

ACTS of ST. LUKE'S EPISCOPAL CHURCH

SEPTEMBER 2023

Be Nimble



My neighbor said to me, “I bet you have lots of big ideas and plans from your sabbatical that you are ready to put into action at church.”
awkward silence *blank look*

I don’t. I do not have any big plans or grand ideas. I intentionally chose not to read articles or books about church life during sabbatical—my mind needed a break so I could come back to work with new eyes. We will see what these new eyes see over the next month or two.

I did have an ah-ha moment in talking with my spouse about a software development project he had heard about. An organization we both like and support and respect had spent 5 years putting together a new computer system that did all the things they needed it to do—they did research and focus groups at the beginning and dug deep to find out all the needs and dreams of the various users, and the software program is beautiful and perfect—for 5 years ago. The environment that the software functions in continued to evolve during the five years that they were meticulously building this “new” software, but that evolution did not have a chance to influence the plan. My spouse and I both understood the desire to NOT “build the airplane while it is flying” especially after we’ve all had to do so much of that over the past few years. But, that was what was necessary. Making constant changes and tweaks *in real time* is necessary.

I’m thinking, ruminating on the idea that the same may be true for the church as it exists now. It may be that the wisest way for us to prepare to be a community of Christ seekers and followers in our current environment is to put procedures and systems in place that allow us to make adjustments and respond to the work God is calling us into *at that moment*. To practice being thoughtful, present, and attentive *to the current movement* of the Holy Spirit.

And a good step in that direction would be to nurture our ability and willingness to be guided by the Holy Spirit. The Saturday 5 pm service is often a good place to practice listening for the Holy Spirit, as is Children’s Church during the first half of the 10 am service. Starting next month, in between Indigenous People’s Day and Thanksgiving, we will offer a 6-week program provided by the Diocese called *Embrace*. It has been designed to foster a deeper understanding of the Episcopal tradition, our liturgy, and our common life in prayer. This journey into the life of the church provides

(Be Nimble, continued on page 4)



SEPTEMBER

September						
S	M	T	W	T	F	S
						1 2
3	4	5	6	7	8	9
10	11	12	13	14	15	16
17	18	19	20	21	22	23
24	25	26	27	28	29	30

September Birthdays

Marie Holbrook	1
Walter Tinling	5
Alice Bradley	9
Myrtle Mason	11
Lily Hutchins	14
Sadie Hutchins	14
Edwin Grosvenor	17
Elaine Hiruo	17
Melissa Oppenheimer	20
Amy Stern	21
Rick Paisley	21
Barbara Roybal	23
Amy D'Agostino	24
Courtney Schneider	28

September Special Dates

1 September	Office closed
4 September	Labor Day Office closed MCPS no school
7 September	Fall Yoga series begins
9 September	Garden Guild workday Supper Group
10 September	Family Fun Day Lunch and Conversation
15 September	Rosh Hashanah begins
19 September	Book Lovers
23 September	Fall Equinox
24 September	Yom Kippur begins
25 September	MCPS no school

October Birthdays

Sandra Stewart	1
Kayleigh Canick	2
Bob Dufour	8
Joanne Kennedy	11
Jack Ellert-Beck	14
Sylvia Lu	14
Marie Welsh	16
Sam Miller	16
Betsy Davis	24
Michelle Canick	24
Austin Marks	25
Judy Rice	25
Leslie Roberts	31

October						
S	M	T	W	T	F	S
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
8	9	10	11	12	13	14
15	16	17	18	19	20	21
22	23	24	25	26	27	28
29	30	31				



OCTOBER

October Special Dates

1 October	Blessing of the Animals
6 October	Office closed
8 October	Family Fun Day
9 October	Indigenous Peoples' Day Office closed MCPS no school
10 October	Lunch and Conversation
14 October	Supper Group
15 October	St. Luke's Sunday
21 October	Garden Guild workday
29 October	Be the Church 5 th Sunday

The ACTS is now distributed electronically using the email address that we have for you on file in the office. If you did not receive it, please update your email address at admin@stlukesbethesda.org.

If you do not see your birthday listed during the year, please contact the office.

SENIOR WARDEN



Deb Marks

Thinking About St. Luke's

The Lord said to Moses and Aaron in Egypt, *"This month is to be for you the first month, the first month of your year."*

Exodus 12: 1-2

When I write a birthday message to someone (admittedly, usually on Facebook) I generally wish them blessings throughout their new year. Not until today was I aware of how Old Testament my message is. We can start our own new year whenever we wish.

As a youngster, I thought a new year could only start on January 1st. Growing up, it was the tradition for my extended family to gather and celebrate New Year's Eve together. The opportunity to stay up past midnight was very exciting to us as children, and my heart happily swells when I recall us all holding hands together in a circle, singing Auld Lang Syne.

Looking back, New Year's Day was much more subdued than New Year's Eve.

September also feels like the start of a new year in many ways. For students, parents, and teachers, the school year traditionally revs up in earnest during September. I feel a similar sense of newness and beginnings at St. Luke's come September; parishioners return from summer travel, and many ministries "resume regular programming." Although St. Luke's remained active throughout the summer, *everything* starts humming in September.

The word, humming, aptly describes a busy St. Luke's. My initial intention was to convey activity, and there is plenty of that. Ministries at St. Luke's give us opportunities to build friendships and community, to support and serve others, and to spiritually nourish and challenge ourselves. But the auditory element of humming also describes a busy St. Luke's: voices joined in prayer, coffee hour conversation, children laughing during Family Fun Days, singing, instruments, and bees literally humming in the gardens. (Is it actually ever quiet at St. Luke's?) Even the definition of soundwaves—a type of energy released when an object vibrates—is a good description of a busy, humming St. Luke's.

The purpose of all this humming activity at St. Luke's is always to be a community united to serve the needs of the world, within and beyond the church walls. In that spirit, Vestry started discerning and preparing over the summer. The Nominating Committee was formed to fill the slate of open 2023/2024 Vestry and Convention Delegate positions. Vestry also started planning for the next Annual Giving Campaign by consulting with Diocesan financial representatives and engaging with St. Luke's FinMin committee to discuss goals. With gratitude, I'm excited to announce that FinMin member, Bill Nellist, assisted by Vestry member Kathleen Hall, agreed to oversee this year's Annual Giving Campaign.

I look forward to a busy, humming St. Luke's this fall, and all of the spiritual, service, and social opportunities that are available for our parish family. Please watch for updates through The ACTS, weekly e-news, Sunday Hot-News, and announcements.

This month is to be for you the first month, the first month of your year:
September New Year is off to a great start!

Deb

PARISH

(Be Nimble, continued from page 1)

an open forum for asking questions. Study of scripture and prayer are central to each session. Go ahead and start thinking about if you'd like to participate in the *Embrace* program!

I'm glad to be back and looking forward to catching up and connecting with you all, and seeing where the Holy Spirit will lead us.

Peace.

Jessica

Monthly "First Thursdays in Fall" Yoga Series

Please join us on the first Thursday of each month for a gentle, all-levels, in-person yoga practice. The word yoga is derived from the Sanskrit root *yuj*, meaning "to yoke," or "to unite." The practice aims to create union between body, mind and spirit. Supportive props will be provided, and each session will include some music, readings, and guided meditation.



DATES & DETAILS:

Thursday, Sept. 7 – 5:30-6:30 pm, Ludlum Hall

Thursday, Oct. 5 – 5:30-6:30 pm, Ludlum Hall

Thursday, Nov. 2 – 5:30-6:30 pm, Ludlum Hall

Thursday, Dec. 7 – 5:30-6:30 pm, Reaves Room (Note room change)

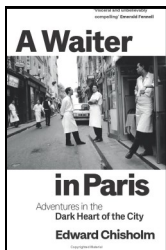
CONTACT/QUESTIONS:

Marta Montoro, RYT®-200

Please RSVP for the evenings you plan to attend—or watch the E-News for the SignUp Genius link. More information coming soon!

Marta Montoro

BOOK LOVERS



Book Lovers will be meeting in person in the Reaves Room at St. Luke's on **Tuesday, September 19 at 1:00 pm**. We'll be discussing Edward Chisholm's *A Waiter in Paris*. The discussion will be led by John and Anne Elsbree. You are welcome to come at 12:30 pm and bring your lunch to have some social time before the discussion.

"An evocative portrait of the underbelly of contemporary Paris as seen through the eyes of a young waiter scraping out a living in the City of Light." From Amazon (384 pages)

The last meeting of 2023 will be on Tuesday, November 28, when we will discuss *Lincoln Highway* by Amor Towles.

Everyone is welcome to join. Please email Nancy Reding to get on the Book Lovers email list or if you'd like to facilitate.

Nancy Reding



Sing a (Brand) New Song to the Lord!

As many of you may have heard over the years, we have a spectacular collection of volunteer musicians in our music program. This is hands-down the most talented group of musicians I have had the pleasure to work with in my 25 years as a music minister—their overall musicianship is exceptional, and they are so open to stretching beyond just the familiar anthems that make up the “old standards.” It has been a great joy to bring them an ever-wider selection of music matched to their abilities and strengths, and this spring we launched a new initiative to bring additional repertoire into our ministry. At the beginning of May, we posted an international call for scores asking composers from around the world to submit music for three-part choir. The call encouraged submissions from underrepresented groups in the arts, and there was no entry fee for the first submission to make the call accessible to all. The “prize” for the five winners of the call will be the inclusion of their work in a service during this program year, and I am so pleased to announce that the call received 91 submissions as of its close on August 15.

By soliciting music for three-part choir, we also acknowledge the realities of our current configuration (we’re currently short of tenors, so...to those tenors out there in the pews...you know where to find us!) and allow us to expand our library of high-quality, program-appropriate music without any additional cost to the music program. In fact, the call has generated \$20 for the music program through donations from composers submitting two or more entries. We’re now in the exciting process of evaluating the submissions, and we’ll announce the winners in late September. Stay tuned throughout the program year for these exciting new voices who are adding to the long tradition of outstanding sacred choral music!

Sarah Horick

Salad/Dessert Lunch and Conversation

Join us for a special Lunch and Conversation on **Tuesday, September 12 at 12 noon** in the Reaves Room. We wish to create a social event for any parishioner available at lunchtime. This is a salad/dessert potluck. Bring one or the other to share with all who attend. Re-connect with everyone after a long summer and make new friends.

We hope this opportunity will provide a daytime social experience for parishioners for whom nighttime events are difficult. And we can discuss whether more daytime social events are needed and when they should be scheduled.

Come and join the conversation and the luncheon. Questions? Please contact Marie Holbrook.



Marie Holbrook

PARISH

Creative Type? Join the Flower Guild

In the last year, the Flower Guild has had some people drop off our roster. Additionally, some of us are away part of the year, have health issues, or are caring for an ill family member.

We are hoping to welcome a few more people. We work in teams of two about once a month (or five or six weeks). We schedule ourselves to fit this around our family, professional lives, and travel.

Being on the Flower Guild is a creative and spiritual opportunity to enhance the worship experience at St. Luke's. Please feel free to talk with any one of us about volunteering for this important aspect of our worship services. If you have a creative vein . . . we train!



Dawn Armstrong
Will & Courtney Freeman
Tay Hahn
Sylvia Lu, Co-Chair
Ed Krauland
Catherine Nellist
Barbara Roybal
Faye Shaybany
Meg Shematz
Holly Stone, Chair
Theresa Wambach

SUPPER GROUP

We're on a roll! What will follow September 9 at the Tinling's house?

It's the third potluck supper gathering since the beginning of Summer! Time to usher in FALL. If you missed the other two, here's your chance to check out that Fellowship Vibe.

WHEN: Saturday, October 14 at 6:00 pm

WHERE: Home of **Wyman and Tine Stone**

WHO: **YOU. ALL** adult St. Luke's parishioners, your friends, neighbors, and family are invited to this purely social periodic potluck.

HOW: **Please contact Tine** to ask what is needed: entrée, salad, side-dish, or dessert.

Please bring your own beverages of choice. Non-alcoholic drinks will be provided.

Possible topics of discussion: where to find a good plumber, civil rights, one's latest surgery, progressive Christianity, how expensive groceries are, Election 2024, one's summer vacation or staycation, immigration, dental insurance



Treva Miller

COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT

How are the Azizis Doing? A Look at Their School-Aged Kids

Parishioners Elizabeth Tinling and Amanda Freeman, both former teachers, have been going over to the Azizi home in Rockville once a week to help with academics. Elizabeth works with Mozhdha and Abdul Razaq on reading, writing, and English skills, and Amanda tries to interest Morsal in vocabulary, reading, and writing.

Elizabeth has met with Mozhdha and Abdul Razak's teachers at Luxmanor ES, and Amanda has met with the counselor at Tilden MS. Dana Smith, who also works with the family, attended a meeting with Morsal's ESOL teacher and counselor to get an idea of what Morsal can do to prepare for this school year.

Morsal is going into 8th grade at Tilden MS. She's bright, and although her English is improving, she is struggling in school. She is in ESOL for English but in regular classes for math and science. The vocabulary even in the ESOL assignments is extremely challenging for her. Google Translate does not include Dari, which is the language the family speaks. She could really use a tutor to help her with homework, someone who is familiar with the MCPS learning management system. She is 14 now and so is old enough to fast for Ramadan, and she is subject to the restrictions imposed on women. For example, the younger kids went to the pool this summer, but she and her mother could not. She's great company, funny, opinionated, and crazy about K-Pop (Korean pop music).

Mozhdha is 11 and going into 5th grade at Luxmanor ES. She's bright and I think the most determined of the kids in terms of academics. She's a very conscientious big sister for Abdul Razak and Neyaish. She is always glad to see us when we come visit. She wants to do well in school and please her teachers. Her English has improved, and she is writing and reading, though it is slow. She lacks confidence in her English skills. When asked "what are you thinking?" she just says she doesn't know, probably because she can't yet explain.

Abdul Razak is 6 and going into 1st grade at Luxmanor ES. He does not speak English much when we are there, but I think he understands a lot. He is the little prince of their house as the only boy. Mozhdha looks after him at school; we have told her that he needs to work out problems on his own. I think he struggles with school. Not being able to keep up, he acts out. At home he just wants to watch TV or play games on a phone or a tablet. I would not be surprised if he has some learning difficulties beyond just learning English. He is having behavior issues in school.

All three kids love anything on a screen. They have books but do not read them; I don't even know that they know how to attack them. There is no reading in the home. There is also no time set aside for the kids to do homework. It has also not been productive for their father, Abdul, to help the kids with their assignments.

Although Elizabeth and Amanda gathered information about camps and summer school programs for Abdul, the kids were just home with their Mother, Parima, for the summer. The learning loss has been obvious. However, they are clearly a very loving family, and that is the most important thing.

If anyone in the congregation knows of someone who could tutor one or more of the kids, it would be a great benefit. You can contact Elizabeth Tinling or Amanda Freeman.

Amanda Freeman

COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT

Update on St. Luke's Ministry with Cornerstone Montgomery

What is Cornerstone Montgomery? Cornerstone is a Certified Community Behavioral Health Clinic (CCBHC). It has three clinics that provide a comprehensive range of mental health and substance use services. CCBHCs serve anyone who walks through the door, regardless of their diagnosis and insurance status. The clinics are based in Rockville, Silver Spring, and Bethesda.

Cornerstone Montgomery was founded over 50 years ago and called St. Luke's House by members of our parish who saw the need for mental health treatment in the community. St. Luke's House merged with Threshold Services to become Cornerstone Montgomery.

Why is St. Luke's involved? The by-laws of Cornerstone state that a member of the St. Luke's community is always on the board. Jessica asked me to serve in that role, and I began my tenure in March of 2021. I have since become vice-chair of the board.

What services does Cornerstone provide to those with behavioral health challenges? Cornerstone offers everything from day programs and vocational training to residential programs and three clinics.

What is going on in our backyard? The Southport Hub includes a clinic, residential housing, the arts program, and a Foundations program which is designed for independence through life skills.

What are some changes at Cornerstone? The biggest news is that Cornerstone acquired a smaller organization—The Southern Maryland Community Network. Their work is in Charles, Calvert, and St. Mary's counties. Cornerstone's growth means that it is less likely to get acquired by a bigger organization. The merger has gone well overall.

How can we get involved? St. Luke's supports Cornerstone with funds from the Community Engagement budget. In the past, we have served Thanksgiving dinner to many of their clients. I've reached out to Cornerstone to see if there are any opportunities for us to serve around Thanksgiving or Christmas. Stay tuned! In the meantime, you can make an individual gift.

<https://www.cornerstonemontgomery.org/donate/>

Amanda Freeman



FINANCE

FINANCE REPORT JULY 2023

	2023 Budget	'23 Actual Thru July	% of '23 Budget *
REVENUE			
Offering Plate	\$ 20,000	\$ 7,437	37%
Pledge Payments	425,716	302,775	71%
Donations for Facilities	45,000	35,139	78%
Altar Flower Donations	4,000	3,184	80%
Gifts/Grants for Operations		57,645	
Miscellaneous		85	
Operating Revenue	\$ 494,716	\$ 406,265	82%
EXPENSES			
Compensations	\$ 385,466	\$ 222,153	58%
Church Activities	22,500	5,105	23%
Parish Operations	99,200	55,348	56%
Community Engagement	20,000	8,900	44%
Diocesan Giving	50,000	29,169	58%
Operating Expenses	577,166	320,675	55%
Surplus/(Deficit)	(82,450)	85,590	
Additional Funding – reserves	82,450	0	
	\$ 0	\$ 85,590	

ENDOWMENT FUND BALANCE: \$145,498

* YTD July = 58% of the year

Finance Ministry News: Our financial position at this date is stable as we begin looking forward to next year. Currently, we are asking the ministry chairs to review their funding status for the remainder of the year and provide us with any updates. We are also undertaking an inventory of parish physical assets as part of the annual audit. Inventory sheets have been prepared and will be distributed to ministry chairs requesting assistance with the task. We anticipate the inventory to be a fairly easy task to complete by September 30.

Note that this year's deficit is substantially being covered by a one-time Employee Retention Tax Credit from the IRS, which will not be the case in subsequent years.

If you need to be reimbursed for a purchase or need the Treasurer to pay an invoice, please send an email to the office at admin@stlukesbethesda.org and include the receipt, the amount, and the purpose for the expense. All requests for extra money or donations by committees, individuals, or church members should have prior approval of the Vestry before solicitation.

Sandy Swab Treasurer

CALENDAR

September 2023

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
27 8:30am Worship Service (in person only) 10:00am Worship Service (in-person & Zoom) 3:15pm Dog training classes* 5:00pm Private event 8:30pm Youth AA	28 Office closed 8:00pm Men's AA meeting	29 Office closed 10:30am Staff meeting	30 Office closed 12:00pm Noonday Prayer (Zoom)	31 Office closed 8:00pm Women's AA meeting	1 Office closed	2 6:30pm Private event
3 8:30am Worship Service (in person only) 10:00am Worship Service (in-person & Zoom) 5:00pm Private event 8:30pm Youth AA	4 Labor Day (Office closed) 8:00pm Men's AA meeting	5 10:30am Staff meeting 7:00pm Girl Scout Team meeting 7:30pm Private event	6 12:00pm Noonday Prayer (Zoom) 3:00pm Private piano lessons	7 3:00pm Private piano lessons 5:30pm Fall Yoga series 8:00pm Women's AA meeting	8	9 9:00am Garden Guild Workday 3:30pm Dog training classes* 5:00pm Talk & Pray (in-person) 6:00pm Supper Group 6:30pm Private event
10 8:30am Worship Service (in person only) 10:00am Worship Service (in-person & Zoom) 11:00 Family Fun Day 3:15pm Dog training classes* 5:00pm Private event 8:30pm Youth AA	11 7:00pm Finance meeting 8:00pm Men's AA meeting	12 10:30am Staff meeting 12:00pm Lunch and Conversation	13 12:00pm Noonday Prayer (Zoom) 8:00PM Choir practice	14 8:00pm Women's AA meeting	15	16 5:00pm Talk & Pray (in-person) 6:30pm Private event
17 8:30am Worship Service (in person only) 10:00am Worship Service (in-person & Zoom) 2:00pm Dog training classes* 5:00pm Private event 8:30pm Youth AA	18 8:00pm Men's AA meeting	19 10:30am Staff meeting 1:00pm Book Lovers 7:00pm Vestry meeting	20 12:00pm Noonday Prayer (Zoom) 3:00pm Private piano lessons 8:00PM Choir practice	21 3:00pm Private piano lessons 4:00 - 4:30pm Donations drop-off 8:00pm Women's AA meeting	22	23 3:30pm Dog training classes* 5:00pm Talk & Pray (in-person) 6:30pm Private event
24 8:30am Worship Service (in person only) 10:00am Worship Service (in-person & Zoom) 2:00pm Dog training classes* 5:00pm Private event 8:30pm Youth AA	25 8:00pm Men's AA meeting	26 10:30am Staff meeting	27 12:00pm Noonday Prayer (Zoom) 8:00PM Choir practice	28 8:00pm Women's AA meeting	29	30 3:30pm Dog training classes* 5:00pm Talk & Pray (in-person) 6:30pm Private event

* Visit www.4onthefloor.dog for more information and to pre-register

For up-to-date Calendar information, go to stlukesbethesda.org and click on Calendar

CALENDAR

October 2023

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
1 Blessing of the Animals 8:30am Worship Service (in person only) 10:00am Worship Service (in-person & Zoom) 5:00pm Private event 8:30pm Youth AA	2 8:00pm Men's AA meeting	3 10:30am Staff meeting 7:30pm Private event	4 12:00pm Noonday Prayer (Zoom) Choir practice	5 5:30pm Fall Yoga series 8:00pm Women's AA meeting	6 Office closed	7 3:30pm Dog training classes* 6:30pm Private event
8 8:30am Worship Service (in person only) 10:00am Worship Service (in-person & Zoom) 11:00 Family Fun Day 5:00pm Private event 8:30pm Youth AA	9 Indigenous Peoples' Day (Office closed) 7:00pm Finance meeting 8:00pm Men's AA meeting	10 10:30am Staff meeting 12:00pm Lunch and Conversation	11 12:00pm Noonday Prayer (Zoom) 3:00pm Private piano lessons Choir practice	12 3:00pm Private piano lessons 8:00pm Women's AA meeting	13	14 5:00pm Talk & Pray (in-person) 6:00pm Supper Group 6:30pm Private event
15 St. Luke's Day 8:30am Worship Service (in person only) 10:00am Worship Service (in-person & Zoom) 5:00pm Private event 8:30pm Youth AA	16 8:00pm Men's AA meeting	17 10:30am Staff meeting 7:00pm Vestry meeting	18 12:00pm Noonday Prayer (Zoom) Choir practice	19 8:00pm Women's AA meeting	20	21 9:00am Garden Guild workday 3:00pm Dog training classes* 5:00pm Talk & Pray (in-person) 6:30pm Private event
22 8:30am Worship Service (in person only) 10:00am Worship Service (in-person & Zoom) 5:00pm Private event 8:30pm Youth AA	23 8:00pm Men's AA meeting	24 10:30am Staff meeting	25 12:00pm Noonday Prayer (Zoom) 3:00pm Private piano lessons Choir practice	26 3:00pm Private piano lessons 8:00pm Women's AA meeting	27	28 3:00pm Dog training classes* 5:00pm Talk & Pray (in-person) 6:30pm Private event
29 Be the Church 5th Sunday 8:30am Worship Service (in person only) 10:00am Worship Service (in-person & Zoom) 5:00pm Private event 8:30pm Youth AA	30 8:00pm Men's AA meeting	31 10:30am Staff meeting	1 12:00pm Noonday Prayer (Zoom) 3:00pm Private piano lessons 5:30pm Dog training classes* Choir practice	2 3:00pm Private piano lessons 5:30pm Fall Yoga series 8:00pm Women's AA meeting	3	4 3:00pm Dog training classes* 5:00pm Talk & Pray (in-person) 6:30pm Private event

* Visit www.4onthefloor.dog for more information and to pre-register

For up-to-date Calendar information, go to stlukesbethesda.org and click on Calendar

Rooted and Grounded In Love:

An EDOW Fall Silent Retreat with The Rev. Carole Crumley at The Claggett Center

St. Paul's conviction that we are "rooted and grounded in God's love" suggests that there is a larger space, a deeper union, and a greater joy that we can experience as we entrust ourselves to "the breadth, length, height, and depth" of God's expansive Love. With this conviction, EDOW's Diocesan Retreat Committee is offering a weekend Fall Silent Retreat at the **Claggett Center in Adamstown, MD, from 3 pm on Friday, October 20 to 1 pm Sunday, October 22, 2023.**

A silent retreat allows us to slow down, quiet the mind, breathe deeply, and pay attention to the wonders around us. October is an especially wonderful time at Claggett to experience the raw beauty of harvested fields and cool temperatures, the porches with rocking chairs, and the outdoor labyrinth with vistas of South Mountain State Park, and the colorful fall foliage surrounding the lovely environs.

Our retreat director, The Rev. Carole Crumley, is the retired senior program director of Shalem Institute and former canon educator and founder of the Center for Prayer and Pilgrimage at Washington National Cathedral. A sought-after retreat and conference leader, Carole continues to teach and lead pilgrimages to sacred sites in Europe, the Middle East, and the U.S. Carole is a lover of storytelling, moveable feasts, and country music.

The Claggett Center is fully accessible. Online Registration is open now and ends on October 10, 2023. For more information and to register, use this link:

<https://learn.edow.org/library/rooted-and-grounded-in-love-a-silent-retreat-201904/511199/about/>

Lesley Krauland



Samaritan Ministry Expands

Samaritan Ministry recently opened its newest location, a sun-filled storefront on Martin Luther King Jr. Blvd, in the Congress Heights section of Southeast DC. The new location provides adult basic education, GED prep, and Samaritan Ministry's unique, successful *Next Step* coaching.

Save the Date: @SamaritanMinDC will hold its annual Fall Gala on **Saturday, November 4 from 5:30 to 8 pm.**
Watch for more details coming soon.

**SAMARITAN
MINISTRY**
of Greater Washington

St. Luke's Episcopal Church Trinity Parish

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Bethesda, Maryland 20814-1852
Phone: 301-530-1800 Fax: 301-530-1802
email: admin@stlukesbethesda.org
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The Rev. Jessica K. Hitchcock

Rector

email: jessica@stlukesbethesda.org

ACTS of St. Luke's

Newsletter for members and friends of St. Luke's;
published monthly, except January & August.

ACTS Deadline: 15th of the preceding month