

“A New Way”

*Behold, I will do
something new,
Now it will spring forth;
Will you not be aware of it?
I will even make a roadway
in the wilderness,
Rivers in the desert.
Isaiah 43:19*

I don't need to tell you about what is new around St. Luke's. You've seen so much of it recently. Our new collaboration with the Lutheran Church of Our Saviour, which has been wonderful. I hope you shared in our combined Youth Sunday, with its great message, rap and drama! What a fantastic job these young folks did!

I hope you've been part of the new exercise class . . . or helped prepare for our Easter Egg Hunt in its new location at Rockwood Park . . . or appreciated the new postcard ministry offered by our Congregational Care Committee . . . or prayed for the new Neighborhood Watch organization, meeting at St. Luke's, to make our community safer . . . new . . . New . . . NEW!

What's so special about 'New', though? Why does newness excite us, whether it is a new and precious child, a new job, a new friend, a new _____ (you fill in the blank).

Don't we really love “new” because it brings us a sense of hope, a new starting point, new possibility, new understandings, even of ourselves? New is so inviting, because as we experience these things, we hope that their newness may just rub off on us--infuse us with a sense of new possibilities, energy, and fulfillment.

Isaiah reminds us that one of the most hopeful new things God can give us is a new, and unlikely, and unexpected way. In the ancient world, travel was precarious, and more often than not, travelers encountered not a way forward, but an obstacle to prevent their progress. In the Old Testament, God declares that He is giving his people a remarkable, unmistakable path forward. A way that is not only plain but also miraculous.

And as Lent nears the Glory of Easter, we overhear Jesus in the Gospel of John, telling Thomas, “I am the way, and the truth, and the life.” (14:6) Here is a new way that humanity thought more unlikely than rivers in the desert or a road in the wilderness. Jesus is a way through death to life. Incomprehensible to even the human imagination, until one day at a cross . . . and then . . . three days later at the tomb. When we face death, when we face fear, when we mourn, Jesus promises to be the way “through” as well as “to.” Follow Him, stand upon Him, walk only by his Grace, and find a journey you thought was impossible, and an ending to the journey that is way beyond just “Happy.” For all eternity, we need more than happy—we need Glorious, and that is what Christ gives to us. A humble way in the dust of the earth, a humble way of service by our souls, that miraculous brings us not only to the most immovable obstacle—death—but even through it, to the Glory of Christ, Risen and Reigning.

May you know that you are following Him, that He is literally the ground beneath your feet as the way—and the Guide to see you arrive safely at your destination – as your Risen Savior! Might the path you walk be one of discipleship.

In your walk and on “the Way,” may you find a new spring, not only in your step but also in your soul. May Easter bring you newness and renewing, for each of the steps that He has placed before you.

Easter Blessings! Pastor Lisa



HOLY WEEK SERVICES

Thursday, April 13, 7:30 pm: Maundy Thursday Service here at St. Luke's with Lutheran Church of Our Saviour joining us

Friday, April 14, 7:30 pm: Good Friday Service at Lutheran Church of Our Saviour with St. Luke's UMC joining LCOS there

EASTER SUNDAY SERVICES

EASTER SUNDAY SERVICES - APRIL 16th

7:00 am – Sunrise Service

7:30 am – Breakfast sponsored by the U.M. Men

10:30 am – Worship Service

Calendar of Events for April

The Easter Egg Hunt has been rescheduled from April 1 to April 8 due to a rainy weather forecast. The location and time will remain the same: Rockwood Park at 10:00 am.

On April 9th, following Palm Sunday Worship at 10:30 am, a covered dish luncheon will be held in the fellowship hall. Bring a dish to share!

The Silent Auction, with BBQ dinner in fellowship hall, will be held on Saturday April 29th, 5-7:30 pm.

April 30th at 10:30 am: A Mission Emphasis Sunday on Heart Havens!

Our Worship Service will be informal and wonderful, with extra singing,

And a Word of Witness from Ms. Sarah Wilkinson,
Who represents Heart Havens.

Our youth often go in mission to the Varina Heart Havens home, and it always touches their hearts when they do! Come hear about what is so spirit-filled regarding this ministry to and with those adults who have intellectual disabilities.

SILENT AUCTION & DINNER APRIL 29TH
get your tickets now!!

ATTENTION ALL SENIORS:

Did you know that many resources and programs are offered through the Senior Advocate office in Chesterfield County? For example, the following workshops are available in April:

LAWYERS HELPING SENIORS DAY - April 18
SOUP FOR THE CAREGIVER'S SOUL - April 19

Other events are a VOLUNTEER FAIR on April 5 at Chesterfield Towne Center and a SPRING 50+ DANCE on April 21. Also, you might want to nominate someone for the Chesterfield County Senior Volunteer Hall of Fame. The deadline for the nomination is Thursday, April 13.

Find out more at HYPERLINK "<http://www.facebook.com/chesterfieldvaseniors>" www.facebook.com/chesterfieldvaseniors, or on the web at HYPERLINK "<mailto:SeniorAdvocate@chesterfield.gov>" SeniorAdvocate@chesterfield.gov. The phone number is 804-768-7878.

The church office now has an updated Resource Guide provided by the Senior Advocate Office! See Shirley Gary if you would like to review it.

Silent Auction

Our annual Silent Auction is coming up on April 29th and we are currently soliciting donations. If any church member would like to donate, it would be greatly appreciated and your name will be displayed on our "wall of thanks." Donations could be frozen meals or that special cake you bake, a craft item or even something that you no longer want in your household, but is in good condition. If you know someone with a business that would be willing to donate that would be great as well.

Volunteers Needed!

WE ARE LOOKING for a couple of volunteers to assist with children's church. The only requirements are that you're at least 18 years of age and that you like working with children. You'd only be scheduled every 6 weeks. Please see Carolyn Beeckler to sign up or email at beecks@comcast.net Thanks!

BE INFORMED

Keep up with all that's going on within the Virginia United Methodist Conference by visiting —

<http://www.vaumc.org>

Choir Schedule

As spring exerts itself, I am sure that you and your families' activities increase as well as planning for the culmination of this semester's school activities. In order to facilitate your scheduling I am listing below the rehearsal dates for St. Luke's choirs as well as the Sundays in which they will assist in the leadership of the 11:00 worship service:

St. Luke's Children's Choir, grades K-3
Rehearse 9:15 – 9:45 Sunday mornings - Sing in church
April 02, 2017: Rehearsal in the sanctuary
April 06, 2017: (Note: rehearse with the Sanctuary Choir on Thursday evening at 6:30 p.m.)
April 09, 2017: Warm-up at 9:15 a.m. to sing for Palm Sunday with the Sanctuary Choir
April 23, 2017: Rehearsal in the choir room
April 30, 2017: Rehearsal in the choir room
May 07, 2017: Rehearsal in the choir room
May 14, 2017: Rehearsal in the sanctuary to sing for Mother's Day

St. Luke's Handbell Choir & Chancel Choir

April 06, 13 (following the Maundy Thursday Service), 20, and 27. Thursday evening at 6:30 and 7:30
May 04, 11, 18, and 25 – 2017. Handbell choir is preparing to ring in May. Sanctuary Choir will assist in the leadership of worship through May.

Newly formed Brass Ensemble consisting of church members and one guest will play on Easter Sunday.

Upheld in our Prayers

Please keep the following in your prayers.

Joan Bowker	Dean Smith	Bill Brown
Ron Halloran	Ronnie Jones	Clayton Litten
Brian Myers	Marynell Kloss	Barbara Stone
Laura Patterson	Dianne Johnson	Eden Kloss
Karen & Reg Whitton	Marie Goodwyn	Muffin Morris
Kirsten Raiger	George Burnett	Betty Ward
Sam McCain	Shirley Jones	Melissa Selvi
Renae Hedrick	Gayle McGonigle	Margaret Tucker
Bill Coleman	Kim D'Esposito	Lachelier

Our Military

Robbie Bowen	Aaron Frankey	Larry Russell
Holden Russell		

People to remember

Ron Halloran — Hickory Hill Retirement Center
900 Cary Shop Road
Burkeville, VA 23922

CARITAS

ST. LUKE'S WILL ONCE AGAIN HOST CARITAS AUGUST 12-19, 2017. St Luke's will welcome 30 guests to help provide some shelter and comfort during hard times. Each night, our guests will arrive at St. Luke's for dinner and different events across the week (a family service, laundry, showers) and then spend the night before departing the next morning. We welcome everyone to join us in helping to provide fellowship and the support needed for our church to host these important guests.

Kroger Community Rewards

ST. LUKE'S IS INVOLVED WITH THE KROGER COMMUNITY REWARD PROGRAM. If you have not signed up, please do so. St. Luke's number is 83975. If you are not comfortable signing up on the computer, give the church office your Kroger Number and a password that you would use to sign up for the program. If you do this, St. Luke's gets a percentage of your purchases. Thank you for considering enrolling in this program. If you have any questions, call the church office, 276-7000



Conversations on A Way Forward

with Dave Nuckols

In Richmond on April 11 @ 7PM



You are invited to a conversation and update on The Way Forward Commission with Dave Nuckols

Dave Nuckols, an RMN Board Member, Minnesota Conference lay leader and member of the Bishop's A Way Forward Commission will be in Virginia after a Washington, DC meeting of the commission to offer an update on the commission's work. Two conversations are planned on:



Tuesday, April 11 at 7PM

Centenary United Methodist Church

(411 East Grace Street, Richmond - Parking is off Franklin Street between Fourth & Fifth Street)

Information on A Way Forward can be found on their website at <http://www.umc.org/who-we-are/commission-on-a-way-forward>.

For more information, contact Mark Elder (markuselder@gmail.com) or Rob Vaughn (drrobvaughn@gmail.com) for the April 9 event or Pat Shipley (plsrevdoc@aol.com) for the April 11 event.

PLEASE PRAYERFULLY CONSIDER donating to our special Easter offering. The envelope for this donation is in your box of giving envelopes. This is in addition to your regular giving. Thank you.

Dinner With Friends is going out!—Would you like to have dinner with friends one evening? Then meet us on April 4, at 6:00 pm at Ruby Tuesday's (Hull Street). Singles and couples are all welcome. Neighbors and friends are welcome, too! This is a chance for mid-week fellowship and food!

Be "RIGHT Generous" this Lent! We want to invite you to make a Lenten sacrifice, by doing a good deed for someone else. Following Matthew 6, it is to be a quiet good deed, known only to the recipient and God, but we do want you to write it down— no names, upon a Lenten Card for our Acts of Kindness display.

Our Weekly Line Dance and Exercise Class is growing! Come join in all the fun, led by our wonderful substitute instructor, Becky Jenkins, who is filling in for Shirley Jones while she recuperates. Thanks to them both! This class is free and open to the neighborhood, so bring a friend and come each Tuesday at 3:00 pm!

Week of Prayer, At the request of our denomination, we are asked to set aside this week as a time of prayer for the "Way Forward" Commission: Sun. April 2—April 8, 2017. Please be deliberate in lifting up our commission members in this season of prayer, as they seek a way to keep our denomination united. This call is ours to fulfill in a critical time of discernment in our denomination. Please join in this week of prayer.

Palm Parade participants wanted! Please invite the kids in your life to join us on April 9th, to wave palms in the process at the start of our Palm Sunday worship.

Postcards to our "Person to Remember"—We would like for more people to send cards to our weekly "Person to Remember" (this week is Ron Halloran). The postcards are located in the front and back of the Sanctuary. If you would write the address listed just above, put a message on the postcard and place in the offering place, the church will provide postage and mail it. Let us show our care for those in our church!

Our Lenten Bible Study is each Tuesday of Lent: April 4 & 11. We meet at 11:00 am at Grits and Grace Diner (formerly Karen's Diner). We are reading the book, "Gospeled Lives: Encounters with Jesus". Come join us to feast on food and the Word!

Birthdays

April 1	Emmett Jones
April 2	Roland Fussell
April 4	Wayne Jenkins
April 6	Ruth Wickstrom
April 7	Stella Jones
April 10	Rebecca Morris Andrew Gold
April 12	David Wellman
April 14	Holly Phillips
April 15	Ray Jenkins Richard Jenkins Roger Ball
April 16	Clayton Litten
April 17	Shirley Gary
April 18	Heather Jones
April 24	Chris Bowen
April 26	Jane Barto
April 28	Keith Miller

Anniversaries

April 18	Wilmer and Phyllis Downs
April 20	Wayne and Doris Jenkins
April 22	Woody and Debbie Smart
April 27	Mike and Jennifer Pavlensky



CALL FOR NOMINATIONS



The Chesterfield County Senior Volunteer Hall of Fame is seeking nominations for induction of seniors aged 60 and older who have rendered unusual or outstanding volunteer service after the age of 60.

Nominations are due by April 13.

The ceremony will take place May 16 at 2 p.m.

Nomination forms are available at all Chesterfield County libraries, at chesterfield.gov/SeniorVolunteerHallofFame or by calling 804-768-7878.

Chesterfield County
Senior Advocate



Providing a FIRST CHOICE community through excellence in public service.

April, 2017

CALENDAR

Sunday, Apr. 2

9:15 am Sunday School
10:30 am Worship
11:30 am No Trustees
Committee Meeting (P)
4:00-5:30 pm Youth, F.H.

Monday, Apr. 3

10:05-10:45 am
Preschool Chapel (S)
4:45 pm Safe Haven
5:30-7:00 pm Al-Anon (P)
7:00-8:00 pm Cub
Scouts, B & 106, 108,
110, 112
7:00-8:00 pm Boy
Scouts, F.H. & all rooms
upstairs

Tuesday, Apr. 4

10:05-10:30 am Chapel (S)
11:00-12:30 pm Bible Study
(Grits and Grace)
3:00 pm Exercise/Line
Dancing (F.H.)
5:30-7:00 pm Dinner with
Friends (Ruby Tuesday's)

Wednesday, Apr. 5

10:00 am (F.H.)
Susannah Wesley Circle
6:30-7:30 pm
Girl Scout Troop 337 (F.H.)

Thursday, Apr. 6

6:30-7:30 pm Adult Hand
Bell Practice, S
6:30-7:30 pm NAMI, F.H.
7:30 pm Chancel Choir,
M.R. & S

Saturday, Apr. 8

10:00 am
Easter Egg Hunt
(Rockwood Park)

Sunday, Apr. 9

9:15 am Sunday School
10:30 am Worship
11:30 am Finance (P)
12:00 noon Pot Luck
Luncheon (F.H.)

Monday, Apr. 10

9:45-11:45 am MOPS (F.H.)
5:30-7:00 pm Al-Anon (P)
7:00-8:00 pm Cub Scouts,
B & 106, 108, 110, 112
7:00-8:00 pm Boy Scouts,
F.H. & all rooms upstairs

Tuesday, Apr. 11

11:00 am-12:30 pm
Bible Study (Grits and Grace)
3:00 pm Exercise/Line
Dancing (F.H.)

Wednesday, Apr. 12

10:00 am
Young at Heart (F.H.)
7:00-8:00 pm
Cub Scout Parents (B)

Thursday, Apr. 13

6:30-7:30 pm Girl Scouts,
Troop 5228, (B)
7:00 pm NAMI (FH)
7:30 pm Maundy Thursday
Service @ St. Luke's (S)

Friday, Apr. 14

9:00-12:00 noon
Quilting Group
7:30 pm
Good Friday Service
@ LCOS

Sunday, Apr. 16 (EASTER SUNDAY)

7:00 am Sunrise Service
7:30 Breakfast
9:15 am Sunday School
10:30 am Worship

Monday, Apr. 17

(Easter Monday)
Preschool closed all week
Church Office closed today
4:45 pm Safe Haven
5:30-7:00 pm Al-Anon (P)
7:00-8:00 pm Cub Scouts,
B & 106, 108, 110, 112
7:00-8:00 pm Boy Scouts,
F.H. & all rooms upstairs

Wednesday, Apr. 19

9:30-12:00 Noon
Preschool Pictures (P)
6:30-7:30 Girl Scouts -
Troop 337 (F.H.)

Thursday, Apr. 20

9:30-12:00 Noon
Preschool Pictures (P)
6:30-7:30 pm Adult Hand Bell
Practice, (S)
6:30-7:30 pm NAMI, F.H.
7:30 pm Chancel Choir Prac-
tice, (M.R. & S)

Sunday, Apr. 23

9:15 am Sunday School
10:30 am Worship
11:30 am Administrative
Council (P)
Youth - DAY TRIP

Monday, Apr. 24

9:45-11:00 am MOPS (F.H.)
10:05-10:45 am Chapel (S)
5:30-7:00 pm Al-Anon (P)
6:30 pm U.M. Men (F.H.)
7:00-8:00 pm Cub Scouts, B &
106, 108, 110, 112
7:00-8:00 pm Boy Scouts, F.H.
& all rooms upstairs

Tuesday, Apr. 25

10:05-10:30 am Chapel (S)
12:30-1:30 pm Preschool
Teacher's Lunch (F.H.)
3:00 pm Exercise/Line
Dancing (F.H.)

Thursday, Apr. 27

6:30-7:30 pm Adult Hand
Bell Practice, (S)
6:30-7:30 pm Girl Scouts,
Troop 5228, (B)
7:00 pm NAMI (FH)
7:30 pm Chancel Choir
Practice, (M.R. & S)

Friday, Apr. 28

9:00-12:00 Noon
Quilting Group, F.H.



Saturday, Apr. 29

5:00-7:30; Dinner - 6:00 pm
Tickets for Dinner - \$10.00
Silent Auction

Sunday, Apr. 30 HYMN SING

9:15 am Sunday School
10:30 am Worship (Mission
Emphasis Sunday on Heart
Havens)
4:00-5:30 pm Youth (F.H.)

DATES TO REMEMBER

APRIL 8 EASTER EGG HUNT
ROCKWOOD PARK

APRIL 9 PALM SUNDAY
Potluck Luncheon (F.H.)

APRIL 13 MAUNDY THURSDAY,
7:30 PM, ST. LUKE'S

APRIL 14 GOOD FRIDAY, 7:30 PM,
LUTHERAN CHURCH OF
OUR SAVIOUR

APRIL 16 EASTER SUNDAY
7:00 am - Sunrise Service
7:30 am - Breakfast sponsored
by U.M. Men
10:30 am - Easter Sunday Worship

Location Codes: F.H. - Fellowship Hall, P - Parlor,
B - Basement, M.R. - Music Room, S - Sanctuary



*St. Luke's seeks to be a spiritual community
where all God's children experience Christ's
love and redemption and where we share this
through worship, fellowship, education and
mission for the community and the world.*

www.stlukesumconthehill.org

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