

THE EPISTLE

St. Luke Greek Orthodox Church

35 North Malin Road

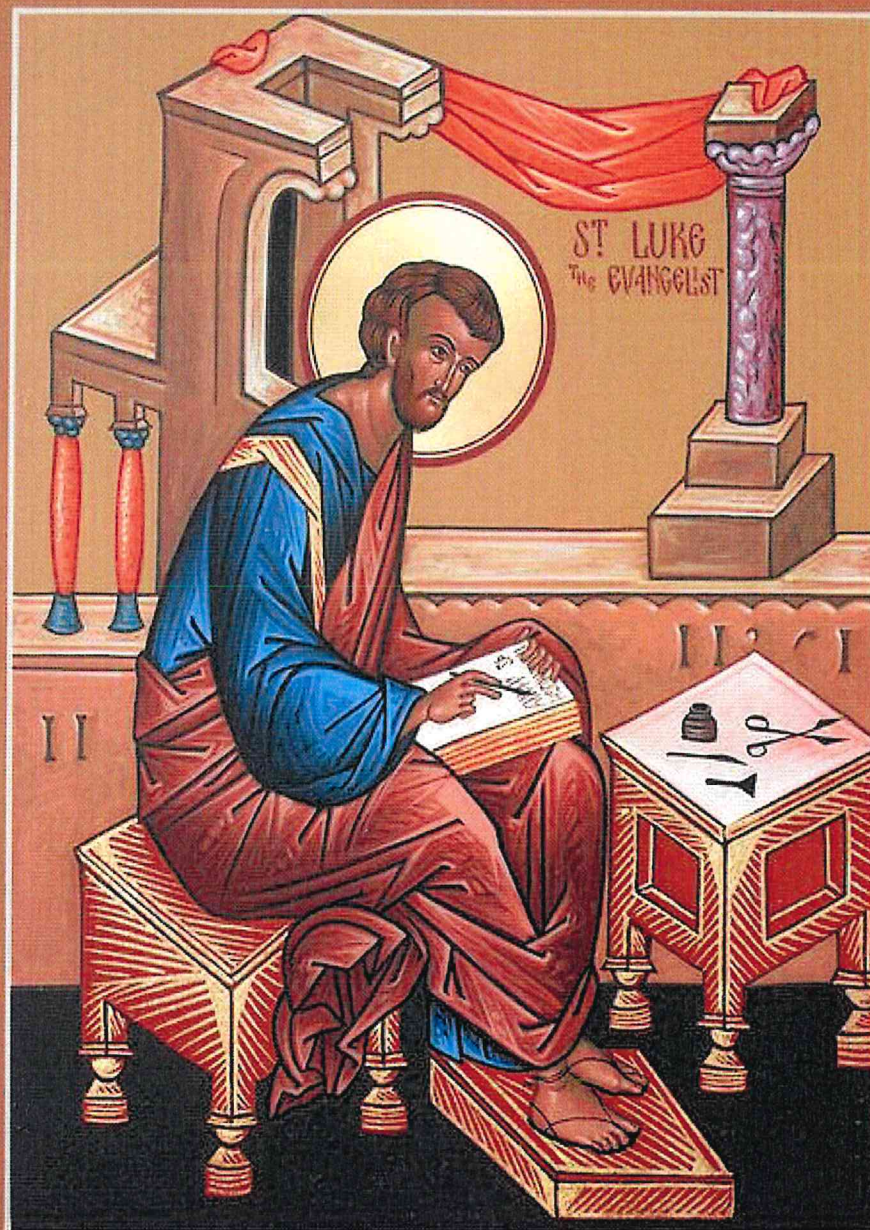
Broomall, PA 19008

Rev. Father Christ Kontos, Protopresbyter

(610) 353-1592

www.st-luke.org

SEPTEMBER 2025



SEPTEMBER PASTORAL MESSAGE

Beloved,

As a new school year begins and our calendars fill quickly, we need to speak honestly about something essential: **prioritizing Church for our children.**

Our Lord says, “Let the little children come to Me... for of such is the Kingdom of God” (Mk 10:14). The Church has long called the Christian family the “little church,” a place where faith is planted, watered, and grows. Yet the soil that nourishes this faith is the **Divine Liturgy**, the rhythm of prayer, and the life of the parish.

Today’s world tugs at our families: sports on Sunday morning, endless screens, social pressures, and the quiet loneliness and anxiety many young people feel. Sunday worship is not one more activity; it is the **anchor** that steadies everything else. Our youth learn by **presence, participation, and repetition**: lighting a candle; kissing icons; the hymns and prayers that fill their ears and roll off their lips; the sign of the Cross with their hands; and the embrace of a community that knows them by name.

SO, HOW CAN YOU SET YOUR FAMILY UP FOR SUCCESS?

Choose Church first. Put the Divine Liturgy on the calendar before everything else.

Arrive on time so the rhythm of the Liturgy gets a footing.

Sit where they can see. The eyes of our youth engage when they can watch the clergy, readers, altar boys, and chanters.

Offer small roles. Remind your children to bless themselves when they light a candle. Bake prosforo while allowing them to help and have them bring the bread offering. Remind them to think about someone they want to pray for as they place their candle.

Talk on the way home. Ask: “What did you notice? What did you hear? For whom did you pray? What did you talk about in Sunday School?”

Keep the fast with guidance. Fasting looks different for children; speak with me for a simple, age-appropriate plan and, more importantly, why we fast.

Let’s continue to grow together at St. Luke. Beginning with *The Festival of Ministries* on September 14th, let’s start the Ecclesiastical Year on the right foot. There is no perfect moment; there is only **now**. Bring your children, grandchildren, and godchildren. Invite a neighbor or a friend. Let them discover a place where they are loved, where Christ is present, and where their lives are shaped by beauty, truth, hope and love.

May our gracious Lord bless you with spiritual joy, good health, patience, and courage.

With brotherly love,



Rev. Father Christ Kontos

PARISH LIFE

Forty-Day Blessings



On July 6, 2025, Father Christ offered the Forty Day Blessing for **Xristina Pavoidis**. Congratulations to **Alexander & Erini Pavoidis** as we anticipate the Baptism!

On July 20, 2025, Father Christ offered the Forty Day Blessing for **Alexandra Louise and Zoe Dimitra Adams**. Congratulations to **Marcus Adams & Athena Christakos** as we anticipate the Baptism!

Baptisms & Chrismations

The daughter of **Natalie Georges** was baptized in the Holy Mother Church on July 26, 2025. Her sponsor, **Joseph Scavitto**, baptized her with the name **Lucas**. May Our Lord continue to bless you, **Lucas William-Driscoll-Georges**.



The daughter of **Scott Sharo & Elizabeth Kusturiss** was baptized in the Holy Mother Church on July 26, 2025. Her sponsor, **Alyssa Poole and Eric Poole**, baptized her with the name **Evangelia**. May Our Lord continue to bless you, **Evangelia Charley Eirene Sharo**.

Luke McCallion was chrismated on August 10, 2025. His sponsor, **Daniel Knezevich**, chrismated him with the name **Luke**. May Our Lord continue to bless you, **Luke McCallion**.

The son of **Donald & Kelly Williams** was baptized in the Holy Mother Church on August 10, 2025. His sponsor, **Thomas Kusturiss**, baptized him with the name **Joseph**. May Our Lord continue to bless you, **Banks Joseph Williams**.

The son of **Keith Ellis & Despina Hatzidemitriou Guthrie** was baptized in the Holy Mother Church on August 10, 2025. His sponsor, **Nina Sellers**, baptized him with the name **Theo James**. May Our Lord continue to bless you, **Theo James Hatzidemitriou Ellis**.

Funerals



John Kevgas fell asleep in the Lord on June 24, 2025. His funeral service was held on July 7, 2025.

Michael Halkias fell asleep in the Lord on August 11, 2025. His funeral service was held on August 18, 2025.

We extend our condolences and prayers to their family. MAY THEIR MEMORY BE ETERNAL.

September 2025 Ecclesiastical Calendar

September 2025 Ecclesiastical Calendar



Sunday, September 7th

Sozon the Martyr

8:50am Orthros and 10:00am Divine Liturgy

Sunday Before Holy Cross

Friday, September 12th

8:50am Orthros and 10:00am Divine Liturgy

Nativity of the Theotokos

Sunday, September 14th

8:50am Orthros and 10:00am Divine Liturgy

The Elevation of the Cross

Sunday, September 21st

Apodosis of the Elevation of the Cross; Quadratus the Apostle

8:50am Orthros and 10:00am Divine Liturgy

Sunday After Holy Cross

Friday, September 26th

8:50am Orthros and 10:00am Divine Liturgy

St. John the Evangelist & Theologian



Sunday, September 28th

Chariton the Confessor; Alkison of Nicopolis

8:50am Orthros and 10:00am Divine Liturgy

1st Sunday of Luke

SEPTEMBER 2025

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
	1  OFFICE CLOSED!!	2 10am Senior Men	3 7pm Summer Basketball	4 10am Senior Men 7pm Greek Dance Rehearsal 7:15pm Choir Rehearsal	5	6
7 12:15pm Choir Rehearsal	8	9 10am Senior Men 10am Baking	10	11 10am Senior Men 7pm Greek Dance Rehearsal	12	13
14 Festival of Ministries and Pizza Party 10:30am Sunday School	15 <i>Greek Affair Preperation</i>	16 10am Senior Men <i>Greek Affair Preperation</i>	17 <i>Greek Affair Preperation</i>	18 10am Senior Men 7pm Greek Dance Rehearsal <i>Greek Affair Preperation</i>	19 	20 
21 	22 <i>Greek Affair Clean-up</i>	23 10am Senior Men 4pm Greek School – student evals <i>Greek Affair Clean-up</i>	24 7pm Philoptochos BGT Meeting <i>Greek Affair Clean-up</i>	25 10am Senior Men 6:30pm Philoptochos Sip, Spark & S'More Bonfire 7pm Greek Dance Rehearsal	26	27
28 Church Music Sunday 10:30am Sunday School	29 6:30pm Philoptochos Board Meeting <i>CC Closed – Gym Floor work</i>	30 10am Senior Men 4pm Greek School – teacher's mtng <i>CC Closed – Gym Floor work</i>				

September 1st – Ecclesiastical New Year

September 1st is the first day of the Orthodox Ecclesiastical Year. It is called the beginning of the “indinction”. The word “indinction” is a Latin word meaning “impose”, to make somebody do something. It was first applied in imposing taxes in Egypt. The Roman Emperor Diocletian extended the system of taxing conquered people to the whole Roman Empire. The first official worldwide indinction originated with Emperor Constantine in 312AD when he saw a miraculous vision of the “sign of the cross” on the skies. The Church picked this day to begin its calendar year for various reasons:

Before the Julian calendar, the Romans began their year on September 1st.

According to Holy Tradition, it was on September 1st that our Blessed Lord first entered the Jewish Synagogue (Luke 4) to preach His mission to men. Jesus, quoted from the 61st chapter of the book of Isaiah: “The spirit of the Lord is upon me, because the Lord had anointed me to preach good tidings unto the meek, he has sent me to bind up the openings of the prison to them that are bound. To proclaim the acceptable year of the Lord and the day of vengeance of our God, to comfort all that mourn.”

Tradition also tells us that it was during the month of September that the Hebrews finally entered the Promised Land.

It has always been accepted within the church community that the month of September was the time to gather all the fruits of the summer months and prepare for the beginning of the winter months ahead. At the start of the new year, hymnographers also prepared beautiful hums to be chanted during church services. The hymns were offered to Almighty God so that we might receive His divine blessings throughout the coming year.

ECCLESIASTICAL NEW YEAR

The First Ecumenical Council decreed that the Church’s year should begin on September 1st. The month of September was, for the Jews, the beginning of the civil year (see Exodus 12:2), the month of the gathering of fruits and the bringing to God of sacrifices of thanksgiving. It was at the time of this feast that the Lord Jesus went into the synagogue in Nazareth, opened the Book of the Prophet Isaiah and read the words: ‘The Spirit of the Lord is upon Me; because He hath anointed Me to preach good tidings unto the meek; He hath sent Me to bind up the broken-hearted, to proclaim liberty to the captives, and the opening of the prison to them that are bound; to proclaim the acceptable year of the Lord, and the day of vengeance’ (Is. 61: 1-2; cf. Luke 4: 16-21). This month of September is also noted in the history of Christianity because it was during September that Constantine the Great was victorious over Maxentius, the enemy of the Christian faith, a victory followed by the granting of freedom of confession of the Christian faith throughout the whole Roman Empire. For a long time, the civil year in the Christian world was reckoned in the same way as the Church’s year, from September 1st, but it was later changed to January 1st, first in western Europe and then also in Russia in the time of Peter the Great.



HOSPITAL VISITATIONS

are Father Christ's priority.

If a loved one or family member is hospitalized,
please notify the Church Office at (610) 353-1592.

All hospitals do not notify parishes of hospitalized parishioners.

St. Luke Prayer Group

There is nothing more powerful than the power of prayer. The Prayer Chain email list is up and running. This prayer chain allows us to communicate with anyone who wishes to be on it. Once a person in need comes to our attention, each member on that list will be contacted and asked to pray for the one in need.



Imagine someone suffering and 10, 50, 100, 200 or 500 people praying for them that same evening. Truly friends, there is nothing more powerful than prayer.

How do I register?

Email Presbyter Michele at SaintLukePrayer@gmail.com

REGISTER YOUR EMAIL ADDRESS

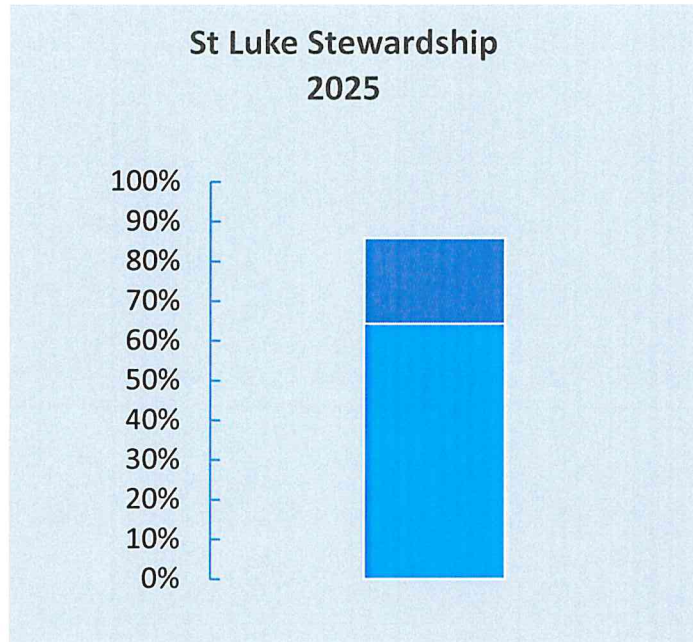
Register your email address online at st-luke.org/register-contact to receive timely emails from Fr. Christ on Church and Parish Life. You can also use your QR/Barcode scanner from your mobile device by scanning the code below.



STEWARDSHIP UPDATE

The following is the Stewardship update as of July 31, 2025.

Niki Thompson Stewardship Chair and B Michael Cook, Administration, are pleased to serve St. Luke in our roles with Stewardship. Thank for your continued support of St. Luke.



Goal	Pledged	% of Goal	Received	% of Goal
\$ 600,000.00	\$ 515,426.62	86%	\$ 385,861.50	64%

as of 07/31/2025

Stewardship July 2025

As of 07/31/2025		As of 07/31/2024		Difference
# of Stewards	381	# of Stewards	414	(33.00)
Pledged	\$485,661.62	Pledged	\$482,205.04	\$ 3,456.58
Given	\$368,373.68	Given	\$358,328.70	\$ 10,044.98
Mean*	\$1,225.27	Average*	\$ 1,109.09	\$ 116.18
Median	\$900.00	Median*	\$ 750.00	\$ 150.00
Mode	\$500.00	Mean*	\$ 718.74	-218.74
* Less the five highest and lowest pledges.		* Less the three highest and lowest pledges.		

Respectfully submitted,
B. Michael Cook - Stewardship Administrator

SUMMER COFFEE HOUR

We are all thankful for these ladies and gentlemen who cheerfully worked to prepare coffee and pastries (many homemade) so that parishioners could enjoy Christian fellowship after the Liturgy.

Many thanks to Spiridoula Bottos, Sue Clark, Carol Crouse, Lynn Fillis, Deeta Florentino, Katharine Free, Genie Gekas, Effie Guthrie, Renee Kontos Matonti, Sandie Liacouras, Alexis Limberakis, Lisa Palmieri, Helen Patten, Phyllis Roebas, Diane Sioutis, Pamela Smith, Georgia Vlahos and Michael Vlahos.

With appreciation for your service,
Dee Karras

St Luke Greek Orthodox Church

Diakonia Schedule September 7 – November 30, 2025

Date	On Duty	On Duty
September 7	Soula Arcidiacono Tom Trantas	Anna Trantas
September 14	Dee Karras	Kathy Fisfis
September 21 Greek Affair	Vasie Marinakos	Joyce Vlassopoulos
September 28	Stephanie Carroll	Dee Karras
October 5	Maria Carafides	Diane Sioutis
October 12	Ellena Vaganos	Barbara Papageorge
October 19	Gus Pappas	Sonya Pappas
October 26	Anna Trantas Evie Touring Nicole Arcidiacono	Gabriella Leonardis Sophia Kontos Alex Nikas
November 2	Soula Arcidiacono	Barbara Papageorge
November 9	Joyce Vlassopoulos	Helen Patten
November 16	Dee Karras	Anna Hadgis
November 23	Stephanie Carroll	Martha DiCamillo
November 30	Marta Laynas	Linda Lemperes

Contact Tom Trantas at tomisgreek@yahoo.com or 610.203.1132

Duties

- On Sundays, arrive by 9:45 am
- Greet parishioners as they arrive
- Respond to parishioners' questions
- Stock candles and red glass candles
- Pass out Sunday bulletins
- Extinguish burning candles that are low
- Pass trays (coordinate location with Parish Council)
- Diakonia duties are finished after trays are passed

FESTIVAL OF MINISTRIES, SEPT 14TH

It is an exciting time for us at St Luke as we are ramping up our activities for the Fall. September 14th is Registration Sunday for all Youth and Adult Ministries and the beginning of Sunday School. Please join us at the conclusion of liturgy for the 4th Annual **St Luke Festival of Ministries Pizza Party**.



Groups/Committees represented:

Little Angels Playgroup - JOY/HOPE - GOYA - Basketball - Dance Troup - Sunday School - Greek School - Altar Boys - Parish Council - Philoptochos - FTIN - Choir - Diakonia - Senior Men's Group - Senior Women's Group - Stewardship - Greek Affair - Bible Study/Elements of Orthodoxy - Book Club - YAL - Prayer Group - Golf Classic



Patriarchal Great Doxology
Welcoming His All Holiness
Ecumenical Patriarch Bartholomew I
on His Apostolic Visit to the United States
Save the Date

Wednesday, September 17, 2025 - 10:00 A.M.

Greek Orthodox Metropolis of New Jersey

St. Katherine Greek Orthodox Church, Falls Church, Virginia



GREEK AFFAIR PASTRY

The Greek Affair is quickly approaching!

The dates are September 19, 20 & 21. Your help is needed to prepare, package and sell pastries during the festival.

**Kourabiedes will be made, baked and sugar coated on Tuesday September 9th at 10:00 AM*

On Sunday, September 14th immediately following service for the Elevation of the Cross and during Festival of Ministries volunteers are needed to pour syrup on many pans of freshly baked baklava and kataifi.

Please contact Karen Kotapka mkotapka@aol.com if you can assist.

We will package pastries in the Community Center **Monday September 15th through Friday September 19th starting at 10:00 AM**

- **On Thursday September 18th** we will set up the Pastry booth under the tent.

Contact Patricia Berryman patriciacberryman@me.com and offer your time to sell pastries outside under the tent.

Friday September 19 th	4PM – 10PM
Saturday September 20 th	11AM – 10PM
Sunday September 21 st	12AM - 8PM

Looking forward to a successful and fun festival, filled with wonderful fellowship.

Greek Affair Pasty Chairs,

Diane Sioutis, Karen Kotapka, Maria Carafides, Patricia Berryman

Choir News

St. Luke Senior Choir

New members welcomed! All who enjoy singing are invited to join the St. Luke Senior Choir. For more information about joining the St. Luke Senior Choir, please contact choir director, Dena Papadopoulos at dena80papa@gmail.com

Sunday Youth Choir

If your children enjoy singing, please encourage them to participate in the Sunday Youth Choir. Students in grades 5 through 12 are welcome to join the Sunday Youth Choir. Participating in the Sunday Youth Choir is a meaningful way to learn our liturgical music.

On Sunday mornings, Youth Choir reports directly to the choir loft at 10:00 AM and joins the Senior Choir to participate in the singing of the Divine Liturgy. Then, before the start of the children's sermon, Youth Choir joins the Sunday School, seated in church. They continue to Holy Communion and attend Sunday School classes. Sunday Youth Choir members do not miss Sunday School. There are no rehearsals for Sunday Youth Choir.

Students in grades 5 through 12 are welcome to join Sunday Youth Choir. Altar boys may also participate in Sunday Youth choir on the Sundays they are not serving in the altar.

If you have any questions about Sunday Youth Choir please contact Dena Papadopoulos at dena80papa@gmail.com

Dena Papadopoulos - St. Luke Senior and Youth Choir Director

Please look for the Senior and Youth Choir registration table at the Festival of Ministries on September 14th.

National Church Music Sunday to be celebrated at
St. Luke's on Sunday, September 28.

On Sunday, September 28, we will celebrate National Church Music Sunday at St. Luke Greek Orthodox Church. The Church commemorates National Church Music Sunday, the Sunday nearest the Feast Day of St. Romanos, patron saint of church musicians. This Sunday is designated as a time to recognize Church musicians in local parishes throughout the Greek Orthodox Archdiocese of America. We thank those who give many hours of dedicated service to our Church Music Ministry - the chanters, choir director, choir singers, and youth choir singers. Theirs is a meaningful stewardship, and they play a vital role in the liturgical life of our Church. Join us as we congratulate our St. Luke Church Musicians on September 28.

A special tray will be available following dismissal on September 28, for the National Forum of Greek Orthodox Church Musicians' National Church Music Ministry and the Scholarship Fund of the Eastern Federation of Greek Orthodox Church Musicians.

Join us during coffee hour on Sunday, September 28, for a cake reception offered in gratitude for our beloved St. Luke Choir and chanters.

For Those in Need...

you may ask, "What are we doing lately?"

SEPTEMBER, 2025 *Epistle*

For Those in Need (FTIN) helps in St. Luke's outreach to the community, offering basic necessities such as food, school supplies, clothing, shelter, etc. to those in our local area who lack them. FTIN also works with other parish groups to provide discretionary assistance to fellow parishioners and others in need.

During August's Cook FTIN's volunteer Chefs prepared some 165 evening meals for our partners at The Life Center (TLC) and the Salvation; thanks to all those FTIN volunteer Chefs who turned out.

FTIN was also pleased to participate in the St. Luke Sunday School's FOCUS Backpack Fundraiser on behalf of struggling students and their families.

On Tuesday, AUG 5th FTIN continued to support the ***Salvation Army's food pantry*** with a particular emphasis on their **homeless & senior populations' needs**, with deliveries scheduled on a bi-monthly basis (next delivery scheduled for SEPT 30th).

While we'll take a break in September to focus on *The Greek Affair*, FTIN's **October Cook** will occur on Monday evening, **October 6th** with our **Thanksgiving Cook** to follow on Monday, **November 17th**.

Supporting FTIN – How can I help?

It is your support that is enabling FTIN to make a difference by expanding its outreach during these times of food insecurity and hunger affecting the lives of so many. ***Thank you . . .*** for your generosity which has continued uninterrupted now over so many years!

We welcome your Stewardship whether offered as helping hands or in financial support. No donation is too small, and your contributions to FTIN remain a meaningful gift "for those who have everything" or in memory of a beloved family member or friend. Checks (payable to "For Those in Need") may be mailed to the parish office.

To learn more about FTIN, how you can volunteer or make a donation, please contact:

Alan Pcsolyar at: apcsolyar@comcast.net or 610-457-6033

Saint Luke Greek Folk Dance Groups

Our Greek Folk Dance Groups are looking forward to a new year and we're excited to welcome new members! No previous dance experience is necessary!

Children entering Second Grade through Sixth Grade can join **Ellinakia**
Youth entering Seventh Grade through Twelfth Grade can join **Olympians**

Rehearsals are held on Thursday evenings at Saint Luke. Our first practice of the new season with new members is scheduled for Thursday, October 16th. Join us for fun and friendship!

Please access our online registration form at *Greek Dance Registration 2025-26* or use the QR code

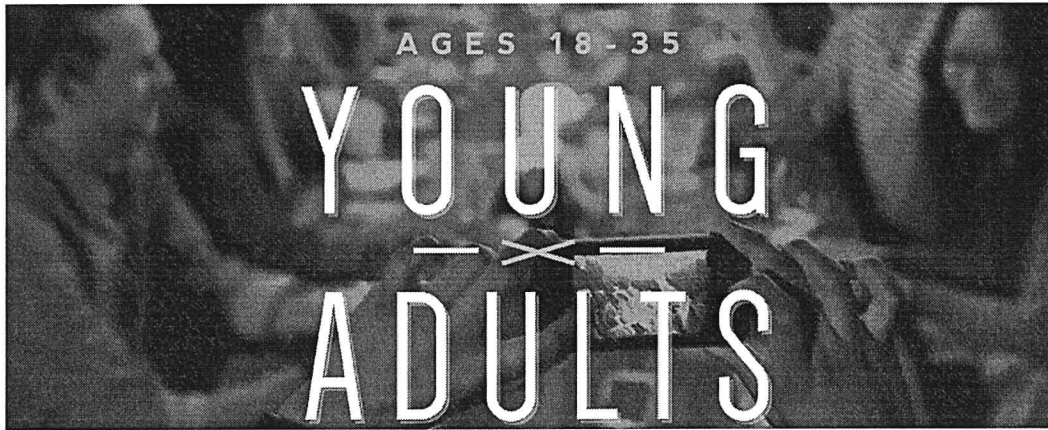
Please contact Cynthia Costanzo at ckarakantas@gmail.com with any questions.



Don't forget to watch our current Ellinakia and Olympian Dancers at this year's **Greek Affair September 19th and 20th!**



Spread the Word and Join Our Group!



If you or someone you know is 18-35 years old, then the St. Luke's Young Adult League (YAL) may be for you. Not only does it give you an opportunity to meet young people from other churches, but it can make you closer to those who also go to St. Luke's. The goal is to bring everyone together and share great memories through our faith and Greek culture.

Our first meeting will be after the festival, around mid to late October. Future events that we host may be activities like picnics, trivia, and helping those in need!

To join this group and to be informed on all YAL events, please send an email to yalstluke@gmail.com or text Alexander Arcidiacono at 610-888-6117.

Thank you and God Bless,
Alexander Arcidiacono
Group Leader, St. Luke's YAL



Please Join Us For A

Taverna Night

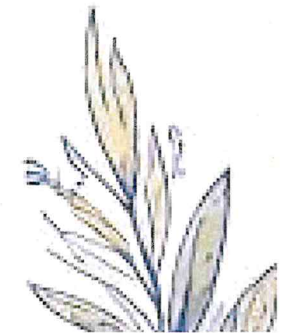
*WITH MEZEDES, DRINKS AND DANCING
MUSIC AND SINGING WITH
ELEANNA FINIKALIOTI, GEORGE LIRISTIS,
ELIAS PANTELIDIS, SIMEON PANTELIDIS
AND ELIAS TIKOS*

Saturday November 1st at 7pm

St. Luke Community Center

Tickets \$50

VENMO: @STLUKEGREEKSCHOOL



St. Luke Greek School
@stlukegreeksschool



venmo

St. Luke Greek Language School



As our summer comes to an end, another incredible school year is about to start at St. Luke Greek School. Administrators and teachers have been working hard in preparation for the year. We look forward to an exciting and successful year full of Greek language, culture, and tradition for students, parents, and teachers alike!

Ayiasmos and the first day of the 2025-2026 school year is on Tuesday, October 7th. St. Luke Greek School operates every Tuesday from 5:00-7:00 pm.

If you would like to register your child/children, please scan the QR code below and fill out the Google Form no later than September 15th.



Child's Registration Form



We are also thrilled to announce that due to a successful adult class last year, there will be an adult class this year as well. Please scan the QR code below to register and fill out the Google form no later than September 15th.

Adult Registration Form

If you have any questions, feel free to contact our administrator Angelique Demetris at angeliquedemetris@gmail.com. For more information visit our website www.stlukegreekschool.com.

"Educating the mind without educating the heart is no education at all!" -Aristotle-

Καλή Χρονιά!
Have a great school year!

SUNDAY SCHOOL NEWS

Welcome to the 2025-2026 Sunday School year! Here is the Sunday School Schedule for September and October 2025:

September 14 Classes Begin, Agiasmos for new school year; Pizza Party; Registration Sunday for all youth activities

September 21 No classes, Greek Affair

September 28 Worship and Classes



OCTOBER

October 5 Worship and Classes- **Spark Sunday for all GOYA-aged students: "What does it mean to be an Orthodox Christian?"**

October 12 Worship and Classes

October 19 Worship and Classes

October 26 Worship and Classes- **Grandparents Sunday and Sunday School Open House. All parents and grandparents are invited to visit the Sunday School classrooms of their children and grandchildren at the end of Divine Liturgy.**

The calendar for the entire 2025-2026 Sunday School year is posted on the website (<https://www.ss.st-luke.org>) and will also be emailed to all families who register.

We are very excited to begin the 2025-2026 Sunday School year by welcoming all students and their families to the first day of Sunday School on Sept. 14, 2025. After communion, students of all grades should go to the Education Building and join the class that matches the grade they attend at their regular school:

First Floor:

3 year olds	room 103	Lisa Palmieri; Kathy Zarvalas
Pre-K	room 101	Faithe Kalisperis; Marinela Tsapournas
11th – 12th Grade	room 100	Danny Milinkovic; Evan Palmieri

Second Floor:

Kindergarten	room 201	Marilena Ristas
1st Grade	room 205	Thomas Ristas; Nysia Petrakis
2nd Grade	room 203	Eleni Kornblatt
3rd Grade	room 202	Sophia Tsakiris
4th Grade	room 207	Marina Despotopoulou
5th Grade	room 204	
6th Grade	room 200	Sophia Milinkovic
7th – 8th Grade	room 206	Arthur Karros
9th – 10th Grade	room 209	Peter Pavlis

Please note, this year's **Open House** will take place on **Sunday, Oct. 26, 2025**. On a day highlighting the important role played by grandparents in the religious education of the children in their family, all parents **and** grandparents are invited to visit the Sunday School classrooms at the end of Divine Liturgy. This Open House will enable the teachers to connect with you, their families; introduce the curriculum for each grade; and determine the best way to communicate with families and students throughout the coming year. **Snacks and activities/games** will be available in each room, which are meant to engage both students and parents in the curriculum of each grade.

Is your child not registered for Sunday School yet? No problem! To register your child or children, please visit the Sunday School table at the Festival of Ministries in the gym on September 14, 2025; OR follow the link: <https://www.ss.st-luke.org/registration>; OR use the QR code.



Please be sure to indicate on the registration form the name(s) of those who are permitted to pick up your child/children from Sunday School if you are not able to do so. Teachers will not dismiss a child to someone unknown to them unless they have your permission to do so. This policy is an important facet of our Youth Safety program, which we take very seriously.

Teachers Needed! Do you enjoy working with kids- of all ages? Would you like to grow further in our Orthodox faith by teaching our young people about it? The Sunday School is looking for **primary teachers, classroom helpers, as well as substitute teachers**. Our goal is to have 2 adults in every classroom every week. We can work with your availability, and we also provide the teaching materials. If you can provide love, compassion, and support, on top of devotion to the tenets of the Greek Orthodox faith, you're qualified, and we'd love to hear from you.

Readers for Divine Liturgy- Please encourage your children to **volunteer to read the Epistle or the Communion Prayer** during Divine Liturgy. This is a great way for your child to become involved in the worship of our faith. We will send you the reading(s) ahead of time so that your child can practice and become comfortable with the texts beforehand.

Finally, our experiences as religious educators have demonstrated that the religious education of our youth begins and ends in the home. Please allow our Sunday School team to guide and inspire your family's religious education efforts at home. We are at your disposal and will be honored to support your family's spiritual journey in any way possible.

In Christ's love,

Jane Kelly, Panayota Kevgas, and Sophia Milinkovic, Co- Directors
St. Luke Sunday School - stlukesundayschool@gmail.com



Philoptochos Society News

SAVE THE DATE

Ladies Philoptochos Table at Festival of Ministries - Sunday, September 14, 2025

Sip, Spark, & S More Bonfire Get Together - Thursday, September 25, 2025

Welcome and Appreciation Tea - Sunday, October 5, 2025

General Assembly - Sunday, October 12, 2025

St. Luke Name Day Vespers - Friday, October 17, 2025

St. Luke Name Day Luncheon - Saturday, October 18, 2025

At the Chef s Table Cooking Class - Saturday, October 25, 2025

11th Annual Boutiques & Greek Treats - Saturday, Dec. 6 and Sunday, Dec. 7, 2025

Philoptochos Stewardship Information

January was St. Luke Philoptochos' Stewardship month, but we continue to gratefully accept your 2025 commitment through the end of the year. Your support is vital to ensuring our positive impact on local, national and international charities. To fulfill our charitable mission, it is crucial to have the full participation of you, our members. The minimum recommended stewardship amount is \$35; any additional offering above that will serve to enhance our philanthropic efforts. Please submit your check by mailing to St Luke Greek Orthodox Church; by hand delivering to the church office; or by scanning the QR code below. Please note that members must be logged into the website to be able to access the form to pay online with the QR Code. We deeply thank you for your participation and generosity in our mission to serve those in need and are looking forward to working with you in the upcoming year. Contact us with any questions or concerns by email at membership@stlukephiloptochos.org, or get in touch with Stacy Floratos, Membership Chair, at 610-999-1825.



Festival of Ministries - Philoptochos Table

Stop by and visit our table in the Community Center on September 14, 2025, to sign up to help us throughout the year. Bring a friend and sign them up as a new member!

Sip, Spark, & S/More Bonfire Get Together

A relaxed event on Thursday September 25, 2025 from 6pm to 8pm to kick off our year. Come out to meet new members in a fun atmosphere. Please see flyer.

Welcome and Appreciation Tea

Don't miss out! This event is always so special. On Sunday, October 5, 2025, at 12:30pm, we will honor Lisa Palmieri, devoted Philoptochos President 2023-2025, celebrate everyone's hard work these past 2 years, and welcome all our new members while enjoying tea sandwiches and more! Tea Party attire is encouraged! Please RSVP by September 22nd to www.stlukephiloptochos.org, or directly to Carnation @ 215-917-5014. Please see flyer.

General Assembly

Our first General Assembly of the year is scheduled for October 12th after Liturgy. We are pleased to welcome Christine Jackson - the founder of "Hope for Hallie" (www.hopeforhallie.org) - who will speak to us on the very important topic of mental health awareness. You will also have the opportunity to hear about our upcoming events and our plans for the upcoming year. We are looking forward to another fun-filled year with plenty of opportunities to get involved, meet new people, and work alongside amazing women to fulfill our Philanthropic mission. Please see flyer.

St. Luke Name Day Celebrations

Our Philoptochos will be hosting a St. Luke Name Day reception following Vespers on Friday, October 17, and a luncheon following Liturgy on Saturday, October 18. Come out to either Church Service and celebrate Saint Luke. We should all be present to show our love for our Parish. In addition, volunteers are invited to help prepare and/or serve meals for these community events that honor our blessed Patron Saint. Chairladies Maria Vamvakidou and Christina Mahjouri (Vespers), and Diane Sioutis and Vicky Ntontos (luncheon) would so appreciate your help!

At the Chef's Table Cooking Class

On Saturday, October 25, 2025, we will recreate our Bid 'n Buy meal with Master Chef George, while enjoying a glass of wine with our friends! Details to follow!

11th Annual Boutiques & Greek Treats 2025

Saturday, December 6th & Sunday, December 7th, 2025. **Save the dates!** Interested vendors and volunteers, please contact boutiquesgt@stlukephiloptochos.org or 610-246-7163.

Sponsorship of Floral Décor

Icon and Floral Sponsorship opportunities are available throughout the year for ecclesiastical feast days. Sponsorship can be made in honor or in memory of a loved one or for the well-being of your family.

Upcoming sponsorship opportunities:

- Thursday August 14th / Friday August 15th - Dormition of the Theotokos
- Friday September 12 - Nativity of the Theotokos
- Sunday September 14 - The Elevation of the Cross
- Friday September 26 - St. John the Evangelist & Theologian

If you would like to sponsor an icon, pay online through the Philoptochos website; scan the QR code with your phone; or mail your payment to the church and include the words 'icon sponsorship' on your envelope. If you have questions, contact Niki Tsetsekos at 610-500-3056 or ntsetsekos@gmail.com



Philoptochos Cookbook and Apron



For experienced cooks looking to perfect their craft, the cooks-in-training who need inspiration; the perfect housewarming or “thank you” gift for teachers, co-workers, employees or friends; the ideal gift for newlyweds and new graduates, or those simply looking to expand their culinary repertoire, **we have just the thing! Καλή Όρεξη, a Greek Cookbook created by the Ladies Philoptochos of St. Luke, and apron.** The cost is \$25 for the book and \$15 for the apron (blue only, and with pockets!), plus \$5 for shipping, if applicable. A beautiful gift

package, ready for giving, for \$40.00! For more information or to order, contact Phyllis Roebas at proebas@gmail.com or Kathy Fisfis at kfisfis@aol.com

Philoptochos Members – OUR DIRECTORY IS ONLINE!

Please register with our website: www.stlukephiloptochos.org for access to the Members Only Online Directory. Get our App! For directory access, Philoptochos news & events on the go, use our Membership Toolkit app right from your smartphone. *Paper directories are available by request.*





PLEASE JOIN THE LADIES PHILOPTOCHOS
SOCIETY OF ST LUKE FOR A

Backyard BONFIRE

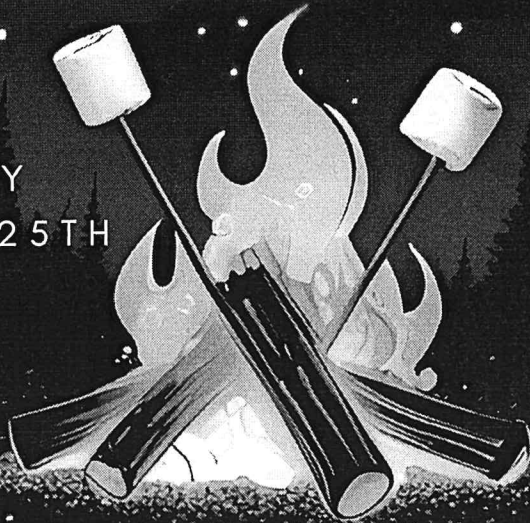
MEET CURRENT MEMBERS, WELCOME NEW ONES & LEARN ABOUT
WAYS TO GET INVOLVED!

SIP, SPARK & S'MORES

821 MILMAR RD NEWTOWN SQUARE 19073

THURSDAY
SEPTEMBER 25TH
6-8PM

SCAN TO RSVP





The Ladies
Philoptochos Society
of St. Luke
Cordially Invites You to a

Welcome and Appreciation Tea

Sunday, October 5th 2025
at 12:30 PM

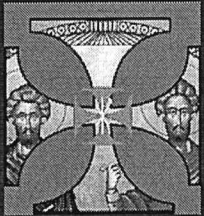
In honor of Lisa Demetris Palmieri,
devoted Philoptochos President 2023-2025,
and in appreciation of the hard work
and dedication of our Members.

St. Luke Social Hall
Please RSVP by September 22nd
www.stlukephiloptochos.org
Carnation @ 215-917-5014

Tea Party Attire encouraged!



Scan to RSVP



**ST. LUKE
PHILOPTOCHOS**

October General Assembly

**Sunday
October 12th
12 PM
St. Luke
Social Hall**

Join us on Sunday, October 12th for our October General Assembly to stay informed about our Philoptochos, meet with Philoptochos sisters, and learn about Hope for Hallie, our newest charity.

All are welcome!

Hope for Hallie Guest Speaker Christine Jackson

Hope for Hallie is a dedicated organization transforming the conversation around mental health.

The organization strives to foster hope for adolescents and young adults by focusing on connection, awareness, resources, and education (C.A.R.E.).

Their goal is to inform, educate, and connect people together to understand the threat of suicide and develop resources and tools to combat its darkness.



Scan to RSVP



More information :



www.hopeforhallie.org
info@hopeforhallie.org

www.stlukephiloptochos.org

-SAVE THE DATE-



St. Luke Golf Classic Monday, October 13, 2025



Paxon Hollow Country Club

850 Paxon Hollow Road, Broomall, PA 19008

Registration – 11 AM
Shot Gun Start – 12PM

Contests Include:

- Longest Drive
- Closest to the Pin
- Putting Contest
- 1st, 2nd Place Teams

\$200 - Golf, Lunch, Beer/Soda
Cart, Golfer Gift &
After Party Dinner

\$70 – Dinner Reception Only

Registration Deadline – October 6th

Checks Payable to:
St. Luke Greek Orthodox Church
Memo: 2025 Golf Outing

*Scan the QR Code to
Register and Pay*



Sponsorship Opportunities

Sponsorship Deadline – October 6th

- Platinum: \$7,000
- After Party: \$6,000
- Gold: \$4,000
- Silver: \$2,000
- Beer/Soda Cart: \$1,000
- Putting Contest: \$500
- Hole Sponsorship: \$250

Contact Demetrios Fragogiannis (610) 637-9775 demetrios326@yahoo.com or
Andrew Papageorge (610) 517-9235 abpapa@comcast.net for more info



THE GREEK AFFAIR

SEPTEMBER 19, 20 & 21

What YOU can do to support the Greek Affair:

- **Volunteer:** Visit www.thegreekaffair.com to sign up early—and invite friends & family.
- **Show your support:** Pick up a lawn sign and display it in your yard.
- **Spread the word:** Distribute flyers and tell friends, neighbors and colleagues about the Greek Affair.



GO GREEN?

For your convenience, our monthly bulletin,

The Epistle is now online and can be accessed by visiting the church website

www.st-luke.org

Just click on "Monthly Epistle". If you would like to receive the Epistle in this digital format only and not by mail, please email our Office Manager:

stlukeoffice@gmail.com or call (610) 353-1592

Address service requested

St. Luke Greek Orthodox Church

35 N. Malin Road

Broomall, PA 19008

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