# The Messenger

*St. Luke's ~ San Lucas Episcopal Church · November 2026*



## A Letter from Our Priest-in-Charge

Dear Beloved Community,

As we move through this sacred season of All Souls and All Saints, I am filled with gratitude for the beautiful ways our community has come together to remember, celebrate, and share God's love.

What a wonderful week we have had at St. Luke's ~ San Lucas! From our magnificent Fauré Requiem: A Liturgy for All Souls, to the joy and laughter of Trunk or Treat, and our vibrant Día de Muertos celebration, each gathering reminded us of the beauty of our diverse community and the importance of coming together in faith, remembrance, and fellowship. My sincere thanks to everyone who helped make these celebrations possible.

*Continued…*

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You may also notice something different about The Messenger! We are introducing a new, shorter, and more engaging format to make communication across our congregation easier, clearer, and more accessible. Our hope is to help everyone stay connected, informed, and involved in the life and ministries of our church.

As we begin this new chapter in how we communicate, we would love to hear your feedback! Please share your thoughts, suggestions, and ideas. Your voice matters, and together we can continue strengthening our connections as one community.

May this sacred season remind us that we are surrounded by a great cloud of witnesses and that God's love continues to bring us together across generations, cultures, and traditions.

With gratitude and blessings,

**The Rev. Alfredo Feregrino**
Priest-in-Charge
St. Luke's ~ San Lucas Episcopal Church



*Fauré Requiem: A Liturgy for All Souls, October 30, 2026.*
*Jack Barben, Music Director, with the choir of St. Luke's~San Lucas and community members*

*To learn more about our music program, click on the QR code*

# Parish News

## From Your Junior Warden

*By John Mathieu*



*Bob Hiltz, Mike Morrison and John Mathieu*

The Thursday crew continues to share their time and talents to keep St. Luke's ~ San Lucas in great shape. In the third quarter, July-September, they clocked over 2,500 person-hours doing repairs, cleaning and improving the facility, representing more than $30,000 in cost savings, for just three months. Much of this time was in support of the Capital Campaign projects. Thanks to Bob Hiltz for leading this group and the several members you see on the St. Luke's ~ San Lucas Social Group on Facebook each week. We are always ready to welcome new members to this fun and productive ministry. We offer coffee, doughnuts, great fellowship, and opportunity to learn each week. Join us.

The Capital Campaign has completed the chimney repair and removal, and we are now thinking about how we might utilize the extra space beside the kitchen door. Perhaps a larger cover over this area to keep us out of the rain when fumbling for our keys. The contracted work to repair and paint the entire

## From Your Treasurer

*By Ken Dale*

As we begin our pledge drive for 2027, I have been reflecting on the last few years that I have been the Treasurer. I am humbled, but not surprised, at the generosity and commitment of the people in our beloved church. Since 2021 we have increased our Pledge income by 14.5%. Not many churches are able to say this. For 2026 we are on track to meet both our revenue and expense goals, which includes a 10% increase in pledges over 2025. We have several new pledge units this year, and the majority of returning pledge units were able to make increases in their pledges. In addition, you were also very generous in contributing to the Capital Campaign!

Over the last several years, Vestry has made some bold decisions to invest in our church for now and into the future. We are blessed that some very wise people who came before us were able to set aside and invest funds that we can tap into to make these investments happen. Those funds are not unlimited but are sufficient to help sustain us for quite a few years. Our Plate income (money put in the collection plate that was not pledged) is nearly triple our budget. I believe this reflects some of you who are new to SL2, and hope that you find us a welcoming community that you would like to call home. I say this not because of money, although that helps, but to welcome you to the place I have been blessed to call my church home for 40 years.

Please prayerfully consider how you can help us to continue our growth and mission. Look

facility exterior is well underway. You will love the colors we chose.

We will soon be placing an order for the expansion of the columbarium which will be completed next summer. More information on the cost of columbarium niches will come out this winter. If you're interested, reserve a niche now because the new niches will likely double in price.

Additionally, you may notice that we have removed three pews at the front of the sanctuary. The space will be furnished with comfortable chairs and soft carpet to welcome children and their parents to be closer to the action during our services.

Remember that we are in the 2027 Stewardship Campaign, with Ingathering Sunday on November 22. Please prayerfully complete and return your pledge card. After that you can declare, "**I VOTED!**" – to continue my support of St. Luke's~San Lucas, its staff, its facilities, and its many ministries.

around and see all the wonderful things happening. Ask yourself how you can help. Financial support is helpful, and so is volunteering your time and talents.



*Len and Gail Bauhs stocking the food pantry*

*To set up your pledge online, click on the QR code*

To view a full calendar of events, click on the QR code

# Upcoming Events

| Date | Time | Event |
|---|---|---|
| Thursday, Nov. 12 | 5:30-7:30 pm | Messy Church |
| Sunday, Nov. 15 | 8:00 am<br>10:00 am<br>12:30 pm | The Great Communion & The Visitation: The Rev. Cn. Ivar Hillesland, the bishop's representative |
| Sunday, Nov. 22 | 11:00 am | Ingathering Sunday: Bilingual Eucharist followed by Thanksgiving Dinner |
| Sunday, Nov. 28 | 11:00 am | Celebration of Life for Nancy Denny |

# Ministry Spotlight

## Wisdom Celebrations

*By Greg Sabin*

Our first wisdom celebration happened on March 17, 2024. The celebration was in honor of Patrick Lanegan, and was held at his request. Patrick knew his time on earth was coming to an end, and he wanted to enjoy a celebration of life when he was here to participate. He developed the menu and curated the music selections. As we watched this celebration unfold, the Pastoral Care Committee knew a good idea when we saw it! Since then, we have celebrated many people in our community. Most of the celebrations have occurred in the parish hall, and at least one celebration occurred in the home of the person we were celebrating. The intent of wisdom celebrations is to acknowledge and value the members of our community who are aging, celebrate them, and learn from their wisdom. Anyone can nominate the recipient of a Wisdom Celebration by contacting Fr. Alfredo, Gail Bauhs or Judy Morrison. The members of the Pastoral Care Committee want to thank Georgie Wildfang and the members of the Hospitality Committee for the beautiful way they decorate the parish hall and the incredible food that is served! We also want to thank Beth Wood for helping our Wisdom Celebration recipients develop their Bio's for the celebrations.




*Wisdom Celebration for Dave Jannuzzi and Jan Thieleman*

*To nominate someone for a Wisdom Celebration, contact Fr. Alfredo at sl2.fralfredo@gmail.com*

# Library Corner

## Book Review: *Life of the Beloved: Spiritual Living in a Secular World,* by Henri J.M. Nouwen

*By Karla Obenhaus*

***Life of the Beloved*** is written by Henri J.M. Nouwen. He was a Catholic priest, professor, and writer. The inspiration for the book is the baptism of Jesus which is recorded in the New Testament: "…And a voice came from Heaven. 'You are my Son, the Beloved; my favor rests on you'."

Nouwen writes in the chapter on Becoming the Beloved: "Becoming the Beloved means letting the truth of our Belovedness become enfleshed in everything we think, say or do." He identifies the movement of the Spirit by using four words: **taken, blessed, broken,** and **given**.

Nouwen explains that **Taken** is another word for Chosen. "As children of God, we are God's chosen ones." The truth is that "I am the chosen child of God …. Called the Beloved from all eternity."

The second of the four words of the movement of the Spirit is **blessed**. "To give a blessing is to affirm, to say 'yes' to a person's belovedness." Nouwen writes that claiming your blessing is by prayer and the cultivation of presence.

The way we are **broken** is unique to our individuality. "It is where we are most needy and vulnerable that we most experience our brokenness." The response to brokenness is to embrace our suffering and put it under the light to blessing.

"True joy, happiness, and inner peace comes from the **giving** of ourselves to others."

This short and enjoyable book is in our church library in the Spiritual Growth section.

