Deacons bench May 2015

May is filled with graduations, confirmations, last days of schools. We are soon approaching the "lazy" days summer. Episcopalians have a well-worn habit of also taken off from church for the summer. Not judging, just stating facts, looking at reality. But here is another reality. Most people also "church" shop in the summer. The hits on our website and Facebook page go dramatically up for new visitors. Maybe it is just not Episcopalians who stop going to their churches. What this means is that visitors come to half empty churches, no Christian education, no children's programs. Mmmmm. Is there an answer to changing years of summer habit? Probably not. But what we can do at St. Luke's is do some amazing things this summer that we can't do during the rest of the year. Carey and I would like for you to think about five things:

1. In September we are going to begin a program in the Episcopal Church called Bible Challenge. We will be asking as many members of the

- congregation to read the Bible in one year. More about this. Keep it in your prayers to be a part of this program.
- 2. We are having a special Vacation Bible School with Christ Church July 13-17. Let me know if your children would like to go and if you would like to help again volunteer.
- 3. You will see in this Evangelist information about a study during the formation hour at 9:15 am on Sunday sponsored by our ECW about Women of the Bible for both men and women during the summer. Let me know if you would like to join us starting May 31. You will not regret this.
- 4. Beginning in May and June we will start a Monster Food Drive, I mean a HUGE food drive for area food pantries. In July, we will be having a can sculpture contest for our children with these donations. More information is also in this Evangelist.
- 5. Send a child to camp, go to Women's Institute, go help on the farm at Camp Mitchell, go to the lake, go

to the beach, but come back to worship with us on Sunday mornings or Wednesdays at noon.

Joanna