

Transience and Transcendence A Meditation for All Saints Day

Let us now sing the praises of famous men and women, ... But of others there is no memory; they have perished as though, they had never existed; ... But these also were godly men and women, whose righteous deeds have not been forgotten. Ecclesiasticus 44: 1, 9a, 10



In the decade between my fathers death Lin 1987 and my mother moving in with me in 1997 during her final illness, I visited her several times at our family home in the far southern suburbs of Pittsburgh. Every time we would take the same known, and wending, journey from and to the airport. Known, because it was a route long ago established by

my father as a shortcut. Whether it was such, I was never entirely convinced; one kept faith with the dead. One of the features or markers on this journey was St. John the Baptist Byzantine Catholic Cemetery; a feature not because of any beauty, as it wasn't a particularly attractive cemetery,

"On All Saints Day, we remember all those faithful believers who have gone before us; known by many, known by a few, or no longer known by any save God." –H. Paul Brannock-Wanter but because you turned onto another road just before or after it. I can no longer remember which. What made the cemetery more noteworthy in that decade after 1987 was that it contained the mortal remains of Andy Wharhol, the iconic American artist of the second half of the twentieth century. As pictured on the web, his is a simple grave with a modest monument giving name and dates, having praying hands

bottom, a Byzantine cross top, at center, and two palm branches, one to either side. So much for fame: 'All of us go down to the dust;... '

It was Andy Warhol who coined the saying, 'Every individual has 15 minutes of fame.' Whether this is true



St. Luke's Giving Tree Is Beginning to Leaf Out

Ct. Luke's "Giving Tree" has begun to grow some leaves Dbut there are still many parishioners who need to add their own logo and photo. This is a wonderful way to show how the Lord's work is being manifested outside the walls of our Church. So please do your part. There's an envelope of photos in a basket at the base of the "Giving Tree" for your use. If you don't find one, bring a favorite snapshot from home. The important thing is to do it. This way of sharing our gifts highlights St. Luke's as an intentional Christian community, broadening God's love in the world.

A few weeks ago, The Rev. Angie Emerson, Minister for Stewardship Development of the Diocese, spoke to the parish about our overabundance and material wealth acting as a huge shade tree over our lives, blocking God's love or the sun (Son) from flourishing in our lives. We must work to let the son shine in and part of that effort is reflected in the celebration of everyone in our community of faith!

From the Senior Warden

At the October Vestry Meeting, we received a report on St. Luke's Communications Ministries. This included Pat Fromberger, who produces our Sunday bulletins, LITS, and our Church Directory; and Lew and Bonnie Watters, who handle all our publicity and the church website.



We were all inspired by hearing that Pat has begun using our Statement of Purpose to evaluate how she does her work. She shared with us that she has examined each phrase in our Statement of Purpose to see how her work fits in with it. "Intentional Christian community", "deepening faith", and "broadening love" are nothing more than nice phrases unless we operationalize them and allow them to guide our choices. We all appreciate the love and care with which Pat carries out her ministry, and it is a joy to hand a copy of LITS to a newcomer.

Although Lew and Bonnie could not be present at the meeting, they shared with me that our local publicity is going very, very well. We have had large turnouts for recent events, and many of the attendees are visitors. When you notice an article in the local paper about an upcoming event at St. Luke's, you can know that Lew and Bonnie are responsible for that.

We are blessed to have a church website. It is used by members and non-members, and it allows our church news to be accessed internationally. It is literally a portal into our community. Lew took the initiative to establish this website from scratch and faithfully maintains and updates it with information as it is provided to him. If you have ever visited a website and found outdated information or links that go nowhere, you understand how vital it is to keep the material current. I have been slow at getting the Music Page updated, but it is finally done. If you have not been to the website lately, you might want to visit and check to see if you can update something that's not so current. Lew will be glad to hear from you!

Communications within our parish family and with the community at large are the basis for our ministries. We can't take successful communication for granted. We can be grateful for the wonderful vehicles that we have at St. Luke's.

Next month's Vestry Focus will be on using the **Statement of Purpose** to guide and define our mission at St. Luke's. This work should not be done by a few,

Transience and Transcendence...

(continued from page 1)

depends upon ones definition of the same. What is true is that the phrase itself has certainly entered into common speech and perhaps fortified a current approach to living in the world that is less than altruistic, and more about oneself; fame is the word for many in the age in which we live.

Fifteen minutes of fame or not, the reality of life for each of us is its transient quality. We can't hold on to any moment of it, or even life itself. All we have is the present moment, albeit informed by the past. All too soon each and every human being becomes a particle of past history, whether known or unknown. Every individual save one. As the old song has it: *He lives, he lives, Christ Jesus lives today!*

If one believes this, then one must accept that we live in Christ now, and also will live in him, beyond our transient moments in time. This is, and has been, the faith of all saints, known and unknown. This is transcendence or as the Stage Manager in Thornton Wilders **Our Town** puts it: 'Now, there are some things we all know, but we don't take'm out and look at'm very often. We all know that something is eternal. And it ain't houses and it ain't names, and it ain't earth, and it ain't even the stars... Everybody knows in their bones that something is eternal, and that something has to do with human beings... There's something way down deep that's eternal about every human being."

On All Saints Day, we remember all those faithful believers who have gone before us; known by many, known by a few, or no longer known by any save God. We remember them because they are still a part of us, and we a part of them, in our long, or short, yet wending, journey into God's eternal.

All of us go down to the dust; yet even at the grace we make our song; Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia.

Give rest, O Christ, to your servants with your saints, Where sorrow and pain are no more, Neither sighing, but life everlasting. BCP, 499

In Christ's love,

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because the decisions made during this process will affect everyone. Please come to the Book Study on **November 17**th at **6:00 p.m.** and stay for the Vestry Focus that precedes the business meeting. A clear sense of mission becomes more and more necessary as old models cease to function. Join the conversation!

-Martha Stretton









A Great Turnout for St. Luke's Annual Pet Blessing

Pets (mostly dogs) and their owners came out for one of the best attended Pet Blessings in recent years at St. Luke's on Saturday, October 9th. The total count was 13 dogs and 2 brave cats, who where protectively cuddled in their owners arms. Labs were the dominant breed but there were certainly some other interesting dogs including a handsome pair of Dalmatians, a chow type, and Marica Clinton's cute Dachshunds, "Spike Jones" and her newest family member, "Baby Snooks." Martha Stretton left her dachshund home because he misbehaved last year and instead brought the family cat, "Hercules". It was the beautiful fall day and maybe that had a lot to due with the good

attendance. Whatever the reason, Saint Francis, happily looked on from his spot in the Memorial Garden as Father Paul gave a blessing to each pet, assisted by Deacon, Donna Reidt and by Joyce Tiemann, who helped hand out special treats and a St. Francis medal. —*Pat Fromberger*

You Are Invited to A Choral Evensong Service on November 7



Service of Choral Evensong

The Rector and Choir of St. Luke's invite you to a Service of Choral Evensong on Sunday, November 7, at 4:00 p.m., preceded by an Organ Prelude at 3:45 p.m. Evensong was created by

Thomas Cranmer from the sevenfold monastic cycle of prayer—the two offices of Vespers and Compline are combined and set to serene music. Using the liturgy in the *Book of Common Prayer*, the officiant, choir and congregation make their evening prayers together, chanting the beloved canticles, the Magnificat and the Nunc dimittis. The liturgy also includes prayers of intercession and thanksgiving, Old and New Testament readings, a hymn, and an anthem.

This contemplative service allows the participant to be drawn into a deeper awareness of God. You are cordially invited to end your Sunday afternoon with this gathering of hearts longing for God "as our eyes behold the vesper light." A reception in Willard Hall follows the service.



A Christian Symbol: Lamp

In ancient times, the lamp was more than a light for darkness. It was also a symbol of learning, knowledge, wisdom

and enlightenment. Today the lamp still represents those attributes, but more specifically it represents the Word of God. "Your word is a lamp to my feet and a light to my path" (Psalm 119:105, NRSV).

Where Have All the Flowers Gone!



An appreciative parishioner asked me to write a piece in praise of the St. Luke's special garden elf. Most of you know that Marcia Clinton has found this special ministry among the weeds, dirt and roots.

Marcia started digging and planting in May of 2002, shortly after coming to St. Luke's. That's almost ten years of service. Why? The only survivor of the jungle was Jacob's Ladder and the "gardens" were a horror show. Most of the plants come from her own gardens. Certainly some of us have given her one or two, here and there. She also frequents Sunshine Acres and gets some favorites from the Cowles' nursery. I asked how frequently she mulches and was surprised it was every other year. The cuttings go home with her and are put on the pile with hers in the woods.

What goes where? That was a pretty simple answer actually. Marcia chooses plants that will share their interesting foliage after the flower has passed away. Placement for color and height is considered of course. Want to guess how much time she devotes to this love of hers? Because she works weekly, usually between our services, she spends usually an hour and a half a week on her knees, bending over and pulling and planting. Just like she doesn't have a favorite dachshund pet, she has no favorite flower, but she does favor peonies, mostly for their fragrance. She calls on her friend Imme, a master gardener, to assist her with tree pruning and pays her off with a lunch. Passersby often stop to chat with her, and I am sure she gets lots of praise. We owe Marcia a debt of thanks, but believe she loves what she does. And it shows.

So I asked this treasure what she'd be doing all winter while the garden is resting. She will ski and do her papercutting ornaments for the Christmas Tea. Can you make a poinsettia, Marcia? —*Bonnie Watters*

Worship Committee Meeting Notes

St. Luke's Worship Committee met recently to make plans for the upcoming Advent/Christmas season. Special services of note are follows:

- Nov. 24 **Thanksgiving Eve Holy Eucharist, Rite II**: 5:30 Hymn Sing; 6:30 p.m. Service.
- Nov. 28 Advent I Service with "Confession Stones."
- Dec. 5 Advent II Wedding during Service.
- Dec. 19 Lessons & Carols Service: 4:00 p.m.
- Dec. 24 **Christmas Eve:** 2 Services: 7:00 p.m. & 11:00 p.m.
- Dec. 25 Christmas Day One Service: 10:00 a.m.
- Dec. 31 Holy Name Day Service: 6:30 p.m.
- Jan. 6 **Epiphany, Holy Eucharist**: 6:30 p.m.
- Jan. 9 Begin Worship Services in Willard Hall. (When we return upstairs will depend on the weather.)

The topic of "Welcomers/Greeters" was discussed. We have been lax of late in following through on this important ministry. Should this be a person separate from the usher? It was suggested we give out a "Welcome Bag" to visitors after the service that would include a copy of LITS; information about the Church and a St. Luke's mug (which we seem to have a plentiful supply of.) Bonnie Johnson volunteered to coordinate this effort.

The question of whether to continue chanting the Psalm on the 1st Sunday of the month was discussed and it was decided to continue to do so.

The next Worship Committee Meeting will be on Sunday, February 20, 2011 at 9:15 a.m..

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A Call For Cooks and Hostesses

On Saturday, November 13 Willard Hall will be buzzing with happy quilters from a *Country Treasures* workshop weekend event. These ladies return sometimes not twice but three or four times because they love our beautiful, extravagant lunches of soup, sandwiches, salads, chips, desserts and drinks. They appreciate the variety and quality. Because all our cooking is our labor and love, St. Luke's gets every penny of each \$10 we charge each guest. Please call **Bonnie Watters** (875-2114) or email her at lewbon@vermontel.net to let her know how you can help and what you will provide. It all begins at **11:00 a.m.** and is always a great team effort. —*Bonnie Watters*

"The greatness of God rouses fear within us, but his goodness encourages us not to be afraid of him. To fear and not be afraid — that is the paradox of faith." $-A.W.\ Tozer$

Christmas Tea Plans Are Underway

St. Luke's Annual Christmas Tea & Sale is just around the corner. This year it will be held on Saturday, December 4 from 11:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m. in Willard Hall. The Christmas Tea is always a special celebration in the community life at St. Luke's and a wonderful opportunity to greet and share a joyful experience with folks from the surrounding communities. We are once again calling upon parishioners to help make this a successful fundraising event. A small group of ladies have been meeting weekly to make Christmas ornaments and other decorations to sell at the tea and others

St. Luke's Church Christmas Tea & Sale



Saturday, December 4 11:00 a.m.–3:00 p.m. in Willard Hall

We invite you to join us for a relaxing and fun day—enjoying a hot cup of tea or mulled cider, sampling the delicious holiday foods, and sharing warm fellowship with friends and neighbors.

Hot Brewed Tea (& Mulled Cider) • Christmas Cookies & other Sweet Treats • Tea Sandwiches • Delicious Home Baked Goods • Handmade Items for Christmas Gift-giving • Grandma's Attic with Bargains Galore • Handcrafted Holiday Ornaments and much more.

Save the Date! Plan to Come & Bring A Friend!

have been busy crafting items at home as well. We are also looking for persons to bake Christmas cookies and other treats for the *Tea Table* as well as making baked goods for sale at the *Food Table*. *Grandma's Attic* could use your contributions of items that will make a great gift for someone or just be a treasure you can't resist! Last year we introduced the "Cookie Exchange" that invited customers to select a dozen of assorted cookies for a fixed price. This year we are calling it "Cookies in a Tin" because we have decorated lots of used 13 oz. coffee cans with festive holiday papers and fabrics. Customers will be able to purchase a tin full of their favorite classic cookies for just \$3.00! Depending on the size of the cookies, the tins will hold from 12-18 cookies—a great bargain and a wonderful gift to share with family or friends. So please mark the date on your calendars and be ready to pitch in and lend a helping hand. We cannot do it without you!



There is a sign-up list of needs for the tea on the Guest Book podium at the rear of the Church. Please be sure to sign up or speak to Adelaide Johnson if you would like to help out.

Many thanks.

—Adelaide Johnson & Pat Fromberger, Chairpersons

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Saint Nicholas Doll To Be Raffled At St. Luke's Christmas Tea

Something very special will be added to this year's Christmas Tea & Sale. Bonnie Watters, a highly imaginative and talented doll maker, has generously donated one of her Bonnie's Bundles dolls to St. Luke's to be raffled off at the end of the Christmas Tea on Saturday, December 4th. The Saint Nicholas Father Christmas Doll in all his glory, was first created in 2008 as a commission from a special customer to accompany her Clara Claus. Saint 'Nick' is 23 inches high and is magnificently garbed in a robe of plush red velour, trimmed in white fur with a holly print lining. He even comes with a velour bag of gifts (albeit the gift boxes are empty!) Valued at \$195, this handsome doll is sure to become a prized family heirloom for some lucky recipient this Christmas! Raffle tickets are \$5.00 each and will be available in Willard Hall or from Bonnie's Bundles (875-2114.) This is a wonderful opportunity you won't want to miss.

The Outreach Corner

Operation Christmas Child Workshop...A Labor of Love



L-R: Bonnie White, Ciana Roundy-Winston, Annie White and Cindy Roundy-Winston cut, color and paste toys together for needy children around the world.



We had a geat time at our game and toy making workshop! Thank you to Joyce Tiemann, Pat Fromberger, my neighbors Bonnie & Annie White, Karen Orchitt, Bonnie Watters and the Pennell family for all their donations of time and materials. Also a special thank you to Susan Purinton for

making all of the beautiful hand-knit stuffed animals.

We are now in the process of decorating and filling the shoe boxes. We could use more covers or lids of any kind, tuna fish-sized cans, and shoe boxes. If you would like to decorate and fill a shoe box at home, look for one of the Operation Christmas Child brochures in Willard Hall. As always we welcome any monetary donations and please don't forget to add your spare change to the "Penny Jar" in Willard Hall. This will help defray the cost of mailing the boxes. The deadline for having all completed boxes is Monday, **November 15th.**

Thank You Rudy!

The Making The Most of Your Camera Workshop, led by Rudy Winston, on October 16th, was a huge success! It was well-attended and everyone raved about the helpful information and the easily understood approach of Rudy's presentation. In fact it was so popular that he is planning an intermediate level camera workshop in the near future. Many thanks to Rudy for donating his time and talent and raising \$350 for St. Luke's Church.

"I had the pleasure of attending Rudy Winston's 'Making the Most of Your Camera' workshop at St. Luke's along with more than a dozen other eager attendees. I learned more about the many features on my Canon Rebel in 3 hours than I have since owning and using it. His Power Point presentation covered creative operating modes, ways to control light along with great examples from he and his colleagues at Canon USA. I was able to prepare and use some of Rudy's tips with my digital photography class on a recent field trip to Saint-Gaudens NHS in Cornish, NH. Thanks Rudy."

— Lew Watters

United Thank Offering

On Sunday, November 21 we will celebrate the ingathering of the UTO boxes that each of us have put in our nickels, dimes and quarters. There are also envelopes for bills or checks.



The United Thank Offering (UTO) is an organization founded by women in 1889 and originally supportive of women missionaries. UTO is a personal and family devotional program of the Episcopal Church. It is the sum of our daily thanks for the blessing in our everyday lives—for good weather, happy times and unexpected visits—there are so many things for which we can be thankful. These monetary gifts are shared through grants, both domestic and foreign, to improve the quality of life of others, especially women & children. I invite you all to pick up a Blue Box and join us.

—Pat Saul, UTO Contact Person

The most effective form of evangelism is one's way of life. Other people are more impressed by what we do than by what we preach. Pray that you might live your life in such a way that others may be attracted to Christ. —Forward Day By Day

Preach the gospel always.

If necessary, use words.

—attributed to Francis of Assisi



A Reminder To Fall Back

On November 7, Daylight Savings Time ends so don't forget to set your clocks back an hour before you retire on Saturday night!

You Are Invited To The Pampered Chef Party

The Pampered Chef fund-raiser for St. Luke's is in full swing and will culminate with a live cooking show and party in Willard Hall on Saturday, November 6 at 2:00 p.m.. For 30 years Pampered Chef has offered a line of high-quality, guaranteed kitchen tools & entertainment products. Plan to join us and bring your neighbors & friends with you. Everyone will enjoy this party—men & women, young & old, experienced & experimenting cooks, and especially those who like to eat!

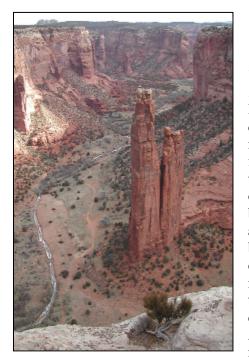
St. Luke's will receive 25% of the order value (as well as \$3.00 for every Pampered Chef show booked at this party) to help reduce our budget deficit. If you can't join us or if you have friends & family who live out of the area, you can place your order online and St. Luke's will still get credit for your purchases.

- Go to www.pamperedchef.biz/cookingama
- · Click on "Order Online".
- Click that you have been invited to a show and enter "Bonnie Johnson" as the host.
- You will be taken to the catalog and anything you order will be credited to the St. Luke's Church fundraiser.
- People who are not in the area can have their orders delivered directly to their homes. They will be able to specify the shipping address during the checkout process.
- DO NOT order through the corporate website. Only orders that go through Amaret Johnson's website above can be credited to the St. Luke's fundraiser! Orders through the corporate website are randomly assigned to consult ants all around the USA.

All local orders will be shipped to Bonnie Johnson and delivered to you before Thanksgiving. And don't forget that there will be a prize awarded for the person who brings in the most orders for us.

Come start your holiday shopping with us on **Saturday**, **November 6** at **2:00 p.m.**. We hope to see you all there! —*Bonnie Johnson*





Let's Eat And Travel

nchiladas/Mexico. Crepes/ France. Pasta Primavera/Italy. Swedish Meatballs/Sweden. Bring your special dish and your slides, photographs or movies for an evening of fun and food from around the world and a trouble-free travel experience right in Willard Hall on Saturday evening, November 20 beginning at 6:00 p.m. The international fare will surely be imaginative and bountiful and the cost per person is \$10, children, \$1 per year of age. We'll be researching a Navajo dish to go with this travel invitation, Spider Rock at Canyon deChelly National Monument in Chinle, AZ. The public will be invited so ask a neighbor or friend to hop on board. The

venue is the old Saturday Night Supper. All proceeds go to St. Luke's.



Meetings & Events

WEEKLY

Monday Lunch/Discussion Group:

Meets 12:00PM-1:00PM in Willard Hall. Brown bag lunch and book study discussion with the Rector on topics of spirituality and faith. We are currently reading, "Chasing Francis" by Ian Morgan Cron. Please come join us!

Wednesday Morning Prayer Group & Holy Eucharist:

7:30AM Intercessory Prayer 8:30AM Holy Eucharist in Willard Hall.

· St. Luke's Choir Rehearsal:

Thursdays, **7:00PM-8:00PM** and on Sunday mornings at **9:15AM** in the church. New members are welcome. Please come join us!

LESS THAN WEEKLY

· All Saints Day Eucharist:

Monday, **November 1st**, at St. Luke's Church, **6:30PM**, Holy Eucharist Rite II.

· Choral Evensong Service:

Sunday afternoon, **November 7th**, **3:45PM**, Organ Prelude; **4:00PM** Evensong Service at St. Luke's Church. A reception with light refreshments will follow in Willard Hall.

· Quilter's Luncheon:

Saturday, **November 13th** at **11:00AM** in Willard Hall. Call Bonnie Watters 875-2114, if you can help out that day. See article on page 4 for more details.

· Adult Evening Bible Study:

Bible Study now meets on the 2nd & 4th Tuesday each month starting at 6:30PM in Willard Hall, ending promptly at 8:00PM with Compline. We are currently reading the Book of Isaiah and invite anyone to join us. The next sessions are on November 9th & 23rd.

· St. Luke's Vestry/Book Study:

Wednesday, **November 17th** in Willard Hall. **5:30PM**, brown bag supper; **6:00-7:00PM** book study, "Called to Be Church" Please read Chapter 7 for the next session. Parishioners are both welcomed encouraged to attend.

· Saturday Night Supper:

Saturday, **November 20th**, **6:00PM** in Willard Hall. Food from around the world and sharing photos See article at left for details.





Birthdays:

- I Elizabeth Assenza
- 3 Chris Dakin
- 2 Louise Park
- 5 Ben Whalen
- 11 Chilton Williamson
- 12 Marti Assenza
- 13 Luke Allen Pennell
- 14 Russ Gagnon

Anniversaries:

- 16 Norm & Irene Wright
- 18 Bill & Leigh Dakin

DEC. LITS DEADLINE: NOV. 18th

Send articles, photos, announcements, etc. to: Pat Fromberger, 180 Gates Rd., Andover, VT 05143 panjoe@vermontel.net 15 Lily Jones

17 Peter Rosengarten

18 Betsy Stretton

- 19 Carter Evelyn Willis
- 20 Julie Hoyt
- 26 Dale Deming
- 26 Joe Fromberger

"St. Luke's
is an
intentional
Christian
community,
deepening faith
and
broadening
love,"

† Worship SchedulE †

Nov. 7 PENTECOST XXIV

10:00 AM Holy Eucharist, Rite II – ONE SERVICE

Thanksgiving

Eve Eucharist:

Wednesday,

Nov. 24th 5:30 p.m.

for Hymn Sing,

6:30 p.m. Holy Eucharist,

Rite II.

4:00 PM Choral Evensong Service

Nov. 14 PENTECOST XXV

8:00 AM Holy Eucharist, Rite I

10:00 AM Holy Eucharist, Rite II

Nov. 21 LAST PENTECOST

8:00 AM Holy Eucharist, Rite I 10:00 AM Holy Eucharist, Rite II

Nov. 28 ADVENT I

8:00 AM Holy Eucharist, Rite I

10:00 AM Holy Eucharist, Rite II

Dec. 5 ADVENT II – ONE SERVICE

10:00 AM Holy Eucharist, Rite II

Sunday School: 10:00 a.m. in Willard Hall. Child Care: 10:00 a.m. Service

St. Luke's Episcopal Church

The Rev. H. Paul Brannock-Wanter, Rector The Rev. Sanford R. Johnson, Priest Associate The Rev. Donna Reidt, Deacon

313 Main Street, Chester, VT 05143 • Office Phone: 875-6000 www.stlukesepiscopalvt.org

St. Luke's Episcopal Church is Handicapped Accessible

