



The Parish of
St. Luke's Episcopal Church
120 N. Huron, Ypsilanti, Michigan 48197
Founded 1830

June 26, 2018

Dear Brothers and Sisters in Christ,

It is an exciting time to be a part of St. Luke's Episcopal Church! The pews are filling with visitors, new members are joining the congregation, and the sanctuary echoes with the voices of children. The church has opened its doors by renting out unused portions of the building to artists and professionals who serve our community. Truly we are a witness to Christ in Ypsilanti!

So if anyone is in Christ, there is a new creation: everything old has passed away; see, everything has become new! (II Corinthians 5:17)

This summer, the Vestry of St. Luke's seeks to build on the new vigor inside our church. On the evening of Friday, July 13, we will open the sanctuary to musical performances as part of Ypsilanti's **First Fridays** events. We hope that you will stop by to enjoy some great music.

The Vestry has created the **Future Fund**. The Future Fund will insure our continued faithful presence here at 120 North Huron Street in Ypsilanti. The monies will be used for our historic building needs and repairs, our parish and community programs, as we continue our inviting outreach as good neighbors, with Good News!

A portion of the Future Fund will also go toward a **new platform lift**. This will make St. Luke's ADA compliant, finally! The total cost of the device is a little more than \$50,000, although because of generous donations from parishioners and the Diocese of Michigan, we have already raised 80% of the cost of building and installing the lift. A matching grant from our parishioner, and local business owner, Jeff Greaves, promises to bring in even more.

The Vestry hopes to complete fundraising by August 31. We also hope to complete all building improvements in time for a visit by **Bishop Wendell Gibbs** on Sunday, November 11, 2018.

We admit that this is an ambitious agenda. Currently, St. Luke's is struggling to pay its bills. Pledge payments and donations are down while the cost of maintaining our building and staff keeps going up. Fundraisers such as the PALM Ride and rental revenues will offset some of this burden, but it is up to us as parishioners to support the work of the Lord in our community.

Will you be a part of St. Luke's future? As our congregation continues to grow and expand its ministries, we need your time and talents. In addition to supporting the day-to-day operations of St. Luke's, can you contribute \$50 or \$100 or more to the Future Fund? You can deposit a check in the collection plate, or give via the internet by going to stlukesypsi.org/give/.

Yours in Christ,
The St. Luke's Vestry and Rector

Patrick Echlin, Senior Warden
Dennis Barksdale, Junior Warden
Barbara Kolb, Treasurer
John McCurdy, Clerk

Eric Braun
Andrew Douglas
Sally Epskamp
Rev. Dr. JoAnn Kennedy Slater