

Time for Spring Cleaning Friends”

“Or do you not know that your body is a temple of the Holy Spirit within you, which you have from God, and that you are not your own? For you were bought with a price; therefore glorify God in your body.”

1 Corinthians 6: 19

So have you had the urge to throw the window sashes up? Straighten those drawers? Sort out the garage? There's something in the human soul that becomes productively antsy when it comes to spring. Our soul seems to urge us on toward new organization and beginnings, which are mirrored in the newness nature holds up for us to see all around.

But do you know the origin of Spring Cleaning? As part of ancient Jewish custom, Passover (Pesah) is a time for house cleaning with a religious interpretation.

Passover marks the exodus of the Israelites from [HYPERLINK “http://adventure.howstuffworks.com/”Egypt](http://adventure.howstuffworks.com/Egypt). Because in captivity, the Israelites as slaves in Egypt ate unleavened [HYPERLINK “http://science.howstuffworks.com/innovation/edible-innovations/bread.htm”bread](http://science.howstuffworks.com/innovation/edible-innovations/bread.htm) (bread without yeast called “matzah”), the Jewish people adopted the bread as a reminder of their captivity in Egypt.

Unleavened bread, from captivity is regarded as “humble bread,” and during Passover, if you keep leavened bread (chametz), it is regarded as “prideful, arrogant and ungrateful.”

So, in order to observe a humble Passover, the Jewish people, to avoid insulting God with their pride, clean out every bit of leaven from their homes. Even crumbs must go! Because Passover usually arrives in April, often close to our Easter, many people believe this custom is the origin of spring cleaning.

So, can you make your cleaning a little theological this year? The St. Luke's LCOS youth already have, in their joint day mission trip to Pathways in Petersburg. They cleaned, swept, painted, mopped and scrubbed. It wasn't glamorous work, as I told them, but it was “glorious” work. They were humble to roll up their sleeves and get dirty and grungy for the sake of improving a ministry that helps those who never graduated high school get their GED's, and enables those without money to see a doctor. Those who know nothing about money are taught to balance a checkbook; and convicted felons, most under the age of 23, get a new start and, perhaps, their first legal job of a lifetime. Way to go, Youth!

And what can you do, to roll up your sleeves and get dirty for the sake of others? How about those St. Luke's members who helped with the pool clean-up for Falling Creek Farms, involving the church in the life of our community through service? And what about our Safe Haven volunteers, heading down Hull Street, to help those who are making a new start in their lives, gaining employment, and maybe their first apartment?

Clean up on the outside, but don't forget the inside too. Spring Cleaning, in a theological way, means taking stock of what has piled up in our hearts. Sometimes they look a lot like a neglected attic. Do all you can to



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categorize what you find there—some things, not glorious to God, just need to be thrown away! Some things, which are broken, can be repaired with care and attention. Some things, which resemble the Will of our God, are for keeps! Need some help on the interior work of the soul?

No worries! May is the time of Pentecost, the coming of the Holy Spirit, the indwelling of God-with-us. Need a helping hand with cleaning up the interior of your soul? The Spirit is the power of God in our midst—a source of help and grace—that not just what we undertake, but who we are, and who we become, are not down and dirty but, instead, glorious in the sight of our God!

Happy Spring Cleaning and Blessings,
Pastor Lisa

A note from Bob Ford

As spring moves into summer, I am sure that your family activities increase as well as planning for the end of spring school activities. Listed below are rehearsal dates for St. Luke's choirs as well as the Sundays in which they will assist in the leadership of the 10:30 worship service.

St. Luke's Children's Choir, grades K-3
Rehearse- Sunday mornings 9:15 - 9:45

| Rehersal Dates | Singing Dates |
|----------------|---------------|
| May 07, 2017 | May 14, 2017 |
| May 14, 2017 | May 21, 2017 |
| May 21, 2017 | |

Children's choir will conclude their singing in the 10:30 worship service on May 21, 2017 and will resume rehearsals on September 10, 2017 at 9:15 a.m.

St. Luke's Handbell Choir & Chancel Choir
May 04, 11, 18, & 25
Thursday evenings at 6:30 and 7:30

The adult choirs will rehearse through Thursday, June 1st and then rehearse following the 10:30 worship service on Sunday mornings. Please volunteer for special music participation during the months of June, July, and August.

A BIG Thank You to our additional sanctuary singers during Lent and Easter and to our newly formed brass quintet debuting on Easter Sunday which featured Steve Beverly and Ray Jenkins on trumpet, Andrew Russell and Nick Boyd on trombone and Carlton Hudson on euphonium. Our Easter drama team of Samantha Jones and Chris deKrafft acted flawlessly. Thank you.

THANK YOU! THANK YOU!

To our Silent Auction committee for a fun and successful Saturday evening on April 29th. Under the leadership of co-chairpersons Rebecca Morris and Tammy Morris, the committee transformed the fellowship hall into the Old West. Karla Lacy and her chuck wagon crew served up 90 barbecue dinners. Lots of great items were available to bid on. The committee also included Margaret Anderson, Shirley Gary, Laurie Hay, Chris Halloran, Tom Proffitt, Ruth Wickstrom, Marcia Grubbs and Rhea Strum. Thanks to all of you who procured items for the auction, donated items, volunteered to make baskets, helped set up and clean up, worked in the kitchen, and attended the event!

BISHOP SHARMA LEWIS will be at the Squirrels baseball game on May 25th. She will throw the ball out to Nutsy! Come out and enjoy the baseball game and see Bishop Lewis' throwing skills!!

POSTCARDS TO OUR "PERSON TO REMEMBER"—We would like for more people to send cards to our weekly "Person to Remember" (this week is Annie Davis). The postcards are located in the front and back of the Sanctuary. If you would write the address listed in Prayer Concerns, 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!

BE INFORMED

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

<http://www.vaumc.org>

Anniversary Celebration

We will celebrate the church's 54th anniversary and the preschool's 34th anniversary on May 21, 2017. A surprise from the line-dancing group might even be in store during worship. After the 10:30 am worship, we will have a cold covered-dish lunch in the fellowship hall. The petting zoo will be here from 12:00 noon until 1:00 pm as well as our ever popular field-day games. Come casual and wear your tennies! Mark your calendar and come out to be a part of this special celebration!

“Sorrow and Love flow mingled down”

We give our love, prayers and sympathy to Tad & Gayle McGonigle and family at the death of his mother, Deanna McGonigle; and to Mildred Ayala and Sofia Lorenzo at the loss of Carman, Mildred's mother and Sofia's grandmother.



Upheld in our Prayers

Please keep the following in your prayers.

| | | |
|---------------------|--------------------------|----------------|
| Joan Bowker | Dean Smith | Bill Brown |
| Clayton Litten | Marie Goodwyn | Ronnie Jones |
| Barbara Stone | Laura Patterson | Dianne Johnson |
| Muffin Morris | Kevin Hoffman | Bill Coleman |
| George Burnett | Betty Ward | Sam McCoin |
| Renae Hedrick | Margaret Tucker | Marynell Kloss |
| Eden Kloss | Gayle McGonigle | Brian Myers |
| Shirley Jones | Jeff Stover | Melissa Selvi |
| Ron Halloran | Kim D'Esposito Lachelier | |
| Our Military | | |
| Robbie Bowen | Aaron Frankey | Larry Russell |
| Holden Russell | | |

Person to remember

Annie Davis — 5410 Claridge Drive
Chesterfield, VA. 23832

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

Fellowship Hall Ceiling Renovation

After the end of May the fellowship hall will not be available for any meetings until the first of September. The only use of the fellowship hall during this period will be Vacation Bible School, July 16-July 20, 6:00-8:30 pm, and CARITAS, August 12-19th. Only half of the room will be available for Vacation Bible School.

Following is the schedule for the renovation:

SUMMER FELLOWSHIP HALL CEILING PROJECT 2017

Foreman: Wilmer Downs

Assistant Foreman: Ronnie Weade

County Liaison: Jerry Anderson

Volunteers: adults from Church, Preschool, day laborers as needed

Staging: May 26, 27 - Wilmer Downs in charge

Start date: May 30th

Week of May 30: Tues through Thurs, June 1

Time: 10-noon, 1- 4:30 and MAJOR workday Sat., June 3rd. (Church and Preschool)

Cover walls, floor, intensive set-up; work on both sides of divide

Move sheetrock, tracks, rails; place screws on unfallen side if enough labor

Week of June 4: Wilmer and Assistant only

No work on June 9 or 10

Week of June 11, 18, 25: Wilmer, Assistant, plus 2 volunteers/day

Work days for these weeks: Mon-Thurs., Time: 10-noon; 1- 4:30 pm

No work on Election Day, June 13th

Weeks of July 2, 9 and 16: Wilmer, Assistant, plus 2 volunteers/day

Work days for these weeks: Mon-Thurs., Time: 10-noon; 1- 4:30 pm

Weeks of July 23 and 30: Wilmer, Assistant, plus 2 volunteers

Work days for these weeks: Mon-Thurs., Time: 10-noon; 1-4:30 pm

If needed can work August 7, 8, 9.

Set up for CARITAS, August 10 & 11

Aug 12-Aug 19 - CARITAS. Fellowship Hall available and clean.

Kitchen accessible all of August

Last summer weeks for Ceiling Project:

Week of Aug 20 and 27

Work days for these weeks: Mon-Thurs., Time: 10-noon; 1- 4:30 -
2 volunteers per work day

A sign-up sheet will be on the bulletin board going into the sanctuary for you to volunteer on convenient dates for you. We thank you in advance for your involvement in this project.

Birthdays

| | |
|--------|-------------------------------|
| May 1 | Robert Barto |
| May 2 | Keith Callis Louise King |
| May 8 | Judy Parrish |
| May 11 | Connor Gary Karla Lacy |
| May 15 | Brian Wertz |
| May 20 | Avery Gary |
| May 21 | Robin Anderson |
| May 23 | Gary Dunlap |
| May 24 | Mark Jones Ofelia Dunlap |
| May 25 | Thomas Jones |
| May 27 | Clinton Gary Audrey Gary |
| May 28 | Polly McElfish |
| May 30 | Andrew McGowan |
| May 31 | Dixie Bowman Krystle Smart |

Anniversaries

| | |
|--------|-----------------------------|
| May 3 | Ronald and Barbara Nunnally |
| May 26 | Eric & MaryJo Jones |

Are you a Super Hero Incognito?

Pastor Lisa bets you ARE!
And she needs you and your SUPER abilities too! Come bring your heart as-big-as-all-outdoors with an unbreakable love for helping kids grow in faith to Bible School, the week of July 16th! Now, we are going to need game coordinators, teachers, snack volunteers, art assistants and more. Look down deep and find that SUPER power for our SUPER- hero Bible School and plan to sign up this May! Stand for truth, justice, and the Christ-like way! (need a superman here!)

WHAT'S UP!!

We had a fun time at the annual Easter Egg Hunt at Rockwood Park.



WHAT'S UP!!

It was a "Rootin Tootin"
good time at the Western
Themed Hoe-Down Dinner
and Silent Auction



Lay Servant Schedule

Donna Seward, director, Lay Servant Ministries: <donna_t_seward@yahoo.com>, 897-3309. Richmond District Certified Lay Servants lead worship regularly at the following care centers:

| Date | Place | Speaker |
|------|-----------------|-------------|
| 4/2 | Beth Sholom | A Henderson |
| 4/9 | Elmcroft | TBD |
| 4/9 | University Park | G Stephens |
| 4/16 | Beth Sholom | A Henderson |
| 4/23 | Elmcroft | B Stephens |

R-MA 125th Anniversary

Randolph-Macon Academy invites all of the churches in the Virginia Conference to celebrate our 125th Anniversary as we remember our heritage of being founded by the Methodist Church and Randolph-Macon College in 1892. On April 29, from 11 a.m.-4 p.m. we will have a community celebration on our campus. On April 30, at 9:30 a.m. we will have a chapel service in Boggs Chapel to celebrate God's faithfulness these past 125 years. We will also recognize our Confirmation Class of 2017. Please contact me if you have any questions.

Chaplain Josh Orndorff
jorndorff@rma.edu



June 16-18, 2017
Hampton Roads
Convention Center
Hampton VA

Annual Conference Offering

Bishop Lewis has announced the annual conference mission offering goal of \$200,000 to focus on the following missional priority projects:

- ◆ \$50,000 Cambodia - For continued support for our partnership with the Methodist Mission in Cambodia as they move toward being an autonomous Methodist Church.
- ◆ \$25,000 Brazil - For our continued long term support of the Shade and Fresh Water ministry with at risk children across several conferences in the Methodist Church of Brazil.
- ◆ \$25,000 Mozambique - Our partnership with the United Methodist Church of Mozambique focuses on education by providing lay training resources that strengthens their discipleship and witness across both conferences in Mozambique.
- ◆ \$50,000 Virginia Long Term Disaster Recovery - We are committed to a long term response to those whose lives were changed by tornadoes and hurricane Matthew in 2016. The funding of the recovery will allow further teams to answer the call to make a compassionate response.
- ◆ \$25,000 Ethnic Minority Missional Ministries - Funds for grants to go toward developing ministry outreach in the conference to immigrants and other marginalized groups.
- ◆ \$25,000 Virginia Volunteers in Mission - To provide funds available to small membership faith communities who wish to engage in mission that may lack resources.

See <www.vaumc.org/AC2017> for important information regarding housing, kits for conference, and other Annual Conference details. ◆



DISTRICT DISPATCH

Richmond District
Virginia Conference
The United Methodist Church
10330 Staples Mill Road
P.O. Box 5606
Glen Allen, Virginia 23058
Phone: (804)521-1124
FAX: 521-1175
Email: RichmondDistrict@vaumc.org

| | |
|---------------------|--|
| Sharma D. Lewis | Area Bishop |
| Peter M. Moon | District Superintendent |
| Susan Petrey | Administrative Assistant, Web Administrator |
| Gindy Payne-Ingroff | District Treasurer |
| Ron White | District Lay Leader |
| Scotty Doyle | District President, UMW |
| Claude Stocky | District President, UMM |
| Bill Chaffin | District Ministry of Scouting Coord. |
| Donna Seward | Director, Lay Servant Ministries |

We're on the web at:
www.richmonddistrictumc.org

The **DEADLINE** for the **NEXT ISSUE** is the **15th** of the month.

District Opportunities

- ◆ April 2-8-Praying for a Way Forward, 521-11102.
- ◆ April 15-UMW Prayer Breakfast, Providence UMC, 640-5355.
- ◆ April 18-The History of Old Richmond Churches, Reveille UMC, 359-6041.
- ◆ April 22-District UMW On the Road in Mission Day Trip to Wesley Community Service Center, Portsmouth, 218-0627.
- ◆ April 23-Open House, Westview on the James, 457-4210.
- ◆ April 23-125th Anniversary Celebration, Randolph-Macon Academy, 540/671-3689.
- ◆ May 1-Youth Theology Institute, Shenandoah University, 540/535-3546.
- ◆ May 6-Tippers to Ththers, Welborne UMC, 521-1124.
- ◆ May 6-UMFS Tea, UMFS Charterhouse School, 254-9463.
- ◆ May 8-10-Ministers' Convocation, Wyndham Hotel and Conference Center, Glen Allen, 521-1126.
- ◆ May 24-VA PAUMCS Spring Event, Fredericksburg UMC, 521-1124.
- ◆ June 2-3-UMW Day at Ferrum College, 218-0627.
- ◆ June 16-18-Annual Conference, Hampton, 521-1124.
- ◆ July 9-14-Counselor in Training Camp, Westview on the James, 457-4210. ◆

UM Center Closings

The District Office and the VAUMC Conference Center will close at 1 p.m. April 13 and remain closed April 14 for Good Friday.

Monday, May 1

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, May 2

9:30-10:30 am Mom's Day Breakfast (F.H.)
3:00 pm Exercise Class & Line Dancing
5:30-7:00 pm Dinner with Friends-Crazy Greek, Busy Street Restaurant

Wednesday, May 3

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

Thursday, May 4

6:30-7:30 pm Adult Hand Bell Practice (S)
7:00 pm NAMI, F.H.
7:00 pm Terri Edwards' art show, THE ARTS Community Center
7:30 pm Chancel Choir, M.R. & S

Sunday, May 7

9:15 am Sunday School
10:30 am Worship
11:30 am Trustees (P)
4:00-5:30 pm Youth (F.H.)

Monday, May 8

(Pastor Lisa attending Convocation)
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, May 9

(Pastor Lisa attending Convocation)
Exercise Class & Line Dancing (F.H.)

Wednesday, May 10

(Pastor Lisa attending Convocation)
9:00-10:00 am
10:00 am Young at Heart (F.H.)
7:00-8:00 pm Cub Scout Parents (B)

Thursday, May 11

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

Friday, May 12

9:00-12:00 noon Quilting Group (F.H.)

Saturday, May 13

12:30-5:30 pm F.H. in use

Sunday, May 14

9:15 am Sunday School
10:30 am Worship
11:30 am Finance (P)
4:00-5:30 pm Youth (F.H.)

Monday, May 15

10:05-10:45 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, May 16

10:05-10:30 am Chapel (S)
3:00 p.m.
Exercise Class & Line Dancing (F.H.)(F.H.)

Wednesday, May 17

6:30-7:30 Girl Scouts - Troop 337 (F.H.)

Thursday, May 18

6:30-7:30 pm Adult Hand Bell Practice, (S)
7:00 pm NAMI, F.H.
7:30 pm Chancel Choir Practice, (M.R. & S)

Sunday, May 21

(Anniversary Sunday-Church-54 years; Preschool 34 years)
9:15 am Sunday School
10:30 am Worship
4:00-5:30 pm Youth (F.H.)

Monday, May 22

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, May 23

3:00 pm Exercise Class & Line Dancing (F.H.)

Wednesday, May 24

11:30 am Preschool Graduation (S)

Thursday, May 25

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, May 26

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



Sunday, May 28

9:15 am Sunday School
10:30 am Worship
11:30 am Administrative Council (F.H.)

4:00-5:30 pm Youth (F.H.)

Monday, May 29
(MEMORIAL DAY - OFFICE CLOSED)

Tuesday, May 30

EXERCISE CLASS & LINE DANCING (F.H.)

DATES TO REMEMBER

May 14, 2017 Mother's Day Candle Dedication

May 21, 2017 ANNIVERSARY CELEBRATION

We will celebrate the churches 54 th anniversary and the Preschools 34th anniversary

CHILDRENS CHOIR SCHEDULE

St. Luke's Childrens Choir, grades K-3

Reherse - Sunday mornings 9:15 — 9:45

Sing in church May, 7, May, 14, May, 21

Children's choir will conclude their singing in the 10:30 worship service on May, 21 and will resume rehearsals on September 10, 2017 at 9:15

JULY 16 - JULY 20, 2017 6:30-8:30 pm - VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL

AUGUST 12 - 19 - CARITAS

Pastor
The Rev. Lisa Sykes
stlukespastor@verizon.net

Shirley Gary
Office Manager
stlukesumc@verizon.net

Bob Ford
Minister of Music
stlukesmusic@verizon.net

Margaret Anderson
Financial Secretary
stlukesfinsec@verizon.net

Scottie Kyle
Treasurer
stlukesstreas@verizon.net

Michele Hart
Preschool Director
director@stlukespreschoolva.com

Ray Jenkins
Superintendent of
Sunday Schools



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

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