

Passing Time and Time Passing

“For everything there is a season and a time for everything under heaven...”

Ecclesiastes 3: 1

We've done it. We've arrived. New Year 2024 is here. 'New Years' are times for recalling progress and change. For dreaming of new things yet to arrive.

If I compare the year 2011 to the year 2024, the first obvious change I note is the change in the height of my youngest son, Joshua! In 2011, when we arrived at St. Luke's, Joshua was short, and a whole nine years old! He was still in elementary school, Wesley and Adam were in high school, and I had just arrived after being, in part, a youth minister. Among other things, my calling included high rope courses, white water rafting, and adventure courses. I don't need to say that after 11 years, I am not all that keen to undertake those activities again!

By contrast, my youngest son is the adventurer now: caving and paddle boarding and planning a cross-country trip. Now that I am the mother and not the child, I understand better the grey hairs I gave to my own mother flying off to Scotland and training around Europe! But in the changing of the years, and the growth of generations, we witness not only the seasons of the year but also the seasons of our lives as we travel through time.

You all are aware now, if you've been keeping up with our church communications, that I have come to the conclusion I am ready for a new season in my life. I think most of you have some familiarity with it--it's called retirement! And my retirement affects my church family in ways that are different but just as significant as the ways it affects my own family.

There will be changes all around. There will be excitement, too. Celebrations of new beginnings. And Thanksgiving not only for times and things but for people and a very special relationship that has formed between a church and its pastor and a pastor and her church.

When you sense the changing of the seasons, there is always a looking back. There is always a little sorrow, to see what is, become what has been. But there is also the excitement of imagining what will be, following what is... Curiosity... Expectation... The movement of God's spirit... The discernment of God's gifts, given in the people brought together to serve Jesus Christ.

I hope you will share with me in a season of prayer, as we transition from here to there, knowing that, whether it's the past, present or the future, God is everywhere. And wherever God is, we have been called to be God's faithful people. May these next months be a time of joy and thanksgiving for you as they will be for me... that we have shared this journey together.

My family and I feel very blessed to be a part of the family of Christ at St. Luke's.

Blessings,
Pastor Lisa

From Our Music Director

2 Corinthians 5:17 says, "Therefore if any man be in Christ, he is a new creature: old things are passed away; behold, all things are become new." So often I am grateful to say a hearty goodbye to the old year, and hello to a new year seemingly filled with positive possibilities. It is amazing that we are only a few weeks away from Ash Wednesday, the lenten season, and the joy of Easter, with the celebration of the resurrection of our savior, Jesus Christ. The choir has been sounding so lovely, and I am excited for a new year to do as it says in Psalm 98, and "...sing unto the Lord a new song". I have some lovely new pieces that the choir has begun to work on, and we are excited to perform an Easter Cantata. We will all enjoy making a "joyful noise" and singing praises in 2024!

Laurel Jones, Music Director

Finance Committee

Thank you, St. Luke's family. Due to your generosity our year end Christmas fund raising brought in over \$40,000, a record in this decade at least. Thank you again.

Usually, we hope to collect enough to get our bills up to date and apply a few more dollars to our apportionments, payment in support of the district and conference. Your largess not only allows us to better than catch up on our bills, paying through January, but also has allowed us to pay a total of \$24,148 on our 2023 apportionments, 56.2% of the total asked of us and another record.

As you know, thanks to Covid, disruptions to the "supply chain" contributed to high inflation early in 2023. The inflation rate has cooled off lately but St. Luke's is still paying more for everything from electricity to copier paper so our needs will continue so, hopefully, your regular giving will as well. But, right now we are off to a great start to 2024 and it is all thanks to you.

We at St. Luke's are fortunate to share our church home with a wonderful, caring, giving group of people.

Did I say thank you? THANK YOU!!

Yours in Christ,

Bill Brown, Chair Finance Committee

ASH WEDNESDAY SERVICE AT 1:00PM FEBRUARY 14TH

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/>

Chesterfield Triad Senior Day

Wednesday, May 1, 2024, 9 am program begins. 9:45am - 12 Noon resource fair - Location - Southside Church - address - 6851 Courthouse Road.

Golden Age of Hollywood

Chesterfield County Senior Prom for Chesterfield's 50+, Friday, April 12, 2024, 6 pm-9pm Manchester Family YMCA, 7540 Hull Street Road.

50 Wedding Anniversaries - If you are celebrating a 50th Anniversary anytime this year, please let the church office know ASAP. If your 50th anniversary has passed and you did not celebrate it at St. Luke's, please let us know this, too. We will celebrate 50th Anniversaries on Sunday, February 4, 2024 in the Worship Service.

Banners - We will be dedicating banners for Lent and other special Sundays on February 18, 2024 as we begin the Lenten Season. These banners are a gift to the church purchased with Memorial monies in memory of Jan Hall

2024 Graduates - If you have anyone graduating this year from high school or college, please inform the church office. All graduates will be listed and members will be given a gift.

Young at Heart will meet on Wednesday, February 14 at 10:00 am. for meeting, go out to lunch and those who wish may return for the Ash Wednesday Service at 1:00 pm. Young at Heart will be collecting can goods especially vegetables for the months of Jan. and Feb.

United Women in Faith will meet by zoom on February 21, 2024, at 4:00 pm. Link will be forthcoming.

Thanks to everyone in this congregation who helped us draw near to our financial commitments as we seek to be faithful in our support of mission and ministry at year's end. Apportionments paid was 56.2%

Quilters will start back on Friday, February 23rd at 10:00 a.m. in fellowship hall.

Our Sunday School curriculum is Adam Hamilton, Wrestling with Doubt: Finding Faith. Classes continue Feb. 4 and 11th at 9:30 a.m. in the fellowship hall.

BE INFORMED

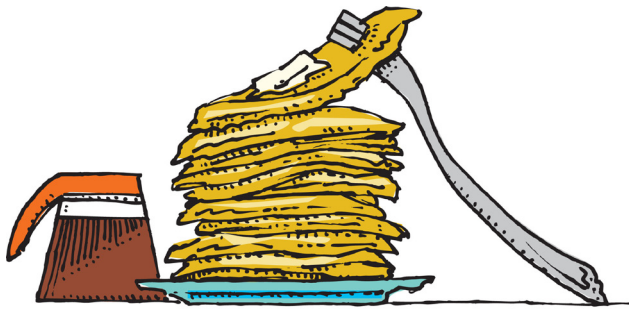
Keep up with all that's going on within the Virginia United Methodist Conference by visiting -

<http://www.vaumc.org>



"Soup"er Bowl Sunday February 4th

Bring a can of soup for the Belmont Food Pantry and stay for soup after church. A variety of delicious homemade soups and chili will be provided for lunch. Eat one or try them all! Wear your favorite team jersey to church, stay for lunch and fellowship.



SHROVE TUESDAY United Methodist Men's Pancake Super on Tuesday Feb. 13 5:30 — 6:30 p.m.

**Come for good food and fellowship
as we get ready for Lent.**

The menu for the meal is as follows:

- Pancakes
- Sausage patties
- fried apples or apple sauce
- syrup, coffee, orange juice, water

Love Offerings are welcome!

UNITED WOMEN OF FAITH

United Women of Faith will meet February 7th at 10:30 a.m. in the Fellowship Hall. Ibbie Smith will lead the program and project: *Heartfelt Valentines.*

Upheld in our Prayers

Prayers for peace in Israel, Gaza and Ukraine

Prayers for our Military

The Kyle Family

Gayle Rouse

John & Joan Crawford

Violet Smith

Vernon King

Wilmer & Phyllis Downs

Deanie Reynolds

Ronnie & Heather Jones

Sennie Case

Ronnie & Shirley Weade

Bob Hall

The Beeckler Family

Opal Holshouser

David & Bonnie Urbanski

Florence Smith

James & Charlotte deKrafft

Annie Davis

Peggy Uglow

Mitch Glover & Family

Margaret Anderson

Dan & Carol McSpadden

Our Military

Robbie Bowen, Aaron Frankey, Larry Russell

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

"Sorrow and Love flow mingled down"

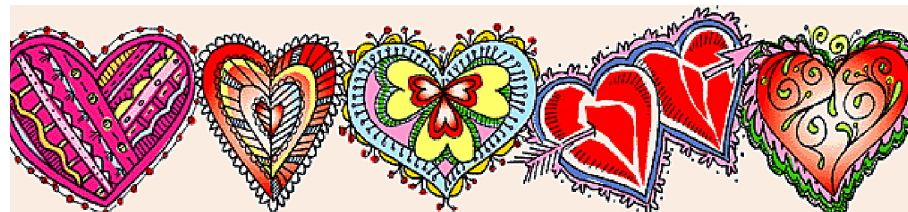
Our Sympathy is extended to the Rice and Rust Family. Craig's sister and Kelly's aunt, Kathy Velasco, claimed the promise of the resurrection on January 13, 2024.

Congratulations!!!

Congratulations to Miss Lia deKrafft, along with her parents Chris and Haley, are happy to announce the birth of her little sister and their new daughter, Isabelle James deKrafft, 9 lbs, 3 ozs, on December 6, 2023.



Congratulations to Jennifer and Brandon Powell on the birth of their baby boy, James Powell. Keith and Donna Miller are the proud grandparents.



Ash Wednesday Service

Ash Wednesday Service is February 14th at 1:00 pm. A short service of reflection and being marked with the ashes will take place at 1:00 pm in the Sanctuary.

We hope you can come on your lunch hour to share this solemn service and invite a friend. There will be no evening service on the 14th.

Soup for Souper Bowl Sunday

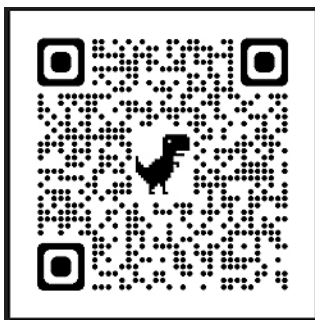
If you plan on making soup or chili, please sign up on the clip board going around, and specify what soup you are making. You are welcome to wear your favorite sports jersey or colors that day.

Access On Demand

Access On Demand – If you are no longer able to drive, give mobility services a call, 804-706-2796 or visit website, <https://chesterfield.gov/mobilityservices>

Giving On-line

Donate online: <https://secure.myvan-co.com/L-Z9ND/campaign/C-13K8H> or scan the QR code on the right.



*Dear family and friends of
St. Luke's Church,*

*I write in thanks, on behalf of
Seth and myself, for your generous
Christmas gift, and thoughtfulness
always.*

*This is a congregation that sup-
ports its pastor and her family with
care and affection and effort and ded-
ication. You never fail to show your
appreciation for us, the year round,
and so this is a small note with a big
'thank you' attached.*

May God bless you as you bless us!

*In Christ,
Lisa*

February Birthdays

February 1	Becky Jenkins C. W. Rice Jason Williams
February 2	Randi Hayes
February 5	Kevin Russell Stephanie Burnett
February 6	Gayle Rouse Ashley Driskill Nikki Driskill
February 8	Sean Wythe
February 10	Katie Haley Katherine Stefi Harris
February 12	Carolyn Beeckler
February 15	Ruth Russell Tom Proffitt
February 17	Robert Hall Rebecca Heath Tee Leigh
February 19	Andrea Brown Betty Hubble Justin Burnett
February 20	Maria Proffitt Wayne Johnson
February 22	Scottie Kyle
February 24	Mary Nell Kloss
February 25	Thelma Edwards Rachel Jenkins Cook Sofia Lorenzo Bruce Anderson Stewart Ball
February 26	George Moore
February 27	David Urbanski
February 28	Pam Coleman



LENTEN
CALENDAR

February 13 – Shrove Tuesday Pancake Sup-
per, 5:30-7:30 pm, Served by
U.M. Men

February 14 – Ash Wednesday Service, 1:00 pm;
No evening service.

February 18 – First Sunday of Lent and dedication
of banners in memory of Jan Hall

February 25 – Second Sunday of Lent

March 3 – Third Sunday of Lent

March 10 – Fourth Sunday of Lent

March 17 – Fifth Sunday of Lent

March 24 – Palm Sunday will Easter Egg
Hunt after Worship

March 31 – Easter. Cantata will be presented
and bring flowers to adorn cross



THREE NOTCH'D
DISTRICT
VIRGINIA CONFERENCE UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

BISHOP SUE'S DISTRICT VISIT



SUE HAUPERT-JOHNSON
RESIDENT BISHOP, RICHMOND ANNUAL
VIRGINIA ANNUAL CONFERENCE



DESSERT RECEPTION WITH LAITY
SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 25, 3:00PM
ZION UMC, 1674 ZION ROAD
TROY, VA 22974 - [REGISTER HERE](#)



PREACHING AT NEW SONG UMC
SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 25, 9:30AM
7450 COLTS NECK ROAD
MECHANICSVILLE, VA 23111



CLERGY LUNCH*
MONDAY, FEBRUARY 26, 11:30AM
ALDRSGATE UMC
1500 EAST RIO ROAD
CHARLOTTESVILLE
***\$10/PERSON - [REGISTER HERE](#)**

TNDistrict@vaumc.org



804-521-1124



HOME FOR CHRISTMAS



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

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