Fall 2026

THE TRUMPETER

Newsletter of St. Luke's Episcopal Parish

Dear Friends in Christ,
Ahh, anyone shopping these days in large box stores can be confused with what season we are to be celebrating. There is a hodge podge of fall flavors and colors, Halloween spooky and candy and a tiny bit of grateful and thankful for Thanksgiving, then a bombardment of Christmas lights, trees and various decorations.

Pumpkin Spice hit the stores in August when we haven't even wiped the last bit of butter off of our chins from the summer harvest of corn.

At church we can take this time to slow down and appreciate who we are as a congregation and as the overall church as a whole.

Church allows us to celebrate each season in its time. We can thank God for the beauty of our Earth as the trees and fields begin their hibernation and preparation for the time of Spring. The lectionary has taken us through the book of Matthew and Jesus' journey to Jerusalem in preparation for the upcoming season of Advent.

In the months ahead as we close the Season of Creation on October 4th with Blessing of the Animals and October brings us St. Luke's Day, we will celebrate with our Assisting Bishop Bud Shand. November draws us closer to Advent, with the celebration of St. Andrew's Day and the Beginning of Advent.

Jesus throughout the Book of Matthew reminds us of what the Kingdom of Heaven will look like and what we need to do here on earth until we get to heaven. This is ideally being faithful to Christ, being sacrificial in our giving whether it is time or talent, showing forgiveness and that we understand that regardless of our place on Earth, we will all be treated equally in the Kingdom of God.

In closing and as the anniversary of my ordination approaches, I am anticipating the upcoming celebrations. Peace fills my soul and that we need to be open to whatever path God places before us, and we need to know that His word is a lamp unto our feet and the light that guides our path.

Peace and Blessings,
Deacon Lynda



News From the Pews

We are thrilled to have Mr. Stephen Sieracki and his wife, Ann, join us in our church pews! They moved from Stevensville, Maryland in October of 2025 and settled in a lovely home at “The Pond” in Church Hill, Maryland.

Steve sent some interesting information about their move here as well as the very fascinating talent he possesses: he is a Horologist, or in layman’s terms, a clock repairman! He retired from a forty- year career as an environmental safety and health instructor. He has serviced clocks for some prestigious institutions such as the Maryland State Archive and the Governor’s Mansion in Annapolis, Maryland. Steve repaired clocks for the Hammond- Harwood House and the William Paca House in Annapolis.



Steve enjoys teaching about clocks and dresses in eighteenth century clothes for presentations at the Hogshead Museum in Annapolis, as well as The Institute of Adult Learning in Centreville, Maryland. He has already planned to speak during October to a seniors’ group at Washington College in Chestertown, Maryland.



There is a definite passion in Steve’s voice once he starts talking about clocks! He has repaired several of our clocks (of various time origins) and has stopped by to see where our clocks are displayed in our house. He acknowledged that everyone has a clock to fix and rarely does he leave a home without another project in his hand!

Speaking of vintage clocks, Steve took on the arduous job of bringing Sudlersville’s Cox Hall Tower clock back to life. This clock was part of the town’s 1920 celebration for returning WW1 soldiers. The clock will be available for viewing on October 3, 2026 at the Sudlersville Railroad Museum. He hopes to see you there!

We welcome Steve and Ann to St. Luke’s Parish. Perhaps you, a friend or relative have a clock that has special meaning to you which needs repair. Only time will tell!

Information from Steve Sieracki compiled by Ann Campbell



Recent Happenings....





St. Luke's Parish had a delightful day at the Godfrey Farm on Sunday, June 15, 2026. The Godfreys were hosting their annual special event, "Bluegrass in the Blueberry Patch," that particular Sunday. Lynda and Joe provided a tent, grill and tables so that we could worship together outside in the fresh air and enjoy a delicious picnic following the service. We enjoyed fellowship and were entertained with delightful music as the Grey and Bluegrass musical group along with Scottie and Marc MacGlashan warmed up for their afternoon program. What a treat for all the senses that day! Thanks to everyone who helped to make the picnic a success.

St. Luke's Landscape Has A New Look...

St. Luke's churchyard recently underwent a much needed tree trimming and pruning which took four men two consecutive work days. The outcome was fresh looking and gave the grounds a new, spacious and well-maintained look. No longer are tree branches disturbing rooftops and chimneys. It is now easy to see the property from the road, an added safety feature. Also, the trimming process aids air circulation, sun exposure and disease control, thereby enhancing the life of these magnificent trees.

We thank Eric Johnson of Johnson's Tree and Landscape, Inc. of Millington, Maryland and his dedicated men for completing this service in an efficient and timely fashion.

Contributed by Ann Campbell





Recent Happenings continued....



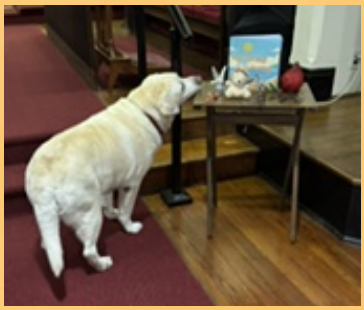
Blessing of the Animals took place at St. Andrew's Chapel on Sunday, October 4, 2026. Deacon Lynda had treats ready for eager pets to enjoy as she gave a beautiful talk about the importance of pets in our lives and how blessed we all are to share their love and companionship. There were three pets in person to be blessed by Lynda along with Taylor describing her pets at home. Charleigh, Bob and Ann's dog, enjoyed sniffing around and gave Lynda her paw for a treat. Sandy's cats were so adorable and of course, blessed by Lynda.

It is always a joy to once again sing the hymn, " All Things Bright and Beautiful" as we cherish and honor God's animal creations.

Contributed by Ann Campbell















Mark your Calendars!

Oct. 25- St. Luke's Day! Our 298th Celebration!

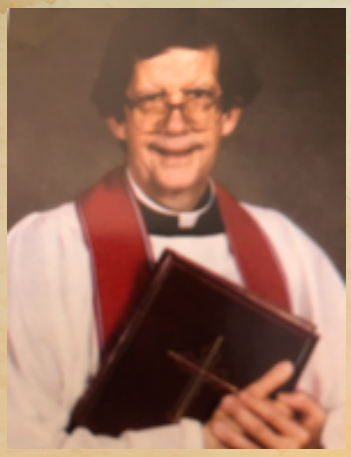
Nov. 1-All Saints' Day

Nov. 15- St. Andrew's Day!

Nov. 29-Community Tree Lighting & Carol Sing

Dec. 24-Christmas Eve Service at St. Luke's

In Memorium







William P. Chilton, Long-Time St. Luke's Parish Rector Passes Away

The Reverend William P. Chilton, otherwise known as "Father Bill" or "Chilton," was born on September 8, 1939 in Birmingham, Alabama and died on July 25, 2026 in Easton, Maryland.

Bill graduated from Yale University in 1961 and from The Virginia Theological Seminary in 1966.

As an Episcopal Priest, he served as a college chaplain at Canterbury Chapel in Tuscaloosa, Alabama. He was invariably committed to social justice wherever he served. He spent two years in Nicaragua as a missionary. In 1979 he moved to the Eastern Shore of Maryland where he served as Rector of St. Luke's Parish in Church Hill, Maryland for the next 26 years. I can always remember when he and Kathleen moved here because the first parish visit he made was to see me in Easton Hospital where our second son, Christopher Andrew Campbell, was born on March 17, 1979. Chris is now 47. During that time I remember his kind manner and soothing voice as he greeted us and explained his move from Alabama. He never lost that southern drawl or those kind words he carefully chose when speaking with someone. He never missed an opportunity to say, "God bless you!"

He and Kathleen shared the St. Luke's rectory and there raised two beautiful children, Sarah and John. Bill has a grandson, Anthony, two nieces and a nephew. He and his beloved Kathleen were married for 61 years living their lives as true soul mates.

The memorial service was held on Saturday, August 29, 2026 at Trinity cathedral in Easton, Maryland. It was a memorable service befitting a man of a life of selfless, true service accented with praise and encouragement for others.

He will be missed by those who were touched by his warm-heartedness, authenticity and deep convictions. Bill made the world a better place and for that we are deeply grateful.

Contributed by Ann Campbell

Let us be more gentle in our judgments,
And more gracious with our thanks!

Parish Outreach

This Fall is off to a good start. Vestry is meeting again and has been planning the repairs to the tower at St Luke's (to begin right after Easter), planning St. Luke's and St. Andrew's Days in October and November, reviewing and scheduling repairs to the properties and Rectory and tree trimming at St. Luke's.

Our Parish Office has been busy. There are many functions planned for the Parish Hall. We have been continuing donations to support Haven Ministries, Episcopal Relief, Children's Foundation, Backpack Program and CHVFD. The School Supply Drive for SES was very successful and much appreciated.

We have been working with the Town of Church Hill on the Fall Festival on October 10th (a very successful day) and the Christmas Tree Lighting on 11/29/26. In conjunction with the town, it is being advertised as a Town Event with a Hot Chocolate Reception at Town Hall, lighting of the tree followed by Carol Singing at St Luke's (there will be a Parish Cookie and Hot Chocolate following).

Many thanks to all who have helped pack weekend meal bags for Sudlersville Elementary. We now pack 100 bags per week. Our packers are Parish Members, retired Board of Education folks and neighbors.

Sandy Hartmann
Sr. Warden



Activities On The Highways and Byways...

The 2026 fall season is upon us. What will the weather be like? El Nino has already made a huge impact on our weather here in the United States. My niece who lives in Hawaii is again preparing for yet another hurricane as we here on the East Coast are questioning the forecast of an approaching Nor'easter. This summer was also different as our Purple Martins would come and go and the butterfly population was plentiful, for sure! We are preparing for the holidays which are seemingly closer as one day blends into another. Here is a list of just a few of the many festivals and events for you to enjoy...indoor and outdoor delights for our senses. Check it out!

1. **November 7, 2026** at the Maritime Museum in St. Michaels, MD an "Oyster Fest" and **December 11-13, 2026**, "Christmas in St. Michael's"... call 410-745-2916

2. **November 28-December 19, 2026** there will be "A Farmer's Christmas" celebrating the "250" USA celebration... at The Delaware Agricultural Museum in Dover, Delaware...call 302-554-0551 for more information.

3. **Saturday, December 5, 2026** from 10a.m. to 5 p.m. there will be "Christmas In Odessa", a self-guided walking trip through the historic town of Odessa, Delaware. For information, the email address is christmasinodessa.org You will think that you are in Williamsburg, Virginia!

4. **December 5th and 6th, 2026** there will be a "Yuletide Festival" at Mount Harmon Plantation near Earleville, Maryland. There are tours available along with year-round activities. Call 410-275-8819 for information or to have a flier sent to your home.

5. Longwood Gardens, 1001 Longwood Road, Kennett Square, Pennsylvania, 19348 will run the "Longwood Garden's Christmas" from November 20, 2026 to January 10, 2027. Call 1-610-388-1000 for information.

6. Garfield Theatre in Chestertown, Maryland will present a play, "A Sherlock Carol" for the holidays. Call 410-810-2060 for more information.

7. **Do not forget about The Institute For Adult Learning located at the Kennard Cultural Center, 410 Little Kidwell Avenue, Centreville, Maryland. Adults may choose one or more interesting classes per semester for a total fee of $90.00. Participants must be 50+ years old. info@instituteforadultlearning.org**

8. The Queen Anne's County Chorale of 50 singers will perform," Holiday Spirit" at 7:00 p.m. on **December 7, 2026** at The Todd Performing Arts Center at Chesapeake College, Wye Mills, MD. Tickets available at https://qachorale.org/:

9. Chester River Chorale of Kent County will present "The Colors of Christmas" on December 11, 2026 at 7:30p.m. and again on **December 12, 2026** at 4:00 p.m. info@chesterriverchorale.org for information.

What do the liturgical colors mean?

GREEN is the color used during ordinary time. This is the liturgical season we are in at the present time.
The green color has the meaning of life, eternal hope and spiritual growth.

RED is the color used for Pentecost, Palm Sunday, Holy Week, feast days for martyrs and ordinations.
Red will adorn our altars, pulpit and lecterns twice until Advent, once for St. Andrew's Day and once for St. Luke's Day.
The red color has the meaning of fire, the Holy Spirit, The Passion of Christ and the blood of martyrs.

PURPLE (or violet) is the color used during Advent, Lent and some funerals.
Purple signifies penitence, humility, solemn expectation and longing.

WHITE is used for Christmas, Easter, baptisms, weddings and major feast days. It will be used for All Saints Day which is November 1st and Christ the King Sunday the last Sunday of Pentecost.
It is also used for funerals.
White has the significance of purity, joy, victory over death and the Glory of God.

<u>Colors that are used less often or not at every church.</u>
So, if you visit another church and see a different color you will understand why.

BLUE is used for Advent in many modern Episcopal churches.
Blue has the meaning of hope, expectation, and a traditional nod to the Virgin Mary.

ROSE or PINK is used on the 3rd Sunday of Advent or the 4th Sunday of Lent. Although we at St. Luke's do not have Pink to adorn our altars, we often represent Pink in the flowers our Altar guild thoughtfully uses to enhance the worship space.
Pink means joy, breaking through penitence or mid-season rejoicing.

BLACK is used for Good Friday and some funerals.
Black represents deep sorrow, mourning and death.

When we are gathered and your eyes or mind need to focus elsewhere during worship, take time and look around at the colors that adorn the church.



A Wealth of Health

When it comes to “gut” health, there are many small changes you can try to make your life less miserable and more productive. Remember that childhood stomach ache? Well sometimes in adult life it can become a life-altering problem that affects the things we do daily. For the most part we all love delicious, flavorful food, so here are just a few changes you can try. Yes, they do sound like a broken record!

1. Eat more fiber, drink about 64 ounces of water per day and eat fewer processed foods.
2. Get more exercise… take a 15- minute walk about 15 minutes after dinner and enjoy 7-9 hours of sleep daily. Avoid heavy meals and do not lie down just after eating. Eat smaller meals throughout the day!
3. Eat lots of fresh fruits, vegetables, whole grains and legumes.
4. Include some fermented foods such as yogurt, kimchi and of course sauerkraut to your diet.
5. Limit stress if at all possible! (Easier said than done.)
6. Try to add something new or not regularly consumed to your weekly diet such as a fermented vegetable, oats, beans, flaxseeds, legumes, leafy vegetables, berries, bananas, avocado, sourdough bread, whole grain bread, lean meats or a radish or two. All of these foods aid digestion.
7. Do not chew gum regularly or use straws. These allow more air to be swallowed and could make a condition such as “Acid Reflux” worse.
8. Limit eating fried foods, spicy condiments, sugary snacks and carbonated drinks.
9. Personally, if I am experiencing negative symptoms, I chew “Ginger Chews,” fennel seeds (do not swallow), or drink fennel tea. Usually, relief is on the way!

Many doctors recommend using probiotics to help with these digestive issues. So, if you are interested, have a discussion with your doctor.

Compiled by Ann Campbell

We use reasonable effort to collect accurate information. We make no guarantees as to the accuracy of the content and assume no liability for error or omission of the content

Digestion Jokes

1. “A balanced diet is a cookie in each hand!” (Barbara Johnson)
2. “My mom made me two dishes: take it or leave it!” (Stephen Wright)
3. “ Life is uncertain. Eat dessert first.” (Ernestine Ulmer)
4. “I told my stomach a joke and it couldn’t digest it!”
5. “My stomach and I? We have a gut feeling about everything.”

Here's What's Cookin'

Rustic Fall Vegetable Soup



Ingredients

1 tablespoon butter or olive oil
1 medium yellow onion, diced
1 clove garlic, minced
1 medium winter squash, peeled and diced
1 medium zucchini, diced
1 medium sweet potato, peeled and diced
1/2 cup orzo
1 (28-ounce) can crushed tomatoes
1 teaspoon dried thyme leaves
1 teaspoon dried rosemary
4 cups low-sodium chicken broth
Salt and freshly ground black pepper

Directions

1. In a large heavy-bottomed pot, heat the butter or oil over medium-high heat. Add the onion and saute until fragrant and translucent. Add the garlic and saute until golden brown.
2. Add the winter squash, zucchini, sweet potato, orzo, canned tomatoes, thyme, rosemary, and broth. Simmer until the vegetables are soft and cooked through, about 30 minutes.
3. Season the soup with salt, and black pepper, to taste. Serve with sliced crusty bread.

Recipe courtesy of Kelsey Nixon- Food Network

St. Luke's Episcopal Parish
PO Box 38
Church Hill, MD 21623
Phone: 410-556-6060
admin@stlukesparishmd.org
www.stlukesparishmd.org

Rev. Deacon Lynda Habel
570-579-4081
deacon@stlukesparishmd.org