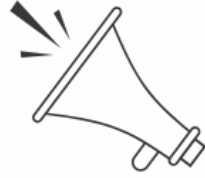




St. Luke  
Lutheran Church



# Announcements

**April 23, 2026**

**Welcome to our weekly  
Announcements email!**

Enjoy reading the important news and events at St. Luke Lutheran Church & Campus Ministry. And remember, God loves you!

**In this week's Announcements you can read about:**

- Ithaca Gallery Night
- Book Study
- Transpose in Concert
- Compline
- First Friday Spaghetti & Big Red Bagel Days!
- Personal Care Kits
- Blue and Red Wagons
- Treasurer's Report

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## CONNECT in COMMUNITY

### Ithaca Gallery Night at St. Luke

St. Luke Lutheran Church will be participating in the monthly [Ithaca Gallery Night](#) on May 1st from 5-8pm, with Drawings and Paintings by our own Carl Whittaker. The art on display will be from Whittaker's "Art for Takayna" collection. Takayna/the Tarkine is a threatened Wilderness Area in Lutrawita/Tasmania. Art for Takayna is a project of the Bob Brown Foundation, part of their campaign for protection for this area.

You can also enjoy Whittaker's art on exhibition this Saturday and Sunday, April 25 & 26 from 1-6pm at 4111 Rabbit Run Road in Trumansburg.

**ART for TAKAYNA**



at St. Luke Lutheran Church 1st~30th May  
109 Oak Ave. in Collegetown Opening 5-8 p.m.  
Preview: **BACKYARD** Friday 1st May  
(and **STUDIO**) **EXHIBITION #10**  
SATURDAY & SUNDAY 25-26 APRIL 1 to 6 P.M.  
at 4111 RABBIT RUN RD. TRUMANSBURG  
celebrating Earth Day & ANZAC Day



DRAWINGS & PAINTINGS by Carl Whittaker

Takayna/the Tarkine is a threatened Wilderness Area in Lutrawita/Tasmania. Art for Takayna is a project of the Bob Brown Foundation, part of their campaign for protection for this area.

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Two members of our community are celebrating significant birthdays this spring: Joe Metz will be celebrating his 102nd birthday in April and Velma Markwardt will be 103 on May 17!

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**ST. LUKE LUTHERAN CHURCH**

**BOOK  
STUDY**  
STLUKEITHACA.ORG

HOPE THAT WILL NOT BE EXTINGUISHED



Thursdays | 6:00 PM | Zoom | Start Date TBD

**Order your book now and begin reading!**

Written not only by a survivor of apartheid South Africa, but by a witness to the Truth and Reconciliation Commission—a process that laid bare some of the darkest realities of the human condition—this work dares to proclaim something deeper: that we are, at our core, made for goodness.

With Tutu and his daughter as our guides, we will explore how that spark of goodness remains alive within us—and how hope, grounded in truth, can shape the way we live, love, and act in the world.

*Book Study UPDATE: We want to wait to start until*

*everyone has their books. So order yours now and begin reading. Start date for discussion is TBD.*

This Easter season at St. Luke, we invite you into a story of hope—one that refuses to yield to despair.

Desmond Tutu and Mpho Tutu, *Made for Goodness: And Why This Makes All the Difference*. New York: HarperOne, 2010.

In a time when many are made to feel powerless—or even hopeless—we turn again to the Gospel story we have walked through in Lent: a journey that leads us to the dawn of Easter morning, where light breaks through and shadows do not have the final word.

So too in this book. Written not only by a survivor of apartheid South Africa, but by a witness to the Truth and Reconciliation Commission—a process that laid bare some of the darkest realities of the human condition—this work dares to proclaim something deeper: that we are, at our core, made for goodness.

With Tutu and his daughter as our guides, we will explore how that spark of goodness remains alive within us—and how hope, grounded in truth, can shape the way we live, love, and act in the world.

**Details:**

- Thursdays at 6:00 PM (via Zoom)
- Start Date TBD: we want to wait until everyone has their books first! So order yours now and begin reading. **Pastor Jason has one book available if you need one! Let us know and you can pick it up on Sunday.**
- First session: Introduction + Chapters 1–3

**We encourage you to purchase the book locally from one of these shops:**

- [The Protagonist Coffee & Books](#)
- [All My Friends Books](#)
- [Odyssey Bookstore](#)
- [Buffalo Street Books](#)

Come as you are. Bring your questions, your hopes, your doubts.

Because Easter does not deny the darkness—it proclaims, with clarity and courage, that it does not win.

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# “Until All of Us are Free”

## Transpose in Concert at St. Luke

### Sunday, April 26th at 4:00 PM

Until All of Us are Free is a proclamation to the world that we will stand together and sing, no matter how hard life gets or who tries to silence us. Featuring their signature range of musical styles from a song rooted in Macedonian folk music to turn-of-the-century queer punk rock, each song cements our need for community, music, and for each other. Included in the concert, are original compositions, like Polyrhythms, a melodic homage to polyrhythmic music and polyamory by former director Jonah Hirst, as well as Lazarus Drug, an adaptation of an indie-pop song younger fans and their folks recognize from the TV show Bluey. Always aiming to honor icons and send the audience home with light hearts, the evening will also include a medley of Dolly Parton toe-tappers.

Proceeds from the concert will go towards the chorus’ annual operating expenses. Entry is free will, \$15 suggested. Children 12 and under are welcome. The chorus appreciates the generous support of concertgoers and various businesses and organizations throughout the community.

If you are interested in joining the chorus or would like more information, write to [transposeithaca@gmail.com](mailto:transposeithaca@gmail.com)

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## ***Compline Series to Conclude after Six Year Run***

A message from Erik:

I was in Seattle once, and noted they had a sung night prayer service at the Cathedral and thought, that sounds like something I'd like, so I went, expecting a handful of listeners. Instead I found a full cathedral with people lying on the floor to listen because the pews were full. More recently I have attended the ones in Rochester, which have also built a huge following through splendid choral singing. Every time I have gone to compline in Rochester I have felt washed and energized. And I sang with a group at Cornell which did them for multiple years. And then came covid, and the Cornell group shut down.

I decided to get it going at St. Luke: at first it was entirely online with four singers, spread out. Eventually the number of singers grew, and we opened it to live listeners. Over the years, the singers certainly found it worthwhile to do for themselves, even though the number of listeners remained low. A move to Anabel Taylor Chapel didn't help attendance, but when we started going other places, it seemed we might catch on---there were even times when listeners outnumbered singers. There have been some who really love to come and listen, or listen online, since we have continued to livestream. Our aim all along has been to create a time out of time in the week, where a familiar order of liturgy, enhanced with beautiful choral music, can bring peace to souls.

While I'm very proud of what we have accomplished, it also feels like the time to bring the chapter to a close, at least for now. Thanks and appreciation from the bottom of my heart to everyone who has sung with the group and/or attended the service. Sophie, Lynn, Jeff, and Geoff have been with it from the beginning. Special mention to our livestreamer Andy Antal as well, for being there when we were at St. Luke and then for much hauling, setting up, and tearing down of equipment after that.

There WILL be just ONE more compline service, on April 30 at 8pm. We chose the location for its splendid acoustics and easy parking: Immaculate Conception Church downtown. We'll

be doing my favorite anthem of all time, plus the choir's favorite Nunc Dimittis and Lord's Prayer. It should be splendid. All are invited! I am cognizant that some people aren't keen to enter a Catholic church--- but know that what we do there is the same as what we do elsewhere.

And for now, the archive of past services will remain at our YouTube channel: [“Compline from St. Luke Ithaca”](#)

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## First Friday Spaghetti Dinner on May 1st!



Students, free food and great fun awaits you! Our last First Friday Spaghetti Dinner of the spring semester will be held starting at 6:00 pm, on Friday May 1st in the St. Luke Fellowship Hall. Come for steaming plates of spaghetti, mountains of meatballs, crusty fresh bread, a beautiful salad, and dessert. Students, feel free to bring a friend! Suz Snedeker will be the "cook". She makes a great red sauce. Students and folks at St. Luke who would like to be helpers for set up, salad making, and clean up should contact Suz at [smsnedeker@gmail.com](mailto:smsnedeker@gmail.com)

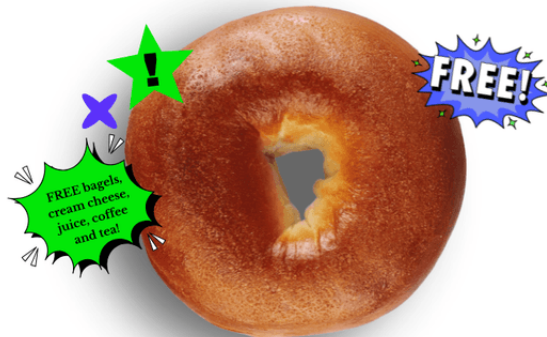
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## Study Hours Discontinued for Spring 2026

We thank all the monitors at St. Luke who have graciously and generously hosted our end of the semester Study Hours in the past. But, over the years, the need for study space during study days and final exams has diminished (fewer final exams given) and our turnout has been low for several semesters. We have decided not to hold Study Hours this semester, but instead, will be having "Big Red Bagel Days" to support and celebrate our students.



# BIG RED BAGEL DAYS



Friday, May 8 & Tuesday, May 12 from 10am-2pm  
St. Luke Lutheran Church, 109 Oak Ave, Ithaca

**Big Red Bagel Days on May 8th and 12th:** Yes, St. Luke's Campus Ministry is once again celebrating the end of the semester with "Big Red Bagel Days". Students, come over anytime between 10 am and 2 pm to the Campus Ministry Lounge and enjoy FREE bagels, cream cheese, juice, coffee and tea! The first Bagel Day is during Study Days on Friday May 8th and the second Bagel Day is during Final Exam week on Tuesday, May 12th. St. Luke Lutheran is located at 109 Oak Ave. in Collegetown. The Campus Ministry Lounge is the first room on the left when you come through the main double-door entrance to St. Luke.

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## SERVE in COMMUNITY

Our next outreach and social ministry meeting is scheduled for TONIGHT, Thursday evening, 4/23, at 7pm. Contact [Judy Tennant](#) for more information.

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## PERSONAL CARE KITS

Many thanks for the generous donations of towels, soap, and nail clippers for the personal care kits we will send to Lutheran World Relief. We need only a few more of each item to reach our goal of 50 kits. If you would still like to contribute to this effort, we could use help with shipping costs as they have doubled since last year. Your generosity is greatly appreciated!

Please place donations in the collection box near the office in the narthex. Monetary donations for items and shipping costs are also welcome and we will purchase needed items (Please mark checks / envelopes with "Personal Care Kit" and place donations in the offertory plate or give online here [Personal Care Kit](#)).

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## LOVING OUR NEIGHBORS IN ITHACA

### **Ithaca Kitchen Cupboard:**

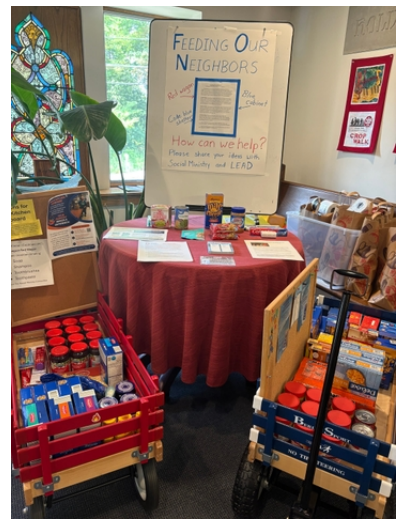
During the month of March this year pantry usage was down about 33% from March of last year. The gym table use was up about 10% from a year ago. We are still seeing some new people coming in. The report includes home deliveries which are done by the Salvation Army. There are generally only one or two per week.

### **St. Luke donated 108 items for the month of March.**

**Thanks to all who donated!** Some items also went to Code Blue which needed them and will remain open until

April 30th.

Personal Care Items are Items are needed for the Red Wagon during the month of April, including bar soap, shampoo, toothpaste, and diapers. Also, we need reusable grocery-sized bags for the clients using the IKC. Please place the bags near the Red Wagon. Thank you!



[DONATE TO IKC](#)



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### **BLUE WAGON for the BLUE CABINET:**

Please consider donating canned soups, tuna, and plastic jars of pasta sauce, peanut butter and jam. Cereal, oatmeal, macaroni and cheese, pasta, protein bars and toilet paper are always welcome. Thank you for supporting this ministry!

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## March Treasurer's Report

- March income was \$36,870, or 119% of the budget plan of \$30,987.
  - YTD income is \$88,792, or 96% of the budget plan.
  - March expenses were \$29,717, or 96% of the budget plan of \$30,987.
  - YTD expenses are \$89,705, or 97% of the budget plan.
  - By the numbers we finished March with a deficit of \$914.
  - Our March month end balance in Tompkins Bank checking was \$161,751, up from \$129,167 at the end of February.
  - At the end of March our Morgan Stanley investment values:
    - Endowment (designated) @ \$2,754,072, up from \$1,857,124, at the end of February.
    - Reserve (unallocated) @ \$463,086, up from \$278,243 at the end of February.These numbers reflected the addition of the assets received from the Conneman estate.
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# We pray together...

...for Lu, Grace, Hravn, Terry and Diane. For communities experiencing war, famine, and strife.

Upcoming commemorations of saints, renewers of society, and other festivals can be [found here](#).

*Prayers are added weekly to our list and will remain for three weeks. If you wish to extend the name of the person for whom we are praying please inform the office. To add someone to the prayer list please email [the Communications Manager](#).*

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## Calendar

### **Thursday, April 23**

- 1:00 pm CCC Events Committee
- 7:00 pm. Outreach & Social Ministry Committee ZOOM

### **Friday, April 24**

- 10:30 am. Tea and Tarot at Cornell
- 5:30 pm. Ithaca Welcomes Refugees Dinner

### **Sunday, April 26**

- 10:00 am Holy Communion
- 4:00 pm. Transpose Concert

### **Tuesday, April 28**

- 12:15 pm. Bring your own lunch Bible Study
- 6:30pm. Mostly Motown rehearsal

### **Wednesday, April 29**

- 10:00 am. Staff Meeting
- 12:30pm. Midday Music Organ Concert
- 1:00 pm. Collegetown Community Collective

### **Thursday, April 30**

- 1:00 pm. CCC Events Committee
- 8:00 pm. Final Compline at Immaculate Conception

### **Friday, May 1**

- 10:30 am. Tea and Tarot at Cornell
- 5:00 pm. Ithaca Gallery Night featuring Carl Whittaker
- 6:00 pm. First Friday Spaghetti Dinner

*The St. Luke Office is generally open: Mon. 1 pm-5 pm, Tues. 9:30 am-1 pm,  
Wed. 8am-4pm, Thur. 9:30 am-5pm, Fri. 9:30 am-1pm*

***If you would like to be removed from this list, please reply or [send us an email](#)  
with UNSUBSCRIBE in the subject line. We will be sad to see you go.  
Remember, God loves you!***

Website

Give

Calendar



### **Service of Holy Communion ~ Sundays at 10:00 am**

St. Luke is a **Reconciling in Christ Congregation** of the **ELCA**. As a Reconciling in Christ Congregation, the people of St. Luke Lutheran Church are called by God to be a community of Christians, a part of the body of Christ. Because we believe we are one in God's eyes, we welcome the mix of ages, races, gender identities, physical and mental capabilities, and sexual orientations with which God's children are blessed. Everyone is invited to share in God's grace. We rejoice in the knowledge that nothing can separate us from the love of God in Christ Jesus--not our wealth, nor our poverty, nor our nationality, nor our political convictions, nor whom we love, nor anything else in all creation. We are called to follow God's mission of reconciliation and justice with all humanity, and we celebrate our journey of discipleship with a special appreciation for the privileged responsibility of our campus related ministry.

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Our mailing address is:  
St. Luke Lutheran Church 109 Oak Ave Ithaca, NY 14850-4729 USA