

## A Message from Pastor Barnett



Our newsletter is called "The Voice." I assume that you're sort of used to my voice by now. I've learned so many of yours. When I'm sitting at my desk but have the door open, when people come and chat with the secretary or bookkeeper, I can often tell who it is without seeing.

In Genesis 27 Isaac can't see Jacob, but he recognizes his voice. "Come near, that I may feel you, my son, to know whether you are really my son Esau or not." 22 So Jacob went up to his father Isaac, who felt him and said, "The voice is Jacob's voice, but the hands are the hands of Esau."

In Acts 12 we hear, "As soon as he (Peter) realized this, he went to the house of Mary, the mother of John whose other name was Mark, where many had gathered and were praying. 13 When he knocked at the outer gate, a maid named Rhoda came to answer. 14 On recognizing Peter's voice, she was so overjoyed that, instead of opening the gate, she ran in and announced that Peter was standing at the gate."

What makes the human voice so interesting is the way that a combination of voices makes its own distinct sound. One of the things choir directors know, is that the sound of a group can radically changed just by who's sitting next to who. The seating arrangement matters.

Last Sunday at both liturgies we exchanged the Preface Dialogue without organ accompaniment. I thought it was wonderful. I loved hearing you with the support of the choir sing/chant back to me so well. This exchange begins the Great Thanksgiving, or the Eucharistic portion of our service.

- The Lord be with you. And also with you. This brief salutation, the exchange between shepherd and flock, priest and people, signifies, and some might say gives, God's presence in our assembly and indicates the importance of what is to follow.
- "Sursum Corda" is Latin for "lift up your hearts." We are indeed happy and made cheerful by this presence.
- "Let us give thanks to the Lord" It is indeed right and just to do what we're about to do.

In our voices we can hear the Holy Spirit. We can hear Christ speaking (at least at times). Think about this next time you're in church.

Pr Ed Barnett



Want to keep your thoughtful giving, reduce paper and eliminate some check writing each week or month? Using the VENMO App is an easy way to forward your weekly/monthly giving donations directly from your designated checking account electronically to our church account. Just go into the App store on your cell phone, download VENMO, search and accept St. Luke's as your recipient (you will note our church steeple in the bubble).

# EVANGELISM

## *Is God Needed Now in the World and the Community We Live In??*

- **Reach In** – To our loved ones and members you've not seen in some time with a caring note, email, or phone call.
- **Reach Out** – Take a brochure (with our info), prayer books, and materials which are located on the table in the PAC.

And give the LOVE you feel for St. Luke's and Jesus away to someone you might think needs Jesus. (As we all do.)

### UNITY

"Protect them... so they may be as one as we are one" (John 17:11) Jesus asked the Father to let unity be a defining mark of the Church. Unity doesn't mean uniformity; we all bring our respective personalities to the mix. So reach in and reach out, so we can still demonstrate LOVE / JESUS' LOVE to the world around us — so surely needed!

### THE COMMUNITY OF BELIEVERS

Community. What images does that word bring to mind? In John 17, Jesus prayed that the community of believers would be known for unity, joy, growth in truth, and urgency of mission.

### JOY

"May [they] have the full measure of my joy within them" (v.13) One of the greatest benefits of community is the encouragement it brings. When the pressures of life arise, we're prone to forget our identity and lose our way. Believing friends are there to remind us that our joy can only be satisfied by our Creator.

### GROWTH IN TRUTH

"Protect them from the evil one" (v.15) Our community of believers has the unique ability to confront and correct us when we stray from the truth. It's the role of our community to help us again fix our eyes on the gospel.

### URGENCY OF MISSION

"I have sent them into the world" (v.18) Believers in Jesus were never intended to isolate themselves from the outside world. Christ calls us to live in community (Matthew 28:18–20). Our primary relationships with believers give weight and urgency to our other relationships (unbelieving friends). We gather together to pray with and for one another. Then we go outside the church to serve, love, and invite others into a relationship with Christ.

Danny Franks is the Connections Pastor at Summit Church, Raleigh–Durham, North Carolina.

# LIFT CORNER - Living in Faith Together



During March in honor of Women's History month LIFT is sponsoring a collection drive for Bethany House. Please consider donating from the list below. Donations can be brought to the PAC and placed in the marked bin. Please contact Deacon Frances with any questions at [deaconcrusco@gmail.com](mailto:deaconcrusco@gmail.com).

Supporting women and women with children experiencing homelessness through transition to stability. We begin by providing shelter, and meeting the basic needs of our guests, in a welcoming and safe, home-like setting. We offer programs which provide a continuum of care that starts with emergency shelter, moves into transitional housing, and culminates in permanent housing and greater self-sufficiency. Ultimately, we strive for our guests and their children to experience a sense of self-worth and belonging in response to their experience with our dedicated staff and volunteers. Bethany House is built on a foundation of community support and partnerships, that include government agencies, faith-based organizations, non-profit service providers, colleges and universities as well as corporate sponsors and foundations.

At this time, Bethany House **is in need** of the following:

- Toilet Paper
- Toothpaste
- Paper Towels
- Brand new or gently used clothing (professional and casual) Women's, Children and Teen
- Teen Clothing
- Cleaning Supplies  
Clorox Wipes, Dish Soap, etc.
- Laundry Detergent, Fabric Softener
- Uber / Lyft Gift Cards

At this time, **WE ARE NOT** in need of:

- Tampons or Feminine Napkins
- Bras
- Toiletry Kits
- Hair Care Products
- Toys



# CELEBRATING LONGEVITY

Mrs. Hilda Carman is a lifelong member of our church who celebrated her special birthday with family, friends, and fellow members of St. Luke's as she turned 95 years old! Hilda has been a pillar of our congregation for all of her years, serving faithfully in many ministries. A beloved member and former leader, her faith and dedication show us what a faithful life looks like. We are deeply grateful for her unwavering dedication, wisdom, and love. May God continue to bless her with health and happiness!



After reading the service and giving her communion, two Eucharistic ministers (Carol Manganaro & Katie Blunden) had a surprise for Carolyn Johnson. They had a party to celebrate her 92<sup>nd</sup> birthday with cake, flowers, and a "Happy Birthday" headband. A fun time was had by all.





The Fellowship Committee is hard at work setting up their schedule for 2026.



February started off with lots of fun meetings. We had a superbowl meeting where we all picked superbowl boxes, filled out our party prop sheet and learned lots of trivia about football. Carol DiPaola won the party prop

## CharcuTEArie

**SAVE THE DATE:** Mark your calendars as the Fellowship Committee is planning a CharcuTEArie Party on Saturday May 16th, 12:30-3:00. Join us for scones, Charcuterie, Sweet dessert treats, tea, coffee, lemonade, ice tea.

On February 7, the Fellowship Committee hosted a tribute to Johnny Cash and June Carter. We had 55 people in attendance and it was a great evening. The entertainers were terrific. Both of them played the guitar and sounded like Johnny and June. They played all the favorites including Folsom Prison Blues, Ring of Fire, A Boy Named Sue, Ghost Riders in the Sky and many of the popular gospel songs. They played for an hour and a half without a break while the audience snacked on chips and dip, cheese, crackers, salami, and pepperoni. There was wine and beer and lots of other beverages and cookies and brownies. It was a wonderful evening. Thanks to Lisa Pigott for arranging the evening and purchasing the delicious food. Thanks to the committee for decorating for Valentine's Day and manning the bar and serving the goodies.

### FUTURE FELLOWSHIP COMMITTEE ACTIVITIES

The Sunday of March 15 is a busy one. Many of St. Luke's groups are joining together to have a special Saint Patrick's Celebration Coffee Hour after both services but especially after the 10 o'clock service. There will be green bagels and regular bagels too, fruit, and cookies made by our Senior Luther League, and pretzels made by our Sunday School. It promises to be a lovely way to spend Sunday morning so please join in the fun.

In late April, the Fellowship Committee will be hosting the Farmingdale Derby. This should be better than the Kentucky Derby. There will be Horse Racing, the best hat contest and a special drink just for the event. Keep an eye out for further information.

Look in this newsletter for an article on our special charcuTEArie. This should be a special and elegant event chaired by Doreen Anderson who always does a wonderful job.

This year we did not have our St. Luke's TALENT SHOW but we were hoping to have a Karaoke event in June. This should be fun and no pressure. I know there are some great singers out there so join in the fun. If you have ideas for entertainment for all ages please contact Irene Bossert at 516-293-9290. The committee wants your input.

sheet with 13 right out of 20. Carolyn Barton, Barbara Bertschi, Larry Reinhardt and Linda Schroeder were close behind with 12 correct answers. Only Barbara Bertschi got the correct name for Bad Bunny's first song and only 1 member guessed yellow as the color of the liquid poured on the winning coach.

On February 11 we had our Valentine Pizza Party and played a famous couples game and Valentine's Day Bingo. On the 18th we had a wonderful program on Show and Tell. Unfortunately our meeting for February 25 was cancelled because of snow and ice, but we started March strong with Hilda Carman's 95th birthday celebration. We also celebrated Martha Hoffman's and Dotty Harsch's birthdays. Following the cake and ice cream and rice pudding, Ingrid DeMilo gave an interesting and informative talk on Robert Moses who is mainly responsible for most of the roads, bridges and State Parks on Long Island.

Coming up in March we have Crazy Sock Day, a Saint Patrick's Day Party, Pastors Birthday Party on March 25 with the music of Bob and Ben. The St. Pat's Party is a luncheon featuring Corn Beef and Cabbage, Shephards Pie, Salad, Irish Soda Bread and dessert. The cost is \$30. Please call Anita Godfrey at 516-694-0542 to make your reservation. April 1 we will have our crazy hat day and our Easter Parade. The rest of the month will include a program by Gerri Von Thaden on the Platt Deutsch Hall and Home, a Horse Race Day and an Earth Day Celebration.

Please come and join us. Meetings are every Wednesday In the PAC. Exercise is 10:30 to 11:30 and the meeting starts at noon. You are welcome to bring your lunch and coffee, tea and dessert is always served.

### Upcoming Calendar

- March 25 - Pastor Barnett's Birthday & Entertainment w/Ben & Bob
- April 1 - Crazy Hat Day
- April 8 - Gerri vonThaden - Speaks on Plattduetsche Park & Home
- April 15 - Potato Race Day
- April 22 - Earth Day & Vintage Movie Trivia
- April 29 - Bingo
- May 6 - Mexican Day
- May 13 - LI Winds Ensemble or Talk about Gems & Jewelry Appraisals
- May 20 - Patriotic Day - America's 250th Birthday
- May 27 - LI Winds Ensemble or Talk about gems & Jewelry Appraisals
- June 3 - Strawberry Festival
- June 10 - Polish Day
- June 17 - 50's Program
- June 24 - Final Party before Summer Break  
Sandwiches, Salads and Ice Cream



# *LENT, HOLY WEEK & EASTER*

**WEDNESDAYS DURING LENT,  
FEB. 25<sup>TH</sup> - MARCH 25<sup>TH</sup> MIDDAY PRAYER  
11:30AM IN THE PAC**

**AND WEDNESDAY EVENING PRAYER  
FEB. 25<sup>TH</sup> - MARCH 11<sup>TH</sup> 7PM IN THE  
SANCTUARY**

**MARCH 18<sup>TH</sup> LENTEN SERVICE AT  
GOOD SHEPHERD IN PLAINVIEW AT 6:15PM**

**MARCH 25<sup>TH</sup> 7PM ST. LUKE'S SANCTUARY**

**29  
MAR PALM SUNDAY - 8AM & 10AM IN  
FELLOWSHIP HALL**

**2  
APR MAUNDY THURSDAY - 12PM & 7PM**

**3  
APR GOOD FRIDAY - 10AM FAMILY STATIONS OF THE CROSS,  
12PM PASSION LITURGY AT ST. THOMAS EPISCOPAL  
CHURCH, FARMINGDALE,  
7PM STATIONS OF THE CROSS AT. ST. LUKE'S**

**4  
APR HOLY SATURDAY EASTER EGG HUNT 10AM**

**5  
APR EASTER SUNDAY 8AM & 10AM  
IN FELLOWSHIP HALL**



# LIFT

In honor of Women's History Month, we are sharing the life of daring women of the Bible.

In a world dominated by men, Deborah stands out as a beautiful example of strength, leadership, collaboration, and humility. The judges during this time in Israel's history were political and military leaders whom God called to lead his people for a season of revival and revolution. Each judge led the people of God as they fought against their oppressors and turned their hearts back to Yahwek, their Maker and Savior. Deborah was called to lead during a time that seemed hopeless for God's people. The Israelites were being crushed under the military heel of Jabin, the king of Canaan. His commander, Sisera, had a military machine that was unrivaled at that time and place. For two decades, Jabin and Sisera dominated their part of the world, and the people of Israel were an occupied and oppressed people. Into this environment God called a new judge, a fresh face of leadership. **Deborah was a married woman as well as a prophet of God. She was gifted with wisdom to guide people, situations, and the nation of Israel. In addition to all this, God called her to take military leadership and fight back against the overwhelming and occupying Canaanite forces.**

Deborah called a man named Barak to come alongside her in battle. She understood the power of partnership and not doing everything on her own as all the best leaders understand. Deborah not only partnered with Barak in leading the troops into battle but also collaborated with him on writing a victory song of celebration (see Judges 5).

**Deborah's life, leadership, and legacy should inspire all of us. She loved and followed God. She heard the call to lead and followed. When God brought victory and deliverance to this people, she was quick to give Him the praise and glory. May God raise up more and more leaders like Deborah.**



# What A Winter!!



**"A BIG, THANK YOU"** to Rick Tarello, Tom Hickey, and Bob Baumann for shoveling and sanding our St Luke's Complex. Their time and talents have been greatly appreciated!



# SPRING and EASTER BOUTIQUE



**SPRING** is on the way! Please join us after the Coffee Hours in the PAC on Sunday, March 22nd. We have many seasonal items crafted right here at St Luke's along with sweet treats. All proceeds go towards projects here at St Luke's. We hope to see you on the 22nd!!

# HELP FOR THE HUNGRY SOUPER BOWL CHALLENGE

*"For I was hungry and you gave me food, I was thirsty and you gave me drink..." MATTHEW 25:35*



The 60th Super Bowl is just a memory. But St Luke's scored a really big win in the Souper Bowl Challenge! Our goal was to collect 115 cans of soup to help those that face food insecurity right here on Long Island. We far surpassed that. We collected **THREE HUNDRED THIRTY ONE** cans of soup! (Weighing in at 825 lbs.) All cans were delivered to the LSS Pantry in Franklin Square. A very special, "Thank you" to Alan Andersen and Frank Maggio for their counting and weighing.

Thank you to everyone for caring and sharing.

*"You give them something to eat...Mark 6:37*



Long Island Winds Ensemble when they performed in January for the Prime Timers.



# FALL FESTIVAL / OKTOBERFEST COTTAGE CRAFTERS

**SAVE THE DATE** - Less than **SEVEN** months until the 55th Anniversary Celebration of the Fall Festival/ Oktoberfest on Saturday, October 3rd, from 10:00-4:00. It promises to be a fun day of fellowship and fantastic food!

We know not everyone can come out to our Tuesday night workshops. So we truly appreciate our Cottage Crafters! To become one is very simple, work from the comfort of your home. Some amazing items from our past.....Cottage Crafters have made reversible table runners, bird houses, cell phone holders, garden ornaments, baby blankets, seasonal wreaths and the list goes on! Any questions contact Ellen Tarello (516-694-0545) or Doreen Andersen (516-293-5122).

## ATHLETIC ASSOCIATION



St. Luke's HOOPS basketball program closed out its regular season with a burst of energy, teamwork, and the kind of joyful competition that has filled the gym with excitement week after week since mid September. From confident fast breaks to dramatic buzzer beaters, the youth teams have shown real growth—sharpening their skills, building camaraderie, and demonstrating the sportsmanship that reflects the heart of our church community. Coaches have guided players through practices and tough matchups, families have filled the gym with encouragement, and the players themselves have brought passion and determination to every game.

This season also marked a record breaking milestone for St. Luke's HOOPS, with the highest registration numbers the program has ever seen and an energy to match. New players, returning families, and an enthusiastic crowd filled the gym each week, creating an atmo-

sphere that buzzed with anticipation and joy. The surge in participation not only strengthened our teams but also deepened the sense of community that makes this program so special.

Year end celebrations are already taking shape, and the excitement is building just as fast as the kids' jump shots. Pizza parties and awards ceremonies are lined up to cap off the season, giving every player a chance to come together one more time, laugh with teammates, and soak in the joy of everything they've accomplished. It's the perfect way to wrap up months of hard work and high energy play, sending everyone into the offseason with full hearts, full stomachs, and big smiles.

