



THE BELLRINGER

SAINT LUKE'S CHURCH

FOREST HILLS, NEW YORK

APRIL/EASTERTIDE 2012

The Resurrection Body

Dear Friends,

This joyful Eastertide continues throughout the Great Fifty Days until Pentecost. The coming Pentecost weekend will be especially festive this year. On Saturday, May 26, upwards of 13 parishioners will be confirmed or received by Bishop Provenzano during the 4:00pm Queens Archdeaconry liturgy at Saint George's Church, Flushing. Let's plan to have a large Saint Luke's presence in support. Then, on Pentecost Sunday, May 27, here at Saint Luke's Church, all the candidates who made the Affirmation of Faith on Saturday will be honored during a reception following our 10:30am Holy Eucharist. The Body of Christ is alive, well and arisen at Saint Luke's.

There are other ways in which we are growing as the Body of Christ. During Lent, we intentionally prayed for our ministries with children and young people. We prayed for our church school and youth group and for those adults who give of themselves for this education ministry of faith formation. We prayed for the Gingerbread Players and their evangelism ministry for the ways in which our members model Christian community with the many young people who take part in the shows. We prayed for our outreach commitments with children and youth—for Camp DeWolfe, Saint Andrew's Teen Shelter and Notre Dame de l'Annonciation School in Port-au-Prince. It surely can be said that at Saint Luke's we consider *Every Child a Sacred Trust*. This is even true of our ministry of hospitality in hosting Angels in the Gardens Child Care Center, as we extend a needed service into the surrounding community. More and more do our ministries with children and youth express the risen presence of Christ in our midst. And there is more we can envision and do!

As we continue to discern the call of Saint Luke's Church, we need to be bold—encouraged by the approaching Pentecost Spirit. For example, yes, we do have a small youth group; but what could we do were we to team up with teens from our deanery parishes? And yes, we have a wonderful and long tradition of working with community youth every winter and spring for the annual musical. But how might we offer a needed summer place for young people by expanding our music ministry into a summer offering? Also, we are nearing the completion of our first school-year experience with the childcare center. But how can we in the future reach out to school-age children, September through June, when the school day is over?

Our strategic plan—discerning Saint Luke's call into God's Future—is an audacious adventure in faith. In honoring and being grateful for all we do and share in Christ's Name, we can never be content to say that what we have is sufficient. For the one true sufficiency we have—God's grace—is always calling us on to fuller expressions of ministry for growing in the Body of Christ.

Faithfully yours,

REMINDER: DO WE HAVE YOUR EMAIL ADDRESS?

As we mentioned last month, *The Bellringer* will soon be going digital. If you would like to continue receiving it, please forward your email address to stlukesoffice@verizon.net.

If you do not use the internet but want to receive a paper copy via land mail, please call the parish office at 718-268-6021 and let us know, or land-mail your request to Saint Luke's Church, 85 Greenway South, Forest Hills, NY 11375.

***Volunteers Needed for Parish-wide
Centennial Quilt Project***

As part of our church's year-long Centennial celebration, we will be creating and raffling a quilt depicting the joyous life of Saint Luke's. The overall design is inspired by the altar: alternating blue and white squares forming crosses, with a special square in the center of each representing each Ministry Committee, along with other unique features of Saint Luke's. We hope to receive design ideas for individual squares from Ministry Committee members and other interested parishioners. No sewing skill is required, but those who enjoy sewing are warmly invited to design and execute their own squares, or to execute designs submitted by others.

Total dimensions of the quilt will be 70"x96". If you want to submit a design for a square, please see me, Joanna Guinther, for a template: the squares should be 10"x10" with a 1/2" seam allowance, and designs may be drawn or painted in a medium of your choice. Just bear in mind that they must be simple enough to be rendered in fabric. All pieces will be stitched, not glued, as we want this to be a long-lasting heirloom.

We're asking that designs be submitted by the first week in June, so all the squares can be completed in fabric by this October and assembly of the quilt can begin. We hope to have the finished quilt by Spring of 2013, when raffle tickets will be offered for sale.

If you'd like to take part in this exciting project, please see me at coffee hour, or contact me at jbg23@verizon.net or 917-494-4334.

-- Joanna Guinther

New Fund Established to Support

Our Monthly Dinners at Saint Andrew's

Saint Luke's parishioners are continuing our ministry with the Ali Forney Saint Andrew's homeless shelter for teens and young adults by providing monthly home-cooked dinners one Saturday night each month. Now we have developed a new fund that will help make

cooking and donating more affordable for volunteers.

Recently, Saint Luke's received an Episcopal Charities Grant of \$336 as part of a "give-back" from our parishioner donations to the 2011 Episcopal Charities Appeal. The Vestry has designated this small fund for reimbursing people who prepare food for Saint Andrew's, and the Outreach Committee is excited by this opportunity to allow more folks to participate. If you would like to cook and be reimbursed for the ingredients you've purchased, you just submit a grocery receipt to the office. We're also looking for people who would like to contribute to this small but mighty fund. If you aren't able to cook or serve, this is a great way to help out. Please write "Saint Andrew's dinners" on the memo line of your check, or on the envelope containing a cash donation.

If you have any questions or would like to be on the email list for Saint Andrew's volunteers, please contact Heather Hanson at hmhanson@hotmail.com. And thanks for your continued support and prayers for this Outreach initiative!

--Heather Hanson

***Camp DeWolfe Selected
to be Recipient of Outreach Committee's
Lenten Project and Annual Grant***

In general, Saint Luke's Outreach support has focused on engendering an ongoing relationship with organizations and institutions that minister to the sick, the hungry, the disenfranchised. On occasion, however, we turn our attention from physical need to spiritual need, and Camp DeWolfe provides the opportunity for all to engage with Christ and our neighbor.

Camp DeWolfe is entering a new season of ministry to support spiritual formation in the Episcopal Diocese of Long Island by providing a natural setting for people to engage in community and be empowered to live out an outward and visible expression of the love and grace of Christ. It offers a space for retreats throughout the year and a camp for young

people during the summer months. Recently the camp has immersed itself in re-envisioning, re-evaluating, and restructuring its ministry, as well as making much needed renovations of its facilities and replacement of worn-out equipment.

In Lent, our church participated in the rebirth of Camp DeWolfe in various ways. Several parishioners designed and made a Saint Luke's banner which will be hung, along with banners from 14 other parishes, in the Father John Davis dining hall. On Palm Sunday, we gathered in the money from the Bake Sale on Refreshment Sunday and from our mite boxes, which was sent to help Camp DeWolfe finish the clean-up and preparation for the opening of the camp in June. And parishioners can sign up for a hands-on project at the camp on May 5th. Keep your eyes and ears open for more opportunities to participate in the renewal and support of Camp DeWolfe.

--Barbara Gratz
Outreach Committee

Remembering Viola Thomas

On Sunday, April 22 during the 10:30am liturgy, family and friends of Viola Thomas, a long-time member of Saint Luke's, will give thanks for her life on the occasion of her birth date. Viola's daughter Myona will be present, as will other family members and our parishioners who knew this lovely lady.

Centennial Fund "Kick-Off"

During Hospitality Hour on Sunday, April 29, Centennial Fund Chairman Jim Chamberlain will make a presentation on Saint Luke's Centennial Fund Drive and the campaign projects. Everyone is asked to be present for this "kick-off" which will be followed up with a mailing to all parishioners and friends of the parish.

Scottish Country Dance Begins Again at Saint Luke's

"If you can walk, you can dance," says Isabelle Smith, Saint Luke's parishioner, Scottish Dance instructor, and founder of the Cameron

Scottish Music Ensemble based here at our church.

What is Scottish Country Dance? It's not Irish Step Dancing, which many know from Riverdance. Instead, it is a social dance form similar to square dancing, with roots stretching back for centuries. It's also great fun, and great exercise!

Introduction to Scottish Country Dance, taught by Isabelle, will start April 30 and continues on May 4, 14, 21, June 4 and 11. All classes are held on Monday evenings from 7:30 to 10:00pm in the parish hall. Each 2 ½ hour session costs \$8.00, and a special series package, paid in advance, is \$42.00. Full-time students can dance for a mere \$5.00 a session. We're looking for new dancers, and we hope to see you on April 30!

--Suzanne C. Schick

April Birthdays and Anniversaries

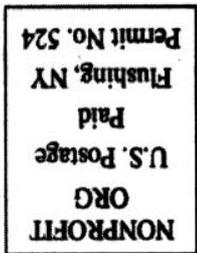
1	Nathan Lai
2	Diane Santana
3	Wayne Baxter
3	Margaret Kempe
4	Christopher Curran
5	Alice and David Chodkowski (A)
6	Alexander Kempe
6	Margaret Schotte
7	Mollie Smith
8	Theresa O'Rourke
9	Gary Carldon
17	Carlos Ponce
20	Oscar Morón
20	Marlowe Curran
21	Freya Butler
21	David Smith
25	Barbara Gratz
25	Thomas Saver
25	Emily Taylor
29	Braun Carlson
30	Maria Ryding

Saint Luke's Church Vestry

Rector: The Reverend Thomas F. Reese
Wardens: Velma Adams, Brian Percival
Vestry: Jackie Dinas, Christopher Dippel,
Louise Foisy, Ed Geist, Joanna Guinther,
Laudrey Lamadieu, Joseph J. Occhiuto,
Theresa O'Rourke, John Ryding,
Jane Thornton, Karen Van Westering
Treasurer: Jean Tessier
Clerk: Jeanine McPartlin

Parish Staff

The Reverend William Doubleday,
Priest Associate
William J Stokes, Interim Organist
and Choir Director
Lisa Duca, Parish Administrator
Martha Garcia, Sexton
Office Phone: 718-268-6021
E-mail: stlukesoffice@verizon.net
www.stlukesforesthills.org
Father Reese phone: 917-714-5647
E-mail: stlukestom@yahoo.com



RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED

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