

St. Luke the **LINE**



**First Sunday of the
new 10:45 am
worship service**

"Come to me, all you who labor and are burdened, and I will give you rest. Take my yoke upon you and learn from me, for I am meek and humble of heart; and you will find rest for yourselves. For my yoke is easy, and my burden light."

Matthew 11: 28-30

THIS MONTH

2. Announcements
4. 2nd Grade Bibles
5. Pumpkinfest
6. "Flat Jesus"
7. Health Expo
8. Christmas Shoeboxes
9. Worshiping in New Ways
10. Caring for the Caregivers
11. Giving Matters
12. Stewardship Update
13. From the Pantry Shelf
14. Blue Barrel Sunday

ANNOUNCEMENTS



Holiday Market 2018

The holidays are just around the corner. There is no better way to celebrate than at the annual Holiday Market sponsored by the United Methodist Women at St. Luke United Methodist Church. Vendors and crafters will be in

the Gym on Friday, October 12 from 6-9:00 p.m. and on Saturday, October 13 from 9:00 a.m. - 3:00 p.m. Food is available to purchase both days. Come and find unique gifts and helpful items.

CHURCH LEADERS

Church Leaders for 2019 Wanted!

We are praying that God will help us identify persons who are willing to serve in a leadership position in the church for 2019. No experience necessary. These are the qualities that the successful applicant will need:

- ❶ A deep and abiding love for God.
- ❷ A love for the church and a commitment to support the church with your prayers, presence, gifts, service and witness. Church members desired but not required.
- ❸ A willingness to go deeper in your relationship with Christ by serving in the church of Jesus

Christ. If you are interested in applying, please send a brief statement of faith, including an indication of what kind of ministry that you believe God is calling you to be a part of, to Pastor Mark at mgirard@stlukeumc.org or place in my box at church. If possible, please submit your "application" by Sunday, October 21.



Hurricane Florence Relief

We are assembling cleaning buckets to send to those who are victims of Hurricane Florence through UMCOR. The lists of needed items can be found online or in the Connection Center. Please donate only those items requested. Drop-off items in the Connection Center. You can also give to UMCOR's relief and recovery efforts: Make your checks out to St. Luke or give online and put "UMCOR" in the memo line.

PICKLEBALL

Pickleball Coming Soon to St. Luke!

Play the game of Pickleball, a fun sport that combines many elements of tennis, badminton, and ping-pong. We welcome all levels from beginners to advanced. Are you interested? Stay tuned for more information or contact Moe Miller at edmundmillerjr@windstream.net or Mark Walz at mwalz@stlukeumc.org

St. Luke University Fall Retreat: God's Call on our Lives!

When: October 19-21st Where: Stanton Christian Church, Stanton, Ky

The College-Age group of St. Luke will be going on Retreat on October 19-21 to Stanton, Ky near the Red River Gorge.

We will be discussing and pondering what God's Call on our lives looks like for all of us! There will be hiking, fun adventures, great food and snacks, along with times of worship and teaching. If you are college age and attend St. Luke, talk with or contact John Duff at jduff@stlukeumc.org to sign up for the retreat today!



ST. LUKE UNIVERSITY
college-age young adults

Prayer Shawl Ministry

Compassion and the love of knitting/crocheting have been combined into a prayerful ministry and spiritual practice which reaches out to those in need of comfort and solace, as well as in celebration and joy. Many blessings are prayed into the shawls. The Prayer Shawl Ministry of St. Luke meets every Tuesday morning in Room 124 from 10:00-12:00. If you knit/crochet, or would like to learn, please join us in the making and giving of the Prayer Shawls.



St. Luke Basics (101) Class set to begin in October

Are you new to St. Luke and would like to know about the church and ways to get involved? Beginning on Wednesday evening, October 3, as part of Wednesday.comm, Pastor Mark will be offering St. Luke Basics, which will explore the history, beliefs, values, and ministries of St. Luke United Methodist Church. The class will meet from 6-7 p.m. on the Wednesdays of October, following the Wednesday night meal which begins at 5:15 p.m. Everyone is welcome! If you have any questions, please talk with or email Pastor Mark at mgirard@stlukeumc.org.



Get Connected • Want updates on church events, important announcements, and to receive the monthly Church Newsletter via email? Each week we send out an email with important information about the life of St. Luke. Signing up is quick and easy. Just fill out a "Get Connected" card or send an email to infoline@stlukeumc.org asking to be put on the list. Signing up is a great way to ensure you know what's happening at the church. We welcome anyone to sign up to receive this email.





2ND GRADE BIBLES

A JOURNEY INTO THE GREAT UNKNOWN



Nine wonderful 2nd graders received their Bible in God's Backyard during September.

Congratulations to Josh Barber, Baylee Barnes, Madeline Bell, Ronia Gawlik, Ed Gifford, Dylan Skipworth, Kennedy Thorpe, Makayla Thorpe and Haley Wright. Each child also has a secret "Bible Buddy" who will be sending them notes of encouragement and praying for them all year.



SATURDAY, OCTOBER 27
5:00 - 7:00 P.M.

PUMPKINFEST

The Children's Ministry Leadership Team is looking forward to our 5th annual Pumpkinfest on Saturday, October 27th from 5-7:00 pm....**BUT** we can't do it without **YOU!**

Games/activities will be held in front of our sanctuary from 5-6:30, followed by viewing "It's the Great Pumpkin, Charlie Brown" in The Loft starting at 6:30 p.m.

Even though SLUMY won't be selling pumpkins this year, we still want to provide this family-friendly event for our community.

We are seeking classes/groups to have a booth to

help make it a great event. We ask that your group provide all necessary items for your booth. If you need ideas, we can help! There are plenty of fun, easy-to-set-up activities that use pumpkins as the focus! We have a few games available, too!

Talk it over in your class or group, then email Susan, scutshall@stlukeumc.org or call her at 269-4687, to indicate how your group wants to participate! This will help us be sure there are no duplicates.

It is always a joy to see the church body come together to provide this event for church families and families in our community!

Children's
Ministry
Leadership Team:
Molly Barber,
Susan Cutshall,
Sarah Turner, Janet
Wade, Rusty Wade



FUN WITH FLAT JESUS

Our adventures with “Flat Jesus” came to a close following Labor Day weekend. He visited 43 states and 9 countries! What started out as a children’s ministry project organically turned into a church project! Thanks to everyone who took Him with you to so many different places this summer! Remember: Jesus is ALWAYS with you!



+ HEALTH EXPO

WELLNESS CHECKS • WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 24 • 5:00-7:30 P.M. IN THE GYM

Please join us for wellness checks in the gym during Wednesday.com! Flu shots will be given by the health department nurses, and there is no charge if you bring either your Medicare, Medicaid, or health insurance card; otherwise, the charge is \$25. Pediatric doses will be available for children. October is the preferred month to receive your immunization.

In addition, there will be "Wellness Check" stations for blood pressure, etc. Be sure to get a handout to maintain your health history.

Also, there will be a few health information tables (ie. mental health).



get your

Flu



Shot



Did you know that a small shoebox can have a big impact? Thanks to your generosity, when the shoebox is filled with a purpose, it can happen! What goes into the box is fun, but what comes out of the box is eternal. Be a part of changing children's lives as we continue to build on our partnership with Yakalawas, Nicaragua.

Our Going Forth (Missions) Team is sponsoring this project again this year, and we hope the whole St. Luke family will participate! There are many ways you can be a part:

- Complete a box.
- Donate items for the boxes.
- Help prepare the boxes at our Packing Party on Wednesday, October 24 from 6:00-8:30 p.m. Pizza provided!
- Travel to the UMCOR Warehouse in Decatur, Alabama, October 25-27 to deliver the boxes, help with UMCOR projects in the warehouse, and experience the impact and wide reach of our United Methodist network.

Everyone can be a part and help make a difference! See the display in our Connection Center lobby or contact Allen Porter (alport1941@gmail.com or 606-375-2753) or Nora Conner (nconner@stlukeumc.org or 859-269-4687) for more information.

CHRISTMAS SHOEBOX GIFTS FOR NICARAGUAN CHILDREN





worshiping in new ways



by **John Duff and the 10:45 Lead Team**

The 10:45 worship service has launched, and we are excited! As you know, our vision for this worship service is: An intergenerational Jesus-centered community who gathers to encounter God through Spirit-led, participatory and relational worship. We have enjoyed great times of worship, teaching and interaction so far as we seek to focus on knowing and loving each other really well.

We meet in the original sanctuary of St. Luke. If you didn't know, St. Luke worshiped in what we call the fellowship hall for 8 years before we moved into our current sanctuary

around 1986. After that, St. Luke held Wednesday night meals and teaching times in the fellowship hall. Thus there have always been great times of worship, teaching, community and growth in discipleship in the original sanctuary of St. Luke. God has been working in this space for many years, and we trust that He will continue to do so.

For those interested in what our gatherings might look like, we invite you to come and check us out at 10:45 on Sundays! For those not, we invite you to pray for us as we pray for you and join in the unity of the Spirit of Jesus. Let's work together toward the vision of Jesus Christ in Every life!



CARING FOR THE CAREGIVERS

by **Mike Powers**

Here is a ‘twist’ to the distinctive and remarkable ministry of hospitality of St. Luke United Methodist Church. Our congregation has a wonderful way of making people feel welcomed, loved, supported and encouraged to experience and fully enjoy Jesus Christ in their lives. Hospitality is who we are and what we do... and we do it well! Now, this thought may sound a bit self-serving, but it is not. It is an idea I

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emphatically promoted as a district superintendent, and something I strongly advocated for my pastors especially during October.

I am not sure who actually developed the idea of “Pastor Appreciation Month,” but for several years now, congregations from various denominations have designated the month of October as a period when intentional efforts are made to express love, appreciation and encouragement to

the clergy of their local churches. Some have expanded this effort to include all staff, and rightly so. Our pastors need to feel the strong love and support of those who understand the awesome responsibility they have in fulfilling their call before God and others. The roles and expectations of our ministers are expanding, and the heavy burden of faithful and effective ministry is felt constantly by those who care for our souls. Even in the midst of the love and



fellowship of the church, pastors and church staff can be very lonely and feel terribly isolated from others. A typical week for a full-time minister is 60+ hours. Even on ‘days off,’ there is no sense of relief because the job is never finished. When caregivers are on the “giving” end of ministry more than the “receiving” end, they inevitably burn out. Of the twelve ordinands as elders in my class, only three of us made it to retirement. Sadly, that is too typical.

I want to encourage you to ‘turn the tables’ and extend the ministry of hospitality to our clergy and ministry staff during October. Truly, it is the loving thought that counts the most, but here are a few ideas you might try: a gift card (meal, car wash, bookstore, etc), weekly notes of appreciation, written prayers, prayer together, a hug (or a hearty handshake)... you get the idea. Just do what you do best for these servants who give their best to us week after

week. Whatever you do, it will be a blessing to our pastors and church staff and will strengthen the fellowship and witness of Christ among us. Thank you for caring for our caregivers.

Giving MATTERS

Dear Church Family,

I am excited to tell you that the budget for our new fiscal year, that runs from July 1, 2018 through June 30, 2019, has been approved! After working through our ministry-focused budget process with our ministry teams, administrative areas, and the SPRC, and with the endorsement and recommendation of the Finance Team, the Servant Leadership Team (SLT) approved the budget.

This budget represents a significant reduction (3.5%) from last year's budget, even as we believe this budget will still allow us to continue moving forward with our vision. The savings have primarily come through voluntary staffing changes, and while we continue to look for ways to reduce costs, this is a big step. Look for our narrative budget in the near future! It will share stories as well as numbers and will illustrate how everything you contribute to St. Luke works to change lives and move us toward our vision of Jesus Christ in Every Life.

Also, as many of you know, our church has been experiencing some financial strain in recent months. Our contributions have continued to increase, which is exciting news that reflects positive trends in our congregation's growth as disciples and commitment to our church. However, contributions have not increased at the pace needed for our additional

mortgage payments per our 8-year plan that was adopted when we built the Life Center. While that strain has eased somewhat with our new budget, there is still work to be done.

Having said that, we trust that there are more than enough resources in our congregation. God has not called us to something that we are not able to achieve. As our hearts and lives grow more and more to reflect Christ, as each of us, as you and I, participate in the life of our church through your prayers, your presence, your gifts, your service, and your witness, there will be no shortage of anything!

I invite you to pray and reflect on what God is asking of you. And if you would like to talk with me about any of these things—our budget, our church's Stewardship Plan, what God is saying to you—I encourage you to!

Peace in Christ,



Associate Pastor
& Director of Ministry and
Stewardship



STEWARDSHIP

SHARING THE GIFTS WE HAVE



The information is a summary of our 2018 finances through August. Many thanks for your faithfulness and for the many ways you impact our church and the world for Jesus Christ. May we continue to be good stewards of God's gifts!

AUGUST 2018

Budget needs	\$112,470.84
Expenses	\$107,969.85
Total income*	\$83,023.04
Expenses-to-Income difference	(\$24,946.81)
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Alms contributions for August 2018	\$3,752.36
Balloon Fund contributions for 2018	\$55,183.54
Total Balloon Fund contributions to date	\$288,918.45
Life Center mortgage balance (as of 8-31-18)	\$2,221,461.14

2018 FISCAL YEAR-TO-DATE

Budget needs (as of 8-31-18)	\$224,941.68
Expenses (as of 8-31-18)	\$210,914.12
Total income (as of 8-31-18)*	\$193,153.07
Expenses-to-Income difference (as of 8-31-18)	(\$17,761.05)

*Total income includes contributions, building use fees, and Kroger card receipts.

** Our fiscal year runs from July 1 through June 30.

Questions? Please contact Nora Conner, Associate Pastor/Director of Ministry and Stewardship

PANTRY

St. Luke operates a food pantry through God's Pantry on Mondays through Fridays from 1-2:30 p.m. & 6-7:30 p.m. The clients are given an opportunity to pick food items to form a nutritional food selection. Food supplements are prepared from both donated and purchased food and contain the items necessary to prepare enough meals for five to seven days.



by Karen Hinkle

How much food do we need each week? Over the summer we have varied from 170 – 210 families in a five day period. A reasonable average is 180 families served each week and 20% are families of 4 or more. Based on the quantity of food each family size is allowed to choose we will distribute about 3348 cans or packages of food in a five day period. That is one and half tons of food! Donated food coming into the main pantry continues to be limited so your Blue Barrel Bag contributions are a significant part of ensuring that families have a choice of food options.

Volunteers are always needed to work at the St. Luke pantry site. If you are new to St. Luke, we are happy to give you a tour and more details. If you are interested, contact our Volunteer Scheduler Kathy

Gendreau at katgen452@twc.com or for general information about the pantry contact Karen Hinkle at kphinkle@twc.com. Orientation is provided and you always work with an experienced volunteer.

Don't have time to shop or you forget to purchase a few cans of our requested foods? Monetary donations to our pantry fund are always appreciated. Several times a month we make a shopping trip to fill some major gap in our supplies. What a blessing to have the funds available to help us provide the needed items. If giving cash you can put in an envelope and mark pantry fund. If writing a check, make a notation in the memo line that the funds are for the pantry fund.

BLUE BARREL SUNDAY

Pick up your Blue Barrel Bag on October 14th and return on October 21st filled with a variety of canned meat protein items. Include items such as canned tuna, chicken, stew, chili, vienna sausage, salmon etc. Include sardines or canned pasta with meat such as spaghetti and meatballs or canned ravioli.

Remember if you forget or are not here on the 21st, you can drop off your contributions throughout the month.





2351 Alumni Dr., Lexington, KY 40517 · 859-269-4687

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This newsletter is also available online in full color at stlukeumc.org/newsletter.

Worship Schedule:

9:30 a.m., 10:45, 11:00 a.m.

God's Backyard (K - 5th grade): 11:00 a.m.

Swahili Worship: 12:30 p.m.

Multicultural Worship: 3:00 p.m.

Child care available at all services.