

You must understand this, my beloved: let everyone be quick to listen, slow to speak, slow to anger: welcome with meekness the implanted word that has the power to save your souls. Be doers of the word . . . those who look into the perfect law, the law of liberty, and persevere, being not hearers who forget but doers who act—they will be blessed in their doing.

Selections, James 1:17-27

The Challenge to Change

There is so much we just wish we could change about the present moment. This week the list has become almost inconceivable: pandemic, surge, hurricane, Afghanistan, the loss of 13 American service members. Anyone want to join me in shouting, “STOP!”?

It is not in our anger and frustration at this world and its tragedies, but in our trusting God's Word, that we may humbly, meekly find our way forward in troubled times.

Victor Frankl, a neurologist, psychiatrist, philosopher and author, knew another time when the world was tragic. Frankl, you see, survived the Holocaust—and in a world he could not change, he came to a powerful conviction, and it is this: Says Frankl, “When we are no longer able to change a situation, we are challenged to change ourselves.” His sentiment fits so well with the themes of James 1.

In these unpredictable, uncontrollable times, which we cannot change, we are challenged to change ourselves . . . to find a new or renewed sense of peace from within—to discover in God's Word new strength for the challenges we face—

to practice a new form of service for the good of others and the wellbeing of our own souls too.

Take James' advice on these too-troubled-times:

“But be doers of the word, and not merely hearers . . . those who look into the perfect law, the law of liberty, and persevere, being not hearers who forget but doers who act—they will be blessed in their doing.”

Our world, friends, is chaotic. There is every reason to feel sorrow or anger.

But our God has given us his word to get us through our spiritual struggle and bring us to a new understanding of ourselves in the midst of a chaotic world.

So amid times we feel powerless to change, let us find the power to change ourselves instead, inviting the indwelling gift of God's word to make us new.

TO THE GLORY OF GOD.

Blessings,
Pastor Lisa

adapted from her sermon given 8/29/21



“Sorrow and Love flow mingled down”

We extend our sympathy, love and prayers to Ray, Richard and Becky Jenkins and all of their family. Ray and Richard's sister, Ann Gordon Guckert, claimed the promise of the resurrection on August 28th, 2021.

Upheld in our Prayers

Prayers for peace, unity and justice across the nation

Florence Smith

Joan & John Crawford

Matt Stowers

Ronnie & Shirley Weade

Dennis Haley

Bettie Jones

Jim Brantley

Tom Brown

Curtis Perry

Wilmer & Phyllis Downs

Bob & Jan Hall

Dianne Rust

Sennie Case

Dean & Ibbie Smith

Terry & Louise Kyle

Chuck Fayle

Deannie Reynolds

Opal Holshouser

Our Military

Robbie Bowen

Aaron Frankey

Holden Russell

JOY: Avery Mae Hawkins is home with her parents Danielle and Berkley, and doting grandparents Rick and Carolyn!

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

Congratulations

Congratulations to proud parents Danielle & Berkley Hawkins on the birth of their daughter, Avery Mae Hawkins, born July 8th at 9:07 am, weighing 4 lbs., 5 ozs. Avery came earlier than expected, but is doing well. Congratulations as well to the proud grandparents, Rick and Carolyn Beeckler.

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/>

Music Ministry

Chancel Choir

Sanctuary choir members will continue to assist in the leadership of live and virtual worship services as they have been doing for the past year. We are considering the appropriate time, possibly mid-October, to return to practice for the fall and Christmas seasons. All guidelines and regulations will be strictly adhered to.

Mallet-percussion choir

We will resume mallet-percussion choir rehearsals on September 19, 2021 at 11:45 a.m. in order to prepare for playing on October 17, 2021 for Laity Sunday and Children's Sabbath.

Jacobs Road Mission Project

Jacobs Road Elementary school MISSION PROJECT

As we continue to work on missions, we will collect school supplies for Jacobs Road Elementary school for the whole month of September. As usual, the basic supplies of scissors, notebooks, crayons, glue sticks, etc., will be needed. Other suggestions are hand sanitizer, tissues, disinfectant wipes, all sizes of resealable storage bags and copy paper.

For those interested in volunteering at Jacobs, I have not heard anything. Once school schedules have been determined, I will reach out to the principal and see if she has a need for volunteers.

Debbie Smart

Important Date

Important Date – Mark your Calendar. Charge Conference will be done in clusters this year due to the District Superintendent's increased responsibilities. Our Charge Conference will be on Sunday, October 24, 4:00-5:30 pm at Providence UMC in Chesterfield. Please mark your calendar and plan to attend.

BE INFORMED

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

<http://www.vaumc.org>

Coming Attractions!

Sadly, due to the recent surge in Covid cases, we are not yet returning to Sunday School. But we still have willing teachers and a church eager to grow in faith. So, we are working on an online weekly alternative where two of our teachers will discuss a biblical text and the discussion will be recorded. Then, the recording of this conversation will be emailed to our membership and posted to our fb page, for members and guests alike to watch and consider as they reflect on the scripture of the week for themselves.

A list of our teaching teams and the scriptures to be studied by week will be emailed in September.

Items Needed For Afghan Refugees

"The foreigner residing among you must be treated as your native-born. Love them as yourself, for you were foreigners in Egypt. I am the LORD your God." *Leviticus 19:34*

Along with school supplies for Jacobs Road, St. Luke's is also collecting supplies for the Afghan refugees being welcomed at Fort Pickett. Needed supplies include:

- hygiene products
- travels kits for both men and women
- snacks (manufacturer wrapped)
- games
- toys
- puzzles
- coloring books for children

These can be brought to church on Sunday or dropped off to the church office, Mon-Thurs., 9 am - 1 pm.

Dear Church Family

Seth and I and our boys thank you for your prayers, emails, voicemails, texts and cards as our household has recovered from Covid. It has been an unexpected and exhausting time, but we are recuperating now and grateful for all your encouragement. It is a special congregation that ministers to the minister and her family!

Special thanks also to the Rev. Hugh Harris and Lay Servant Ray Kyle for pulpit supply and to our remarkable staff who kept administration and program support on track while I was unexpectedly absent after vacation! St. Luke's is served by a great crew!

Blessings, and thanks again to all of you!
Seth and Lisa

September Birthdays

September 4	Adam Bowman
September 6	Shirley Weade
September 8	Jared Calfee
September 9	Brady Hart
September 12	Troy Gary
September 13	Linda Engel
September 14	Reg Whitton
September 15	Sydney Kaeser
September 16	James Papczynski
September 20	Dianne Johnson
September 21	Amanda Jones
September 24	Todd Gary
September 26	Sue Fussell
	Jesse Bowman
September 29	Heather Burnett Latham Tad McGonigle

Anniversaries

September 1	Ronnie & Dixie Bowman
September 2	Chris & Kathy Bowen
September 5	Steve & Terri Edwards
September 13	John & Joan Crawford
September 19	Chris & Haley deKrafft
September 26	Clinton & Shirley Gary
September 29	Mary & Pete Meador

September Calendar DAYS

SEPTEMBER 6 - LABOR DAY

SEPTEMBER 11 - PATRIOT DAY
(Remembering those who died on September 11, 2001)

SEPTEMBER 22 - FIRST DAY OF AUTUMN





July 27, 2021

As a United Methodist church, you probably have students within your congregation who are struggling with college costs, particularly coming out of the pandemic. We would like to help.

We can offer a fixed-rate educational line-of-credit (LOC) to your United Methodist students called **SnapLoan**. It's used by many as 'gap' funding after more traditional financial resources have been exhausted.

The rate on **SnapLoan** is very low (just **4.45%** at Methodist schools and **4.95%** at others), and students may qualify for a line-of-credit of up to \$40,000 to use over their academic career. And since no FAFSA is required, it's a good fit for those who might not qualify for other student loans.

Also note that the money can also be used for more 'non-traditional' education expenses like off-campus housing, books, study abroad, technology, and travel - even seminary!

We can make **SnapLoan** available to **ANY** student in connection with your ministry.

We hope that you'll mention **SnapLoan** to some of your students there, or perhaps pass along one of the brochures enclosed. More information about **SnapLoan** is available online at www.tumcu.org/snaploan.

Please feel free to call us with any questions you may have at (886) 657-0004.

Blessings,

James R. Eads
Chief Executive Officer

The United Methodist Credit Union has made a great impact on my life by helping me fund my college education through SnapLoan.

I feel even more blessed that my choice financial institution is based on the same beliefs and values that I have as a Christian.

Allyse H.

James Madison University



How Snaploan Works

- 1 Be a TUMCU Member.**
If you are not already a TUMCU Member, don't worry, it's free and easy to do. Apply for membership at tumcu.org/join/
- 2 Identify Your Funding Gap.**
Estimate the extra funds you'll need after you've used all your other resources. Based on that, you can request a line of credit up to \$40,000.
- 3 Apply For a Snaploan.**
You can apply at tumcu.org/snaploan. No FAFSA is required. And of course, there are no fees for application, origination, or prepayment. Note that approval may be contingent upon having a creditworthy guarantor for your line-of-credit.
- 4 Request funds as needed right on our website.**
We'll disburse the funds however you direct - for tuition, fees, room & board, transportation, rent, technology, study abroad, or any educationally-related expense.
- 5 No payments required during school and up to one year after (the In-School Phase).**
You must remain at least a half-time student, or you will be considered having left school. Your Snaploan line-of-credit interest rate will remain fixed during this phase. We always recommend making interest payments, if possible, to reduce the size of your loan upon leaving school.
- 6 Begin Repayment (the Post-School Phase).**
One year after graduation or otherwise leaving school, you start repaying your loan monthly. You can choose the term (up to 10 years), and a new fixed rate will be determined by formula, using the corresponding U.S. Treasury rate +4.0%.

United Methodist Schools

Virginia

Virginia Wesleyan University
Ferrum College
Randolph-Macon College
Shenandoah University
Randolph-Macon Academy

North Carolina

Duke University
Louisburg College
Methodist University
North Carolina Wesleyan
Bennett College
Brevard College
Greensboro College
High Point University
Pfeiffer University






Washington DC

Wesley Theological Seminary
American University

West Virginia

West Virginia Wesleyan

How is Snaploan Different?

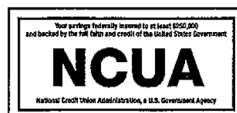
-  Snaploan provides access to funds that can be drawn whenever they're needed (and never more than you need).
-  Funds can be used for many things other loans just don't cover - travel, off-campus housing, books, technology, and even study abroad.
-  There are NO payments required your entire time in school plus one year after you leave.
-  Once out of school, your Snaploan will be converted into a low-interest term loan at a fixed rate depending on the term you choose (up to ten years).
-  Snaploan has a great fixed rate no matter where you go to school - and an even lower rate if you attend a United Methodist college in North Carolina, West Virginia, Virginia, or DC.



THE
UNITED
METHODIST
CREDIT UNION

(866) 657-0004

www.tumcu.org




 **SNAPLOAN**

Student Lending in a Snap

2021-2022
Academic Year Interest Rates

4.95% at any college

 **4.45%** at a regional
United Methodist College

THE
UNITED
METHODIST
CREDIT UNION



FROM THE BISHOP

Responding To Humanitarian Crises

<https://vaumc.org/from-the-bishop-responding-to-humanitarian-crises/>



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

Pastor
The Rev. Lisa Sykes
stlukespastor@stlukesrva.org
Shirley Gary
Office Manager
stlukesoffice@stlukesrva.org
Bob Ford
Minister of Music
stlukesmusic@verizon.net

Margaret Anderson
Financial Secretary
stlukesfinsec@stlukesrva.org
Scottie Kyle
Treasurer
stlukestreas@stlukesrva.org
Michele Hart
Preschool Director
director@stlukespreschoolva.com

Ray Jenkins
Superintendent of
Sunday Schools