



St. Luke's Episcopal Church

House Call Newsletter

May – June 2026

Walking with Jesus



Jesus went throughout all Galilee [with his disciples], teaching in their synagogues and proclaiming the good news of the kingdom and curing every disease and every sickness among the people.
Matthew 4:23

The Episcopal Church's ecclesiastical calendar is organized around the two great festivals of Christmas and Easter. Each has its own season of preparation (Advent and Lent), and each kicks off a celebratory season that ends with a principal feast (the Epiphany and the Day of Pentecost). We celebrate three more principal feasts – Ascension Day, Trinity Sunday, and All Saints' Day – each year, along with various lesser feasts, holidays, and saints' days (for example, the Feast of St. Luke, our patron). It's good that we devote so much time to celebration. It behooves us to commemorate the highest points in Jesus's time with us, and to thank our Creator for the priceless gift of our lives and the many blessings that we enjoy.

But if you were to ask the disciples which portion of their sojourn with Jesus was most precious, they might not mention feasts and weddings, miraculous events like the Transfiguration, the roller coaster ride of Holy Week, or even the moment when they first encountered the risen Christ. For them, the casual hours that they spent with their teacher – talking,

eating together, listening to his stories, and walking with him from town to town – might well have been the time they cherished most. Nothing flashy or stupendous, just the everyday blessings of ordinary time.

The Gospels tend to emphasize the miraculous aspects and dramatic moments of Jesus's ministry, but they were written primarily "so that you may continue to believe that Jesus is the Messiah, the Son of God, and that through believing you may have life in his name" (John 20:31). The Evangelists wrote to support the faith of their Christian contemporaries and persuade those who might be on the fence. Their work was, and remains, life-giving and essential. But for those of us who are already convinced the Jesus is the risen Son of God, it may be just as important to learn how to embody his teachings as it is to admire the miraculous things he did. Jesus came to transform us into heirs through hope of the kingdom of God. He accomplished his mission both by dying for us and by teaching us how to live.

This year, the Easter season will end with the Day of Pentecost on Memorial Day weekend. We'll enter into about six months of what the Church calls "ordinary time." Summer is a season for travel – it's also a great time to think about Jesus's teachings and how they might gently shape our souls. So, whether you go to the beach, visit friends and family, take a sightseeing expedition, or enjoy a staycation in our beautiful "land of pleasant living," spend some time this summer just walking with Jesus. Hear what he has to say and allow him to transform you into the citizen of the Kingdom that you were always intended to be.

Blessings,
Pastor Lauren+

Special thanks to Max McGregor for this edition's cover art, which he generated with AI.

A Note from the Treasurer

Thank you for keeping your pledge payments up to date. It is much appreciated and helps us to pay our bills promptly.

Remember that there are multiple ways that you can make your pledge payment:

- Sending a personal check in the mail to the church or placing it, or cash, in the offering plate on Sunday.
- Setting up a recurring payment using your bank's automated bill payment feature. There is generally no fee attached, and the bank sends a check to the church automatically with the frequency and amount you specify.
- Using Givelify online (<https://www.givelify.com/donate/st-lukes-church-annapolis-md-2j7wy5ODQ0MQ==/donation/amount>). You may set up a recurring gift to match your pledge amount and frequency. Please remember that Givelify charges us for each donation, so please consider adding an additional couple of dollars to your donation to help us defray this cost.
- Zelle through your bank account. The church email address for Zelle is finance@stlukeseastport.org.
- Sending your pledge directly to the church from your IRA thus reducing the taxable income from your required minimum distribution. You may first want to discuss this method with your tax preparer or financial advisor.

Please contact Pete Stark, Treasurer, at 410-269-9760 or starkhe2@yahoo.com for any questions or assistance. Thank you.

Vestry Summary

Greetings from the St. Luke's Vestry!

If you've ever wondered what a vestry does, our basic responsibilities are "to help define and articulate the congregation's mission; to support the church's mission by word and deed, to select the rector, to ensure effective organization and planning, and to manage resources and finances" (*An Episcopal Dictionary of the*

Church). Here at St. Luke's, the Vestry meets monthly to talk about every aspect of the church's operations and how best to meet the needs of our congregation and our larger Eastport community. We also meet periodically with the congregation to talk about what's on your minds and how St. Luke's can continue to be a warm and welcoming home for our shared spiritual journey.

We were glad to get your insights when we had coffee together at the end of March. Your thoughts about welcoming our community with special events, representing St. Luke's at community events, replacing the amphitheater, setting up small fellowship groups, and possibly holding a congregation-wide retreat will guide us when we hold our own half day retreat in mid-May. We'll talk about your ideas and come back to you with our suggestions. We look forward to hearing what you think about our proposals.

St. Luke's belongs to all of us, and it's important for the Vestry to know what you think and feel about our community of love. We're always grateful to everyone who comes to coffee with us. But please, don't wait for our next meeting to share your ideas, inspirations or concerns. Vestry members, like you, have family and work obligations. We travel, we take vacations, and sometimes we miss church. But we're all available, whether in person or by phone, text or email, to talk about whatever's on your mind. Call, drop a line, or grab one of us after the service and let us know how we can best keep St. Luke's a haven of faith, hope and love for our wonderful church family.

With Blessings,
The St. Luke's Vestry

Richard Wilson-Smith, Senior Warden; Vrej Zarikian, Junior Warden; Pete Stark, Treasurer; Terry Otis, Registrar; Gil Gardner; Andrew Schaner; Anne Arms; Lesley Margerrison; Claire Miller; Vince Durnan & Michelle Sutherland.

Love from St. Luke's Podcast



Love from St. Luke's is dedicated to exploring God's love as it is revealed in Scripture. Check it out on Soundcloud, Spotify or Apple podcasts.

New posts are uploaded each week from Rev. Lauren+.

Morning Prayer with St. Luke's

Wednesdays at 9:00 a.m. on St. Luke's Zoom, Morning Prayer is held. The structure of these services, along with each days readings and prayers are detailed in the Book of Common Prayer and can be led by both clergy and lay people.

The Daily Offices (structured times of prayer) are part of the liturgical practice of the Episcopal Church. The offices comprise of five services with Morning Prayer, Evening Prayer and Compline being the most widely practiced. At St Luke's, we have been holding a lay led morning prayer service on Wednesdays since Lent 2025 and it is a lovely opportunity for midweek connection and fellowship. The service can be accessed via the Zoom link on the front page of the church website and typically lasts between 20-30 minutes. A bulletin is provided and the readings and prayers are shared among participants, creating a joyful, meaningful, and prayerful experience for everyone involved.

All are welcome. Please contact Lesley (Lmargerrison@gmail.com) with any questions.

St. Luke's Prayer Shawl Ministry



Have you noticed in the past that there was a basket by the front door with prayer squares in it? Well, the knitters are starting up again.

If you are a knitter or crocheter and would like to join us, please let us know: Helen Leitch (410-570-1708), Kathy Dinin (914-645-1755) or Eve Waldman (757-387-2367).

Whether it is a small square to put in your pocket or a shawl to wear (give us some time to make these), we offer these as a reminder of the healing presence of God and community.

Monthly Healing Services at St. Luke's



**Tuesday, May 5
5:30 pm.**

Healing Service
**Monthly at
St. Luke's Eastport**



1101 Bay Ridge Ave., Annapolis, MD 21403



Restoration of Nature

Dedicated Offering

(Green Give) June 2-3

Once a year, St. Luke's Restoration of Nature Ministry asks our congregation, friends, and neighbors for contributions to a dedicated offering supporting trail maintenance in our Restoration of Nature. When you see Green Give emails, Facebook posts, and E-news articles leading up to this Day of Giving, please join us in contributing as you are able to maintain this peaceful "wild" green space in the heart of Eastport, a true blessing for our community.

Although much of the physical labor in the Restoration of Nature is accomplished by volunteers, some trail maintenance tasks are just not suited to volunteers. The Restoration of Nature Ministry goal is to raise several thousand dollars annually to cover professional costs for accomplishing those tasks plus other incidental expenses. Any contribution you make to the St. Luke's Green Give campaign will go directly to covering Restoration of Nature costs.



Visit
[Restoration of Nature on Facebook](#)

GreenGive June 2-3, 2026 3 Ways to Give

- (1) Credit card: Givelify, select "GreenGive for St. Luke's Restoration of Nature"
- (2) Check: to St. Luke's Church, notation "Restoration of Nature"
- (3) Bank transfer: Zelle, finance@stlukeseastport.org, memo "Restoration of Nature"

Eight other local non-profit environmental organizations mount their own online fundraising campaigns under the "Green Give" umbrella simultaneously with the St. Luke's Restoration of Nature campaign, so you will see Green Give publicity with phrases like "For the Greener Good" being shared on our church social media sites, and mention of Green Give "partners". The idea is that donors who give to one environmental organization may want to also give to other "green" groups when they learn that they exist. Some of the Green Give partners have supported St. Luke's Restoration of Nature in very significant ways, especially Watershed Stewards Academy, Unity Gardens, and Scenic Rivers Land Trust. You can check out all the partners at GreenGive.org.

If you have been wondering what the St. Luke's Restoration of Nature Ministry does and how Green Give fits in, hopefully this overview helps. And if you have been wondering whether this is a ministry that fits your talents, our needs are broad: help is needed with hands-on outdoor work; fund-raising and grant-writing; social media coordination; organizing volunteer workday events; leading tours of the Restoration; and more. Please consider not only providing financial support on June 2-3 through Green Give but also joining the Restoration of Nature Ministry as we care for God's creation right here on our church grounds.

Environmental Committee Meeting

The Environmental Committee at St. Luke's seeks to spread environmental stewardship through education, advocacy, and volunteerism on a teaching campus that heals the human spirit while caring for Creation.

The next meetings will be held on **Thursday, May 14th and June 11th**. Meetings are held remotely via Zoom beginning at **7 pm**.

All are welcome to attend. For questions, contact Chuck Gallegos (gallegoscl@verizon.net) or Anne Arms (armspna@aol.com).

Bishop Visitation



Mark your calendars for **Sunday, June 21st**. Join St. Luke's at our **10:00 a.m. Service** as we welcome and worship with [Rt. Rev. Carrie Schofield-Broadbent, Bishop of Maryland](#).

Summer Office Hours & Holiday Closure

The Church Office summer hours are posted below and begin **May 18**. **Appointments are still highly recommended to ensure dedicated attention.**

Our Parish Administrator, Dalyn Huntley can be reached by email at office@stlukeseastport.org or by phone at 410-268-5419.

Monday	9:00 a.m. – 2:00 p.m.
Tuesday	9:00 a.m. – 2:00 p.m.

Wednesday Closed
Thursday 9:00 a.m. – 2:00 p.m.
Friday Closed

Mondays will continue to be Pastor Lauren's+ Sabbath days. She is also available by phone at 703-585-0651 or by email at lbloom@stlukeseastport.org for appointments or any urgent pastoral needs.

Please note that the church office will be CLOSED on **Monday, May 25** in honor of **Memorial Day**.

Hospitality

St. Luke's offers hospitality immediately following our Sunday services. Volunteer hosts are asked to set up the beverage station and bring light fare for persons attending the Sunday Service to enjoy. The sign-up sheet for hosting hospitality on Sunday mornings is located downstairs in the Undercroft. The spring sign-up sheet is posted. Anyone is welcome to sign up to host. If you haven't hosted before, contact our Hospitality Coordinator, Kathy Dinin, to learn more: 914-241-3966 or dinin.kathryn@gmail.com. Kathy can also help pair you with someone else if you don't want to host on your own.

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All are welcome. Please contact Lesley (Lmargerrison@gmail.com) with any questions.

Light House Lunches Helping Our Community

This longstanding outreach initiative, supporting those in our community experiencing homelessness, happens twice each month. During coffee hour we prepare and then deliver 24 sandwiches and snacks to the Light House shelter. All supplies are provided and the process is simple, friendly, and a great way to connect with others while making a positive impact.



If you'd like to get involved, add your name to the sign-up list on the bulletin board or just join in! and please contact Lesley Margerrison Lmargerrison@gmail.com with any questions.

Contemplative Prayer at St. Luke's



Photo by Chuck Gallegos

*Be Still and Know that I
am God.
(Psalm 46:10)*

St. Luke's centering prayer ministry meets once a week to take a break from the chaotic world around us. We take time to be still.

Gradually, with practice and patience, the mind calms and our hearts open to transformation and to deeper knowing of God's presence in our lives. The weekly sessions begin with a reading from a variety of contemplative authors. The reading is followed by 20 minutes of silent centering, followed by reflection. You need no experience to join us; simply begin where you are.

Using [St. Luke's Zoom link](#), we meet on **Fridays**, from **10 to 11 a.m.** If you would like to receive the weekly

reminder and update on events that are sent out every Thursday, contact Eve Waldman and she will put you on the mailing list. eleanorevewaldman@gmail.com. Eve's co-facilitators Chuck Gallegos can be reached at gallegoscl@verizon.net, and Jenna Lane, Jenna.S.Lane1944@gmail.com. They will be happy to answer questions.

Lunch Bunch



The Lunch Bunch is a weekly gathering for fellowship through sharing a meal.

This Dutch treat meal takes place **Wednesdays at Noon** at [Adam's Ribs](#) in the Eastport Shopping Center, right next to the church. Who is invited? Everyone! Lunch Bunch is an open event organized by members of St. Luke's. Contact Dianne Crews 410-268-9741 for more information. Friends and visitors are always welcome. No RSVP necessary.

Flower Ministry



The beautiful altar floral arrangements are sponsored by members of the community who honor or remember loved ones with a dedication. The arrangements can also be dedicated to celebrate a marriage, baby or other happy occasion. **The sign-up sheet for 2026 is located in the Undercroft.**

The requested donation amount is \$50 and may be made either by check or online with the memo "Flowers." Please email our Parish Administrator Dalyn Huntley with your dedication details at 410-268-5419 or office@stlukeseastport.org.

Do you have a love for flowers and artistic eye? Consider becoming a Flower Ministry volunteer. If you have questions or wish to learn more, contact Anne Arms at 707-479-4303 or armspna@aol.com.

Phishing & Scams

If you receive party invitations from Punchbowl, Evite, or messages by email or text which appear to be from Pastor Lauren+, Vestry or anyone in our community, **DO NOT** click the link. **DO NOT** open the invitation or download the attachment. No unusual actions like wiring money, purchasing gift cards or sharing of serial numbers will be asked.

A good practice is to text or call the person who invited you and **ASK DIRECTLY**. Do not reply or forward the suspicious email or text. REPORT emails as SPAM to your email carrier and BLOCK texts.

If there is a need, Pastor Lauren+ includes any announcements on Sundays during service, our weekly publications, and bi-monthly newsletters. We appreciate all the support our community is willing to offer to help others. Let us work together to protect our community.



St. Luke's has a long-standing tradition of remembering the birthdays and anniversaries of our members with a card and in the newsletter, as well as praying for those who are present on the preceding Sunday. If you are new to the St. Luke's community or unsure if we have your birthday/anniversary, please let us know when it is! Send the information to the office by phone or email (410-268-5419 or office@stlukeseastport.org).

May Birthdays

- 2 Kate Dent
- 6 Maxwell McGregor
- 8 Chris Dent
- 13 Pepe Dent
- 15 Helen Wheeler
- 19 Mike Waldman
- 26 Isaiah Dent
- 28 Elise Balcom

June Birthdays

9 Lesley Margerrison, Bea Young
10 Kathy Rewa
13 Bartel Williams Sr.
21 Dan Ramirez

June Anniversaries

17 Rick & Dona Weingarten

McGregor; **Miguel** Ramos-Tena (friend of Rev. Lauren Bloom); **Mark** (friend of Claire Miller); **Jane** Jiffin; **Kathy** Sutherland (friend of Dianne Crews); **Tom** Bouve; **Max** McGregor; **Richard** Smith; **Robert** Balcom; **Jaclynn** Garraway (granddaughter of Dianne Crews); **Tom** Beach (brother-in-law of Claire Miller); **Aaron** Thomas (friend of the community).

Prayer List

Ongoing Needs: Sunniah Ngonzi Magogo; Hilda Uribe (friend of Avedis & Olgui Zarikian); Karen Sears-Wright (mother of Lexi Wright); Sarah Lamming; Jennifer Miles (friend of Kathleen Rewa); Nelida Godfrey (family friend of Avedis & Olgui Zarikian); Rev. John Keydel; Christine Kingerski (friend of Dan Ramirez); Deacon Frank Bailey (friend of Rev. Lauren Bloom); Helen Wheeler; Sammy Bernardi (grandson of Jon Diefenthaler); Karyl Johnston (friend of Max McGregor); Zigi Zacs; Joyce Sutherland (mother of Michelle Sutherland); Jennefer Trowers-Smith (friend of Tanya Bloom); Larry Bloom (father of Rev. Lauren Bloom+); Becca Miller and family (extended family of Claire Miller); Elizabeth & Kate (friends of Lesley Margerrison); Nancy (sister-in-law of Lesley Margerrison); Charlie & Family; Bluhm Family; and for all those affected by gun violence, war, and natural disasters.

Immediate Needs: **Nancy** Otis; **Susan & Phil** Murphree (friends of David & Ann McGuinness); **Marcus** Dent (son-in-law of Alastair McGregor); **John & Sue** Smith; **Ted** Fulton (cousin of Ethel Bilderback); **Hans** Bachmann (friend of Lance Landseadel); **Ann** McGuinness; **John** McGuinness (brother of David McGuinness); **Gil** Gardner; **David** Bicchieri (father of Joseph Bicchieri); **Kristin** Pagent (friend of Adrith Bicchieri); **Mary** Mineo (sister of Ann McGuinness); **Patty** (friend of Suzie, Valerie, and Norma); **Tom** Adams; **Gabe** Karpouzian (friend of the Zarikian family); **Olgui** Zarikian; **Lillian** Rachael (daughter of Dawn Huenink); **John** Gregg; **Boyd** F. (brother of Dawn Huenink); **Denise**; **Peter** McGregor (brother of Alastair McGregor); **Fay** Farrell (friend of Helen Leitch); **Melanie** Mason (friend of Johanna Wilson & Richard Smith); **Phillip**; **Spencer** Johnson (husband of Rev. Andrea Johnson); **Doreen** Evans (friend of Rev. Lauren Bloom); **Lucia** Casale (friend of Claire Miller); **Alastair**

St. Luke's Episcopal Church

410-268-5419 ~ office@stlukeseastport.org
www.stlukeseastport.org
www.facebook.com/stlukeseastport

Episcopal Diocese of Maryland

The Rt. Rev. Carrie Schofield-Broadbent,
XV Bishop

Parish Staff

The Rev. Lauren M. Bloom, Rector
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Tom Adams, Sexton
Valerie Holt, Children's Ministry

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