

Every Thursday at 8 a.m. in the Seeker classroom. Led by Rev. Rachel McConnell-Switzer.

Upper Third

Thurs, March 8th at 11:30am.
Program: Oakwood Home for Women Presented by Executive Director Gina Hartley. Please bring a covered dish to share.

March 17, 2018
All Church Clean
Up 10:00 am to 2:00 pm



Book Club

St. Luke's Book Club will meet on March 18 at 3:00 pm. We will be discussing books on the UMW reading list. All are welcome.

Crafters 4 Missions
March 22 at 5:30 pm

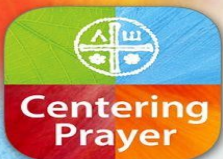
YOUNG ADULT MINISTRY

Tuesdays at 5:45pm

Worship Committee meets on Tue,
March 6th at 7:00

United Methodist Women
12:00 March 15th

March 26th at 5:30
Card Class



WEDNESDAYS 10:00 A.M.

Koinonia meets every Wednesday morning at 7am for breakfast and Bible study

Crafters every
Thursday morning
at 10 am

Healthy Lifestyles
March 11 & 25 at 2:00

Holy Week Services

Sunday, March 25th: Palm Sunday
(8:30am and 10:45am)

Thursday, March 29th: 6:00pm Maundy Thursday Service

Friday, March 30th: 12:15pm Good Friday Service

Sunday, April 1st: Easter Sunday
(8:30am and 10:45am)



Thank You from the Templetons

Thank you all so much for your love and support of Austin and me during this difficult time. It means so much to us to be surrounded by our church family.

If you have something to submit for the April newsletter or calendar, please have it in the office by March 22nd. Our monthly newsletter can be viewed on our website at stlukesumc.community. To have a newsletter mailed, please contact Hannah Rachal.

Please remember to wear your name tag. Contact the church office if you do not have one.



March 2018
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Staff

Rev. Betsy Eaves
Pastor

Hannah Rachal
Director of Music Ministry
Office Administrator

David Bingham
Lay Pastor
St, Luke's Recovery Ministry

Laura Hirsch
Music Accompanist

Momma T (Tania Lang)
Spiritual Director of Youth

Christy Terrill
Children's Ministry Director

Brittany Richardson
Nursery Coordinator

Worship Hours

8:30 & 10:45 a.m.
Traditional Service
9:30 a.m.
Sunday School



Deeply grieved at their unyielding hearts...

This morning at Lectio Divina the scripture used was Mark 3:1-6. I was captured by the phrase that said Jesus was deeply grieved by their unyielding hearts. Unyielding hearts. As I sat in silence with that phrase, I thought about how the season of Lent is an invitation to yield our heart to God and to God's work.

How do I yield my heart to God? If we think of how we yield in other ways, we might consider what that word means in our everyday lives. If I am driving and come to a yield sign, I know that I allow the other traffic to go first. Perhaps part of the way we understand yielding our hearts to God is allowing God to go before us. It can be easy to get ahead of God, to push God out of the way, or to ignore the yield sign altogether and cause potential damage. Another way we use the term in our everyday language is when we yield the floor in a conversation. When we are spouting forth our ideas, our position, and our opinions and we yield the floor, we stop talking. We sit down and hopefully, we set aside our agenda to listen to the other. Perhaps one of the ways we yield our heart to God is being willing to set aside our agenda long enough to listen to God.

I imagine that God is often deeply grieved by our unyielding hearts. It must be awfully hard to get through to us and to use us for furthering God's kingdom when we are busy driving ahead and constantly yakking with our opinions and our agendas and our plans.

I am hearing God's invitation to yield to God. I hope you might join me during this Lenten season as we allow God to teach, guide, and lead. What are some practical ways we can yield? Consider picking up one or more of these practices during this season:

- Read the words of Jesus as they are recorded in the gospels of Matthew, Mark, Luke and John
- Walk the labyrinth in the St. Luke's prayer garden and let the walking be a time of yielding
- Participate in centering prayer on Wednesday morning at 10 am in the sanctuary
- Participate in Koinonia Bible study on Wednesday morning at 7 am in the conference room
- Participate in Lectio Divina on Thursday morning at 8 am in the Seekers classroom
- Sit quietly in the early morning and invite God into your day
- Attend Maundy Thursday service at 6 pm Thursday, March 29, 2018
- Attend Good Friday reading at 12:15 pm Friday, March 30, 2018

I just wonder what God may do in and through us as we yield our hearts to God's Spirit. Who knows what may emerge come Easter?! Blessings,
Pastor Betsy

Children's Ministries

We will host a Bunnies and Baskets celebration Saturday, March 24th from 9:00 to 11:00. Children will hunt for eggs, enjoy cookies and lemonade, create a craft and hear the Easter story as well as get their picture made with the Easter bunny!

Please plan to join us and bring a friend!



Youth Ministries

The number "40" always has had a special spiritual significance regarding preparation. Moses on Mount Sinai before receiving the 10 commandments, Noah's 40 days of rain, and most importantly, Jesus fasted forty days and forth nights before he started his public ministry.

Ash Wednesday we began 40 days of what is known as the "Lenten Season" (which literally means springtime). It is a time of prayer, fasting, penance, and good works in preparation of the celebration of Easter...a time of transformation.

What a perfect time to transform the youth room! We will begin our transformation March 17th which is the work day for St. Luke's. Plan on coming and stay all day!

Confirmation classes start in March. If you are interested let Momma T know. E-mail: taniaalang50@gmail.com or call 207-0657.

Crafters 4 Missions

Crafting 4 Missions is a group made up of scrapbook and crafting friends. We meet once a month on the 4th Thursday of the month at 5:30. Within the last year we have added a quarterly all day Scrapbook/Craft event with proceeds going to missions.

At these quarterly events we rent either one-half or whole table to crafting persons so that they can work on whatever crafts they chose to do.

We have several who work on their scrapbooks, crochet, jewelry, and paper crafts just to name a few. We also have baskets that we raffle. These have various craft items that have been donated by others and/or purchased gift cards to Michaels, Hobby Lobby or JoAnn's. We craft and fellowship with each other which makes it a fun day to spend with friends.

With the money that we collect from table rentals and raffles, we have made donations of back packs for needy families, monetary donations to the St. Luke's food bank, and quilts for Garden Park to name a few.

The Methodist Men have been operating a concession stand for breakfast and lunch which supports their mission projects. We would love to have you come and join us.

Our next all day event is scheduled for April 7, 2018 from 9:00am to 6:00pm. Contact Debbie Laffitte at 990-0145 for more information.

Music Ministry Spotlight: Laura Hirsch



We've all heard Laura's phenomenal talent on the piano but there is so much more to this young woman. She is studying Psychology with a minor in Biology and hopes to become a speech therapist. Laura was recently engaged and is planning her wedding. Her favorite hymn is Be Thou My Vision. When I asked her "What is something people may not know about you?" she answered "I love working out...I really enjoy weightlifting."

There is much more to her than meets the eye but one thing is very obvious—Laura is an amazing asset to the music ministry at St. Luke's and a vibrant, sweet person to just be around. If you get the chance, let her know you appreciate her hard work and having her here.

Baptism: Ava Smith

We celebrate the baptism of Ava Elizabeth Smith on February 18, 2018. The decision was spirit-led spontaneous and occurred during the "Remembering Our Baptism" portion of the 10:45 service. Her parents Libby and Erik Smith, along with Ava's church family have helped her grow in her discipleship. As a church family we regularly witness the faith and sweet spirit that is Ava. We celebrate this magnificent occasion and promise to continue supporting Ava and her family.



New Members:

Amy Barham & Leslie Nolan



Amy Barham

Amy Barham joined our congregation on Sunday, January 28. Amy grew up in the hills of north Mississippi and have been visiting her daughter, Cherry, for many years. Cherry came here to college after graduation, met her husband, stayed here, and raised her two sons. She is familiar with the area and has found it very pleasant. When her husband died in 2014, she struggled to maintain the estate but without any help, found it too exhausting. She sold her home and Cherry invited Amy to stay with her. Amy has another daughter who lives in Georgia. She is a special-ed teacher and speech pathologist. Amy was accustomed to a small town church and found St. Luke's to be somewhat like it. Welcome, Amy, to the St. Luke's family!

On Sunday, February 18, Leslie Nolan joined our congregation. Originally from Mississippi, Leslie has lived in Shreveport about a year. She recently married her high school sweetheart and has three grown daughters and three grandchildren. Coming from a sister denomination, Leslie is new to the United Methodist Church; she says it was the Labyrinth and Centering Prayer that drew her in. Let's all welcome Leslie to the St. Luke's family! We are so glad to have her here!



Leslie Nolan

Memorials/Honorariums

Donnie Brook in Memory of Sammy Thomas
Ed Chase and Kathy Taylor in Memory of Sammy Thomas
Gerrie Grant in Memory of Gene Grant
Frank and Mary Hughes in Memory of Jane Summerville Sorrows
Brian and Vickie Hall in Memory of Leta Eaves
Amy Barham in Memory of Brian Baker