

St. Luke's Episcopal Church, Simeon

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



Annual Report - 2019

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 2019.

Congregation and Leadership

We began 2019 under the pastoral leadership of our Interim Priest, Rev. Dr. Marian Windel. We are thankful for the wonderful care and service she brought throughout her tenure.

The search for a new Rector, begun in 2018 was concluded this year with the arrival of The Rev. Randall Haycock, joining St. Luke's on May 5th. Special thanks to our Search Committee of Tom Torrance, Stewart Gamage, Don Fickes, and Lil Salley) and to The Rev. Dr. Mary Thorpe-Director of Transitional Ministry for her assistance in guiding us through this process. We marked Fr. Randy's new calling on December 21st with a Celebration of New Ministry.

Supporting Fr. Randy are our Vestry, Trustees, and others serving St. Luke's in key leadership roles.



Member		Trustees
Joe Gieck (2020) Senior Warden	New Members Ben Brewster (2022) John Down (2022) Lynne Sprouse (2022) <i>Thank you Debbie King, Rog Ignatz, and Judy Crosby, concluding their service on the Vestry.</i>	Robert E. Bill
Debbie King (2019)		Joe H. Gieck
Ron Ignatz (2019) Junior Warden		E. Donald Fickes
Lou Lamb (2020) Register		
Rick Febey (2021)		
Tom Parker (2021)		
Joann Rawls (2021)		
Judy Crosby (2019)		
Other leadership		Committees
Ashby Kindler, Treasurer		Outreach Gifting (Joe Gieck)
Babs Fickes, Minister of Music		Cemetery (Tom Parker)
		Audit Committee (Ashby Kindler)
		Stewardship and Budget Committees
<i>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!</i>		

Administration

The Vestry supervised the execution of the following church activities during 2019.

- Parochial report was completed and forwarded to the Diocese

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- Church financial audit was completed and forwarded to the Diocese
- 2020 Stewardship campaign led by Stan and Gail Dunne
- Annual Gifting Campaign exercised twice annually, led by Joe Gieck with Ashby Kindler, Judy Crosby and Alicia Lenahan
- 2020 Budget Committee led by Bob Lamb with Tom Torrance, Tom Parker and Ashby Kindler
- 225th Annual Convention attended by Fr. Randy and Tom Parker
- Region XV Representation by Marta Engdahl

Congregation and Parishioners

Our 2019 Parochial Report shows 100 active baptized members of the congregation, with 88 communicants in good standing. Our 2019 average Sunday attendance was 41, and 35 members participated in religious education or spiritual formation. As of this writing, we continue to grow and attract new members.

Baptisms	None
Marriages	1
Burials and Funerals	2



It was with great sadness we lost Mother Gloria on November 25th. Mother Gloria served Missioner to St. Luke's when it was a parochial mission of Christ Church ultimately retiring in 2000 as Vicar of Saint Luke's Episcopal Church.

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, Barbara Febey, Tom Parker, John Down
Altar Guild	Bob and Judy Bill, Sally Gieck, Debbie King, Lou Lamb, Ruby Parrish, Pat Perce
Flowers	Babs Fickes, Don Fickes
Bulletins ("pew sheets")	Don Fickes
Eucharistic Ministers	Bob and Judy Bill, Marta Engdahl, Don Fickes, Rick Miller, John Down
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, John Down, Tom Goss
Music	Babs Fickes
Sunday Fellowship Hour	Babs Fickes (coordinator), Don Fickes, Sally Gieck
Name Tag	Jo-Anne Brust Special thanks to Jo-Anne for coordinating new nametags for the congregation and for taking on the Nametag Ministry

Financial and Stewardship

We are on track to successfully execute our 2019 budget of \$135,451 that included 22% dedicated to outreach and gifting. The Vestry formed our separate committees Stewardship, led by Stan and Gail Dunne and Budget led by Bob Lamb with Tom Torrance, Ashby Kindler, and Tom Parker and charged them with developing our 2020 stewardship goals and budget. Our budget for 2020 is \$100,450.00 is approximately \$35000 lower than 2019, in part due to not requiring the \$10k budgeted to painting the church or \$10k for relocation expenses.

- Our Expenses are aligned to 4 major categories.

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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. This past year we painted the church and were able to absorb the cost within this category. We've programmed \$10,000 for Building and Grounds which is 10% of our total budget. The Vestry is considering an initiative to resurface our entrance ramp and parking lot.
 2. *Outreach and Gifting.* For 2020, we've budgeted \$29,300, which is 29% of our overall budget. This includes our Diocesan pledge of \$7,980 and \$14,400 for gifting to local charities. The Diocesan pledge is \$2350 less than last year but is within Diocesan guidelines of pledging 8-10% for churches with budgets of \$100k. 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 \$9,950 represents approximately 10% of our overall budget."
 4. *Salaries and Expenses.* Includes our clergy, organist, as well as supply clergy, accounting and payroll services as well. We've budgeted approximately \$51,200 to Salaries and Expenses, which represents approximately 51% of our overall budget and includes a cost of living increase for our organist.
- **Income:** Our 2019 stewardship included 32 pledges of approximately \$94,000. Our "loose plate offering" for 2019 was approximately \$14,500 and restricted gifts of approximately \$3,500. For 2020, we've received 31 pledges of approximately \$84,000.
 - **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)¹ (Diocese of Virginia). Our Diocese of VA investment fund and Julia Mason Fund are managed by the TOTF. Collectively these investments have earned approximately \$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.



Christian Formation

- **Bad Girls of the Bible** – Led by parishioner Lynne Sprouse, the "Bad Girls" meet on Thursdays for discussion of spiritual Scripture-based books such as the Women of Faith series. This year's book is *The Girl's Still Got It*, by Liz Curtis Higgs. Take a walk with Ruth and the God who rocked her world. 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.

¹ 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.

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- **Lenten Bible Study** – Each Wednesday of Lent, Rev. Marian led a study of Marcus Borg and John Dominic Crossan's book "The Last Week."
- **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

There are an extraordinary number of ways St. Luke's reaches out and gives, from our financial gifting (over 25% of our budget), to our time and talents (including "Luv Mitts") to answering the call for help (our Diaper Ministry, Food Bank, among others).

- **Financial Gifting** – In 2019 we committed to gifting \$14,400 (12% 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
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>St. Luke's Diaper Ministry</i> – Outreach ministry offering diapers and connection • <i>Bread and Roses</i> is a community kitchen and garden program at Trinity Episcopal Church • <i>Court Appointed Special Advocate (CASA)</i> provides trained volunteers and professional staff to advocate for the best interests of abused and neglected children and youth. • <i>Carpenter's Kids</i> – Provides basic needs for children in Tanzania • <i>Senior Center, Ralph Feil Scholarships</i> provides senior scholarships and program funding • <i>Yellow Door</i> provides housing and support for families with children being treated at UVA 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Alliance for Interfaith Ministries (AIM)</i> provides emergency assistance to families • <i>Blue Star Families</i> nonprofit organization dedicated to strengthening America's military families through community building • <i>Salvation Army</i> preaches the gospel of Jesus Christ and meets human needs in His name without discrimination. • <i>Love Inc</i> provides basic financial help for those in need • <i>The Center, Ralph Feil Scholarships</i> provides senior scholarships and program funding • <i>Carpenter's Kid</i> provides basic needs for children in Tanzania • <i>Bread and Roses</i> is a community kitchen and garden program at Trinity Episcopal Church

- **Diaper Ministry** – We have continued our diaper ministry whereby the congregation donates diapers, wipes or money to help parents in need. We are currently supporting 5 families and 8 children and have engaged Love Inc. to see if we can further expand this ministry. 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.

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- Veterans and Active Military Ministry** – Our outreach to Veterans and active duty Service Members under the leadership of Lou Lamb. On June 1st, “Team St. Luke’s” participated in the “4 our Freedom 5k” in Charlottesville. In November we participated in the “Freedom 5K” held at Glenmore. We also continued our support of the *Blue Star Families of Central Virginia* contributing everyday items that are boxed and shipped to our troops deployed overseas.



- 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 5000 pair and is now teaching others how to make them in church member workshops! Luv Mitts continue to be shared with people all over the country.

- 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.

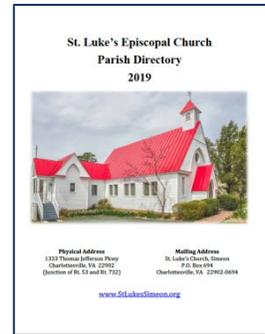
- Food Bank** – Periodically through the year, under the leadership of Ashby Kindler for the Emergency Food Bank and Babs and Don Fickes for the **Monticello Area Community Action Agency (MACAA)**, St. Luke’s brought non-perishable and semi-perishable food for our neighbors in need.
- The United Thank Offering (UTO)** – St. Luke’s participated in the UTO ministry of the Episcopal Church with our UTO Blue Boxes and our ingathering on May 12th.
- Annual Yard Sale** – Ashby Kindler took the lead to again coordinate our annual yard sale, raising money for St. Luke’s and fostering a sense of community.

Church and Grounds – Weekly Cleaning of Church and Parish Hall: Ruby Parrish and Sally Gieck. Our Spring and Fall Cleanups clean-ups continue under the leadership Ron Ignatz as Junior Warden. A special thanks to the team of Ron along with Rick and Barbara Febey who installed new flooring in the Sacristy.



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Communications – The *Song of Simeon*, our weekly e-newsletter has continued to serve the congregation well with news and events. Our “Google Group” has approximately 87 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. This year we updated the church Directory.



Special Events and Activities

Recurring Activities	Special Events
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Weekly Fr. Randy provides “Drop In Hours” at Cuppa Joe’s (Wednesday) and Cville Coffee (Fridays) 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 – St. Luke’s, Simeon Annual Meeting January – Annual Diocesan Convention at Reston, VA March – Lenten Bible Study led by Rev. Marian June – Annual Yard Sale led by Ashby Kindler July – Summer Outreach/Gifting August 3 – St. Luke’s hosted the Episcopal Church Women of the Diocese of Virginia summer Board Meeting September 8 – Annual Picnic held at Bob and Lou Lamb’s home on Lake Monticello October - Fall Camp at Shrine Mont attended by Jo-Anne Brust and Joann Rawls October – Blessing of the Animals November – 225th Annual Diocesan Convention in Richmond attended by Fr. Randy and Tom Parker December – Winter Outreach/Gifting December 15 – Annual Christmas Party at Wentworth Farm hosted by Sally and Joe Gieck December 21 – Celebration of New Ministry

Conclusion

This has been another 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.*

