

RECTOR'S CORNER



Fr. David's sabbatical walking shoes are still here.

Are You Still With Me?

Now that same day two of them were going to a village called Emmaus, about seven miles from Jerusalem. They were talking with each other about everything that had happened. As they talked and discussed these things with each other, Jesus himself came up and walked along with them ...

(Luke 24:13-15)

It's hard to imagine but it has been nearly a year since we celebrated my sabbatical leave-taking. Much has passed since that bittersweet moment – much of it recounted in my travel blog and in the record of your vision deliberations through the summer months. That time passed quickly and much changed. It was a crucial time for St. Luke's as our community made its emergence from the dramatic impacts of the pandemic. Even as the masks fell away, the marks of that traumatic experience remained. Diminished attendance in worship and the palpable absence of several of our newer, younger families, for example, have taken its toll on our psyche. And yet, new initiatives in creating community partnerships and collaborative mission efforts continue to create momentum in our forward movement. An unquestionably successful capital campaign once more proved the confidence that our members have in the future of our mission and ministry.

I can't help but remember a line from one of the Star Wars movies when Darth Vader in pitched battle says, "The force is strong in this one." In a much different way, I can say with confidence that "The Spirit is strong in this place." That was clear to me as I returned from sabbatical last summer – and it has been proven itself true and lasting over the last year. In the face of adversity and challenge, our parish continues strong in the Lord even when the road seems long and difficult.

As April comes upon us, we bid our Lenten journey farewell and enter yet another walk – that lovely Emmaus walk of fifty Easter days, where we rediscover the joy of the Risen Lord. This joy then leads to the challenge of Pentecost, that moment when we recall the ultimate gift of life, given in the Spirit of God to each and all for the building of the kingdom of God.

At the March vestry meeting, we had a, shall we say, "strong discussion" about the necessity of some folk in our parish stepping up to share their gifts in several ways to help sustain the vibrancy of our parish. One of the downsides of the pandemic is our acquired tendency toward isolation – to keep to ourselves – leaving many essential tasks to fewer and fewer people.

Take, for example, our buildings and properties. Their management is a complex matter that requires careful thought from different perspectives. To help in this area, you don't have to be an engineer or a contractor – no one is asking anyone to do the maintenance work itself. But we need people with an ounce or two of common sense and a way of understanding how we can manage the continual maintenance of our historic buildings to avoid bigger problems down the road.

Hospitality is another critical area – one where many can really help. Taking on hosting a coffee hour from time to time, signing up to help with ushering at worship once a month, or assisting with other tasks that help to express the warmth and welcome that characterize the people of St. Luke's can go a long way to building our community – not just with visitors but by building up one another in love.

It's a year later. Are you still with me?

With you as a pilgrim on The Way, I remain faithfully,

David +

STEWARDSHIP

Easter: The Perfect Model for Hospitality

BY FATHER DAVID ZWIFKA, RECTOR



The Power of Christian Hospitality

In many churches, Christmas and Easter are the times of year when a sizable number of people who don't normally attend weekly services visit us. Churches prepare for visitors during these special times. What would happen if we didn't reserve our hospitality A-game just for these special times? What if our special efforts became the standard for hospitality every week? Here are some ways we might attend to that challenge.

1. Give extra attention to church appearance.

We always make sure our church looks special at Easter. The church is clean, shiny, and beautifully adorned with flowers. Once the season passes, however, we often fall back into bad habits, even waiting until Advent before we take any unusual care to do anything special.

But what if keeping our church and our properties clean and attractive was genuinely a year-round priority? What if everything looked tip-top every time a visitor came? What if we paid similar attention to telling the gospel story throughout the year with appropriate art and décor to match each season?

2. Display a warm, welcoming spirit.

Typically, when visitors attend Easter services, they are greeted with a welcoming, joyful spirit. People are in a festive holiday mood, and it shows by how they interact with visitors. But if a visitor returns a few weeks later, that welcoming, joyful spirit usually has been replaced by a half-hearted smile and scant recognition of the visitor's presence as we return to our usual routines.

We need to maintain that warm, welcoming spirit throughout the year. If we don't sustain this welcoming presence, it signals to visitors that our Easter welcome might have been just a "one off." Our tradition teaches us that every Sunday is "a little Easter." We need to sustain Easter joy so that weekly visitors experience the same welcoming spirit they encounter on these special days.

3. Follow up consistently.

We need to create an effective visitor follow-up. Currently, many of our visitors slide right past us. Some of our parishioners might be interested in forming a kind of "welcoming" team that follows up with folks who visit searching for a new church home – or are simply passing through. That kind of warm feeling – that someone noticed your presence – can have a lasting impact and spreads the good word about the spirit of our church family.

Hospitality is one of the ways that we live up to our baptismal covenant. Let's make this Eastertide a season of true hospitality that never ends and transforms us into a people that seeks and serves Christ in all persons, loving our neighbor as ourselves. (BCP, 305) ~

Special Statement on Capital Campaign Projects

BY FATHER DAVID ZWIFKA, RECTOR, AND STEVE DOSTER, SENIOR WARDEN

Shortly after our Easter celebrations, work will commence on various phases of the projects envisioned by our capital campaign. The precise construction schedule has not been finalized but once work begins, there will be some unavoidable disruptions to the normal conduct of parish activities. The parish's leadership asks that everyone remain flexible concerning the various demands and stresses that we will experience through the next several months.

Please watch carefully for announcements concerning schedule or venue changes and cancellations. So far, it looks like we are slightly ahead of schedule (fingers crossed)! With your help and cooperation, we should see things completed by our fall programming season! ~

HOSPITALITY

Coffee Hour

BY EILEEN SIDELNICK

Coffee Hour hosts are needed for the 8:00 and 10:30 Coffee Hours in April.

You can sign up online at https://www.signupgenius.com/go/10 cod4baaa92ba4face9-coffee#/, on the sign up sheet on the office bulletin board, or by calling the church office. If you need assistance, please contact Eileen Sidelnick or Matt Haag. Thank you for volunteering! ~



WORSHIP

Wednesday Healing Services

10 AM in Holy Trinity Chapel

COMMUNITY



On March 21, our neighbor and collaborator Laurie Funk (right) was inducted into the Hall of Fame of the Lebanon County Commission for Women for her work in founding the Chestnut Street Community Center. Laurie was nominated for this award by parishioner Jen Hackett and accompanied at the banquet by Mother Mary Kisner (left). Congratulations, Laurie!

Choral Evensong



FOR THE
THIRD SUNDAY
IN EASTER
WITH STILLE'S

WITH ST. LUKE'S FESTIVAL CHOIR

SUNDAY APRIL 14, 2024 6 PM

PRECES AND RESPONSES OF RACHEL AARONS;
PSALM 114 SET BY SIR EDWARD BAIRSTOW;
MAGNIFICAT AND NUNC DIMITTIS
BY CHARLES WOOD;
"THE DAY DRAWS ON WITH GOLDEN LIGHT"
BY EDWARD BAIRSTOW

A FREEWILL OFFERING WILL BE TAKEN

CONCERT BY THE JACOB MCGOVERN
JAZZ QUARTET AND RECEPTION
TO FOLLOW



CHRISTIAN FORMATION

BY MOTHER MARY KISNER

Healing in Jesus' Name

Laying on of Hands, Part I

Note: When I write here about spiritual Healing, I am using that term synonymously with Christian Healing.



Jesus healed many people by simply touching them, sometimes adding words and sometimes not. For instance in Matthew 8, a man with leprosy asks to be healed. "Jesus reached out his hand and touched the man. 'I am willing,' he said. 'Be clean!'" There are many more instances throughout the gospel accounts which mention how Jesus healed others by touching and laying on of his hands. It is one of the primary reasons that he gained the following he did.

From the earliest beginnings of the Christian Church the healing ministry of Jesus has continued. The Laying on of Hands became a pattern of healing for all disciples and members of the early Church to use in their everyday lives. By incorporating this practice they were following in the footsteps of Jesus in bringing health and wholeness to their communities.

For a while the Laying on of Hands became most closely associated with ordination services for clergy and for Confirmation. It's use in the sacrament of unction (part of Last Rites) was often reserved for a person's last moments before death. In the last fifty to sixty years however, that sacrament has received a new emphasis as an anointing and laying on of hands to restore health and wholeness to those who are sick (Sacrament of the Sick). This is the way it is most often celebrated and received in the modern Church.

As with other aspects of healing ministry, the Laying on of Hands need not be reserved solely for use by clergy. Long before I was ordained, I would often pray for my children or husband when they were ill and I would include touching the affected area or their shoulder, back, or arm with my hand while I prayed, sometimes silently but often out loud. I would quietly ask the Lord Jesus to touch them with healing and relieve their hurt or illness. I considered that as a part of my responsibility as a parent, and it comforted them and often they experienced a decrease in their illness, and sometimes complete relief.

One of my sons was especially effective in praying for me when I had a headache. He would lay a hand on my shoulder and ask Jesus to heal me, and the headache would soon be gone.

The focus of Laying on of Hands with prayer is always our Lord Jesus. The power that is present in this gesture does not come from the person who is laying on hands. The power is from the One in whose Name the prayer is offered. The believer serves only as a channel, an avenue, for Christ's healing power to be granted. The very act of Laying on of Hands is a tangible expression of our belief in the healing that is given through Jesus, the Great Physician. Both the one who is administering and the one who is receiving this ministry are acknowledging dependence upon the Triune God for all healing.

God uses many hands to work for our well being. Those hands can be the touch of a skilled surgeon, dedicated nurse, sympathetic physician, prayerful pastor, and concerned lay person. Through the abilities of each one, God works healing into our lives. The ministry of healing is supported by spiritual ministries and by science, and our path to healing is best effected when we avail ourselves of both. ~

Next month - "Laying on of Hands," part II

A Special Invitation!

Sunday, April 14 9:15 am In the Auditorium



Join us for Coffee Hour; watch as we play!

Everyone is invited to a special presentation by our Church School classes. Starting with the Circle of the Church year, they will be helping to show how the stories they learned, and the liturgies they participate in, all overlap and come together to form a complete picture.

It's a fascinating way to see how so many aspects of our life in faith come together. Then stay and celebrate the end of the year at our party with our students and teachers. ~

Bible Study

10 AM Thursdays in our ZOOM room at https://zoom.us/j/190727051
Find the readings for each Sunday on the homepage of our website under "This Week at St. Luke's," "Online Bible Study." https://stlukeslebanon.org/

CHRISTIAN FORMATION

On Sunday, March 10, Adrien, Alex, Catherine, and Colin were confirmed during the 10:30 service.

We are so grateful to have them as full members of The Episcopal Church and St. Luke's.

May God keep you in all your days.
May Christ shield you in all your ways.
May the Spirit bring you healing and peace.
May God the Holy Trinity drive all darkness from you and pour upon you blessing and light.

















Heartfelt thanks to Mother Mary for her deep knowledge, ready kindness, and steadfast leadership in preparing our young confirmands. Your influence is far greater than you know.

CELEBRATION

On Sunday, March 10, St. Luke's was privileged to host a multidiocese, ecumenical Evensong celebrating the successful forgiveness of more than \$3.5 million of medical debt through the Help, Healing, and Hope campaign. This outreach project, initiated by Hope Episcopal Church in partnership with St. Luke's, has favorably impacted hundreds of families with medical debt.

Although the Help, Healing, and Hope campaign is ending, the need for medical debt relief goes on.

For The Episcopal Church's official position on medical debt, please visit:

https://episcopalarchives.org/cgibin/acts/acts resolution.pl?resolution=2022-A161

To donate to medical debt relief, please visit: https://ripmedicaldebt.org











For news coverage of this extraordinary event, please see:

Episcopal News Service: https://www.episcopalnewsservice.org/2024/03/11/churches-in-two-pennsylvania-dioceses-raise-funds-to-eliminate-3-million-in-medical-debt/

ABC27: https://www.abc27.com/local-news/two-midstate-churches-help-erase-medical-debt/

WGAL: https://www.wgal.com/article/millions-medical-debt-forgave-two-episcopal-churches/60151575

Fox43: https://www.fox43.com/article/life/lancaster-county-church-l-forgive-millions-medical-debt/521-62e20c3f-de82-4b1f-ab54-367bc05a6586

LebTown: https://lebtown.com/2024/03/06/local-episcopal-churches-buy-then-forgive-over-3-million-in-medical-debt/

MUSIC

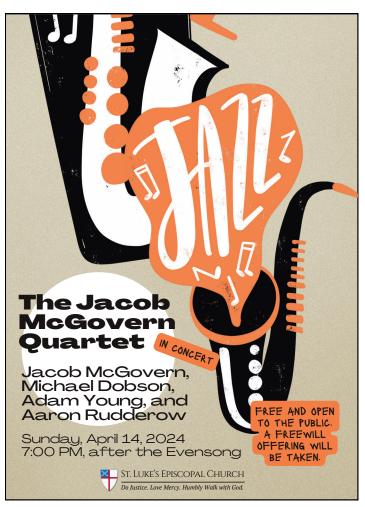
The Strife is O'er

BY DR. TERRY HEISEY, MUSIC DIRECTOR

This very popular Easter text was first matched with the familiar tune (*Hymnal 1982* no. 208) in the 1861 edition of *Hymns Ancient and Modern*. The relationship has continued in all Episcopal hymnals since the Hutchins edition of the 1892 *Hymnal*.

The earliest printed version of this anonymous Latin text appeared in a book of compositions for 4 voices entitled *Symphonia Sirenum Selectum* (Cologne, 1695). It vividly depicts the battle between good and evil that Christ decisively one for all on the first Easter day. The text was first translated into English by John Mason Neale (1818-1866) in his *Mediaeval Hymns and Sequences* (London, 1851), but the translation in general use today is by Francis Pott (1831-1909), first published in *Hymns fitted to the Order of Common Prayer* (London, 1861). Pott's position on the committee compiling *Hymns Ancient and Modern* assured its inclusion in that seminal collection but did not prevent numerous changes in the text by others on the committee. Those changes, however, were not accepted by other hymnal editors, and it is Pott's original translation that we use today.

The tune "Victory" was adapted by British hymn writer William H. Monk (1823-1889) for *Hymns Ancient and Modern* from the "Gloia Patri et Filio" of a Tone 3 *Magnificat* (Rome, 1591) by Giovanni Pierluigi da Palestrina (1525-1594), one of the giants of Renaissance music. The "Alleluias" were composed by Monk. Monk's adaptation may not have been totally original. Previous adaptations of the tune for use with other texts had been published anonymously in *Parish Choir* (London, 1851) and *Tune Book* (New York, 1858). In any event, it is Monk's version that has been used universally since its first publication. Hymnologist Albert Bailey correctly notes that the "joyous music of Palestrina has helped to carry this hymn to its continuous popularity." The "alleluias" that begin the hymn signal the joy that is to follow. ~



Senior Recital

BY JASON YANNUZZI, CHOIRMASTER

St. Luke's choir member Anna Heitmann will give her Senior Recital on Tuesday April 16 at 7:30 PM at Zimmerman Recital Hall at Lebanon Valley College.



(Please note that this location was incorrect in the March *Angelus*.) It will be a shared recital with her colleague Jazmine. Good luck and congratulations, Anna! ~



EPISCOPAL CHURCH WOMEN ECW News

Candy Sale Update

As this article is being written, we are just days away from the final pick up of all pre-ordered eggs. Final numbers are not available yet, but it is safe to say, the sale has been a huge success! And not just monetarily! More and more people are volunteering their time, in all sorts of ways, to help this process along. Volunteers have found how much fun it can be to learn and discover new gifts to share for a common goal. Getting to know new people can be enjoyable as well! Well done St. Luke's! I gratefully thank you all for your support.

UPDATE: Gross sales are likely to top \$7,000! ~

Visit to Align Pregnancy Center and Baby Shower

BY LYNN HEISEY

ECW members will be visiting the Align Pregnancy Center at 132 S. 8th St. on Tuesday evening, April 8, at 5:30 PM.

We will be touring the Align facility to learn of the many free services that are available to anyone facing a pregnancy. If you wish to donate any suggested items from the center's wish list (see page 10 of this newsletter), gifts may be placed in the marked container in the hallway outside of the nave. These "shower" gifts will be presented during our visit.

Members should meet outside the Pregnancy Center at 5:30 PM. After the visit we will be traveling to Snitz Creek Brewery, for dinner and a brief meeting.

RSVP Laurie Daub 717-413-1821 for dinner reservations, or if transportation is needed. ~

Screening of "The Philadelphia Eleven" Doc at St. Thomas, Lancaster

Includes dinner, panel discussion, and dessert reception

BY LAURIE DAUB

The ECW will be organizing a carpool to this co-diocese, multiparish event to be held at St. Thomas Episcopal Church, Lancaster, Friday evening, April 26, at 5:30 PM. This is a FREE event, but a good will offering will be collected.

Registration is required and seating is limited. Learn more and register at https://www.stthomaslancaster.org/calendar-and- events/philadelphia-eleven-movie-screening. Call Laurie Daub for carpool information 717-413-1821. We will leave St. Luke's parking lot at approximately 4:15 pm. ~

MILESTONES

April

Youth Birthdays

Braylee Lesher 4/7 Jane Herzing 4/14 Declan Daubert 4/17 William Drexel 4/29

Adult Birthdays

Dale Bashore 4/1 Marilyn Galebach 4/4 Lexie Keffer 4/6 Benjamin Baker 4/7 Ethan Gragson 4/10 Susan LeBaron-Tonini 4/11 Bette Gill 4/15 Joseph Mesics 4/15 Robert Nunemacher 4/19 Jordan Moyer 4/20 John Thomas 4/22 Leslie King 4/23 Zachary Yocum 4/23 Leonid Aquilar 4/24 Ethan Jones 4/26 James Joseph Gates 4/26 Francene Gates 4/27 Linda Clawser 4/27 Betsy Barnhart 4/28 Thomas Buzby 4/29 Sarah Groh 4/29 Julia Nunemacher 4/30 Cole Haldeman 4/30

Anniversaries

Wiley & Jackie Parker 4/20 James & Julie Keller 4/22 Robert Tonini & Susan LeBaron-Tonini 4/26



EPISCOPAL CHURCH WOMEN

ECW News, cont.

May ECW Meeting

TUESDAY EVENING, 7 PM **MAY 14** CHAPEL OF ST. LUKES "PRAYING IN COLOR" JUDY WANFRIED, guest speaker

Program description:

We will be experimenting with "different" ways of praying, particularly through doodling and drawing, using color to underscore our thoughts. No artistic talent needed!

We will also touch on "setting the scene" for praying in color and the use of these suggestions for journaling or meditative prayer.

Attendees should bring colored pencils, paper will be provided. ~





AND WE MIGHT USE YOUR PHOTO TO PROMOTE NEXT YEAR'S SALE!



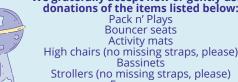


Please join us for a "baby shower" to support mothers in need!

From now until **Sunday, April 7**, we will be collecting new and gently used baby items. Donations can be placed in the marked plastic bin outside of the nave. These items will be donated during the ECW visit to Align Pregnancy Services on April 9.

We gratefully accept new or gently used donations of the items listed below:

Pack n' Plays



Exersaucers Activity seats Changing tables Baby gates

Swings
Apparel and apparel accessories (sizes preemie through 5T)



Car seats Changing pads
Feeding utensils, bottles, bottle liners, and sippy cups **Pacifiers**

Baby bath tubs Baby food grinder or baby food warmer Cloth baby diapers Infant toys Unopened formula, baby food, juice

Unopened baby hygiene items (shampoo, wash, powder, lotion, oil, diaper ointment, etc.) Diapers (sizes preemie through 6) Baby wipes Boppy pillows

Please note that we cannot accept used toys, cribs, baby baths, new or used stuffed animals, or several other select used items. Please contact rrowe@alignlifeministries.org if you have questions about donating a specific item.

Gift cards to Target or Walmart are also appreciated.





HISTORY

Capital Campaigns, Part II

St. Luke's Improvement Fund--Again and Again and Again

BY DR. TERRY HEISEY, MUSIC DIRECTOR

As reported in Part I (Jan. 2024), St. Luke's first professionally-run capital campaign, St. Luke's Improvement Fund, chaired by Robert James, ended its 3-year course (May 1, 1960-Apr. 30, 1963) with income of \$121,334, but the parish had borrowed \$183,000 from Lebanon banks at 5% interest and \$25,000 from the Diocese at 2%, and still had a debt of \$154,000 for all the construction accomplished under the campaign. Interest on this debt was mounting, so paying off this debt was of prime importance. Efforts to contact people with unpaid pledges (\$13,996) were fruitless, so at the Annual Meeting on Feb. 24, 1963, Fr. Lloyd Teeter announced plans for a second campaign for debt liquidation to start at the conclusion of the first campaign. This would be run by the parish without professional help under the leadership of a new chairman, Edward Lauther.

The first campaign had included 200 pledges. Initial canvassing for the St. Luke's Improvement Fund—Second Phase yielded only 61 pledges totaling \$36,000. However, with the help of bequests and contributions from the holiday bazaars the second phase ended its 3-year life on Apr. 30, 1966 with total receipts of \$102,990. Yet, the church was still paying interest on loans of \$62,000 from Lebanon banks and \$10,313 from the diocese. Vestry decided to engage Kirby-Smith Associates once again for a final 3-year campaign (1967-1970), but to continue fund raising in the interim between campaigns the church secured pledges for May 1, 1966-May 31, 1967. This St. Luke's Improvement Fund—Third Phase yielded a total of \$14,691 (including \$2500 from the 1966 Bazaar) on initial pledges of \$8700.

The St. Luke's Improvement Fund—Final Phase (June 1, 1967-May 31, 1970) was initiated the same way as the First Phase with an oversize letter to all parishioners from Fr. Teter and a campaign brochure. Both reminded readers how much the 1960 renovations had accomplished and how much had been done in paying for them. "We have come a long way since May, 1960, in restoring our church and parish house to their excellent present state of repair, rebuilding our organ, and renewing furnishings. To accomplish this, we spent a quarter of a million dollars. To date we have repaid \$149,000 of this amount plus \$37,833 in interest charges. [But] we must raise \$85,000 in the next three years to finish the job within the decade. ... [W]e need you ... to give generously—even sacrificially." As in the first campaign, members were contacted individually by representatives of Kirby-Smith, rather than members of the parish. These efforts secured 162 pledges totaling \$57,993.

By Dec. 31, 1969, \$45,516 (including continued contributions from annual bazaars) had been raised. Of 162 pledges, only 11 had been written off and 74 were delinquent. But the man behind the drive for renovation and debt retirement was gone. Fr. Teter had left St. Luke's in November to take a position as Canon to the Bishop. A year later he was dead. Without Fr. Teter the Final Phase simply faded into oblivion.

In 1970 the Improvement and Building Fund accrued a further \$13,410 from pledges, but the church was not debt-free. Loans payable remained of \$23,100 to banks and \$6,325 to the diocese. Without fund-raising further efforts pledge money continued to trickle in: \$7752-1971, \$6879-1972, \$5845-1973, \$4011-1974. As of Dec. 31, 1974 (41/2 years after the official end of the "Final Phase") outstanding loans still totaled \$2700 to Lebanon banks and \$3557 to the diocese. By the next annual report the Building and Improvement Fund had morphed into a Mortgage Interest Fund that included money received, borrowed, and paid in the sale of Trinity Chapel. The annual report for 1976 continued to list outstanding bank loans even as pledge money began to accumulate in the next capital campaign, the Centennial Challenge. ~



promotional materials from the 1967 improvement fund campaign

SCHEDULE OF RESPONSIBILITIES

April 2024

| | 8:00 AM | 10:30 AM |
|---------------|--------------------|----------------------|
| 7-Apr | | |
| LECTOR | Diana Hynson | John Shott |
| CRUCIFER | Wiley Parker | Ryan Schies |
| TORCH/ACOLYTE | | Bryan Bowser |
| TORCH/ACOLYTE | | Samuel Bowser |
| 14-Apr | | |
| LECTOR | Beth Yocum | John Feather, Jr. |
| CRUCIFER | Wiley Parker | William W. Claxton |
| TORCH/ACOLYTE | | David Dowhower |
| TORCH/ACOLYTE | | Ryan Schies |
| EVENSONG | 6:00 PM | |
| THURIFER | | |
| CRUCIFER | Bryan Bowser | |
| TORCH/ACOLYTE | | |
| TORCH/ACOLYTE | | |
| 21-Apr | | |
| LECTOR | Sue Lebaron-Tonini | Kathy Yohn |
| CRUCIFER | Wiley Parker | Bryan Bowser |
| TORCH/ACOLYTE | | David Dowhower |
| TORCH/ACOLYTE | | Ryan Schies |
| 28-Apr | | |
| LECTOR | Pam Weaner | The Sidelnick Family |
| CRUCIFER | Wiley Parker | David Dowhower |
| TORCH/ACOLYTE | | Ryan Schies |
| TORCH/ACOLYTE | | Samuel Bowser |



Many thanks to everyone who helped to make our Easter Egg Hunt a huge success!

To all our candy donors, egg stuffers, and trinket buyers: **Thank you!**

To everyone who donated \$\$\$ for the sponsored children's ministries: Thank you!

To the Easter Bunny, for visiting St. Luke's: **Thank you!**

To our egg hiders on Easter morning, and everyone who helped the children: **Thank you!**

--Mother Mary

