

## The Waiting Time

*While he was going and they were gazing up toward heaven, suddenly two men in white robes stood by them. They said, "Men of Galilee, why do you stand looking up toward heaven? This Jesus, who has been taken up from you into heaven, will come in the same way as you saw him go into heaven."*

*Acts 1:10-11*

The early Christians talked about living in the in-between time. That is the time between Jesus' resurrection and his return. They expected this time to be very short, as many of the New Testament scriptures attest. But what they expected would take only a short time ended up being centuries, and we're still waiting!

This reminds me of the situation we face today. We also are living in an in-between time. Only for us, the in-between is between the start of the pandemic and its end. And we too are in a state of wondering and pondering what the world will be like in the future.

Those early Christians who were waiting did not just stand around, but got busy doing the work God had called them to. They fed the hungry, clothed the naked, visited the prisons, proclaimed the gospel and befriended the outcast. In this response to the time in-between, they give us a model for what we should be about, as we wait for what is yet to be, but not yet.

It will be a joyous time when things do return to normal, just as it will be a joyous time when our Lord returns to this world. But in the meantime, our hands and our hearts should be busy. It is a hopeful sign to see our small groups beginning again: United Methodist Men, the quilters, the United Methodist Women, Girl Scouts and ministry teams. There is even hope that we may have a stew before the weather turns too cold!

I only realize how much I have truly missed things when I am able to see them renewed in my life. The church meeting that was quite ordinary before the pandemic is quite extraordinary now, and I delight to see faces and people in 3D. It is a special occasion each time I get reacquainted with each of you in person. And so, as I begin to sense that an end to our in-between time of this pandemic is nearing a close, I hope and pray. For each piece of normalcy that returns, I give God thanks and celebrate the little things in life that I've come to appreciate that are really amazing!

This season as the leaves change, may you delight in the return of the colors and the chill of the season that causes you to pull out that old favorite sweater. And though there still may be some winter ahead, we know the in-between times will not last forever because our Lord gives us hope of a return to normal and, in the coming season of Advent, the return of his Kingdom to our hearts. Abide in faith a little while longer, my friends, and fill your time spent waiting with the Lord's work.

In Christ,  
Pastor Lisa

## Christian Education for Adults

### Chart for Adult (Cyberspace) Sunday School

#### "EAVESDROPPING ON THE WORD"

(Continued) - See updated Sunday School chart below.  
May you be strengthened by eavesdropping on the Gospel!

"Release" DATE	SCRIPTURE	TEACHING TEAM
11/4	Matthew 13: 24-30, 36-43	Richard and Rhea
11/11	Luke 15: 11-32	Lisa and Ruth
11/18	Luke 18: 9-14	Roger and Ray J.
11/25	Matthew 22: 1-10	Chris and Charlotte
12/2	Luke 15: 25-32	A. Ray and Lisa
12/9	Matthew 20: 1-15	Richard and Rhea
12/16	Luke 13: 6-9	Lisa and Ruth
12/23	Matthew 25: 1-13	Roger and Ray J.

## A Day of Remembrance in a Time of Covid

St. Luke's has the habit of celebrating All Saints' Day on the first Sunday in November. This year that date is November 7th. Knowing so many have lost loved ones to this illness during the pandemic as well as to other conditions, we plan to have a special All Saints' Service to remember those who have entered the Kingdom in the past year, and to comfort those who mourn. Please be with us November 7th at 11 am and invite those from our community to come, too. All are welcome!

## Music Notes

The chancel choir will be practicing on Sunday, November 7, 14, 21 and 28 at 2:00 in the afternoon preparing the Christmas music. Anyone in the congregation who would like to sing is invited to join us.

The mallet-percussion choir will resume rehearsals on Sunday, November 14th, at 11:45 a.m. in preparation for the Christmas season.

## 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/>

## November Mission Project

Thanksgiving will be celebrated on Thursday, November 25th, and St. Luke's mission project for November is collecting turkeys for Belmont Food Pantry. Turkeys can be brought to the church through Monday, November 21st. Thank you in advance for your generosity.

## Helping Afghan Refugees

St. Luke's is collecting supplies for Afghan refugees being welcomed at Ft. Pickett. Needed items include: hygiene products, travel kits (both men and women's); snacks (manufacturer-wrapped); games; toys; puzzles; coloring books. These can be brought to church on Sunday or dropped by the church office (Monday through Thursday, 9 am - 1 pm).

## Soccer Shots

The Soccer Shots program will end on November 9th, but don't worry, they will be back in the Spring on Wednesday evenings! Look for more information, and all kids 2-5 are welcome! We look forward to continuing to grow this program.

## Santa Parade

Santa Claus is coming to TOWN! Mark the calendars, on Sunday December 12th at 3:30, Santa and his friends will be visiting St. Luke's! This parade was a lot of fun last year, and we are looking to make it even bigger this year! If you have old Christmas decorations that you would like to donate, please contact Kelly Rice 804-513-3105 or just leave them at the church and she will pick them up!

## DATES TO REMEMBER

**NOVEMBER 2 - ELECTION DAY**

**NOVEMBER 7 - DAYLIGHT SAVING  
TIME ENDS**

**NOVEMBER 11 - VETERANS DAY**

**NOVEMBER 11 - ARMISTICE DAY - WWI**

**NOVEMBER 25 - THANKSGIVING DAY**

## BE INFORMED

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

**<http://www.vaumc.org>**



## "Sorrow and Love flow mingled down"

Our sympathy, love and prayers are extended to Kelly & C.W. Rice and family at the loss of her great aunt, Fran Driskill. Fran, the oldest member of Providence UMC, claimed the promise of the resurrection on October 7th, 2021.

Our sympathy, love and prayers are extended to Andrew & Sevda Russell & family at the recent loss of his brother-in-law, John Arnold. Please also keep Andrew's sister, Tina Arnold, in your prayers during this difficult time.

Our sympathy, love and prayers are extended to Winnie Brown at the recent loss of her brother-in-law, John Marvin Webber. He claimed the promise of the resurrection the second week of October, 2021.

## Upheld in our Prayers

Prayers for peace, unity and justice across the nation

Florence Smith	Wilmer & Phyllis Downs
Joan & John Crawford	Bob & Jan Hall
Katherine Peterson	Dianne Rust
Ronnie & Shirley Weade	Sennie Case
Dean & Ibbie Smith	Jim Raines
Bettie Jones	Terry & Louise Kyle
Jim Brantley	Chuck Fayle
Tom Brown	Deannie Reynolds
Curtis Perry	Brenda Staehle
Opal Holshouser	James Moore

Prayers for the Urbanski's daughter Jessie and her husband as her November due date draws near.

Prayers, also, for Gayle McGonigle who is scheduled for knee surgery Dec. 1st

### Our Military

Robbie Bowen      Aaron Frankey      Holden Russell

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

## November Birthdays

November 5	Eli Barefoot
November 9	Jennifer Miller
November 10	Joan Crawford
November 13	Olivia Gary
	Rachel Edwards
November 16	William Brown
November 17	Cameron Jones
November 19	Opal Holshouser
November 21	Richard Moyer
November 22	Addison Gary
November 24	Katelyn Heath
	Hazel Saunders
November 26	Phyllis Downs
November 27	Nancy Ladd
	Sadie Jones
November 28	Mark Taylor

## Anniversaries

November 10	Zeb & Hazel Saunders
November 28	David & Bonnie Urbanski



Our belated and sincere Congratulations! to Holden and Bethany Russell who were married on January 21st, 2021!



*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](http://www.stlukesumconthehill.org)

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**Sunday Schools**



## Charge Conference

CHARGE CONFERENCE - Sunday, October 24, 2021

On October 24th at 4:00 pm members of Saint Luke's joined with other representatives of Methodist congregations on the Richmond district for our cluster charge conference. This gathering of churches took place to approve necessary items for the coming year, like budget and officers, and also to celebrate the ministry of these churches despite and during the pandemic. Our Superintendent celebrated gains, both large and small, through our United Methodist connection.

Dr. Lee also shared with the churches gathered the famous painting of John Wesley urging Thomas Coke, the first Methodist Bishop, to ". . . go to America" and "Offer Them Christ, Thomas . . . Offer Them Christ." It was an uplifting time of worship and fellowship, and those who had never met Dr. Lee were impressed by his servant spirit. With the business of the charge conference done, let us move forward to a new year with strength, hope and resolve.



St. Luke's was well represented at the October 24, 2021 Charge Conference. Attending were, from top left, Bobbie and Rhea Strum, Ruth Wickstrom, Jane Barto, Ray Jenkins and Bill Brown.

Dr. Lee explains the "Offer Them Christ" painting



PRAISING HIS NAME - ST. LUKE'S YOUTH SUNDAY, OCTOBER 17, 2021



FAMILY MATTERS! Larry and Cassy Russell and son Larry Robert's baptisms - Sunday, October 10, 2021, with visiting family and friends





**NOW OPEN**

**Pfizer (12 and Older ), Moderna and J&J ( 18 and older )**

**Vaccines will be offered at the Rockwood Vaccination Center  
located the former Big Lots building in Rockwood Shopping Center**

**Mondays 3 - 7 p.m. Thursdays 3 - 7 p.m.**

**Tuesdays 3 - 7 p.m. Saturdays 9 - 12 p.m.**

**Rockwood  
Vaccination Center**  
10161 Hull Street Road,  
Midlothian, VA 23112

If you have questions call 1-877-829-4682

**Vaccination Card  
is required for  
Booster Dose**

**Conducted by The Chesterfield Health Department**

**Vaccination Card  
is required for  
Booster Dose**

**BOOSTER DOSE — If you are eligible, you can receive a booster dose of the  
Moderna, Pfizer or J andJ COVID-19 vaccines.**

A COVID-19 vaccine booster dose is recommended for certain individuals, **at least 6 months** after completion of the primary series:

People 65 years and older and residents in long-term care settings,

People aged 50–64 years with underlying medical conditions.

Additional individuals may receive a booster shot of the Pfizer-BioNTech's COVID-19 vaccine at **least 6 months** after their Pfizer-BioNTech primary series, based on their individual benefits and risks:

People aged 18–49 years with underlying medical conditions, and

People aged 18-64 years who are at increased risk for COVID-19 exposure and transmission because of occupational or institutional setting.

[www.vdh.virginia.gov/chesterfield/chesterfield-health-department/](http://www.vdh.virginia.gov/chesterfield/chesterfield-health-department/)



# 2021 PRESCHOOL HALLOWEEN PARADE

