



THE ANGELUS

THE NEWSLETTER OF ST. LUKE'S EPISCOPAL CHURCH, LEBANON, PA

Volume 13 No. 5

Do Justice. Love Mercy. Walk humbly with God

May 2023

(Not the) Rector's Corner *by guest writer Mother Mary Kisner*



Welcome to the first of three Rector's Corners written by the priests who will be assisting in the spiritual work of pastoring while Fr. David is on a well-deserved sabbatical. Mother Robyn Szoke-Coolidge and Father Bradley Mattson will each take a turn in the coming months at sharing some of their thoughts with you, as well.

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There is a wonderful old hymn that is included in Lift Every Voice and Sing II, written by A. Katherine Hankey in the mid 1800s. In her early 30's, Hankey contracted a severe illness. During her protracted recovery, she wrote a long poem about Jesus. The first part, about 50 stanzas in length, asks about Him, and the second part answers the questions. We have only two verses of her work in our hymnal under the title, "I Love to Tell the Story."

I love to tell the story of unseen things above,
Of Jesus and His glory, of Jesus and His love.
I love to tell the story, because I know it's true;
It satisfies my longings as nothing else would do.

This simple hymn was brought to my mind by the work we all engaged in together during this most recent Lenten season. Together we re-imagined and retold the Gospels in a way that seemed to breathe new life into them. To be sure "the word of God is living and active and sharper than any two-edged sword, piercing until it divides soul from spirit, joints from marrow; it is able to judge the thoughts and intentions of the heart." (Hebrews 4:12) And as such there is always something vital to be taken to heart from them every time we read or hear them.

But to hear these particular stories, which were edited to present them as real conversations between people, was note worthy and at times quite breath-taking. We heard Jesus responding wearily and with determination against the testing of Satan, the accuser. We witnessed two rabbis discussing the deeper meanings of the Torah as Jesus met with Nicodemus. The Samaritan woman went from emotional turmoil to belief in Jesus as Messiah to acting as missionary to her compatriots who came to believe in Jesus themselves. When Jesus healed the man who had been blind from birth, that man went through an exasperating series of conversations attesting to what Jesus did for him. And finally we witnessed the deep faith and love that Martha and Mary had for Jesus, and the deep love he had for them, their brother, Lazarus, and their community of believers in Bethany.

As the story of Jesus continued on through Holy Week, we witnessed yet another series of stories. Each year we hear two Passion narratives: one on Palm/Passion Sunday, and one on Good Friday. On Passion Sunday this year we heard the narrative from St. Matthew's Gospel, and on Good Friday we always hear the narrative from St. John's Gospel. In every case the readers were well prepared and voiced appropriate emotions during their presentations. The reader who took the part of Jesus remarked later that the anger expressed by the high priest was real enough that it startled him. And one could tell by watching the congregation that many who heard these Gospels were deeply moved by them.

Many of you already know that I am passionate about Biblical storytelling. It forms the core of who I am as a priest and a teacher, and I feel compelled to find different ways to present and enliven the telling of God's story as we witness it in our sacred scriptures. My own vision for Biblical storytelling here at St. Luke's includes working with a core group of people in order to present a Gospel reading one Sunday a month. So far about twenty to thirty people have taken part in this series of Gospels, and I hope that they and others will want to continue this important work. There are so many stories that need to be told, and so many, many ways to tell them. May our own devotion to the Scriptural message echo that expressed in Ms. Hankey's refrain:

I love to tell the story; 'Twill be my theme and glory.
To tell the old, old story Of Jesus and His love.



Over the coming weeks, we hope you will join us as we account for where we have traveled, where we are now, and where we are going at St. Luke's as led by the Holy Spirit in following Christ.

**These sessions will provide the opportunity to reflect on our core mission elements.
Food will be provided.**

Sundays (Parish Hall Auditorium):

May 7, 2023 (9:00AM - 10:30AM) - Our Common Life & Christian Formation

May 7, 2023 (11:45AM - 1:30PM) - Mercy Works / Outreach; Music and Liturgy

June 4, 2023 (9:00AM - 10:30AM) - Mercy Works / Outreach; Music and Liturgy

June 4, 2023 (11:45AM - 1:30PM) - Our Common Life & Christian Formation

Saturday (Pavilion #5, Coleman Memorial Park, Lebanon):

June 3, 2023 (4:00 - 6:00PM) - Our Common Life; Christian Formation; Mercy Works / Outreach; Music and Liturgy
(Our Saturday Vigil service will follow this session.)

***Celebration of Life Service
for
Joan Miller***

**Monday, May 22 at 10:00 AM
at St. Luke's**

**From The Episcopal Church:
“It’s All About Love” Event**



At last – we’re gathering for a churchwide festival and revival in Baltimore!

Across the church and around the world, we are hungry for revival and renewal. Join us for “It’s All About Love,” a churchwide festival of **worship, learning, community, and action** for the Episcopal branch of the Jesus Movement, to be held Sunday, July 9 through Wednesday, July 12, at the Baltimore Convention Center. Register by May 8 for Early Bird rate of \$185.

“It’s All About Love” is organized around three Jesus Movement festival “tents”: Evangelism, Racial Reconciliation, and Creation Care. Get ready for evening revival worship and daytime speakers, workshops, panels, and practice opportunities around the big tent themes. Stick with one tent or explore across the tents, following the themes of: worship and liturgy, formation, justice and advocacy, leadership, preaching, stewardship, and youth and children.

Featured speakers, preachers, and artists to include Presiding Bishop Michael Curry, President of the House of Deputies Julia Ayala Harris, Brian McClaren, the Rev. Mariama White-Hammon, Dr. Kwok Pui-lan, Sarah Augustine, Lilly Lewin, Dr. Catherine Meeks, the Very Rev. Canon Kelly Brown Douglas, the Rev. Winnie Varghese, Live Hymnal & Friends, and more!

For more information or to register, go to <https://www.episcopalchurch.org/its-all-about-love/>

Coffee Hour

by Eileen Sidelnick



Coffee Hour is being held on **SUNDAYS** in the **Fellowship Hall** from **9 AM to 10:30 AM**. If you would like to be a coffee host, please contact Lisa in the Parish Office (717.272.8251), Eileen Sidelnick (717.926.4238) or Matt Haag (717.273.6249). You can also sign up online at

<https://www.signupgenius.com/go/10C0D4BAAA92BA4FACE9-coffee> or on the sign up sheet by the parish office. If you need help making coffee, please contact Eileen or Matt and they would be happy to assist you. Thank you!



May 21, 2023
(Seventh Sunday of Easter)

6 PM Evensong with the
St. Luke's Festival Choir

7 PM Concert by the

Eaken Piano Trio

Emily Karosas Konkle, violin

Andrew Rammon, cello

Gary Boerckel, piano



Going Away this Summer?



Looking for an Episcopal congregation to worship with while on vacation? Visit the Episcopal Asset Map to find the closest congregations to you at

www.episcopalassetmap.org.



Gather is the Diocese of Bethlehem's annual formation event and *Gather 23 – Piece by Piece* will be held on **May 20, 2023**, at Split Rock Resort in Lake Harmony. This year's keynote speakers are The Rev. Dr. Tricia Lyons and Dr. Lisa Kimball, both from Virginia Theological Seminary.

The *Gather 23 – Piece by Piece* website launched recently with an overview, schedule, keynote speaker information, and other details. The site will be updated in the future with session details and online registration. Be sure to bookmark this page and return to it for the latest information about *Gather 23 – Piece by Piece*: <https://diobeth.org/gather23>.

This is the second year for this diocesan wide event. Last year, Father Zwifka and Mother Kisner attended. There were many workshops of interest covering various aspects of parish life. The focus of this year's event is all about spreading the good news – a key focus of our effort to become *Fit for Mission!* It would be wonderful to have several members of our parish in attendance. Please consider being part of a delegation to this special event where you can meet other people from across the diocese who are just like us, trying to live the life of discipleship set out for us by Jesus.

Thank You to Tom and Isabel!



The property committee would like to thank **Tom and Isabel Buzby** for their work on the church grounds. Because of the rain on the scheduled date, they removed the branches and litter from the yard and spread all the mulch that is normally done during the spring clean-up. This is in addition to the periodic yard clean up and maintenance they do on a regular basis.

The grounds look great!

Thank-you Tom and Isabel,

Kathy Yohn for the property committee

Follow Father David on his sabbatical journey
via his daily blog:

<https://stlukessabbatical2023.blogspot.com/>

Christian Formation

by Mother Mary Kisner

Real People *Ethelbert and Bertha* May 27



Christianity had been known in Britain among the Celts since the third century, but in the fifth century the southeast was invaded by pagan Anglo-Saxons who drove the Celts north and west into Scotland, Ireland, and Wales. Ethelbert succeeded his father as Saxon king of

Kent in 560. He was, according to the Venerable Bede, a fair ruler and the first English King to promulgate a code of law.

Brisk cross-channel trade with France exposed Ethelbert to Roman customs and luxuries. His admiration for the Frankish ways led him to

marry a French Christian princess, Bertha. Although not a Christian himself, Ethelbert promised Bertha's father that she could practice her faith. Good to his word, he welcomed her chaplain and granted him an old Christian mausoleum to convert into the Church of St. Martin, which still stands today.

In 597, the Roman mission to England under Augustine arrived. When he first heard the Gospel, Ethelbert was cautious and unconvinced. However, his fair-mindedness and hospitality were evident in his welcome to Augustine: "The words and promises you bring are fair enough, but because they are new to us and doubtful, I cannot accept them and forsake those beliefs which I and the whole English race have held so long. But as you have come on a long pilgrimage and are anxious, I perceive, to share with us things which you believe are true and good, we do not wish to do you harm; on the contrary, we receive you hospitably and provide what is necessary for your support; nor do we forbid you to win all you can to your faith and religion by your preaching." The following Pentecost, Ethelbert was baptized, becoming the first Christian King in England.

Though he helped the missionaries and founded cathedrals and churches throughout southeastern England, including Canterbury Cathedral, he never coerced his people, or even his children, into conversion. Bertha's kind and charitable nature and Ethelbert's respect for law and the dignity of individual conscience represent, to this day, some of the best of the English Christian spirit.

Bible Study

Led by Father Bradley Mattson
10 AM Thursdays in our ZOOM room at
<https://zoom.us/j/190727051>

Find the readings for each Sunday at
<http://www.journeyinfaith-stlukeslebanon.org/lectionary-texts-for-this-sunday.html>

Christian Formation Focus

This summer we will be exploring one of the most important stories in the Bible - Moses and the Exodus.

Wednesday Healing Services

10 am in Holy Trinity Chapel

Mother Mary will be leading these services while Fr. David is on sabbatical. She will be offering short reflections during the Communion service each week on the various aspects of Christian healing.

A Different Easter Egg Hunt

Thank you to all who participated and donated.



Our Easter Egg Hunt this year involved collecting funds for three children's ministries. "St. Luke's Bucks" were printed and stuffed into the eggs along with some other goodies. Our children collected the eggs on Easter

Day and then gave the "St. Luke's Bucks" to one or all of the Ministries.

Between what the adults of the parish donated and what the children raised through their own efforts, soon we will be giving out these checks -

Aaron's Acres - \$402.00

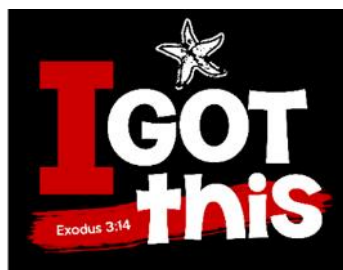
Paloma School - \$780.89

St. James Players - \$746.20

for a total donation of \$1929.09

A big thank you to everyone who helped with this project. Mother Mary will be delivering those checks in the near future.

Vacation Bible School



Vacation Bible School will take place Monday June 12 through Thursday June 15 from 6 - 8 pm at St. Luke's. We will be exploring the story of Moses from his birth through his calling by God to lead the

Hebrew people out of Egypt to his dealing with the stubborn Pharaoh to taking the people on dry ground through the Red Sea. We will learn the stories, play games, and use a variety of crafts to help the story come alive. Register by emailing Mother Mary at youth@stlukeslebanon.org.

Trip to Sight and Sound Theater, Lancaster



We are planning a trip for a weekday afternoon in August to see their live theatrical production of **Moses**. Some fundraising is being planned to defray the cost of tickets. Right now we need to know who would

be interested in attending, so please sign up on the bulletin board outside the Church Office. More details to follow.

Golf Outing to Benefit LCCM

by Lebanon County Christian Ministries



Join us for the 29th annual golf outing on Friday, May 12, 2023 at Lebanon Valley Golf Course!

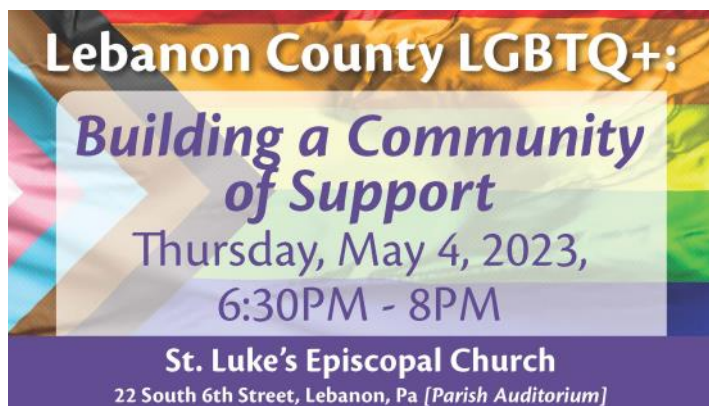
Through your generous participation in previous golf outings, we have been able to offset costs for LCCM and serve the Lebanon County community.

Breakfast and registration begin at 7 a.m., Shotgun start is at 8 a.m. There will be prizes for the top 3 teams.

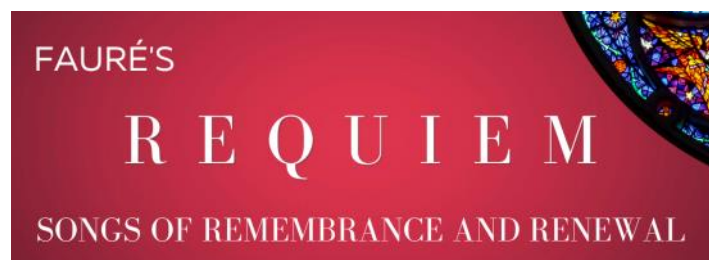
Contests include:

Jackpot of gold, Closest to the pin, Longest drive Lunch and prizes will immediately follow the round of golf.

Register at <https://www.lccm.us/golf-outing.html>



St. Luke's is partnering with the LGBT Center of Greater Reading and several other excellent regional organizations to host a forum on the needs of the LGBTQ+ community of Lebanon County. Preregistration is required at stlukeslebanon.org/lgbtq-community-support.



The Lebanon County Choral Society will be holding their Spring Concert on Sunday, May 21 at 3 pm at Holy Trinity Lutheran Church on Lehman Street here in Lebanon. The Adult Chorus, under the direction of Sean Hackett, will perform Fauré's *Requiem* along with spirituals, a gospel piece, and other uplifting selections. The Youth Chorus, under the direction of Karen Umberger, will offer pieces with a similar theme but appropriate for younger singers. A chamber orchestra made up of excellent musicians from around the region will accompany the choruses.

To purchase tickets you can contact Mother Mary Kisner or Debby Tanico here at St. Luke's. Adults \$15 (\$18 at the door), Students \$3.



First Friday Art Walk – May 5, 5 – 8 pm – St. Luke's will be open for tours of the church during this coming Friday's Art Walk. During that time the Lebanon County Choral Society's **Youth Chorus will hold their Spring Concert in our Auditorium at 6 pm**. Invite your friends and neighbors to come and enjoy the music and the beauty of our church.

ECW News

Hope Hill Field Trip Scheduled



Tickets are NOW available for the July 8th trip to Hope Hill Lavender Farm for a visit and for a lavender wand making class. There are a limited number of tickets available (20 only) for \$20. per ticket, which includes a private class just for our group.

Tickets can be purchased from Lynn Heisey at every Sunday Coffee Hour, or by phoning Lynn at 717-865-6015.

A ticket for this event would make a lovely gift for that "someone special" in your life!

Mother's Day is just around the corner!

About this event:

Lavender Wand Class at Hope Hill Lavender Farm, 2375 Panther Valley Road Pottsville, PA 17901

Barbara & Lynn will be teaching the two-hour class and will supply the lavender, lavender ice tea and cookies. Barbara will share her skill and knowledge and ribbon while teaching you to make a pretty lavender wand...or maybe even two if you master lavender wand making. Cost \$20.00. Recommended for adults, may be frustrating for children.

***A lavender wand is a small bouquet of lavender flowers weaved together in a technique that encases the flowers and buds of the lavender stem. The lavender wand can be used as a fragrant and beautiful decorative piece.

Note: No regular ECW meetings in June or July.

Luncheon Thanks

by Eileen Sidelnik



A great big thank you to all those who contributed to the April 16 luncheon celebration. A special thank you to our amazing reception crew of helpers, Marilyn, Laurie, Kathy R., Debbie, Dolores, Pam, Lynn, Sandi and Steve. Thank you to all the parishioners who donated the delicious food and drink items. And thank you to everyone who attended this celebratory send off for Fr. David, Bill and Soon.

Soup Sale Results



The gross returns for this year's annual soup/bake sale, to defray the church's deficit fuel budget, was \$3,028.32! We gratefully give thanks to those who supported this sale.

It is worth mentioning that our support comes in many ways, some of which are often overlooked. We had 12 soup makers this year, who, quite generously, purchased ingredients out of their own pockets, to make and donate 20 quarts of soup. Each! A few made multiple soups for this sale! They gave of their time and God-given cooking talent to create their delicious soups. And that was just the soup! We also had a very successful bake sale, so we offer heartfelt thanks to those who donated their time and abilities to provide all those delicious goodies. Not one of our cooks or bakers has asked for special recognition for their contributions, but you know who you are! We count our blessings, let us also acknowledge the many people whose purchases helped make this ministry effort a tremendous success.

Thank you from the bottom of our hearts! We remember, always, "Of thine own, have we given thee," as we offer up our gifts to God.

Thanks again to all!

Looking Ahead for ECW

by Laurie Daub

Summer Enrichment Opportunities

Saturday, June 10th, 10AM

SCHERENSCHNITTE CLASS and brunch!
(Fellowship Hall) \$30. Tickets can be purchased Sunday mornings during coffee hour, or from the church office. This is an open class; you do not need to be an ECW member to attend. Participants will learn the scherenschnitte technique (decorative paper cutting) to create AND frame a small 8x8" finished piece. ALL supplies are included, but students should bring a small sharp scissors or exacto knife and mat. *class size is limited

Saturday, July 8th, 10AM

LAVENDER FARM FIELD TRIP/ PRIVATE WAND MAKING CLASS

(Hope Hill Lavender Farm) \$20. This is an open event. You do not need to be an ECW member to attend. Tickets will be available Sunday mornings during coffee hour or by contacting Lynn Heisey at 717-865-6015. *limited tickets available

Ladies Tea Party

Tuesday, May 9th, 2023, 6:00pm to 7:30pm



Our charity this year is a project for Harding Elementary School... A Book for Every Child! Our guest speaker is Lauren Williams, Technology Integration Coach for the Lebanon School District. Lauren has been a teacher at Harding for the past 12 years.

Tickets are now on sale (\$10 donation) through Beth Yocum (717-273-0347). You can also

call the church office (717-272-8251) for a reserved spot.

Bring some extra money because we will have raffle baskets that go towards this project. We will also have some interesting door prizes and some "did you know"!

Hope to see you there!



Happy Birthday to ...

Youth

Oliver O'Donnel	5/3
Alexander Sidelnick	5/13
Owen Daubert	5/14
Colin Sidelnick	5/16
Kenidee Gilbert	5/18
Thadeous Gilbert	5/18

Adults

Casey Brewer	5/1
Jacob Kalbach	5/1
Brian Bloch	5/3
Carole Dellaquila	5/4
Martin Yocum Jr.	5/7
Jacob Herzing	5/8
JoLynn Gates	5/9
Samuel Paterniti	5/10
Dalton Kalbach	5/10
Deborah Bashore	5/12
Sara Daubert	5/12
Margaret Lukens	5/15
Isabel Buzby	5/15
Eileen Sidelnick	5/15
Ryan Schies	5/15
Madeline Maria	5/16
Frances Kunath	5/20
Linda Leshner	5/20
Leyani Aguilar	5/21
Sarah Vakili	5/22
Ellen Walker	5/22
William W Claxton	5/22
Brian Weaver	5/23
Sharon Weaver	5/23
Sandy Butler	5/24
George Conner	5/24
Elaine Koh	5/25
Cameron Boehle	5/26
Larry Sheaf	5/28
Alyssa Doster	5/28
Alice Keath	5/29
Marc D'Amour	5/29

Happy Anniversary to...

Terry Heisey & Robert Nemcheck	5/4
Douglas & Linda Leshner	5/5
Randall & Bernice Schies	5/5
David & Rosemary Dowhower	5/11
Michael & Elizabeth Bross	5/15
Leonid & Anne Aguilar	5/19

Candy Egg Sale Report

Net profit for this year's sale was \$4,533.



456 boxes of eggs, plus many individual eggs, completely sold out, by the end of our sale. After evaluation of our shortfalls, last year (manpower, holding space, packing and presentation issues) we implemented several new techniques to improve our egg production. Using an online volunteer sign-up system, we increased our production help by 120%. 222 volunteer hours were

tracked using the system. However, many more hours were actually worked, that were not accounted for with the system. Our holding power increased exponentially over last year, by applying a new stacking system in our refrigerator and freezer. The purchase of a small box wrapping machine, allowed us to professionally seal our candy boxes, improving the overall appearance, and "keeping" quality of our product. Online merchandising with our Facebook presence is promoting a wider community following. We are steadily increasing our sales by approximately 100 boxes a year. We tried a new flavor of egg this year, teaberry. Taste testers gave us a big "thumbs up". Teaberry WILL be added to our flavor assortment next year. Tell your friends! And as always, we are grateful for the support we receive, in so many ways! Another successful year, for us!

Please pray for our homebound:

Barbara Bross, Fran Bova, Bette Gill, Joe Dowhower,
David Hargrove, George Shaak, Anne Shemeta,
Cindy Wenger, Sue Ann Richards

Schedule of Responsibilities

May 2023

	8:00 AM	10:30 AM
<i>May 7th</i>		
LECTOR	Beth Yocum	John Feather, Jr.
CRUCIFER (10:30)	Wiley Parker	Ryan Schies
TORCH/ACOLYTE (1 for 8 AM)		David Dowhower
TORCH/ACOLYTE (2 for 10:30)		Bryan/Samuel Bowser
<i>May 14th</i>		
LECTOR	Sue LeBaron-Tonini	Lisa Herzing
CRUCIFER (10:30)	Wiley Parker	Bryan Bowser
TORCH/ACOLYTE (1 for 8 AM)		David Dowhower
TORCH/ACOLYTE (2 for 10:30)		Ryan Schies/Samuel Bowser
<i>Thursday, May 18 - Ascension Day</i>	7:30 PM	
LECTOR	Diana Hynson	
CRUCIFER	Wiley Parker	
TORCH/ACOLYTE	Ryan Schies	
TORCH/ACOLYTE)	Bryan Bowser	
<i>May 21st</i>	8:00 AM	
LECTOR	Pamela Weaner	John Shott
CRUCIFER (10:30)	Wiley Parker	David Dowhower
TORCH/ACOLYTE (1 for 8 AM)		Bryan/Samuel Bowser
TORCH/ACOLYTE (2 for 10:30)		Ryan Schies
EVENSONG	6:30 PM	
THURIFER		
CRUCIFER	Bryan Bowser	
TORCH BEARER		
TORCH BEARER		
<i>May 28th</i>	8:00 AM	
LECTOR	Diana Hynson	Kara Wenger
CRUCIFER (10:30)	Wiley Parker	David Dowhower
TORCH/ACOLYTE (1 for 8 AM)		Bryan Bowser
TORCH/ACOLYTE (2 for 10:30)		Samuel Bowser

Special Thanks to Our Wonderful Clerical Sabbatical Team

**Mother Mary Kisner
Father Bradley Mattson
Mother Robyn Szoke-Coolidge**

for leading our services during Father David's sabbatical.