

St. Luke's Episcopal Church Weekly Newsletter  
December 8, 2023



You Are Invited to the  
St. Luke's  
In-Person  
Sunday Morning Service  
Sunday morning  
at 9:00am

If you are unable or prefer to join us  
on Zoom, we will send you a Zoom  
invitation through email. If you are  
not receiving the email, please send  
the office an email.

LINKS TO ALL SERVICES ARE ON OUR WEBSITE  
[stlukesatascadero.org](http://stlukesatascadero.org)



ST. LUKE'S WEEKLY SERVICES

Sundays	Morning Prayer at 9 AM
Tuesdays	Evening Prayer at 5 PM
Wednesdays	Bible Study at 10 AM
Thursdays	Evening Prayer 5PM



SUNDAY SERVICE SCHEDULE  
THANK YOU FOR SERVING

THANK YOU TO THOSE WHO ARE SERVING

ON SUNDAY, DECEMBER 10

PRESIDER: KATHRYN SHOWERS

PREACHER: GORDON FUGLIE

FIRST LESSON AND PSALM: ANN HOLLEY

SECOND LESSON: JUDY LEWIS

USHER GREETERS: BARB BABKA

THANK YOU TO THOSE WHO ARE SERVING

ON SUNDAY, DECEMBER 17

PRESIDER: THE REV. ELLEN AYRES

FIRST LESSON AND PSALM: HOLLY COOPER

SECOND LESSON: MARY GRUBER

USHER GREETERS: HOLLY COOPER & MARY GRUBER

# St. Luke's Episcopal Church Weekly Newsletter

## December 8, 2023



December 16, 2023  
December 24, 2023  
December 24, 2023  
December 25, 2023  
January 14, 2024

**ST. LUKE'S FALL CALENDAR**  
Florrie Drumm Memorial 11:00 a.m. – Rev. Barbara Miller, Presider  
No Sunday Morning Service  
Christmas Eve Service – 5:00 p.m. – Rev. Karen Siegfriedt, Presider  
No Christmas Day Service  
Annual Meeting

### FLORRIE DRUMM MEMORIAL SERVICE



The Rev. Barbara Miller will officiate at a memorial service for Florrie Drumm Saturday, December 16, 2023, at 11:00 AM. The service will offer Holy Communion and will be followed by an informal reception. Tentative plans include a hybrid Zoom service.

### FLOWERS FOR FLORRIE



The memorial service for our dear Flower Lady, Florrie Drumm, will be held at St. Luke's on Sat., December 16 at 11 am. We were thinking that over the years Florrie brought most of us small bouquets of flowers to comfort us in times of illness or sadness or stress. Wouldn't it be nice if we each brought a small bouquet of flowers to grace her memorial service and to comfort her loved ones in this time of loss? So you are invited to bring flowers to the memorial service to be placed under or around the altar, not a large arrangement just a small bouquet in a small vase, just the same sort of thing that Florrie probably brought to you at one time or another. A reception is planned for after the service. As Florrie liked to have "tea" sometimes, the reception committee is looking for teacups and teapots to serve the tea from. Contact Alice Baker Taber if you have some to lend.

### EVENING PRAYER HAS RESUMED



We have resumed Evening Prayer. This is a wonderful way to bookend your day with a varied and brief service every Tuesday and Thursday at 5:00 PM. You may use the link available on the St. Luke's website ([www.stlukesatascadero.com](http://www.stlukesatascadero.com)) or use any Zoom Evening Prayer invite you have on file. We welcome you to join us.

### Diocesan Advent Retreat

#### The Mysteries of the Season of Advent

Saturday, December 2 @ St. Francis, Willow Glen  
Saturday, December 9 @ St. James, Paso Robles  
Saturday, December 16 @ St. Mary's, Pacific Grove

All retreats are 10am to 3pm

Diocese of El Camino Real Advent Retreat on December 9<sup>th</sup> – You are invited to a diocese-wide Advent Retreat and we hope you will join us! We will gather on Saturday, December 9<sup>th</sup>, at St. James in Paso Robles. We will begin at 10am and have a day of worship, Bible study, and reflection. You are encouraged to wear comfortable clothing and bring a journal or computer, if you are someone who enjoys writing while reflecting. Lunch will be provided, and there is a \$10 suggested donation to help with the cost of lunch, but this is not a required contribution. The retreat will end by 3pm. The theme of the day is "The Mysteries of the Season of Advent" and the retreat will be led by the diocesan Advent Retreat committee. Questions? Please email Canon Martha at [canonmartha@realepiscopal.org](mailto:canonmartha@realepiscopal.org). To register, please click [HERE](#).

St. Luke's Episcopal Church Weekly Newsletter  
December 8, 2023



VESTRY OF THE WHOLE CONGREGATION MEETING HIGHLIGHTS

November 12, 2023

St. Luke's Vestry of the Whole Congregation meeting was called to order by Kathy Hansen at 10:17 a.m. Jeanne Owen offered the opening prayer. One additional item was added to the consent agenda, presentation of the letter to Canon Martha requesting her assistance in improving communication between St. Luke's and the diocese through a communication workshop. The minutes of the October 8<sup>th</sup> Vestry Meeting were approved as corrected.

Junior Warden Ann Holley reported that wall brackets requested by the tech team can be purchased for \$300 and mounted on two of the interior sanctuary walls to hold the video cameras used during videotaping of our Zoom services and church meetings. This will eliminate the need for the tripods. Copies of the new lease and maintenance agreement with Coastal Copy were provided with the vestry packet. The new contract will reduce St. Luke's copy charges by 16%.

Ann also discussed the status of the bid for power washing, resurfacing and sealing of the church parking lot. Mitch Frederick who provided a bid last year to Mike Ferree has offered to complete the job for last year's price with a 10% church discount. A motion was made by Ann Holley, seconded by Mary Gruber to appropriate up to \$5,000 for the resurfacing and sealing. Treasurer Leann Brooks confirmed \$ 3,000 is available for the project in the Buildings and Grounds budget. The motion was tabled to allow Ann and Mike to meet with Mike Frederick to determine if the process can be divided and partially completed this year and finished in 2024. Ann is working on creation of a youth area at the back of the sanctuary for our young teens who attend our regular service.

Kathy Hansen who has assumed responsibility for the reallocation of administrative and liturgical responsibilities, reported on the meeting of the Worship Committee. Pastor Karen Siegfried will be presiding and preaching at the Christmas Eve Service at 5:00 p.m. on December 24, 2023. There will be no Sunday morning service on that day. Pastor Karen will also continue to preside and serve on the first Sundays of the month beginning on Epiphany Sunday, January 7, 2024. Reverend Caro Hall has also agreed to provide supply services once a month; Pastor Ellen Ayres will continue serving once a month. The worship committee is exploring adding one additional clergy led service per month on the 4<sup>th</sup> or 5<sup>th</sup> Sundays. Worship committee members also discussed and recommended increasing the honorarium for supply clergy from the diocesan rate to \$250 plus mileage.

Treasurer Leann Brooks reported St. Luke's is doing well. We have \$99,065 in operating our accounts; \$15,894 in non-operating accounts; \$24,959 in the Pacific Premier Checking account and \$ 53,862 in the Pacific Premier money market account. \$91,372 is invested with the Diocesan Investment Trust. St. Luke's total current assets are \$170,193. St. Luke's Operating Profit & Loss Statement projects net ordinary income

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*St. Luke's Episcopal Church Weekly Newsletter*  
December 8, 2023

year to date at -\$26,163; with the annual net income budget projected at -\$30,497. More precise figures will be available once the Stewardship Campaign concludes.

Jeanne Owen concluded the meeting with a closing prayer. The meeting adjourned at 11:30 a.m.

Respectfully submitted,  
Kathryn Showers

#### SENIOR WARDEN TASK REALLOCATION UPDATE

We are pleased to report that Mike Ferree has agreed to serve as the official “Sr. Warden” of St. Luke’s. This does not mean that Mike is going to do all of the work that was previously under the wing of the Sr. Warden. In fact, he will be doing only the 3 tasks that were previously identified as tasks which only a Sr. Warden can do. His main job will be reviewing and signing contracts as the official representative of the Vestry of the Whole. We are so thankful that Mike has stepped up to do this part of the work. Many people have stepped up to take on the rest of the work that needs to be done to keep St. Luke’s running but we still have a couple of outstanding items. Notably we still need someone to serve as the main writer of purchase orders. This involves going by the office once or twice a week, to look at the bills and write purchase orders so that the bookkeeper can write and mail checks. This usually amounts to 2-6 purchase orders per month. Once in a while the purchase order writer will need to check with the Jr. Warden to see if work being billed has actually been performed. The purchase order writer is important as an extra set of eyes, an extra safeguard, to the process of disbursing funds from St. Luke’s. Purchase orders are written by hand and are not complicated. If you are interested in this job, please contact Kathy Hansen or Leann Brooks – Kathy Hansen

Dear St. Lukeans,

On behalf of Jan Hickok and I thank you all for making this year's Christmas Bazaar a resounding success. Whether you baked, made jam, crafted items for sale, helped set up or break down the venue, we could not have done it without all the help and support every one of you provided. It was both exciting and reassuring to see what can be accomplished when everyone pulls together!



We witnessed a renewed sense of fellowship and more than a few surprises when former members and friends arrived with all kinds of crafts and food items to donate to the sale. Thank you all for your hard work. Our preliminary count indicates we raised \$ 4,212 which will be used in part to fund our outreach mission.

If you have ideas for new crafts or food items for next year, please contact Jan Hickok.

Jan Hickok and Kathryn Showers

*St. Luke's Episcopal Church Weekly Newsletter*  
December 8, 2023



**ALF**  
•FOOD•  
PANTRY

ALF Food Pantry  
**NEWSLETTER** Winter 2023

Supporting Food Security in our Communities

The beginning of 2023 was met with a wet slap in the face (or, more specifically, a wet floor). During the January floods, water coming through the wall covered 75% of the Pantry floor, requiring months of repairs. We had to shut our doors

one of the repair days—the first time we've had to cancel food distribution in almost 40 years! The repair costs were kept low, due to funding from the SLO Community Foundation and the SLO County Board of Supervisors—and especially due to the 135+ hours of labor donated by ALF volunteers, as well as those from Atascadero Land Preservation.

But due to the increase in the number of clients we serve and the amount of food we provide, that building—which ALF has owned since 1995—is barely meeting our needs. Our 11 refrigerators and 12 freezers are stuffed with food. The staging areas hold up to 50 newly-prepared boxes every day. Some rooms previously available for client interviews have been repurposed as storage. We continue to search for a larger building—with more parking (an on-going problem)—to serve our growing needs.

January saw the switch to a new software program that makes our interviews with clients move more smoothly and stores the client data safely. Starting in mid-2022, our volunteer IT experts worked behind the scenes to transition to the new software that now makes it easier than ever to collect statistics required for grant applications and other needs. A grant from the Community Foundation of SLO County allowed us to purchase the necessary computer equipment.

In June, the Atascadero Kiwanis club, a long-time partner, made ALF the recipient of the proceeds of their Winemakers' Dinner. Always a successful fundraiser, the event raised \$55,000 to put towards the purchase of a new facility, for which we are thankful.

The cost to purchase the healthy food our clients need often exceeds \$600 a day. This is in addition to the food we receive free from the SLO Food Bank—we are their largest client!—and from local grocery stores, as well as in-kind donations from organizations, faith communities, and individuals. And those packed refrigerators and freezers don't run for free, despite the solar panels on our roof. Our utility costs run almost \$1,000 per month.

ALF Food Pantry is proud to be part of such a supportive community—we hope you will continue your generosity this holiday season and throughout 2024.

Thank you—

Tim Eckles—ALF Food Pantry President



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# *St. Luke's Episcopal Church Weekly Newsletter*

## December 8, 2023



- 2: number of visits clients can make each month
- 35: average number of boxes of groceries distributed each day (often more)
- 50: pounds of food for a household of 1-3 each visit
- 75: pounds of food for a household of 4-6 each visit
- 100: pounds of food for a household of 7+ each visit
- 120: number of active ALF volunteers
- 7,658: number of client visits thus far in 2023
- 47,000: average pounds of food distributed each month
- 563,600: approximate pounds of food distributed in the last year

We work from a Sustainable Menu that advises what kinds of food (meat, pasta, fresh fruit and vegetables, bread, cereal, peanut butter, milk and eggs) goes into each box, balancing good nutrition with good budgeting—and every day there is “extra” food that is added to the main box, depending on what is available in ALF’s storage shelves and refrigerators.

And what do we need to pull all these numbers and procedures together? We need volunteers! We are an all-volunteer organization: volunteers purchase and unload and store groceries, they create the boxes for afternoon distribution, they meet directly with clients and distribute food. Some work weekly, some as substitutes, some to plan fundraisers, some as Board members. These individuals find great satisfaction in giving to their community through ALF—and great enjoyment in working with other volunteers. If you are interested in becoming part of the ALF team, see our website.

Despite in-kind donations, it still takes a lot of money to keep our organization running. Our grant receipts have been down the last few years, so it has fallen to our local community to keep ALF running: about 75% of our revenue comes from individuals—from the \$5 bills handed to a volunteer to the bequests left as part of an estate and everything in between. (Consider transferring stock directly to ALF and you may not have to pay taxes on it!) Please send a check or donate through our website.

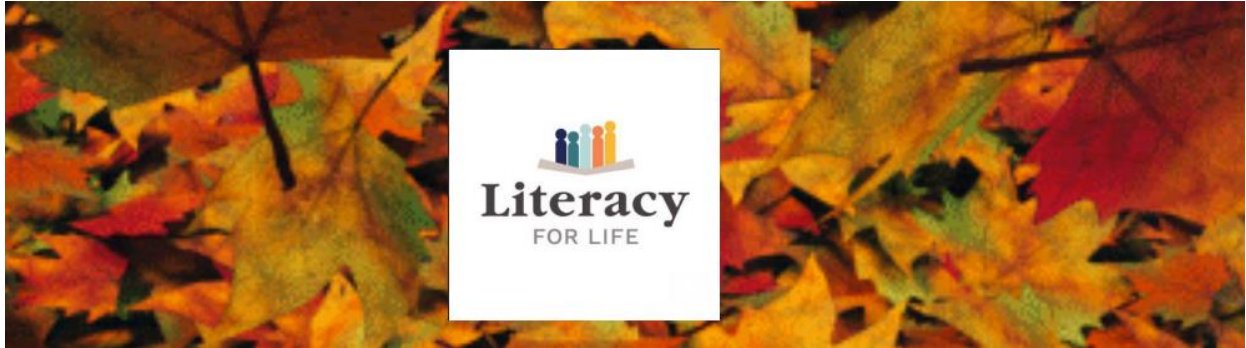
*Please keep ALF Food Pantry in mind this holiday season—and throughout the upcoming year. We absolutely cannot serve the food insecure individuals in our community without your help. Thank you.*

5411 El Camino Real  
Atascadero, CA 93422  
805.461.1504

[www.alffoodpantry.org](http://www.alffoodpantry.org)  
[contact@alffoodpantry.org](mailto:contact@alffoodpantry.org)

*(Contact us by email if you'd prefer to receive the electronic version of our newsletters)*

*St. Luke's Episcopal Church Weekly Newsletter*  
December 8, 2023



As the leaves begin to change and the air becomes crisp, we at Literacy for Life are filled with gratitude for the unwavering support we have received from our dedicated tutors, eager learners, and all of our supporters.

**Welcoming New Tutors and Learners:**

Literacy for Life is committed to fostering a welcoming and inclusive environment for all. We encourage anyone interested in becoming a tutor to reach out to join our team and be part of a transformative experience. Similarly, if you or someone you know could benefit from our literacy programs, please don't hesitate to get in touch. We believe in the power of education to change lives, and we are here to support all who seek it.

**We Need You, Donors!**

Literacy knows no bounds, but it does require support. To continue our invaluable work, we depend on generous donors. Your contributions help us provide resources, materials, and opportunities for our learners and tutors.

We invite you to share this newsletter with friends, family, and colleagues who may have the means and desire to support our cause. Your network can help us connect with potential donors, tutors, and learners, amplifying the impact of our programs.

We want to express our immense gratitude for your continued support. Together, we can create a future where literacy is accessible to all, empowering individuals to pursue their dreams and reach their full potential.

**OUR MISSION: LITERACY FOR LIFE TRANSFORMS THE COMMUNITY, EMPOWERING INDIVIDUALS BY REMOVING BARRIERS TO SUCCESS AND STRENGTHENING RELATIONSHIPS THROUGH THE POWER OF LITERACY.**

**OUR VALUES:**

Inclusiveness Compassion Commitment Transparency

We value each person in our community, their unique backgrounds, and their relationships. We endeavor to treat all others with whom we encounter with caring concern and empathy. We are dedicated to furthering literacy skills in everyday life within our community. We believe in honesty and openness about what we do as we involve ourselves in the community.

[OUR WEBSITE](#)

[click to volunteer](#)

St. Luke's Episcopal Church Weekly Newsletter  
December 8, 2023

ROOTED

*blessed & bearing fruit*

Friday, March 8, 2024 – 6:30pm-8:30pm // Saturday, March 9, 2024 – 9:00am-3pm  
Atascadero Colony Park Community Center



**\$75 Registration Fee Includes:**

- Three Sessions of Encouragement
- Uplifting Worship Music
- Coffee & Tea, Lunch
- Marketplace Shopping
- Amazing Fellowship

**Nationally Acclaimed Speaker & Author: Robyn Dykstra**

**Worship: Lisa Reiff & Courtney Spears**

But blessed is the one who trusts in the Lord, whose confidence is in him. They will be like a tree planted by the water that sends out its roots by the stream. It does not fear when heat comes; its leaves are always green. It has no worries in a year of drought and never fails to bear fruit. Jeremiah 17:7-8

Register online at [www.ladiesconference.com](http://www.ladiesconference.com) or fill out the form below.  
If you are registering more than one person, please fill out a form for each person.

----- CUT HERE -----

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

City: \_\_\_\_\_ State: \_\_\_\_\_ Zipcode: \_\_\_\_\_

Is there a guest you want to sit with? If reserving a table of 9, include reg. form & full payment for each person.

\_\_\_\_\_

Do you have any dietary restrictions? \_\_\_\_\_

Email: \_\_\_\_\_

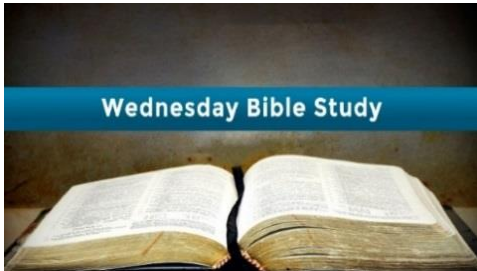
Register online at [www.ladiesconference.com](http://www.ladiesconference.com) or fill out this form.  
Please make checks payable to Ladies' Conference. If paying online with PayPal or a credit card, \$4 will be added as a service fee. No refunds; however, you may substitute another individual by notification in advance.

Questions? Call Jan 805.466.0992 or Jody 805.975.7299  
Mail To:  
Ladies' Conference ATTN. Jan Johnson  
5260 Barrenda  
Atascadero, CA 93422



St. Luke's Episcopal Church Weekly Newsletter  
December 8, 2023

SMALL GROUP STUDIES



Bible Study has resumed! St. Luke's Bible Study Group meets Wednesday mornings at 10:00 a.m. – call Holly Cooper for the meeting location.



Gather with Taizé Music Sunday Evenings at 7:00 pm  
If interested and would like an invitation to attend, please send an email to [castlewood16@gmail.com](mailto:castlewood16@gmail.com) to get on the list.

THE BIDDING BOOK & PRAYER REQUESTS



Over the past several years the parish prayer list has experienced an enormous growth. This warms the heart. The issue has become how to most effectively offer these prayers during our worship services over the course of a week. So effectively offer our intercessions and thanksgivings we will do the following;

During the Sunday services we will pray only for those who are listed in the bidding book (which you will find on the podium at the back of the church) and from the 'chat' on Zoom. During Evening Prayer on Tuesdays and Thursdays we will offer our prayers using the parish prayer list which is managed by the Daughters of the King. This prayer list is updated and refreshed on a regular basis.

We are grateful for the faithfulness of the community in praying for those in need.

We will review this practice of sharing our corporate prayer concerns on a regular basis.