



# SHARED VISIONS

## St. Luke's Episcopal & Our Saviour Lutheran

An Episcopal-Lutheran Ministry  
In Haworth, N.J.

**We welcome the faithful, the seeker and the doubter, for  
God's embrace is wide and God's Good News is for all!**

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**St. Luke's Episcopal Church &  
Our Saviour Lutheran Church**  
Massachusetts Ave. At Grant Street  
Haworth, NJ 07641

**St. Luke's: 201-384-0706**  
**Our Saviour: (201) 385-0353**  
[www.StLukesHaworth.org](http://www.StLukesHaworth.org) \*  
[www.oursaviourlc.org](http://www.oursaviourlc.org)

### A Message from St. Luke's Wardens

Dear Friends,

Without missing a beat, the supply clergy did a fantastic job of covering our temporary vacancy since Dewey's departure. Thank you to Rev Bill Coats and Rev. Steve Galleher for a job well done.

Let us not forget Junius Stephenson and Claudia Smith for those morning prayer Sundays when there was a conflict in scheduling.

I am happy to inform you that the Rev. Dr. Shane Phelan has decided to be priest in charge for our congregation. Her first service will be on March 14<sup>th</sup>. Welcome Pastor Shane! The vestry will be busy working with the diocese in having the official contracts drawn up. Work on the rectory will move ahead at full steam.

Pastor Shane comes to us from St. David's Episcopal Church in Kinnelon, N.J. She also served for nine years as a sister in a religious community, holding a number of leadership positions. Her education credits include bachelor of arts

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### The Golan Heights and Lent

By Pastor Kathleen Rusnak

Before leaving Israel in 2000, having lived and worked at Nes Ammim for over two years (a European Post-Holocaust Christian village in western Galilee). I wanted to take one last ride through the Golan Heights, because it was rumored that Israel might return it to Syria.

The hills and mountains of the Golan Heights surround part of the Sea of Galilee. It is amazing to see Syria right there. Because of its location, Syrian snipers would randomly shoot Israeli farmers in kibbutzim below. In the Six Day War of 1967, when five Arab nations attacked Israel, Israel was eager to capture the Golan, and did so, to put an end to the sniping. The Golan also is the main source of Israel's fresh water; a spring that feeds into the Sea of Galilee.

Going to the Golan Heights with a group is one thing. Going alone is

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degrees in economics and political science from California State University, a Ph.D. in political science from University of Massachusetts and a M.Div. degree from Drew University in addition to receiving a number of honors and awards. The challenge of working with our Lutheran friends is very exciting to her and she cannot wait to get to know us and work with us as we continue our venture.

*"We humbly pray you so to guide and govern us by your Holy Spirit, that in all the cares and occupations of our life we may not forget you, but may remember that we are ever walking in your sight; through Jesus Christ our Lord."*

Wardens: Carol Maxfield  
Paul Nobleman

## GIRL SCOUTS VOLUNTEER FOR CLEAN-UP DUTY



## OUTREACH: UPDATE ON HAITIAN RELIEF

We have so far collected 6 hygiene kits to be forwarded to Church World Services for Haiti. We will continue to collect through March, so please consider putting a kit together and leaving it in the box in the parish hall.

According to the ELCA website, as of 2/12/10, donations for Haiti have exceeded \$4.6 million. Funds are used to purchase and distribute medicine, drinking water, food, emergency shelter, sanitation and hygiene kits and to provide psycho-social services and other support.

The Episcopal USA site does not give a monetary figure but gives details of what they have been supplying, including 5 tons of food to survivors living in diocesan camps, construction of permanent

latrines, distribution and training in use of 20 emergency water purification systems and the purchase of 10 more trucks for use by the diocese, which is, along with the Newark diocese, a member of Province 2, all of whose members have pledged \$10K to relief, along with donations from individual parishes like ours. Haiti Anglican Bishop Jean Zache Duracin has asked that "unless the people who want to come to Haiti to help are certified professionals in relief and recovery, they should wait." He says they can best assist Haiti as advocates for the country right here at home in the United States as well as donating funds to Episcopal Relief and Development.

### To assemble a Hygiene Kit:

- One hand towel measuring approximately 16" x 28" (no fingertip or bath towels)
- One washcloth
- One wide-tooth comb
- One nail clipper
- One bar of soap (bath size in wrapper)
- One toothbrush (original package)
- Six standard-size Band-Aids®

Place all items in a one-gallon plastic bag with a zipper closure, remove excess air from bag, and seal. Please do not add toothpaste.

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*Junior Girl Scout Troop #113 from Dumont volunteered to help with storm damage clean-up. Their reward after a job well done was plenty of homemade cookies and hot chocolate. Thank you, ladies! Photo: Carol Maxfield*

**Shared Visions**, the newsletter of St. Luke's Episcopal Church, is published 11 times per year. Submissions for the upcoming month's issue should be *mailed* to Shared Visions, St. Luke's Episcopal Church, Massachusetts Ave. & Grant St., Haworth, NJ 07641; *placed* in the Shared Visions mailbox in the church office; or *e-mailed* to claudiasmith@msn.com. Firm deadline for submissions is the 20th of each month.

**Shared Visions Board:** Editor: Janet Beddoe. Editorial Staff: Janet Beddoe, Claudia Smith.

Photography: Jim Wilkie. Advertising: Jo Stephenson.

*Pastor Kathleen, cont'd. from Page 1*

another. I rented a car and packed some water and food. I knew the highway to take, and started off. I was a bit nervous, I must say, going by myself. What if I had a flat? It isn't as if I had AAA there!

Although I had been to the Golan Heights before, I didn't know it well. I was nervous. The terrain is desert-like, with winding hills, and you can go miles upon miles with nothing but the earth in site; no stores, no homes, no villages, no gas stations, nothing familiar—just you, your car, your thoughts, a lot of prayer.

You can no longer remain unconscious. Our lives are filled with well-worn paths of routine. We don't have to think much. The GPS leads us, the calculator adds for us, the routine tells us what to expect, even if it is to expect the unexpected. We just go about our daily lives as always.

## **OUR SAVIOUR Confirmation Class**

Pastor Kathleen Rusnak has begun teaching classes in confirmation instruction for three young members of Our Saviour: Kristen Finckenauer, Corrin Kassis and Samantha Monaco. The course is taken from an Episcopal curriculum, which runs six weeks as opposed to the three-year cycle common in the Lutheran Church. Assisting Pastor in teaching are Beverly Hashimoto and Claudia Smith, Ksenija and Glen Kassis, Karen Hamlin, Roberta Nobleman and Pastor Shane.

Driving through the Golan Heights calls us to think fast, stay alert, be aware. The Syrians left mine fields behind, and the Israelis have electric fences separating the Golan Heights from Syria. The mine fields have posted warnings, but the winter waters can move the mines to almost anywhere, so you have to be sure never to step onto any land outside of roads and villages. The electric fences have no warning posts, and I came close to death, when, as I was about to touch one on the shoulder of a road, a truck with two workers screamed “lo, lo, lo” (no, no, no) and flailed their arms gesturing to move away. As I drove alone now, I remembered my near fatal fate, because I was not conscious of my surrounding situation.

Lent calls us to consciousness. Ash Wednesday calls us to be conscious that we will die, as ashes are placed on our foreheads with these words said, “Remember that you are dust, and to dust you will return.” Our

## **MARCH BIRTHDAYS & ANNIVERSARIES**

- 1 Betty-Ann Wilkie
- 2 Christine Pellegrin
- 4 Walter Ingebretsen
- 8 Chris Mertz
- 13 Kara Kuehnrich
- 14 Abby Kuehnrich
- 17 Caitlyn Craig
- 21 Richard Gonci
- 26 Kristen Finckenauer
- 29 Dora Duncan
- 30 Helena Riede

Lenten lessons remind us of the wilderness journeys of our ancestors; Abram, an old man, commanded by God to go to another land, to leave behind his home, language, and culture; the Israelites wandering for forty years in a wilderness that was so unpleasant as to cause them to beg for slavery again; and Jesus, at a high point in his life, was thrown into the desert for forty days. When thrown into a desert without anything or without anything familiar, we are tempted to take the first way out, whether that is a Golden Calf, or an offering of bread from stones by Satan.

Usually, it is in the wilderness of job loss, recession, illness, disappointment, prison, or dying that we can no longer allow ourselves to wallow in routine and planned script; when, in being conscious, we can find, sometimes for the first time, what matters in life, what is essential, and what isn't. Sometimes, the wilderness is where we discover life in its fullness.

Lent is not about safety, it's about authenticity, and nothing brings us to that more deeply than the depth of the experience of the desert trek.



## **Save the Dates**

The Episcopal Lutheran Church Women met on Feb. 21 and set the following fundraising events:  
April 25 - Art Auction & Luncheon (see page 7 for story)  
May 9 - Plant Sale  
June 6 - Cake Sale  
**Next ELCW meeting - May 16  
after the 10:30 service**

### The Feeling of an Unknown Silence

I first began to lose my hearing in my mid-twenties, though I don't know for sure what caused this. I had worked for four summers as a teenager in a tin can factory, which probably contributed. In the army, I had been exposed to both small arms and artillery, none in combat, but noisy just the same. By the time I reached mid-life my hearing had become progressively worse, to the point where I couldn't follow a conversation, go to a movie or listen to music. Helen Keller once said that of all her afflictions, including blindness, being deaf was the worst because it kept her from communicating with others. From my experience I know that being severely hearing impaired makes for a very lonely life.

Hearing loss has been called the invisible handicap because people have no way of knowing that you can't hear. Numerous times people would become annoyed with me when I didn't respond to them, or when I couldn't answer a simple question no matter how often they repeated it. Even when people knew that I had a hearing problem they frequently minimized it, as if I were faking. I heard things like "He can hear when he wants to," or "Are those hearing aids turned on?" Over time, those slights hurt badly. I began trying to avoid situations where I felt I might be subject to ridicule.

At work, people were aware of my hearing loss and went out of their way to help me, listening to my voicemail and telling me who had called, or even taking over on a phone call if I couldn't understand

the caller. This kindness was one of the few good things I got out of being hard of hearing. However I always felt that I was not pulling my weight and that I was a burden to my fellow workers.

My social life, once a source of joy, also became fraught with pain. At gatherings I couldn't understand what was being said. People began to realize it was easier to leave me out of conversations altogether. This activity was kind, not malicious. I felt both relief and an incredible loneliness at being left out of conversations I had once enjoyed. I also felt alienated at home although my family, always supportive, worked hard to help me. My wife, Betty-Ann handled all the phone calls – we couldn't even share in fending off the telemarketers! When family or close friends spoke about important or sensitive matters with me, I often couldn't hear, as people tend to speak softly about things that are important to them. I know that my responses to them made it seem as if I was insensitive or uncaring when, in fact, I cared deeply and had simply misunderstood what the person had said.

During my increasing hearing loss, there were times when the image of Christ's death on the cross helped me bear this suffering. Today I am blessed in that, thanks to cochlear implant surgery, I have recovered my ability to hear. I can enjoy conversations with family and friends, hear sermons, and even tell off the telemarketers myself. I feel I have started a new life. What was a crucifixion has turned into

resurrection. Because of this gift from God, I pray that others' burdens will be relieved as completely as mine was.

*Jim Wilkie delivered the above as part of St. Luke's Good Friday service in the Spring of 2000. He has added an Afterword for this issue of "Shared Visions."*

Last year, for about a month, I returned to the world of deafness. While in the hospital awaiting surgery, my implant stopped working. At first, I panicked. How could I face the old problems after ten years of hearing reasonably well? But then I realized that Christ was still with me and that I could hear again when I had a new implant. In fact, I realized once more what a great gift I had been given by having my hearing restored. I did have a second implant and can hear again. I like to think of it as my Easter Sunday.



*Shared Visions would like encourage everyone to consider submitting their own "recipes," meditations or moments when you have felt God's touch.*

### HELP WANTED

St. Luke's & Our Saviour will host the first Walk-in Dinner of the year in the new facility in Hackensack on Wed., April 7. As always, your financial contributions are welcome. Those who can prepare the recipe and/or serve the meal may sign up in the Parish Hall or contact Janet Beddoe. Further details to come.

## Lent Observances or Love Life, Live Lent

Rather than the usual Outreach report, I decided to write a piece this month on how some of the churches, particularly the Lutheran and Episcopal churches, are recommending the observance of Lent this year, so I began by using Google to research “Observance Lent” and it was obvious that people are being encouraged to take something on rather than give something up.

One of the first items I saw was *Memphis churches serve food in observance of Lent*. I checked it out and was greeted by a mouthwatering picture of chicken salad with mounds of shrimp mousse and tomato aspic. It appears that Calvary Episcopal Church opens a Waffle Shop over Lent and serves more than 1,000 customers there daily with such delights as waffles, fish pudding, chicken hash and fudge pie, at a charge of \$2.50 to \$9.00 per meal, in conjunction with a Lenten Preaching Series. “The Waffle Shop is an extension of our overall purpose, which is to spread the word of God’s love,” said the parishioner who coordinates the legion of volunteers at the Waffle Shop.

Then I went to the Evangelical Church of America website (ELCA), which offers a somewhat different approach. ELCA is teaming up with the National Council of Churches to offer a Lenten resource exploring Climate Justice and how it relates to our daily lives and communities. Each week will explore a different topic, providing ways to address climate change in our own lives. The topics are (1). Climate Change and Health; (2) Climate Change and Economics; (3) Climate Change and Development; (4) Climate Change

and Disaster/Migration; (5) Climate Change and Food Security; (6) Holy Week Reflections on Climate Justice. A little late, but anyone wishing to receive these Lenten reflections should go to the ELCA website and sign up.

Finally I went to the Episcopal Church USA website to read from “Episcopal Life Online”: “Christians observing the Lenten time of sacrifice are being urged to engage in acts that enable a better sharing of world resources... Observant Christians often give up meat, alcohol or chocolate, or engage in some kind of fasting but this year some Anglican bishops are urging Christians to keep their carbon consumption in check.” Bishop Richard Chartres of London said that a “Carbon Fast” could be done by having a day without a cell phone or an iPod as a way of reducing the use of electricity and cutting the amount of carbon dioxide discharged into the atmosphere.

In Edinburgh, the Presbyterian Church of Scotland urged people to sacrifice their time and talents in service to their neighbors.

In Geneva, the interim executive director of Ecumenical Advocacy Alliance urged people to think about the injustice of the world food situation. “More than one billion people are suffering from hunger around the world.... There are people in all parts of the world who suffer the effects of too much – too much salt, sugar, fat, calories – too much choice, too many things, too much wealth.”

Catholic Online reminds Catholics that the three traditional pillars of

Lent are Prayer, Fasting and Almsgiving. However, to quote “Episcopal Life”, “Christians can fast for a day from food, fossil fuel or consumption as an act of support for people who are hungry and as a means of raising awareness.”

Perhaps one could sum up with the title of a Church of England Lenten booklet, which lists 40 simple activities for Lent, “**Love Life. Live Lent.**” We might add some more Ls – Listen, Look, Love and ...Laugh a Lot.

-- Janet Beddoe



### ORDER EASTER LILIES BY MARCH 14

As we begin a new relationship this Easter with Pastor Shane Phelan, the Altar Guild will return to an old tradition and decorate the church for Easter Sunday with Easter lilies. Please fill out the order form (enclosed in the bulletins) early by March 14 so that we may order the correct number of plants.

The cost is \$10 per plant. Please make your check payable to St. Luke’s Episcopal Church and drop it in the offering plate with the form.

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## PRAYERS FOR ST. LUKE'S & OUR SAVIOUR PARISH FAMILIES



***Please keep in your thoughts and prayers the following parishioners and members of our extended families:***

Pat Stephenson, Lillian Nelson, Penny Elie, Bill O'Daniel, the Gonci family, Pauline Pedreira, Lawrence H. Horn III, Rita Wagner, Zack Dochnahl, Jeb Magda, George Stubbs, Murray & Roberta Nobleman, Deb Riede, Darren Garrish, Carol Maxfield, Jean Turner, Kimberly Roig, Marrine Romaine, Doris Rosa, Erica DeLuca and her family, Bill Repp, Charlie & Fran Napolitano, David Storicks, Nancy Smith, Noel, Jeffrey, John Casper, Betty Meyer, Jeanean & Peter Chraplewski, Dot Dillinger, Laura Reutlinger and family, Bishop Mark S. Hanson, Presiding Bishop of ECLA, Bishop E. Roy Riley, Jr., Bishop of New Jersey Synod, ECLA, James Penney, Jamie, Laura Smith, Linda Brescia, Venetta Smith, Pat Kay, Muriel Andersen, Jimmy Russell, Beverly Pitsenberger, Jane Denny, Caroline Kouta, the family of Louis Egan (nee: Rusnak), Cathy Klie and her family, Dave Gemnel, Adolfo Salvatore Magnifico, Muriel Bauer, Roxanne Gabriel, Keith, Betty-Ann and Jim Wilkie.

## IN MEMORIAM

**BLESSED ARE THEY THAT  
DIE IN THE LORD:**

***Mickie Keating  
(February 14, 2010)***

We knew her as Mickie; experienced and wise in the world of finances, worked at the World Trade Center, was a vice-president of a New Jersey bank, and president of her own appraisal company. She never retired. Mickie was with Our Saviour as an active member for the past seven years. This is how most of us know her, although her mother was superintendent of our Sunday School decades ago. Some members remember her.

Not long after Mickie returned to us after a long hiatus, she was elected to our Church Council, in which she served two terms, only recently resigning her seat (August 2009) and transferring her membership to Good Shepherd, Glen Rock (October 2009), not far from her home in Ridgewood. Mickie's ideas, knowledge, and contacts helped us through some very crucial financial times in Cresskill.

Her graveside interment was Thursday, February 25th at the George Washington Memorial Park in Paramus. The inclement weather stopped members who wanted to attend from going to say a final goodbye. We can say that together now. We will each remember Mickie in our own way. We will remember her as a church community. She resides in the heart of God now. May her memory be a blessing to us.

--Pastor Kathleen Rusnak

## Coming Events

Sunday, March 7

*Third Sunday in Lent*

8:30 AM Contemporary Eucharist  
9:30 AM Choir Rehearsal  
10:30 AM Holy Eucharist  
11:45 AM Combined Adult Study/  
Confirmation Instruction  
6:30 PM Parish Fun Night

Tuesday, March 9

7:30 PM-St. Luke's Vestry Meeting

Sunday, March 14

*Fourth Sunday in Lent*

8:30 AM Contemporary Eucharist  
9:30 AM Choir Rehearsal  
10:30 AM Holy Eucharist  
11:45 AM Confirmation Instruction

Saturday, March 20

4:00 PM Our Saviour  
Council Meeting

Sunday, March 21

*Fifth Sunday in Lent*

8:30 AM Contemporary Eucharist  
9:15 AM Joint Committee Meeting  
9:30 AM Choir Rehearsal  
10:30 AM Holy Eucharist  
11:45 AM Confirmation Instruction  
6:30 PM Parish Fun Night

Sunday, March 28

*Palm/Passion Sunday*

8:30 AM Contemporary Eucharist  
9:30 AM Choir Rehearsal  
10:30 AM Holy Eucharist

Thursday, April 1

*Maundy Thursday*

7 PM - Holy Eucharist, Footwashing  
and Vigil

*Madeline's*  
PETIT PARIS

FRENCH  
RESTAURANT



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## Coming Events

Friday, April 2

*Good Friday*

Noon - Stations of the Cross  
7 PM - Good Friday Service

Saturday, April 3

9:30 AM Altar Guild Polishfest

Sunday, April 4

*Easter Sunday*

8:30 AM Contemporary Eucharist  
9:30 AM Choir Rehearsal  
10:30 AM Holy Eucharist

Wednesday, April 7

Walk-in Dinner - Hackensack

Sunday, April 11

*Second Sunday of Easter*

8:30 AM Contemporary Eucharist  
9:30 AM Choir Rehearsal  
10:30 AM Holy Eucharist  
11:45 AM Confirmation instruction

Tuesday, April 13

7:30 PM-St. Luke's Vestry Meeting

Sunday, April 18

*Third Sunday of Easter*

8:30 AM Contemporary Eucharist  
9:15 AM Joint Committee Meeting  
9:30 AM Choir Rehearsal  
10:30 AM Holy Eucharist  
11:45 AM Confirmation Instruction  
6:30 PM Parish Fun Night

Sunday, April 25

*Fourth Sunday of Easter*

8:30 AM Contemporary Eucharist  
9:30 AM Choir Rehearsal  
10:30 AM Holy Eucharist  
2 PM Anne Connolly Artwork  
Fundraising Auction & Luncheon  
Details TBA

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## ART SHOW

Jo Stephenson's Art Class students will be exhibiting their paintings and sketchings at the Cresskill Library during the month of March. The library is located at 53 Union Avenue, across from King's Supermarket. For hours, call the library at 201- 567-3521.

## POLISHFEST

The Altar Guild will hold its Polishfest for Easter on Saturday, April 3 at 9:30 AM. Anyone who would like to help us polish the brass and get things spiffed up for Easter Sunday is welcome to join us. A light breakfast will be served.



## HELLO, WORLD!



Shannan Alexis Marie Coleman  
b. 12/23/2009

6.6 lbs

20 inches

Parents: Susan & Jeffrey Coleman  
Brother: Chris Coleman

## IN MEMORIAM



**Anne Connolly**  
Demarest, NJ

A local artist and longtime member of St. Luke's Episcopal Church, Anne Connolly passed away peacefully at home at the age of 92 on Oct. 13, 2009. She is survived by a daughter, Irene Hass; a grandson, James Pastorfield; great-grandchildren Timothy, Cassandra and Anthony Pastorfield; special friends Sam Bassini and Frank Murphey; dear sister-in-law, Dorothy Kohlberger, wife of her brother, Charles; sister-in-law Betty Kohlberger, wife of her brother, John; their children and families; and many very close friends. Anne's ashes were joined with her husband's ashes in the Garden of Arimathea.

\*\*\*\*\*

Anne's family has donated her paintings to St. Luke's. On Sun., April 25 at 2 PM, there will be a church luncheon with a sale/auction of Anne's artwork. This will be a major fundraiser for St. Luke's & Our Saviour outreach and open to the public. Details to be announced in the April issue.

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*St. Luke's parishioner Kaitlyn Plinio captured the beauty of the winter wonderland at St. Luke's & Our Saviour.*



## SHARED VISIONS

St. Luke's Episcopal Church  
Our Saviour Lutheran Church  
Massachusetts Ave. & Grant St.  
Haworth, NJ 07641



**We welcome the faithful, the seeker and the doubter, for God's embrace is wide and God's Good News is for all!  
Sunday Services at 8:30 A.M and 10:30 A.M. Sunday School at 10:30 A.M. Nursery care provided.**