



*Saint Luke's Episcopal Church*

*Volume 105 Issue 105*

*December 2022*

# Luke's Log

## Planting Seeds — December 2022

**D**ear St. Luke's Family,

On November 27<sup>th</sup>, we began a new church year with the season of Advent. During Advent we are asked to prepare ourselves for the second coming of Jesus Christ. Advent is a season of split requests; we prepare by repenting of our sins, make changes, then wait for Jesus's return. We are also waiting in great excitement for Jesus's presence among us—Emmanuel God with us. So, I invite you all to participate in our Advent tasks while waiting for our Lord's return to us once again.

I wish you all a Very Merry Christmas and a Joyous and Happy New Year in 2023! Rev. E.

### ***First Coming by Madeleine L'Engle***

He did not wait till the world was ready,  
till men and nations were at peace.  
He came when the Heavens were unsteady,  
and prisoners cried out for release.

He did not wait for the perfect time.  
He came when the need was deep and great.  
He dined with sinners in all their grime,  
turned water into wine.

He did not wait till hearts were pure.  
In joy he came to a tarnished world of sin and doubt.  
To a world like ours, of anguished shame  
he came, and his Light would not go out.

He came to a world which did not mesh,  
to heal its tangles, shield its scorn.  
In the mystery of the Word made Flesh  
the Maker of the stars was born.

We cannot wait till the world is sane  
to raise our songs with joyful voice,  
for to share our grief, to touch our pain,  
He came with Love: Rejoice! Rejoice!

### **Inside this issue:**

Special Dates & Events 2

In Our Prayers 2

Sr. Warden's Report 3

Birthdays 3

Quilting News 4

ECW Advent Tea 4

Social Justice Committee Report 4



### **Special points of interest:**

- *Special Dates & Events*
- *More information inside!*



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## Special Dates & Events

- Dec. 3** (Sat.) 10-3 Needle & Thread Quilt Sale & Raffle; you don't have to be present to win the raffle. Also, Gardening Angels general clean-up 10-12 noon.
- Dec. 4** (Sun.) The Second Sunday of Advent
- Dec. 5** (Mon.) 5-7 p.m. *On Sacred Ground* (via Zoom)
- Dec. 7** (Wed.) Pearl Harbor Remembrance Day
- Dec. 10** (Sat.) 1-3 p.m. ECW Advent Tea
- Dec. 11** (Sun.) The Third Sunday of Advent; 6:30 p.m. Celtic Service on "Radiant Light" at Trinity, Ashland
- Dec. 12** (Mon.) 5-7 p.m. *On Sacred Ground* (via Zoom); **Rev. E. out 12-12 to 12-17.**
- Dec. 14** (Wed.) Faith House/Gospel Rescue Mission Wreath pick-up
- Dec. 17** (Sat.) 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. TOPS workshop; 3-6 p.m. Audubon Society et-together
- Dec. 18** (Sun.) The Third Sunday of Advent; Hanukkah begins at sundown; last day to purchase Christmas Flowers; Greening of the Church following the service. Volunteers needed!
- Dec. 19** (Mon.) Hanukkah
- Dec. 21** (Wed.) St. Thomas the Apostle; 6:00 p.m. A Service of the Longest Night; Winter begins
- Dec. 24** (Sat.) 4:30 p.m. Christmas Eve service
- Dec. 25** (Sun.) 9:00 a.m. Christmas Day service
- Dec. 26** (Mon.) Monday in Christmas Week; St. Stephen, Deacon and Martyr; Kwanzaa begins; Boxing Day; office closed
- Dec. 27** (Tues.) St. John, Apostle and Evangelist
- Dec. 28** (Wed.) The Holy Innocents
- Dec. 31** (Sat.) New Year's Eve

### Regularly Scheduled:

#### *All subject to change.*

Daughters of the King — 6:30 p.m. 2nd and 4th Mon.  
Men's Breakfast at Herb's — 8:30 a.m. 1st and 3rd Wed. @ Herb's  
Gardening Angels — 10-noon 1st Sat. unless otherwise noted  
Needle & Thread — 9:00 a.m. every Mon.  
Vestry — 5:30 p.m. every 3rd Tuesday  
Social Justice Committee — 4:00 p.m. 4th Tues.  
Book Discussion — most Sundays after the 9:00 a.m. service  
Worship Advisory Committee — Sunday after the service, every other month

### Services:

12:15 p.m. Wednesday — Mid-week Holy Eucharist  
Holy Eucharist, Rite II — 9:00 a.m. every Sunday



Myrna & Bob, Frankie, Michael, Julia, Rosemarie, Chris,  
Katherine, Frank, Jennifer, Sandy, Tarr & Edna

Rest in Peace: Tipton Mullins

## Sr. Warden's Report

December 2022

Dear St. Luke's Family,

*O Come, O Come, Emmanuel....*

Now is the time of waiting and preparation... beginnings and endings. We wait for so much... it is the beginning of a new Church Year (and the ending of the civil year) and in the first week of Advent, we prepare our hearts for the coming of the Lord. We also prepare our homes for a time of celebration and reunion. We prepare gifts for those dear to us as a token of our love for them, and in remembrance of the Gift of a Child in a manger. And the liturgy of Advent moves us along to a time of fulfillment. But for now... the call of John the Baptist reaches out to us: Prepare the Way of the Lord. Make straight his paths.



Here at St. Luke's, there is much preparation and waiting happening. Rev. Ernestine, in her sermon for Advent 1, called us to enter into our hearts and to make room for the Coming Christ, and for our neighbors, in whom we meet the Divine every day. Special music is being prepared; the ECW is holding an Advent Tea; the Quilting Guild is having their annual Christmas sale; the Christmas Basket Giveaway is being prepared; the Social Justice Committee is preparing to participate in the annual count of the unhoused in our community; the Altar Guild continues their faithful service as they ready the church for the Holy Days; parishioners are discerning about the use of their gifts for the coming year as the vestry plans budget and transition. And all of this prepares us to celebrate the Mystery of the Incarnation.

And, yes, this waiting and preparation is happening in the midst of daily life... as it always does.

I wish you peace in this time of preparation. One of the privileges of serving on the vestry is that one becomes aware of how much quiet good is done for so many. I thank you for this. You are a hope and inspiration for me. May you find hope and inspiration at this holy (and hectic) time of the year.

Grace & Peace, Hana

## DECEMBER



4	Frances Widdison
9	Jefferson Thompson
17	Beverly Eckman-Howell
21	Kevin Widdison
24	Mary Wineteer
27	Miriam Roberts

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## Quilting News!

We'll our annual Quilt Sale on Saturday, Dec. 3rd from 10 until 3. Our raffle quilt is hanging in the Parish Hall. The drawing will be held on the 3rd at 2:30 p.m. You do not need to be present to win. Proceeds from our sale are used to purchase supplies needed to make the comfort quilts that we create during the year. Needle & Thread Quilters

## ECW Advent Tea

After several years' hiatus, there will once again be an ECW Advent Tea on December 10th from 1 to 3. We'll have a variety of teas and snacks. Please bring your favorite teacup and snack, if you so desire, and come to enjoy time with the ladies of St. Luke's.

## Social Justice Committee Report

We continue to confirm our commitment to educating ourselves about the Indigenous People who were the original caretakers of our land. This past **Indigenous Heritage Month** gave us several opportunities for raising our awareness and understanding of the struggles that still face Indigenous people in our country and community. Rogue Action Center and Native Women Share sponsored a documentary film showing at Barnstormers. **If you missed the showing of "Rumble" you can still watch it on PBS and/or Netflix.** Members of the Takelma Tribe were present in the audience that evening and Reverend Ernestine was able to reach out and explore other educational opportunities for our parish.

Our church and our community are calling us to listen, gather and record the stories of the elders in our church. The process can indeed be difficult as we look at the truth of the role of our church in the challenging and/or the sustaining of Sundown Laws. "The stories become a journey to the truth and so even the way they are told and what is said or not said becomes quite powerful". **The Grants Pass Remembrance Project will be sponsoring an evening to honor Dr. Martin Luther King on January 15<sup>th</sup>. We hope you will plan to attend. (More information to follow.)**

There continue to be many opportunities for us to look at the history of the Episcopal Church around social and racial justice. The Sacred Ground series will again be available to start in January. Other opportunities through the Absalom Jones Center and our own diocese continue to be made available to us. The reverend Terrlyn L. Curry was recently in Ashland to discuss her book "Dismantling Racism."

Our church will be holding a book group on the book, **"Dear Church" (A Love letter from a Black Preacher to the Whitest Denomination in the US) by Lenny Duncan.** Copies are available for you to borrow, and we will be meeting on the first Sunday in January after church. **The book discussion group will begin after coffee hour on January 8<sup>th</sup>. Please mark your calendars.**

Rogue Retreat here in Grants Pass continues to need paper towels, toilet paper and nightly meals for residents. You can sign up on Meal train though we all agree that it is easier to put together a meal for 25 people when more than one family is involved. Contact Concetta if you are interested.

Thank you to all who have volunteered for the Ministry in the Park. Your donations have enabled us to average 20 to 25 lunch bags a week. This past month our bags have also included a pair of socks thanks to your generosity. **In January we will welcome your involvement with us during the Point in Time Count on January 25<sup>th</sup>.** We plan on having a table at the event that will focus on "Warming our Neighbors, Inside and Out." We will have more information out to you in early January on how you can become involved.

We wish you the Blessings of the Season,

St. Luke's Social Justice Committee

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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**

**S**t. 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 are committed to be welcoming and open to all, without regard to race, color, religion, gender, gender identity or expression, age, sexual orientation, national origin, ancestry, disability or genetic information.

We are the people of God and a community seeking to live out the truth of the Gospel of Jesus Christ. We seek to love God and our neighbors as we love ourselves. We want to build collaborative and creative partnerships with our community to truly make it the beloved community of God. 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 power of Jesus's love.



**ST. LUKE'S SERVICE  
SUNDAY MORNING\***

9:00 a.m. Morning  
Prayer, Rite II

**WEDNESDAY**

12:15 p.m. Mid-week  
Eucharist in Chapel

**ST. LUKE'S MISSION  
STATEMENT**

*To do God's work, we  
extend ourselves joyfully  
in Christ's name to one  
another, our community,  
and the world.*

**ST. LUKE'S  
OFFICE HOURS**

M-Th 9 am-1 pm  
Closed Friday  
541-476-2493

**THE REV. ERNESTEIN C. FLEMISTER, RECTOR**  
(614) 599-0098

rectorstlukesgp@gmail.com

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

Hana Rubens, Sr. Warden (2023)  
Susan Lee Hall, Jr. Warden (2023)  
Laurel Samson, Treasurer  
Nik Grimsby, Clerk of the Vestry  
Concetta Buckner (2023)  
Bill Cowell (2023)  
Krista Meade (2024)  
Dave Robertson (2024)