



THE EPISTLE

St. Luke's
United Methodist Church

September 13, 2011
Volume 46 Number 48

480 S. Highland
Memphis, TN 38111-4302
901.452.6262
www.stlukesumc.org



Have you turned in your Registration?
Church-wide Fall Retreat

October 1 and 2, 2011

St. John's Retreat Center, Nelson Woods

Take the opportunity to worship, study, play, and relax together
as we enjoy the wonders of God's creation.

Saturday only participants are welcome as well!



This year's theme is **"It's Your Move."**

Using popular games as a metaphor for our temporal lives, the sessions will help us sort out
what is fleeting and what is permanent in God's reign.

Being master of the board is not the point; being rich toward God is!

Registration forms are available in the Hospitality Hall or can be downloaded on the Fall Retreat
page of our website: stlukesumc.org/fallretreat

The cost is \$25 per person, \$95 family max / \$15 Saturday only

Transportation will be available.

See you around the table at the retreat center, where good stories,
games, and laughs abound.



MISSION STATEMENT

"We are becoming a faithful community of disciples
striving to share the heart, mind and hands of Jesus Christ."

Pastor Mark's Epistle

Dear Friends,

We have swung into "Fall" activities even with a few days before Autumn officially arrives, with lots of opportunities. One of the things I urge for your consideration is our FALL RETREAT coming up on Oct. 1-2 at Nelson Woods (see the front page for more information). Also, our CONNECTIONAL nature needs affirming through active St. Luke's presence at two important gatherings...

....BISHOP'S RALLY is Sunday evening, Sept. 18, 6 p.m. at First UMC-Jackson; we plan to take a bus, with a 4 p.m. departure from St. Luke's and arrival back by about 10 p.m.; please sign up for the trip on the list at Hospitality Hall desk;

....DISTRICT SUPERINTENDENT'S INSTALLATION will be on Sunday afternoon, September 25th, 2:30 p.m. at Emmanuel UMC; bus departs at 2 p.m., arrives back at approximately 5 p.m.; same sign-up process for a ride.

Building up toward October 9 thru 30 is our "Extravagant Generosity" emphasis. You will see lots of signs of life as we engage in this vital ministry of love. I have a few copies remaining of the Robert Schnase book related to our theme, entitled FIVE PRACTICES OF FRUITFUL LIVING. Let me know if you'd like a copy!

Finally, I'd like to look back with a big THANKS to the United Methodist Women and to our Chancel Choir for a very meaningful September 11th service. We have lots of abundant Christian Hope to share, don't we?

In service, Pastor Mark

Join us in Worship

The next two Sundays will focus on two passages from Exodus where God provides the Israelites with their daily needs.

Come, draw near to the Lord.

Sunday, September 18

Worship at 8:30 and 10:50

"Manna-Fold Blessing"

Exodus 16: 2-15

Sunday, September 25

Worship at 8:30 and 10:50

"The Massah/Meribah Syndrome"

Exodus 17: 1-7



the element

Sundays 6:00pm,
Fellowship Hall

Sept. 18: High & Lifted Up
Numbers 21: 46-9, John 3: 13-17

Sept. 25: Naysayers
Jonah 3: 10 - 4:11

Charge Conference

Sunday, October 30, 5:00 p.m., Chapel

All members of St. Luke's are
invited to attend.

Together We Grow....

Wednesday Dinner and Activities

Study

5 Practices of Fruitful Living
Led by Pastor Mark, Lounge

Service

Hands Activity - CLC 103
9/14 - Make Casseroles
9/21 - Assemble Homebound Bags
Prayer Shawl Ministry - Parlor

Creative

Writing, Advent Devotional Book - MB 211
Media team - MB 304

Wellness

Cooking with Coach, MB 310
Walking or Fitness in the Gym
Yoga - MB 213

Come see how your faith can GROW on Wednesday nights.

Fellowship Meal

Salad Bar available every week.
Sept. 14: Soup and Salad Bar, Garlic bread, Lemon bars
Sept. 21: BBQ Chicken, Hash browns, Slaw, Rolls, Cheesecake
Chicken nuggets available for children.

We are excited our Wednesday suppers are being well attended and the increased fellowship! Please help us to prepare the correct amount of food by making reservations by noon on Tuesday. Baked Chicken is available each week if requested when making reservations.

ASP Information

If your Youth will have completed 8th grade by next Summer, they are eligible to go to ASP. Everyone interested in going should at least STOP BY the Youth Room on Sunday, September 18 and sign the list (your \$50 deposit of the \$250 total is due that day too). If you have any questions, you can stay and ask them at that time!

HELP OUR YOUNG ADULT GROUP!

Did you know that we have a faithful group of College-aged people that meet for dinner and time together each week? Our budget is small, so if you can help feed us, we would greatly appreciate it! If you can donate a casserole that can feed about 12 and be put in the freezer to be used as needed (please include cooking instructions), it would help this ministry tremendously! Contact Beth Ryan for more information. beth.ryan@stlukesumc.org

YOUTH NEWS

Hey guys! Here's what we have going on over the next couple of weeks:

Wednesday, Sept. 14

5:45 - Dinner

6:30 - "Together We Grow"

Sunday, Sept. 18

9:30 - Sunday School (*Helper- M. Kaler*)

12 noon - ASP information for Youth

5:00-7:00 - Dinner (*D. Bowsher*) and Youth

We will continue our series about making good decisions about media!

Wednesday, Sept. 21

5:45 - Dinner

6:30 - "Together We Grow"

Saturday, Sept. 21

1:00 p.m. - Kickball Game

(Hope Pres. Baseball Field #2)

3:30 - Youth Girls prepare Saturday Supper

Sunday, Sept. 25

9:30 - Sunday School (*Helper- D. Cargile*)

5:00-7:00 - Dinner (*Green*) and Youth We

will finish our series about making good decisions about media!

Peace, Beth

YOUNG ADULT GROUP

Big Change! We will meet on Tuesdays (at least for this semester) Here's our schedule for the next couple of weeks:

Tuesday, Sept. 13- 6 p.m. - Meet at church for Dinner and Discussion on Banned Questions About the Bible

Tuesday, Sept. 20 - 6 p.m. - Meet at church for Dinner and Game Night

Tuesday, Sept. 27 - 6 p.m. - Meet at church for Dinner and Discussion

Peace, Beth

NEWS FROM THE CHRISTIAN LIFE CENTER

New Zumba Class

Tuesdays, 7:00, \$5.00 per class

Free Yoga - Two opportunities each week to strengthen your body and mind. Wednesday nights with April Carpenter at 6:30 and Thursday nights with Kelly Gardner at 6:15.

Basketball sign-ups have started. Registration forms are available at the desk.

Remember Him Always, Coach Day

Congregational Support

OUR SYMPATHY TO:

the family of **Tom Curry** in his death on September 6.
Services were Friday, Sept. 9.

GIFTS RECEIVED IN MEMORY OF:

Giles Colbert from Kelli & Saige Culler; Kay Tackett

PRAYER CONCERNS OF OUR ST. LUKE'S FAMILY

Deborah Lewis

Wilson Walker

Lily Smith

Jean Hastings

Sam & Betty Bennett

(Beverly Parrish's Aunt & Uncle)

Virginia Lawson

(Melissa Galloway's mother)

Our missionaries,

David & Lorie Persons

Sue Porter

Radio Broadcast

WREC 600 AM, 8 - 9:00 a.m.

The service from September 4 broadcast on September 11,
was dedicated to the Glory of God in honor of

Wes Kirkpatrick

by Dr. & Mrs. George Lovejoy.

The service from September 11, broadcast on Sept. 18,
paid by St. Luke's UMC.

For hospital and prayer concerns, call our "What's Happening Line" at 901-327-0006, updated by noon Mon. - Thurs.

A note from our Sunday School Superintendent

Thank you to everyone that attended the Generosity emphasis meeting for Sunday School leaders. Please let me know what your class is studying in November, December and January. Your list can be turned in to the Sunday School office on any Sunday before the end of October.

If there are any announcements you or your class would like to include in the next Sunday School newsletter, please turn those in to me or leave in the Sunday School office by the end of October. If I can be of any help to you or your class, please do not hesitate to ask.

Thank you, Alan Sefton

Faith and Friendship is starting a new Sunday School curriculum "You Can Get Bitter or You Can Get Better" by James Moore, facilitated by Pastor Bee. This book helps us answer the question of how we respond to the tough challenges of life.

If you are not involved in a Sunday School class but would like to get started in one, this might be the time for you to visit the Faith and Friendship Class. We meet on the 3rd floor every Sunday from 9:40 - 10:30 AM All are welcome and we look forward to having you with us.

Being or Doing?

Linda Douty, local author of inspirational books and leader of seminars on spiritual growth is known for saying "God created us as human beings, not human doings." She is not negating James' warning "be ye doers of the word and not hearers only." St. Luke's needs lots of doers, but is Jesus the motivation of our doing? Are we doing with a paternalistic attitude because it makes us feel good or because we like to hear compliments on the many things we do?

We will always have more opportunities to serve than God expects of us. The key to balance is PRAYER. Before we take on any responsibility we should earnestly seek God's guidance. We always come back to the admonition "be still and know that I am God." In that stillness we will find our answer.



Living in Faith, Encountering God

A new LIFE group is starting up and will meet on Monday's from 6 PM to 8 PM at the church. If you are interested in becoming involved in a LIFE group please contact Pastor Birgitte 452-6262 ext 124 or email: pastor.bee@stlukesumc.org



MUSIC NOTES

Senior Choir

We're just about the laughin'est, grinnin'est group of golden oldies that you will ever meet. Our senior adult choir sings a lot of different styles of music but specialize in old gospel favorites. We perform at local nursing homes and assisted living facilities, and sing occasionally for the 8:30 and 10:50 services as well as other church events. There are no particular age requirements though most of us are over 25. We meet on the 2nd and 4th Tuesday of each month from 10:15 until 11 am in the choir room.

No auditions for great musical ability but you must absolutely have a happy heart!

From Carol Likens, Chairman, SPRC

Beth Masters, after six years of service as Director of Children's Ministries at St. Luke's, has tendered her resignation, effective October 1. As many of you know, the Masters family is expecting a family addition in January. Please join St. Luke's staff and the Staff Parish Relations Committee in wishing Beth and her family the best as she enters this new phase in the life of her family.

To my St. Luke's family,

It has been a great joy and a privilege to be the Director of Children's Ministries for almost six years now. In order to be home more with my family, I have decided to step down, and my last day will be October 1. My experience at St. Luke's has been so positive, and it is my hope that a smooth and positive transition can be made as I leave my position to provide more care for my family and make preparations for the birth of our baby in January.

I love St. Luke's and still have a strong desire to be an active, involved church member so that we might truly fulfill our mission to share the heart, mind, and hands of Jesus.

Thank you for the opportunity to serve God and this congregation since January, 2006. I have loved every minute of it!

Beth Masters

YOLO brightens After School Day!

Pastor Mark arranged for a YoLo frozen yogurt treat day on Sept. 14 as a way of saying "YAY" for the program now under resurgence led by Tracy Knox and Shanterri Jackson.

Boo Out is coming!

Friday, October 28

It's that time again, and we need many volunteers to make the Boo Out a success. Would you like to help? Contact Mary Frances Hall or Beth Masters to find out how.



Young at Heart Events

Bingo Party

Monday, Sept. 26 - 10:30 in the Lounge

Bring a sandwich and a prize, drinks and snacks will be provided.

Trip to Jackson

On Tuesday, September 27, the Young at Heart will attend the Memphis Conference Older Adult Ministry's fall seminar. We will leave the church at 7:30 am and return about 4:00 pm. Speakers include Dennis Neenan who will talk on "Staying Connected", ideas for our members who can't go to many of the Young at Heart activities. We will also hear from Jane Nuckolls who will tell us about "Eating for Vitality." Her talk will include food interactions with medications, nutrition pointers and how to store food for safe eating. Make your reservation now and enjoy the entire day, including snacks, lunch and travel for only \$20. The deadline to signup is Thursday September 15. Please turn in your check when you register to Betty Green, Virginia Hathorn or Vickey Hobbs.



United
Methodist
Women

The **Mary Circle** will meet in the Lounge, Tuesday, September, 20, 10:30 a.m.

The **United Methodist Women** and **United Methodist Men** are cooking up a special treat for you on **October 16th**. An Italian spaghetti luncheon, with a secret recipe (lots of meat), garlic bread, salad, and those wonderful homemade desserts. Tickets are \$6.00 each, with a family max of \$15.00. They'll start serving at 11:00, and you can eat there or take it home. Um-um, I'm hungry already!

Are You a Good Driver?

The **transportation ministry** is in need of more bus drivers on Sunday mornings. The only requirement is that you must be at least 25 yrs of age with a valid driver's license and clean driving record; no experience required, and training will be provided. This is a vital ministry in the life of St. Luke's and its members who need transportation to and from Sunday School and church. The time required is approximately an hour before Sunday School or an hour after the 10:50 church service. If you are interested in being a part of this ministry, please contact the church office (452-6262), Mary Lou Cushing (428-2812), or Warren Morrison (323-7446). Please prayerfully consider being a part of this ministry.

Connectional September Opportunities

- Laity and clergy will have an opportunity to meet and hear the new 2011-12 Interim Bishop of the Memphis Conference, **Bishop Ben Chamness**, Sunday, September 18, 6 p.m. First UMC, Jackson. St. Luke's bus will depart at 4 p.m.
- Installation of our new District Superintendent, **Dr. Cynthia Davis**. Sunday, September 25th, 2:30 - 4:30 p.m. at Emmanuel UMC in Memphis. St. Luke's bus departs at 2 p.m.

A bus reservation list for these events will be at the Hospitality Desk beginning Sept. 6.

SKILL BUILDERS is a sewing ministry designed to help one grow in their sewing skills. From basic beginners to couture techniques, come grow with us as we build your sewing skills. Time is 2pm - 5pm on Saturday afternoons. Cost is \$25@month for church members; \$35@month for non-church members. All checks are payable to St Luke's UMC. Bring your own pattern, fabric, sewing machine & basic sewing kit. The first lesson will be on taking measurements & fitting your pattern. If you have any questions, please call me at 324-4943. Blessings, Marty Cobb

Look for the **Lakeshore booth** at the **Cooper Young Festival** this weekend. They will be selling crosses made from the wood that drifted up on shore during the flood. The festival is Saturday, Sept. 17, 9:00 a.m. to 7:00 p.m.

HANDS MINISTRIES

Wednesday Service Opportunity

The Hands committee will be assembling different types of bags on Wednesday evenings. We need your help to supply some of these items.

- **Shut-In Bags:** Pocket Kleenex pkgs, hand/body lotion, body powder, lip balm, emery boards, baby wipes, devotion books, notecards and stamps.
- **Hygiene Bags:** Travel size soap, shampoo, conditioner, toothpaste, toothbrush, dental floss, mouthwash, deodorant, nail clippers, emery boards, feminine hygiene products.

- **Emergency Meal Sacks:** Bottled water, Vienna sausages, cheese/peanut butter crackers, fruit cups, cookies.

We are collecting any Hygiene items for the bags (travel size) in the elevator room on the 1st floor. Please give generously.



THANK YOU to all who brought plastic bags to the church. Last Wednesday we made a lot of "plyarn" and we have a lot more to make. However, we do not need any more bags right now but as soon as we have made "plyarn" out of the bags you have donated, we will let you know.

If you are interested in helping making "plyarn" we would love to show you how it is done. Please contact Mary Frances or Pastor Bee (452-6262 ext 124 or email: pastor.bee@stlukesumc.org)

HANDS Activities in the month of October

- 5: making more PLARN for the Prison Ministry
- 12: working in the Heritage Room
- 19: Packing Hygiene Bags for Our Saturday Supper and Sunday morning friends.
- 26: writing cards to our Home bound members and College Students

If you are not participating in other activities on Wednesday nights, you are welcome to join the HANDS team.

**INVITE A FRIEND
OR NEIGHBOR
TO CHURCH THIS WEEK!**

St. Luke's Calendar: September 14 - 29

Wednesday September 14

- 6:45am – 7:45am UMM Prayer Breakfast - FH
- 5:45pm – 7:20pm Dinner & Activities - FH
- 6:25pm – 7:35pm Children's Choirs & Team Grow

Thursday September 15

- 9:00am – 10:00am Sit & Be Fit - CLC Gym
- 9:15am – 10:00am Day School Chapel - Chapel
- 9:30am – 12:00pm Food Pantry - CLC 108
- 10:00am - 12:00pm LIFE Group - MB 211
- 6:00pm – 8:30pm Stephen Ministry Training - MB 106
- 6:00pm – 10:00pm Jesus Is Lord Adult BB - Gym
- 6:15pm – 7:30pm Yoga - Lounge

Friday September 16

- 8:00am – 9:30am Day School Donuts with Dad - FH

Saturday September 17

- 2:00pm – 5:00pm Learn to Sew - Lounge
- 4:30pm – 5:30pm Saturday Supper - FH

Sunday September 18

- 8:00am – 9:00am Breakfast and Sunshine Service - FH
- 8:30am – 9:30am Worship - Sanctuary
- 9:30am – 10:30am Sunday School - Lounge
- 10:50am – 12:00pm Worship - Sanctuary
- 12:00pm - 12:30pm ASP Interest meeting - MB 311
- 5:00pm – 6:00pm Wesley Handbells - MB, 207
- 5:00pm – 7:00pm Youth Dinner & Activities - MB, 3rd Fl.
- 6:00pm – 7:00pm The ELEMENT - FH

Monday September 19

- 9:30am – 10:00am Staff Prayers - Chapel
- 6:30pm – 8:00pm LIFE Group - MB, 106
- 7:00pm – 8:00pm Coin Club - Lounge
- 7:00pm – 10:00pm Monday Night Basketball - Gym

Tuesday September 20

- 9:00am – 10:00am Sit & Be Fit - CLC Gym
- 10:00am – 11:30am Staff Meeting - MB 310
- 10:30am – 12:00pm Mary Circle - Lounge
- 12:30pm – 2:30pm Rachel UMW Circle - Lounge
- 6:00pm – 8:30pm Young Adult Ministry - Kitchen 310/311
- 6:30pm – 7:30pm Finance Committee Meeting - MB 211
- 7:00pm – 8:00pm Zumba - CLC, gym
- 7:00pm – 8:30pm Boy Scouts - Scout Hut

Wednesday September 21

- 6:45am – 7:45am UMM Prayer Breakfast - FH
- 5:45pm – 7:20pm Dinner & Activities - FH
- 6:25pm – 7:35pm Children's Choirs and Team Grow

Thursday September 22

- 9:00am – 10:00am Sit & Be Fit - CLC Gym
- 9:15am – 10:00am Day School Chapel - Chapel
- 9:30am – 12:00pm Food Pantry - CLC 108
- 10:00am – 12:00pm LIFE Group - MB, 211
- 6:00pm – 8:30pm Stephen Ministry Training - MB 106

- 6:00pm – 10:00pm Jesus Is Lord Adult BB - Gym
- 6:15pm – 7:30pm Yoga - Lounge

Friday September 23

- 5:00pm – 8:30pm Memphis Meeting - Lounge
- 7:00pm – 8:00pm Bruce/Johnson Rehearsal - Sanctuary

Saturday September 24

- 8:30am – 4:30pm Memphis Meeting - Lounge
- 2:00pm – 5:00pm Learn to Sew - CLC, 103
- 4:30pm – 5:30pm Saturday Supper - FH
- 5:00pm – 6:00pm Bruce/Johnson Wedding - Sanctuary
- 7:00pm – 10:00pm Shirley Moore Party - FH

Sunday September 25

- 8:00am – 9:00am Breakfast and Sunshine Service - FH
- 8:30am – 9:30am Worship - Sanctuary
- 9:30am – 10:30am Sunday School - Lounge
- 10:50am – 12:00pm Worship - Sanctuary
- 12:15pm - 2:00pm Generosity Preview Luncheon - FH
- 5:00pm – 6:00pm Wesley Handbells - MB, 207
- 5:00pm – 7:00pm Youth Dinner & Activities - MB 3rd Fl.
- 6:00pm – 7:00pm The ELEMENT - FH

Monday September 26

- 9:30am – 10:00am Staff Prayers - Chapel
- 10:30am – 1:00pm Young at Heart Bingo - Lounge
- 6:30pm – 8:00pm LIFE Group - MB, 106
- 7:00pm – 10:00pm Monday Night Basketball - Gym

Tuesday September 27

- 9:00am – 10:00am Sit & Be Fit - CLC Gym
- 10:15am – 11:15am Senior Choir - Choir room
- 10:30am – 12:00pm HARC Board Meeting - Parlor
- 6:00pm – 7:30pm SPRC - MB rm 211
- 6:00pm – 8:30pm Young Adult Ministry - Kitchen 310/311
- 7:00pm – 8:00pm Zumba - CLC, gym
- 7:00pm – 8:30pm Boy Scouts - Scout Hut

Wednesday September 28

- 6:45am – 7:45am UMM Prayer Breakfast - FH
- 5:45pm – 7:20pm Dinner & Activities - FH
- 6:25pm – 7:35pm Children's Choirs & Team Grow

Thursday September 29

- 9:00am – 10:00am Sit & Be Fit - CLC Gym
- 9:15am – 10:00am Day School Chapel - Chapel
- 9:30am – 12:00pm Food Pantry - CLC 108
- 10:00am – 12:00pm LIFE Group - MB, 211
- 6:00pm – 8:30pm Stephen Ministry Training - MB 106
- 6:00pm – 10:00pm Jesus Is Lord Adult BB - Gym
- 6:15pm – 7:30pm Yoga - Lounge

MB-Main Building, FH-Fellowship Hall,
CLC-Christian Life Center, CB-Children's Building

For the most current calendar information
visit our website - www.stlukesumc.org

Hospitality Award to be given on October 16

We are accepting nominations for the **Eppes Hospitality Award** which is given to someone who displays a genuine, friendly smile and welcoming attitude to all who enter the doors of St. Luke's. Nomination forms will be available at the Hospitality Desk or you may email Virginia Hathorn at virginia.hathorn@stlukesumc.org

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MEMPHIS, TN

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The historical marker placed at the corner of Cooper and Union.

If you would like to place **flowers on the altar** in honor or memory of someone, please call Marilyn Sadler, 452-1347. The following dates are open: Oct. 16 and 23.

Scout News

The deer killers are back! We went to Greers Ferry Lake for the annual clean-up weekend. We stayed with Mrs. Johnson, one of our former scouts grandmothers and had a great time.

Congratulations to Blake Acree for passing his district board of reviews so we can now officially call him an Eagle Scout.

Keep those aluminum cans coming and as always thank you for your support of scouting at St. Luke's.

Burges Budd

p.s. - stay tuned for an explanation of why we are called the deer killers...

Top 10 Reasons YOU should Tithe:

#5: So the offering counters will have something to keep them busy on Monday mornings.

#4: So you can invite our community friends to have a free meal because our tithe supports the hunger ministries at St. Luke's.

What is your top reason for tithing?

RECORD OF LOYALTY

Sunday School Attendance - 9/4	161
Sunday School Attendance - 9/11	203

Worship Attendance - September 4, 2011

Sunshine Service	55
8:30 a.m. - Worship	59
10:50 a.m. - Worship	286
Element	34
Total	434

Worship Attendance - September 11, 2011

Sunshine Service	58
8:30 a.m. - Worship	55
10:50 a.m. - Worship	271
Element	31
Total	415

Gifts & Tithes Received

September 4, 2011	\$13,062.00
September 11, 2011	\$22,226.67

The next **Epistle** will be published on Monday, September 26. **Please have any articles for publication turned in by Sunday, 5:00pm, September 25.**