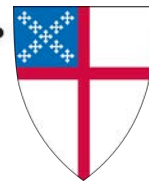




St. Luke's Newsletter

"In the Heart of Things"



St. Luke's
EPISCOPAL CHURCH

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Vol. 4 Issue 7 2024

Go in peace to love and serve the Lord

On Sunday, June 9, 2024 St. Luke's Wardens and Vestry welcomed parishioners, Ecumenical members of the community, and friends of the parish to an Open House to celebrate The Rev'd Rebecca Barnes; a celebration in gratitude for her tenure as St. Luke's Rector and an opportunity to share well wishes as she would soon be answering God's call to serve in Buffalo, New York as the Rector and Dean of St. Paul's Episcopal Cathedral.

Guests were invited to share their memories of her time at St. Luke's and the impact of her ministry to the parish, the Diocese of Bethlehem, and the community in which she served. Canon Melinda Artman shared a congratulatory letter from Bishop Kevin (with a wish for a Buffalo Bills Superbowl win); Rabbi Daniel Swartz of Temple Hesed shared memories of their time together on the Scranton Area Ministerium as they partnered together to bring awareness to so many social justice issues. David Wegner, Cypress House Board Chair praised Mother Barnes' unwavering commitment to those re-entering society after incarceration in her work as the President and CEO of Cypress House. St. Luke's Senior Warden Mickey Baccoli was the first to address those in attendance and he shared the following:

Mother Barnes, we are here today to celebrate you, to thank you for your time of service at St. Luke's, and to wish you well on your journey forward as the new Dean and Rector of St. Paul's Cathedral in Buffalo, New York.

You have made history at St. Luke's. You are the first woman ever to serve as Priest in Charge or Rector of this church. During your time with us, St. Luke's has moved so far forward, both in our own ministries, and in the establishment of the new ministry, the Cypress House Bakery at St. Luke's, which will be so important for so many who are trying to re enter society after incarceration. We are on the verge of starting a major kitchen renovation that will be the next big step toward launching the Cypress House Bakery. St. Luke's itself is just beginning to explore opportunities to work with other churches in our convocation and broader faith communities, with whom we can work together long term to sustain our own mission: To spread the Gospel to all people through hospitality, service and spiritual growth. We so deeply wish that you could be here with us and guide us as these monumental changes happen. You deserve to see up close and in real time the fruits of your hard work.

I am reminded of Moses, who, by the power of God, led the Israelites out of the bondage of slavery in Egypt. He led them through the Red Sea to safety from their Egyptian captors. He led them on a difficult journey through the desert for many years, ultimately taking them to the brink of the promised land. But Moses was himself unable to enter. Unfortunately, as with Moses, it was not in God's plan for you to accompany us all the way to our promised land. Unlike Moses, however, who was forbidden to enter the promised land because of his disobedience to God, you are following your call in obedience to God.

We anticipate that St. Luke's future will depend on our ability to forge relationships with other local churches in our faith community with whom we can work together to continue our ministry long into the future. You have set a good example for St. Luke's in your exceptional outreach in this community, in the diocese, and in particular, your relationships with local clergy of all faiths in your role as president of the Scranton Ministerium. Mother Barnes, we are so thankful for your leadership that got us where we are now.

Mother Barnes, your last day with us will be on next Sunday, June 16. We know you are a woman of Jesus Christ. You strive to serve him and imitate him in all that you do. In fact, your last day is the 16th, and like Jesus Christ, you will be returning on the third day ... for a Cypress House board meeting on the 18th.

Seriously, we are inspired by you. We know that you will be taking your love of Christ and personal dedication to a new calling. We know you will thrive there, and your new parish community will thrive because of you.

Thank you for your love of and service to St. Luke's. We wish you well in your new position.

Thank you.
Mickey Baccoli
Senior Warden

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Photos from the recent Open House celebrating The Rev'd Rebecca Barnes' tenure. (l-r)

Judith and Peter DeLuca with Mother Barnes

Rabbi Daniel Swartz and other leaders of the area faith community



Albert Guthrie with Mother Barnes

Ron Fowler, St. James and St. George, Senior Warden

Albert and Marie Karem



Parishioners and friends gathered to listen to tributes

Mother Barnes' family shared in the celebration including her father, Dr. Willis Barnes and her wife, Mother Elizabeth Grohowski



Ruth Stephenson and Hazel pose for a photo

Charlotte, her mom Tracy, and brother, Lawson help to present Mother Barnes with a personalized stole with the names and handprints of many of the children she baptized, gave their first communion to, and prepped for confirmation

The Rt. Rev. Sean Rowe elected 28th Presiding Bishop of The Episcopal Church

The Rt. Rev. Sean Rowe, bishop of the Episcopal Dioceses of Northwestern Pennsylvania and Western New York, was elected and confirmed as the 28th presiding bishop and primate of The Episcopal Church on June 26, 2024 for a nine-year term beginning on November 1, 2024.

Rowe was chosen from among five nominees on the first ballot. Following his election by the House of Bishops, the House of Deputies confirmed the election.

Rowe, 49, was ordained bishop of the Episcopal Diocese of Northwestern Pennsylvania in 2007 and became bishop provisional of Western New York in 2019. From 2014 to 2018, he served as bishop provisional of the Episcopal Diocese of Bethlehem.

Born in Sharon, Pennsylvania, Rowe earned a bachelor's degree in history from Grove City College, a master of divinity from Virginia Theological Seminary, and a doctorate in organizational learning and leadership from Gannon University.

Rowe was the youngest Episcopal priest in the U.S. when he was ordained in 2000 at age 24, and he was the youngest member of the House of Bishops when he was ordained and consecrated at age 32.

Known for his research and work on organizational learning and adaptive performance in the church, Rowe serves as parliamentarian for the House of Bishops and the Episcopal Church Executive Council; chair of the Episcopal Church Building Fund; and as a member of the Standing Commission on Structure, Governance, and Constitution and Canons. He also serves on the Greater Buffalo Racial Equity Roundtable. In 2018, he became the first bishop to serve on the House of Deputies Committee on the State of the Church.

Rowe is married to Carly Rowe, a Christian educator; they have a daughter, Lauren.

As the new presiding bishop-elect, Rowe was scheduled at General Convention's June 28 closing Eucharist service at 8:30 a.m. ET. Presiding Bishop Michael Curry will preside. The service will be livestreamed on the General Convention Media Hub.

The presiding bishop takes office on November 1, 2024. Details about the transition and celebration will be announced soon.

Adapted from Episcopal News Service



Resolution affirming goal of full communion with United Methodist Church gets approval by House of Bishops

On June 24th the House of Bishops approved the next step toward full communion between The Episcopal Church and the United Methodist Church.

The approved resolution states that General Convention “joyfully anticipates advancing towards full communion” between the two churches and encourages Episcopalians to learn more about these efforts over the next three years.

According to [TheEpiscopalChurch.org](https://www.episcopalchurch.org) “we understand full communion to be a relation between distinct churches in which each recognizes the other as a catholic and apostolic church holding the essentials of the Christian faith. Within this new relation, churches become interdependent while remaining autonomous...Diversity is preserved, but this diversity is not static. Neither church seeks to remake the other in its own image, but each is open to the gifts of the other as it seeks to be faithful to Christ and his mission. They are together committed to a visible unity in the church's mission to proclaim the Word and administer the Sacraments.”

Adapted from Episcopal News Service

House of Deputies Reelects Julia Ayala Harris as President

Julia Ayala Harris, a deputy from the Episcopal Diocese of Oklahoma, was reelected on June 25, 2024 as president of the House of Deputies of The Episcopal Church. Her second term will commence on June 28th at the close of the church's 81st General Convention.

Ayala Harris, 43, is the first Latina and the first woman of color to serve as president of the House of Deputies. A first-generation Mexican American and the daughter of an undocumented immigrant, she was reelected from a field of three candidates on the first ballot.

Adapted from Episcopal Church Office of Public Affairs

For all the news and information from this year's 81st General Convention, visit the convention's Media hub at <https://media.episcopalchurch.org/video/>



Daughters of the King

Submitted by Carole S. Guzzi

St. Elizabeth, Princess of Hungary Chapter of The Order of the Daughters of the King held its monthly meeting on 25 June at the home of Carole S. Guzzi.

Our vow of prayer focused on a vigil for our sister Rebecca Beal while she participates in the DOK Triennial at General Convention in Louisville, Kentucky. We prayed for the election of a new Presiding Bishop and offered Thanksgiving for the gift of Presiding Bishop Michael Curry.

The Diocesan Assembly will host our annual picnic on Saturday July 20, 2024 at Gouldsboro State Park Pavillion. Family, friends and neighbors are invited. More information to follow.

Our next monthly meeting is scheduled for 23 July. Interested women are welcome to attend.

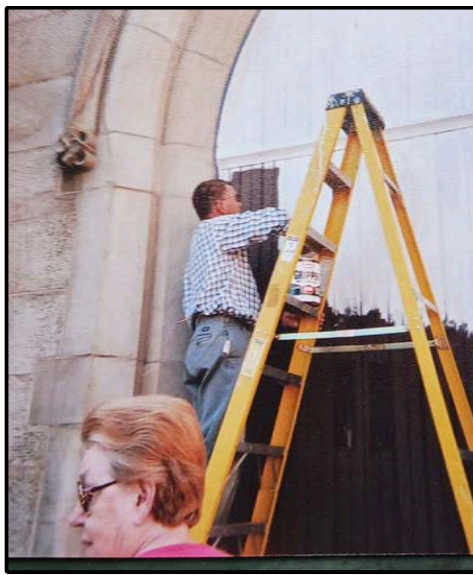
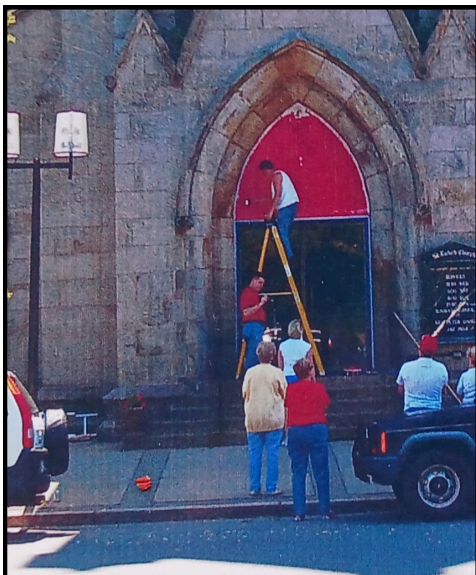
The Motto of the Order: For His Sake
I am but one. I cannot do everything, but I can do something.
What I can do, I ought to do. What I ought to do, by the grace of God I will do. Lord, what will you have me do?

Our Red Doors

Submitted by Ella Rayburn

St. Luke's red doors make a visual statement drawing the world into the church. Painting them was a DIY project in the summer of 2007. Way back in English history red doors marked sanctuary for persons fleeing. In later history the doors were painted red when the church's mortgage was paid. St. Luke's mortgage was satisfied in 1891. The doors are a visual statement of safety, not just from physical danger, but spiritual dangers.

Enter and rest.



Were you among these folks painting the doors? Or, can you identify any of them?

Safety Net

Throughout July and August, St. Luke's will be collecting food for Safety Net; a continuation of the long-time partnership between us. Reusable bags are hung on the end of the pews; please consider picking up a few items as you grocery shop. Safety Net is looking for the following items:

Peanut butter
Jelly
Pasta and Sauces
Canned fruit
Rice
Canned Vegetables
and other non-perishable items of your choosing



NO PET FOOD
NO TUNA
NO CANNED GREEN BEANS OR CORN

NO PERSONAL HYGIENCE ITEMS OTHER THAN BAR OR LIQUID BODY SOAP.

Thank you to Robin O'Hearn for organizing this outreach!

Warren Memorial Garden Committee to Meet

Members of the Warren Memorial Garden Committee will gather on Saturday, July 13, 2024 from 10:00-12:00. Everyone is welcome to join in.

Parish Email Updates

Members of the vestry are updating the parish email list. Future emails to parishioners will be from the St. Luke's email address (stlukesscranton@verizon.net) and your emails to the parish should be sent to that address.

Please be sure to add this address to your email account as an acceptable contact to avoid parish emails/updates going into your spam or promotion folders.

Please contact the church office, or a member of the vestry, if you think that we may not have your correct email address.



Bosco's Friends Helping Friends

St. Luke's has registered to participate in Bosco's annual *Friends Helping Friends*, an event that raises money for nonprofit organizations.

The \$5.00 passes are available for purchase in the parish office or from Vestry members. The pass is good for the one-day event to be held on October 22, 2024 giving pass holders a 25% discount on all their shopping. Remember that St. Luke's will receive 100% of the pass donation proceeds.



Welcome Greyson



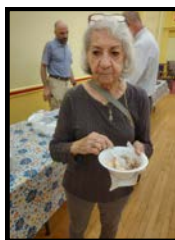
"We receive you into the household of God. Confess the faith of Christ crucified, proclaim his resurrection, and share with us in his eternal priesthood."

Senior Space Ice Cream Social

When temperatures soared in June, St. Luke's opened its doors to serve as a cooling center offering hydration and a comfortable space in which to cool off.

The extreme heat didn't keep us from welcoming our neighbors to the Senior Space ice cream social on Sunday, June 23. We simply moved the fun & games, and of course, the ice cream, inside.

Thank you to our guests, hosts, and to those who donated to make this a fun event.



Food Pantry Volunteers Needed in July

St. Luke's continues to meet the food insecurity needs of our neighbors with its Friends of the Poor satellite pantry each month. July is an especially busy month and requires more volunteers than usual.

In July, those guests who have not completed the yearly online registration will instead need to complete their registration in person which often leads to long wait lines. We look forward to seeing all of our regular volunteers on Tuesday, July 16, If you have not volunteered with this vital ministry before, please consider joining us for the July pantry.

See You in September

This July/August newsletter will be the last edition for the summer. Keep up-to-date on parish information via the parish website, Facebook page, and of course, the service leaflet. The next edition of St. Luke's newsletter will be published for a September release.

National Register Status

The National Register of Historic Places is the official list of the Nation's historic places worthy of preservation, and St. Luke's continues in the application process to have our structures added to the prestigious register.

In June, we received notice of the Determination of Eligibility (DOE) to nominate us for the register from the Pennsylvania State Historic Preservation Office.

With the DOE now approved, the next step is to submit the formal application; a 75+ page document that includes historical data, photos, and other pertinent information. That submission is being done, on our behalf, by the Martina Bacarella Architect Firm.

In August, members of The Pennsylvania Historical and Museum Commission (PHMC) will visit St. Luke's. That commission is the official history agency of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania.

Holy Hikes

Join us for our monthly hike on Saturday, July 20, 2024. Everyone is invited to join in our hike as we explore and worship God in the beauty of God's creation, in what some have called God's "first temples".

The location/time will be announced soon in the service leaflet and on the Holy Hikes FB page.

Warren Memorial Garden Committee

Members of the Warren Memorial Garden Committee will meet on Saturday, July 13 to spruce up the garden. Everyone is invited to pitch in. They will gather from 10 - 12. If you have any questions, please see David Wegner.



Important Town Meeting

Two "Town Hall" meetings will be held in July about the Reunification Discernment work being done between our diocese and the Diocese of Central Pennsylvania. These online meetings are intended for every member of the Diocese of Bethlehem and Diocese of Central Pennsylvania. Bishop Kevin, Bishop Audrey Scanlan, and members of the Reunification Discernment Committee will present updates and answer questions from participants.

Please do not miss this opportunity to hear from the Bishops and the Reunification Discernment Committee about this important work.

Registration is available on the diocesan website or by clicking [here](#)

Concert to Benefit Cypress House

On Saturday, August 10, 2024 at 7:30PM Voce Angeli, NEPA's premier women's choral ensemble will be performing at St. Luke's. Each year the ensemble performs to raise money for a charity, and this year they have selected Cypress House to be the beneficiary of the free will offering collected at the door.



Cypress House News

At it's June meeting, the Cypress House board formally accepted Board President & Ceo, Rev. Rebecca Barnes' resignation as she has accepted a call to serve in Buffalo, NY. David Wegner will continue to serve as the Board Chair, and Helen Wolf, Ph.D. will serve as vice president and continue in her role as Board Secretary with assistance from board member, Robert Peiffer, Ph.D.

Rev. Tyler Parry, priest-in-charge at St. Mark's Episcopal Church in Moscow, PA and a chaplain serving in prison ministry was elected to his first term on the board.

The Cypress House board also welcomed Sharon Sollami, St. Luke's Vestry member, to serve as a liaison to facilitate communication and coordination between the Cypress House board and the parish.

At the June meeting, it was reported that work would soon begin on the first of the three-tiered phases of construction for the Cypress House bakery. Many thanks to Junior Warden Rick Ammenhauser and our sexton, Paul, for preparing the kitchen for the construction to begin.



Beyond Our Doors and around the church

The Diocesan Cycle of Prayer

Each week we are invited to pray for specific parishes throughout The Episcopal Diocese of Bethlehem along with our companion Diocese of Kajo Keji in South Sudan. Here is a listing of those parishes that we will be praying for in July and August. You are invited to add these to your prayers as outlined in the weekly schedule below:

Week of June 30

Diocese of Bethlehem *Christ Church, Susquehanna;*
and St. Mark's, New Milford
Kajo Keji *St. Paul Kasurak Parish*

Week of July 7

Diocese of Bethlehem *St. Luke's, Lebanon; and The*
Commission on Ministry
Kajo Keji *St. John Litaba Parish*

Week of July 14

Diocese of Bethlehem *All Saints Church, Lehighton*
Kajo Keji *St. Paul Pamoju Parish*

Week of July 21

Diocese of Bethlehem *Good Shepherd, Milford*
Kajo Keji *Sera Jale Parish and Dwani-Stra of*
Bethlehem Primary School

Week of July 28

Diocese of Bethlehem *St. Paul's, Montrose; and St.*
Matthew's Chapel
Kajo Keji *Emmanuel Parish Kiri*

Week of August 4

Diocese of Bethlehem *St. Thomas, Morgantown*
Kajo Keji *Koiba Parish*

Week of August 11

Diocese of Bethlehem *St. Mark's, Moscow; and*
Mission Resource Committee
Kajo Keji *Diocesan Office and St. Matthew Wurta*
Parish

Week of August 18

Diocese of Bethlehem *St. Martin's-in-the-Fields,*
Mountaintop
Kajo Keji *St. Philip Andasire Parish*

Week of August 25

Diocese of Bethlehem *Trinity, Mt. Pocono; and*
Diocesan Audit Committee
Kajo Keji *St. Joseph Jalimo Parish*

In-person Safe Church Training

St. James' & St. George's (Jermyn) is the location of the next in-person Safe Church training session in our area on Saturday, July 20, 2024.

In person sessions are designed, in part, to train those who are required to have the certification but are reluctant to use on the online training.

Unsure of your Safe Church status? Please check with Sharon Sollami, and if yours is set to expire this year, or even early next year, you might want to consider attending this in-person session.

Convocation III Notes

Fifteen of the assembly persons from nine parishes that belong to Diocese of Bethlehem's Convocation III gathered at Good Shepherd Episcopal Church for their monthly meeting on Saturday, June 8th.

Hosted by Good Shepherd, the meeting was facilitated by Ray Poggensee, the convener. A roundtable discussion allowed for each parish to identify their strengths in ministry and also to identify their greatest needs. Upcoming meetings will now focus on ways in which we might begin to collaborate with each other in meeting some of those needs. For example, can we share support staff like a book keeper/clerical staff? Is it possible to work together to maintain our aging buildings? Might we serve together in community outreach? And, how might we, together, grow in our faith through shared ministry and Christian formation?

Parishes in Convocation III expressed an interest in having more of their laity trained and licensed as Lay Worship Leaders. Canon Melinda Artman will be coordinating that training in the near future.

The next convocation gathering will be on Saturday, July 13, 2024 at Grace Church, Honesdale at 2:00PM

JULY 2024

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
	1	2	3	4 5:30PM Centering Prayer	5	6 5:00PM Eucharist
7 10:00AM Eucharist	8	9 6:00PM Finance Meeting	10	11 5:30PM Centering Prayer	12	13 Warren Memorial Garden Committee 10:00AM 5:00PM Eucharist
14 10:00AM Eucharist	15	16 1:00-2:30PM Food Pantry	17	18 5:30PM Centering Prayer	19	20 Holy Hikes 10:00AM 5:00PM Eucharist
21 10:00AM Eucharist	22	23	24 6:00PM Vestry Meeting	25 5:30PM Centering Prayer	26	27 5:00PM Eucharist
28 10:00AM Eucharist	29	30	31			



AUGUST 2024

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
				1 5:30PM Centering Prayer	2	3 5:00PM Eucharist
4 10:00AM Eucharist The Feast of the Transfiguration	5	6	7	8 5:30PM Centering Prayer 5:30PM Peer to Peer	9	10 5:00PM Eucharist
11 10:00AM Eucharist	12	13 6:00PM Finance Meeting	14 6:00PM Vestry Meeting	15 5:30PM Centering Prayer	16	17 Holy Hikes 10:00AM 5:00PM Eucharist
18 10:00AM Eucharist	19	20 1:00-3:00PM Food Pantry	21	22 5:30PM Centering Prayer 5:30PM Peer to Peer	23	24 5:00PM Eucharist
25 10:00AM Eucharist	26	27	28	29 5:30PM Centering Prayer	30	31