



THE BELLRINGER

SAINT LUKE'S CHURCH

FOREST HILLS, NEW YORK

JUNE 2015

"Survey Says"

Greetings, Friends,

The questionnaire, based on ideas and themes that arose in the Saint Luke's Day conversation groups, served as an all-parish survey with a number of helpful, clarifying results. Here's a summary of the presentation made at the June 7th Parish Forum.

We would like to see more than one annual service highlighting *our children and youth*—more interactive homilies with our young people, worship themes that can involve more leadership participation from the church school and youth group during Sunday worship, and Saint Luke's Festival Youth Choir offering anthems more often.

There is also very strong support for the Youth Group's development of a monthly "Youth Night" at Saint Luke's. Thirteen adult members said they would be available to serve as occasional chaperones.

Our worship life drew the most responses. Parishioners overwhelmingly point out that additional regular services on a weekday morning or evening would not meet the needs of most because the proximity of home to Saint Luke's before/after work is not practical. As for Sunday worship, there is definite interest in the liturgy occasionally incorporating texts and styles from sources other than the Book of Common Prayer, as well as the possibility of a second service of Choral Evensong at some point in the year. In addition, a number of people showed interest in occasional sung Saturday Morning Prayer or Sunday Evening Prayer services in which the congregation takes the lead in singing the psalm, canticles and hymns. On the subject of the Prayers of the People, specifically the number of names on the Healing List preventing us from reading all names each week, there was a moderate consensus that reading all the names once a month would be helpful. There were other suggestions. The Healing List calls for pastoral sensitivity; we will need to revisit how best to proceed.

Our parish outreach into the local community elicited the most consistent response. We have a strong interest in developing a more visible presence and commitment in the immediate Forest Hills area—a local focus and strategy for parishioners working together.

Ways for enriching our *parish community life* are very strongly suggested: occasional social get-togethers with no agenda other than becoming better acquainted with each other. And one or two Sunday morning community meetings a year, following worship, as a way to enhance communication and having a built-in forum for the exchange of ideas. Another tool for enhancing communication is to send an "all parish" email following Vestry meetings, highlighting actions taken; as well as to post the agenda before a meeting, in case anyone might like to hear the discussion of items at the meeting itself.

Discussion and Study Groups rounded out the survey. Although at this time there is not an interest in day-time meetings during the week, a number of people wrote of their support for the existing short-term study and discussion programs that take place, as well as enhancing them with social action topics and life skills workshops.

Faithfully yours,

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read "Tom", written in a cursive style.

Baptisms on Pentecost

On Sunday, May 24 at the 10:30 liturgy, Fitzgerald Kwok and Henry Tyrrell were welcomed into Christ's Body, the Church, through the ceremony of Holy Baptism. Please keep them and their parents, Siew and Andrea Kwok and Steve and Tanya Tyrrell, in your prayers.

In Loving Memory

Ann Westney 1923 – 2015

Ann Westney, a beloved member of Saint Luke's for more than 60 years, died peacefully on Mother's Day, May 10, 2015, surrounded by her children. Ann had spent her final years at The Fountains in Millbrook, New York, and a service celebrating her life was held on May 20 at Grace Church in Millbrook. Her daughter-in-law Emilia writes, "Ann's vibrant smile could light up any room, and her radiant humanity will live on in the hearts

of the countless people whose lives she touched in her very special way.”

Over the years, Ann and her husband Dick were active in all aspects of Saint Luke’s, singing in the choir, serving on the Vestry, teaching Church School, and being involved in the Couples Club and the Peace and Social Concerns Committee. To learn more about Ann, Dick and their family, you might want to read Ann’s reminiscence in Saint Luke’s Centennial book, *A Goodly Fellowship*.

Memorial Fund Gift Received

Ann Westney provided for Saint Luke’s Church in her will, asking her family to send a gift to the parish. Her \$1,000 gift to the Memorial Fund is gratefully received. Parishioners are invited to contribute to the Memorial Fund in memory of Ann. A church memorial fund is for gifts in memory of departed loved ones and is used to purchase needed items of a liturgical/worship nature.

IMAGINAUCTION 2015



This year’s Imaginauction was a grand success. Even though there was a smaller attendance than usual, many people told us how much fun they were having. The music, beautifully provided by Mark Adams and Jonathan Quash, had people filling the dance floor and applauding the variety of musical styles. The delicious food was prepared by Terri O’Rourke with the assistance of Paul Dinas, Michelle Feniak, Allison Hagge and many others under the supervision of co-chair Jean Tessier.

The servers were our wonderfully dynamic youth group, pictured here.



Heartfelt thanks to Louise Guinther and David and Joanna Friedman who set up and decorated the Parish Hall, Kay Kripfgans and Karen Van Westering who helped register people, and to Terri Mattassov and Andrew Dinan, our auctioneers. We are thankful that we made over \$10,000 for Saint Luke’s! Next year we hope to do even better – we will be changing the date from mid-May to the Saturday after Father’s Day to avoid conflict with school graduation and awards ceremonies. We hope to see everyone here next June in our *air-conditioned space* – everyone save the date! Again, thanks to all who worked so hard to make this year’s Imaginauction so successful!

Jean Tessier and Velma Adams
Imaginauction Co-chairs

Gift of Communion Vessel and Linens

The parish thanks Myona Thomas who, on the anniversary date of her mother’s death, offered a special gift at the 8:30 liturgy on June 7. Viola Thomas was a faithful member of Saint Luke’s for many years and always attended the early Sunday service. In thanksgiving for her life, Myona presented Saint Luke’s with a new glass chalice for use at 8:30 as well as with much needed Eucharistic linens (pall, corporal, purificator and lavabo towel).

Air Conditioning Project

The Parish Hall (upper and lower) and kitchen air conditioning systems are now installed. As a result, Angels in the Gardens Child Care Center has extended its program to include a “summer camp” for little ones during July and August. In addition, our Wings of Song series was able to overcome a scheduling conflict by being able to offer the artists a July date in the parish hall. This is just the beginning of how the parish halls become pleasant program environments both for the church and for groups that can help us extend our ministries and offerings with the wider community.

In addition to the AC Project team of Bob Lin, Brian Percival and Stephen Banci, who have already been

thanked, a sincere thank-you goes out to everyone who helped clear out and then reorganize materials in the attic (Chris Dippel, Paul Dinas, Anne Su, Emily Taylor, Andrew Zeller, Louise Foisy, Louise Guinther, Joanna Friedman, Jean Tessier, Stan Vogel and John Tjondro. Not only did their efforts make it possible for the AC installer to work in the space, but the parish was able finally to tackle a house-cleaning project long needed.



“Screening Mystery”
Film Presentation and Discussion
June 24 at 7:30pm

This year’s theme: “Discovery along the way”
June 24: *Interstellar* – Convinced that life on our planet will soon become unsustainable, a group of pioneers leave family and Earth behind to discover whether humanity has a future among the stars. Matthew McConaughey and Anne Hathaway are featured.

Celebrating Ministry with Children and Youth
Sunday, June 14 at 10:30am

Church School Recognition certificates, our younger children assisting the ushers and bell ringer, youth lectors, Saint Luke’s wonderful Festival Youth Chorus singing the anthem, a special homily for the boys and girls, a Youth Group report on their latest projects, a special Eucharistic Prayer and a Potluck Parish Picnic following! Come One, Come All!

All Are Invited to
Saint Luke’s
Potluck Parish Picnic
after the 10:30 Liturgy
Sunday, June 14
Bring a dish – main dish,
salad, dessert -- to share

BEWARE THE IDES OF JUNE!
JUNE 15 is the Registration Deadline for
ST. LUKE’S SUMMER PROGRAMS:

Musical Theatre Camp for Children Ages 6 - 13
 July 27 – August 7, Monday to Friday, 9am – 5pm

Scene Study Class for Adult Actors
 Mon.-Wed. July 27 – 29, Tues. & Wed. August 4,5
 7:30-9:30pm
 Chris Dippel invites you to explore new skills while honing old ones. Bring a scene to work on.

FORGIVING – Healing for Ourselves and Our World
 Mon. – Thurs. August 10 – 13
 7:30pm (*Wed. August 12 - 7:00pm*)
 Presentations by Tom Reese
 Group discussions and exercises
 Registration fee of \$20 includes price of ***The Book of Forgiving*** by Desmond and Mpho Tutu. To register, call the office by June 15.



The Nativity of Saint John the Baptist
Sunday, June 21

There are some saints days we never really get to experience. So we will “anticipate” the June 24 Feast Day on the preceding Sunday at both liturgies, with John the Baptist hymns at 10:30 and a special sermon on this character of faith who isn’t just for Advent... And not to worry: Hospitality Hour will not consist of wild honey and locusts, and you won’t be asked to wear rough animal skins that day☺.

Youth Group GAME NIGHT
Friday, June 26, 6:00 to 9:00PM

Our Friday Game Nights bring together members of Saint Luke’s Youth Group and friends to play various crazy board games and party games while enjoying a simple meal. We’ll be at the Rectory on June 26 with Father Tom, and we are glad to hear that there are other members of the parish who would also like to participate as an adult presence. This will be our third Game Night – it’s a wonderful opportunity for everyone to get out of their shells and have a great time together. All kids are welcome, so why not join us and bring a friend?

--Shannon O’Rourke

**HYMN SING SUNDAY
JUNE 28 AT 10:30AM**

Vote for your favorite hymns

What's your Number 1 hymn of all time? 2nd and 3rd runners-up? Peruse the Hymnal 1982 and decide. The top three vote-getters will be the Entrance, Offertory and Dismissal Hymns on June 28.

PLEASE VOTE BY TUESDAY, JUNE 23

Submit your top three hymns in any of the following ways:

- Email to stlukesoffice@verizon.net
- Call the office at 718-268-6021
- Fill out the "ballot" in the Sunday leaflet on June 14 or 21.

Prayers for Clergy Friends

Our prayers are with Father Tony Hinds as he begins his new ministry as Priest-in-Charge of Grace and Resurrection Church, East Elmhurst. We also have Deacon Charlie Perrin in our prayers as he recovers from hip replacement surgery.



Annual Forest Hills Interfaith Food Drive

People don't stop being hungry when the weather gets warm. Volunteers are needed on Saturday, June 27 for two-hour shifts from 8:30am to 2:00pm at the Associated grocery store at 105-35 64th Road, Forest Hills, to collect *non-perishable* food items. Please sign up on the sheet in the narthex, or call the office 718-268-6021 to volunteer.

A Call for New Ushers

We need to add to the usher ranks! Any interested parishioners—male, female, senior high school-aged and up—are asked to speak with the Rector. The ushers (two assigned each Sunday for the 10:30am liturgy, and asked to be in place to serve by 10:10am) are the first people of Saint Luke's our visitors meet. You serve visitors and members alike, from handing out the Sunday leaflet and parking passes, to taking up the Sunday offering from the congregation and facilitating the flow at Communion time, to the quick tidy-up of the pews following worship. Of course, an easy training session will be set up for all new recruits. *Saint Luke's Needs You!*



LOOKING AHEAD...

Sunday, July 12 at 3:00pm – Wings of Song Concert by renowned pianist Tania Stavreva

Saturday, July 18 – Annual BBQ on church lawn

Sunday, August 9 at 10:30am – Church-in-the-Gardens comes to Saint Luke's

Wednesday, August 12 at 7:00pm – Annual Outdoor Holy Eucharist and Picnic Supper

Monday, August 24 – Annual Youth Outing: Splish Splash

Sunday, August 30 – Saint Luke's worships at Church-in-the-Gardens at 11:00am

June Birthdays and Anniversaries

- 3 Lori Sbordone
- 6 Joseph Dinas
- 6 Sheila Miller
- 6 Erica Ponce
- 7 Olivia Mercado
- 8 Joyce Egginton
- 9 Varghese K. Varghese
- 9 Martha Garcia
- 10 Peter Wang
- 11 Heather Hanson
- 11 John and Tori Gebbe (A)
- 14 Dennis Martinez
- 15 Shibu Varghese
- 18 Shirley Vickers
- 18 Kristen and Gavin Longman (A)
- 21 Lucia Tasker
- 22 Victoria Cartagena and Irina Rodriguez (A)
- 23 Sophia Lopez
- 24 Bill Stokes
- 25 Shibu and Shalini Varghese (A)
- 25 Jim Bates

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