

## St. Luke's Celebrates 59th Anniversary

St. Luke's UMC celebrated its 59th anniversary on Sunday, May 22, 2022. The Reverend Dr. John Peters was in the pulpit, and Bobbie Strum, Lay Leader, assisted.

The United Methodist Men provided a cookout of hamburgers and hot dogs, with church members contributing the rest of the meal for about 80 people. We would like to thank all those who helped in any way with this special day. We especially thank Bobbie Strum's sister, Linda Slayton, for helping serve the meal.

Former members got a chance to reconnect with current church members they hadn't seen in a while, and new members got to meet former members. We couldn't have asked for a better day to celebrate and connect with one another.



Former Pastor, The Rev. Dr. John Peters was the guest preacher for our 59th Anniversary



## Music Notes

The chancel choir will assist in the leadership of the worship services on June 5, 2022 and June 12, 2022; those being Pentecost and Trinity, respectively. The remainder of the summer will be led by solos, duets, and trios. If you would like to assist in leading the worship services please let Bob know as soon as possible.

Sunday, June 5, 2022 will also be led by the mallet-percussion choir accompanying the chancel choir.

Dear St. Luke's  
Church Family,

We are so very thankful for the many cards, food, prayers and love you have shown our family during this most difficult time in our lives. We are grateful for each of you and for the love, support and strength you have shared to enable us to get through these difficult days without our precious Danielle. Thank you so much.

Much love,  
The Beeckler Family

## Congratulations

Graduate student Stephanie Burnett won her second-consecutive women's ODAC/Virginia Farm Bureau Insurance Scholar-Athlete award in the outdoor arena.

Burnett, a Midlothian native pursuing her master's in business administration at Lynchburg, swept the league's 5,000-meter and 10,000-meter championships for a second-straight year, and she also dazzled in the classroom.

She carries a perfect 4.0 GPA in graduate work after graduating from Lynchburg in 2021 with a degree in management and a 3.95 GPA. A Student-Athlete Advisory Committee representative and the College of Business' outstanding senior, Burnett is a three-time NCAA national qualifier, twice in cross country and this past winter in indoor track & field (5,000m).



## 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-Methodis-Church-486188658201339/>

## Masks in Worship Service

While not required, we support those who choose to wear a mask. You are welcome in church whether masked or not. We recognize this is an individual choice. Please remember if you are sick or have been exposed to someone with covid in the last week, please stay home.

## Band Aid Fund

Will be reinstated the third Sunday of each month. This collection will go toward any unexpected repairs. A separate basket will be passed for this offering.

## Grass Cutting

Spring has "sprung" and along with it comes grass cutting. As we are no longer a church that can do yardwork ourselves, the lawn service cost has begun. The preschool is sharing the cost again this year. If you feel led to donate toward this cost, it will be most appreciated. Please make a separate check payable to the church with memo to "grass cutting" Thank you so much for all you do

## St. Luke's June Belmont Food Pantry Mission

You are invited to bring Mac & Cheese to church for the Belmont Food Pantry during June. We welcome your donations and thank you for your generosity.

## Graduation Sunday 2022

Graduating students, it won't be long! June 5th is the date, and the Reverend Mr. Hugh Harris will be in the pulpit.

# MASKS

Chesterfield and Richmond have returned to a high level of transmission and the CDC has recommended masking in indoor public spaces. **Masks are highly recommended by all inside St. Luke's**

Bobbie Strum, HCT/ Layleader

## BE INFORMED

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

<http://www.vaumc.org>

## Covid, Inflation, Gas and Stewardship

The first three challenges listed in the title above have changed the way we think, give and act. Each of us is left to adjust to the impact of these topics, but Stewardship remains our responsibility as to how we manage our assets. This brings to mind the impact that St. Luke's has to face. All of us have seen a declining attendance due to individual circumstances and the desire to remain as safe as possible. This, however, is leaving our church to depend on the Stewardship of our members to make ends meet. There are many expenses incurred just to operate our church and maintain our property; the same as for each of you. I know sacrifices are being made, but in your efforts of allocating time, talent and funds, please keep St. Luke's in your prayerful consideration.

I know a lot is asked from each of you, but the maintenance and survival of our church is a precious asset we all must support.

Please give what you can to help us through the rough times.

In Christian love, Roger Ball



April 21, 2022

St. Luke's United Methodist Church  
4101 Fordham Road  
North Chesterfield, VA 23236

Dear Members of St. Luke's United Methodist Church,  
The Board of Directors and volunteers of Belmont Community Resource Service (BCRS) would like to thank you for your generous donation of canned goods that was received in support of the food pantry. Donations are always appreciated, but they are especially precious during the Covid-19 pandemic. BCRS is providing our clients with food, clothing, and face masks to over 1000 people each week. Your continued support is very appreciated!

Please feel free to visit or volunteer at our food packing on Thursdays from 10:00 a.m. – noon or our Friday distribution from 9:00 a.m. – 1:00 p.m.

Grace and Peace,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Larry Cochran', is written over a white background.

Larry Cochran  
President  
Board of Directors  
Belmont Community Resource Services

**\*\*No goods or services were given in exchange for these donations.**

3510 Broad Rock Blvd., Richmond, VA 23234 • [belmontcommunityres.services@gmail.com](mailto:belmontcommunityres.services@gmail.com) • [www.bcrsva.org](http://www.bcrsva.org) • 804-275-6336

## OUR LAY LEADER SHARES HIS THOUGHTS: 59th ANNIVERSARY OF ST. LUKE'S UMC

What a delight to celebrate the 59th Anniversary of the founding of St. Luke's UMC with Reverend Dr. John Peters in our pulpit, members and visitors filling the sanctuary, and a casual lunch of hamburgers, hot dogs, and side dishes after the sermon. Listening to Reverend Peters' recollections of his days at St. Luke's and his experiences shared by some of us, brought back many fond memories.

Dr. Peters' sermon, "Who's Your Teacher?", was both inspiring and very thought-provoking. It invoked thoughts of elementary and high school teachers, college professors, and of course, our dads and moms, uncles and aunts, co-workers, and friends, that have contributed to our growth, both mentally and spiritually. We hope that many of you who attended the service or listened on Zoom, were likewise moved.



Original Nave 1964

## Safely assisting Ukraine



**The Methodist Connection**

Safely Assisting Ukraine

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We have been urgently alerted that there are many fraudulent efforts coming out online, by email and by text, to raise funds for 'Ukrainian Relief.' Similar scams have been reported in the past for other major humanitarian events, and we wanted to let you know to be extremely cautious in responding to these appeals.

### Second, a Good Solution:

United Methodists and others wishing to provide humanitarian assistance to the Ukrainian people in wake of the Ukrainian crisis can contribute through UMCOR International Disaster Response and Recovery. This fund will provide direct assistance to those in Ukraine as well as assistance to Ukrainians fleeing to neighboring countries.

### Gifts to support the people of Ukraine can be made in the following ways:

Online at <https://umcmmission.org/advance...>

By toll-free telephone: 888-252-6174

By check made out to Global Ministries/UMCOR with 'Advance #982450-Ukraine' written on the memo line, either mailed and addressed to Global Ministries/UMCOR, GPO, PO Box 9068, New York, NY, 10087-9068, or given at or through any United Methodist church

Important Note: 100% of all advance contributions go to the designated cause.

The United Methodist community in Ukraine, though quite small, is actively engaged in assisting neighbors in need. Global Ministries is in touch with the church's leadership as well as with church leaders in countries welcoming those who are fleeing from violence in Ukraine.

Here is a link to the UMCOR site about this effort: <https://umcmmission.org/umcor/h...>

UMCOR - United Methodist Committee On Relief

2022-03-02

Gifts to support humanitarian needs for those in Ukraine as well as assistance to Ukrainians fleeing to neighboring countries can be made through UMCOR international disaster response, Advance #982450.

READ ON FOR HOW TO GIVE: <https://umcmmission.org/u.../how-to-assist-the-ukrainian-people>

## Upheld in our Prayers

Prayers for peace, unity and justice across the nation

Florence & Marion  
Wilmer & Phyllis Downs  
Opal Holshouser  
Joan & John & Roger Crawford  
Dianne Rust  
Sennie Case  
Annie Davis  
Terry & Louise Kyle  
Chuck Fayle  
Curtis Perry  
Katie Kephart  
Riley, David & Bonnie Urbanski's granddaughter  
Rick Buncy, David & Bonnie Urbanski's son-in-law

Bob & Jan Hall  
Lois Kinney  
Annie (Rosemarie's sister)  
Katherine Peterson  
Ronnie & Shirley Weade  
Ibbie Smith  
Bettie Jones  
Jim Brantley  
Deannie Reynolds  
Katherine Peterson  
Glenn Waugh

### Our Military

Robbie Bowen, Aaron Frankey, Larry Russell

Ibbie Smith asks that you remember Dean's cousin, Charles Bell, and his family. They ask for prayers for themselves and for all of Ukraine. Ibbie's update included the good news that Charles, his wife and their two sons (ages 13 and 16), as well as his wife's mother, are safe and have obtained temporary housing in Slovakia. Please ask God's every blessing upon them and pray for their continued safety.

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

## June Birthdays

June 3 Carla Collins  
June 4 Richard Sineath  
June 5 Shannon Bridgeman  
June 6 Michele Hart  
June 8 Betsye Russell  
Bonnie Gold  
June 9 Marcia Grubbs  
Karen Courtney  
Bonnie Urbanski  
June 10 Jennifer Moyer  
June 12 Andrew Rohlk  
June 14 Jean Martin  
June 16 Emily Anderson  
Rose Kessler  
June 18 Sophie Wise  
June 22 Ashley Worner  
June 23 Jan Hall  
June 24 Carson Barefoot  
June 25 Mitch Glover  
Lia deKrafft  
June 28 Mary Meador  
Amber Gardner  
June 29 Kathy Gardner  
June 30 Dennis Haley  
Doris Jenkins

## Anniversaries

June 6 E.W. & Linda Toney  
June 9 Bill & Andrea Brown  
June 12 Jim & Marcia Grubbs  
June 14 Brian & Rachel Kaeser  
Paul & Colleen Cassada  
June 18 Bobby & Deanie Reynolds  
June 19 Jerry & Margaret Anderson  
Wayne & Katie Haley  
June 22 Kevin & Tee Leigh  
June 24 Roger & Beth Ball  
June 28 Bob & Jan Hall

## Graduates

Stephanie Burnett  
Sam Kaeser  
Sophie Lorenzo  
Autumn Papczynski

(More to come in July-August Newsletter!)

## "Sorrow and Love flow mingled down"

We extend our love, prayers and sympathy to Rick Buncy and family as they mourn the recent loss of Rick's aunt, Diane.

Flag Day is  
June 14th



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.stlukesrva.org](http://www.stlukesrva.org)

**Pastor**  
The Rev. Lisa Sykes  
[stlukespastor@stlukesrva.org](mailto:stlukespastor@stlukesrva.org)

**Shirley Gary**  
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**Michele Hart**  
Preschool Director  
[director@stlukespreschoolva.com](mailto:director@stlukespreschoolva.com)

**Ray Jenkins**  
Superintendent of  
Sunday Schools

**We hope you enjoy these photos which we were unable to use in the April and May newsletters.**



### **“THE FLOWERING OF THE CROSS”**

“It’s taking the cross, a symbol of pain and death, and transforming it into something living and beautiful that represents life.” The flowering, sometimes also called the ‘greening of the cross,’ is a folk tradition which may date back thousands of years.”

“The flowering of the cross represents the transition from Good Friday to Easter, from meditation on Jesus’ death to joyful celebration of his resurrection. The ceremony transforms a barren cross, a reminder of Jesus’ death, into an Easter symbol. Covered with fresh, living flowers, the cross serves not only as an emblem of Jesus’ resurrection but also of the continuing presence of Christ among today’s Christians . . .

**Thanks to Wilmer Downs, our own Flowering Cross has graced our Easter Sunday worship for many years.**



### **EASTER EGG HUNT PARTICIPANTS 2022**



### **DEBUT OF “LITTLE DANCING STARS”**



### **EASTER SUNDAY BAPTISM OF ELLIOTT SORENSON**



### **TEAM PHOTOS OF THE SOCCER SHOTS**

### **ST. LUKE’S BABY BOOM, TWO YEARS LATER!**

