

*When I was a child,
I spoke like a child, I
thought like a child, I
reasoned like a child;
when I became an adult,
I put an end to childish
ways. 12 For now we
see in a mirror, dimly,
but then we will see face
to face. Now I know only
in part; then I will know
fully, even as I have been
fully known. 13 And now
faith, hope, and love
abide, these three; and
the greatest of these is
love.*

1 Corinthians 13:11-13

WHY YOU DON'T LOOK A DAY OVER 30 . . .

but it's true! St. Luke's, you are turning 55! Our Anniversary Celebration will begin on Sunday, May 20th, with the 10:30 am worship service. Our District Superintendent, The Rev. Dr. Peter Moon, as guest preacher, will take part in receiving those confirmands who decide to make a public profession of faith and join the Church as followers of Jesus Christ. A fellowship meal will follow the 10:30-noon worship service. Please mark this special day, the Day of Pentecost, on your calendars and plan to join us!

“Whose Midlife Crisis Is it Anyway?”

Fifty is the new thirty. That's what people tell me when I announce I've reached the half-century mark and then some. It's encouragement. It's reassurance. It's true? Hmmm . . . I'm not sure I totally buy that twenty-year differential. After all, I cannot stay up as late as I used to. I'm careful not to lift anything heavier than my puppy. I marvel at the young moms who hold baby carriers on one arm while chasing a toddler down the hall with the other, while comparing notes with the preschool teacher.

This fifty, meaning my 50+ year state, is not my old thirty+ year-old-state, I am pretty sure. But just because it isn't my present, seasoned with a little age, doesn't mean I don't like it. Fifty plus means more than that AARP is after me with weekly mailings. The up side is that it means I've gotten accustomed to my own skin. It means I am smarter now than I was two decades ago, by virtue of the experiences of the past few years. It means I know where to hold the course and where to innovate. It means I'm more intentional about keeping in shape and getting a good night's sleep. And it means I am at a point to really celebrate all those who are precious in my life.

Well, I hate to break it to you, St. Luke's, but you as a church, and I, are almost, not quite, but almost . . . er . . . the same age. And I think some of the benefits of my reaching fifty+ as a person may be like yours as a church, which too, is in the 50+ column. After all, have you gotten comfortable with who you are? Do you take pride in being close-knit and welcoming? Do you understand, without any doubt, that faith is a vital part of your daily life?

And are you smarter now than before, at least in terms of our times? Have you discovered that we don't wait for people to come to us, but we go to them instead? Do you trust that if we are just faithful in mission and ministry, the money will sort itself out without the need for panic? Have you come to understand our preschool as a valuable and joyful partner in our ministry? And have you learned a new way of inviting young families into worshipping Jesus Christ? That a little Wednesday night weekly Bible School culminates with 35-40 people in kid-centric worship on select Wednesday nights? Most of all, have you realized just how precious we are to one another in this church family?

And as the world swirls about us, and headlines surprise us, and our denomination seeks the way forward as a global church in light of new controversies, can we take a deep breath, and be still and know that God is still God, and will guide us as a Christian community, through this wilderness and any other?

I think we can. I think St. Luke's at 55 is faring pretty well. It is the nicest gathering of Christians on a weekly basis that I have had the privilege to experience, let alone pastor. I want us to approach the second half of our 50's with optimism, commitment, joy and a faith that quiets the discontent in our souls and hushes the hassle of our world . . . and reminds us, all will be well.

Thank you Lord, not that 50+ is the new thirty+, but rather that this 55th year in the life of St. Luke's is unapologetically and spiritually, a great place to be as a Christian; and may the community we share and in which we grow, age grace-full-y, and help us to do the same, no matter what age we are.

Happy Anniversary, St. Luke's!

Blessings,
Pastor Lisa



First UMW Veteran's Mats Are On Their Way

At the April 4th meeting of UMW, we hosted a luncheon for Ann Hald and Lois Moore, two members of From the Heart Stitchers (a non-profit community service organization). These ladies accepted our first batch of 10 crocheted mats and will see that they are delivered through reliable sources to homeless veterans in the Richmond area. They are quite impressed with our mission, the quality of our work and proud to continue this project with us through 2018. We expect to have a second batch ready by the first of June. Thanks go out to this congregation, all of our friends, families and neighbors for their support and help at every level



UMW Shoebox Fund

During Lent this year, OUR UMW challenged the congregation to donate 10 cents for each pair of shoes, boots and slippers in their closets. These Prayer and Self Denial funds were to be earmarked for missions aiding women and children. Junior Ushers passed shoeboxes for those donations as the adult ushers passed the usual offering plates each Sunday. A total of \$309.24 was donated, representing 3,092.5 pairs of footwear! Thanks for your generosity! What a "Sweet Feat"! (Get it?)

Pictured: Carson Barefoot, Sadie and Cameron Jones. Other Junior Ushers: Colton Morris, Reinah Morris and Marshall Ensign. Thanks to all of you!

SPECIAL THANKS...

To Shirley Jones for a special donation given to the Glory of God and in memory of her dear friend of 60+ years, June Krollman.

To Steve and Nancy Taylor for great direction and music that were all part of "Pirate (Youth) Sunday!" And thanks to our fabulous youth as well. What a great and motley crew!!

To Karla Lacy and all who helped her get our flower beds ready for Easter! What a difference you all made!

To Richard Jenkins, for the gift of his professional talents as a graphic artist, given generously in our published newsletter each month and this year's Anniversary Invitation!

To Marcia Grubbs for Herculean efforts with our very busy list of special Sundays! Marcia coordinates the details like a pro!

To Rebecca Morris and Michele Hart and all who helped with the tot yard sale and silent auction, raising \$1,000 for our recent plumbing repairs!

To Ray Kyle who has added weekly Bible Study leadership to his list of Lay servant activities! He also preached on Sunday April 8th while Pastor Lisa was on vacation.

To Ray Jenkins, doing a great job as liaison to our Boy Scout and Cub Scout ministry!

To all the choirs: chancel, bell and brass, for a great variety of music and praise on Easter Sunday, and to their directors: Bob Ford and Donna Miller.

To everyone who attended the Richmond District Meeting on "The Way Forward": Ray and Scottie Kyle, Donna Miller, Ray Jenkins and Pastor Lisa.

To our Altar Guild, including Becky Jenkins, Jerry Anderson and Dianne Johnson who not only prepared the sanctuary but also the meal on Preschool Sunday.

BE INFORMED

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

<http://www.vaumc.org>

From The Office of The Treasurer

I want to thank the people of St. Luke's for their faithful giving to the church during the winter months. You supported your church wonderfully! As church expenses continue through the summer months, will you please remember to send your offering to the church while you are away on vacation. The St. Luke's Church family is the best!

Scottie Kyle

Schedule for Music Ministry of St.Luke's UMC

Tuesday - May 01, 2018 - Handbell choir rehearse in the sanctuary - 7:00 p.m. - 8:15 p.m.

Wednesday - May 02, 2018 - Sanctuary choir rehearsal in the sanctuary, 7:30 p.m. - 8:45 p.m.

Sunday - May 06, 2018 - Mallet-percussion choir rehearse in music office - 9:15 - 9:45. Sanctuary choir to assist in leadership of the morning worship service at 10:30 a.m.

Tuesday - May 08, 2018 - Handbell choir rehearse in the sanctuary - 7:00 p.m. - 8:15 p.m.

Wednesday - May 09, 2018 - Sanctuary choir rehearsal in the sanctuary, 7:30 p.m. - 8:45 p.m.

Sunday - May 13, 2018 - Mallet-percussion choir rehearse in music office - 9:15 - 9:45. Sanctuary choir to assist in leadership of the morning worship service at 10:30 a.m.

Tuesday - May 15, 2018 - Handbell choir rehearse in the sanctuary - 7:00 p.m. - 8:15 p.m.

Wednesday - May 16, 2018 - Sanctuary choir rehearsal in the sanctuary, 7:30 p.m. - 8:45 p.m.

Sunday - May 20, 2018 - Warm-up with trumpets and sanctuary choir for Anniversary Sunday - 9:15 a.m. - 10:00. Choir and trumpets to assist in leadership of the morning worship service at 10:30 a.m.

Tuesday - May 22, 2018 - Handbell choir rehearse in the sanctuary - 7:00 p.m. - 8:15 p.m.

Wednesday - May 23, 2018 - Sanctuary choir rehearsal in the sanctuary, 7:30 p.m. - 8:45 p.m.

Sunday - May 27, 2018 - Mallet-percussion choir rehearse in music office - 9:15 - 9:45. Sanctuary choir to assist in leadership of the morning worship service at 10:30 a.m.

Tuesday - May 29, 2018 - Handbell choir rehearse in the sanctuary - 7:00 p.m. - 8:15 p.m.

Wednesday - May 30, 2018 - Sanctuary choir rehearsal in the sanctuary, 7:30 p.m. - 8:45 p.m.

Birthdays

May 1	Robert Barto
May 2	Keith Callis
May 4	Jason Hart Sam Kaeser
May 5	William Hubble
May 8	Judy Parrish
May 9	Kelly Rice
May 10	Aaron Frankey
May 11	Connor Gary Karla Lacy
May 15	Brian Wertz
May 20	Avery Gary Joyce Johnson
May 21	Robin Anderson
May 22	Joan Bowker
May 23	Gary Dunlap
May 24	Mark Jones Ofelia Dunlap
May 25	Thomas Jones
May 26	David Higgins
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



Upheld in our Prayers

Please keep the following in your prayers.

Please keep in prayer our confirmands:

Sam Kaeser, Savannah O'Connell, Sophia Lorenzo & Autumn Papczynski.

Jane Barto	Hope Russell	Cheryl Nester
Andrew Schaeffer	Dean Smith	Reg Whitton
Cheri Armstrong	Barbara Stone	Wilmer Downs
David Plummer	Donna Kaeser	Marie Goodwyn
Jack Parsons	Wayne Kinney	Dave Hay
Jean Richardson	Gayle McGonigle	Opal Holshouser
Kerry & Brian Myers	Doris Courtney	Rena Hedrick
Lori Jones & Family	Raymond Fayle	Beverly Carlson
Carson Barefoot	Karla Lacy	Bettie Jones
Brad Butler		

Our Military

Robbie Bowen Aaron Frankey Holden Russell

“Sorrow and Love flow mingled down”

We extend our love and sympathy to Scottie Kyle and family at the passing of Scottie's cousin's husband, Albert Adams, on April 1st.

We extend our love and sympathy to Ruth Wickstrom at the passing of her dear friend Carol in April.

Our Congratulations To...

Wilmer & Phyllis Downs whose 15th Wedding Anniversary was April 18th; and to

Debbie & Woody Smart who celebrated their 40th Wedding Anniversary on April 22nd.

U.M. Women – Hygiene Kits

The United Methodist Women will prepare hygiene kits for Annual Conference this year. If you would like to help, please give \$14.00 to Shirley Jones. Checks should be payable to: UMW – St. Luke's UMC. The U.M. Women will purchase the items and assemble the kits: \$12.00 for items in kit, \$1.00 for toothpaste and \$1.00 for shipping. Deadline for contributing \$14.00 is May 7, 2018.



RENT-A-TEEN FUNDRAISER



Prayers for Our Confirmands

Prayers for our confirmands: Sam, Sophia, Savannah and Autumn as they complete confirmation class in May. If they choose to make their own profession of faith at the end of this time of study and growth, both confirmation and the sacrament of baptism, for those not already baptized, will be celebrated on May 20 as part of our Anniversary Service. Our District Superintendent, the Rev. Dr. Peter Moon will preach and share in performing the rite of confirmation and the sacrament of baptism. Hallelujah!

The high school youth of Lutheran Church of Our Saviour and St. Luke's Methodist Church are attending the ELCA Youth Gathering this summer in Houston, TX.

We know that this trip will be life changing and look forward to the opportunity. We have been preparing for this trip by meeting together to cover the Gathering lessons and materials. We are discussing many topics such as community, home, love, communication, etc. and will be continuing those discussions during the Gathering.

The trip is being funded from three sources: Our churches, fundraising and the teens families. We are so grateful and truly appreciate all the support we have received so far. We are very close to reaching our goal and have decided that "Rent-A-Teen" will be our final fundraiser.

You can "rent" teens for projects like spring cleaning, yard work, babysitting, dog walking, painting, etc. Once the work is completed the sponsor then donates (tax deductible) any amount of their choosing directly to the church for the teen's trip. Please be sure to put "Youth Gathering" in the memo of your check. The donation can be placed in the offering plate during services or brought to the church office.

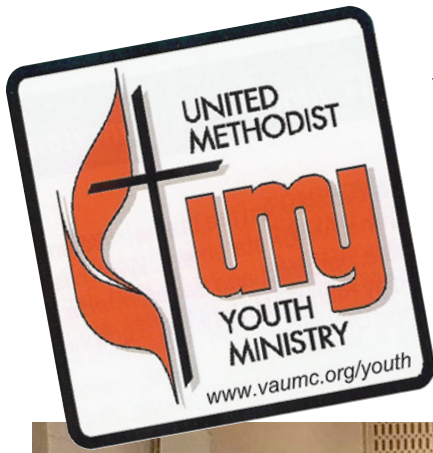
We realize that there may be many requests and we will try very hard to get to them all. The majority of the work will be done in the month of May, early June.

Thank you!
Alex, Josh, Eric, Sydney, Sam, Bill and Rachel

St. Luke's Face Book Page

Make sure you like the St. Luke's Facebook page to keep up with everything going on at church. Also, please like and share the posts and events. The more we share and like, the more others will see what a wonderful place St. Luke's is -- and all the things that we are doing! Here's a link to our page: <https://m.facebook.com/St-Lukes-United-Methodist-Church-486188658201339/>





Youth Sunday 2018 A MOTLEY CREW OF PIRATES ARRIVED AT ST. LUKE'S



Chief Pirate
Pastor Lisa
welcomes
Dave & Laurie Hay
to Youth Sunday.



A MOTLEY CREW OF PIRATES ARRIVED AT ST. LUKE'S on April 22nd, searching for treasure! Turns out, "X " doesn't mark the spot, but the Cross does! It marks the spot where we learned how much God loves us, and that is true and eternal treasure! After leading an awesome YOUTH SUNDAY, our pirates went to Pathways in Petersburg to help make pinatas for the Hispanic Chamber, as they go for the Guinness World Book of Records! How about a high-seas hallelujah for our great and inspiring youth, and their directors Steve and Nancy Taylor, and Youth Coordinator Rachel Kaeser!!

Hello Friends of HopeTree

As you may already know, May is National Foster Care month and we're looking to raise awareness about foster care in a big way!

Our next Foster Parent Information Session will be held on May 15th. Information is attached. Please share this with your congregation in any way you see fit.

May 20th is HopeTree Foster Care Sunday. We are asking you to specifically set aside May 20th to recognize May as National Foster Care Month and to pray for the ministry of HopeTree. A few ideas about how you could do this:

1. You could hand out HopeTree's free church fans and/or bookmarks in your worship service on May 20th. Please Respond to this email by Friday, April 20th if you would like me to provide you with church fans or bookmarks.
2. You could show a video about our foster care ministry. Here are some I would recommend:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Jsh6oe4LX2E>

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=OkhsnHAQI3c>

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ELYP8C8d3lo>

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=i5TQ8LxQHSM>

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=hy1fCH2_Cx0

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=bMvbFx2YEXQ>

3. You could set aside a specific time in your worship service on May 20th to pray for those affected by foster care: youth in foster care, foster families, and birth families. If you'd like HopeTree's foster care prayer cards to pass out on May 20th, please let me know by responding to this email.

Is your church doing a VBS (Vacation Bible School) this summer? Would you allow us to set up an information table during VBS so parents can pick up information about foster care as they drop off and pick up their children? If your church does a mission project during VBS, would you consider making HopeTree Family Services your church's VBS mission project this year?

Thank you for all your support of our foster care ministry. You are making a huge difference in the lives of the children here in your community!

Many Blessings, Abigail Schreiner, MSW

Mother's Day Candle Burning

What do you give to a Mother who has everything?

Remember your mother or a special woman this Mother's Day by dedicating the burning of a special Mother's Day Candle. Names will be listed in the bulletin to honor/remember a special woman in your life. (\$10.00 per name).

Name of Person Making this Dedication: _____

Name of Woman to be listed: _____

Please Check One:

In Honor Of:

In Memory Of:

Deadline: May 6, 2018

On your check indicate Mother's Day Candle Burning. All proceeds will go toward United Methodist Missions and Ministries.

stlukesumc@verizon.net

Tuesday, May 1

10:05 am-10:30 am
Preschool Chapel (S)
7:00 pm-8:15 pm
Adult Hand Bell Practice (S)

Wednesday, May 2

10:00 am-12:00 noon
Susannah Wesley Circle (F.H.)
6:30 pm-7:30 pm
Girl Scouts -Troop 337 (F.H.)
7:30 pm-8:45 pm
Chancel Choir Rehearsal
(M.R. & S)

Thursday, May 3

7:00 pm-9:00 pm
NAMI (Parlor)

Sunday, May 6

(COMMUNION)
9:15 am Sunday School
10:30 am Worship
11:30 am-12:30 pm
Trustees (P)
4:00 pm-5:30 pm
Youth (F.H.)
4:00 pm-5:30 pm
Confirmation Class

Monday, May 7

4:45 pm-8:30 pm
Safe Haven
7:00-8:30 pm
Cub Scouts & Boy Scouts
(F.H. & all rooms upstairs)

Tuesday, May 8

7:00 pm-8:15 pm
Adult Hand Bell Practice (S)

Wednesday, May 9

10:00 am-12 noon
Young at Heart (F.H.)
7:30 pm-8:45 pm
Chancel Choir Rehearsal
(M.R. & S)

Thursday, May 10

6:30 pm-7:30 pm
Girl Scout Troop 5228 (B)
7:00 pm-9:00 pm
NAMI (Parlor)

Friday, May 11

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

Saturday, May 12

F.H. in use

Sunday, May 13

(MOTHER'S DAY)
9:15 am Sunday School
10:30 am Worship

Monday, May 14

7:00-8:30 pm
Cub Scouts & Boy Scouts
(F.H. & all rooms upstairs)

Tuesday, May 15

7:00 pm-8:15 pm
Adult Hand Bell Practice
(S)

Wednesday, May 16

6:30 pm-7:30 pm
Girl Scout Troop 337 (F.H.)
7:30 pm - 8:45 pm
Chancel Choir Rehearsal (S)

Thursday, May 17

7:00 pm-9:00 pm
NAMI (P)

Sunday, May 20

(55th ANNIVERSARY SUNDAY)

9:15 am Sunday School
10:30 am Worship -
The Rev. Dr. Peter Moon preaching
4:00 pm-5:30 pm Youth (F.H.)

Monday, May 21

4:45 pm-8:30 pm
Safe Haven
6:30 pm
UMM (F.H.)
7:00-8:30 pm
Cub Scouts & Boy
Scouts (entire building)

Tuesday, May 22

3:00 pm-4:00 pm
Adult Hand Bell Practice (S)

Wednesday, May 23

11:30 am
Preschool Graduation (S)
7:30 pm-8:45 p.m.
Chancel Choir (S)

Thursday, May 24

6:30 pm-7:30 pm
Girl Scout Troop 5228 (B)
7:00 pm-9:00 pm
NAMI (P)

Friday, May 25

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

Sunday, May 27

9:15 am Sunday School
10:30 am Worship
11:30 am Administrative
Council (F.H.)?
Long Memorial Day wkend?
4:00 pm-5:30 pm Youth (F.H.)



DATES TO REMEMBER

May—Early June - "RENT-A-TEEN"

May 13 — Mother's Day

May 20 — 55th Anniversary Sunday

May 23 — Preschool Graduation

May 28 — Memorial Day/ Church
Office Closed

Looking Ahead

June 14 — Flag day

June 17 — Father's Day

June 18 — 7:00 p.m. Pastor/Parish

July 15-19 — Vacation Bible School

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 expe-
rience 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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