

"Hail the heaven-born
Prince of Peace!
Hail the Sun of Righteousness!
Light and life to all he brings,
Risen with healing in his wings.
Mild he lays his glory by,
Born that man no more may die,
Born to raise the sons of earth,
Born to give us second birth.
Hark! the herald angels sing,
Glory to the new born King!"

*From "Hark, the Herald!"
by Charles Wesley*

The Bad King, The Good Kings and The True King

Friends,

May this epistle find you blessed, contented and loved in this sometimes overwhelming world of ours. Christmas is a time for affirming what is most important to us, the things of God's Kingdom—faith, family, friendship. One of the ways we can see that is through the characters of the Kings we meet in the Christmas story. This has been our theme for Christmas Bible School, and the message the children have learned is one I'd like to share with you.

The first King we encounter in the Christmas story is Herod, who loves all things worldly, and treats others badly for the sake of possessing gold and throne. He is blind to the things of God for he is enamored with the power and wealth of this world. His love of these earthly things leads him to be jealous and greedy. He is threatened by the birth of a true king and so he threatens those around him. For the sake of keeping what he already has, Herod surrenders any hope of heavenly treasure.

Next in the Christmas story, we encounter the Good Kings (the wise men) who leave their worldly possessions (you can only carry so much on a camel!) and familiar places to glimpse the One who brings hope, joy and justice. The Good Kings seek One who, it is said, will rule with equity and humility and servanthood. In order to meet this miraculous King, the Good Kings will follow a star (what dreamers and optimists!). They will make a long journey — some think of at least a year, maybe two—merely to behold a newborn child in a manger in the cold. Though he lies in poverty, the Good Kings are the richer for having seen this One True King.

And so at last, in the Christmas story, we will find the one True King. He has no throne, he has no scepter, he can speak no orders, nor defend any earthly kingdom. He is vulnerable, dependent, and wonderful. How can you not adore this only Son of God, Emmanuel, God with us?



Friends...contd. from page 1

Yet, in worldly terms, the True King has a questionable pedigree. He is born not to a reigning Queen, but to young unremarkable mother, who conceived him in societally awkward circumstances. He is born with no biological father, but with an earthly father of no great station. Where are this King's castle and kingdom? Where are his servants and regents?

How is the True King so unlikely, and why is he newborn? Like a flower that opens slowly, so it will take time, for this Christmas Child to grow and mature, and then die and be raised, until we will truly come to understand the royalty and mercy of the One True King. Only then will we see his full beauty and power. So blessed are those like the Good Kings, who in spite of worldly appearances, comprehend. And sorrowful are those who like the bad King who, for their own flaws, fail to recognize the Savior before them.

The manger of that original story is still here, in heart, this Christmas. And the Christ Child still comes, in heart, this Christmas. As the manger welcomed him so long ago, will you welcome him today? Will you make your heart his throne, and your life, his service? This Christmas, come, let us adore him.

And may we be reminded, as we do, that the True King in the Christmas Story, is to us, the Way, the Truth, and the Life. Merry Christmas!

Blessings, Pastor Lisa

Schedule for Music Ministry of St. Luke's UMC December 2018

12/02/18.	09:15 - 09:45.	Christmas Children's Choir rehearsal
	10:00 - 10:20.	Sanctuary Choir warm-up
	05:00 - 05:45.	Christmas Handbell Choir
12/05/18.	07:00 - 08:30.	Christmas Choir rehearsal
12/08/18.	09:00 - 11:00.	Christmas Cantata dress rehearsal
12/09/18.	09:15 - 09:45.	Christmas Children's Choir rehearsal
	10:00 - 10:20.	Sanctuary Choir warm-up
12/12/18.	07:00 - 08:30.	Christmas Choir rehearsal
12/16/18.	09:15 - 10:15.	Warm-up for Christmas Cantata
	0:30 - 11:30.	Christmas Cantata
12/19/18.	07:00 - 08:30.	Sanctuary Choir rehearsal
12/23/18.	09:15 - 09:45.	Children practice for brown bag Nativity
	10:30 - 11:30.	Brown Bag Nativity
12/24/18.	Christmas Eve	
12/30/18.	1st Sunday after Christmas	
01/02/19.	07:00 - 08:30.	Sanctuary Choir rehearsal
01/06/19.	09:15 - 09:45.	Mallet percussion choir
01/09/19.	07:00 - 08:30.	Sanctuary Choir rehearsal
01/13/19.	09:15 - 09:45.	Mallet percussion choir
01/16/19.	07:00 - 08:30.	Sanctuary Choir rehearsal
01/20/19.	09:15 - 09:45.	Mallet percussion choir
01/23/19.	07:00 - 08:30.	Sanctuary Choir rehearsal
01/27/19.	09:15 - 09:45.	Mallet percussion choir
01/30/19.	07:00 - 08:30.	Sanctuary Choir rehearsal

CONGRATULATIONS to C.W. & Kelly Rice at the birth of their daughter! Born the morning of November 12th, Addison Elizabeth weighed 7 lbs. We wish Addison and her parents every blessing!

CHRISTMAS BIBLE SCHOOL has begun and will continue on November 28 and December 5 from 5:30-7:30 pm. Our Christmas theme is "The Bad King; the Good Kings, and the True King." What better story to teach the children? If you can join our dedicated Christmas VBS team, please volunteer on the connection card!

THE CHOIR is working on the Christmas Cantata scheduled to take place on December 16th during our 10:30 a.m. worship service. The children and bells will join the Chancel Choir in what promises to be a wonderful Christmas celebration! Plan to attend, and invite a friend to join us, too!

CONGRATULATIONS, LADIES! Birthday Wishes and Blessings to Phyllis Downs who celebrated her 80th birthday at the end of November!

Birthday Wishes and Blessings to Peggy Uglow on her 90th birthday the first week in December!



BE INFORMED

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

<http://www.vaumc.org>

Birthdays

December 2 Larry Batten
 Laura Jarrett
 William Warriner

December 3 Kevin Jenkins

December 4 Danielle Hawkins
 Ronnie Bowman
 Tom Rohlk
 Joshua Sykes

December 6 Suzanne Steinhorst
 Jennifer Frankey

December 8 Ray Kyle
 Peggy Uglow

December 9 Chelsea Bowman
 Nicholas Bowman

December 10 Bettie Jones
 Sarah Estes

December 13 Lea Butler
 Savannah O'Connell

December 17 Susan Wertz

December 18 Annie Davis
 Robert White, III

December 19 Dean Smith

December 20 Conner Skeen

December 22 Austin Morris

December 23 Gordon Reed
 Joan Crawford

December 27 Karla Lacy

December 28 Michael Pearse

December 30 Kevin Parrish
 Marie Dunlap
 Betty Wellman

December 31 Reagan Gary

January 1 Barbara Armstrong

January 2 Anna Hart

January 3 Elizabeth Thomas
 Debbie Tatum

January 4 Steve Taylor
 Karen Whitton
 Sarah Allen
 Adam Warriner

January 6 Audrey Vogen

January 7 Kent Calfee

January 11 Justin Stoneberg

January 12 Seth Sykes

January 14 Paul Brown
 Lori Jones
 Faye Sisson

January 15 Nancy Allen
 Krystel Worner

January 19 Ibbie Smith

January 20 Yvonne Morris
 Bradley Smart

January 22 Wendy Brown White
 Benjamin Pritchard

January 23 Cheryl Sanker
 Adam Jones

January 27 Wesley Sykes

January 29 Jerry Anderson

January 30 Sheri Stoneberg

January 31 Erin Cowardin Jacoby

Upheld in our Prayers

Please keep the following in your prayers.

John Crawford	Betty Wellman	Dean Smith
David Sherwood	Joan Crawford	Tom Brown
Wilmer Downs	Carolyn Johnson	Kevin Leigh
Margaret Tucker	Wayne Kinney	Kerry Myers
Opal Holshouser	Renae Hedrick	Jan Hall
Andrew Schaeffer	Sharon Hoyle	George Munford
Raymond Fayle	Thelma Smart	Marie Goodwyn
Lori Jones & Family		

Our Military

Robbie Bowen	Aaron Frankey	Holden Russell
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Anniversaries

December 12 Keith & Donna Miller

December 16 Jennifer & Roger Frankey

December 20 James & Charlotte deKrafft

December 28 Dean & Ibbie Smith

December 31 Gordon & Susan Reed

January 2 Jim & Cindy Self

January 7 Seth & Lisa Sykes

January 16 Matt & Stacy Pritchard

January 31 Ray & Scottie Kyle



The youth of St. Luke's UMC & Lutheran Church of Our Saviour invite you to

The Christmas Extravaganza Variety Show & Dinner

Date: December 16th

Time: 5:30 PM

Place: St. Luke's UMC

Tickets will be sold before and after services starting December 2.

Adults - \$10, Children (10 and under) - \$5

Cash and checks are accepted.



“MY NAME IS OLD GLORY”

By Howard Schnauber (Marine veteran of WWII and Korea)

I am the flag of the United States of America.
My name is Old Glory.
I fly atop the world's tallest buildings.
I stand watch in America's halls of justice.
I fly majestically over institutions of learning.
I stand guard with power in the world.

Look up! And see me!
I stand for peace, honor, truth and justice.
I stand for freedom. I am confident.
I am arrogant. I am proud.

When I am flown with my fellow banners,
My head is a little higher,
My colors a little truer.
I bow to no one!
I am recognized all over the world.
I am worshipped - I am saluted.
I am loved - I am revered.
I am respected - I am feared.

I have fought every battle of every war for
more than 200 years:
Gettysburg, Shilo, Appomatox, San Juan Hill,
the trenches of France, the Argonne For-
est, Anzio, Rome, the beaches of Normandy,
the deserts of Africa, the cane fields of the
Philippines,
the rice paddies and jungles of Guam, Okina-
wa, Japan, Korea, Vietnam, Guadalcanal New
Britain, Peleliu, and many more islands.

And a score of places long forgotten by all
but those who were with me.
I was there.
I led my soldiers - I followed them.
I watched over them.
They loved me.
I was on a small hill in Iwo Jima.
I was dirty, battle-worn and tired, but my sol-
diers cheered me,
and I was proud.



Andrew Russell read the Poem printed here at our Veterans Day Service as his way of presenting a new American Flag to the congregation.

I have been burned, torn and trampled on
the streets of countries
I have helped set free. It does not hurt for I
am invincible.
I have been soiled upon, burned, torn and
trampled in the streets of my country.
And when it's done by those whom I've
served in battle - it hurts.
But I shall overcome - for I am strong.
I have slipped the bonds of earth and
stood watch over the uncharted frontiers of
space from my vantage point on the moon.
I have born silent witness to all of America's
finest hours.
But my finest hours are yet to come.
When I am torn into strips and used as
bandages for my wounded comrades on
the battle field,
when I am flown at halfmast to honor my
soldier,
or when I lie in the trembling arms of a
grieving parent at the grave of their fallen
son or daughter,

I am proud.
My name is Old Glory.
Dear God - Long may I wave.

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/>



**Don't forget Dec, 16th
The Christmas Extravaganza
Variety Show & Dinner**



See those St. Luke's singers (Elizabeth, Ruth and Bob) getting down soulfully as part of the Charge Conference Choir at Asbury Church Hill UMC? We were 1/3 of the choir, thanks to our St. Luke's representatives. And thanks to all our leaders and laity who attended, as well as sang at, this important gathering of Methodists!



Preschool Thanksgiving Feast



The boys stole the show during the children's time when Pastor Lisa asked the children to name their favorite princesses! We learned boys have no opinion on this issue! But we are all delighted to see a growing number of children both at the children's time during worship and at our one-night-a-week Bible School!

Red Poinsettias

Red Poinsettias will be placed in the Sanctuary on December 23rd and Christmas Eve, December 24th. The cost will be \$10.00 per plant. You may take your plant after the 10:30 am service on December 23 or the 5:30 pm or 7:00 pm service on December 24th.. Make your check payable to St. Luke's U.M.C. and designate in left hand corner of check "Christmas Poinsettias".

The deadline for ordering is December 16, 2018.

CLICK HERE TO ORDER A POINSETTIA
stlukesumc@verizon.net



The Staff of St. Luke's wishes each and every one of its members and friends a joyful celebration of our Lord's birth!

Christmas Blessings!

Lisa Sykes
 Pastor

Shirley Gary
 Admin

Margaret Anderson
 Financial Secretary

Scottie Kyle
 Treasurer

Michele Hart
 Preschool Director

December, 2018 @ CALENDAR

Sunday, Dec. 2

9:15 am Sunday School
10:30 am Worship
11:30 am Trustees (P)
1:30-2:30 pm Handbells (S)
4:00-5:30 pm Youth (F.H.)

Monday, Dec. 3

10:00 am-10:30 am
Chapel
4:30 pm Safe Haven
7:00 pm-8:30 pm
Boy Scouts (F.H. & all
rooms upstairs)
Cub Scouts (Basement)

Tuesday, Dec. 4

10:05 am - 10:15 am
Chapel

Wednesday, Dec. 5

10:00 am
Susannah Wesley Circle
5:30 pm-7:30 pm
Advent Bible School
6:30-7:30 pm
Girl Scouts (B)
7:00-8:30 pm
Chancel Choir (S & M.R.)

Thursday, Dec. 6

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

Sunday, Dec. 9

9:15 am Sunday School
10:30 am Worship
11:30 am Finance (P)
1:30-2:30 pm Handbells (S)
4:00 pm-5:30 pm Youth
(F.H.)

Monday, Dec. 10

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

Tuesday, Dec. 11

6:30 pm-8:30 pm
BPSA (P)

Wednesday, Dec. 12

10:00 am
Young at Heart (F.H. - Pre-
school sings)
7:00-8:30 pm
Chancel Choir (S & M.R.)

Thursday, Dec. 13

7:00 pm
NAMI (P)

Saturday, Dec. 15

Youth - Preparation for
Christmas Extravaganza,
Variety Show & Dinner

Sunday, Dec. 16

Christmas Cantata (S)
(Youth Dinner & Theatre)
9:15 am Sunday School
10:30 am Worship
11:30 am Pastor/Parish (P)
1:30-2:30 pm Handbells (S)
5:30 pm Christmas
Extravaganza, Variety Show
& Dinner (F.H.)

Monday, Dec. 17

10:00-10:30
Preschool Chapel
4:30 pm Safe Haven
7:00-8:30 pm
Boy Scouts (all rooms
upstairs)
Cub Scouts (Basement)

Tuesday, Dec. 18

9:30 am-10:30 pm
Preschool Christmas
Program (S)

Wednesday, Dec. 19

6:30-8:30 pm
Girl Scouts (F.H.)
7:00-8:30 pm
Chancel Choir (S & M.R.)

Saturday, Dec. 22

11:00am-4:00 pm
Fellowship Hall reserved

Sunday, Dec. 23

(Children's Brown Bag Nativity)
9:15 am Sunday School
10:30 am Children's Brown
Bag Nativity (S)
1:30-2:30 pm Handbells (S)

Monday, Dec. 24

7:00 pm
Traditional Communion w/
Candlelight Service (S)

Tuesday, Dec. 25

Christmas (Blessings,
one and all!)

Wednesday, Dec. 26

7:00-8:30 pm
Chancel Choir (S & M.R.)

Sunday, Dec. 30

10:30 am
Service of Holy Baptism
(reception to follow)

Monday, Dec. 31

New Year's Eve



DATES TO REMEMBER

December 5 -5:30 — 7:30 p.m. Advent Bible School
December 16 - Morning Worship & Cantata(S)
Youth Dinner & Theatre (FH) 5:30 p.m.
December 23 - 10:30 a.m. - Brown Bag Nativity
December 24 - 7:00 p.m. Traditional Candlelight
and Communion
December 25 - Christmas Blessings to all.
December 31 - New Year's Eve
Looking Ahead
January 1 - New Year's Day (Office Closed)
January 21 - Martin Luther King Day

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



January, 2019 CALENDAR

Tuesday, Jan. 1

(Office Closed)
HAPPY NEW YEAR!

Wednesday, Jan. 2

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

Thursday, Jan. 3

7:00 pm
NAMI (P)

Sunday, Jan. 6

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

Monday, Jan. 7

10:30 am-10:45 am
Chapel (S)
4:45 pm
Safe Haven
7:00 pm-8:30 pm
Boy & Cub Scouts (F.H.)
& all rooms upstairs)

Tuesday, Jan. 8

6:30 pm - 8:30 pm
BPSA (P)

Wednesday, Jan. 9

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

Thursday, Jan. 10

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

Friday, Jan. 11

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

Sunday, Jan. 13

9:15 am Sunday School
10:30 am Worship
11:30 am-12:30 pm
Finance Committee (P)
1:30 pm-2:30 pm
Handbells (S)
4:00-5:30 pm Youth (F.H.)

Monday, Jan. 14

10:00 am - 10:30 am
Chapel (S)
4:45 pm Safe Haven
7:00-8:30 pm
Cub Scouts & Boy Scouts
(F.H. & all rooms upstairs)

Tuesday, Jan. 15

10:05 am-10:15 am
Chapel (S)

Wednesday, Jan. 16

6:30 pm-7:30 pm
Girl Scout Troop 337 (F.H.)
7:00 pm-8:30 pm
Chancel Choir Rehearsal (S)

Thursday, Jan. 17

7:00 pm
NAMI (P)

Sunday, Jan. 20

9:15 am Sunday School
10:30 am Worship
11:30 am-12:30 pm
Pastor/Parish
1:30 pm - 2:30 pm
Handbells
4:00 pm-5:30 pm
Youth (F.H.)

Monday, Jan. 21

4:45 pm Safe Haven
7:00-8:30 pm Cub Scouts &
Boy Scouts (entire building)

Tuesday, Jan. 22

6:30 pm - 8:30 pm
BPSA (P)

Wednesday, Jan. 23

7:30 pm - 9:00 pm
Chancel Choir Rehearsal (S)

Thursday, Jan. 24

6:30 pm-8:30 pm
Girl Scouts, Troop 5228
7:00 pm - 9:00 pm
NAMI (P)

Friday, Jan. 25

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

Sunday, Jan. 27

9:15 am Sunday School
10:30 am Worship
11:30 am-12:30 pm
Administrative Council
4:00 pm-5:30 pm
Youth (F.H.)
4:30-5:30 pm
Confirmation

Monday, Jan. 28

10:00 am - 10:30 am
Chapel (S)
6:30 pm UMM (F.H.)
7:00 pm-8:30 pm
Cub Scouts & Boy
Scouts (Basement)

Tuesday, Jan. 29

10:05 am-10:15 am
Chapel (S)
6:30 pm - 8:30 pm
BPSA (P)

Wednesday, Jan. 30

7:30 pm-9:30 pm
Chancel Choir (S)

Thursday, Jan. 31

7:00 pm
NAMI (P)



DATES TO REMEMBER

January 1 - New Year's Day-

January 21 - Martin Luther King Day

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, edu-
cation and mission for the
community and the world.*

Pastor
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