The Lukan Letter | News & Updates

January 1, 2023 | Monthly Issue #19





St. Luke Church embodies a strong sense of mission to youth, young families, seniors, the homeless, and others in need of God's grace regardless of color, ethnicity, gender, and orientation through our open and affirming faith.

Window on Worship

The Worship committee has planned two special services during the brief time between Pastor Debbie's leaving and Pastor Holly's arrival. Please join us for the following:

January 1, 2023--A service of Scripture and Carols, featuring "The Adoration of the Magi," the story of the Nativity as told by two Wise Men and their Apprentice. Come celebrate the first day of 2023 with your St. Luke family!

January 8, 2023--The Rev. Cindy Karis will preach and will be serving communion.

Links to the videos of the Christmas Eve services are here: Family Service, Lessons and Carols.



If you are in need of emergency pastoral care before Pastor Holly begins on January 10, please call Ali Mulvoy, Director of Children and Youth, at (630) 779-8191 or contact her by email at <u>amulvoy@stlukedg.org</u>. She will contact a local pastor. If the need is not an emergency, don't hesitate to contact your deacon.

Stewardship update

The Stewardship committee thanks everyone for their support and giving this year. We are currently in the process of formulating a budget for 2023! It will be reviewed, and approved, by session prior to being shared with the congregation during the annual congregational meeting in late January.



Christian Education/Youth Group News

Happy New Year!

Youth Group is beginning again Sunday, January 22. Please stay tuned for further details on possible time changes.

Confirmation will also be beginning for students in 8th and 9th grade this winter, so be ready to mark your calendars if this applies to your student. Again, details will follow.

Club Luke details are still being worked through for the coming year. CE will have more information soon.

In addition, please note that Ali is attending the APCE (Association of Partners in Christian Education) annual conference January 25-28, so please be patient those days if you are trying to communicate with her.

Questions? Contact Ali Mulvoy, Director of Children and Youth Ministries, at **amulvoy@stlukedg.org**

Mission opportunities offered

PADS INTERIM HOUSING CENTER (IHC)

St. Luke is committed to serving a dinner at the IHC every ^f^h Monday. Currently the IHC houses over 300 guests of which over 130 are children. We will again be preparing a home-cooked meal for ~150 of the IHC residents on January 30. The menu will be chili, cheese & pepperoni focaccia sandwiches, corn casserole, and dessert (TBD... need suggestions for an easy dessert that will feed 150 served in a clamshell). There are numerous ways to volunteer to help in the effort:

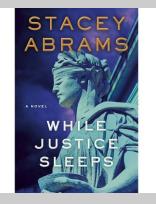
- help prepare food in the St. Luke kitchen Sunday afternoon, 1/29/23, ~ 1:30-4 p.m.
- help make a dessert and bring to church
- help put food into clamshells on Monday afternoon 1/30/23, ~2-4:15 p.m.
- help load food into vehicles & transport the food to IHC on Monday afternoon 1/30/23, ~4:15-5 p.m.
- help set up, serve food, and clean up at the IHC, 5-7 p.m.

Please contact Vida: vidajue@gmail.com with any questions or to volunteer to help.

GRAB-and-GO MEALS

In coordination with local churches, the Mission Committee is working on details to begin providing Grab-and-Go meals at church in January 2023. As schedules and details become clear, that information will become available in the online document at <u>https://bit.ly/3jEfFaB</u>

If you are considering volunteering your time for this activity, please contact either Vida **vidajue@gmail.com** or Fred **mission@stlukedg.org** if you have not already done so.



St. Luke Book Group reads legal thriller/contemporary fiction

The St. Luke Book Group will be meeting Thursday, January 26, at 7 p.m. to discuss *While Justice Sleeps* by Stacey Abrams.

Abrams gives us a gripping thriller, in which Supreme Court Justice Howard Wynn unexpectedly falls into a coma, then

his nurse gets a mysterious call and disappears . . . all when Wynn would be the swing vote on a controversial case. Coincidence? Not likely. His young law clerk Avery Keene tries to unravel the mystery.

Meetings are open to all. For more information, please contact Rick Roche at **ricklibrarian@yahoo.com** or 630-215-8616.



Worship is in the Sanctuary every Sunday at 10 a.m.

Videos of the service will be posted to our YouTube channel, usually sometime on Monday. The Order of Worship, Scripture, and a link to the video will be sent via email when the video is available.



St. Luke Prayer List Please continue to pray for all those on our prayer list. Click <u>here</u> to view our current Prayer List.

Good News & Gratitudes

Sunday, 1/1

Service of Scripture and Carols --10 a.m. Scandinavian Dancers -- 5:30 p.m. [outside group] (also 1/15)

Monday, 1/2

Exercise Group -- 8:30 a.m. [outside group] *(every Monday)*

Reading Games [outside group] practice (every Monday) -- 2 p.m.

Big Book Group -- 8 p.m. [outside group] (every Monday)

Knitting Group -- 8 p.m. (every Monday) via Zoom

Tuesday, 1/3

Whittier Talent Show practice -- 3 p.m. (every Tuesday)

Christian Education team -- 7 p.m.

Wednesday, 1/4

Exercise Group -- 8:30 a.m. [outside group] (every Wednesday)

Bible Study -- 11:30 a.m. in the Gathering Space and on Zoom (every Wednesday)

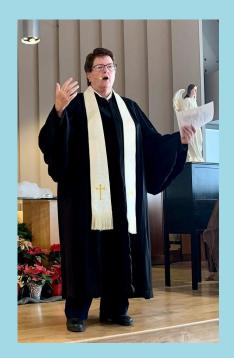
Worship team -- 6 p.m.

Thursday, 1/5

The GALZ and Da Guys -- 9:30 a.m. (every Thursday)

Sunday, 1/8

Property team -- 11:15 a.m.



We are so grateful, thankful, and blessed to have had Pastor Debbie with us for the past two years! Godspeed in your next call!

Do you have any news you would like to share? Please contact us at <u>session@stlukedg.org</u> with your good news or your thanks/gratitude for the St. Luke family. A photo is always welcome, too!

Calendar continued...

Thursday, 1/19

Session meeting -- 7 p.m.

Wednesday, 1/11

Mission Team -- 7 p.m.

Chancel Choir -- 7:30 p.m. (every Wednesday)

Thursday, 1/12

Deacon meeting -- 7 p.m.

Sunday, 1/15

Finance/Stewardship team -- 8:30 a.m.

Sunday, 1/22

Youth Group -- 4 p.m.

Wednesday, 1/25

BURT (Building Use Request Team) -- 7 p.m.

Thursday, 1/26

St. Luke Book Group -- 7 p.m.

For a complete list of all events, visit the **Calendar** tab on our website.

*The deadline for the next Lukan Letter is Wednesday, Jan. 25. Please send submissions to <u>session@stlukedg.org</u>.

Visit us on the web: stlukedg.org



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