St. Luke's Episcopal Church is a Christian community composed of free thinkers who include conservatives, moderates, liberals, skeptics, believers & atheists. All are welcome!

St. Luke's Weekly Magazine
October 21, 2018
Please take this home with you today.

Love God….Think for Yourself!


St. Luke is known as the patron saint of physicians and artists, highlighting the healing power of arts. In church tradition he wrote the first icon, an icon of Mary and the infant Jesus. Here he joyously invites us toward the icon he has just written. Ordinarily, using reverse perspective, icon figures subtly move toward the viewer, initiating relationship, inviting personal encounter with mystery, into a wordless encounter with the sacred.

“It is said that icons are 'written', not 'painted', a nod to the narrative timeline that exists within each one. Something that is 'written' has an author, a story-teller. And the stories that are told through icons, all icons without exception, are universal stories of reconciliation between the Seen and the Unseen.”

(Episcopal Café, Episcopal Church in Visual Arts)

TO OUR GUESTS - WELCOME - THANK YOU FOR BEING HERE TODAY!
All spiritual seekers who are searching for an approach to faith that makes the most sense to them personally are welcome here! PLEASE NOTE: During the 10:30 worship service, we normally video-record the sermon for posting on You-Tube. Your image may be captured during recording.
To view sermons, go to You-Tube and then search for “St. Luke’s Episcopal Church Park City.”
If you need pastoral support or know someone that does, please call Fr. Charles+, at 435-901-2131. Remember, Charles+ still can’t read minds so he will not know unless you tell him. Calls will be kept confidential.

THIS WEEK AT ST. LUKE’S

Sunday - October 21st
7:45 AM  Holy Eucharist at the Chapel
9:00 AM  Choir Practice
10:30 AM Holy Eucharist at the Church
Children’s Church School

Tuesday - October 23rd
7:00 PM  Public Forum on Prop. 4

Wednesday - October 24th
4:00 PM  A Course In Miracles
5:10 PM  Tai-Chi
6:30 PM  Women’s Bible Study

Friday - October 26th
10:00 AM  Centering Prayer

Sunday - October 28th
Normal Sunday Schedule

WE ARE GRATEFUL FOR THOSE SERVING TODAY:

7:45 AM  10:30 AM
Altar  Barbara Andrews  Barbara Wine
Reader  Ann Deyo  Susanne Burkett
Prayers of the People  Julie Crittenden  Ann Deyo
Crucifer  Roger & Harriet Stephens
Anne Bransford, Katherine Martz
Chalice  Pamela Davey
Sunday School Teacher  Leslie Wood
Vestry Person of the Day  Deb Walter, Leslie Wood
Teller  Deb Walter, Leslie Wood
Coffee Hour

Our Staff is There for You!
Please do not hesitate to contact us.
A full listing of all positions and ministries is available on the information table at the church.
The Rev. Charles Robinson, Rector,
Cell Phone: 435-901-2131  Email: pastor@stlukespc.org

The Rev. Claudia Giacoma, Asst. Priest
Cell Phone: 435-513-0441  Email: giacomaclaudia@gmail.com

If your birthday does not appear on our list, please notify Beckie in the office so that she can add it.

In Need of Prayer or Home Communion?
St. Luke’s Prayer Ministers are available during the 10:30 AM service to pray with you. If you would like a name added to our Prayer Chain or someone who needs Home Communion, contact Beckie in the Church Office.

PLEASE PRAY FOR………

THE CHRISTIAN COMMUNITY:
Justin, Archbishop of Canterbury, Michael, our Presiding Bishop, and Scott, our Diocesan Bishop and for ALL the people and parishes in our diocese. Pray especially for St. Mary’s Church in Provo. And for all people within the world-wide Anglican Communion; pray for the people & leaders of The Church of South India.

OUR NATION & ITS LEADERS:
Our government leaders that they may live & work in a spirit of calm reason & cooperation on behalf of the common good.

THOSE WHO ARE FACING SUFFERING & HARDSHIP:
Robert++++ (husband of Iris Thompson), Rita++++ (Baden), Alexa++++ (granddaughter of Deedee Sihvonen), Jennifer++++ (Strachan) Tom++++ (brother of Joe Cordery) Kaylee & Lisa ++++ (friends of Beckie Raemer)
Peter++++ (VanHook) Rick ++++ (Giacoma) Randy++++ (brother of Beckie Raemer) Bob & Anne++++ (parents of Jane Hamilton) Matt++++ (friend of Katherine Martz), Pam++++ (Bro), Sean & Jordan R. +++ (family of Charles & Bonnie) Jean & Jim+++ (friends of Ed & Julie Fiscus) Cheryl++ (cousin of Janet van Hartesvelt)

THE HUMAN COMMUNITY AROUND THE WORLD:
† Pray for the speedy release of the thousands of immigrant children who remain in federal detention centers.
† Pray for our nation and the whole human community that we may find the wisdom to live in greater respect and harmony with each other and our planet home.
† For safety and recovery for all people effected by natural disasters throughout the world, especially the people of Puerto Rico, the Carolinas and Indonesia.
† For healing for every soul captured by fear, bigotry and resentment. May we all develop the ability to see the Sacred in those most different from ourselves.

THOSE WHO HAVE DIED……..

PLEASE GIVE THANKS FOR…..
Our Music Director, Manuel Clayton and his family.
For those having Birthdays this week:  John Swanger on Wednesday; Steve Baker on Friday and Teddi Reeves on Saturday.

Our Parish Community Prayer list:  ++  Please note that we will place a + after each name for each week the name is on our prayer list.  After four weeks (++++) the name will be removed unless otherwise requested.
The Scriptures
Proper 24b - October 21, 2018

The Collect of the Day: It is the fearful and the insecure who demand agreement and crave validation. We pray for the kind of inner strength and confidence that makes room for true humility and openness of mind and heart; with Jesus our Brother, Teacher and Lord. Amen.

From the Hebrew Scriptures:
Our first lesson comes from the 38th chapter of the Book of Job. This text was written to challenge a popular idea in the ancient world: human suffering is directly correlated with God’s disfavor. Please read with me from the Hebrew tradition by reading the parts in bold print…….The Lord answered Job out of the whirlwind: “Who is this that darkens counsel by words without knowledge? Gird up your loins like a man, I will question you, and you shall declare to me. "Where were you when I laid the foundation of the earth? Tell me, if you have understanding.

Who determined its measurements—surely you know!
Or who stretched the line upon it?
On what were its bases sunk, or who laid its cornerstone when the morning stars sang together and all the heavenly beings shouted for joy? “Can you lift up your voice to the clouds, so that a flood of waters may cover you? Can you send forth lightnings, so that they may go and say to you, ‘Here we are’?

Who has put wisdom in the inward parts, or given understanding to the mind?
Who has the wisdom to number the clouds? Or who can tilt the waterskins of the heavens, when the dust runs into a mass and the clods cling together? “Can you hunt the prey for the lion, or satisfy the appetite of the young lions, when they crouch in their dens, or lie in wait in their covert? Who provides for the raven its prey, when its young ones cry to God, and wander about for lack of food?”

Here ends the reading.

From the MuslimTradition:
Humility is an essential attitude for success in the spiritual life. Any self-conceit, whether nurtured by superior intelligence, wealth, a high position, or the praise of others, is an obstacle on the path. Genuine humility is not posturing. It requires a constant willingness to avoid placing oneself above others, to practice self-examination and self-awareness, and to be open to knowledge, insight and wisdom even when it differs from one’s own preconceived concepts. Please read with me the Muslim tradition by reading the parts in bold print……Harithah ibn Wahb al-Khuza`i tells how he heard the Prophet say,

"Have I not taught you how the inhabitants of Paradise will be all the humble and the weak, whose oaths God will accept when they swear to be faithful?

Have I not taught you how the inhabitants of hell will be all the cruel beings, strong of body and arrogant?"

Here ends the reading.

Form the Christian Gospels: Mark 10:35-45
Priest: The Holy Gospel of Our Lord Jesus Christ According to Mark.

People: Glory to you, Lord Christ.
James and John, the sons of Zebedee, came forward to Jesus and said to him, “Teacher, we want you to do for us whatever we ask of you.” And he said to them, “What is it you want me to do for you?” And they said to him, “Grant us to sit, one at your right hand and one at your left, in your glory.” But Jesus said to them, “You do not know what you are asking. Are you able to drink the cup that I drink, or be baptized with the baptism that I am baptized with?” They replied, “We are able.” Then Jesus said to them, “The cup that I drink you will drink; and with the baptism with which I am baptized, you will be baptized; but to sit at my right hand or at my left is not mine to grant, but it is for those for whom it has been prepared.” When the ten heard this, they began to be angry with James and John. So Jesus called them and said to them, “You know that among the Gentiles those whom they recognize as their rulers lord it over them, and their great ones are tyrants over them. But it is not so among you; but whoever wishes to become great among you must be your servant, and whoever wishes to be first among you must be slave of all. For the Son of Man came not to be served but to serve, and to give his life a ransom for many.”

Priest: The Gospel of the Lord.

People: Praise to you, Lord Christ.

The Offertory Sentence:
Priest: My brothers and sisters in Christ Jesus, when you come to the Table of the Lord, come not only to receive the presence of the Lord, but also to give your life completely to Him. As Jesus said, the Greatest Commandments are these:

People: You shall love the Lord your God with all your heart, with all your soul, and with all your mind. And you shall love your neighbor as yourself.

[Hebrew & Christian scripture passages are reprinted with permission from the World Council of Churches. Passages from extra-biblical sources are reprinted with permission from World Scriptures.]
Humility over Self-Will
Proper 24b - October 21, 2018

In today’s Gospel story, the disciples are engaged in a common and very human enterprise; they are worried about who is going to get the best seat in the house when this whole thing is over; who is going sit in the places of honor on the right and left of the Master? Who will be seen as superior to, or better than, or more powerful than all others?

Professor Eknath Easwaran, in his book *Original Goodness*, notes the following concerning the topic of Hell. This is a concept that is hard for people in the 21st century to take seriously. It is viewed as a kind of out of date, medieval idea. Perhaps worst, this very old notion may make it sound as if punishment is heaped upon our heads by some wrathful God outside of us; the Divine Parent in the Sky who waits to belt us whenever we wonder off the path. But the teaching from at least the mystical branch of Christianity is very different. “Heaven and Hell are inside of us. We don’t have to have somebody punish us for doing wrong; we punish ourselves. We do not have to be punished for getting angry, for example; anger is its own punishment. The next time someone flies into a rage before you, watch objectively and you will see what it does to the body, pumping up blood pressure, flooding vital organs and tissues with adrenaline, and subjecting the body to all kinds of physiologic stress.” Anger is a very unpleasant, aversive stimulus.

More subtly, dwelling on yourself is its own self-inflicted punishment. All of us find ourselves a fascinating, satisfying subject to contemplate until the results begin to accumulate. Consider the person who thinks about himself all the time, who can scarcely think about anything except in connection with his own wants and needs. Such a person becomes the most wretched creature on earth. Nothing really goes the way he wants, and his preoccupation with himself, which in the beginning may have seemed pleasant and natural, becomes the wall of a secret, private, mental prison cell that keeps him inside and everyone else outside. The habit of dwelling on my needs, my desires, my plans, and my fears most of the time is Hell; it is the self-induced Hell of the mind. Its product is a lonely, miserable life.

The more deeply ingrained this pattern of thinking is, the mystics say, the more we make ourselves a little island isolated from the rest of life, with all the unhappiness that has to follow. This is not a moral judgment; it is simply the way happiness works. Asking life to make a selfish person happy is like asking a banana tree to give you mangoes. The best word for this habit of mind is “self-will.” It is the insistent drive to have our own way, to get what we want, whenever it may cost. Self-will has a million forms, but every one of them is a kind of torment. Professor Easwaran states, “Whenever we feel life is being unfair to us, whenever we hurt because people are not treating us right, or paying us attention, or giving us due respect, nine times out of ten what is hurting is our self-will. An anonymous mystical document known as the Theologica Germanica says, ‘Nothing burns in Hell except self-will.’ No God has to punish us for being self-willed; self-will is its own punishment, its own Hell.”

In the Scripture passages known as the Sermon on the Mount, Jesus is heard to say “Blessed are the poor in spirit, for theirs is the Kingdom of Heaven.” The meaning of this biblical phrase is not “poor-spirited,” or depressed, or self-preoccupied with one’s own suffering. It is just the opposite; it is the opposite of being full of self-will. When we are in the grips of self-will, we cannot help being thrown into turmoil when things do not go our way. On the other hand, in those moments when we forget ourselves - not thinking “Am I happy?” “Am I having fun yet?,” but completely oblivious to our ego’s wants and demands - we spent a brief but beautiful holiday in Heaven, that is, we experience authentic joy and happiness. The mystics tell us that the joy we experience in these moments of self-forgetting is our true nature, our native state. To regain it, we have simply to empty ourselves of what hides this joy: that is, to stop dwelling on ourselves. The great 12th-century mystic and theologian, Meister Eckhart once wrote, “God expects but one thing of
you, and that is that you should come out of
yourself in so far as you are a created being and
let God be God in you.” Note how this
contradicts the spirit of our current culture.
Today, society sets of premium on self-will, on
aggressiveness, competitiveness, and self-
aggrandizement. In today’s competitive climate,
often those who are aggressive about imposing
their will on others are labeled “successful.” But
the accomplishments of such people are often
sadly short-lived, while the
damage they do to others can be
far-reaching.

All of us have tasted the
freedom and happiness that self-
forgetfulness brings, although we
may not have known it at the
time. In watching a good game of
tennis, or becoming engrossed in
a novel, for example, the
satisfaction comes not so much
from what we are watching or
reading as from the act of
absorption itself. For that brief
span, our burdens of personal
thoughts, worries, and conflicts
are forgotten; and then we find
relief, serenity and joy. The scientist doing
concentrated research, the artist absorbed in
creative work, is happy because she has
forgotten herself and what she is doing.

In any age you will find a few men
and women who have developed a deep capacity for
self-forgetfulness. In our own century one such
person was Gandhi. Professor Easwaran shares
the following story: “I had the privilege of
meeting and spending time with Gandhi when I
visited his ashram in India. The experience had a
tremendous impact on my life. After a long day
of meetings with politicians who were seeking
his advice concerning the affairs of the state, it
was time for him to take his regular evening
walk. Most of us who attempted to accompany
Gandhi on that walk had to run to keep up with
this diminutive, frail-looking giant who carried
the burdens of a continent with effortless grace.
It was in the evening prayer meeting that I began
to understand his secret. Gandhi was seated in his
usual place beneath the tree, and as the tropical sun
disappeared, men and women around him took turns
reciting prayers or singing hands from different
religious faiths. Mahadev Desai began to recite form
the Hindu scriptures known as the Bhagavad Gita:
‘He lives in wisdom who sees himself in all and all in
him, whose love for the Lord of Love has consumed
every selfish desire and sense craving……’

Gandhi’s eyes closed in meditation, and he
slipped into such deep absorption
that he scarcely seem to breathe.
Suddenly, I understood what I
was seeing: he had forgotten
himself completely in those
words, which embodied the ideals
of his life, and in that absorption
all the burdens a person might
carry in such work were lifted
from his shoulders as if by the
Lord himself. It was a moment of
depth and profound renewal.
Gandhi did not try to conceal his
secret. ‘I am trying to reduce
myself to zero,’ he said again and
again, and in making himself
zero, his love expanded to
embrace the world.” Gandhi knew what Jesus and all
the great mystics have tried to teach us; that our self-
will, our demand to be the most important person in
the room, to have the best seat in the house, to get
what we want no matter what is not the path to peace
and joy.

It takes many years of spiritual reflection and
prayer to see that no matter how pleasant it may seem
to indulge ourselves, every selfish craving is a thirst
that cannot be quenched, a hunger that gnaws
relentlessly at our peace of mind. Once we grasp this
simple truth, their surges in our heart an even more
powerful force: the desire to go against all selfish
desires, to be free from cravings once and for all.
That is the journey to which we are called.

Blessings,
Charles
RESPONDING TO HURRICANES

Episcopal Relief & Development invites you to partner with us as we support dioceses as they respond to hurricanes and other tragic storms.

Your contribution to Episcopal Relief & Development’s Hurricane Relief Fund will support communities as they respond to storms like Hurricanes Florence & Michael. Your donation will meet urgent needs by providing critical supplies such as food, water and other basics and will help us to provide long-term assistance as needed.

We respond to storms in the United States through partnerships with Episcopal dioceses. Our US Disaster team offers resources and training to help people prepare for disasters and provide emergency support so those most vulnerable can make a sustained recovery after the storm. The benefit of our partnership with Episcopal churches is that these congregations are already deeply integrated within their communities — they are there before responders arrive and will remain long after the news cameras have gone.

To make a donation, please fill out the coupon below and mail it in with your check or credit card information. You can also contribute online to our Hurricane Relief Fund at https://support.episcopalrelief.org/hurricane-relief.

Thank you for your compassion and prayers. With your partnership, we are working together for lasting change.

Enclosed is my gift to the Hurricane Relief Fund to assist those who are in need.

- $50  - $100  - $250  - $500
- $1,000  - $2,500  - $5,000  - Other $_____

FOR CREDIT CARD DONATIONS
Please charge my gift to my:

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Name of your church  City

Account number  Expiration date

Name on card

Signature

All gifts are tax-deductible.

Please make checks payable to Episcopal Relief & Development.
Mail to P.O. Box 7058
Merrifield VA 22116-7058.
Prop. 4 - An Independent Redistricting Commission: Solution or Mistake?

We have all heard of “gerrymandering:” the practice of the political party in power drawing boundaries for voting districts to favor themselves in future elections. Is this a problem to be solved? Is Proposition 4 a wise approach? Will there be unintended consequences? Will it really effect how the political system functions? Every citizen is invited to attend a free and open public forum on this issue hosted by the Project for Deeper Understanding. An hour of panel discussion followed by audience Q&A. For info, call Charles at 435-901-2131.

When: Tuesday, Oct. 23rd, 7:00 to 9:00 PM
Location: St. Luke’s Church in Snyderville

JOIN the Windrider Institute (www.windriderforum.info) for a free, community screening of the film Burden, Winner of the 2018 Sundance Film Festival’s U.S. Dramatic Audience Award, on Nov. 3, 2018, at 6:30 pm at The Ray Theater, 1768 Park Ave in Park City.

The film depicts the hard work of undoing racism and a cautiously optimistic vision of social progress. After the screening, there will be a discussion with the screenwriter and director, Andrew Heckler, and Rev. David Kennedy. Parking is limited. Please park at the Homestake parking lot or take public transit. Doors open at 5:30 pm. Adult content. RSVP https://screeningofburdenandacommunity.splashthat.com.
CONSIDERING JOINING THE ST. LUKE’S COMMUNITY? JUST WANT TO LEARN MORE ABOUT THE EPISCOPAL CHURCH? Our rector would be delighted to make an appointment to meet with you. He will do his best to answer your questions and to help you to feel welcomed and included at St. Luke’s. When you are ready to have a conversation, just let him know at either: pastor@stlukespc.org or 435-901-2131.

CHECK OUT OUR WEBSITE: You will find info about our church and what to expect when you visit. www.stlukesparkcity.org. There is information about our missions, finances and programs. You can view previous sermons through a link to You Tube on your phone or home computer. Go to You Tube, St Luke’s Episcopal Church Park City, UT.

AUTUMN GOSPEL GROUP FOR WOMEN 50ish & UP: Autumn Gospel meets the fourth Saturday morning of each month from 10 to noon, in members’ homes. We use books as a springboard to share and discuss our own spiritual journeys at this stage of our lives. Beginning on October 27th we will begin reading "Character is Destiny: Inspiring Stories Every Young Person Should Know and Every Adult Should Remember" by John McCain and Mark Salter (2005). Please join us for coffee, fellowship and a lively discussion! For more info please call Nancy Conrow, 435-640-0556 or nancy.conrow@gmail.com.

WOMEN’S GATHERING: We meet on the 2nd Tuesday of each month at 6:30 PM. Please being a drink or a dish to share. Our November 13th gathering will be at the home of Robyn Ramsey. 1435 Park Avenue, 84060, #8 upstairs. There is plenty of street parking. Ignore the "NO PARKING" signs (the small print says from 2am - 6am) Not partying that late!

CENTERING PRAYER: Meets Friday mornings at 10:00 AM in the Library. Please join us in this contemplative practice of Holy Silence.

THE COMMUNITY GARDEN IS COLLECTING YOUR RAKED UP LEAVES: If you have some raked up leaves Hospitality Grounds Community Garden wants them. Please just leave them inside of the fence at the garden anytime.

ST. LUKE’S CARE GUILD: If you or someone you know has any requests or needs, please contact Katherine at katherinemartz@comcast.net or Harriet, harriettstephens@gmail.com, (435) 655-1888.

A COURSE IN MIRACLES: Our ACIM (A Course in Miracles) Study Group meets in the St. Luke’s Library at 4:00 on Wednesday afternoons. If you would like to join us, call or text Ann Fiery for additional information, 304-617-5714.

HELP NEEDED: The toy train table in the nursery is in need of re-assembling. If you are up to this very needed task, please contact Bonnie Brown.

HOW JESUS BECAME GOD: This class meets each Tuesday at 6:30 PM in the vestry room. All are welcome. For more info, contact Charles+ TAI CHI: Tai Chi will meet at the regular time on Wednesdays for current or past students only. New student enrollment is closed until spring.

WOMEN’S BIBLE STUDY: The current study ends on October 17th. Our next study will begin on November 7th. We meet Wednesdays in the library at 6:30 pm. If you would like to join the group please talk to Mary Parsons.

WHERE HAVE ALL THE PRICES GONE? You may have noticed that there are no longer any prices on items on the rummage table (which is now temporarily located in the fellowship area, next to the kitchen). Missing prices does NOT mean that the items are no longer available for purchase. Rather, it means that it's now up to your discretion to decide what you would like to pay for any given item. Remember, all funds raised go to support St Luke's ministries and Mission fund. Thank you for your support!

HALLOWEEN COSTUMES: The Road Home is collecting halloween costumes, used or new, sizes fit for children of all ages and small to medium adults. Please bring costumes to the church anytime before October 28th. The costumes will be gathered and delivered by Theresa McMillan. For questions contact Theresa at 678-575-3781 or teresa.b.mcmillan@gmail.com.