

New Visions



St. Luke's Episcopal Church

November 2019

A Different Way of Looking at Generosity

THE BISHOP'S VLOG



POSTED BY CARLYE J. HUGHES

NOVEMBER 6, 2019

When we are generous, it reminds us of who we are and who we were created to be: creatures who are made in God's image, and God is a generous God. [Click here to see the video.](#) (Time: 4:15.)

This is Bishop Carlye Hughes from the Episcopal Diocese of Newark, and I want to talk with you today about generosity. If you are an Episcopalian, it is not unusual to hear people talk about generosity in the months of October and November, because we are knee-deep in pledge campaigns in parishes across the diocese – well across the entire United States – this is the time of year that Episcopalians think about what people are going to give, the commitments they make and then vestries turn around and make decisions with the help of treasurers about just what

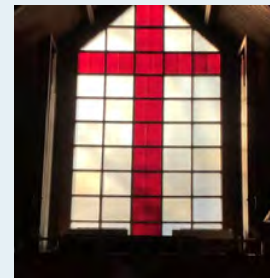
ministries the church will be able to be committed to based on what their membership has made a decision about giving to the church.

I want to talk with you about that generosity but in a completely different way. In part it's what I've heard from other people – some from you some from churches I've served years ago – about what they think in terms of being generous and what had the impact they have felt in their lives. And the one that

Cont'd. on Page 4

Welcome to Our St. Luke's Newsletter

We invite you to worship with us . The Good News is that God's love is for ALL of us. **Come and See!**



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ALL SAINTS/ALL SOULS 2019 — REMEMBERING LOVED ONES...



... AND WELCOMING A NEW LOVE TO THE WORLD & OUR FAMILY



BLESSINGS TO THE NOBLEMANS

Dear Friends: The birth of a child is a joyous and solemn occasion in the life of a family. It is also an occasion for rejoicing in the Christian community. Join *Jennifer and Paul Nobleman* and their family in giving thanks to Almighty God our heavenly Father, the Lord of all life, for the gift of *Madelyn Victoria* to be their daughter and with *Angelisa* for her new sister. Amen.

ALLELUIA! ALLELUIA! ALLELUIA!

New Visions, the newsletter of St. Luke's Episcopal Church, is published 10 times per year. Submissions for the upcoming month's issue should be *snail mailed* to *New Visions*, St. Luke's Episcopal Church, Massachusetts Ave. & Grant St., Haworth, NJ 07641; or *e-mailed* to claudiasmith@msn.com **by 20th of month**. **New Visions Board:** Editor: Janet Beddoe, Production: Claudia Smith. **Photography for this issue:** Claudia Smith, Dreamtimes.com. **Advertising:** Jo Stephenson.

Preparing to Prepare by The Rev. Scott Gunn, Episcopal Priest & Executive Director of Forward Movement



Dear friends in Christ,

The All Saints' celebrations are behind us now, and that means it's almost Advent. I don't know about you, but it's hard to believe it's almost that time again. Irony isn't it? Advent sneaks up on us - the season of preparation can leave us unprepared.

I encourage you to take a few moments to think about your own Advent. What will your Advent be like this year? Will you try to find some quiet time every day? What needs to happen in your schedule to make that happen? Will you read a book or a set of devotions? Time to get that book ordered! Will you pray differently, or perhaps serve those in need in a particular way? This all requires just a bit of planning

The scriptures exhort us to keep our lamps trimmed and burning, ready to greet our Savior at a moment's notice. It's a lovely image, but it means we have to get a lamp, trim the wick, and have some oil ready. In other words, we have to prepare to prepare. Now is the time to do that for our Advent season, whether we're thinking of our church or our home.

While Forward Movement has lots of [Advent resources](#), there are plenty of ways to observe Advent without spending any money. And of

course, lots of other publishers and organizations offer resources too. My point is not to sell you things, but to encourage you to prepare to prepare.

As for me, I have some extra praying to do. And I'll probably find myself in church a bit more often this season. What will Advent look like for you? Are you ready?



A Way to the Manger

If you have never explored the Forward Movement website, we invite you to do so. An agent of the Episcopal Church and best known for [Forward Day by Day](#), a daily devotion providing meditations on scripture readings, Forward Movement was founded during the Great Depression

Today the publisher offers books and ebooks for small groups, individual study, and prayer, Christian formation courses, leadership events, Spanish and bilingual resources, pamphlets, downloadable resources, a daily podcast, apps for smartphones or tablets, and online engagement opportunities.

— Eds



REGULAR EVENTS

Healing Service

3rd Sundays, after service
Next: December 15

Bible Study

1st & 3rd Tuesdays @ 7:30 P.M.
Temporarily on hiatus

CFA Monthly Food Drive

2nd Sundays @ Service
Next: December 8

Vestry Meeting

2nd Tuesdays in the Parish Hall @ 7:30 P.M.

Parishioners are welcome to attend any time.
Next: Dec. 10

Parish Fun Night

3rd Sundays @ 6:00 P.M.

Everyone is invited to bring a potluck dish to share. Be prepared to have fun in spite of yourself. Board games are played and silliness abounds. If you've never tried it, check it out!

Next: Dec. 15

Snack Pack Assembly

Usually 4th Sundays @ Noon
Note change — Next: Dec. 15

Book Club

Last Thursdays @ 7:30 P.M. in The Rectory or Venue as Announced
Next: Dec. 5 - Dinner Out

SAVE THE DATE: ANNUAL PARISH WINE & CHEESE Jan. 5, 2020



Join us for the Annual Parish Wine and Cheese on Sunday, January 5 at 4 P.M. Bring your favorite Adult Beverage or soft drink(s) to share. St. Luke's will provide a variety of cheeses. It is always a wonderful occasion — and thoughtfully scheduled after the Holiday Madness!

The Bishop's Vlog, cont'd. from Page 1

resonates with me to this very day is a 14-year-old boy who was volunteering, serving food at a soup kitchen, and I remember him coming up to me afterwards saying, "I really enjoyed doing this but I don't quite understand why I feel so warm inside every time I do it." And I'll tell you when he said that to me I couldn't help but chuckle with a sense of glee and hopefulness about the future. He so loved feeling warm inside that he wanted to continue volunteering. He couldn't quite name what that is and I want to name it for him and name it for all of us: it is remembering who we are, that we are creatures who are made in God's image and God is a generous God. And when we are generous — whether it's with our time or with our finances or with the skills and intelligence and education that we have — when we are generous with God and with God's people, we will indeed feel warm inside and in some way connect it to God in a

way that reminds us of who we are and who we were created to be.

I had another person say to me that one of the things they loved about giving to their church was the sense of joy it gave them every single Sunday when they saw children headed off to Sunday school, when they knew that the young adults were going to meet with someone who would help them deepen their faith, when they saw the choir get up and they could enjoy the singing much more because of what the choir was doing — that all of those things gave them an incredible sense of peace, an incredible sense of gratitude, an incredible sense of joy. For that person too, this sense of being generous connected them to who we are meant to be as people who are created in God's image.

The easiest thing at this time of year is to focus so much on pledging that we think it's all about pledging and

all about the budget and not anything else. There is something true about that — it's important to know what our finances are so we can make plans for the coming year. But the most important thing is to remember that we are created by a loving and generous God, and that when we decide to be generous with our church, and when we decide to be generous with God's people, that we are then connected to that loving and generous God, and we are like God when we do those things. So as you give — whether it's to your church in time, whether it's to your church in finances, whether it's to your church in the energy with which you bring — when you make that decision to give, I hope you feel warm inside too.

— Bishop Carlye Hughes



*"For all that has been. For all that is.
For all that is yet to be. We give you thanks, O Lord! "
— Dag Hammarskjöld*

Thanksgiving Observance 2019



A second generous gathering of non-perishable foodstuffs for Center for Food Action in Englewood during the month of November was part of our Thanksgiving observance this year.

1 Now thank we all our God with heart and hands and voices, who wondrous things has done, in whom his world rejoices; who from our mothers' arms has blessed us on our way with countless gifts of love, and still is ours today.	to keep us in his grace, and guide us when perplexed, and free us from all ills of this world in the next.
2 O may this bounteous God through all our life be near us, with ever joyful hearts and blessed peace to cheer us,	3 All praise and thanks to God the Father now be given, the Son and Spirit blest, who reign in highest heaven the one eternal God, whom heaven and earth adore; for thus it was, is now, and shall be evermore.

— Hymnal 1982

Altar Guild PolishFest & Greening of the Church

If you are able to help us get ready for Christmas, c'mon out!

The Altar Guild will be polishing up a storm on **Sat., Dec. 21** in preparation for our services. Following the service on **Sun., Dec. 22**, we invite *everyone* to help with the traditional Greening of the Church. There is much to do, but as we know, many hands make light work!

Outreach: Calling All Secret Santas!

The Giving Tree Offers Opportunities for Generosity this Holiday Season



Look for the Giving Tree in the parish hall this holiday season! It's an opportunity once again to be Secret Santas to some **very special** special needs children in the care of Youth Consultation Services (YCS) in Hackensack, many in group homes.

YCS tells us: "While the holidays are a joyous and happy time for so many of us, they can be extremely difficult for children who are separated from their families. We need YOU – plus your friends, relatives and colleagues – to make the holiday season bright for the children in our care."

We are in touch with the YCS Foundation "elves" and they are putting together a list for us. On the Giving Tree will be angels with a child's name and their three gift wishes. So take an angel and grant a wish. YCS asks us to remember the following:

* You only need to purchase ONE of the gift wishes. (YCS lists three to ease the burden of those hard-to-find items.)

* The YCS children are asked to keep their requests in the \$40 range. Maybe you can ask a friend or family member to chip in and work together to make a holiday wish come true!

* Most popular gifts are gift cards. They may seem boring but they are actually the most sought-after gift. They give the children the opportunity to shop, to choose and – most importantly – to be independent!

Gifts must be **UNWRAPPED**. Place the gift in a holiday gift bag with the child's name and program on a tag. Be sure to attach the tag securely. YCS are targeting the week of December 9 for delivery of all gifts to their office, so deadline to deliver to St. Luke's is Sunday **December 8**. So be an angel, take an angel and feel the warmth Bishop Carlye describes. (**Check out her Vlogpost on Page 1.**)

Look also for the Big Basket in the Parish Hall...

We have discovered that, along with folks serving inner city children of all ages in the vicinity of his Jersey City parish, Fr. Paul is collecting unwrapped toys. Any gifts are welcome. He tells us the thing he tries to be sensitive to is that any dolls or action figures purchased are of diverse races rather than only Caucasian.

Fr. Paul's Dual Drive for Christmas also ...

.. includes support for Animal Aid USA, the organization that sponsors the caravan that heads to Georgia to rescue the pets who have been abused and abandoned and left in the KILL shelters. Needed supplies include:

- Dog and cat food and treats.
 - * Pet supplies including bowls, brushes, leashes, harnesses.
- Old bath towels, sheets and blankets that can be used in crates and kennels for them to lay on.
- Cash donations also welcome.

Secret Santa gifts need to be collected and sent off relatively early -- Sun., Dec. 8 is the deadline for gifts for both the YCS kids and Fr. Paul's Kids & Rescue Pets.



Christmas At Sea Service Project 2019

Many of you know that we have supported The Seaman's Institute by making scarves for the men and women who patrol our waterways around New York.

This year we request that all those who knit or crochet make two (2) scarves by January 6, 2019, so they may be presented at the annual Diocesan Convention.

For those who don't knit or crochet, please consider making a donation of yarn or a cash contribution.



NOTE: Specific patterns are only available online at <https://seamenschurch.org/christmas-at-sea> or see Heidi for a copy



Outreach: Support Our Monthly CFA Programs

Help fill our grocery cart on the **second Sunday of every month!** Foodstuffs are blessed during the service and taken to the **Center for Food Action in Englewood**. To learn more about the vital work the CFA does to help feed our neighbors, click here:

<http://cfanj.org/who-we-are/>



Pick up a few extra items to donate and make a less fortunate family's week!

Consider joining the **Snack Pack Assembly Angels—usually working on 4th Sundays**. Snack packs help less fortunate kids who may not have a decent meal over a weekend when they can't eat at school. This year-round CFA program ensures that the teachers are able to place snack packs filled with nutritious meals very *discreetly* into the children's backpacks.



St. Luke's angels assemble snack packs after church.

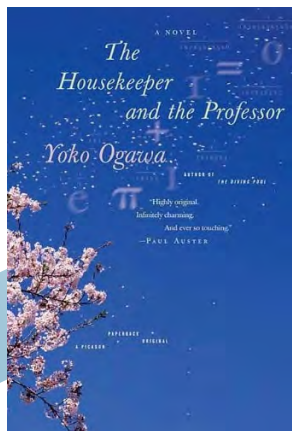
*"For all that has been. For all that is.
For all that is yet to be. We give you thanks, O Lord! "*



MOST WANTED List

- Supermarket Gift Cards
- Canned Meat (tuna, chicken, etc),
- Canned Hearty Soups
- Canned Vegetables
- Macaroni & Cheese
- Peanut Butter & Jelly
- Tomato Sauce
- Cold Low-sugar Cereal and Oatmeal
- Powdered Milk and/or Boxed Milk such as Parmalat
- Canned Fruits
- Instant Potatoes
- 100% Juice
- Baby Formula & Diapers sizes 4, 5, 6
- Bar or Bottled Soap
- Toothpaste, Toothbrush & Dental Floss





January's Book Selection

Yoko Ogawa's *The Housekeeper and the Professor* is an enchanting story about what it means to live in the present, and about the curious equations that can create a family.

He is a brilliant math Professor with a peculiar problem—ever since a traumatic head injury, he has lived with only eighty minutes of short-term memory.

She is an astute young Housekeeper—with a ten-year-old son—who is hired to care for the Professor. And every morning, as the Professor and the Housekeeper are introduced to each other anew, a strange and beautiful relationship blossoms between them.

Between the Lines Book Club

Book Club Meetings are held at 7:30 P.M. at the Rectory unless otherwise noted. This month, members will gather for dinner at Il Mulino in Dumont on December 5.

January 23 (wine/cheese)
The Housekeeper and The Professor
Yoko Ogawa

February 27 (appetizers)
Driftwood Cottage
Sheryl Woods

March 26 (dessert)
The Punishment She Deserves
Elizabeth George

April 23 (potluck)
The Dream Daughter
Diane Chamberlain

May 28 (wine/cheese)
Where the Crawdads Sing
Delia Owens

June 25 (pizza)
The Summer of '69
Elin Hilderbrand

July 23 (appetizers)
The Secret Kept
Tatiana de Rosnay

August 27 (dessert)
Still Life
Louise Penny

September 24 (potluck)
Fall of Marigolds
Susan Meissner

October 22 (wine/cheese)
Finding Dorothy
Elizabeth Letts

November
No meeting

December 3
Dinner out—venue TBD

“ The more that you read, the more things you will know. The more that you learn, the more places you'll go. —Dr. Seuss ”

Bible Study on Hiatus



For personal reasons Roberta Nobleman has to put her leadership of Bible Study Group at St. Luke's temporarily on hold. There will therefore be no Bible Study until further notice.

Sign Up to Host on Sunday

Everyone loves Coffee & Fellowship Hour on Sundays, but someone has to make the coffee. Please sign up in the Parish Hall. Invite someone else to help!



Advent & Christmastide at St. Luke's



Plan to spend Christmas with our family this year. Here are our scheduled services and events:

Saturday, December 21 — Altar Guild PolishFest — 9:30 A.M.

Sunday, December 22 — Advent IV

10:30 A.M.— Holy Eucharist

Noon — Greening of the Church

Tuesday, December 24 — Christmas Eve

9:30 P.M.— Festival Eucharist

Wednesday, December 25 — NO Service **Christmas Day**

Sunday, December 29 — First Sunday After Christmas

10:30 A.M. — Service of Lessons & Carols

Sunday, January 5, 2010 — Feast of the Epiphany

Service To Be Announced

4:00 P.M. — Parish Wine & Cheese at the Rectory

PRAYER LIST



Please keep in your thoughts and prayers these members of our parish and extended family:

Edith Biondi, Rachel Lynch, Doug Lynch, Roxanne Gabriel, Maryellen Pais, Quinn Rosa, Linda Stephenson, Patricia Stephenson, Michael Snyder, Diane Kansas, Kenny Calderon, Jason Edone, Tresten, Sue Pastore, Chan, Hung-Kwong & family, Carol Maxfield, Lee Harper, Michael McCarten, Arnie O'Callaghan, Eileen LaViola, Elizabeth Secari, Donna Sisti, Muriel Brandt, Leah Ogena Collins, Thomas Chase, Jimmy Rivera, Denilson Interiano, the family of Marie Cummins, Dr. Leonard Scalfani, Bob MacDonald, the family of Barbara Biesel Stinnett, the people of Hong Kong, for the repose of the souls of Rev. Alexander H. MacDonnell and Anthony A. Brilakis, Jay Rizzo, Judy Ashbrook Hoffman

To add names to our prayer list, please call: Sue Gonci, 201-220-3090

OR Email the Church office at Office@StLukesHaworth.org

We review our Prayer List is monthly to keep it current and manageable for those who pray regularly. Please contact Sue if you wish to keep people on the list. You may also write names in the book on the Chapel Altar. Loved ones who are sick or suffering in any way may also be remembered in prayer during the **service of Healing, held on the 3rd Sunday right after our 10:30 service of Holy Eucharist.**

December Birthdays & Anniversaries

- .1 Jackson Coleman
- 7 Anne/ Tom Caloz-
- 14 Cathy O'Donnell
- 17 Greta Pallatta
- 20 Priscilla Goldman
Priscilla/Louis Goldman



If you don't see your special day in our monthly listings, please e-mail the editors and we'll gladly add it!



O God of heavenly powers, by the might of your command you drive away from our bodies all sickness and all infirmity: Be present in your goodness with your servants, that their weakness may be banished and their strength restored; and that, their health being renewed, they may bless your holy Name; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.



St. Luke's symbol is the ox. This may explain the fact that he is patron saint of butchers. In art, Luke is represented by a winged ox. The ox represents the sacrificial aspect of Jesus' ministry and the wings remind us that the Gospel of Jesus Christ is to travel throughout the world.

Grace happens.

All the time. Grace is God's gift to us. The signs of God's grace are abundant. Some are dramatic. Many at first glance seem mundane. All are potentially life transforming.

God created us, but God was not – and is not, finished with creating. God keeps showing up. God is very much at work. Our job as God's creatures, is to pay attention to God's grace. And to join with God in God's work.

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St. Luke's Episcopal Church/Haworth

December 2019						
◀ November						January ▶
Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
1 The First Sunday of Advent 10:30 A.M. Holy Eucharist Noon - Coffee Hour/ Fellowship 1-5 Dream Church	2 10 AM – AA Women's Mtg	3 5-7:30AM Dream Church NO 7:30 PM Bible Study	4 7-10 PM Dream Church	5 5-7:30AM Dream Church 8:30 AM – AA Early Morning Women's Mtg 10 AM – AA Women's Mtg 6:30 P.M. Book Club Dinner @ Il Mulino	6 7-10 PM Dream Church	7 5-7:30AM Dream Church 9:30 AM Altar Guild 7-9 PM AA Open Meeting
8 The Second Sunday of Advent 10:00 AM Holy Eucharist with CFA Food Ingathering + Secret Santa, Fr. Paul's TOY & PET SUPPLIES DRIVES END Noon - Coffee Hour/ Fellowship 1-5 Dream Church	9 10 AM – AA Women's Mtg Toy Delivery to YCS	10 5-7:30AM Dream Church 7:30 PM Vestry	11 7-10 PM Dream Church	12 5-7:30AM Dream Church 8:30 AM – AA Early Morning Women's Mtg 10 AM – AA Women's Mtg	13 7-10 PM Dream Church	14 5-7:30AM Dream Church 9:30 AM Altar Guild 7-9 PM AA Open Meeting
15 The Third Sunday of Advent 10:30 AM Holy Eucharist Noon - Coffee Hour/ Fellowship Snack Pack Assembly 1-5 Dream Church 6 PM Parish Fun Night & Potluck	16 10 AM – AA Women's Mtg	17 5-7:30AM Dream Church NO 7:30 PM Bible Study	18 7-10 PM Dream Church	19 5-7:30AM Dream Church 8:30 AM – AA Early Morning Women's Mtg 10 AM – AA Women's Mtg	20 7-10 PM Dream Church	21 Winter Solstice 5-7:30AM Dream Church 9:30 AM to Noonish Altar Guild POLISHFEST 7-9 PM AA Open Meeting
22 The Fourth Sunday of Advent 10:30 AM Holy Eucharist Noon – GREENING OF THE CHURCH Coffee Hour/ Fellowship	23 10 AM – AA Women's Mtg	24 Christmas Eve 5-7:30AM Dream Church 9:30 P.M. Festival Eucharist	25 Christmas Day NO SERVICE 7-10 PM Dream Church	26 5-7:30AM Dream Church 8:30 AM – AA Early Morning Women's Mtg 10 AM – AA Women's Mtg	27 7-10 PM Dream Church	28 5-7:30AM Dream Church 9:30 AM Altar Guild 7-9 PM AA Open Meeting
29 The First Sunday After Christmas Day 10:30 AM Service of Lessons & Carols Coffee Hour/ Fellowship 1-5 Dream Church	30 10 AM – AA Women's Mtg	31 5-7:30AM Dream Church	Thanks to our Guest Clergy this month: The Rev. Stephen Galleher – Dec. 1 The Rev. Paul Gulya – Dec. 8 The Rev. Fletcher Harper – Dec. 15, 22 and Dec. 24, Christmas Eve			

St. Luke's Episcopal Church

St. Luke's is a church in the Episcopal Diocese of Newark, N.J. We seek to be a bridge between traditions and communities.

We welcome *anyone* who wants to learn and grow in the knowledge and love of God.

Our members come from many different traditions but are joined together through a love of Christ and our neighbors.

We are located at the cross-roads of Demarest, Haworth, Dumont, and Cresskill.

Check It Out!

St. Luke's once again showed generosity of spirit

with a special Thanksgiving drive for Center for Food Action in Englewood. Look inside on Page 5 for more!



St. Luke's Episcopal Church

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