

We have different gifts, according to the grace given to each of us. If your gift is prophesying, then prophesy in accordance with your faith; if it is serving, then serve; if it is teaching, then teach; if it is to encourage, then give encouragement; if it is giving, then give generously; if it is to lead, do it diligently; if it is to show mercy, do it cheerfully.

Romans 12:6-8

Humble Service as Described by The Apostle Paul

It is hard to overestimate the impact of consistent and excellent leadership over the years. During my second year at Saint Luke's, we interviewed one candidate to be director of the preschool. The country was still recovering from the housing bubble that had burst, and enrollment in our preschool was about 80. Financially we were on tenuous ground, and friction between the preschool and the church had caused a rift between the congregation and its best outreach ministry.

Michele Hart, with a degree in Early Childhood Development from Virginia Tech, was not only our single applicant for the job, but also singularly gifted in her abilities to fulfill it. I could not have known 10 years ago, not only what a decade of excellent leadership would mean a decade later to our award-winning preschool (with 113 students and a waiting list), but also how wonderfully Michele would fulfill the job description written by the Apostle Paul in Romans 12:

Prophetic in seeing challenges before they happened, humble in serving the children with the greatest respect; teaching not only the children but also the staff; encouraging in the face of great obstacles -- even to keeping the preschool open during a pandemic; giving of herself, her time and her love, leading diligently and placing the preschool on a solid financial and administrative foundation which it previously lacked; showing mercy, whether it's tending boo-boos with ice packs or helping to raise food, money and an appreciation of sharing our blessings, both near and far.

On Sunday, April 30th, we had a rare chance to thank Michele for her service to children in the name of Jesus Christ at St. Luke's, and just as importantly, to thank God for sending her to us at just the right time.

Thank you, Michele! **HAPPY 10TH ANNIVERSARY, with love and appreciation!**

In Christ, Pastor Lisa



On Preschool Sunday, St. Luke's honored its award-winning teaching and administrative preschool staff and most especially Ms. Michele Hart, for her 10 exceptional years as Preschool Director.

From Laurel

Colossians 3:16 advises us all to “Let the word of Christ dwell in you richly in all wisdom; teaching and admonishing one another in psalms and hymns and spiritual songs, singing with grace in your hearts to the Lord.” I think we have been doing a great job at St. Luke’s this Easter season in singing many hymns of praise together! We will continue to sing psalms, and hymns, and spiritual songs in the choir and as a congregation so that we can make a joyful noise to the Lord.

May is the last month the choir is singing on a regular basis until after their summer sabbatical for June and July. I will be looking for anyone who wants to sing solo, sing in a group or family, or play an instrument during the summer, to contact me so I can get you on the schedule.

Laurel Jones, Music Director

C.W. On Call!

St. Luke’s congregation extends to C.W. a huge THANK YOU for recently taking care of an insect problem on St. Luke’s playground side yard. Wasps apparently had called a rotting wooden stage there “home” for quite some time. C.W. to the rescue! The stage is now all gone, and so are the wasps; and we’re more than grateful!



The demolished stage loaded onto C.W.’s truck and bound for the county dump.

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/>



Special Sundays in May

Mother’s Day – May 14

Pentecost Sunday – May 28

– Wear Red

Memorial Day – May 29

Wednesday, May 24

Preschool Graduation –

UNITED WOMEN IN FAITH

The United Women in Faith will be joining the Young at Heart next Wednesday, May 3rd, for the Senior Triad Event. Everyone is to meet at St. Luke’s UMC by 10:00 a.m. and then travel to the Victory Tabernacle Church on Genito Road where the event is being held.

JUNE 4th IS “GRADS SUNDAY!”

Any graduates of St. Luke’s immediate and extended families will receive special recognition on June 4th. If we have graduates who are church members, they will be honored during the Sunday worship service, while the names of graduates in our extended families will be printed in the bulletin and newsletter. Call the office ASAP if you know of a 2023 grad!!

BE INFORMED

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

<http://www.vaumc.org>

St. Luke's Anniversary Sunday — September 10th

A change in Bishop Sue Hauptert-Johnson's schedule has made it necessary for her to reschedule the anticipated visit to St. Luke's on September 10th. The good news is that Dr. Hyo Lee, District Superintendent, will be preaching from our pulpit that Sunday. We hope you can join us for the 60th anniversary celebration.

Online Giving is Coming

A simplified online giving system is being put in place and will be "up and running" soon. Instructions for use will be shared after access is available on our website. A church-wide announcement will be made when the online giving system (Vanco Faith) is active and ready to use. In the meantime, staff is being trained on use and reporting and to answer any questions you may have. There is a five week rollout of the program during which the advantages of using a mobile/online giving system will be explained.

Scottie Kyle
Treasurer



Charter Member Jean Richardson Dies

Our love, sympathy and prayers are extended to the family of Jean Richardson. Jean claimed the promise of the resurrection on May 1st, 2023. A memorial service will be held soon. Having joined St. Luke's as a founding member on May 19, 1963, she was a charter member of this church for 60 years.

"Sorrow and Love flow mingled down"

Our love, sympathy and prayers are extended to Woody and Debbie Smart and family at the passing of Woody's uncle, Harold Smart. He claimed the promise of the resurrection on April 4, 2023.

Our love, sympathy and prayers are extended to Andi and Eric Sorenson and family at the unanticipated miscarriage Andi recently suffered. May God bless and comfort you.

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 MCELFISH
MAY 30	ANDREW MCGOWAN
MAY 31	DIXIE BOWMAN KRYSTLE WERBLOW

Anniversaries

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



DANCING LITTLE STARS TO PERFORM

Join us May 21st to watch the Dancing Little Stars ballet performance during our 10:30am worship service.



On **Preschool Sunday**, St. Luke's honored its award-winning teaching and administrative preschool staff and most especially Ms. Michele Hart, for her 10 exceptional years as Preschool Director.

Preschool Director Michele Hart interviews five 2023 graduates who were present at the Preschool Celebration on Sunday.



SOCCKER NEWS

Little Kicks Soccer is in full swing at St. Luke's. The children meet every Wednesday to learn new skills and make friends.





Father's Day Candle Burning

June 18, 2023

What do you give to a father who has everything?

Remember your father or a special man this Father's Day by dedicating the burning of a special Father's Day Candle. Names will be listed in the bulletin to honor/remember a special man in your life. (\$10.00 per name).

Name of Person Making this
Dedication:

Name of Man/Men to be listed:

Please Check One:

In Honor Of: _____

In Memory Of: _____

Deadline: June 4, 2023

On your check indicate Father's Day Candle Burning and all proceeds will go toward United Methodist Missions and Ministries.

Blessings, Shirley Gary Office Manager
stlukesoffice@stlukesrva.org



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

Upheld in our Prayers

Prayers for peace, unity and justice across the nation

Andi & Eric Sorenson	Leanne Rohlk's family
Ronnie & Dixie Bowman	Peggy Uglow
Ruth Wickstrom	Margaret Anderson
Opal Holshouser	Florence & Marion
Wilmer & Phyllis Downs	Rose Hudson
Joan Varner	Kip and Drew Barefoot
Ronnie & Shirley Weade	Sennie Case
John & Joan Crawford	Terry & Louise Kyle & family
Ken Knust	Gayle McGonigle
The Beeckler Family	Deannie Reynolds
Vernon King	Annie Davis
Katherine Peterson	Suzanne Hall
Rhea Strum	

Our Military

Robbie Bowen, Aaron Frankey, Larry Russell

UMCOR— Help for Mississippi

If you wish to help the devastated people in Mississippi and other Tornado ravaged areas in the Mid-West you can do so by contacting UMCOR United States Disaster Response - Global Ministries online using the link below or by sending your donations to the Virginia Conference Business Office (P. O. Box 5606 Glen Allen, VA. 23058).

United States Disaster Response - Global Ministries
<http://umcmmission.org>

Light Pole Knocked Down

As many of you have probably noticed, the light pole in the upper parking lot is no longer there. It was hit by a woman picking up a child at preschool. This matter has been reported to Dominion Power and they have it on their list to replace it, although we don't have a time frame. The pole probably will be put in the grass along the tree line rather than in the parking lot. Cones are protecting the area, so please make sure you don't run over them.

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