

ACTS of ST. LUKE'S EPISCOPAL CHURCH

JUNE 2018



Jessica Hitchcock

Summer Missionaries

Summertime, here we come! WOOOOHOOOO! I love summer. I love the warmth and the longer evenings and the more relaxed feel to life and the tomatoes and corn! Summer is my happy time.

But summer is also bittersweet because it might mean I see less of you. You might have summer trips planned, big trips to see faraway places or smaller trips to see friends or enjoy all the fun activities this area has to offer.

So, here's the deal. I'm officially making you all missionaries. Your mission, should you choose to accept it, is to take God's love with you wherever you go - and SPREAD THAT LOVE. Don't just take it with you and keep it to yourself or your travel companions. Go and be world-changing love, wherever the spirit takes you.

- Be extra kind to those you encounter who work in the hospitality and tourism industry. Tip generously if you are able.
- When you see a kid having a temper tantrum (probably due to too much fun!), give the parent a smile that says "I've been there too. This will pass."
- While we need to limit the amount of bottled water we use, making sure our vulnerable neighbors have water is important—if you see someone in need, try to buy them a cool bottle of water. If you can, ask them if they would rather have water or soda or juice.
- If someone new moves to the neighborhood, invite them over for a cookout.
- Listen out for food pantries or shelters becoming low on supplies; when our schedules change, our giving and donations change, too.
- If you are traveling abroad, be clearly appreciative and respectful of other cultures and their ways of doing things.
- Traveling often is not very good for our planet. You won't always be able to reduce the amount of disposable plastic you use, but when you can—do it! Say no to straws when possible. Look into carbon offsets. God gave us this good earth and made us caretakers of it.

I also hope you'll let God's love change you this summer, too. Make a point to read books that help you connect with God. When you are in nature, listen for what God is saying to you. Make a practice of listing 5 things you are thankful for that day—maybe get a buddy and send your thankful

(Missionaries, continued on page 4)

PARISH



June 2018						
S	M	T	W	T	F	S
					1	2
3	4	5	6	7	8	9
10	11	12	13	14	15	16
17	18	19	20	21	22	23
24	25	26	27	28	29	30

**Community Engagement Cluster
Human Rights, Dignity & Safety**

Sue Snyder	1 st
Kathy Makos	1 st
Margaret Roper	12 th
Sacha South	15 th
Bob Allnutt	15 th
Catherine Nellist	17 th
Linda Freeman	19 th
Adrienne Davis-Leal	24 th
Dave Freeman	24 th
June Alleyne	30 th

June Special Dates

3 June	Advocacy Training Child-Friendly, all-ages, Supper Group
7 June	Office Closed
9 June	Garden Guild Workday
15 June	<i>Eid-al-Fitr</i> MCPS last day of school
17 June	Loaves & Fishes
21 June	First day of summer

The ACTS is now distributed electronically using the email address that we have for you on file in the office. If you did not receive it, please update your email address with Cynthia. admin@stlukesbethesda.org.

The parish prayer list is printed in the Sunday Announcements bulletin.

If you do not see your birthday listed during the year, please contact Cynthia.

Wyman Stone	1 st
Deb Marks	6 th
Joan Kleinrock	8 th
Tine Stone	10 th
Susie Casson	15 th
Jan Allnutt	17 th
Holly Stone	17 th
Treva Miller	20 th
David O'Sullivan	22 nd
Amy Sloan	23 rd
Jenny Bradley	27 th
Myrna Olsen	28 th
Julie Paisley	29 th



July 2018						
S	M	T	W	T	F	S
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
8	9	10	11	12	13	14
15	16	17	18	19	20	21
22	23	24	25	26	27	28
29	30	31				

**Community Engagement Cluster
Human Rights, Dignity & Safety**

July Special Dates

1 July	Canada Day
4 July	Independence Day Office closed
14 July	Garden Guild Work Day Supper Group
15 July	Loaves & Fishes
17 July	Book Lovers
29 July	Muslim neighbors welcomed Vegetarian picnic

SENIOR WARDEN

Discernment and Discovery: Update



Pat Rogers

Most of you will remember that at about this time last year we launched a period of Discernment and Discovery (D&D) to help us find a path for St. Luke's in the coming years. We hoped to be able to nurture what is good and unique about St. Luke's while exploring how to make our programs relevant, appealing, and meaningful to today's changing needs. Early in the fall, Stephanie summarized the summer's many-faceted discussions and made a range of recommendations: for example, to become a one-clergy parish; reduce the workload for the treasurer, contributions officer, and Junior Warden; examine the current worship structure; develop a plan to help the people of St. Luke's in our discipleship; and consider how best to use St. Luke's physical resources for the benefit of the community.

But then, just as the Vestry began working on how best to implement some of these recommendations, we learned of Stephanie's plans to retire. We set our D&D deliberations aside for the holiday season and for the time of celebrating Stephanie and saying goodbye. And suddenly some of those recommendations had happened—we had become a one-clergy parish, staff responsibilities were being rethought for greater efficiency, and both the 5 pm service regulars and the Sunday School parents had begun discussing how those programs could transform to best adapt to the changes at St. Luke's and their own changing needs.

Which brings us to today. We have ongoing D&D-related concerns, and at the same time we have a Priest-in-Charge with whom we are expected—and want—to work very intentionally to develop together a vibrant ministry that is healthy both for Jessica and for St. Luke's. But far from being in opposition, these two streams mesh incredibly well: part of Jessica's task is to “work with the Vestry and other lay leaders to pursue God's preferred future for St. Luke's.” In the next couple of weeks, the Vestry will meet with a facilitator who will help us take stock of how far we've come and discern what work we need to do to prepare for that future.

We will, of course, continue to report to the congregation on our progress. But my guess is that our D&D work will never really be done; there will never be a time when we can say we've reached perfection and can stay that way forever. Some of Stephanie's recommendations could be addressed early on, but others will take more time and maybe a trial-and-error approach. The real value of the D&D exercise may be that it made us aware of the need to remain flexible, to understand that there are many ways we can carry out our mission, and to continue to seek out the ways that work best at any given time. Let's keep the conversation going.

Pat

FELLOWSHIP

(Missionaries, continued from page 1)

lists to each other. Use this time to strengthen and appreciate the people God has put in your life. God sends us each other to help us become the person God created us to be.

When you are in town, please come to church. We'll be gathering to praise our Creator and listen to our sacred story on the same Sunday schedule: 8 & 10 am. We won't have Wednesday Eucharist between Memorial Day and Labor Day, but prayers will still be said midweek and your thanksgivings and petitions will be sought.

Please make a special effort to be here on **July 29th, a 5th Sunday, as we welcome our Muslim neighbors for worship at 10 am and then a vegetarian picnic after church.**

Jessica

Notes from the Garden Guild

The Garden Guild recently planted some *Penstemon* 'Red Rocks' (Beardtongue) in the garden by the Pat Corvelli bench. This native perennial is a superb hybrid variety that blooms most of the summer with large rose-pink flowers. The plants are vigorous and have attractive glossy green foliage. The term beardtongue comes from the hairy protrusion inside the lower lip of the flower, an organ which increases the efficiency of flower pollination. The lower lip also has purple stripes that help guide pollinators, such as bees and hummingbirds, to the nectar deep in the flower's throat. They are a very tolerant plant, handling all kinds of soil textures including compact urban soils. They also tolerate full sun to light shade and deer browsing.



The Garden Guild hosts monthly work days. **Next Work Day is scheduled for June 9.** Volunteers are always welcome.

For more information contact Susie Casson.

Susie Casson

Supper Group

How's your SUMMER goin', **SUPPER GROUP?**

If it's been running on low battery until now, here's a (positive) JOLT to look forward to:

Jammin' July Potluck

All Adult St. Lukers Welcome

6:30 on Saturday, July 14

Home of Stuart and Angie Wilkinson

Please contact them to ask what is needed:

entrée, salad/side dish, or dessert. **Optional:** a bottle of wine

Why? Because July 14 is *Bastille Day*,

The July Fourth of France, First Friend of the U.S.A.

(Not a wine-drinker? Bring something *you* like to drink.)

Parlez-vous francais? NON?!



Come anyway, and celebrate Christian Fellowship which embraces all colors, genders, and ethnicities.

Vive la Compagnie !

Questions? Ride? Contact Treva Miller.

Treva Miller

PARISH

Women of St. Luke's



The Women of St. Luke's will meet as usual at **11:30 am on June 19th** in the Reaves room. Please bring a brown bag lunch and share any plans you have made for the summer.

Leslie Roberts

Book Lovers

If you're a fan of mystery novels, you're probably aware of one of the stars of this genre, **Sue Grafton**, whose passing a few months ago was noted nationally. *"S" is for Silence*, the 19th in her "Alphabet" series, is the featured book for the July meeting of **BOOK LOVERS**. Like the previous "letters" in this series, our star is Kinsey Milhone, a private detective based in California. She investigates the "cold case" of a woman who left for a Fourth of July party—and was never seen again. Thirty-four years later, her daughter resolved to demand, "What happened?"

"Score another triumph for Kinsey. Grafton brings every corner of Serena Station, past and present, more deeply alive than your own hometown."—Kirkus Reviews.

"One of her best."—The Washington Post Book World.



Find out/Discuss this Whodunit at **7:30 on Tuesday evening, July 17**. Please join us at the home of DeAtley and Sam Barish, a mile from church. Please contact DeAtley to tell her you're coming. Not a frequent reader of mysteries? Take this opportunity to widen your experience and learn what all the fuss is about—or to take a break from your usual reads and dive into some Summer Reading.

Questions? Ride? Contact Treva Miller.

Treva Miller

Advocacy and the Church – Sunday, June 3

Our faith calls us to speak out against injustice. But what does this look like within the challenges of our current political climate? Please join us on **Sunday, June 3** as we welcome Alan Yarborough, the Communications Coordinator for the Episcopal Church's Office of Government Relations, who will offer two different advocacy trainings.

Following the 8 am service, from 9-9:50 am, learn how the ministry of faith-based policy advocacy can enhance our relationships with each other, and complement the current, tangible, Community Engagement ministries of our church. We'll also learn how the Episcopal Church's Office of Government Relations engages with the federal government on social issues, and how you can become involved through the Episcopal Public Policy Network (EPPN).

From 11:15-12:30 pm, we'll review how to have political conversations in a faith setting, using content from the five-part Civil Discourse Curriculum:

<https://advocacy.episcopalchurch.org/resources>

The EPPN is a grassroots network of Episcopalians across the country dedicated to carrying out our Baptismal Covenant to "strive for justice and peace" through the active ministry of public policy advocacy, focused on several key areas determined by the Church's priorities of evangelism, reconciliation, social justice, and also environmental stewardship.

This event is part of the Human Rights, Dignity, and Safety Cluster under Community Engagement.

Please come to one or both sessions!

Marta Montoro



FINANCE

FINANCE REPORT APRIL 2018

	2017	2018	'18 Actual	% of '18
	Actual	Budget	Thru April	Budget *
<u>RECEIPTS</u>				
Offering Plate	\$ 26,801	\$ 20,000	\$ 8,974	44.9%
Pledge Payments	439,561	440,000	229,374	52.1%
Donations for Facilities	42,310	40,000	16,220	40.6%
Altar Flower Donations	5,947	5,000	3,516	70.3%
Miscellaneous	58		12	
Operating Receipts	514,677	505,000	258,096	51.1%
<u>EXPENSES</u>				
Salaries & Benefits	\$ 360,248	\$ 301,870	\$ 95,728	31.7%
Program Support	17,545	29,200	12,308	42.2%
Parish Operations	105,367	122,600	36,682	29.9%
Outreach	19,026	20,000	4,000	20.0%
Diocesan Giving	42,000	44,000	14,680	33.4%
Operating Expenses	544,186	517,670	163,398	31.6%
Surplus/(Deficit)	(28,509)	(12,670)	94,698	
Additional Funding – Reserves	28,509	12,670	0	
Net after Reserve funds	\$ 0	\$ 0	\$ 94,698	

ENDOWMENT FUND BALANCE

\$55,872

* YTD April = 33.3% of the year

Budget Analysis: Pledge prepayments and on-going support have allowed us to start the year with an income cushion, but we have budgeted a loss of approximately \$12,670 for the year. All financial obligations for the year to date have been met and bills paid. The Bridge Fund balance is currently \$63,881. Your continued financial support will allow the growth and energy of St. Luke's to continue and strengthen.

If you need to be reimbursed for a purchase or need the Treasurer to pay an invoice, please obtain a Payment Request Form from the Office. An authorized person must sign the request. All requests for extra money or donations by committees, individuals or church members, should have prior approval of the Vestry before solicitation.

Jenny Bradley, Treasurer

CALENDAR

June 2018

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
27 Trinity Sunday 8:00 AM Holy Eucharist 10:00 AM Holy Eucharist 10:00 AM Children's Church 5:00 PM <i>Cristo la Roca</i> 8:00 PM <i>Youth AA</i>	28 Memorial Day Office Closed	29 10:30 AM Staff Meeting 3:30 PM <i>Cornerstone</i> 6:30 PM <i>Jubilee</i> <i>Autism</i>	30 7:00 PM <i>MKP - Mars Rising</i> Interfaith Works	31 1:00 PM Cornerstone 6:30 PM <i>Jubilee</i> <i>Autism</i> Women's Center Week	1 Men's Shelter Dinner	2 4:00 PM Dana Smith Recital 7:00 PM <i>Cristo la Roca</i>
3 8:00 AM Holy Eucharist and Baptism 9:00 AM Advocacy Training 10:00 AM Holy Eucharist 11:15 AM Advocacy Training 4:30 PM Child-Friendly Supper Group 5:00 PM <i>Cristo la Roca</i> 8:00 PM <i>Youth AA</i>	4	5 10:30 AM Staff Meeting 3:30 PM <i>Cornerstone</i> 6:30 PM <i>Jubilee</i> <i>Autism</i>	6 12:00 PM Holy Eucharist 12:45 PM The Explorers 7:00 PM <i>MKP - Mars Rising</i> 7:30 PM Grosvenor HOA	7 Office closed 1:00 PM Cornerstone 6:30 PM <i>Jubilee</i> <i>Autism</i>	8	9 8:30 AM <i>IMCW</i> 9:00 AM Garden Guild Work Day 1:30 PM <i>Your Dog's Friend</i> 7:00 PM <i>Cristo la Roca</i>
10 8:00 AM Holy Eucharist 10:00 AM Holy Eucharist 5:00 PM <i>Cristo la Roca</i> 8:00 PM <i>Youth AA</i>	11 7:00 PM Finance Meeting	12 10:30 AM Staff Meeting 3:30 PM <i>Cornerstone</i> 6:30 PM <i>Jubilee</i> <i>Autism</i>	13 10:30 AM Retired Men's Group 7:00 PM <i>MKP - Mars Rising</i>	14 1:00 PM Cornerstone 1:30 PM DW Colleague Group 6:30 PM <i>Jubilee</i> <i>Autism</i>	15	16 1:30 PM <i>Your Dog's Friend</i> 7:00 PM <i>Cristo la Roca</i>
17 Loaves & Fishes 8:00 AM Holy Eucharist 10:00 AM Holy Eucharist 1:30 PM <i>Your Dog's Friend</i> 5:00 PM <i>Cristo la Roca</i> 8:00 PM <i>Youth AA</i>	18 7:00 PM Vestry Meeting	19 10:30 AM Staff Meeting 11:30 AM Women of St. Luke's 3:30 PM <i>Cornerstone</i> 6:30 PM <i>Jubilee</i> <i>Autism</i>	20 7:00 PM <i>MKP - Mars Rising</i>	21 First Day of Summer 1:00 PM Cornerstone 6:30 PM <i>Jubilee</i> <i>Autism</i>	22	23 7:00 PM <i>Cristo la Roca</i>
24 8:00 AM Holy Eucharist 10:00 AM Holy Eucharist 5:00 PM <i>Cristo la Roca</i> 8:00 PM <i>Youth AA</i>	25	26 10:30 AM Staff Meeting 3:30 PM <i>Cornerstone</i> 6:30 PM <i>Jubilee</i> <i>Autism</i>	27 10:30 AM Retired Men's Group 7:00 PM <i>MKP - Mars Rising</i>	28 1:00 PM Cornerstone	29	30 7:00 PM <i>Cristo la Roca</i>

For further details, check the calendar on the church website

St. Luke's Episcopal Church
Trinity Parish
6030 Grosvenor Lane
Bethesda, Maryland 20814-1852

St. Luke's Episcopal Church
Phone: 301-530-1800 Fax: 301-530-1802

email: admin@stlukesbethesda.org

website: www.stlukesbethesda.org

THE REV. JESSICA J HITCHCOCK

Priest-in-Charge

email: jessica@stlukesbethesda.org

ACTS of St. Luke's

Newsletter for members and friends of St. Luke's;
published monthly, except January & August.

ACTS Deadline: 15th of the preceding month
Send articles and comments to ACTS@stlukesbethesda.org



Garden Guild Work Day

Saturday, June 9

9 am to Noon

All are welcome