

*St. Luke's Episcopal Church Weekly Newsletter*  
September 15, 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, SEPTEMBER 17**

OFFICIANT: THE REV. GRETA RONNINGEN  
FIRST LESSON AND PSALM: HOLLY COOPER  
SECOND LESSON: MARY GRUBER

USHER GREETERS: HOLLY COOPER & MARY GRUBER

**THANK YOU TO THOSE WHO ARE SERVING**  
**ON SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 24**

OFFICIANT: THE REV. JAMES ARNOLD  
PREACHER: KATHY HANSEN  
FIRST LESSON AND PSALM: ANN HOLLEY  
SECOND LESSON: JEANNE OWEN

USHER GREETERS: LEANN BROOKS & COLTON

# St. Luke's Episcopal Church Weekly Newsletter

## September 15, 2023



### ST. LUKE'S FALL CALENDAR

September 17, 2023	Sr. Greta Ronningen, Holy Eucharist
September 18, 2023	Jack Williams Memorial Service, Mother Barbara Miller, Presider
September 24, 2023	Rev. James Arnold, Presider, Kathy Hansen, Preacher
October 1, 2023	The Blessing of the Animals, Rev. Karen Siegfriedt, Holy Eucharist
October 8, 2023	Kathryn Showers, Presider, Kathy Hansen, Preaching
October 8, 2023	Vestry of the Whole Congregation Meeting
October 15, 2023	Rev. Ellen Ayres, Holy Eucharist
October 15, 2023	Cummings Fellowship Hall Dedication
October 22, 2023	Rev. Jim Arnold Morning Prayer
October 29, 2023	Holly Cooper, Presider
December 1, 2023	Christmas Bazaar

### HOLY COMMUNION WITH SR. GRETA THIS SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 17, 2023

Sr. Greta Ronningen from the Community of Divine Love will be with us to celebrate Holy Communion this Sunday, September 17<sup>th</sup>. Please plan to attend and enjoy her presence among us. We welcome her.

#### FROM THIS LIFE TO THE NEXT

It is with great sadness that we note the death of Jack Williams. He died at home surrounded by his family Friday, July 21<sup>st</sup> in hospice care. We



We mourn the loss of our dear, witty friend. Jack's family has announced that his memorial service (hybrid) will be held Monday, September 18<sup>th</sup> at 11:00 at St. Luke's. Mother Barbara Miller will preside in a service of Holy Communion. There will be a short reception to follow immediately after the service.

#### UPDATE ON THE UNDERCROFT

Eddie Evangelista, of Evangelista's Construction, our contractor on the Undercroft rebuild has been very busy this week working on the floor leveling, drywall, and assorted other jobs. The work should be completed in a couple of weeks depending on the delivery of the flooring material we selected. When completed, we will formally dedicate the area as the Cummings Fellowship Hall. Ann Holley, Jr. Warden



#### THE CONRADS ARE NOW AT HOME!

Rev. Matthew and Diana Conrad have now settled in to their new home which they report is, "*all on one level!!!*" They no longer have the Atascadero landline. You may reach Matt and Diana at: 805-550-1609. Their new home address is: 2653 Vineyard Circle, Paso Robles, CA 93446.



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### Next Steps from Where We Are

As most of us are aware, Holly Cooper will be retiring as our Sr. Warden as of the January Annual Meeting. A thorough listing of the current responsibilities of the St. Luke's Sr. Warden has appeared in the newsletter for several weeks running. This is not your grandma's Sr. Warden job description. Why? Because St. Luke's now functions without a Rector and every responsibility formerly held by the paid Rector has now come to rest on the volunteer Sr. Warden, a full time job plus a few more responsibilities concomitant with having to find and communicate with supply priests for Sunday worship. As is, it is an untenable ask of any one church member, which is why we have not gotten anyone to volunteer to take the position.

St. Luke's cannot exist without a Sr. Warden. However, in reality, the responsibilities of the Sr. Warden do not need to be so extensive if we as a congregation can pick up the less official tasks. Our last Vestry of the Whole meeting was dedicated in large part to figuring out what existing or new groups in the church could take on new responsibilities that fit their area of ministry. Many of the tasks are vital to the life of St. Luke's, they just don't need to be done by a Sr. Warden. We will be printing the results of our discussion in subsequent newsletters. Our hope is to use the existing ministry groups and add some new groups and each group will have its set of responsibilities. No one will be working alone and each group will be keeping an eye on what is getting done.

After paring down the job description, we found that a person with the title of Sr. Warden needs to do these things: Review and sign contracts on behalf of the congregation, receive the records for criminal background checks for staff and volunteers, and meet in the executive officers meeting with the Jr. Warden, Treasurer and Clerk. Everything else can be done by the rest of us. We are still looking for a Sr. Warden. If you are interested, please contact Holly Cooper. As a congregation we will need to work together on getting the rest of the work done but remember it is just a logical next step in figuring out how to be church together. We don't know how long the current situation will last but it is necessary to work with what we have, where we are at now. We will be asking you where you would like to be working. For now, read through that long list of Sr. Warden responsibilities and think about your strengths and interests. What are you good at, what gives you energy? Consider if you are being challenged to do something out of your comfort zone. Pray about what you are or may be called to do. The goal is not to guilt people into taking jobs that are not helpful to them but to encourage each other to try things that we haven't tried before. That doesn't mean the tasks are easy, far from it, but we believe as the Bishop told us that we at St. Luke's have everything we need to go forward as a church. We just need to be open to each other's gifts and courageous enough to try new things. – Kathy Hansen.

## **RESPONSIBILITIES OF THE SENIOR WARDEN 2022**

### WEEKLY RESPONSIBILITIES

- Confirm Supply Clergy to preside over Holy Eucharist and preach for 1<sup>st</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> Sundays
- Confirm Deacons or lay leaders for 2<sup>nd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> Sundays to lead Morning Prayer and preach
- Supervise production of service bulletin
- Draft articles for weekly e-newsletter; update announcements regarding deanery and diocesan events
- Coordinate distribution weekly Zoom invitation for Sunday service with bulletin/newsletter attachments
- Prepare weekly announcements
- Field calls for pastoral care (arranging with priest, deacon for visitation, last rites, funeral services); phone or visits by Caring Parish Committee members
- Facilitate Small Group studies between St. Luke's and UMC
- Generate P.O.'s if required; sign checks if needed
- Confirm bi-weekly report of employee hours to ADP



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**MONTHLY/QUARTERLY RESPONSIBILITIES**

- Meet with Finance Committee to review monthly financial report and make financial recommendations to Vestry of the Whole Congregation
- Meet with Junior Warden to evaluate programmatic and renovation projects
- Draft the Agenda for the Vestry Meeting of the Whole Congregation
- Compile and distribute the Vestry packet of Agenda, Minutes, Reports from officers and Deacons; balance sheet and P&L statement supplied by Treasurer for Vestry Meeting of the Whole Congregation
- Chair the monthly Vestry Meeting
- Prepare and distribute Vestry Highlights in the weekly newsletter following the meeting
- Notify the Bishop and Canon Martha of decisions made by the Vestry
- Support implementation of Bishop's/Canon's plan to call a new part-time Priest-in-charge for St. Luke's
- Attend Quarterly Meetings with Mother Barbara and Deacons to set the Clergy Service Rota for St. James and St. Luke's
- Attend the monthly meeting of Caring Parish Ministry Committee
- Support re-configuring of St. Luke's website and posting of Parish Profile

**ANNUAL RESPONSIBILITIES**

- Recruit and schedule Supply Clergy for Sunday and special services during the Interregnum Period
- Recruit Deacons and laity to lead and preach on alternative Sundays during Interregnum Period
- Prepare agenda, gather minutes and reports for the Annual Meeting scheduled for February 12, 2023.
- Chair the Annual Meeting and election of officers.
- Work with Treasurer to prepare the Parochial Report
- Recruit and contract with independent auditor approved by the diocese to complete annual audit.
- Work with Stewardship Committee to develop/complete the stewardship campaign.
- Assist with preparation of Annual Budget.
- Facilitate discussion of our current financial situation
- Review contracts for special projects.
- Consult with Chancellor as needed; sign contracts on behalf of St. Luke's
- Work with Vestry of the Whole to prioritize projects for repair and renovation of buildings and grounds.
- Introduce the congregation to the Bi-vocational ministry model at St. Luke's

**SPECIAL PROJECTS**

- Implement Vestry of the Whole Congregation model at St. Luke's
- Work with members of the tech committee to upgrade Office Administrator's computer
- Consult with City of Atascadero Building Department regarding code requirements for replacement of the emergency exit from the sanctuary.
- Work with Jr. Warden to update bids to renovate the staircase and Cummings Fellowship Hall.
- Support re-design of St. Luke's website and posting of Parish Profile
- Facilitate completion of the search process for a new part time Priest-in-Charge



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**RESPONSIBILITIES OF THE SENIOR WARDEN  
2023 (MODIFICATION OF 2022 REPORT)**

**WEEKLY RESPONSIBILITIES:**

- Modify last 2022 item to: Confirm *semi-monthly* report of employee hours and report payroll to ADP
- Deal with payroll problems as they arise with Treasurer, Bookkeeper, and ADP
- Calculate and report annual hourly wage increases as voted by Diocese

**MONTHLY/QUARTERLY RESPONSIBILITIES:**

- Responsibility for distribution of Vestry Highlights and weekly announcements delegated to rotation of laity.
- Change: Attend Quarterly meetings with Mother Barbara....to set Clergy Service Rota to: recruit supply clergy, Episcopal Ministers, licensed homilists, and others. Plan and establish Rota ongoing. Coordinate with Liturgy Schedule preparation
- Assure payment of Supply clergy for services on date of service

**ANNUAL RESPONSIBILITIES:**

Responsibilities remain as outlined in 2022

**SPECIAL PROJECTS:**

Responsibilities remain as outlined in 2022

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VESTRY OF THE WHOLE CONGREGATION MEETING HIGHLIGHTS  
September 10, 2023

The Vestry meeting opened with prayer at 10:28 am, with 10 members in attendance. It was followed by adoption of the Consent Agenda and the Minutes, and the acceptance of the Written Reports.

The Consent Agenda consisted of the following:

1. Accept and sign a letter of thanks to Bishop Lucinda for the gift of a portion of the proceeds from the sale of Diocesan property.
2. Approve \$460.00 to Evangelista's Construction for pantry drywall patch with insulation.
3. Approve Responsibility for Receipt of Criminal Offender Record information (CORI). The policy will be adopted by the

Vestry of St. Luke's Episcopal Church October 8, 2023. The Child/Youth Protection Policy adopted by the Vestry requires the use of fingerprint-based background checks (LiveScan) administered by the California Department of Justice (DOJ) to provide CORI from DOJ and federal FBI systems. The Senior Warden's Responsibilities as Custodian of Records were listed, as were the Church's responsibilities and the Vestry's responsibilities for Oversight.

A major part of the meeting pertained to planning for the Sr. Warden transition, which will take place in January. After studying the Sr. Warden Job Description, it was decided that the Sr. Warden responsibilities needed to be reduced, by allocating various jobs to other members. With that in mind, Kathy Hansen created a graphic with the various groups within the church, and cross referenced it to numbered items on the job description. A chart of groups and job descriptions will be distributed to members at a future date. We will then be asked to prayerfully consider which areas each of us might help with. **AND, TO ANYONE WHO MIGHT CONSIDER BEING ST. LUKE'S SR. WARDEN FOR 2024, THERE WERE REALLY ONLY ABOUT FIVE DUTIES THAT ONLY THE SR. WARDEN MUST DO, IF WE ALL CHIP IN AND HELP!**

The Jr. Warden's report stated the Undercroft contractor, Evangelista Construction, was paid \$4,800.00 in one payment and a second payment of \$8,000 on 8/31/23. The third payment of \$10,315.00 will be paid in October. On October 15, we will dedicate the Cummings Fellowship Hall (formally called the Undercroft) with a celebration and potluck.

Everyone is invited! Other information: The drawings for the staircase are done, and the kitchen and pantry/storeroom are going to be painted, by members of St. Luke's.

Leann Brooks gave the Financial Report which showed: Total Checking/Savings \$80,159.82; Diocesan Investment Trust \$109,760.85; Total Assets \$109,760.85.

The one word meeting summary: Great, informative, long, hopeful, productive

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Our Farmer's Market started last week with Jan's wonderful tomatoes. Please bring any excess produce on Sunday and take home what you need. A free will offering will be accepted to benefit Atascadero Loaves and Fishes.

BLESSING OF THE ANIMALS  
SUNDAY, OCTOBER 1, 2023



St. Luke's welcomes all creatures great and small to be blessed by Pastor Karen Siegfriedt as we celebrate the Feast Day of St. Francis on Sunday, October 1st at 9:00 a.m. Please bring your appropriately leashed or otherwise contained critters to this short, always joyous, and mostly under control service of worship and blessing. We celebrate your presence with us!



For our beloved animals who aren't able to attend in person we are developing a slide show of their pictures. Please email the pictures to Leann Brooks, [leannbrooks@hotmail.com](mailto:leannbrooks@hotmail.com) and include the pet's name.

Thank you, Leann

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Heads up, St. Luke's family!

For those of you who know me, and have anything to do with horses, you know that when you hear this command, it means there is something fast approaching which you need to be aware of. And so it is, at this very moment--- The St. Luke's 2023 Stewardship Campaign begins September 1<sup>st</sup>! Stay tuned for more information regarding, "Rooted in Abundance, 2023"!

Thank you, Alice Baker-Taber, Stewardship Chair for 2023



#### UPDATE ON FLORRIE DRUMM

Florrie Drumm has been settled at home under the auspices of hospice and, with the following "gatekeeper rules", she welcomes visits. Flowers always brighten Florrie's day. Debbie Hall, Florrie's daughter, acts as her gatekeeper. *Please call Debbie to check in prior to visiting. Debbie can be reached at 805-471-0790. Please do not just drop in without first checking with Debbie.* Your cooperation is appreciated.

#### CHRISTMAS BAZAAR

Start your celebration of the Christmas season on December 1, 2023 at St. Luke's in our newly refurbished Cummings Fellowship Hall from 9:00 a.m. to 6:00 p.m. We will be offering all manner of baked goods, jams and jellies as well as selected quilts, scarves, hand warmers, and hats, seasonal collars for dogs and cats, and unique kitchen gifts like tortilla warmers and microwave bowls with individual hot pads. Come join the fun and support community groups SLO-4-Home and transitional housing for the medically fragile.





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## Re-Homing our Diocese in Beloved Community

September 16, 9:30 - 3:00 St Paul/San Pablo, Salinas



The Social Justice Committee invites you to a very special workshop day on September 16th. In the past year we have been thinking about Christian Nationalism and how Christianity is being used to support white supremacy in this country. Also, the last diocesan convention passed a resolution forming a task force to explore our diocesan history with the oppression of the indigenous people of this land.

**Re-homing our Diocese in Beloved Community** brings together both these themes.

We are thrilled to welcome the Rev. Rachel Taber-Hamilton who is a gifted speaker with a background in cultural anthropology. She is also vice-president of the House of Deputies, and Rector of Trinity, Everett, WA. Rachel was raised in a multi-cultural and mixed-race heritage of First Nations (Shackan, British Columbia), Pennsylvania Dutch and Scots-Irish, and is a passionate advocate for indigenous people.

In this workshop, we will be continuing to awaken to the history and the people of this land. You can expect to learn more about the Doctrine of Discovery and how this laid the foundation for Christian Nationalism and the oppression and genocide of native peoples. There will also be discussion of how we reach out to the people who represent the continuity of the land which we now inhabit and thus make our church more accessible to all whom Jesus loves.

Saturday September 16, 9:30 - 3:00  
St. Paul/San Pablo, Salinas  
Donation of \$25 includes lunch and helps to defray costs  
Scholarships are available

[Register Now](#)

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## PUT YOUR FAITH INTO ACTION

### Support the Hawai'i Fire Response

High winds from Hurricane Dora and drought conditions combined to accelerate the growth of brush fires that devastated the Lahaina community in Hawai'i. Episcopal Relief & Development is in contact with the Episcopal Diocese of Hawai'i in the wake of wildfires that have killed many people and displaced hundreds of families on Maui.

To make a donation, please fill out the coupon below and mail it in with your check or credit card information.

Thank you for your compassion and prayers. With your partnership, we are Working Together for Lasting Change.

For 80+ years, Episcopal Relief & Development has been collaborating closely alongside communities and our Anglican partners to respond to **disasters** and carry out long-term development strategies in three key priority areas, **Women, Children and Climate**, to help alleviate hunger, create economic opportunities, respond to disasters, promote health and strengthen communities.



We provide emergency and long-term support for those who are impacted so they can make full and sustained recoveries – as well as resources and training to help people prepare for the next disaster.



Visit [episcopalrelief.org](https://episcopalrelief.org) to learn more about our programs for women, children, and climate.

#### ENCLOSED IS MY GIFT TO THE DISASTER RESPONSE FUND

- \$50     \$100     \$250     \$500  
 \$1,000     \$2,500     \$5,000     \$\_\_\_\_\_

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EMAIL ADDRESS \_\_\_\_\_

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*All gifts are tax-deductible.*

BI23-3

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Merrifield, VA 22116-7058

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Join Us in Making a Difference at ECHO Paso and Atascadero!

Are you passionate about making a positive impact in the lives of individuals experiencing homelessness? We invite you to become a part of the ECHO family and join us in our mission to provide support, compassion, and resources to those in need.

ECHO Paso and ECHO Atascadero are in need of dedicated volunteers like you to help us create a safe and welcoming environment for our residents. Your time and efforts can truly make a difference and help us transform lives. Whether you have a few hours to spare or can commit to a regular schedule, there are numerous ways you can contribute:

1. Meal Assistance: Help us prepare and serve nutritious meals to our residents. Your support ensures that everyone receives a warm meal and experiences the comforting feeling of a shared table.
2. Mentorship and Skills Training: Share your knowledge and expertise by becoming a mentor or facilitating workshops to empower our residents with new skills. Whether its job readiness, financial literacy, or personal development, your guidance can be life-changing.
3. Shelter Support: Assist our shelter staff with various tasks such as cleaning, organizing, and maintaining the facilities. Your help ensures that our residents have a clean, safe, and comfortable place to stay.

By volunteering at ECHO Paso or ECHO Atascadero, you will not only make a difference in the lives of those we serve but also gain a sense of fulfillment and connection within your community.

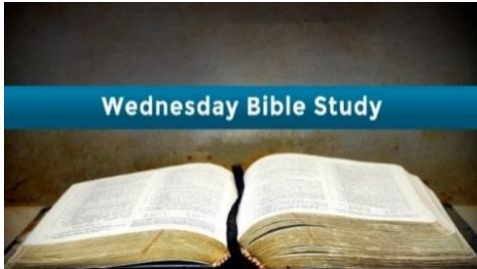
If you are ready to lend a helping hand and be a catalyst for positive change, we would love to have you on board. Please visit our website or contact us directly to learn more about volunteering opportunities and how you can get involved. (Insert Website Link)

Together, let's create a community where compassion, support, and hope thrive. Join us at ECHO Paso and ECHO Atascadero and be a part of something truly impactful.

Thank you for your willingness to make a difference!

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SMALL GROUP STUDIES



Bible Study is on bye until October 4th when we will begin Exodus. 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.