

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

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Do Justice. Love Mercy. Walk humbly with God

July 2023

# (Not the) Rector's Corner by guest writer Mother Robyn Szoke-Coolidge



## **Our Sabbatical Journey Together**

I think back to the time when Fr. David, Mo. Mary, Fr. Bradley, Lisa and Terry and I met around a table preparing for these months of sabbatical time. There were practical, spiritual, and even emotional things to tend to...the saying good-bye, the organization of staff participation, and of course the goal to remain faithful and steady. We also spent time imagining how St. Luke's community would continue their own sabbatical time while Fr. David is away.

It quickly became clear to me that the staff and leadership were very prepared for this journey, you are a congregation of many gifted faith filled leaders, people who walk in the way of love seeking to strengthen faith and ministries.

Somehow during program and liturgy planning, pastoral tending, and collaborative initiatives there

continued and continues to be a deepening of love for God and for each other. During our last vestry gathering it was amazing to watch the intentionality of communication, hospitality and bringing everyone to see St. Luke's mission come to life. Not only because of a review of music opportunities previewed as coming attractions, but also the joy of anticipated events such as the "You are Loved" Pride liturgy with St. Luke's participation, the July 9th parish gathering at Hope Church for worship and fellowship and of course the joy of welcoming Fr. David home celebration.

This journey with you is a great privilege, I loved watching your participation in the sabbatical conversations to first remember what has worked well and to second, dream and provide ideas for the future of the parish. As you re -visited your core mission areas It became clear to me that the many sticky note responses will result in some new ways, new formation, new directions and new ways of welcoming. And from my own experience the charism of hospitality will weave through all your next steps.

This time is God's gift to all of us. We continue our prayers for Fr. David, as we prepare for his return.

My heart is full of gratitude for all of you. Your faithfulness, courage, and loving kindness have been an inspiration to me. Soon you will welcome Fr. David back, he has changed and so have we but the one thing that is consistent is the fact that the love of God, the love of St. Luke's and the love you have one to another abounds.

The Very Reverend Robyn Szoke-Coolidge is the Dean of the Stevenson School for Ministry and Assistant to the Bishop for Leadership Development in the Diocese of Central Pennsylvania,



by Steve Doster, Senior Warden

Over the past two months, members of St. Luke's Vestry have been leading a series of congregational conversations with the goal of obtaining ideas of how our parish will move forward into the future. These conversations utilized a structure called appreciative inquiry that allowed us to identify "stories" of success and/or failure from the past 5 years and "wishes" or ideas for the future. These conversations were compartmentalized by our four major core element categories that were identified in our Vision 20/20 plan: Outreach (Mercy Works); Music and Liturgy; Christian Formation; and Our Common Life.

Before Vestry prepares a final report on these reflections to present to Father David upon his return from sabbatical on July 30, we wanted to offer one final opportunity for you to weigh-in with your "stories" and/or "wishes". If you were not able to attend these sessions in person, or if you have new ideas beyond those shared at the in-person meetings – I invite you to complete the following survey, linked <a href="here">here</a>, available on our website at www.stlukeslebanon.org/our-sabbatical-journey-congregation-survey/, or by scanning the QR code in the image above. If you would prefer a paper copy of this survey to complete, please contact Lisa at the church office.

Please complete this survey by Saturday, July 15. A big thank you for all who have participated in this process, your ideas are vital to the future of St. Luke's.



## **Harding Volunteers Needed**

by Kathy Yohn



One of our calls as Christians is to help others. We have a great opportunity across the street at Harding Elementary school. They in need of volunteers. Many of the students live in poverty and are struggling to get an education that can help them get out of poverty. Volunteers do many things to help students learn and see a positive role model. Most of the volunteering centers around reading and language skills. Volunteers read to younger children and help them learn the alphabet and practice basic reading skills. In the higher elementary grades volunteers help small groups or individual students. These students are often reading below grade level and anyone helping with reading, spelling, or reading comprehension is very welcome. There are also opportunities to help with math and science. I am currently volunteering with fourth graders. I work with small groups and individuals to improve reading, language arts and math skills. In reading classes volunteers help students who are struggling to read. One thing I often do is work with a small group and go though class work at a slower pace and helping students understand what they are reading and answer class questions about the assignments. All this is done with at the direction of the teacher. In the past I helped kindergarten students learn their alphabet with flash cards. Math is a challenge for may students. Volunteers help them learn basic facts (like adding and subtracting) with flash cards and games.

One of the most important things volunteers do is serve as a positive role model for students who have difficult lives. They appreciate an outsider who cares enough to work with them.

I have been volunteering since about 2017, except during Covid. The students can be challenging and frustrating at times, but they are a great group of boys and girls who can go great things with some encouragement and confidence in themselves.

Please talk to me or give me a call at 717-964-2259 to learn more.

### **LCCM Update**

by Bryan Smith, Executive Director



It is an exciting time of transition for LCCM. You have played a huge role in our preparation for the transition of our FRESH Start Shelter to the Chestnut Street Community Center. We are still on target for a January 2024 move in. The Chestnut Street Community Center board of directors have

been incredible collaborators and partners, continuing to identify new partners to maximize the impact in the community.

On July 10, we are completing our transition to a choice pantry for all our food distribution. We are rebranding the distribution to the Market on 7<sup>th</sup> and distribution schedule will be Mondays from 12-3pm, Tuesdays from 10am-1pm, Wednesday's from 9am-1pm, and Thursday's from 4pm-7pm. We are excited about this transition to provide a dignified space where our guests will be empowered to make healthy and high-quality choices.

We have a few fundraising opportunities coming up and we hope you will consider getting involved. Much more information will follow soon. We will launch our Hurdles to Housing virtual peer-to-peer fundraiser. Those are fancy words for friends of LCCM to take the lead and request their friends help contribute. Our goal is 40 individuals/groups each raising \$500 each.

On September 9, we will be having our first annual Five Loaves 5K run at South Hills Park. There will be sponsorship opportunities and we will want as many runners as possible!

Thank you all for your support and allowing LCCM to DO its VISION: Investing in people. Improving lives.

## **Membership Records Update**

by Lisa Layser

We are working on updating our membership records and contact information.

We need your help! We created a form for you to fill out to help update your current contact information, birthdays and anniversaries, and areas that you are interested in getting involved in.

You will find a link to this form in the weekly email announcements beginning in July. You may also pick up a paper copy of the form in the Parish Office or in the Narthex or the table in the Cloister.

Please return this form to the Parish Office or drop it in the collection plate.



# **July 9 - Neighboring Parish Picnic**

Father Bradley Mattson and the good people of Hope Church have invited St. Luke's to a special service and picnic at Hope Church on Sunday, July 9. The service will be held in the historic Hope Church, 2425 Mountain Rd, Manheim, at 10:00AM with a pig and chicken roast picnic to follow in their parish house and outdoors. Hope Church has requested that members of St. Luke's consider bringing dessert and they will handle everything else. If you are interested in bringing a dessert, please sign up <a href="here">here</a> or by scanning the code below. Please come out and join us for good food and the opportunity to meet our neighbors to the south.



DID YOU KNOW - that St. Luke's began as a missionary outreach of Hope Church?

# July 30 - Father David's Return!!!

We will be holding a special church in the park event at 10:30AM on Sunday, July 30 in Coleman Memorial Park (1400 W Maple St, Lebanon, PA 17046) to welcome home Father David. Please look for signs and balloons as you enter the park directing you to the right pavilion. There will be no 8:00AM service at St. Luke's on July 30. In case of severe weather, we will hold this service at the Church and will notify you of any location change by email and Facebook.

PLEASE NOTE - There will be NO services at St. Luke's on July 9 and July 30.

#### **Christian Formation**

by Mother Mary Kisner

## Real People

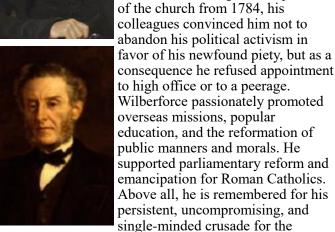
William Wilberforce and Anthony Ashley Cooper July 30



William Wilberforce was born into an affluent Yorkshire family in 1759 and received his education at Cambridge. In 1780 he was elected to the House of

Drawn to the evangelical expression

Commons, serving until 1825.



abolition of slavery and the slave trade, for which he received the blessing of John Wesley. Wilberforce's eloquence as a speaker, his charm in personal address, and his profound religious spirit made him a formidable power for good; and his countrymen came to recognize in him as a man of heroic greatness. Wilberforce died in London on July 29, 1833, and was buried in Westminster Abbey.

Anthony Ashley Cooper was born in 1801, son of the Sixth Earl of Shaftsbury. Educated at Harrow and Oxford, he became a Member of Parliament at the age of 25, representing the pocket borough of Woodstock that was controlled by the Shaftsbury family. He soon took up the challenge of social reform with particular concern for the just treatment of factory workers, particularly children. Lord Ashley led the charge in Parliament to limit workers' hours and improve work and safety conditions. He also successfully pushed through legislation that regulated the working conditions of women and children in the mines, and restricted the abuse of little boys as chimney sweeps. Lord Ashley devoted his parliamentary career to issues of injustice at all levels of English society, with particular concerns for the oppression of women and children. He was an outspoken critic of the slave trade. Like Wilberforce, he was a man of prayer and deep faith, and his diaries are filled with profound spiritual reflections.

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### **Confirmation Class Forming**

by Mother Mary Kisner



The Church School curriculum for our students in Middle School and High School will center around all they need to know and do to be confirmed in their faith in spring 2024. Activities will include studying the Bible, becoming familiar with the Book of Common Prayer, activities of service around Confirmation the parish and the community at large, a pilgrimage to a

cathedral (or two or three), and other activities.

Students who will be 11 years old by next spring (or shortly thereafter) are eligible for reception of this sacrament. The decision to be confirmed need not take place until about a month before Bishop Nichols visits - a date to be determined. However, students should be attending Church School and worship services in the meantime.

Classes will begin in September and dates and times will vary depending on who will be part of the classes. All students in this age group are invited to attend, whether or not they have already been confirmed. There will be some variation from past Confirmation offerings and all students will be able to participate in all the activities whether or not they will be confirmed in the spring.

## **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-thissunday.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.



On Sunday, June 25, St. Luke's hosted a service on the theme "You Are Loved" to open Lebanon's Got Pride 2023. This service was followed by a Pride flag raising ceremony in the churchyard and a community reception in the auditorium. For the remainder of the afternoon, representatives of St. Luke's staffed a booth at the Pride celebration.

This event took the work of many hands: St. Luke's parishioners, clergy, and staff; diocesan staff; choir singers from all over Central Pennsylvania; members of the local LGBTQ+ community; and others who all came together to make this not just a day of acceptance, but one of love and radical hospitality.

To quote the Rev. Kevin Barron, Chair of the LGBTQ Task Force of the Episcopal Diocese of Central Pennsylvania, from the sermon he gave that day: "In truth, many of our churches are not ready to love as Jesus loved. Thankfully, some are."



The Episcopal Dioceses of Bethlehem and Central Pennsylvania are in talks to discuss reunification. What does this mean to Episcopalians in those dioceses?

The reunification discernment committee wants to hear your questions, your concerns, and your thoughts. The committee will be holding two listening sessions in July, on the 8th and the 13th.

For details on the listening sessions and to watch a video outlining the possible reunification, click <a href="here">here</a>, scan this code, or visit www.diocesecpa.org.





#### ECW News



## **Seeking Plant Booth Chairperson** for St. Luke's 2023 Christmas Bazaar!

November 18, 2023—9am to 2pm If you are interested, have questions, or would like any additional information, please contact Meghan Sidelnick by July 31, 2023.

Email: meg01981@aol.com or Cell (717) 333-6635

### Hope Hill Field Trip Spots Still Available by Laurie Daub



A few tickets are still available for the July 8th trip to Hope Hill Lavender Farm for a visit and for a lavender wand making class. This is an open event-no need to be a member of ECW to join! 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!

#### 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 meeting in July.

## **Christmas in July**

by Beth Yocum



I know you are thinking... Christmas in July...but it is time to get our Annual Christmas stockings ready for production. The ECW has provided 130 stockings to various nursing homes in Lebanon County. We have some of the women working on various items but we are looking for the members of St. Luke's to help provide us

with some of the other items.

We are trying a new procedure this year. During church services, a baggie will be found in a tub in the elevator entrance to the church AND in the office during office

1. Get a baggie – sheet attached to remind you of items Toothpaste – sample size

Lotion- sample size, preferably unscented Deodorant – sample size, unisex Chapstick

2. Return the baggie to the tub when you have found the items.

This project will begin the week of July 8 th. Once again, get a baggie and return the baggie after completion. REMEMBER you can get more than one baggie!



### Homemade flan sale to benefit the children's Sunday school August trip to Sight and Sound

\*Flan is a classic Spanish baked custard dessert with a caramel glaze. Served chilled or room temp

\*\$15. for a 9"flan

\*available Sundays July 16 Aug 6

\*pick up 9am to noon Fellowship Hall

#### Flan making class with Olga Ortiz, instructor

Saturday, August 5, \$15 class fee Church kitchen 10 AM

Class size limited to 8 participants, pre-registration necessary

Each student will receive a free 9" flan, to be picked up Sunday, August 6, 9AM to 12 noon

\*Flan orders and class registration must be prepaid and can be completed online at stlukesbazaar.org.



### **Appreciative Inquiry Session**

by Laurie Daub

ECW is conducting an in- person "appreciative inquiry" session for all the women of St Luke's to be tentatively held Sunday, July 23 in the auditorium. Participants may choose one session only -approximately 1 hour - after each morning church service, at 9AM or 11:30AM. Refreshments will be served.

Your ECW is hoping to gain insight through this session about what is important to each of YOU, as women of our church. What do you think is important in a modern Episcopal Church Women organization? How should we move forward in a way that is meaningful to you? What do we do well? What would you like to see happen, moving forward? What are your wishes? As a woman in this church you are important, you can make a difference. Join us, and help us with this mission!

Please find time for this very important survey session. The work that our ECW does makes a difference for all of us. Your voice, your opinion, counts!

## **Trip to Sight and Sound Theater**



# Tuesday, August 15 at 11 AM

Sign up now to join us as we go to Lancaster for this wonder-filled show!

A generous donor has offered to pay for all children's tickets, and we are doing some fund-raising to defray the cost of the adult tickets (see Flan Sale for details). Please sign up at the bulletin board outside the office. We will be buying the tickets during the first week of July.



# Happy Birthday to ...

Youth Catherine Hackett Walker Kalbach Vivian Doster Samuel Bowser	7/6 7/13 7/14 7/29
Adults	
Lisa Shultz	7/2
Goni Lyter	7/3
Kirk Galebach	7/3
Deborah Harris	7/6
Kenneth Suter	7/6
Jacob Soderman	7/8
Phyllis Reilly	7/14
Susan Duncan	7/14
Dianne Malone	7/15
Greyson Doster	7/15
David Syvertsen	7/16
Hugh Good	7/16
David Dowhower	7/17
Randall Schies	7/18
Sandra Stabilito	7/21
Bernice Schies	7/21
Sarah Gates	7/21
John Tylwalk II	7/22
Polly Mayhoffer	7/24
Debby Tanico	7/27
Heidi Tylwalk	7/29
Kelsey Lyter	7/29
Carole Katzmann	7/31

# Happy Anniversary to...

Joseph & Sandi Mesics	7/05
Matthew & Elizabeth Baker	7/08
Ed & Pat Henry	7/11
Bud & Carole Katzmann	7/20
Kirk & Marilyn Galebach	7/22
Carlos & Sarah Centeno	7/24
Kyle & Heather Lesher	7/30

	8:00 AM	10:30 AM
July 2nd		
LECTOR	Scott Eggert	John Shott
CRUCIFER (10:30)		David Dowhower
TORCH/ACOLYTE (1 for 8 AM)	Bryan Bowser	Ryan Schies
TORCH/ACOLYTE (2 for 10:30)		William W. Claxton
July 9th		OUTDOOR SERVICE AT HOPE EPISCOPAL 10 AM
LECTOR	Beth Yocum	Emily Guilliams
CRUCIFER (10:30)		
TORCH/ACOLYTE (1 for 8 AM)	Wiley Parker	
TORCH/ACOLYTE (2 for 10:30)		
July 16th		
LECTOR	Sue LeBaron-Tonini	Rob Box
CRUCIFER (10:30)		Bryan Bowser
TORCH/ACOLYTE (1 for 8 AM)	Wiley Parker	David Dowhower
TORCH/ACOLYTE (2 for 10:30)		William W. Claxton
July 23rd		
LECTOR	Pam Weaner	Katherine Hoopes
CRUCIFER (10:30)		Ryan Schies
TORCH/ACOLYTE (1 for 8 AM)	Wiley Parker	Bryan Bowser
TORCH/ACOLYTE (2 for 10:30)		Samuel Bowser
		David Dowhower
July 30th		OUTDOOR SERVICE COLEMAN'S PARK 10 AM
LECTOR	Diana Hynson	John Feather, Jr.
CRUCIFER (10:30)		CHALICE BEARERS John Feather, Jr.
TORCH/ACOLYTE (1 for 8 AM)	Wiley Parker	Kathy Yohn
TORCH/ACOLYTE (2 for 10:30)		

### **Summer Music Schedule**



July 2 - Lydia Kilinger July 9 - Outdoor Service July 16 - Laura Edinger July 23 - Daniel Walmer July 30 - Outdoor Service August 6 - Gwendolyn Bowers August 13 - Jacob McGovern August 20 - TBA August 27 - Morgan Hackett September 3 - Eric Pope September 10 - Anna Heitmann



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).

There will be no Coffee Hour on July 9 (Hope Church picnic) or July 30 (Church in the Park and Father David's return).

You can also sign up online at

 $\frac{https://www.signupgenius.com/}{go/10C0D4BAAA92BA4FACE9-coffee}\,, by scanning the code$ above, 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!