

There are diversities of gifts, but the same Spirit.

Corinthians 12:4

“Have You Opened Your Gift, the one God Gave You?”

It's that season . . . No, not summer . . . It's the season of match-making. No, I am not talking about “Fiddler on the Roof!” Summertime is the season of seeking to match gifts and ministries at St. Luke's. And before I talk about the process, let me first talk about the result.

A lady in one of my churches was a great calligrapher. She was to writing as an artist is to lettering. “Hmmm...” I thought, “Just how can we use this talent in ministry?” Then, I began to ask her, in the age before anything but dot matrix printers, if she would fill in baptismal and wedding certificates. Then, she began offering to address church invitations . . . Before you knew it, she was completing a variety of tasks for the entire congregation. She found fulfillment, and others felt so appreciated because of her efforts.

On a larger scale, just look at our Bible School with its record participation. Everyone knows Becky can throw a great thematic party, and with Bible School she does that on a grand scale. Over 70 children this year, and each team member was awesome in their place! Mr. Bob, Katie and Autumn had music mastered and moving; Marcia crafted a coral reef second only to the Good Lord's; Donna, with Sofia's help, taught art while reminding kids of the Bible message; Andrew and Brad are just big kids helping the little kids play their hearts out in games . . . And, oh my, the teaching staff! Bible School has never gone so well, and the reason is all the 45 volunteers who found an awesome place for their talents to be used as part of the team. The result was Spirit-filled!

So, on an even grander scale, consider the church. Get the right people in the right places and just watch what happens. Need a leader for CARITAS—recruit our local EMT Dave and his very organized wife Laurie; need youth counselors—grab Chris and Haley and send them off on retreat to Lynchburg with a dozen youth; need to strengthen pastoral care—enlist the good hearts and outgoing talents of Rhea and Ruth to organize homebound visitation. And when it comes to crocheting, if you wonder where it fits into the Kingdom, just come Tuesday afternoons to turn “plarn” (plastic yarn) into mats for homeless veterans. You see what I mean . . .

Right now, the Lay Leadership Committee, aka Nominations, is hard at work. Why work during the summer? So we are not rushed. Consideration of the gifts you and each member of the church possess takes care and prayer. I want to thank the Lay Leadership Committee for all they have been doing all summer, to match people and ministries, and all of you who are using your gifts as God calls you to, in this, the Body of Christ. This is the kind of matching-making that includes and connects us all.

Let us be generous with our gifts, just as we are with our love, that in all things, God may be glorified!

Blessings,
Pastor Lisa



Church Kitchen and CARITAS

In preparation for the arrival of our CARITAS guests, we will be cleaning out the refrigerator, freezer, and pantry. Please help us make room by removing any unneeded items and/or marking those you wish to keep. We will dispose of any outdated items. Also, if you have any dishes that may have been left, we would appreciate your taking them home. All space will be needed. Thank you for your assistance.

Fall Festival – October 20th, 2018

Help! It's hard to believe we are already planning for the annual Fall Festival. Start thinking about cleaning out your attic or garage for those yard sale items. This year the Silent Auction will be held the same day. We are looking for donations of auction items. Do you have a gift item still in the box that you didn't need? Or a gift card you can't use? These are perfect items for the auction. Save the date on your calendar and stay tuned for more details. Please see Marcia Grubbs to volunteer or donate.

Fall Schedule— Music Ministry

THE FALL SCHEDULE FOR ST. LUKE'S MUSIC MINISTRY is taking on several new directions as well as time changes.

1. **Sunday morning schedule** - 9:15 - 9:45 A.M.
Mallet and percussion class in music office open to all wishing to brush up on music reading, notation and relying on your neighbor for counting and precision. This class is an ongoing one throughout the year.
2. **Sunday morning schedule** - 10:00 - 10:20 A.M. Sanctuary choir warm-up and robing for 10:30 worship service.
Start-up - September 02, 2018
3. **Sunday morning schedule** - 10:30 - 11:30 A.M. Worship service which extends on Communion Sunday to 11:45 A.M.
Start-up - September 02, 2018
4. **Sunday afternoon schedule** (New) 1:30 P.M. - 2:45 P.M.
Handbell choir in the sanctuary. This is a change which will benefit those working who are unable to attend evening rehearsals. We are presently enrolling 6 - 8 ringers; some with prior experience and some without prior experience. We look forward to good fellowship and practice as well as Christian learning. Start-up - September 09, 2018
5. **Wednesday evening schedule** - 7:30 P.M. - 8:45 P.M.
Sanctuary choir rehearsal in the choir room.
Start-up - August 29, 2018

THANKS from Bob and Jan Hall for all the lovely birthday cards for Jan and the anniversary cards for both of us. We thoroughly enjoyed receiving and reading each one!

THANKS TO EVERYONE who turned out to spruce up our church grounds. All the rain meant that everything needed a serious trimming. It was good fellowship and a good workout besides.

THE SINGLE WOMEN'S GROUP of CARITAS will be housed at St. Luke's Aug. 18-25, 2018! Please consider how you can help out—donate needed supplies or laundry money, prepare a meal, pack lunches, stay for the evening or overnight with the guests. Anyone interested in learning more, please see Chris Halloran (meals), or Laurie and Dave Hay.

WE ARE INDEBTED TO DAVE AND LAURIE for their leadership over these past years in providing wonderful hospitality to CARITAS friends who have found shelter here. Lay Leadership is looking for those who will follow in Dave and Laurie's footsteps!

MIDLOTHIAN ICE THEATER TEAM TAKES SECOND IN NATIONAL COMPETITION AUTUMN PAPCZYNSKI'S Ice Theatre team won silver at a recent national competition. Congratulations Autumn, to you and your team! (Autumn is in the second row, last person on right.) Click on the link below and wait until the two photos appear.
[HYPERLINK "http://www.nbc12.com/story/38557973/midlothian-ice-theater-team-takes-second-in-national-competition"](http://www.nbc12.com/story/38557973/midlothian-ice-theater-team-takes-second-in-national-competition) <http://www.nbc12.com/story/38557973/midlothian-ice-theater-team-takes-second-in-national-competition>
(Used with permission)

BE INFORMED

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

<http://www.vaumc.org>

We are Blessed with a Great Bible School Ministry

For the first time ever this year:

- we had more than 70 children participate
- we had more volunteers than we needed
- our staff was 45 strong
- Becky and Marcia's decorations were an artistic paradise!

But what meant the most, I think, was when one parent told a teacher, "My son loves Bible School so much, he wants to come to pre-school here!"

In this, we see how the church can support the preschool just as the preschool, with its excellent reputation, supports the outreach of the church.

Special thanks to Ofelia, chief morale officer, baking and cooking oodles of wonderful goodies for the entire staff — "Hey what did Ofelia bring tonight, and have you tasted it??? YUM!"

The decorators: Becky, Margaret and Marcia worked for hours and days and weeks to make our sanctuary and church into an island where we were shipwrecked, waiting for Jesus to Rescue Us!

And we can't say thanks enough to Becky Jenkins, who wants no title but spends half a year preparing Bible School for the joy and learning of dozens of children. We've given her the title of "God's Party Planner!" Job incredibly well done, Cap'nBecky!!

And, not to be forgotten, sincere thanks to our much appreciated collaborative partner, LCOS! The assistance provided by LCOS youth and congregational members gave real meaning to the word, "teamwork."

2018 VBS Talented Shipwrecked Volunteers

Becky Jenkins	Keith Miller
Katie Haley	Marcia Grubbs
Donna Mott	Michele Hart
Sophia Lorenzo	Heather Jones
Brad Butler	Savannah O'Connell
Lori Jones	Carolyn Beeckler
Samantha Jones	Elizabeth Butler
Andrew Russell	Riley Beeckler
Ethan Berry	Toni Wilson
Alex Wilson	Pat Knust
Henry Weaver	Christ Halloran
Autumn Papczynski	Renee Ballentine
Bob Ford	Renae Schumann
Katie Lucas	Debbie Smart
Margaret Anderson	Diane Beall
Shirley Gary	Karen Watkins
Rachel Kaeser	Kelly Strunk
Sydney Kaeser	Ruth Wickstrom
Sam Kaeser	Gary Dunlap
Ofelia Dunlap	Stephanie Burnett
Michael Weaver	Bryce Weaver
Helen Weaver	

Birthdays

August 1	Brian Kaeser
August 2	Nancy Ladd Zac Morris
August 3	Pastor Lisa Sykes
August 9	Tammy Morris
August 14	John Russell Elizabeth Butler
August 15	Zeb Saunders Margaret Tucker
August 16	Bill Coleman
August 18	Cindy Burnett
August 21	Rhea Strum Riley Beeckler
August 22	Campbell Eden Moore
August 23	Laura Hay Shirley Jones
August 26	Wilmer Downs
August 28	Bobby Reynolds
August 29	Carlton Hudson
August 30	Bob Armstrong Jo McDowell

Anniversaries

August 5	Ken & Pat Knust Clay & Rebecca Morris
August 14	John & Betsye Russell
August 16	Bill & Pam Coleman Richard & Carla Collins George & Melissa Moore
August 23	Tad & Gayle McGonigle
August 31	Carlton & Rose Hudson

Back to School at Jacobs Road

BACK TO SCHOOL time is almost here and, with it, an opportunity for us to purchase items for Jacobs Road Elementary. Please bring school materials to church beginning Monday, August 27th. Your generosity is greatly appreciated.

Upheld in our Prayers

Please keep the following in your prayers.

Jane Barto	Dean Smith	Andrew Schaeffer
Cheri Armstrong	Kevin Leigh	Wilmer Downs
Donna Kaeser	Heather Jones	Marie Goodwyn
Wayne Kinney	Joan Crawford	Gayle McGonigle
Opal Holshouser	Kerry Myers	Doris Courtney
Rena Hedrick	Raymond Fayle	Lori Jones & Family
Beverly Carlson	Sharon Hoyle	Judy Beeckler
Peggy Utterback	Rose Kessler	Ronnie Weade
Carolyn Beeckler	Holly Strum	

Our Military

Robbie Bowen	Aaron Frankey	Holden Russell
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St. Luke's mourns the death of one of our most active members, who was dear to all our hearts.

Cheryl Nester died on July 29th after a battle with breast cancer. Cheryl was a part of the Bell Choir, having done a solo just this summer with "Blessed Assurance." She was also a faithful member of the Safe Haven Team and Young-at-Heart. She has sung in the choir and taught Sunday School over the years, too, among many other things. We pray for all those who mourn Cheryl's passing, including her daughter Shona and husband Hadley; her son Ryan; her grandsons Timmy, Jeffrey and Marshall. May she now find her place in the heavenly choir.

"Sorrow and Love flow mingled down"

We extend our love and prayers to the family of Jo Ann Jackson. Jo Ann claimed the promise of the resurrection on Tuesday, July 17, 2018.

We extend our love and prayers to the family of Cheryl Nester. Cheryl claimed the promise of the resurrection on Sunday, July 29, 2018..

We extend our love and prayers to Ruth Wickstrom's daughter Kara and son-in-law Brad at the sudden death of their best friend, Troy Parish, from a heart attack.

Our Next Mission Emphasis Sunday Is September 30th. Be Sure To Attend

In June, Pastor Lisa attended a gathering of 7th District clergy at the invitation of Congressman Brat.

One of the presenters, Mercy House, which helps individuals recover from heroin addiction, will be our guest for the next Mission Emphasis Sunday on Sept. 30th. Be sure to be present for this time of celebrating recovery and sharing testimony!

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/>

Bible School Memories We Had A Blast!!



REALLY?! Ms. Becky built us a shipwrecked boat, waves included, in the Sanctuary and turned the Pulpit Into a Tropical Paradise WOW!



This is the Iguana Crew from Bible School, with the God phones they made in art. One of them said, "I am face-timing Jesus!" What a fun way to pray!

The Island Snack Shack was well manned . . . or should we say wo-manned?



Movin' and A Groovin' with Chris, Mr. Bob and Katie in music



In the b\Battle of the Sexes Tug-O-War, Andrew throws his help in with the opponents. The girls triumphed as Toucan and Jaguar Crews faced off by gender.



Cameron Jones shares the Scripture on Bible School Sunday

August, 2018 CALENDAR

Wednesday, Aug. 1

10:00 am
Susannah Wesley Circle
(F.H.)

Thursday, Aug. 2

4:45 pm-8:30 pm
Safe Haven
7:00-9:00 pm NAMI (P)
7:00-8:30 pm Cub Scouts
(Basement & Rms. 106,
108, 110, 112)
Boy Scouts (FH and all
rooms upstairs)

Sunday, Aug. 5

9:15 am Sunday School
10:30 am Worship
11:30 am Trustees (P)

Monday, Aug. 6

7:00-8:30 pm Cub Scouts
(Basement & Rms. 106,
108, 110, 112)
Boy Scouts (FH &
all rooms upstairs)

Wednesday, Aug. 8

10:00 am
Young at Heart (FH)
7:30 pm
Nominating Committee (P)

Thursday, Aug. 9

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

Friday, Aug. 10

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

Sunday, Aug. 12

9:15 am Sunday School
10:30 am Worship
11:30 am Finance (P)

Monday, Aug. 13

4:45 pm-8:30 pm
Safe Haven
7:00-8:30 pm
Cub Scouts (Basement
& Rms. 106, 108, 110,
112)
Boy Scouts (FH &
all rooms upstairs)

Thursday, Aug. 16

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

Saturday, Aug. 18

CARITAS guests arrive

Sunday, Aug. 19

9:15 am Sunday School
10:30 am Worship
11:30 am Pastor/Parish (P)
CARITAS

Monday, Aug. 20

4:45 pm
Safe Haven
CARITAS

Tuesday, Aug. 21

CARITAS

Wednesday, Aug. 22

CARITAS

Thursday, Aug. 23

CARITAS

Friday, Aug. 24

CARITAS

Saturday, Aug. 25

CARITAS (final day)

Sunday, Aug. 26

9:15 am Sunday School
10:30 am Worship
11:30 Administrative
Council (FH)

Monday, Aug. 27

6:30 pm UMM (FH)
7:00 pm - 8:30 pm
Cub Scouts (Basement
& Rms. 106, 108, 110, 112)
Boy Scouts (FH &
all rooms upstairs)

Wednesday, Aug. 29

(Choir practice begins)
7:30 pm
Chancel Choir
(Sanctuary &
Music Room)

Thursday, Aug. 30

7:00 pm
NAMI (P)



DATES TO REMEMBER

**AUGUST 11-18 - PASTOR LISA
ON VACATION**

**AUGUST 18-25 - CARITAS
AUGUST 29 - CHOIR PRACTICE BEGINS**

**LOOKING FORWARD
SEPTEMBER 3 - LABOR DAY (office closed)
SEPTEMBER 30 - MISSION EMPHASIS
SUNDAY**

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

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*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