



THE BELLRINGER

SAINT LUKE'S CHURCH

FOREST HILLS, NEW YORK

OCTOBER 2018

"...reason together..."

Dear Friends,

"Come now, let us reason together," says the Lord (Isaiah 1:18). This is our eternal call to prayer from God, our very present help in trouble. Throughout history, mountains have toppled, waters and wars have raged, nations have fallen apart; but the Lord of Hosts has been with the people. Always, God is calling us away from fear and what we do under the conditions of being afraid. Instead, "reason together."

In prayer, bring everything to bear.

Together, there can be a communal sourcing of hope and a testing of possibilities. In prayer, we reason together. Religion is not hyper-emotional or reactive; neither is it intellectually cold. Religion, as prayer attests, is reasonable—reason-ability. Prayer employs all the senses in discerning God's call to us.

Prayer is radical trust and reliance on God AND our pondering and deciding together. Prayer builds our trust in God and in Humanity. Trust is so lacking in us right now—lacking in us, in our nation and in the world. That's why we have to pray and sing out our prayer: Acting Up and Demonstrating our prayer in song. Praise God among the nations; God, whose loving kindness and faithfulness goes high, when so much going on goes despicably low (Psalm 57: 9-10).

In the midst of everything that's going on, we are called on to speak of God and how we look for God's help in sorting out the

mess and our making sense, finding a path, not just for enduring tumults but for bettering the situation. Yes, let us reason together rather than turning bitter, cynical or numb-detached.

#singpraisestoGod!

In a world where so-called leaders are speaking of evil and sinister, conspiratorial plots, sing praises! Shine Christ's joyous, bright and hope-filled light. Seek to incarnate God's presence. Be palpably faithful in all the little things and you'll be helping people take big steps towards turning tides in the direction of peace.

The Lord sits enthroned above the flood as King for evermore. The Lord shall give strength to the people in the form of the blessing of peace (Psalm 29:10-11). God's power and gift is Peace-Shalom-Wholeness-Community; whereas the devil is in the details of division.

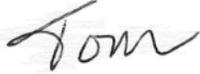
The challenge of our times is for us to raise up and support leaders who are bridge-building people of peace. For we remember that God's vision for Creation is blessing not curse. We need leaders who put aside party in favor of dialogue and action that will be trust-building steps for the common good.

In extraordinary times, in times of trial, we must stay the course. These be those times! Stay the course! Trust (Psalm 86:2). The voice of your prayer is heard (Psalm 28:7). The God who commanded light to shine out of darkness isn't going to lose heart now. When it looks dark, remember: God has shined that very same light in our hearts. You/We are a blinking/beaming light house

shining the knowledge of the glory of God,
the face of Jesus Christ.

Come now, let us reason together. In
Christ's Name, we can pray up a movement
of improvement.

Faithfully yours,



Saint Luke's Church School Underway

Class starts at 10:15 each Sunday in the lower Parish Hall. All children of school age are invited for faith formation and fun as we explore Bible stories, sacraments, the seasons of the Church year, service to others, and the teachings of Christ. We have two age groups, one for younger children (pre-K through 3rd grade) and one for older kids 4th grade and up. The older class follows a lectionary-based curriculum, while the younger class focuses on key Old Testament stories in the Fall and moves on to the New Testament in the Spring.

Kids are welcome to join the class at any point during the year, as each lesson is self-contained. For children younger than Sunday School age, our staffed nursery is available during the 10:30 service.

Please contact Emily Taylor at 718-456-9670 or erwtaylor@gmail.com for more information.

Candidates for Holy Baptism

The next Prayer Book appointed day for the sacrament of Holy Baptism is All Saints Sunday, November 4. If you wish to present yourself, or your child, for Baptism, please inform the parish office no later than Monday, October 22 so that arrangements can be made for instruction.



Wings of Song

"Music for a Sunday Afternoon"

featuring

***Baritone David Friedman
and Pianist Velma Adams***

Sunday, October 14 at 3:00PM

Enjoy a wide spectrum of music from Mozart to Broadway, performed by these two outstanding artists. The program includes sacred music, theater songs, spirituals, and art songs. A wine and cheese reception follows the concert. Suggested donation is \$15.00, \$12.00 for seniors and students.

Our Life Together as

Saint Luke's Church

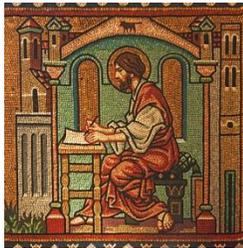
(Phase 2)

Thank you to the 80 parishioners (!) who completed the Spiritual Life Inventory. As a result, our first step in fashioning parish renewal goals for the future has a rich base of information. You shared your understanding and your needs. This will give us a good picture of the current nature of our spiritual life of faith and worship, with implications about how the church can strengthen and support the spirituality of individuals and the parish as a whole as we go forward in faith—growing in love of God, seeing Christ in each other and serving fellow humanity.

Phase 2 in this process is for a Parish Workshop Team, over the course of four meetings, to prayerfully consider goals for proposal to the Vestry. ***Phase 3*** will be a presentation of the proposal at the Annual Parish Meeting in January in order to receive comments from parishioners.

Phase 4 will be official adoption of the goals; Phase 5, Celebration and Commitment for the future of our life together.

Back to Phase 2. On Sunday, October 14th at both liturgies, our Parish Renewal Goals Workshop Team will be commissioned. Your presence, prayers and participation are requested.



SAINT LUKE'S SUNDAY – OCTOBER 21

Wear Red (the color of the Holy Spirit) or Wear Blue (the color of The Order of Saint Luke). The Choral Holy Eucharist for our Patronal Feast Day will follow the Order of Service for Healing. We'll be remembering Luke the Physician and celebrating Christ the Healer.

Wednesdays@StLuke's

The first offering of our new Wednesday series takes place on October 31 and November 7, beginning at 7:30pm. Over these two evenings we will view and discuss the film: ***Paul, Apostle of God***. This movie was released in March of 2018 and stars Jim Caviezel as Saint Luke. That's right, a story of Saint Paul through the eyes of Saint Luke which, when you think about it, means the film is going to depict The Acts of the Apostles, written by Luke. We will view the movie and compare scenes to the scriptural text from the Bible. Everyone is invited.

THE FAITHFUL DEPARTED

In the same way that the Church sets aside a day for all the saints, so, too, is there a tradition of commemorating all the faithful departed.

Our custom is to combine these Nov. 1st and 2nd observances during the celebration of All Saints' Day.



If you would like to remember departed loved ones during the Prayers of the People on Sunday, November 4th, ***please print their names individually on the lines below (using both the Christian name and the surname for each)***.

This sheet may be placed on the offering plate or delivered to the parish office by ***Tuesday, October 30th***.

Your Name _____



October Birthdays and Anniversaries

1	Velma Adams
2	Truman Eliot Kwok
3	Dennis Daniel
3	Dennis Jeffrey
6	Siew and Andrea Kwok (A)
7	Kellen John Reese
8	Abby Jeffrey
8	Brian and Marianne Percival (A)
10	José and Maggie DelRosario (A)
11	Terri Matassov
13	Zee Dempster
19	Virgina Yu
19	Gavin Longman
21	Robert Lin and Suzanne Schick (A)
21	Michael and Sherri Papamihalis (A)
22	Chris and Diane Santana
27	Ed Geist
28	Noelle Lenti
28	Ashley Curran
29	Julia Francesca Banci
30	Chris Santana
30	Fisher Brown
30	Irina Rodriguez
31	Jane Thornton
31	Shalini Varghese