

But you are a chosen race, a royal priesthood, a holy nation, God's own people, in order that you may proclaim the mighty acts of him who called you out of darkness into his marvelous light. Once you were not a people, but now you are God's people; once you had not received mercy, but now you have received mercy.

1 Peter 2:9-10

In a New Light

Easter is a day of dazzling white. Angels in raiment so bright no bleach on earth could produce its glow. Easter is a time for seeing things in a new light—the light of our resurrected Lord. It is also the Gospel story where heavy obstacles are miraculously moved out of the way. Old habits and confining assumptions need to be brought out of the dark into God's new light and examined with a spirit that has been reminded of what newness God can bring. What has been, need not be what is yet to come. Even death has lost its sting.

We often think of new resolutions at the New Year, but for a Christian the real time of new beginnings is here now. I invite you to let your faith take hold and guide you in the living of your life. Let study and prayer and service transform your spiritual self, as the new light of spring transforms the visible world. This is a season in which Nature, too, reminds us of rebirth and new birth. Let the light of Christ bring new joy and bright and beautiful beginnings to this day and this season in your life.

Every time you stop to admire the new growth in the garden, the new blooms on the stem, remember that the beauty God brings in nature, as magnificent as it is, pales by comparison to the beauty God can bring out in you. May that beauty include something new, something perhaps unexpected, something that you might have given up on, but yet holds marvelous promise, for this is the message of the Resurrection: life abundant and restored in this world; life eternal in the world to come.

The resurrection happened in an instant and dazzled its first witnesses. Sometimes God brings new life to the dark corners of our soul in one astounding moment, and sometimes this process of letting in the light and inviting the Holy Spirit to fill us to overflowing is gradual, and only slowly does it dawn on us what God has intended for a very long time. Whatever the case, Easter is here, and the hope it brings would light our way to a life lived ever more faithfully in Christ.

He is Risen! He is risen indeed!

Let us walk newly in the light of his resurrection.

Blessings,
Pastor Lisa

Schedule for Music Ministry of St. Luke's UMC May 2019

Wednesday - May 01, 2019 Choir rehearsal in the sanctuary

Sunday - May 05, 2019 Xylophones-percussion-singing choir

Wednesday - May 08, 2019 Choir rehearsal in the sanctuary

Sunday - May 12, 2019 Xylophones-percussion-singing choir

Wednesday - May 15, 2019 Choir rehearsal in the sanctuary

Sunday - May 19, 2019 Xylophones-percussion-singing choir

Wednesday - May 22, 2019 Choir rehearsal in the sanctuary

Sunday - May 26, 2019 Xylophones-percussion-singing choir

Wednesday - May 29, 2019 Choir rehearsal in the sanctuary

St. Luke's Church Office Update

New e-mail addresses for St. Luke's Pastor and Office Staff are:

stlukespastor@stlukesrva.org Pastor Lisa

stlukesoffice@stlukesrva.org Shirley

stluketreas@stlukesrva.org Scottie

stlukesfinsec@stlukesrva.org Margaret

Church Directory Changes Include:

New members listed below—please update your directory

Daniel & Sabrina Boykin (Luke)
5609 Qualla Farms Court
Chesterfield, VA. 23832
804-305-4667

C.W. & Kelly Rice (Addison)
9001 Gregory Drive
N. Chesterfield, VA. 23236
804-513-3105

Recycling Help

Baskets for recycling paper are located at both entrances to the sanctuary. Please deposit paper only, no trash in them. We also need a few people to pick up the recycling occasionally.

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/>

"ONE PIECE AT A TIME" Growing up, there was a song that amused me. Sung by Johnny Cash, it was called "One Piece at a Time" about a man who worked in a car factory. He wanted a fine, new car so badly he smuggled car parts out in his lunch box "one piece at a time."

Well, you may not have known this, but St. Luke's has been relying on an ole jalopy! Our patchwork of Internet pieces, programs, aged computers and new software, finally resulted in our losing both incoming and outgoing emails. Realizing this in early spring, we set out to find a solution because a church just can't function that way. So, after making do for years with our ole jalopy, tenderly finessed into functioning again and again by Keith and his amazing expertise, and his on-call IT emergency consultant status (and yes, we did call him even, and often, at work) and sometimes he even took off work to help us! The decision was made to do an audit of our information technology.

Brian Kaeser and Keith Miller joined forces, and with these two IT gurus, one piece at a time, one program at a time, one step at a time, we traded in our old jalopy for a Cadillac! Or should I say a Ferrari? Our computers are all new(er), our files are now in the Cloud, and our staff is in heaven (when we can remember which button to push!) with our new system.

With all the pieces to build our new system bought through the budget and a couple of generous donations, the labor (and there has been a LOT of it!!) was all donated! Please thank Brian and Keith for building us a Cadillac of an IT system so we have efficient and reliable communication! And please note again our new email addresses are now ready for your messages.

CONGRATULATIONS to Brett & Krystle Werblow on their marriage on April 26, 2019.

BE INFORMED

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

<http://www.vaumc.org>

Birthdays

| | |
|--------|---------------------------------|
| MAY 1 | ROBERT BARTO |
| MAY 2 | KEITH CALLIS |
| MAY 4 | JASON HART SAM KAESER |
| MAY 5 | WILLIAM HUBBLE DANIEL BOYKIN |
| 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 27 | CLINTON GARY AUDREY GARY |
| MAY 28 | POLLY MCELISH |
| MAY 30 | ANDREW MCGOWAN |
| MAY 31 | DIXIE BOWMAN KRYSTLE SMART |

Anniversaries

| | |
|--------|---------------------------|
| MAY 3 | RONALD & BARBARA NUNNALLY |
| MAY 26 | ERIC & MARYJO JONES |

Thanks Be To God, for the ministry and remarkable generosity of this congregation! The miraculous success of the "Pave It Forward" Campaign is the result of each precious gift, from a dollar to over ten thousand dollars, which proves that St. Luke's is a little church that could! Our Finance Chair, Ray Kyle, said it best: "The faith and generosity of the St. Luke's congregation is renowned: They see a need and respond enthusiastically. In just a little over one month we raised more than enough to pave a \$56,000 parking lot. To you all I say, "Well done, good and faithful servants."

THANK YOU, members and friends, for what we, with God's help, have been able to accomplish!

Upheld in our Prayers

After General Conference, we pray for the unity of our denomination and the strength of its congregations and missions around the world.

Please keep the following in your prayers.

| | | |
|------------------|---------------------------|-----------------|
| Thelma Edwards | Betty Wellman | Jessica Darnell |
| David Sherwood | Peggy Uglow | Jan Hall |
| Wilmer Downs | Kevin Leigh | Debi Clements |
| Margaret Tucker | Wayne Kinney | Kerry Myers |
| Opal Holshouser | Renae Hedrick | Dean Smith |
| Andrew Schaeffer | Marie Goodwyn | Sharon Hoyle |
| George Munford | Lori Jones & Samantha | Sarah Schiltz |
| Rev. Tom Brown | Betty Carr | Bishop Lewis |
| Nancy Ladd | Katherine & Raymond Fayle | |

Our Military

| | | |
|--------------|---------------|----------------|
| Robbie Bowen | Aaron Frankey | Holden Russell |
|--------------|---------------|----------------|

"Sorrow and Love flow mingled down"

Our sympathy and love to Winnie Brown. Her sister, Elizabeth Smith, claimed the promise of the resurrection on April 3rd, 2019.

Our sympathy and love to Doug Lucas and family. Doug's sister claimed the promise of the resurrection in late April, 2019.

Wednesday Night VBS Update

MAY-JUNE DATES FOR WEDNESDAY NITE BIBLE SCHOOL
May 29 / June 5 / June 12
5:30 PM - 7:30 PM

We had a very successful Easter Bible School series with our Wednesday Nite Bible School Program in March, with 43 in worship March 13, 49 in worship March 20, and 59 in worship March 27. The children and families had a wonderful time learning about resisting temptation. We have another Bible School series coming later this spring that will focus on Abraham and Sarah and how we relate to moms and dads. Looking forward to sharing our Christian love and faith with our preschool family and community as our program continues!

Carolyn Beeckler, Education Chair

Graduates Honored

GRADUATE SUNDAY IS JUNE 2, 2019. If someone in your family will be graduating from high school or college this year, please let the church office know no later than Sunday, May 12, 2019. Church members will be recognized with a gift and other graduates will be recognized by their names being read.

UMVCOR Health Kits (\$14 Buys Items for 1 Kit)

- 1 Hand Towel 15" x 25" to 17" x 27," kitchen cleaning and microfiber towels not acceptable
- 1 Wash Cloth
- 1 Comb — must be sturdy with at least 6 inches of teeth. No pocket combs or picks. Rattail and combs without handles are acceptable.
- 1 Toenail or fingernail clipper — no emery boards or metal nail files
- 10 Adhesive bandages — ¾" by 3" size — common household band aids
- 1 Bath-size soap — 3 oz. and larger sizes only, no Ivory or Jergens soap due to moisture content; do not remove from original packaging
- 1 Toothbrush — adult size only, do not remove from original packaging
- 1 Plastic bag — one gallon size, sealable bags only
\$1 to purchase toothpaste

Assembly: Lay out the hand towel flat on a table. Lay the wash cloth flat in the center of the hand towel. Place all remaining items on top of the wash cloth. Fold over the sides of the hand towel to cover all of the items. Fold over one end of the hand towel so that it covers all of the items. Grasp the bundle of items tightly and roll over the remainder of the hand towel tightly. Place the bundle in the plastic bag and seal the bag.

UMCOR is now purchasing toothpaste in bulk before shipping to ensure that the product does not expire. DO NOT put single dollar bills in each kit. Toothpaste money must be sent to the Virginia Conference with shipping monies.

“Who You Gonna Call?”

What do you do when your music director says he needs a specially made table for the bells, one that will fit perfectly behind a pew, have a drop leaf on one end to extend the length when needed, but can also be put down when not in use?

Pastor Lisa was at a loss, until someone suggested she call Vernon King. So she did. Vernon, who has been regaining strength, said it was just the kind of project he needed to get him back in the swing of things. He got to work on it right away, and though you may not realize it, our custom-made bell table was in place for Easter!

Vernon made it out of wood and love, and donated his wonderful handiwork to St. Luke's. If you know Vernon, please be sure to thank him! We celebrate that our bells are now situated where they do not block the aisle, are not crowded in the chancel, and have the superior acoustics of the back of the sanctuary. If you want to see the bell ringers play, feel free to turn around.

Great idea, Bob, and what a great gift, Vernon! Know we know who you gonna call: our favorite carpenter, next to the Good Lord, of course: Vernon!





Preschool children are conducting a coin drive to fulfill our Africa University apportionment. They have done this for a few years now. Money helps the Methodist University train farmers, doctors, and teacher-preachers to serve the continent. Sharing a little can make a big difference! Ms. Susan prays with her students over their coins! Thank you, children!



PRESCHOOL TEACHER APPRECIATION

In April, a week of events for Teacher Appreciation was held in the preschool. These events included the Annual Preschool Staff Appreciation Luncheon hosted by the supportive preschool parents in honor of their children's teachers. We are so thankful for the wonderful spirit and fine leadership that are at the heart of our award-winning preschool.



BELL CHOIR PERFORMS

Our Bell Choir was tremendous on Easter Sunday! Did you know there are three youth playing? Sam, Sydney and Riley! Thanks to our great youth and the adult members, too, who rang out praises on Easter Sunday!

PALM SUNDAY EGG HUNT

The kids could not wait to hunt eggs on Palm Sunday! Thankfully the grey skies cooperated!



FLORAL CROSS ON EASTER SUNDAY

Worshippers adorned the Cross with flowers Easter morning, a sign of the resurrection.



BABY IN A BUCKET

Brenda's pursuits at the egg hunt culminated not only with eggs but also a sweet baby Sophie in her bucket!

Mother's Day Candle Burning



May 12, 2019

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).**

stlukesoffice@stlukesrva.org

Name of Person Making
this Dedication: _____

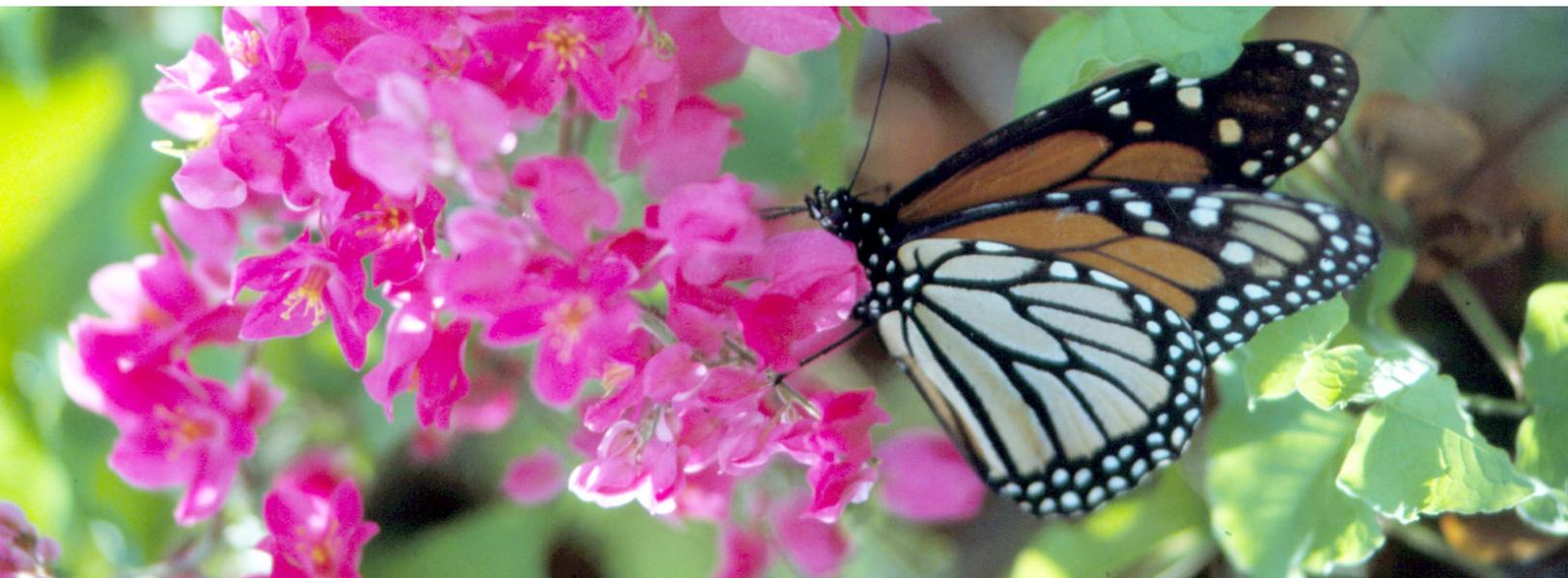
Name of Woman/Women to be listed: _____

Please Check One:

In Honor Of:

In Memory Of:

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



May, 2019

CALENDAR

Wednesday, May 1

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)

Sunday, May 5

9:15 am Sunday School
10:30 am Worship
11:30 am-12:30 pm
Trustees (P)
1:30 pm-2:30 pm
Handbells (S)
7:00 pm NAMI

Monday, May 6

4:45 pm Safe Haven
7:00-8:30 pm Scouts
& Cub Scouts (F.H. & all
rooms upstairs)
Cub Scouts (Basement
4th Mon. of month)

Tuesday, May 7

9:00 am-10:30 am
Preschool Mom's
Day Breakfast (F.H.)

Wednesday, May 8

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

Thursday, May 9

9:30am-11:00 am
Minister's Meeting
(Discovery UMC)
6:30 pm-7:30 pm
Girl Scouts -Troop 5228 (B)

Friday, May 10

9:00 am-12 noon
Quilting Group (F.H.)
Evening Wedding Rehearsal
(S)

Saturday, May 11

Wedding (S)

Sunday, May 12 (Mother's Day)

9:15 am Sunday School
10:30 am Worship
11:30am Finance
Committee (P)
7:00pm NAMI

Monday, May 13

10:00 am-10:30 am
Chapel (S)
7:00-8:30 pm
Scouts & Cub Scouts
(entire building)

Tuesday, May 14

10:05am-10:15 am
Chapel (S)
6:30 pm-8:30 pm
BPSA (P)
7:15 pm
Staff Parish (F.H.)

Wednesday, May 15

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

Saturday, May 18

Flying Squirrels

Sunday, May 19 (Preschool Baccalaureate)

9:15 am Sunday School
10:30 am Worship
11:30 am Meal
11:45 am-12:45 pm
Petting Zoo
1:30 pm-2:30 p.m.
Handbells
4:00 pm-5:30 pm
Youth (F.H.)
7:00pm NAMI (P)

Monday, May 20

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

Wednesday, May 22

11:00 am
Preschool Graduation (S)
7:00 pm-8:30 pm
Chancel Choir (S)

Thursday, May 23

6:30 pm-7:30 pm
Girl Scouts -Troop 5228 (B))

Friday, May 24

9:00 am-12 noon
Quilting Group

Sunday, May 26

9:15 am Sunday School
10:30 am Worship
(Ray Kyle preaching)
11:30 am Administrative
Council (F.H.)
1:30 pm-2:30 pm
Handbells
4:00 pm-5:30 pm
Youth (F.H.)
7:00 pm NAMI

Monday, May 27

(Memorial Day)
6:30 pm-7:30 pm
NO U.M. Men

Tuesday, May 28

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

Wednesday, May 29

5:30 pm-7:30 pm
Wednesday Nite Bible School
7:00 pm-8:30 pm
Chancel Choir Rehearsal



DATES TO REMEMBER

Tuesday, May 7

Preschool Mom's Day
Breakfast (F.H.)

Sunday, May 12

Mother's Day

Sunday, May 19

Preschool Baccalaureate

(S) Meal to follow (F.H. - 11:30)

Petting Zoo (11:45 am-
12:45 pm)

Wednesday, May 22

11:00 am - Preschool
Graduation (S)

May 24-28

Pastor Lisa - Vacation

Monday, May 27

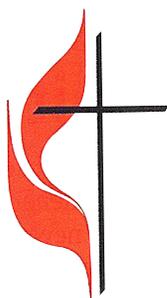
MEMORIAL DAY (Office
closed)

LOOKING AHEAD

Sunday, June 2 - Graduate Recognition Day

Friday, June 14 - Flag 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 chil-
dren 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

Pastor

The Rev. Lisa Sykes

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Sunday Schools