



Light in the Shadows

SEPTEMBER 2009

“Let your light shine before men, that they may see your good deeds and praise your Father in heaven.” Matt. 5: 16



Come to St. Luke's Annual Fall Tag Sale on September 19th!

St. Luke's Annual Fall Tag Sale (otherwise known as “The Festival of Previously Used Items”) will be held **Saturday, September 19, from 8:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m.** on the side lawn at St. Luke's Church. **Don & Dee Robinson, John DesLauriers** and **Bud Watson** are the organizers of this ‘fun’ fundraising event and need lots of help from everyone! Volunteers are needed the day of the Tag Sale to set up in the early morning, to help sell throughout the day and to take down and clean up at the end of the afternoon. Donations of GOOD items (i.e. something you'd consider buying for yourself) are also sought. All donated items need to be clean, in working condition and if possible marked for sale. Please—no books, no records, no clothing! So check out your attics, garages, kitchens, basements, etc. for items to donate. You will not only be simplifying your life, but helping to raise funds for St. Luke's.

If you need an item(s) picked up, we can do that for you. Just call Don Robinson (875-2030), John DesLauriers (875-3490) or Bud Watson (263-5742).

The End Of Summer

At this time of year my thoughts always return to when I was much younger. Then the end of summer was signaled by the vast flocks of birds, starlings I suppose, which filled the late afternoon and early evening sky. These migrating birds along with the noticeably shorter days signified that, yet again, summer's sense of freedom and that carefree quality which it had provided was now at an end.



Summer, with its endless possibilities, had seemed to stretch ahead without horizon a few short months before. Now it was lost to me. More ominously, I was all too aware that school would soon begin. The very thought of the applied learning, and constrained minds which it induced was no good thing in my youthful estimation. No, I much preferred the soaring imagination of summer applications of the mind, or even the lack thereof.

All this is to say that, in my youth, I did not like the end of summer and the approach of autumn. It was not a time, as I saw it, of the pastoral elegies and thoughts of mellow fruitfulness so beloved by most poets. It was the time, in Dylan Thomas' words to “rage, rage, against the dying of the light.” However, my youthful rages each year proved of short duration; soon ended, and mindless of human transience, they were quickly supplanted by the hope of the next summer.

“The end of summer no longer means a return to school. Strangely, for me it does still signify the passing of time. Not of summer, but another year gone by of what is only a limited, if unknown, number of years.”

—H. Paul Brannock-Wanter

When I became a man, I put away childish things; as St. Paul has it in First Corinthians. Rather, life itself has put them away for me and every other adult when it

Continued on page 2



I am sitting on my porch on a lovely warm morning thinking about the wonderful Vestry meeting many of us participated in last Wednesday evening. Jean Hancock made a lovely dinner and Paul started the book discussion with a Bible study on “love” from Corinthians. It was a very powerful discussion with

everyone participating. Sally Hoover shared the following story that sums up our thoughts well.

Two Wolves (American Indian Wisdom)

One evening an old Cherokee told his grandson about a battle that goes on inside people.

He said, “My son, the battle is between two ‘wolves’ inside us all.

One is Evil. It represents fear, anger, envy, jealousy, sorrow, regret, greed, arrogance, self-pity, guilt, resentment, inferiority, lies, false pride, superiority, and ego.

The other is Good. It stands for joy, peace, love, hope, serenity, humility, kindness, benevolence, empathy, generosity, truth, compassion and faith,”

The grandson thought about it for a minute and then asked his grandfather:

“Which wolf wins?”

The Cherokee Elder simply replied, “The one you feed.”

The business meeting followed with Mike Saul relating a wonderful spiritual journey followed by discussion. John DesLauriers was with us to report about the repair of the chancel ceiling which he managed himself that evening. Thank you John!

Kathryn Wright was unable to be present to talk about Christian Education, but Paul, Belinda Worth and Jean Hancock will meet with her soon. Thoughts for additional parish education were discussed and will be expanded upon as they take shape.

Peter Rosengarten and I have begun an annual *Stewardship Committee* exploration and the group will meet again on Tuesday, **September 15th, 4:30 p.m.** at **Norm & Ruth Harrison’s** home with **Angie Emerson** from the Diocese to continue their work. This is a good example of our trying to “change the conversation” and if any of you would like to join us PLEASE do talk to Peter or myself, it is not just the “same old” stuff. We would love to have anyone who wants to explore the mysteries of God in their life and the life of St. Luke’s to join us. —**Marcia Leader**

The End Of Summer

continued from page 1

comes to summer. Yes, there is vacation time; usually, but not always in the summer. No, it is not carefree. Perhaps it is somewhat restful. Worldly responsibilities and cares limit the soar of one’s imagination and moments of vacuity of mind are costly.

The passing of some forty-five summers since my youth means that I am now all too aware of human transience. The end of summer no longer means a return to school. Strangely, for me it does still signify the passing of time. Not of summer, but another year gone by of what is only a limited, if unknown, number of years. Most inexplicably, the end of summer still seems to put me in mind of the necessity of, a return to, learning; not that of school, but of life. Will I ever learn to live only in the present moment and its inherent graces? Will I learn to enjoy life as it is being lived? I have much still to learn of this; of living in God’s good time and the freedom given to me in doing so. I still hope for summer, but it is an endless summer, or surely some such equivalent. For the present there is this moment and its endless possibilities, and that is more than enough.

From the next room I hear loud lamentations. It is Joseph and his friends bemoaning the end of summer, and scheming how to elude school’s looming presence on the near horizon. I sympathize, but I remain silent. Much to learn for all of us.

In Christ Love,

Paul



Bones Of The Church

The “body” of a Church has four kinds of bones:

1. The WISHbones are those folks who spend all their time wishing someone else would do all the work.
2. The JAWbones are those who do all the talking and very little else.
3. The KNUCKLEbones are those who knock everything anyone else tries to do.
4. The BACKbones are those who get under the load and get the work done.

What kind of bone are you?

OCTOBER LITS DEADLINE:

 **SEPTEMBER 25th**

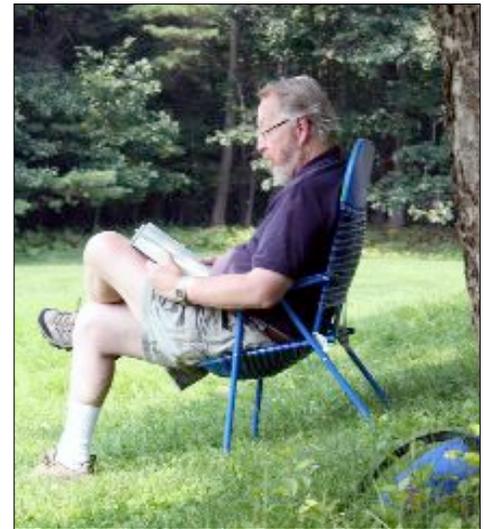
Send articles, photos, announcements, etc. to:
Pat Fromberger, 180 Gates Road, Andover, VT 05143
panjoe@vermontel.net

St. Luke's Day At Saint-Gaudens

It was a warm and humid day on August 16th but that did not daunt some half-dozen plus art and music lovers in our parish who gathered in Cornish, NH for a picnic, an afternoon of chamber music and a tour of some of the great Gilded Age sculpture on display. The day reminded me of a quote by one of the Cornish Colony artists from *A Circle of Friends*:

“Standing talking with someone out on his front terrace looking down across 20 miles of Connecticut River Valley and your second cocktail half consumed, there comes a moment of exaltation when you feel that just being there automatically makes you of royal descent.”

—Frances Grimes, *Reminiscences*



Relaxing at Saint-Gaudens Historic Site

Great Concert! Great Friends!
Great Way to Spend a Sunday Afternoon!

Photos courtesy of Lew Watters

Be Transformed

It's Labor Day weekend — a time to rest from our labors. But this is also an opportunity to reflect on our daily work and discern whether our effort is thankless and uninteresting or something that gives us deep and lasting satisfaction. God intends for our work to be much more than a job, much more than a daily grind. It should be, instead, a vocation — which means, quite literally, a “calling.”

In Romans 12:2, Paul challenges us with the words: “Do not be conformed to this world, but be transformed by the renewing of your minds, so that you may discern what is the

continued at right

will of God — what is good and acceptable and perfect.”

The apostle's advice, then, is to be transformed by the renewing of your minds. Paul says be transformed by discovering what the Lord God is calling you to do.

—*Homiletics*

“The principal reason we gather each Sunday in churches is to be a community of praise. We come first to give, not receive. We come to worship, before we come to want. When we join our voices together in hymns sung from the heart, the harmony is that of heaven, and we can be transformed.” (*Forward Day By Day* author, August 16, 2009)



Lori Routhier speaking on music ministry at last year's Retreat

You Are Invited To A Music Ministry Retreat on September 12

How often, making music, we have found a new dimension in the world of sound, as worship moved us to a more profound "Alleluia!" —F. Pratt Green

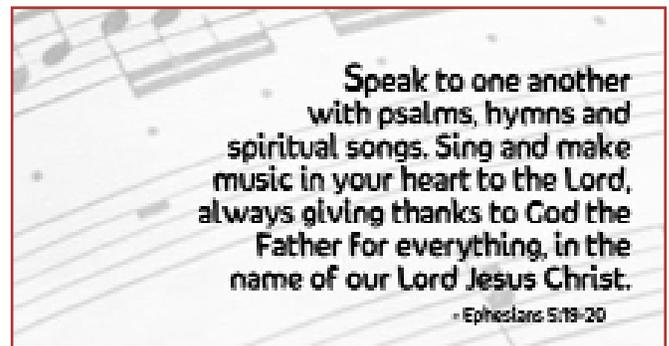
If you were at the 10:00 a.m. service on Sunday, August 16, you sang (or at least heard) those words. You also heard in the epistle "...be filled with the Spirit, as you sing psalms and hymns and spiritual songs among yourselves, singing and making melody to the Lord in your hearts, giving thanks to God the Father at all times and for everything in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ." (*Eph. 5:18b – 20*). As the hymn text indicates, worship does indeed move us.

Worship moves us toward God, and, by extension, toward each other. When we sing together—"make melody to the Lord in [our] hearts"—we minister to each other in ways that transcend text, tune, and time. We abandon ourselves to producing sounds that reverberate with the very adoration of the Almighty.

It is in this spirit that you—even though you may not be a choir member—are cordially invited to attend the **Music Ministry Retreat at St. Luke's on Saturday, September 12, from 9:00 a.m. until 3:00 p.m.**

The retreat will be led by **Lori Routhier**, a gifted choral director, music educator, and spiritual director from Immaculate Heart of Mary Roman Catholic Parish, in Rutland. After working with Lori at our first retreat last

Continued at top of page



year, the choir was unanimous in requesting that she return and continue to work with us as we start our new year. Lori has an engaging style that puts everyone at ease, and her dedication to music ministry is contagious. Whether you want to sing in the choir or in the pews, this retreat can help you bring more of your whole self to worship each week. Last year St. Luke's received a grant from the Diocese for 50% of the cost of the retreat. We have applied for the same again this year.

Ask any choir member who attended last year—it was time well spent.

Please let me know that you would like to come by **August 31** so that there will be enough materials (and food) for everyone. Questions? E-mail: mstretton@vermontel.net or call me at 802-875-3145.

Finally, singing reminds us of our raison d'être. The reason God made us, redeemed us and sanctified us, and the reason he will glorify us is so that we might live to the praise of his glory. That's something we express with our lives, our minds, our wills, our hearts and our voices. Singing is indispensable in expressing that. That's why the New Testament's picture of heaven is not a celestial Bible study or an eschatological morning tea, but a heavenly choir forever lost in wonder, love and praise.

—Michael Raiter

Door-Opener

When the book of Acts (see 16:25-26) reports that Paul and Silas sang in the Philippian jail at midnight, it doesn't record whether they were basses or tenors. It doesn't even report if they sang on key. It simply says they sang. And as they sang, there was an earthquake and the prison doors were opened.

Many of life's doors open more easily when we sing. So why not open some doors by joining the choir?

A Prayer

With eagerness we approach you, O God. We join with all who love and serve you. We offer ourselves to be your people, ready to let your light shine upon us and through us. In Jesus' name. Amen.

From St. Luke's Archives... A Gift Of Love

Here is a bit of history that many current parishioners may not know. In 1997, **Bob Freeman**, a member of St. Luke's, who had a hobby of executing woodworking projects in the basement of his home (that is when not teaching Physical Ed at Green Mountain Union High School), came up with an idea to save the parish postage and allow parishioners a convenient way get their newsletters and other church correspondence. Bob lovingly hand-crafted the handsome church mail box currently mounted on the wall at the rear of the church, which has enough slots for every active member of the parish. The top left row of slots was assigned to members of the Vestry. Twelve years later, this beautiful gift is still a much appreciated addition to St. Luke's, thanks to Bob's dedication and talent.



Footnote: Bob and Jean Freeman retired to Cape Cod several years ago, where Bob continues to pursue his love of woodworking.

What Do You See?

Take a look at this line of type:
GODISNOWHERE

Did you read it as "God is nowhere"? Or are you an optimist who read it as "God is now here"?

St. Luke's Episcopal Church Income/Expense Statement

January to July 2009

	<u>July</u>	<u>Jan.-July</u>	<u>Budget</u>	<u>% of Budget</u>
Pledge & Income	\$ 6,431.00	\$59,100.00	\$101,450.00	58.26%
All Other Income	\$ 3,726.43	\$19,909.57	\$ 34,030.00	58.51%
TOTAL INCOME	\$ 10,157.43	\$79,009.57	\$135,480.00	
TOTAL EXPENSES	\$ 9,561.55	\$66,102.31	\$129,986.00	50.85%

The above is for the first 7 months of 2009. Our income is just above budget for the period and pledges are almost right on target. St. Luke's thanks everyone for being so diligent in keeping up their pledges. Please continue this in the month of August.

—*Sally Hoover, Treasurer*

A Brief Report From The Junior Warden

There are many people in this parish who need to be thanked regularly for their continued support of the grounds and the building. Has everyone noticed the beautiful flowers around our church? **Marcia Clinton** constantly works and cares for the grounds in such a loving and thoughtful way. The back stairs needed repair in the beginning of the summer and **Don Robinson** fixed them right away. The chancel ceiling was peeling and **John DesLauriers**, last week, scraped and painted the part that needed fixing after checking for leaks. A huge thank you to each of them. I know other people notice things that need doing and usually take care to see that everything is somewhat in order. Thank you to you all.



A few items came up at the Vestry meeting in August (repair or replacing of some slates on the roof, cleaning of the carpet in Willard Hall, checking the dampness of Willard Hall) and I am looking in to taking care of these needs. Again, a huge "thank you" to all who lovingly take care of our historic church. If you have any questions or concerns please contact me. —*Jean Hancock*

Christian Symbols

The Bronze Serpent or Brazen Serpent

on a Cross is a symbol for Jesus. In John 3:14-15 (NRSV), Jesus said, "And just as Moses lifted up the serpent in the wilderness, so must the



Son of Man be lifted up, that whoever believes in him may have eternal life." Jesus was referring to an Old Testament story, when God sent poisonous serpents because the Israelites grumbled impatiently in the desert. "And the Lord said to Moses, 'Make a poisonous serpent, and set it on a pole; and everyone who is bitten shall look at it and live.' So Moses made a serpent of bronze, and put it upon a pole; and whenever a serpent bit someone, that person would look at the serpent of bronze and live" (Numbers 21:8-9, NRSV).

The Outreach Corner



Partners In Service (PINS)

A local outreach program to children and youth in crisis, the PINS program allows social workers and other staff to voice the needs of the children on their caseloads, needs that would otherwise go unheard and unmet. This insight allows church congregations to give a focused and immediate response to these young victims of neglect, abuse and family stress.

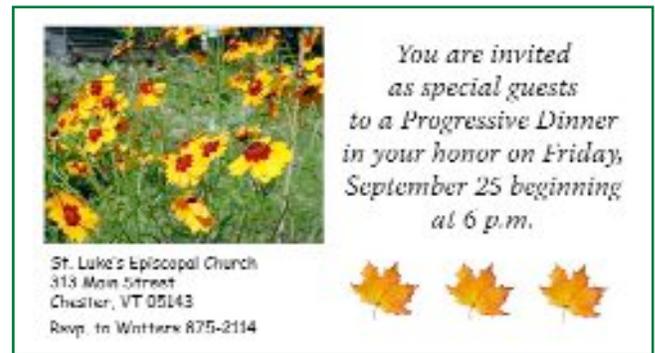
In June members of St. Luke's Church collected items helpful for kids going to summer camp, such as duffle bags, backpacks, flashlights, toiletries, journals, beach towels, etc.

For six weeks in July and August the congregation donated back-to-school items to fill over 20 backpacks that the PINS committee had obtained. At the end of the drive committee members filled 25 junior and high school backpacks and 2 for elementary school kids.

Each high school student received a 3-ring binder with paper, an 8x10 spiral notebook, a plastic folder, pens, pencils, erasers, and highlighter. The backpack for a junior school student contained a calculator, 8x10 spiral notebook, pens, pencils, eraser, sharpener, crayons, and ruler. The younger students had crayons, pencils, eraser, flash cards, scissors, notebook, and construction paper in their backpack.

On the sorting and packing day, a quick shopping trip was necessary to fill in some items. But that only amounted to \$60 from the PINS fund.

Thank you to everyone for the overwhelming response to this drive and the outpouring of generosity from all.—*Marcia Clinton*



Fall Progressive Dinner For Newcomers On September 25

The fall **Progressive Dinner for Newcomers** is upon us this nearly perfect time of year, **Friday, September 25** beginning at **6:00 p.m.** Two parish families, having been newcomers themselves in the last couple years, have graciously accepted the invitation to share their homes on this particular evening. **Sally & John Hoover** will commence the evening with wine (and other beverages) and appetizers in their new home in Windham. With van packed with Bundles for the Peru Fair the next day, **Bonnie & Lew Watters** are happy to share their stone house for the main course. **Charlie & Marija Cunningham** will again host the dessert portion of the dinner at their lovely home on Parker Hill Road in Springfield.

Newcomers, in every sense, are holding the date to be recognized: Bill and Julie Hoyt, Jennifer Schreiter, Sharon Poitras, Ann and Grey Jewett (newly returning to us each summer), Jim and Jean Sullivan from Plymouth, Ann and Bernie Grimatz and really new folks, coming to St. Luke's this summer: Laurie Holcomb from Plainfield, Connecticut, and Lillian de Giacomo of Proctorsville, Vermont. It is up to us "old timers" to prepare the fixins' and come on the tour. You will receive an e-invitation or snail mail piece to respond and contribute, complete with maps.

Anyone who has been on either end of this event will tell you, it is the best kind of fellowship—sharing our homes and informal conversation, almost like the good old foyers of days gone by. We look forward to this evening with joy. —*Bonnie Watters*

MARK YOUR CALENDARS: Saturday, October 10th, for the Annual Blessing of the Pets at St. Luke's.

Lunch and Conversation For Quilters

Through *Country Treasures*, a former Chester family, has made another connection with food, fabric and friendship. Ruth Whitaker, an avid Vermont quilter, shared an idea with her quilter-New Hampshire daughter. Take the bus to St. Luke's. You won't be sorry. For six months the ladies have saved the date of **Sunday, October 18 at noon** to lunch in style at St. Luke's. As the date progresses, the food committee will need help in every form — soup

makers, salad builders, sandwich fillers, dessert bakers, and hosts and hostesses. When you think of it, let **Bonnie Watters** know how you can help. The last time I saw Amy Malick Bennett, who died last week and whose life we celebrated on Saturday, August 22, was at the May quilters lunch. Her sister Nancy was among the guests with Amy, and that is a very lovely memory.

Speaking of Foyers, A Bit Of St. Luke's History

With all our well read and shared stories about “*Changing the Conversation*,” there come to mind “Foyers.” Mind you, it was the way it was and now it must change. Originally fashioned from Cathedral of St. Michael, in the Diocese of Coventry, England and born of the devastation of WWII air raids that destroyed the Cathedral, foyers spread to the USA and to St. Luke's. Parishioners traveled from near and far to host informal dinners where members would bring a portion of the meal and celebrate fellowship. Foyers were a huge connection and success due to the friendly home surroundings in a Christian context. In our early days at St. Luke's in the mid-eighties, there were eight to ten foyers, each sporting couples or singles who rotated as hosts over nearly a year. Again, in the nineties, St. Luke's reinstated four or five groups, but in time, they disappeared.

One particular Foyer photo in the archives was taken at George and Doadie Mitchell's home and the famous table resides in Willard Hall today. The picture (at right) was taken at the home of Dinny & Leland Monroe in 1993; identified (L-R) are Betty Zezza, Laura Richardson, Bob Diamond, Dinny and Marge Lesbriel.



I was reminded of the fun at Foyers just last week. Lew and I were babysitting for the King children whose family owns Cloe Price's former home. There is trapunto on the staircase and upstairs bathroom wall is decorated with Cloe's signature artwork. The kitchen wall borders are painted with celtic sayings just like those in artwork of the old St. Luke's cookbook – “Bread is the staff of life” and “Let them eat cake.” Sitting in the living room waiting for the parents to come home, I remembered Cloe's treasure hunts and how she once hid a garden hoe on the curtain rod end. No one saw it. It made me smile, not cry, knowing Cloe is in a good place with God with many of those very guests who shared that evening in her magical home.

Since Jane Zezza died last spring Lew and I have had the pleasure of her son Michael's company on several occasions. First Mike came to dinner at our home. Then we enticed him to come cook with Martha Stretton and acclaimed stew master, Matthew. Staying in the food venue, Mike joined Lew and Don Robinson in the August Supper carving team and actually taught the fellows a few tricks. And then very recently we had a return engagement at Ethan Allen Farm. Going there reminded me of craft sessions in preparation for the Christmas tea. And the Foyers at Frank and Jane's years ago – warm hospitality, great conversation, muddy roads, and Corgi dogs. Not much has changed visibly in this home (believed to be the oldest in Chester) but Jane's presence is everywhere. How proud she'd be of Mike's gardening work! She would be pleased to know he remains connected to St. Luke's. This is what all these fellowship connections do. The conversation is changed but it is still God at work in us.

Harvest Supper – All Saints' Celebration

Important at this moment is to save the date of **Saturday, October 24**. Some interesting formats have been presented to celebrate autumn and lives. If interested in working together on this event, contact the Watters. More to come.

SEPTEMBER

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. Please come join us!
- **Wednesday Morning Prayer Group & Holy Eucharist:**
7:00AM Intercessory Prayer
8:00AM Holy Eucharist in Willard Hall.
- **St. Luke's Choir Resumes:**
St. Luke's Choir resumes on Sunday, September 6th with a rehearsal at 9:00AM before the service. New members welcomed!

LESS THAN WEEKLY

- **Adult Evening Bible Study:**
Thursday, September 3rd & 17th in Willard Hall, starting at 6:30PM and ending promptly at 8:00 PM with Compline. We are reading 1 John. All invited to come join us!
- **Music Ministry Retreat:**
Saturday, September 12th in Willard Hall from 9:00AM to 3:00PM. All invited. See the article on page 4 for more details.
- **Worship Committee Meeting:**
Sunday, September 13th in Willard Hall at 9:15AM, between the services. Please plan to be there to add your thoughts and ideas.
- **Stewardship Exploration Meeting:**
Tuesday, September 15th, 4:30PM at Norm & Ruth Harrison's Home, 534 Main St. in Chester. Call Marcia Leader at (802) 387-4308, for inform.
- **St. Luke's Vestry Meeting:**
Wednesday, September 16th in Willard Hall. 5:00PM, Supper; 6:00PM Book Study, “*Changing the Conversation*”; 7:00PM the regular business agenda. Parishioners are urged to join the special book study. Book are available.

- **Newcomers Progressive Dinner:**
Friday, September 25th, 6:00PM starting at the home of John & Sally Hoover. See article on page 6 for complete details.



SEPTEMBER CELEBRATIONS



Birthdays:

- | | |
|--------------------|-------------------------|
| 2 Lynda Farmer | 15 Norm Wright |
| 2 Bonnie Johnson | 17 Chris Langston |
| 5 Matthew Stretton | 17 John (Jack) Yahemiak |
| 7 Thomas Guerra | 21 Deb Brown |
| 7 Jim Sullivan | 23 Elliot Langston |
| 8 Curt Cowles | 26 Eileen Widger |
| 8 Jim Guerra | 29 Marcia Clinton |
| 11 Sean Whalen | 29 Walter Rich |

Anniversaries:

- 9 Norman & Ruth Harrison
- 14 Bill & Julie Hoyt
- 21 Andrew & Ellie Pennell
- 25 Alan & Martha Stretton



"God gives us the ingredients for our daily bread, but he expects us to do the baking." — *William Arthur Ward*

✠ WORSHIP SCHEDULE ✠

Sept. 6 **IVX PENTECOST** – One Service
 9:00 AM Parish Breakfast in Willard Hall
 10:00 AM Holy Eucharist, Rite I

Sept. 13 **XV PENTECOST**
 8:00 AM Holy Eucharist, Rite I
 9:15 AM Worship Committee Meeting
 10:00 AM Holy Eucharist, Rite II

Sept. 20 **XVI PENTECOST**
 8:00 AM Holy Eucharist, Rite I
 10:00 AM Holy Eucharist, Rite II

Sept. 27 **XVII PENTECOST**
 8:00 AM Holy Eucharist, Rite I
 10:00 AM Holy Eucharist, Rite II

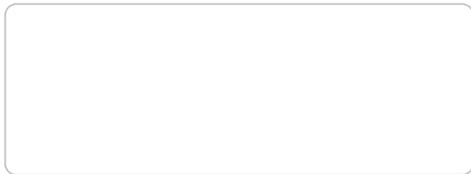
Oct. 4 **XVIII PENTECOST** – One Service
 9:00 AM Parish Breakfast in Willard Hall
 10:00 AM Holy Eucharist, Rite I

Sunday School: 9:45 a.m. in Willard Hall. Child Care: 10:00 a.m. Service



St. Luke's Episcopal Church
 The Rev. H. Paul Brannock-Wanter, Rector
 313 Main Street, Chester, VT 05143 • Office Phone: 875-6000
www.stlukesepiscopalvt.org
St. Luke's Episcopal Church is Handicap Accessible

Do you want to continue receiving "Light in the Shadows"? We hope to eliminate duplications & unnecessary mailings. If you'd like your name removed from our mailing list, please write, email: stlukes@vermontel.net or call us at 802-875-6000.



Light in the Shadows

St. Luke's Episcopal Church
 P. O. Box 8, Chester, VT 05143
 Return for ADDRESS CORRECTION
 Or if Undeliverable

