



## ST. LUKE'S PARENTS ASSOCIATION – MEETING MINUTES

Tuesday 16<sup>th</sup> October, 2018

### October is here and Halloween is on everyone's mind!

The second monthly gathering was called to order with what is now becoming a PA tradition – **Tracy Toon's** whistle. We have since been frantically Googling to figure out how to do that (here's the [link](#)).



**Bart Baldwin** opened with remarks about the upcoming Halloween Dance, including a reminder that costumes should be appropriate (kids and adults!), as well as the new staggered entry time – earlier grades at 5pm, later grades from 5:30pm.

He also discussed the Open House for prospective parents, during which 7<sup>th</sup> and 8<sup>th</sup> grade St. Luke's students' Q&A performance gave the best possible reflection of the school and its values.

This was a great segue to describing the recent teacher professional development day, during which they conceived 'a portrait of a St. Luke's student' – results included "idealism, grounded in realism". Teachers used that as an exercise to brainstorm curriculum enhancements.

Finally, Bart shared that we are concluding interviews for the new Lower School head and last week saw the three finalists grilled by faculty and parents alike. Thank you to those who served on the search committee.

Bart was followed by **Sam Marcus**, our school psychologist, now in his second year. He shared details on his role, as well as the formation of a new book club – the first book is "Pride and Joy" by **Dr. Kenneth Barish** ([Amazon link](#)).

Each committee gave an update on their programming. Leading off was **Bethany Bowen**, who shared this year's new Green Ox initiatives, which included challenging parents at the PA meeting to "walk the talk" and ensure the gathering was 'zero waste' – this ensured all materials used were properly recycled. Bravo.

Following was **Tabitha Belesis** for the Halloween Dance. We still need volunteers for decorating and helping this Friday 26<sup>th</sup> October, so please reach out to assist.

### Upcoming Dates

*Events ahead of the next PA meeting:*

- **10/24** Parent Teacher Conf (LS+US)
- **10/25** Parent Teacher Conf (US only)
- **10/25** Library Volunteers @ drop-off
- **10/26** Halloween Dance, 5-7:30pm
- **11/1** Christmas Fair Craft @ drop-off
- **11/7** Diwali Chapel @ drop-off
- **11/8** Library Volunteers @ drop-off –
- **11/8** Life After St. Luke's: 6-8pm
- **11/9** Christmas Fair Craft @ 2:30-4pm
- **11/13** Next PA Mtg @ drop off



**Elizabeth Dal Piaz** shared Christmas Fair updates, including a call for gently used toy and book donations, as well as children’s formal wear appropriate for Lessons and Carols (dresses and blazers).

**Savannah Stevenson** reviewed the Outreach Committee’s 3-5 year service roadmap; student led, parent supported.

**Lorna Woodham** discussed the Diversity Committee’s upcoming Latinx Heritage Event, as well as announcing **Elizabeth Keating**’s role as LGBT co-chair.

This was followed by **Florencia Wurgler** presenting results from the Technology Aware Parent (TAP) group’s parental survey. First workshop in 19<sup>th</sup> November.

Lastly, **Abbey Mather** is looking for more volunteers for the Library Committee – again, the promise of “superior baked goods” seemed a welcome prod of encouragement for getting involved.

**Mother Gina Gore** gave updates from the church and encouraged parents and children who are interested in being an Acolyte or getting involved with the Advent activities to reach out to her.

### PA SPEAKER SERIES

Last week also saw the first of the PA’s Speaker Series, which was a well-attended presentation by author **Charles Vogl** on the topic of ‘Community’, from his book

“*The Art of Community: Seven Principles for Belonging*” (Amazon [link](#), in case you were not able to attend).

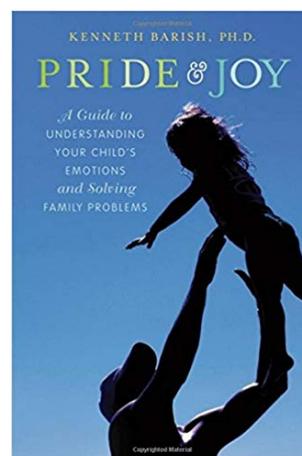
Vogl encouraged parents to break out into groups, and share their understanding and experiences in building communities, which was a great opportunity to meet other school parents, who may not have known each other.



### IN CLOSING

The PA represents all parents at St. Luke’s, and supports events and initiatives that enrich the experience for our children at the school. Please email us anytime at [pa@stlukeschool.org](mailto:pa@stlukeschool.org)

**Next PA Meeting: Tuesday, November 13, 8:30am @ Dining Room**



*Dr. Sam Marcus’ new book club pick*