



The Epistle

Volume XXXXIII

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Number 25

ST. LUKE'S UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

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web site: <http://www.stlukesumc.org> (view and print the E-PISTLE and bulletin from web site)

Advent is here!

Worship...

Sunday, December 2, 2007
8:30 and 10:50 a.m.

First Sunday of Advent

Communion Sunday

Scripture: Matthew 24:36-44

Meditation: "Unexpected"

Pastor Mark



ALSO, all are invited to our
2007 CHURCH CONFERENCE,
2:30 p.m. in the Doyle Masters
Chapel.

*It will be completed in plenty of time
for FREE gift-wrapping, which is
the first of our 4 @ 4 p.m. events.*



REMINDER! Pick up your citrus fruit
order Sunday, December 2 between 9:30
a.m. and 12:30!



4 @ 4:00 p.m. Christmas @ St. Luke's

Mark your calendars now for 4 special events
on the 4 Sundays of Advent at...4 pm.

It's a wrap! — *Free gift-wrapping*

December 2, 4 pm -- Fellowship Hall

'Silent Night'

December 9, 4 pm -- Fellowship Hall

Children's musical featuring Cherub,
Jubilate and Chorister choirs

A Festival of Lessons and Carols

December 16, 4 pm -- Sanctuary

Featuring music by Chancel, Youth, and
Chorister Choirs as well as handbells and
instrumentalists.

*Following the Festival will be a Christmas
Dinner with all the trimmings. Reservations
requested by December 13-- 452.6262.*

Christmas Crafts and Carols

December 23, 4 pm -- Fellowship Hall

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,

ADVENT is here. With "Christ the King" as a bridge Sunday between Thanksgiving and the start of this season of expectation, we now embark on a journey of spiritual growth.

Have you noticed that the first six letters of the word Adventure corresponds with Advent? You know, this journey really can be an adventure. I hope you'll plug in to all the ways St. Luke's marks the path along the way.

One other way you might embrace adventure is by way of empathy; you can identify with one of the characters in the drama. For instance, JOSEPH was called upon for extraordinary courage and understanding as he accepted Mary's condition and God's call to stand by her.

What courage are we being asked by God to display today? How is it we can understand God's will for our lives, even when it may stretch us to the limits?

Let's join in the adventure of Advent-ure throughout these days!

In service,Pastor Mark

ADVENT BIBLE STUDY at Highland Heights UMC

We are invited to Pastor Emily's special Bible Study at Summer and Highland, 10 a.m. each Thursday, November 29, December 6, 13 and 20.

Also, we are invited to a Wesleyan service there on Sunday evening, December 30, 5 p.m.

CHARGE/CHURCH CONFERENCE

Superintendent Barry Henson will lead his first St. Luke's Charge Conference this Sunday, December 2, 2:30 p.m. in the Chapel. *Come on out, as everyone is welcome!*

CHRISTMAS SPECIAL

Our U.M.W. Unit meets December 4, 6 P.M. with dinner and a "Musical Program" directed by **Jay Walker**. Reservations need to be made by Sunday, December 2. *Childcare is available upon request.*

New officers will be installed by Mary Crutchfield who is a McKendree District officer.

The Executive Board will meet in the foyer of the Children's Building at 5:15 p.m.

Would you or your Sunday School class like to adopt a Neighborhood Centers' family for Christmas? If so, please contact **Shirley Bell, 458-7204.**

REJOICE!

Abigail Spence Weidenhoffer, daughter of Greg and Carol Hendrix Weidenhoffer, received infant baptism on November 25, 2007. *We give thanks for this new member of the family of God.*

SYMPATHY

The members of St. Luke's extend sincere sympathy to the family of GERRY BASSE JAYROE of Oklahoma City, OK, who died November 19, 2007 and to the family of FLORA HYTER who died November 25, 2007.

NAOMI CIRCLE, Stella Day, leader, will have their Christmas Potluck at 6:00 P.M., CLC Lounge, on Tuesday, December 11, 2007.

POINSETTIAS that are placed in our sanctuary at Christmas are some of the loveliest of the decorations, not only because of their color and freshness, but because of the love they represent.

If you would like to purchase a poinsettia in honor or in memory of someone, please fill out the form below and return it, along with your payment, to the church office staff. Poinsettias this year are \$13.00 each.

...Gwynne McKenzie, Worship Committee



I/We would like to order _____ poinsettias in honor of:

from _____.

I/We would like to order _____ poinsettias in memory of:

from _____.

DEADLINE for ordering is Sunday, December 9.



MITTEN TREE Reminder!

The Mitten Tree for Sherwood Elementary students is located on the second floor (near the Church School Office). Please help decorate the tree with:

- mittens
- gloves
- caps
- new or used jackets
- underwear (boys' sizes 6-10; girls' sizes 6-10)
- socks

Questions? Contact **Barbara Caldwell**, 323-0919.

GUESS WHO recently celebrated their 90th birthday and has become an official member of St. Luke's 90's Club? *Give up?* Well, **Ruth Sims**, that's who! Welcome, Ruth!

Do you like to eat at Chick-Fil-A? Please check *The Epistle* on December 18 and find out what's going on with Chick-Fil-A and St. Luke's?!?!

WOULD YOU LIKE TO HELP? Several months ago **Blanche Miller** volunteered to send notification cards for honorariums and memorials given to our church. Blanche has done a wonderful job and has dutifully come every Thursday afternoon to hand address the envelopes and cards. In order to get notifications out in a timely fashion, Blanche would appreciate someone to be available to assist her occasionally. So, if you are proud of your penmanship and can spare a couple of hours or so on an occasional Thursday afternoon, please notify the church. *Thank you!*

AN ADVENT STUDY OPPORTUNITY "Prepare Your Heart"

(What the Gospels really teach about Jesus' birth.)



December 2, 9, 16, 23, 30
Fellowship Hall
9:30 - 10:30 a.m.

Take advantage of this opportunity to enrich your holiday.

YOUTH NEWS

Hello everyone! Here's what's going on this week:

Thurs., Nov. 29

4:30 - Fruit Delivery (We need everyone there to unload fruit!)

Sun., Dec. 2

9:00 - 12:30 - Fruit Pick-Up begins

9:30 - Sunday School

3:00 - Band

5:00-7:00 - Dinner & Youth Activities

(There will be a short Choir Rehearsal during the first part of Youth, so don't come at 4 unless you'll be helping wrap gifts!)

Wed., Dec. 5

5:45 - Dinner

6:30-7:20 - Gathering for Prayer

Peace...Beth

GIFTS RECEIVED IN MEMORY OF:

ANN HOLLEY from Jim & Valerie Cowan, Marjean Love, Rorie Read, Vickey Hobbs, George H. Taylor, John & Marjorie Willingham, Dr. & Mrs. J. P. Anderson, Mazie Norton, June S. Smith, Fred Wilson, Mr. & Mrs. John C. Norton, Richard and Sherry Thacker; GEORGE HOLLEY from Mr. & Mrs. John C. Norton; DR. RUFUS CRAVEN from Ted & Joyce Johnson; BILL EPPES from Margaret Fristick; HAROLD McRAE from Fred Wilson; E. C. STIMBERT from Fred Wilson, June Smith; BILL JENNINGS from Blanche Vaughan, Barbara Ball, Christian Homebuilders Class, Catherine & Bill Graves, Dr. & Mrs. J. T. Francisco, Vickey Hobbs, Betty Fly, Mr. & Mrs. James C. Warner, Peter & Carolyn Carnesale, Polly & John Baxter, Dr. & Mrs. Frank Osborn, Ray & Fay Weatherly, Jo Ann Link, F. Curtis Dohan, Jr. and Jean Rittmueller, Rorie Read, Margaret Fristick, Paul & Mary Evelyn Goodwin, Dr. Robert E. Wilson, Mr. & Mrs. Dan Moffett, Peggy Shawhan, Carol Thompson, Margaret Roth, Susan Frankel Tannenbaum, Amy Miller, Cindy Withers, Shari Frankel, Olin & Norma Atkins, Listeners Book Club, Dr. & Mrs. J. P. Anderson, Fred Wilson, Anne Chambliss, Nino & Mary Care Incurdona, William & Martha Massey, Dr. & Mrs. Fred Palmer; DOROTHY KINSER from Carol Baker; RUBY MOSS from St. Luke's Loyalty-Fellowship Class, John G. Harris.

(Partial Listing)

GIFTS RECEIVED IN HONOR OF:

GALEN COLBERT from Steven & Barbara Scarborough; ISABELLE MOORE from Hallie Rose; MARY SANFORD MYATT from Allyson, Pat, McKay, Anna & Carmon Proctor; DR. & MRS. MCKENZIE from Mary Katherine Moorhead; DR. MARK MATHENY from Lawrence & Julie Sefton.

CHURCH CALENDAR

WEDNESDAY, November 28, 2007

- 6:45 am – Men’s Prayer Breakfast (FH)
- 5:45 pm – Wednesday Night Dinner
- 6:30 pm – 2nd & 3rd for the 1st (Generation)
 - Chapel – Ruth Ann Shelton, speaker
 - Leadership from the Heart (CLC Mtg. Room)
 - Intersection (CLC Lounge)
 - Helping Hands (CLC)
 - Children’s Choirs
 - Youth (3rd floor)

7:30 pm – Chancel Choir Rehearsal (Sanctuary)

THURSDAY, November 29

- 9:00 am – Sit & Be Fit Chair Aerobics (CLC)
- 10:00 am – Small Group (211)

FRIDAY, November 30 - CHURCH OFFICES / CLC CLOSED

SATURDAY, December 1, 2007

- 12:00 Noon – Veteran’s Christmas Party (FH)
- 4:30 pm – Soup Kitchen (FH)

SUNDAY, December 2

- 8:30 am – Worship (Sanctuary)
- 9:00 am – Christian Homebuilders Bake Sale (Lobby)
- 9:00 – 11:00 am – Library open (211)
- 9:15 – 9:45 am – Adult Coffee Fellowship (Lobby)
- 9:30 am – 12:30 pm – Fruit Pick Up
- 9:30 am – Sunday School
- 10:50 am – Worship (Sanctuary)
- 2:30 pm – Church Conference (Chapel)
- 3:00 pm – Youth Band (3rd floor)
- 4:00 – 6:00 pm – Free Gift Wrap (FH)
- 5:00 pm – Youth Dinner
- 5:00 pm – Wesley Bells

MONDAY, December 3

- 7:00 pm – Coin Club (106)
- 7:00 pm – Jesus is Lord Basketball (CLC)

TUESDAY, December 4

- 9:00 am – Sit and Be Fit Chair Aerobics (CLC)
- 10:30 am – Joy Club (FH)
- 6:00 pm – UMW Christmas Dinner (FH)
- 6:30 pm – Cub Scout Meeting (Children’s Building)
- 7:00 pm – Boy Scouts (CLC)

WEDNESDAY, December 5

- 6:45 am – Men’s Prayer Breakfast (FH)
- 9:00 am – 12 Noon – American Sewing Guild (CLC Mtg. Rm)
- 10:30 am – Stewardship Ladies (CLC Lounge)
- 5:45 pm – Wednesday Night Dinner
- 6:30 pm – “Bethlehem Revisited” by Pastor Mark (Chapel)
 - Leadership from the Heart (CLC Mtg. Room)
 - Intersection (CLC Lounge)
 - Children’s Choirs (Choristers in Fellowship Hall)
 - Youth (3rd floor)

7:30 pm – Chancel Choir

THURSDAY, December 6

- 9:00 am – Sit & Be Fit Chair Aerobics (CLC)
- 10:00 am – Small Group (211)
- 12:00 Noon – Loyalty-Fellowship Class Christmas Party (FH)
- 6:00 pm – Ministry of Love Meeting (Parlor)
- 7:00 pm – Trustee / Finance Meeting (211)

FRIDAY, December 7 - CHURCH OFFICES / CLC CLOSED

9:00 am – Day School Christmas Program (Sanctuary)

SATURDAY, December 8, 2007

- 9:30 am – Noon – Children’s Dress Rehearsal
- 4:30 pm – Soup Kitchen (FH)

RADIO BROADCAST - WREC 600 AM

Sunday, December 2, 2007

8:00 - 9:00 a.m.

Given in appreciation of St. Luke’s Ministries

RECORD OF LOYALTY - NOV. 25, 2007

Attendance

Sunday School				<u>219</u>
Worship	8:30	<u>61</u>	10:50	<u>303</u>
				<u>364</u>

2007 Pledge Update

Budget received \$10,599.25

2008 Pledge Update

211 commitments received for \$731,962.00. If you have not turned in your commitment card, *please do so*.

BIG THANK YOU TO RORIE!

Reaching retirement age, our beloved Aurora “Rorie” Read is relinquishing her duties as of the end of December. Understated, we are really going to miss her! Her last regular work day will be Thursday, December 20.

Rorie will still be around as great member and frequent volunteer. Her graciousness and care for St. Luke’s are irreplaceable. Let’s share hearty thanks with Rorie for these loving years of service! ...Pastor Mark

CHRISTIAN HOMEBUILDERS CLASS BAKESALE

Sunday, December 2nd, 9:00 a.m., Lobby

YUM! YUM!

The EPISTLE