LABOR DAY SUNDAY

It all began 136 years ago. September 5, 1882, saw the first Labor Day parade in New York. In the summer of 1894, a besieged President Grover Cleveland signed the bill making Labor Day an official holiday. It was a failed campaign ploy used to appease disgruntled labor unionists, but Labor Day is a holiday that remains with us. For many, the day is quite disconnected from its origins, merely marking the “official” end of summer.

In spite of its inauspicious beginnings, Labor Day offers us the opportunity to think about the work we do, God’s sense of call on our life, and how those two come together. Meister Eckhart said, “To be right, a person must do one of two things. Either he must learn to have God in his work and hold fast to Him there, or he must give up his work altogether. Since, however, we cannot live without work, we must learn to keep God in everything we do whatever the job or place.” Just as one cannot live without work, one cannot truly work without soul, and to see work as just a way to earn a paycheck is to starve the soul.”

Jesus knew the need of the human soul when he said, “Come unto me all who labor and are heavy laden and I will give you rest. Take my yoke upon you and learn of Me, for I am gentle and humble in heart; and you shall find rest for your souls.” The heaviest of “soul” burdens is meaninglessness. The Chinese word for boring is made up of two characters: one meaning “soul” and the other “killing.” Truly, the loss of meaning is the great soul killer of our time.

Jesus, however, invites us to come to Him, the great “restorer of souls,” to find meaning and significance not only for our work but for all our life. What better place to reconnect with God-given meaning and significance than at the communion table? I am very thankful for Bishop James King preaching for us this week as we gather.

Robert Beckum, Senior Pastor
rbeckum@stlukeum.com
Prelude: "Prelude and Fugue in G Minor BuxWV 148" — Dietrich Buxtehude
Choral Call to Worship (11:00 a.m.): "Immortal, Invisible, God Only Wise" — John Robert
*Hymn: "For the Beauty of the Earth" — Number 92

***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.

Pastoral Prayer and Lord’s Prayer: Rev. Dr. Cindy Cox Garrard
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.

Choral Prayer Response (11:00 a.m.): "Alleluia, Amen" — Carl Wiltse

The Children’s Sermon: (8:30 a.m.) Rev. Garrard (11:00 a.m.) Rev. Maddocks
After the 11:00 a.m. 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: "Take My Life, and Let It Be" — Number 399
Offertory Prayer: Rev. Garrard

"Offertory (8:30 a.m.): "For the Beauty of the Earth" — arr. Diane Bish (11:00 a.m., Chancel Choir): "Lamb of God" — Twila Paris

*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: Philippians 3:12-16 (p. 187, NT in pew Bible)

The Spoken Word: "FROM BEST TO BETTER" — Bishop James King

The Invitation and Confession: Rev. Maddocks
Christ our Lord invites to his table all who love him, who earnestly repent of their sin and seek to live in peace with one another. Therefore, let us confess our sin before God and one another:
Merciful God, we confess that we have not loved you with our whole heart. We have failed to be an obedient church. We have not done your will, we have broken your law, we have rebelled against your love, we have not loved our neighbors, and we have not heard the cry of the needy. Forgive us, we pray. Free us for joyful obedience, through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

Hear the good news: Christ died for us while we were yet sinners; that proves God’s love toward us! In the name of Jesus Christ, you are forgiven! In the name of Jesus Christ, you are forgiven! Glory to God! Amen.

The Peace

Let us offer one another signs of reconciliation and love. The peace of Christ be with you. And also with you. (All exchange signs and words of God’s peace.)

The Prayer of Great Thanksgiving: Page 23; Hymnal
The Sharing of Bread and Cup

"Hymn: "Just As I Am, Without One Plea" — Number 357

*The Benediction: Rev. Garrard
Choral Benediction Response (11:00 a.m.): "Sevenfold Amen" — John Rutter
Postlude: "The Great Gate of Kiev" — Modest Mussorgsky

Standing as able.

*** quick means “living”; catholic means “universal"

Acolytes (11:00 a.m.): Hannah Grace Mayfield and Carter Brinegar.
OPPORTUNITIES OF THE WEEK

Sunday, September 2
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)
11:00 a.m.  Worship Service (Sanctuary, Main)/Broadcast over WLTC 103.7 Lite FM at www.stlukeum.com beginning at 11:00 a.m.
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.  No Corner or Crosswalk tonight. See you next week!
11:30 p.m.  Pre-recorded broadcast of The Nine worship service, WTVM Channel 9.

Monday, September 3 - Church, Ministry Center, SLS, and ELC closed for holiday

Tuesday, September 4
7:00 a.m.  Men's Bible Study (SD, MIN)
9:30 a.m.  Women in The Word Bible Study (Meeting Room, MIN)
10:00 a.m.  On-Site Respite (1021 Third Ave.)

Wednesday, September 5
7:00 a.m.  RFTS All Pro Dads (LD, MIN)
10:00 a.m.  On-Site Respite (1021 Third Ave.)
11:30 a.m.  Kiwanis Luncheon (SD, MIN)
5:00 p.m.  Handbell Rehearsal (Handbell Rm.)
5:30 p.m.  WEDNESDAY NIGHT SUPPER (LD, MIN)
6:00 p.m.  Idol Lies Bible Study (SD, MIN)
7:00 p.m.  Chancel Choir Rehearsal (Sanctuary)
8:00 p.m.  College House (1030 Second Ave.)
8:20 p.m.  Hispanic Praise Team Rehearsal (Chapel)

Thursday, September 6
9:00 a.m.  Clergy Worship (LD, MIN)
10:00 a.m.  On-Site Respite (1021 Third Ave.)
11:30 a.m.  Thursday Women's Bible Study (Chapel, Main)
          Exchange Club (SD, MIN)

Friday, September 7

Saturday, September 8
Main (main building, where Sanctuary is)/MIN (Ministry Center). Contact the Ministry Center for information about renting or reserving rooms.

WEDNESDAY FELLOWSHIP SUPPER - September 5
Program: Right From The Start - Ruthie Hite
Doors open at 5:30 p.m.  The serving line is open until 6:30 p.m.  Please make or cancel reservations by using the form below, by e-mailing jwidener@stlukeum.com, or by calling 706-256-1017 before Monday noon.

Menu: Fried Chicken, Meatloaf, Butter Beans, Mashed Potatoes, Salad, Rolls, and Assorted Desserts.

Name: ____________________________ Adults ($7.00) _______ Children ($3.00) ________
Daytime Phone: __________________ Email: __________________

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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 Rev. Helen Berenthien on her birthday by Ludwig and Patsy Spohr.

OPEN ALTAR FLOWER DATES October 7, 14 & 28th. To place flowers on the altar in memory or honor of someone, contact Maggie Roberson at 706-327-4343 or maggie@stlukeum.com.


CHRISTIAN LOVE ANY SYMPATHY: To Mr. and Mrs. Clifton (Nancy) Fay in the death of his father, Mr. James L. Fay, August 24, 2018, Columbus, GA.

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.

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!

IN MEMORIAM
Mrs. Dovie Lee Strickland
August 21, 2018

Music Box
Dr. Marc F. Boensel, Director of Music Ministries, mboensel@stlukeum.com
Now is an excellent time for you to consider your place in the Music Ministry, whether you sing, play an instrument, or have others in your family whom you can invite. Here are the Music Ministry opportunities for Fall:

• Chancel Choir: Rehearses weekly on Wednesday evenings at 7pm, and sings in worship each Sunday. Open to Adults and High School age students.

• Hand Bell Choir: Rehearses weekly on Wednesday afternoons at 5pm, and plays in worship monthly. Open to anyone with basic music reading skills.

• Children’s Choirs: Rehearse weekly on Wednesday afternoons at 3pm, and sing in worship monthly. For Kindergarten through 5th grade children.

• St. Luke Orchestra: A concert band made up of members of the church as well as community members. Rehearses and performs throughout the season.
CHILDREN’S MINISTRY
Hope Sims, Director of Children’s Ministries, hsims@stlukeum.com - www.cornerkidz.com

CORNER KIDZ (9:00 a.m.) welcomes K-5th graders. Children will be escorted upstairs to the Corner Kidz Room next to the Gymnasium. Parents need to pick up children from upstairs immediately after the service.

CORNER KIDZ (11:00 a.m.) welcomes K-5th graders. Children will be escorted to Stockwell Hall. Please pick up your child in Stockwell Hall after the service.

SUNDAY SCHOOL is held in the main church building. Parent(s) need to drop off their child at the appropriate Sunday School at 10:00 am, and pick up their child promptly by 10:50 am. There will be greeters to help you find your child’s Sunday School classroom.

EXTREME KIDZ will start with a KICK OFF event at LAUNCH on September 9th, 3pm-5pm.

-Respite Care-
“Caring for loved ones and caregivers.”
Diane Hett, Director of Respite Ministry, 706-256-3117 or dhett@stlukeum.com

St. Luke Strollers
St. Luke UMC
Respite Care Ministry

The Walk to End Alzheimer’s is Friday, Sept. 21, 5:30, Uptown.
Please join us in the walk or make a donation to our team, the St Luke Strollers
You may register or make a donation at www.georgiawalk.org...Columbus

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.

...a morning of fun and adventure for engaged and married couples.

Saturday, September 22, 2018
8 a.m. - 11:30 a.m.
Historic and Uptown Columbus
$40 per couple (includes event T-shirt!)
Info: www.RightFromTheStart.org or call 706.256.1019

11 DAY EASTERN EUROPE & OBERAMMERGAU
Passion Play 2020
June 13 – 23
Material is now available- if you haven’t received yours, please contact Kym, 706-327-4343 or kym@stlukeum.com

Family Camp 2018
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 Fund: In memory of Mr. Bill Barrington by Mr. Otto Chitwood. In memory of Rev. Helen Berenthien on her birth day by Mrs. Linda Phillips. In memory of Mrs. Marie Moshell, Mrs. Chris Aycock and Mr. William J. Roberts by Mr. and Mrs. Larry King.

Memorial Maintenance Fund: In memory of Mr. Jim Marks by Mr. and Mrs. Len Sexton. In memory of Mrs. Marie Moshell by Mr. and Mrs. Claude G. Scarbrough III, Mr. and Mrs. Steve Norman, Jr. and Mr. and Mrs. Lane Bush, Mr. and Mrs. Same Duong, Mr. and Mrs. Randy Jones, Mr. and Mrs. Len Sexton, Ponte Vedra Retreat, Jamie and Laura Hodge, Col. (Ret.) and Mrs. Robert Poydasheff, Ms. Elizabeth Allison Biggers Gardner, Mr. Josh Thomas and your extended family at Green Island Country Club, and Mr. and Mrs. Patrick Deal.

Music Fund: In memory of Mr. Bill Braswell by Mrs. Debbie Wallace.

Children’s Ministry Fund: In memory of Mrs. Dovie Strickland by the Bereavement Committee.

Kathy Randall Scholarship Fund: In memory of Mr. Wayne Houston by Mr. J. Stephen King.

Samaritan Fund: In memory of Rev. Helen Berenthien by Mrs. Mary Bass.

Naomi’s Village: In memory of Mrs. Marie Moshell, Mr. James Fay, and Mr. Beau Schlley by Mrs. Brooks Dykes.

Food Pantry: In memory of Mrs. Marie Moshell by Mr. Billy Cunningham.

Christie Garden Fund: In memory of Mrs. Marie Moshell by Dr. and Mrs. Champ Baker.

**OUR PHONE NUMBERS**
Church Office, 706-327-4343 • Preschool, 706-327-4343
St. Luke School, 706-256-1301 • Early Learning Center, 706-322-2703
Ministry Center, 706-256-1017 • Respite Care Ministry, 706-256-3117

**VIP (Valley Interfaith Promise)**
**HOST WEEK 9/23 - 9/30**
Great opportunities to join the set up team on 9/23 at 11 a.m. (30 min) or break down team on 9/30 at 8 a.m. (30 min) No training required. Training (1 hr.) required to be an evening or overnight host with the families.
Please contact Doris Reid @ dorishreid@gmail or Kay Denes at khdenes@gmail.com to be a part of this outreach ministry.

**Our Website:**
Check out our brand new website: [www.thecornerstudents.com](http://www.thecornerstudents.com)

**The Corner & Crosswalk are off**
**Labor Day Weekend, Sunday Sept. 2nd.**
**High School Sunday Night Series is Upside Down! (The Corner)**
Every Sunday from 5-7 P.M.
**Crosswalk kicks off Sunday night Sept. 9th from 5-7 P.M. (Stockwell Hall)**

**Dates to Remember:** November 16-18 - DNOW
December 29-January 1 - First Annual High School Winter Retreat & First Annual Crosswalk Winter Retreat

**The Community**
This group is for ALL post graduates who are looking for a Community based on exploring biblical concepts and serving others. Contact Hope Sims, hsim@stlukeum.com.