



St. Luke's DIY Team! HUGE Thanks to the best work crew ever: Clinton, Bobbie and Chief Engineer Wilmer!



Beware Methodists with jackhammers! Clinton is busting the place up . . . not! He's hard at work breaking the old concrete ramp into pieces so it can be disposed of.



Wilmer is sanding the outer step, preparing it for the new deck and ramp to be built!

“That All May Worship”

Make a joyful noise to the Lord, all the earth. Worship the Lord with gladness; come into His presence with singing.

Psalm 100: 1-2

We are to enter into our worship experience with joy, anticipation, expectation. Nowhere does Psalm 100 speak of frustration, aggravation or precariousness as we approach God's sanctuary.

For most of us, this second set of reactions seem out-of-place. Because of our abilities, we fail to see the challenges presented by “entering in” to our church if one walks with a cane or employs a wheelchair. Then, entering in can be a frustrating challenge, especially at the carport door.

Take a minute to consider our most-used entrance at the carport, and the homemade concrete slope that has been there for years. Imagine for a moment your legs need extra help as you try to stand on that slope, open that broad door, and move inside without falling or having the door swing shut on you.

The improvement to the carport ramp and door now being undertaken has been past-due for ages. We've talked about it generally for a decade, and specifically for almost as long. This new Americans-with-disabilities-Act-compliant ramp, being designed and built by Wilmer and Clinton with help from Bobbie, will consist of: a very gradually-sloped ramp which will meet a large, even platform immediately in front of, and level with the door. The ramp, framed by supportive handrails, complete with entrances to the right and left sides, will eventually have a push-button door opener that controls the movement of the door.”

Wilmer, our chief engineer, has worked on these plans for years, knowing the benefit this ramp will be to him and his family. Take a minute and just think of all those in our church family, our brothers and sisters, who will be able to enter without fear of falling because a well-constructed ramp with a well-thought-out design is available at last. I can think of so many, walking with difficulty due to dementia, recovering from an injury or illness, or using a motorized scooter or wheelchair, who will

RAMP continued from page 1

be relieved to enter in with joy! And think of our church family, stronger in spirit, with their presence. And don't forget to envision the relief of preschool parents, with strollers and toddlers in tow, who can ascend a gentle ramp, pause the stroller on level ground, push a button to open the door, and enter in with gladness and thanksgiving.

Please give thanks for the Trustees and Council who approved this project, for Wilmer and Clinton and Bobbie who have drawn, sawed, nailed, sanded and so much more, all in a spirit of love and care and welcome for God's people! We are in their debt, and too, always indebted, to the Carpenter who has given us the cause to worship and rejoice, for great is His name and greatly to be praised . . . by all!

Thanks be to God for this ramp, being built so that all may worship! Blessings, Pastor Lisa

May Musical Notes, 2021

Many Happy Returns and Happy Birthday to the Church

Universal - as our liturgical day of Pentecost commemorates the descent of the Holy Spirit on the Apostles and other disciples following the Crucifixion, Resurrection, and Ascension of Jesus Christ. It marks the beginning of the Christian church's mission to the world as Peter the "rock," or Petra, preached upon receiving the "Holy Spirit." The 2021 Day of Pentecost is May 23rd and we will celebrate with interpretive movement, playing of drums and beating of wooden and metal bars. Come and see who will be doing all of this celebrating as we recognize and pay homage to the birth of the church.

Special Offering for New Carport Ramp

Wilmer, Clinton and Bobbie have given time, energy, sweat and love building our new ramp. Now let us, with love and gratitude for their efforts, give an offering to pay for it. One individual has already donated \$1,000, and we need between \$1,500 and \$2,000 to install the automatic door opener and finish paying for it. A special offering will be received in Worship on Sunday, May 16th.

There is no way to adequately measure the great gift of being able to worship in the Sanctuary, but Wilmer and Crew have made a great start with the fervent use of their measuring tape this last week! KUDOS for their unstoppable determination and teamwork!

UPCOMING Book Study

Lisa will be conducting a new book study beginning on June 8th and going thru July 13th. The class will be on zoom on Tuesday nights at 7:00 pm. It will run six weeks.

The book will be *This Flowing Toward Me* by Marilyn Lacey, a Catholic Nun. "With a lively mix of humor, insight, and compassion, Marilyn Lacey invites those of us living behind locked doors in a world shattered by homeland security to risk engaging unknown neighbors near and far, and there discover, perhaps to our unending surprise, that where we most felt threatened, a wealth of blessings instead awaits us."

If you are interested in joining this class, please call the office and let Margaret Anderson know as soon as possible so the books can be ordered.

Parsonage Inspection

Bill Brown and Nancy Taylor did an annual inspection of the parsonage on 4/26/2021. The old renters moved out on March 31, 2021 and the new renters moved in April 27, 2021. The utilities were not on, so inspection of the appliances could not be done, but it can be assumed they are all operational or the realtor would have let us know. The parsonage was in good order with the paint, carpet and floors in good shape. There was no indication of any leaks. The yard looked good and had recently been mowed. The only item of note was that three windows were missing the blinds. This is a minor issue and nothing needs to be done at this time. The realtor has done a good job with making sure the property is kept up and securing quality renters.

Graduates

Graduates: If you are a member of St. Luke's, please notify the church office with date of graduation and name of college. If there is a graduate in your family who is not a member, we will list their names and name of college.

Dates to Remember

May 9 – Mother's Day

May 15 – Armed Forces Day

May 31 – Memorial Day

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/>

BE INFORMED

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

<http://www.vaumc.org>

Volunteers Needed! Can You Assist During In-Person Church?

As we return to in-person church we need volunteers to assist with worship now more than ever. Each Sunday we need an usher, two greeters, and a lay reader, and an additional three volunteers for drive-thru Communion once a month. If you are able and attending church in-person, please sign up for one of these positions on a regular basis. All volunteers should arrive by 10:40 am. Please call Marcia Grubbs, 804-873-9653 or email marcia@seengsales.com or the church office if you are willing to serve.

Usher: Will be stationed at the sanctuary/carport door. Wearing gloves, usher will pass out bulletins or direct you to bulletins placed on tables or pews. Usher will direct congregants to offering plates and to pick up the elements from the back table on Communion Sunday. Right before the service begins, gloved usher will retrieve the second offering plate located on a stand near the hallway door and take to the back of the church. Usher will process with both offering plates during the singing of the doxology. Usher will also light the candles to start the service if there is no acolyte. At the end of the service usher will dismiss the congregation by rows to maintain the appropriate social distancing.

Greeter: Greeters, wearing masks, will be stationed at the carport door and the sanctuary door. Greeters will ask the required health questions and record the attendance of each attendee. This would include the names of all members of a family, including children's names. At the end of the service, greeters will use disinfectant wipes to clean the hard surfaces of the open pews and door handles, and spray the bathrooms with disinfectant spray.

Lay Readers: Read assigned scripture while wearing mask.

Drive-thru Communion: Three volunteers are needed. We need a greeter, a person to assist with Communion, and a person to collect the offering. These positions are all outside, wearing a mask, and socially distanced.

Mother's Day Candle Burning May 9th, 2021

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 2, 2021

May Birthdays

MAY 1	ROBERT BARTO
MAY 2	KEITH CALLIS
MAY 4	JASON HART SAM KAESER
MAY 5	DANIEL BOYKIN
MAY 8	JUDY PARRISH
MAY 9	KELLY RICE
MAY 10	AARON FRANKEY
MAY 11	CONNOR GARY
MAY 15	BRIAN WERTZ
MAY 20	JOYCE JOHNSON AVERY GARY
MAY 21	ROBIN ANDERSON
MAY 24	MARK JONES
MAY 25	THOMAS JONES
MAY 26	DAVID HIGGINS
MAY 27	CLINTON GARY AUDREY GARY
MAY 28	POLLY MCELISH
MAY 30	ANDREW MCGOWAN
MAY 31	DIXIE BOWMAN KRYSTLE WERBLOW

Anniversaries

MAY 1	DANIEL & SABRINA BOYKIN
MAY 26	ERIC & MARYJO JONES



stlukesoffice@stlukesrva.org

A close-up photograph of pink dogwood flowers with green centers, set against a soft, blurred background of more flowers and green foliage. The lighting is bright and natural, highlighting the delicate texture of the petals.

*We Wish all of our Mothers,
Grandmothers and
Mothers-to-be
A Very Happy Mother's Day.*

*“The Lord bless you and keep you;
The Lord make His face shine upon you,
And be gracious to you;
The Lord lift up His countenance upon you,
And give you peace.”*

From your St. Luke's family

From The Finance Committee

We rejoice and give thanks for Scottie's continuing healing and look forward to her return as she is able. Bobbie Strum and Jane Barto, aided by Scottie's meticulous records and the support of a host of others, have stepped in during her absence to ensure that the church's finances stay up to date. We are pleased to report that with your generosity and faithful giving during these challenging times our financial obligations are being met. If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact Bobbie or Jane. God is Good!

Hygiene Kits for UMCOR

THE UMW WILL BE MAKING HYGIENE (health) KITS FOR UMCOR IN JUNE. They are asking for help with this project. You may donate \$12-\$14, which is the cost of a single kit. Write your check to St Luke's UMW and put it in an envelope marked UMW and bring it to the church, or send it to St. Luke's UMW, 4101 Fordham Road, N. Chesterfield, VA 23636. All donations need to be made by May 23, 2021. Thank you.

For those who choose to assemble their own kits the website is: www.umcor.org/UMCOR/Relief-Supplies. Scroll down page to Kit Assembly. Click on Hygiene Kit instruction.

Vacation Bible School Save the Date

All Aboard! St. Luke's Vacation Bible School is full steam ahead for summer 2021! We will host a Rocky Railway-themed week starting Sunday, August 15th, running through Thursday, August 19th, 6:00pm-8:00pm. To accommodate pandemic guidelines, masks may be required for all participants, volunteers and children. (We hope guidelines will change by August!) More information to come, but remember to mark your calendars to join the adventure on the Rocky Railway!

Volunteers are needed! If you are interested in helping in any way, please let us know!
Colleen Cassada by email: cbbcassada@gmail.com
Heather Jones by email: heatherjones63@yahoo.com



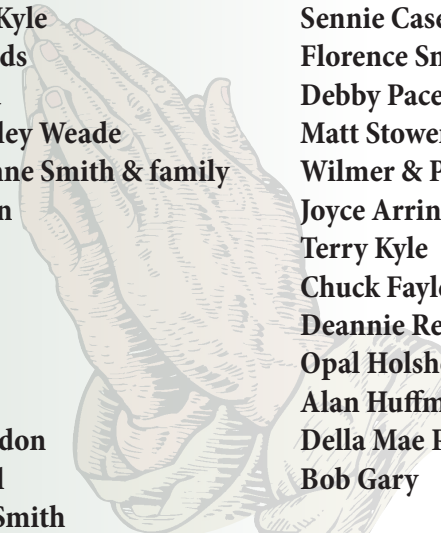


St. Luke's Annual EASTER EGG HUNT



Upheld in our Prayers

Prayers for peace, unity and justice across the nation



Scottie & Ray Kyle
Thelma Edwards
Joan Crawford
Ronnie & Shirley Weade
David & Suzanne Smith & family
Wayne Johnson
Bettie Jones
Jim Brantley
Doris Teeter
Tom Brown
David Higgins
Taylorann Bradon
Bob & Jan Hall
Dean & Ibbie Smith

Sennie Case
Florence Smith
Debby Pace
Matt Stowers
Wilmer & Phyllis Downs
Joyce Arrington
Terry Kyle
Chuck Fayle
Deannie Reynolds
Opal Holshouser
Alan Huffman
Della Mae Phillips
Bob Gary

Please remember the Wright and Seaborne families, victims of the terrible house fire in Mayfair Estates.

Our Military

Robbie Bowen Aaron Frankey Holden Russell

See our weekly Tuesday email for a complete listing of all prayer requests.



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

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