

St. Luke's Episcopal Church, Simeon

P.O. Box 694
 Charlottesville, VA 22902
www.stlukessimeon.org



Annual Report - 2018

This Annual Report documents our walk in Christ, celebrates our communion and shared lives at St. Luke's, and records the events of our congregation and church for 2018.

Congregation and Leadership

We began 2018 having formed a Search Committee (Lil Salley, Tom Torrance, Stewart Gamage and Don Fickes) to search for a new Rector. As part of that search, we conducted a Parishioner's Workshop and Brunch, facilitated by The Rev. Dr. Mary Thorpe-Director of Transitional Ministry. Working with the Diocese, that search continues.

In September we learned that Rev. Deacon Brian Hutcherson was to be reassigned. We are grateful for his wonderful service and saddened by his departure. We have, however been blessed with many wonderful Supply Priests including our own Rev. Rod Caulkin and several Morning Prayers led by Tom Torrance. In October, we received wonderful news that we had found an Interim Priest in Rev. Dr. Marian Windel. Supporting her are our **Vestry** and our **Trustees**.



Member		Trustees
Judy Crosby (2019)	Senior Warden	Robert E. Bill
Debbie King (2019)	Register	Joe H. Gieck
Ron Ignatz (2019)	Junior Warden	E. Donald Fickes
Jim Brookeman (2019)		
Lynne Sprouse (2018)		
Bob Bill (2018)		
Don Fickes (2018)		
Lou Lamb (2020)		
Joe Gieck (2020)		
		Other leadership
		Ashby Kindler, Treasurer
		Babs Fickes, Minister of Music

A special thanks Ben Brewster for his years of service as our Treasurer.



Our 2018 Vestry

St. Luke's Annual Report – 2018

The Vestry and congregation continued to both endorse and live our Mission statement adopted in 2014.

*St. Luke's, Simeon – We are a Spirit-filled community of simple grace and acceptance, where all are embraced as children of God. We proclaim Christ's love for the world in Word and Sacrament, food and fellowship, sharing and service.
Come As You Are!*

Administration

The Vestry supervised the execution of the following church activities during 2018.

- Parochial report was completed and forwarded to the Diocese
- Church financial audit was completed and forwarded to the Diocese
- 2019 Stewardship Committee
- Annual Gifting Campaign exercised twice annually, led by Joe Gieck with Ashby Kindler, Judy Crosby and Alicia Lenahan
- 2019 Budget Committee led by Bob Lamb with Tom Torrance, Barbara Febey, and Ashby Kindler
- 224th Annual Convention attended by Lil Salley and Rev. Marian.
- Region XV Representation by Marta Engdahl
- Judy Crosby serves as Co-chair of Global Ministries and Chair of Nominations for The Episcopal Church Women of the Diocese of Virginia

Congregation and Parishioners

Our 2018 Parochial Report shows 100 active baptized members of the congregation, with 88 communicants in good standing. Our 2018 Average Sunday Attendance was 46, and 36 members participated in religious education or spiritual formation. As of this writing, we continue to grow and attract new members.

Baptisms
<i>None</i>
Marriages
<i>Madeline Berberich Wedding – September 15</i>
Burials and Funerals
<i>Robert Talley (Dec 2, 2018)</i>
<i>Robert Perce (Dec 17, 2017)</i>

Worship Leadership and Support

Our “behind the scenes” ministries continue to ensure, prepare for, and reverently execute our worship services on Sunday morning and other times. These ministries are a calling of devotion and we have seen a substantial growth in those participating.

Ministries	Volunteers
Acolytes and Servers	Bob and Judy Bill; Marta Engdahl; Joan Clark
Altar Guild	Bob and Judy Bill; Sally Gieck; Lillian Salley, Debbie King, Lou Lamb, Ruby Parrish, Sue Massey
Bulletins (“pew sheets”)	Don Fickes
Eucharistic Ministers	Bob and Judy Bill, Marta Engdahl, Don Fickes, Rick Miller
Eucharistic Visitors	Marta Engdahl
Lectors, Greeters and Ushers	Judy Crosby, Stan Dunne, Marta Engdahl, Joe and Sally Gieck, Ashby Kindler, Lou Lamb, Lynne Sprouse, Tom Torrance, Jo-Anne Brust, Debbie King, Tom Goss, Janyce Caulkin
Music	Babs Fickes
Sunday Fellowship Hour	Babs Fickes (coordinator)

Financial and Stewardship

We are on track to successfully execute our 2018 budget of \$120,000 that included 25% dedicated to outreach and gifting.

2019 Stewardship and Budget

St. Luke's Annual Report – 2018

The Vestry formed our separate committees Stewardship, led by Judy Crosby assisted by Bob Lamb, and Budget led by Bob Lamb with Tom Torrance, Ashby Kindler, and Barbara Febey and charged them with developing our 2019 budget and stewardship goals.

There are several notable components of this budget that are summarized below.

- Our budget for 2019 is approximately \$125,451 is approximately \$5000 higher than 2018, in part due to \$10k budgeted to painting the church and another \$10k for relocation expenses should they be required through our Search Committee's efforts.
- Our Expenses are aligned to 4 major categories.
 1. *Building and Grounds.* This budget category includes both keeping the lights and heat on, mowing the grass, as well as any major projects requiring a budget commitment. For example, this past year we had some significant tree trimming throughout the church grounds. We've programmed \$20,000 for Building and Grounds which is 16% of our total budget and includes the \$10k for painting noted above.
 2. *Outreach and Gifting.* For 2019, we've budgeted \$29,600, which is 24% of our overall budget. This includes our Diocesan pledge of \$10,300. As in years past, if our budget execution is less than programmed, we will execute a subsequent gifting period.
 3. *Parish Operations.* This category incorporates the "day-to-day" expenses for our church operations including office supplies, communications expenses, and insurance. The budgeted \$10,140 represents approximately 8% of our overall budget. With the departure of Deacon Brian, we did not allocate \$1700 for "Deacon LOA Expenses."
 4. *Salaries and Expenses.* Includes our clergy, organist, as well as supply clergy, accounting and payroll services as well. We've budgeted approximately \$65,651 to Salaries and Expenses, which represents approximately 52% of our overall budget. Our approach to estimating salaries included planning for 75% of the year for our Interim Priest and the remaining 25% for a priest using salary data from our 2017 budget.
- Income: This category encompasses our estimated income for the coming year. The Stewardship Committee made an operating assumption to balance income with the above estimated expenses pending completion of the Annual Giving Campaign. The Annual Giving campaign is ongoing. We will update this Income estimate during the coming weeks as our Annual Giving campaign is completed.
- Invested Funds: The final component of our financial health is the investments. We currently have three investment funds; one with the Charlottesville Area Community Foundation (CACF) and two with the Trustees of the Fund (TOTF) (Diocese of Virginia). Our Diocese of VA investment fund and Julia Mason Fund are managed by the TOTF. *Chartered in 1892, The Trustees of the Funds is an independent, related organization of the Diocese of Virginia. It was founded to support, strengthen and enhance the communities served by the Protestant Episcopal Church in Virginia. Through accessible investment services and planned giving education, The Trustees of the Funds seeks to provide the economic engine for the Episcopal Church in all of Virginia in helping others discover, refine and use their spiritual gifts.* Collectively these investments have earned approximate \$22,000. Historically, we've made the decision to reinvest these funds and will continue to do so for the coming year or as necessary, make up for any budget shortfalls or emergency requirements.

St. Luke's Annual Report – 2018

Christian Formation

- **Advent Bible Study** – Rev. Marian initiated our Advent Bible Study on November 28. A light supper ensured both body and soul were nourished.
- **Adult Christian Education** – The Adult Christian Education class, led by Tom Torrance, met throughout the fall. Discussions focused on the Presiding Bishop's "The Way of Love."
- **Spiritual Gifts Workshop** – led by Tom Torrance
- **Bad Girls of the Bible** – Led by parishioner Lynne Sprouse, the "Bad Girls" are a group of women who meet on Thursdays for discussion of spiritual Scripture-based books such as the Women of Faith series. These meetings are characterized by honest sharing of experience and wisdom, mutual support, and plenty of laughter. The "Bad Girls" also take special lunch outings at least twice a year.
- **Inquirer's Class and Episcopal Refresher Course** – All of the course material from our Inquirer's Class and Refresher Course, developed by the Rev. Carroll Mallin has been posted to our website.
- **Lending Library** – Our Lending Library, under the direction of Carroll Mallin and Judy Bill continues as a vital component of St. Luke's adult education. Today it includes:
 - 5 part Lenten series of DVDs by Marcus Borg
 - Inquirer's Course/Refresher Course of the Episcopal Church - History, Structure and Core Beliefs
 - Comprehensive 8 part distance-learning, print
 - William Barclay's *The New Daily Study Bible*.



Outreach and Giving

- **Financial Gifting** – In 2019 we committed to gifting \$14,400 (11% of our operating budget) to gifting. We continued our commitment of exceeding the Virginia Plan with our Diocesan pledge of \$10,300. This past year we supported the following organizations.

June Gifting	December Gifting
<p><i>St. Luke's Diaper Ministry</i> – Outreach ministry offering diapers and connection</p> <p><i>Back to School Bash, Mt Zion</i> – delivering clothes, shoes, or a bookbag for the upcoming school year</p> <p><i>Senior Center</i> – Provides senior scholarships and program funding</p> <p><i>African American Teaching Fellows</i> - recruit, support, develop, and retain a cadre of African American teachers</p> <p><i>Georgia's Healing House</i> - a safe, structured living environment to assist women in recovery</p> <p><i>Carpenter's Kids</i> – Provides basic needs for children in Tanzania</p>	<p><i>St. Luke's Diaper Ministry</i> – Outreach ministry offering diapers and connection</p> <p><i>Women's Aid</i> – Supporting women and children and working to end domestic abuse</p> <p><i>Love Inc</i> – Provides basic financial help for those in need</p> <p><i>Global Ministries</i></p> <p>Senior Center Capital project - Provides senior scholarships and program funding</p> <p><i>Bread and Roses Ministry</i> – Community kitchen and garden program at Trinity</p>

St. Luke's Annual Report – 2018

- **Diaper Ministry** – Under the leadership of our former Deacon, Brian Hutcherson in coordination with Love INC, we continued and grew our diaper ministry whereby the congregation donates diapers, wipes or money to help parents in need. We initially began with two families and 3 children expanding to 5 families and 8 children. A special thanks to Lou Lamb, Lil Salley, Judy Crosby, Debbie King, and Ashby Kindler for reaching directly to these families and delivering these essential resources.
- **Carpenter's Kids and Our Missioner, Judy Crosby** – We have continued our special relation with the Carpenter's Kids. Carpenter's Kids is a partnership of U.S. Episcopal churches and Anglican churches in Diocese of Central Tanganyika, Tanzania whose primary mission is promoting education for the most vulnerable children in rural villages. As noted above, Carpenter's Kids continues to receive financial support through our financial gifting and outreach.



- **Veterans and Active Military Ministry** – Our outreach to Veterans and active duty Service Members under the leadership of Lou Lamb. On June 3rd, "Team St. Luke's" participated in the "4 our Freedom 5k" in Charlottesville. Unfortunately, the "Freedom 5K" which has been a mainstay of our Team, was cancelled this year.

- **Luv Mitts Ministry** – Created by parishioner Lydia Kessler, Luv Mitts are cozy fingerless mittens made from repurposed sweaters and embellished with beautiful stitches and buttons. Each stitch and button has meaning, and each pair is unique. They are given in love to provide comfort and express caring for the recipient. Sometimes recipients are given two pairs, with the instruction to "keep one and pass one on." To date, Lydia has crafted over 3000 pair and is now teaching others how to make them in church member workshops! Luv Mitts have been given and shared with

people all over the country. She has an expansive vision to bring the Mitts to ever increasing numbers of people. Lydia is featured in this year's Diocesan "All Hearts Open" Stewardship Poster.

- **St. Nicholas Toy Sale** – St. Luke's participates in *The Schoolhouse Thrift Shop's Toy Sale* by donating toys, which are sold at 50% off retail to assist low-income families in buying toys for their children at Christmas. This benefits low-income families and community outreach programs and is supported by the churches of Region XV of the Episcopal church, with proceeds benefiting local charities.

St. Luke's Annual Report – 2018

Church and Grounds – Weekly Cleaning of Church and Parish Hall: Ruby Parrish and Sally Gieck.

- **Spring and Fall Cleanups** – Our Spring and Fall cleanups continue. Special thanks to Ron Ignatz who has stepped in as Junior Warden.

Communications – The *Song of Simeon*, our weekly e-newsletter has continued to serve the congregation well with news and events. The transition to “Google Groups” for managing our email has proven effective with approximately 89 members. The automated service has proven an effective means for the congregation informed. Our website (www.stlukessimeon.org) continues to provide an internet presence, a welcoming “signpost” for finding and learning about St. Luke’s and a source of information about our Parish Life and Worship.



Special Events and Activities

Recurring Activities	Special Events
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Monthly Pot Luck Fellowship. Our tradition of celebrating in fellowship with a Pot Luck the first Sunday of each month continued. • Monthly Pot Luck Fellowship. Our tradition of celebrating in fellowship with a Pot Luck the first Sunday of each month continued. • Our St. Luke’s “Bad Girls” continued their spiritual journey, meeting each Thursday using the “Women of Faith” series of Study material. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • January – Annual Diocesan Convention at Reston, VA • February – Pancake Breakfast • April – Spiritual Gifts Workshop • June – Annual Picnic held at Bob and Lou Lamb’s home on Lake Monticello • January – 222nd Annual Diocesan Convention at Reston, VA • February– Pancake Breakfast • June – Annual Picnic held at Bob and Lou Lamb’s home on Lake Monticello • June - Parishioners Workshop and Brunch, Facilitated by The Rev. Dr. Mary Thorpe-Director of Transitional Ministry • Fall – Adult Christian Education • October - Fall Camp at Shrine Mont attended by Jo-Anne Brust and Joann Rawls • October – Blessing of the Animals • November - CPR and AED Training • November – 224th Annual Diocesan Convention in Richmond attended by Lil Salley and Rev. Marian. • December – Advent Bible Study led by Rev. Marian • December – St. Luke’s, Simeon Annual Meeting • December – Advent Wreath Workshop on First Sunday of Advent • December– Christmas Pageant and Annual Christmas Party at Wentworth Farm

Conclusion

This has been a transitional year for St. Luke’s and yet, each Sunday we continue to greet our church family with joy and a steadfast belief that all is well. We are in both word and deed....

... a Spirit-filled community of simple grace and acceptance... Come as you are.