



Saint Luke's Episcopal Church

*Volume 115 Issue 115
December 2023*

Luke's Log

Inside this issue:

Special Dates & Events 2

In Our Hearts & Prayers 2

Social Justice Committee Report 3

Choir Notes 3

Birthdays 3

Sr. Warden's Report

Dear St. Luke's Family,

Welcome to Advent. Welcome to the New Liturgical Year. I don't know about you but I am more than ready to begin again.

My hope and prayer for each of us is: that in this time in which we can become very busy about the many tasks and events that come with the Holiday Season, we will have time to quietly be with the Mystery of Love and Grace which brings us together.

It is also a time when our attention is called to the needs of those in our community and the world. May you be blessed in your response to a need that is shown to you.

We recently celebrated the life of longtime Parishioner Nancy Murray. Her children spoke of her move from Wisconsin to Oregon in 2013 (at the age of 85) and how she found a home and church that gave her life new meaning. For me it was a call to be open to change and grow with it. Nancy lived and loved well. May it be so for us.

Christmas Eve comes on Sunday this year, so we will celebrate the Fourth Sunday of Advent on Sunday morning. We will welcome the Eternal, Newborn Christ on Sunday Evening. Carols will begin at 4:00 P.M and the Festive Holy Eucharist for Christmas at 4:30. It will be followed by our annual consumption of Hot Cider and Gingerbread. I know many of us will be away with family and friends, but if you are in town, we would rejoice in the gift of your presence,

And as we prepare the gifts for those we care for in the coming days, I ask you to consider a gift for St. Luke's this Christmas.

Let us, the People of God at the Church of St. Luke in Grants Pass, Oregon, join together in the prayer so beautifully expressed in the beloved Hymn:

*Come, thou long expected Jesus, born to set thy people free;
from our fears and sins release us, let us find our rest in Thee.*

Charles Wesley

I wish you a blessed and fruitful Advent and a Joyous Christmas.

Grace & peace, Hana



Special points of interest:

- *Special Dates & Events*
- *Social Justice Committee Report*
- *More information inside!*

Special Dates & Events

Dec. 2 (Sat.) 10-3 Quilt Sale & Raffle

Dec. 3 (Sun.) First Sunday of Advent & Lighting of the Advent Wreath (each Sunday in Advent)

Dec. 7 (Thurs.) Pearl Harbor Remembrance Day; Hanukkah begins at sundown

Dec. 8 (Fri.) Hanukkah

Dec. 9 (Sat.) 1-3:00 p.m. ECW Advent Tea — Bring your favorite teacup and a munchie, if you wish, and try a variety of teas and goodies. Come and enjoy for fun and fellowship with the women of St. Luke's.

Dec. 10 (Sun.) Second Sunday of Advent

Dec. 13 (Wed.) Pick-up of the "Wreaths for Residents" giving wreath and presents from St. Luke's. Wreath is sponsored by the Gospel Rescue Mission and serves all their residents.

Dec. 17 (Sun.) Third Sunday of Advent; Greening of the Church after the service; help is appreciated!

Dec. 19 (Tu.) 1:30 p.m. Altar Guild polishing; 5:30 p.m. Vestry meeting

Dec. 21 (Thurs.) St. Thomas the Apostle

Dec. 22 (Fri.) Winter begins

Dec. 24 (Sun.) Christmas Eve — 4:00 p.m. Carols; 4:30 p.m. Christmas Eve service; hot cider and gingerbread after the service

Dec. 25 (Mon.) Christmas Day — no service; offices closed; Merry Christmas!

Dec. 26 (Tu.) St. John, Apostle and Evangelist; Kwanzaa begins; Boxing Day

Dec. 28 (Thurs.) The Holy Innocents

Regularly Scheduled:

Daughters of the King — 6:30 p.m. 2nd and 4th Mon.

All subject to change.

Men's Breakfast at Herb's — 8:30 a.m. 1st and 3rd Wed.

Gardening Angels — 10-12 noon 1st Sat

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.

Worship Advisory Committee — Every 4th Sunday after the service, every other month

Services:

12:15 p.m. Wednesday — Mid-week Eucharist

Holy Eucharist, Rite II — 9:00 a.m. Sunday

8:00 p.m. Compline every Wednesday

2:00 p.m. Holy Eucharist every 3rd Thursday at Countryside Village



Anne, Mardia, Frankie, Nyla, Scott, Preside Bishop Michael
Murry, Greg, Ruth, Mike, Ariel, Dennis, Michael, Starr & Joe
Rest in Peace: Nancy Murray

Social Justice Committee Report

The Committee did not meet in November so that members could attend organization meetings for the Homeless Task Force and PATH (Partners Assisting the Homeless). We have learned, as many of you already know, that plans for a warming shelter are moving forward. It is possible that more than one community agency/group may be involved. It now seems that the greatest need will be for volunteers, and we will keep the parish updated as we learn more. Concetta has information on other agencies that serve the unhoused and need volunteers, so please see her if you have any questions.

Members of the committee are meeting with members of PATH as well to discuss the city's program that allows individuals and/or families to sleep overnight in their vehicles in our parking lot. We have the availability of the portable toilet, but a water station is required. This water station would require an additional expenditure of \$105.00 a month. Hana is working on a grant (EBOF) with the diocese to possibly cover the cost of this as well as the toilet.

The Point in Time Count is scheduled for January 24th. **The Point in Time** is sponsored by the Federal Government and takes place throughout the country. A count of the unhoused in our community (that takes place on that day) will impact funding and resources for the coming year. This has been a great service activity for our church community in the past. Everyone has been able to get involved in a variety of ways.

We will again focus on keeping our neighbors warm and will provide hot cocoa and sandwich bags as well as hats, gloves, scarves, socks, jackets, and coats. Everyone will be invited to join us on the 23rd to make up sandwich bags to be distributed on the following day. (Each volunteer on the 23rd will be asked to bring enough supplies to make up 12 bags each.) We will also be needing other donations of hot chocolate packets, hot cups, and napkins. More information to follow in early January.

We will be collecting canned and dry goods for the GREEN BAG project. We ask you to place your donations in the box previously used by FISH. These donations will be collected by the Josephine County Food Bank and then distributed to the various food pantries in the community.

Thank you, Saint Luke's Social Justice Committee/December 2023



Choir Notes — by Alison Huber

We will have a young cellist (Will Bolden) and an accompanying pianist come to play for our service on January 7th. Then, on January 28th, we will have 3 flautists from the Three Rivers Community Orchestra also play for our service.

We hope you can come hear this special music on those dates !

Sincerely, Alison Huber



DECEMBER BIRTHDAYS

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

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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 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. Holy
Eucharist, Rite II

WEDNESDAY

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

8:00 p.m. Compline via
Zoom

**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
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rectorstlukesgp@gmail.com

ST. LUKE'S OFFICERS & VESTRY

Hana Rubens, Sr. Warden (2024)
Dennis James, Jr. Warden (2026)
Laurel Samson, Treasurer
Nik Grimsby, Clerk of the Vestry
Darrell Buckner (2024)
Louis Delp (2026)
Alison Huber (2026)
Krista Meade (2024)