



NuHu Weekly

The New Humanity
Blog & News

February 27, 2025

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Feeding Our Neighbors

Matthew 25: 35. For I was hungry and you fed me....

The Ithaca Kitchen Cupboard is a part of Area Congregations Together (ACT). The Cupboard is completely staffed by volunteers from various religious organizations in Tompkins County. It has been open for over 55 years and has been seeing an increase in use by residents of the county during the last few years.

The Cupboard is open Monday through Friday to families, individuals and homeless persons in the afternoon for one and a half hours. Monday through Thursday from 1:30 until 3 and Friday from 1 until 2:30. The tables in the gym have fresh food and bread out for people to take. The amount varies from day to day depending upon donations from stores and Ithaca Bakery and during the summer from local farms and Friendship Donations. The Cupboard (where volunteers from St. Luke work) allows people to order once per month. Many of these goods are canned or dried staples, some are fresh. Most of this food is ordered from the Food Bank of the Southern Tier. The Mormons in Palmyra have also been donating food four times per year. The orders which people complete are then filled out by volunteers in the Cupboard.

Anyone who would like to volunteer is welcome to contact Karin DeVito at: kdevito1@gmail.com . St. Luke volunteers in the Cupboard the fourth Wednesday of odd months during the year and also on the fifth Wednesday in any month.



Wow! Another full Red Wagon for the month of February.

Thank you from the Social Ministry Committee for your generous donations of condiments and cooking oil for the Ithaca Kitchen Cupboard, part of our “Feeding Our Neighbors” initiative.

See below for this month's featured items - let's keep up the work of feeding our neighbors.

News



Persistence in Faith - Lent at St. Luke

This past Christmas, we extended our celebration beyond the traditional twelve days. Instead of Epiphany marking the end, we remained in the warm glow of Christmas lights and candles until February 2nd—Candlemas. Forty days after the true Light of the world was laid in bands of cloth in a manger, a guiding star blazed overhead in the celestial darkness, showing the way to divine light.

Lent marks another forty-day journey, but this time, darkness is woven into the stories that lead us not only to the foot of the cross but to the tomb itself. Bearing the light from the manger to the cross is a journey that calls us to lean into and onto our faith.

There will be times when we find ourselves walking in darkness. Ash Wednesday and Good Friday remind us—through familiar words and rituals—of our mortality and sin. They bring to mind both the hurts we carry and the hurts we commit. Yet, they always point us toward the cross—not the one with Jesus upon it, but the empty cross that proclaims we are, even in the dark, a resurrection people. Still, along the way, we encounter fears and uncertainties, concerns that weigh on us and keep us awake at night, and we wrestle with doubt.

Yet faith remains at the center of who we are. We are called to a persistent faith—a faith that trusts

in the love of God and the grace of Christ Jesus to carry us through these journeys of light and shadow, grief and joy. So this Lent, let us take this journey together—a journey through scripture, through time and space, and above all, a journey of persistent faith. We will lean on one another, we will lean on Christ, and we will trust in God’s overarching moral arc of love, freedom, and peace.

With this in mind, the Worship and Arts Committee has shaped our Lenten theme around Persistence in Faith. As a community, we will walk these Lenten days together, preparing our hearts for Holy Week and Easter.

- On Sundays, our children will build a chain of our prayers, hurts, and concerns. Each week, your bulletin will include a slip of purple paper. During the prelude, you are invited to write your worries, prayers, or anything that weighs on your heart. The children will construct a paper chain, turning each piece inward to maintain confidentiality. This chain will be a visible sign of our shared prayers for the people of St. Luke and the world. Then, on the night of the Easter Vigil, we will surrender these burdens to God, offering them to the Easter fire and releasing them into God’s hands on one of the holiest nights of our faith.
- Each Wednesday, we will gather via Zoom to reflect on stories of faith persistence. From Abraham to Moses, from Noah to the Israelites, and ultimately to Jesus, we will explore how those who came before us remained steadfast in their trust in God.
- Holy Week will feature a special Passion sung by our Church Choir, with opportunities for the assembly to participate. We will also continue our new tradition of sharing the Easter Vigil with the Episcopal Church at Cornell and St. John’s Episcopal. This year, the Vigil will be hosted by ECC at Anabel Taylor Chapel on campus.

For a complete schedule of events and offerings, please visit our website, where you will find special links to guide you on your Lenten journey.

May the peace of God and the persistence of your faith bless and keep you throughout these forty days and beyond.



Campus Ministry Students: The First Friday Spaghetti Dinner for March is around the corner. Please come to the Fellowship Hall (in the basement of St. Luke) for a FREE Spaghetti Dinner on Friday, March 7th. The dinner will start at 6:00 pm. Gluten-free pasta and vegan-spaghetti sauce options also will be available. Bring a friend!

Updates



Honoring Black History and Uplifting All of God’s People

As Black History Month comes to a close, we reflect on the stories, resilience, and contributions of Black communities throughout history and today. We hope you've had the chance to take part in the many opportunities for learning and celebration across Ithaca this month. Notably, both of our Campus Ministry sites—at Ithaca College and Cornell University—had the historic privilege of hosting Dr. Angela Davis, a Black queer woman, Civil Rights icon, and a global advocate for liberation.

Yet, our commitment to honoring history and justice does not end here. As a Reconciling in Christ congregation dedicated to anti-racism and radical inclusion, we are called to remember, uplift, and amplify the voices that others seek to erase. In response to the recent removal of various history and celebration months from platforms like Google and national recognition, we will begin intentionally highlighting these observances, ensuring that the richness of all people's stories remains in our collective consciousness.

If you are looking for more ways to engage with Black history beyond February, we encourage you to explore resources from the [National Museum of African American History and Culture](#). Additionally, we will continue to share opportunities for learning and advocacy throughout the year, particularly those happening in and around Ithaca.

If you know of events, resources, or ways we can further uplift these vital histories and celebrations, we invite you to share them with us. Let's continue the work of justice together, celebrating the fullness of God's people in all their diversity and dignity.

Some important links:

[Upstate NY Synod Justice Ministries](#)

[Reconciling Works \(aka RIC\)](#)

[ELCA Social Statements](#)

Connect with Ithaca



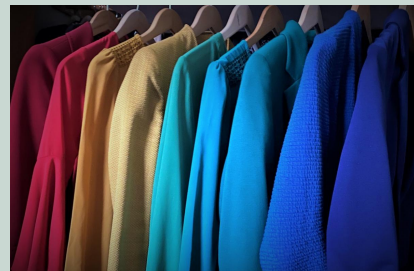
100% fruit juice and breakfast bars anyone?

The Ithaca Kitchen Cupboard item(s) for March are 100% fruit juice and breakfast bars.

**We wonder ...
could we overflow the wagon again?**

Ithaca Pride Alliance

The Ithaca Pride Alliance is hosting their annual "All Y'all Clothing Swap" on Saturday, March 8 from 11am-2:30pm with an access hour from 10-11am. It will be in Martha Hamblin Hall on the third floor of the Community School for Music and Arts, 330 E. State Street in Ithaca.



St. Luke is a donation site!

A donation bin for any clothes you'd like to donate is located in the St. Luke narthex; there are also other locations around town. Please see the [IPA website](#) for lots more information!

Pray with us

We pray for Ernie Varga, Viveca and all those who are ill or dealing with personal issues.

We pray for the friends and family of Sam Nordquist, and all those who have lost their lives to senseless violence and bigotry.

We pray for our trans, gender-nonbinary, and queer siblings.

We pray for Lutheran Social Services, Global Refuge, ELCA World Hunger, and all ministries that feed, clothe, and protect God's precious creation.

We pray for our companion Synods of Zambia and Zimbabwe.

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 [office](#).

Calendar

Thursday, February 27

6:45 pm Compline at Longview (no livestream)

Friday, February 28

10:30 am Campus Ministry: Tea and Tarot (Anabel Taylor Hall Founders Room)

Sunday, March 2

10:00 am The Transfiguration of Our Lord

Tuesday, March 4

12:15 pm Bible Study

Wednesday, March 5

1:00 pm Colletown Neighborhood Collective meeting

7:00 pm Ash Wednesday Service

Thursday, March 6

6:45 pm Compline at Immaculate Conception

Friday, March 7

6:00 pm Campus Ministry First Friday Spaghetti Dinner

[Full Calendar Here](#)

Worship Online

Visit our Website

Make a Donation



Sunday 10:00 am
Service of Holy Communion

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.

[Contact us](#)

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