THE CHURCH AS THE BRIDE OF CHRIST

In their book, 10 Great Dates, marriage counselors, David and Claudia Arp, state that healthy and vital marriages have three common strands:

1. The marriage relationship comes before other relationships. This sounds simple and straightforward, but we all know that it is harder to do than it is to say. Busyness and over commitment can dilute the energy and time needed for marriages to flourish. The Arps soberly remind us, “Unless you are willing to make your relationship with your spouse a higher priority than other relationships and activities, you will not have a growing marriage.”

2. Both spouses are committed to growing and changing together. A commitment to growth goes beyond just sticking together. Adapting to each other in marriage requires self-sacrifice and often painful change. If we refuse to grow and change, we will have only a mediocre marriage. In a growing, healthy marriage, partners are continually seeking to understand, adapt and grow together.

3. Both spouses actively work at staying close. Unfortunately, many forces work to push us apart. In healthy, alive marriages both partners intentionally take those actions that bring them closer together and foster intimacy.

The Arps’ marriage advice is also great discipleship advice. In the marriage service we say that marriage “signifies unto us the mystical union which exists between Christ and His Church.” If that is true, the Arps’ three points outline a plan for healthy, vital churches. In healthy, vital churches, members put their relationship with God and His Church before all other relationships. In vital, healthy churches, members are committed to growing and changing together. In vital, healthy churches, members actively work at staying close.

I look forward to seeing you in worship Sunday, where we have the opportunity to renew those covenant vows by which our lives are wed to God.

Robert Beckum, Senior Pastor
rbeckum@stlukeum.com
July 29, 2018
10th Sunday after Pentecost
8:30 a.m. & 11:00 a.m.  Color: Red

Prelude...................................................... “How Firm a Foundation” ............................................Diane Bish

Invitation to Worship..............................................................Rev. Robert Beckum

*Hymn...................................................... “Now Thank We All Our God” ..........................Number 102

***The Affirmation of Faith............................................The Apostles’ Creed ..........................Number 881
I believe in God the Father Almighty, maker of heaven and earth; and in Jesus Christ his only Son our Lord: who was conceived by the Holy Spirit, born of the Virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, dead, and buried, the third day he rose from the dead; he ascended into heaven, and sitteth at the right hand of God the Father Almighty; from thence he shall come to judge the quick*** and the dead. I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy catholic*** church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting. Amen.

**The Gloria Patri (Glory Be to the Father)..........................................................Number 70
Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Ghost.
As it was in the beginning, is now and ever shall be, world without end, Amen, Amen.

The Sacrament of Baptism (11:00 a.m.)......................................................Anna Katherine Denes
Daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Gabe (Sara) Denes
As Christ’s body, the church, we reaffirm both our rejection of sin and our commitment to Christ. With God’s help, we will proclaim the good news and live according to the example of Christ. We will surround Anna Katherine with a community of love and forgiveness, that she may grow in her trust in God and be found faithful in her service to others. We will pray for her, that she may be a true disciple who walks in the way that leads to life.

Anthem.......................................................... “Give Me Jesus” ............................................arr. Mark Hayes
(Thai Johnson, Tenor -- Kenneth Bailey, Piano)

Pastoral Prayer and Lord’s Prayer...............................................(8:30 a.m.) Rev. Robert Beckum
(11:00 a.m.) Rev. Dick Reese
Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name. Thy kingdom come, thy will be done on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread, and forgive us our trespasses as we forgive those who trespass against us. And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, forever. Amen.

The Children’s Sermon..........................................................Miss Hope Sims
After the Children’s Sermon, children who are in Kindergarten-5th grade are invited to go to Corner Kids for a time of extended worship. Parents pick them up in Stockwell Hall when this service is completed.

*Hymn...................................................... “Jesus, the Very Thought of Thee” ..........................Number 175

Offertory Prayer..............................................................Rev. Beckum
Offertory ........................................ “All Creatures of Our God and King” ..........................arr. Paul Mickelson
*The Dedication of Offerings............................... “The Doxology” ..............................................Number 95
Praise God, from whom all blessings flow; praise him, all creatures here below; praise him above, ye heavenly host; praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost.

The Written Word......................................................Ephesians 2:11-22 (p.181, NT in pew Bible)
The Spoken Word...................................................... “Connectional Discipleship” ..................Rev. Beckum

*Hymn...................................................... “To God Be the Glory” ............................................Number 98

The Benediction..............................................................Rev. Beckum
Postlude.......................................................... “Now Thank We All Our God” ..........................arr. Albert Travis

Standing as able. **See Music Box  *** quick means “living”; catholic means “universal,” or the global Church
OPPORTUNITIES OF THE WEEK

Sunday, July 29
8:30 a.m. Worship Service (Sanctuary, Main)
9:00 a.m. Contemporary Service (MIN)
9:30 a.m. Meet and Greet (Parlor, Main)
9:45 a.m. Sunday School/Youth Sunday School Assembly (The Corner, MIN)
10:00 a.m. Youth Sunday School (The Corner, MIN)/College Small Group (College House)
Pre-recorded broadcast of worship service on WTVM Channel 9.
11:00 a.m. Worship Service (Sanctuary, Main)/Broadcast over WLTC 103.7 Lite FM and at www.stlukeum.com beginning at 11:00 a.m.
12 Noon New Member Luncheon (LD, MIN)
12:20 p.m. Worship in Spanish (Chapel, Main)
1-4:00 p.m. Hispanic Sunday School Classes and Fellowship (Stockwell Hall, Main)
5-7:00 p.m. Crosswalk and High School Corner (Stockwell Hall)
11:30 p.m. Pre-recorded broadcast of The Nine worship service, WTVM Channel 9.

Monday, July 30
11:00 a.m. Hands for God Knitting (Parlor, Main)

Tuesday, July 31
10:00 a.m. On-Site Respite (1021 Third Ave.)

Wednesday, August 1
10:00 a.m. On-Site Respite (1021 Third Ave.)
11:30 a.m. Kiwanis (LD, MIN)
5:00 p.m. Handbell Rehearsal (Handbell Rm.)
7:00 p.m. Chancel Choir Rehearsal (Sanctuary)
8:00 p.m. College House (1030 Second Ave.)

Thursday, August 2
8:30 a.m. DFACS Meeting (LD, MIN)
10:00 a.m. On-Site Respite (1021 Third Ave.)
11:30 a.m. Exchange Club (LD, MIN)

Friday, August 3
8:30 p.m. DFACS Meeting (LD, MIN)

Saturday, August 4
10:30 a.m. First Saturday (Stockwell Hall)
6:00 p.m. Star Ministries Pastor Anniversary Dinner (LD, MIN)

Main (main building, where Sanctuary is)/MIN (Ministry Center). Contact the Ministry Center for information about renting or reserving rooms.

PRAYER ROOM MINISTRY
Do you have two hours a month to devote to praying for the needs of St. Luke, its members and community concerns? The Prayer Room ministry has a spot for you. Call the church office, 706-327-4343 for info.

HANDICAPPED PARKING
The Ministry Center parking lot and the parking lot between St. Luke and First Baptist are reserved on Sunday mornings and Wednesday evenings for those with handicapped stickers and for senior adults. Please help us reserve these spots for these friends!

PHONE VOLUNTEERS NEEDED
If you have 3-4 hours a month to volunteer and would like to be more involved at St. Luke, consider being a phone volunteer. Kym Harden (kym@stlukeum.com) will train you!

Permit
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HOW DO I JOIN THE CHURCH?

You may become a part of the St. Luke family of God in one of the following ways:

1. If you have never joined a church before, you may become a member by profession of faith in Jesus Christ and by being baptized. If you have already been baptized (as a child or as an adult) in a Christian Church, your baptism is recognized by St. Luke United Methodist Church. You will be asked to uphold St. Luke church with your prayers, presence, gifts, service, and witness.

2. If you are a member of another United Methodist Church or another Christian denomination, indicate to one of the pastors that this is your desire. St. Luke will then transfer your membership.

3. If you have any questions about faith in Christ, about United Methodism in general or St. Luke in particular, please ask one of the pastors!

WORSHIP IN SPANISH: 12:20 p.m. worship in Turner Chapel, The Rev. Dr. Ivelisse Quiñones, preaching.

CONTEMPORARY SERVICE (THE NINE): 9:00 a.m., Ministry Center, Rev. Brett Maddocks, preaching.

ALTAR FLOWERS: The beautiful flowers in the chancel area are given to the glory of God and in loving memory of Agnes and Glenn Albright by the family.

OPEN ALTAR FLOWER DATES: August 19 & 26, September 2 & 30. To place flowers on the altar in memory or honor of someone contact Maggie Roberson at 706-327-4343 or maggie@stlukeum.com.


PLEASE LET US KNOW: Due to HIPAA privacy regulations, hospitals cannot notify us if you are a patient. If you or a loved one have to go to the hospital, please do not assume that the church office knows. We would rather hear about something ten times than not at all! You may call the church at 706-327-4343 at any time or call the pastors at home! Thanks so much.

IN MEMORIAM
Mr. Wayne Daniel Houston
July 24, 2018

WELCOME NEW MEMBERS: CAPT (USMC) Nathan (Hannah) Key: They come by transfer from another denomination. Their daughter, Savannah, will be added to the preparatory roll.

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OUR CLERGY STAFF

Rev. Robert Beckum, Senior Minister - rbeckum@stlukeum.com
Rev. Dr. Cindy Cox Garrard, Associate Pastor - cindy@stlukeum.com
Rev. Brett Maddocks, Associate Pastor - bmaddocks@stlukeum.com
Rev. Dr. Ivelisse Quiñones, Associate Pastor - iquinones@stlukeum.com
Rev. Dick Reese, Minister of Pastoral Care - cdickjr@att.net
Bishop James King, Bishop in Residence - hbpjking@gmail.com

PASTOR ON CALL - 706-327-4343

2019 Interfaith Israel Adventure
Rabbi Beth Schwartz and
Rev. Dr. Cindy Cox Garrard
Feb. 1-12, 2019
Information: cindy@stlukeum.com

St. Luke Family Camp 2018
October 5-7, 2018
Join us for this fantastic family adventure!
Register at www.stlukeum.com
Abiding Gifts
If you wish to honor or remember someone, please attach to your check the name of that person and the address to which you wish the acknowledgement sent and mail or bring to the Church Office. Contact maggie@stlukeum.com.

Respite Care: In memory of Mr. Heidt Neal, Mrs. Dot Daniel, and Mr. Henry Page by Mrs. Lee Harrell. In memory of Mrs. Betty Jo Knight by Mrs. Judy Terry, Mr. and Mrs. Mike Duncan, Dr. and Mrs. Gabriel Denes, Mr. and Mrs. Ben Holton, Mrs. Annette Pollock, Mrs. Kathy Riley, Mr. and Mrs. Doug Harvey, and Mr. and Mrs. Doyle Register.

Samaritan Fund: In memory of Rev. Emory Gilbert by his family. In memory of Mrs. Chris Aycock by Mr. and Mrs. John D. Cartledge.

St. Luke School: In memory of Mrs. Betty Fairinholt Cockrill by Butler Wooten and Peak LLP. In memory of Mrs. Polly Miller by Mr. Walter Miller.

Welcome Visitors: We are glad to have you with us today! If you have any questions or need assistance with anything, please ask a church greeter or any member of the church staff. For more information about St. Luke, contact Cindy Cox Garrard or any of the pastors at 706-327-4343 or cindy@stlukeum.com. Thank you for blessing us with your presence.

August Prayer Calendar
This month’s prayer calendar is based on the book of Proverbs, which has 31 chapters. We will read a chapter each day and focus on an aspect of that chapter for our prayer focus for the day. Remember that you may make prayer requests by using the prayer cards or by contacting MaggieRoberson at maggie@stlukeum.com at any time.

Upper Rooms Available
Remember that Upper Room daily devotional guides are available in the parlor and the narthex for $1.00 per copy. Large print copies are available for $2.00.

College House Ministries
College and Young
Adult ministry (Ages 18-26)
For more information, email Lisa Williams @ lwilliams@stlukeum.com, or check us out online at www.collegehouseministries.com. Follow us online! Instagram: CollegeHouse_ Twitter: CollegeHouse_ Facebook.com/collegehouseministries

11 Day Eastern Europe & Oberammergau
Passion Play 2020
June 12 – 22
Material is now available- if you haven’t received yours please contact Kym, 706-327-4343 or kym@stlukeum.com

The Corner
Jonathan and Lisa Moore, Directors of Student Ministries, jmoore@stlukeum.com

Each Sunday Night Crosswalk and the Corner High School meet from 5-7 p.m.

2018-19 High School Synthesis Leadership Retreat: Monday, July 30th-Aug. 1st. Cost is $50 and due to Erin Knight on or before July 30th. More information will be sent to all leadership applicants about this trip.

Mondays Are Locals Day! We eat together at a local restaurant every week! Meet at church at Noon or the restaurant at 12:30! Watch social media for the place! #Community