



THE BELLRINGER

SAINT LUKE'S CHURCH

FOREST HILLS, NEW YORK

FEBRUARY 2015

Saint Luke's Church:
Worship
Supportive Parish Family
Outreach

Dear Friends,

If you were able to be present at the January 25 Annual Meeting, you heard me reference the parish-wide conversations from Saint Luke's Day, in which the people of the parish highlighted what you see as the three most important aspects of Saint Luke's Church: Sunday, Festival and Special Liturgies; Supportive Parish Community where mutual respect and acceptance of different points of view are the hallmarks of our Parish Family; and a commitment to Outreach in the wider community, not only with people in need but with all whose lives can be enriched by our various programs. Furthermore, there is a strong desire among parishioners for us to expand our worship offerings, do more to enhance our supportive community and provide even more outreach opportunities (especially hands-on volunteer projects). For the full Rector's Annual Report, as well as all committee and project reports from the Annual Meeting, please visit our parish website or pick up a hard copy at the church.

The Nominating Committee's candidate slate was unanimously elected: Velma Adams, Warden; Wolf Kripfgans, Audrey Lamadieu, Terri O'Rourke and Jean Tessier, Vestry. In the Treasurer's Report, Diane Santana highlighted that 2014 was a better year than 2013: expenses were kept close to budget and total income receipts were also close to budgeted projections due to increases in open plate receipts as well as income from our special events (Rummage Sale, Imaginauction and Gingerbread Players). And

even though we did better in parishioner pledges paid-in-full than in 2013, we still were \$14,000 short of what people actually pledged. We most definitely need to improve on this, as well as to grow annually in our giving. With an increased emphasis on understanding the costs related to the parish programs and ministries we all want, as well as a focus on giving as thanksgiving rather than as "bill-paying," we endeavor to strengthen our position during 2015 and '16. We are intentionally budgeting shortfalls (Action Plan 2014-2016) because our present parish model and offerings are effective for our mission and also have been attracting new members. However, the necessary goal is to shrink the gap through annual parishioner giving as well as the development of new revenue sources (e.g., Saint Luke's experimental Summer Camp program). The Finance Committee is also developing a long-term investment strategy and policy to grow our savings.

Again, the reports of all ministry committees and projects should not be missed. Be sure to read them on line or get a hard copy at church.

2015 will be even more rich in diverse program offerings, as indicated right here in this month's *Bellringer*. From "Godly Play for Adults" and the Annual Recital and Choral Evensong to this year's Mardi Gras/Shrove Tuesday Pancake Supper and the "What Episcopalians Believe" mid-week and Sunday Sermon Series—life at Saint Luke's is vibrant with many opportunities for all to grow in faith and service.

Faithfully yours,

**The Feast of the Presentation
of our Lord in the Temple**



CANDLEMAS CELEBRATION
Monday, February 2
Choral Eucharist
with
Homily and Hymns

Saint Luke's Shield

Each year at the Annual Meeting, the Rector highlights the Ministry of All Baptized People by recognizing a parishioner whose involvement in parish life illustrates ministry in action. This parishioner, rather than being an exception to a rule, demonstrates a commitment to the Gospel and a dedication to Saint Luke's Church as do so many other members of the parish. Yet the awarding of the Saint Luke's Shield offers everyone a picture of the sorts of particular participation that individual members offer.

This year, the Saint Luke's Shield was awarded to Paul Dinas. Paul has served many terms on the Vestry over the years, as well as being a Eucharistic Minister and member of the Altar Guild. In addition, he is a regular on Lawn Brigade rotations and a reliable year-to-year yeoman at the Rummage Sale. Furthermore, and most characteristic of Paul, he is often behind the scenes getting a much-needed job done, such as scrubbing pots and pans, at one time or another, after just about every event that involves the Saint Luke's Kitchen.

Thanks, Paul!

Old Glasses, New Sight

Do you have some glasses you no longer wear tucked away in a drawer somewhere? Bring them to church, and the Outreach Committee will send them to the Lions Club "New Eyes for the Needy" program. Prescription and non-prescription glasses and sunglasses will be refurbished and recycled to help those who can't afford to purchase new ones. Look for the basket labeled *New Eyes for the Needy* on the piano in the parish hall.

Saint Luke's Annual
ADULT EDUCATION DAY
GODLY PLAY

Saturday, February 7, 10am to 2 pm
Lunch and Childcare Provided

Godly Play, a Montessori approach to Christian education and faith formation for children and adults, has been integrated into Saint Luke's Church School program. On February 7, two of our Church School teachers, Joan Golan and Barbara Gratz, have designed an experience of Godly Play for us so we can approach scripture in new ways. All parishioners are invited, and Emily Taylor will conduct a crafts workshop for children whose parents wish to attend the program.

If you haven't already registered, please do so no later than **Wednesday, February 4** by calling the office, 718-268-6021.

Can You Help Saint Luke's Communicate?

Our web site, www.stlukesforesthills.org, is the way most people find us, as well as being a tool for communication within the parish. It portrays a vibrant and active community life, including a calendar of all parish events. We are now seeking a professional web designer or volunteers with web skills to redesign and maintain our web site. If you have such skills or know of someone who does, please contact Communications Committee co-chairs Suzanne Schick (drschick@yahoo.com) or Jane Thornton (fosthorn@verizon.net).

Gary Carldon

Saint Luke's Facebook Page -Like Us!

Thanks to everyone who is participating in our Facebook page, *Saint Luke's Forest Hills* is close to 200 "likes." Once we reach 200 we will have even more reach across the Facebook platform, which means more publicity for our church, so if you haven't already "liked" our page, please search *Saint Luke's Forest Hills* and be sure to click "like."

Another thing we need to help us grow on the web is more content. When you're at a church event, please take pictures or videos (phones are fine!) of friends, food, worship, etc. You can either share them directly on the Facebook page or send them to me at dinas.jacqueline@gmail.com and I will post them for you. Help us spread the word about what a wonderful and welcoming place Saint Luke's is!

Jacqueline Dinas

SHROVE TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 17

MARDI GRAS

6:30 to 8:30pm in the Parish Hall



All Proceeds Benefit Saint Luke's
Lenten Project and Outreach Grant Recipient
Coalition for the Homeless

A FUN EVENT FOR ALL!

Pancakes, Sausages and Bacon
Coffee, Tea, Milk and Juice
\$5.00 per person

GAMES & PRIZES

Souvenir Mardi Gras Beads

*All are Invited -Adults and Children,
Parishioners and Neighbors*

**LENT BEGINS
WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 18**

Wednesday Worship

February and Throughout Lent

Wednesday morning 10:00am worship in Saint Luke's Chapel is a mid-weekly staple of parish spirituality. The Holy Eucharist with special intention for Healing is the regular offering. However, the Rector is away from the church on February 11; therefore, a parish volunteer is needed to lead Morning Prayer. Please speak directly with Father Tom or call the parish office.

On **Ash Wednesday, February 18**, The Holy Eucharist with the Administration of Ashes is offered at 10:00am and also at 8:00pm. The later hour of the evening liturgy is to make it possible for those whose employment would otherwise make it impossible to participate in worship on the first day of Lent. The Liturgy for Ash Wednesday not only sets the themes of Lent but also offers scriptural guidance and beautiful prayers not used on any other day of the year.

On **Wednesday mornings during Lent** (February 25 through March 25) a 10:00am Service of Morning Prayer is offered in the chapel and the Holy Eucharist is celebrated in the church at 7:00pm as part of the five-week Lenten Series of worship, supper and discussion program.

February Birthdays and Anniversaries

- 2 Lydia Arlt
- 2 Audrey Lamadieu
- 3 Charlotte Dippel
- 4 Aino Jonah
- 5 Moira Egan
- 9 Lauren Foisy
- 10 Guennadi Boiko
- 15 Alodia Carldon
- 15 Ella Gentile
- 18 Mark Adams
- 22 Stephen Banci
- 25 Linda Martinez

Saint Luke's Church (Episcopal)
RECITAL
and
CHORAL EVENSONG

Sunday, Feb. 15 at 4:00pm

Music from
Mendelssohn's *Elijah*

Olivia Smith, *soprano*, in the role of the angel
Todd Wachsmann, *baritone*, in the role of Elijah
Brian Percival, *tenor*
and
Saint Luke's Choir

William J. Stokes, Organist
and Choir Director

Thomas A. Walmisley, *Magnificat*
and Nunc Dimittis in d minor
Preces and Responses by William Smith
Todd Wachsmann, cantor

718-268-6021

www.stlukesforesthills.org

Saint Luke's Annual Lenten Series

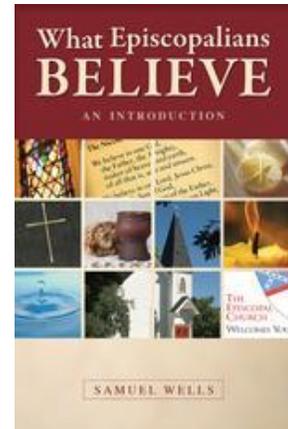
What Episcopalians Believe

Weeknight Series

7:00pm Holy Eucharist

7:30pm Simple Supper

8:10pm Program



Wednesday, Feb. 25	The Faith
Wednesday, March 4	The Sources of the Faith
Thursday, March 12	The Order of the Faith
Wednesday, March 18	The Character of the Faith
Wednesday, March 25	I am a Member of Saint Luke's Church: We are Called

Sunday Sermon Series

Lent 1 – Feb 22	It Starts with God!
Lent 2 – March 1	How Do We Know?
Lent 3 – March 8	Holy
Lent 4 – March 15	The Sunday Liturgy- Sit, Kneel, Genuflect, This Book, That Book, Huh?
Lent 5 – March 22	Incarnate

WHAT EPISCOPALIANS BELIEVE by Samuel Wells