report for 2019:

We are embarking on a new operating program for the Treasurer at St. Luke's. Laurel Samson and I will be working as co-Treasurers. I believe it is a good thing for St. Luke's and know that it will be a good thing for me. As we go along, I will be stepping back from "lead."

Thank you all for your support throughout the years. We have much to be proud of and hopeful for.

### St. Luke's Memorial Trust Fund

The Trust Fund was established in 1986 by Fr. Chester Shulda to endow St. Luke's in perpetuity.

The funds are administered by a five-person Board of Directors:

Myrna Rafalovich, Chairperson  
Juli Mimnaugh  
Dennis James  
Joani Bristol  
Concetta Buckner

The investment of funds is handled by the firm of Edward D. Jones.

There are three goals for St. Luke's Memorial Trust Fund and are listed in order of priority:

1. Preserve the Principal
2. Provide income to the church

***(cont'd. on next page)***

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3. Grow the funds as a hedge against inflation

**SLMTF Summary**

Total Portfolio Value	\$749,069
1 month ago	\$736,853
1 year ago	\$669,699
3 years ago	\$624,848
5 years ago	\$609,925
Earnings for 2019	\$79,370
Portfolio Value (EDJ)	\$749,069
SLMTF Cash Acct. (Evergreen)	\$ <u>13,679</u>
Total Trust Holdings	\$762,748

Our investment strategy is clearly working.



- 1 Sharon DeShaw
- 5 Karen Aber, Mimi Johnston
- 11 Laura Dunwald Uhlig
- 18 Starr Hungate
- 20 Gary Jordan
- 23 Jim Huber, Tim Roberts
- 24 Vonnie Hardy

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## Senior Warden's Report – by Jim Huber

I am sure most of you have heard the saying that “...the days are long and the years are short.” As I write this message for our annual meeting, it certainly feels that way. While we have had some very long days and struggled with difficult issues, it seems like only yesterday that we were getting ready to sit down at *last year's* annual meeting. Yes, another one already is upon us.

To begin, I must thank everyone who has given of their “time, talent and treasure” throughout the year, without whom we could not worship and continue the important work we do. I do not want to single out individuals for fear of omitting someone or some group however, an exception I will make is to thank Dennis James, our outgoing Junior Warden. Under his diligence, stewardship and attention to detail, the Church is in excellent physical condition. Certainly, there is more to be done and inevitably something will need to be repaired or replaced, but during his tenure as Junior Warden, Dennis has done an exceptional job. Also, I would be remiss not to mention Scott Swindells and Hana Rubens, outgoing members of the Vestry, and thank them for their valuable service.

It has been an interesting year from different perspectives, but particularly from this one: we try to balance meeting our ongoing duties, responsibilities and activities that we have taken on over the years as we add new activities and seek new opportunities for growth. I like to think of it as trying “...to keep the wheels on the cart...” as we blaze off in new directions.

The Annual Report for 2019 is filled with information on what we have done throughout the year and you can read and learn about this at your leisure. Without being repetitious, I would briefly like to mention some of the new things we are doing as we continue our ongoing work. A need and desire to move in new directions has resulted in the creation of four new committees, each with a unique mission and purpose. They are Social Justice, Outreach, Fundraising and Strategic Planning. Again, you can read the individual reports on each of these, but I want to highlight them as evidence of our renewed efforts to stay vibrant and relevant in our community and in the modern world in which we live.

Maintaining what has been done in the past and taking on new activities is a huge task, regardless of the size of a congregation. Although ours is not the largest, we do not shy away from engaging ourselves in those things in which we believe we share a responsibility. Things like feeding the homeless in the park, lending our support to Foundry Village and preparing a strategic plan for the near future are only a few that come to mind.

My request is that each one of you, myself included, pay attention, try to remain open to changes you may see and to new things we take on, and help out whenever you can. We are individuals who comprise a larger group, in this case the congregation of St. Luke's. When we work together, with each contributing whatever he or she is capable of, we can move mountains!

Sincerely,

Jim Huber

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

**S**ince the submission of the Junior Warden's Report for 2018 significant events have occurred in the restoration of the church's physical structure.

During 2019 the church submitted its application for a grant to cover some of the costs of restoration. This grant was approved for the sum of \$40,000. This was applied to previous costs as well as future projects. At the beginning of 2019 the church anticipated the following:

1. Replacing the windows in the sanctuary
2. Replacing the red doors at the narthex (vestibule)
3. Replacing the double doors at the entrance to the parish hall
4. Replacing the outer doors to the kitchen library/guild room
5. Replacing the old storage shed with a new structure

All of these projects will be completed before the Annual Meeting on January 26, 2020. The kitchen outer door is scheduled for installation during the week of January 6, 2020.

The parish has spent in excess of \$40,000 on these improvements during 2019. The shed for storage provided an opportunity for volunteers to paint the structure, and we had volunteers in abundance who came forward to do their part.

Volunteers have maintained the rose garden bushes and trees surrounding the church. The lawn has been maintained with regular mowing, weeding and fertilizing. Thank you to all who help.

I have submitted for approval in our 2020 budget items to make the exterior care of the church more in keeping with our aging population. These items include:

1. A self-propelled lawnmower
2. Electric leaf blower
3. Gardening implements

Volunteers have saved St. Luke's thousands of dollars annually. Thank you to all volunteers.

We have deferred fixing the irrigation station(s) bordering 4<sup>th</sup> Street because of the cost of installation of new equipment. However, at some time this will need to be addressed.

Other items to be considered in the coming year(s):

1. A new comprehensive church sound system
2. Painting the ceiling of St. Luke's to address the areas that have deteriorated over time and prior to our current roof's installation

These are large ticket items that grant applications will be needed for in order to seek funding. Thank you for your support during my tenure.

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## Special Dates & Events

**February** — African-American History Month

**Feb. 2** (Sun.) The Presentation of our Lord Jesus Christ in the Temple; one service at **9:00 a.m.** of Morning Prayer — Lynn Hughes, Officiant

**Feb. 5** (Wed.) No 12:15 p.m. Holy Eucharist

**Feb. 9** (Sun.) One service at **9:00 a.m.** of Morning Prayer — Joani Bristol, Officiant

**Feb. 12** (Wed.) Lincoln's Birthday; 11:00 a.m. Pastoral Care Committee; 12:15 p.m. Holy Eucharist; 1:00 p.m. Book Study: *Everything Fits* by Richard Rohr. Note: all tentative upon the rector's recovery from surgery.

**Feb. 13** (Thurs.) 1:00 p.m. Torah Study at Newman UMC; 7:00 p.m. Vestry Meeting

**Feb. 14** (Fri.) **St. Valentine's Day**

**Feb. 16** (Sun.) Focus of service: Absalom Jones, priest 1818; 11:30 a.m. Social Justice Committee

**Feb. 17** (Mon.) Presidents' Day — offices closed

**Feb. 22** (Sat.) Washington's Birthday

**Feb. 23** (Sun.) 11:30 a.m. Sandwich-making for Ministry in the Park

**Feb. 24** (Mon.) St. Matthias, the Apostle

**Feb. 26** (Wed.) **Ash Wednesday**; 12:15 and 7:00 p.m. Ash Wednesday service with Imposition of Ashes

***For regular meetings and dates please refer to the February calendar.***



**IT'S LEAP YEAR!**

**Saint Luke's  
Episcopal Church**

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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

**THURSDAY**

8:00 a.m. Morning  
Prayer

**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)  
Myrna Rafalovich, Treasurer  
Laurel Samson, Clerk of the Vestry  
Concetta Buckner (2022)  
Bridget Garvin (2021)  
Susan Lee Hall (2023)  
Vonnie Hardy (2023)  
Juli Mimnaugh (2021)  
Michael Riding (2021)  
Lee Smith (2022)  
Blenda Wingate (2023)