

## From North Macedonia, with Love

*Go therefore and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, and teaching them to obey everything that I have commanded you. And remember, I am with you always, to the end of the age.*

—Matthew 28:19-20

A curious and thoughtful congregation member asked me last week, “Lisa, I looked up Macedonia and it’s part of Greece, isn’t it?”

She was asking because she’d been doing her homework! Many of you have heard my excitement as I have announced that the missionary Jennifer Moore is coming to Saint Luke’s on November 20th; the witness of this missionary who works with children in the area of former Yugoslavia will be a cause for Thanksgiving . . . so much more thanks than just for the Turkey on our tables!

So the answer to the question about Macedonia is ‘No,’ North Macedonia is not the same as the area within Greece called Macedonia. Do you feel that I’m giving you a geography lesson? North Macedonia was founded in 1991. It is a landlocked country bordering Kosovo to the northwest, Serbia to the north, Bulgaria to the east, Greece to the south, and Albania to the west.

It’s likely a place that you and I have never been, and may never see during our lifetimes. But the important thing is that our church is there ministering in Christ’s name to the community, and especially to the children. When I saw the write-up on Jennifer and realized she and I share our love for children and ministries to children, I picked up the phone and called the Board of Missions, to invite this missionary who has traveled the globe to be in our fellowship hall for Sunday school, in our pulpit for worship, and at our table to share food and fellowship with all of St Luke’s congregation.

Perhaps you have often prayed for those who do God’s work around the globe. But how often have you shared a meal with one, laughed with one, and enjoyed stories from halfway around the globe that they have told you personally? This is your opportunity!

Jennifer’s witness and her life of service remind us to be thankful for a connectional church that spans the globe. I’ve traveled to Kenya and seen The United Methodist University in Nairobi. I’ve traveled to Japan and learned about the Women’s Mission in Tokyo. I’m convinced, both as the traveler and the pastor, that there are few places in this world that the United Methodist Church has not touched with education, clean water, universities, disaster responses, seminaries, agricultural schools . . . the list goes on and on, and on.

On November 20th, this Sunday before Thanksgiving, when we pause to give God thanks, there will be a special excitement in our church and in our prayers as we give God thanks for bringing the world to us and for sending Jennifer from North Macedonia to North Chesterfield, Virginia.

Thanks be to God!  
Pastor Lisa

### Celebrating a Rebirth!

At the 2022 district conference, the re-establishment of the Commission for Work with Children and Youth in N. Macedonia was made official. The previous commission was disbanded in 2019 due to lack of leadership and members. After creating a new constitution and holding elections, the interim commission is happy the district has an official commission again with the following members (from left to right below): Jennifer, Ruta, Simona, Nevenka and Dejan.



## Laurel Jones, Guest Music Director and Organist



St. Luke's has had the pleasure of hosting Laurel Jones as our music director and organist for the month of October and continuing for an undetermined time.

Laurel is a welcome breath of fresh air, and greatly enhances our worship service with her talents as an organist, pianist, and choir director.

Some of you may remember her from when she filled in for our worship service in the past as the interim music director in December 2015.

Laurel completed her Baccalaureate of Arts in Liberal Arts with a Music minor in voice at Southern Virginia University in April 2005.

While her main church is the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-Day Saints, some of Laurel's notable assignments include Glasgow Presbyterian Church, Lutheran Church of Our Savior, River Run United Methodist Church, and Southminster Presbyterian Church. Laurel has performed countless acts of volunteer service by singing in large group choirs as well as coaching and leading choirs at various levels of public school. We are truly blessed to have Laurel with us and thank her for her continued service to our Lord and to St. Luke's.

## Preschool Dads Provide Assistance

We are so grateful for our kind and generous families! Thank you to Justin Dance for volunteering his time and talent to repair our steps so they are usable again! We also thank Craig Rust for arranging installments of keypads on nursery and fellowship hall doors to make us more secure! We are blessed!



## 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/>

## United Women in Faith

United Women in Faith  
Will meet November 2, 2022  
At 10:30 A.M. in Fellowship Hall

Program :

**Thankfulness & Thanksgiving**

## All Saints' Day

ALL SAINTS' DAY observed Sunday, November 6th.

We will remember all those who have claimed the promise of the resurrection in the past year at the 11:00 am service on Sunday, November 6th.

Please contact the church office if you would like to add a name to remember.

## NOVEMBER OUTREACH

### Belmont Food Pantry Collection

St. Luke's will be collecting turkeys for Belmont Food Pantry during November. Please bring your donations to the church by November 20th and place them in the kitchen freezer. Your generosity is sincerely appreciated.

## DATES TO REMEMBER

**Nov. 6 - All Saints' Sunday**  
Daylight Saving Time ends

**Nov. 11 - Veterans Day & Children's Sunday**

**Nov. 20 - Missionary Sunday w/Jennifer Moore and Thanksgiving Sunday**

**Nov. 22 - Ecumenical Thanksgiving Service**  
see details on page 4

**Nov. 24 - Thanksgiving**

**Nov. -27- First Sunday in Advent**

## BE INFORMED

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

<http://www.vaumc.org>



Our Preschoolers enjoyed a Petting Zoo



Every second Sunday is now "Children's Sunday" with casual dress and activities for the kids. Our first "Children's Sunday" kicked off with the theme "FIT FOR THE KINGDOM," and the kids ran the good race of faith down the center aisle!



Congratulations to our Soccer Shots team .4-6 year olds have finished their fall season and are looking forward to next season!



Soccer Shots 2-3 year olds had a fun year and learned a lot!

## Upheld in our Prayers

Prayers for peace, unity and justice across the nation

Florence & Marion	Peggy Uglow
Wilmer & Phyllis Downs	Lois Kinney
Opal Holshouser	Annie (Rosemarie's sister)
John & Joan Crawford	Bob & Jan Hall & Family
Dianne Rust	Ronnie & Shirley Weade
Sennie Case	The Beeckler Family
Annie Davis	Bettie Jones
Terry & Louise Kyle	Ronnie & Dixie Bowman
Chuck Fayle	Deannie Reynolds
Curtis Perry	Katherine Peterson
Clinton Gary	Margaret Anderson
Wesley Sykes	Glenn Waugh
Harry Guckert	Gayle McGonigle
Rose Marie Adkins	Tee Leigh
Vernon King	

### Our Military

Robbie Bowen, Aaron Frankey, Larry Russell

### All victims of Hurricane Ian

Ibbie Smith asks that you continue to remember Dean's cousin, Charles Bell, and his family. They ask for prayers for themselves and for all of Ukraine. Ibbie hopes an update on their current whereabouts will be coming soon. In the meantime, 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.*



## Charter Members Celebrate!

CONGRATULATIONS AND BEST WISHES to Jean Richardson and Nancy Ladd, two of St. Luke's Charter Members. Jean celebrated her 91st birthday on Monday, October 31st; and Nancy will be 90 on November 27th! St. Luke's congregation extends every good wish and asks God's every blessing upon you.

## November Birthdays

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

## Ecumenical Thanksgiving Service

The ecumenical Thanksgiving Service will be at Elkhardt Baptist Church at 6715 Hull Street Rd., Richmond, VA 23224, Phone: (804) 276-2051. Scheduled time is 6 p.m. on Tuesday, November 22nd, 2022.





*November 11, 2022*

# *Veterans Day*

*Honoring All the Men and Women  
Who Have Selflessly Served our Country  
and Defended Our Democracy*

## *Red Poinsettias*

Red Poinsettias will be placed in the Sanctuary on Sunday, December 18th and Christmas Eve, December 24th. The cost will be \$13.45 per plant. You may take your plant after the 11:00 am service on Dec. 19th or the service on December 24th. Make your check payable to St. Luke's UMC. The deadline for ordering is November 27, 2022

**[stlukesoffice@stlukesrva.org](mailto:stlukesoffice@stlukesrva.org)**

Name of individual purchasing Poinsettia:

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Number of Poinsettias purchased: \_\_\_\_\_

In Memory of: \_\_\_\_\_

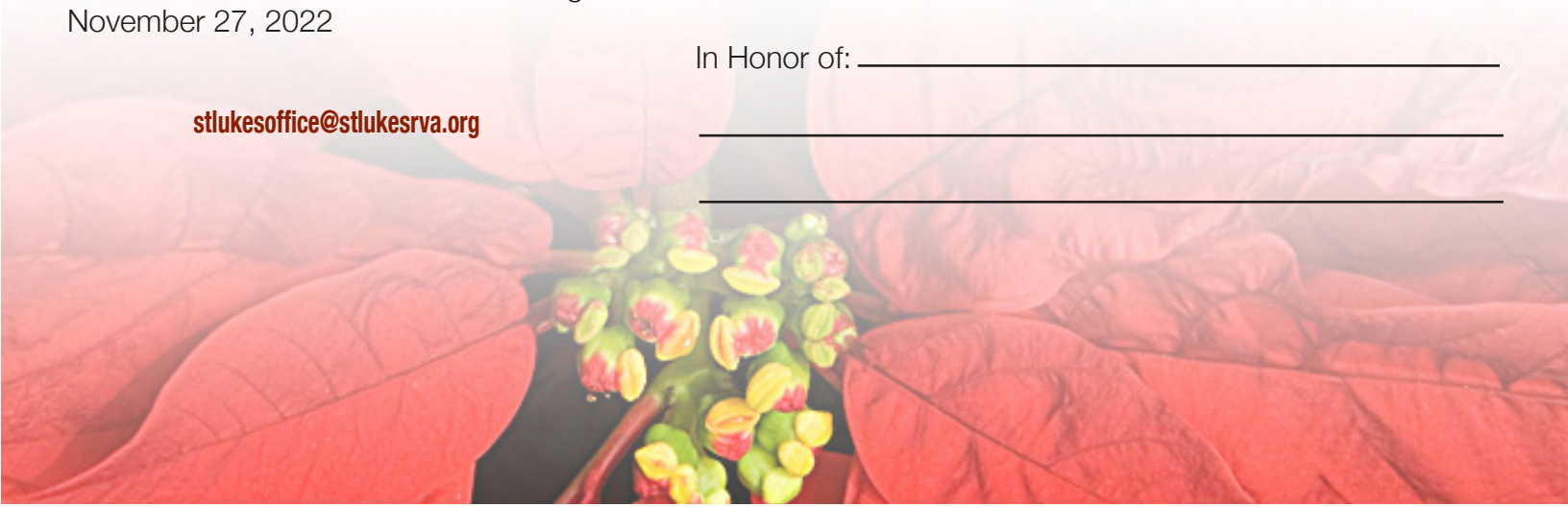
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In Honor of: \_\_\_\_\_

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The United Women In Faith did a study on Jeremiah and the potter and the clay.



Becky Jenkins and Barbara Nunally wait to help with Bake Sale purchases.



The United Methodist Men finish packaging their good Brunswick Stew.



*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)

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