Christmas Giving

“In Him was life, and the life was the light of men. The light shines in the darkness, and the darkness has not overcome it.” (John 1:4-5)

One way the light of Christ continues to shine in the darkness of human suffering and need is through our Christmas giving. In this season of sharing, there are several important ways you can direct the generosity of your heart through the ministry of St. Luke Church.

(1) St. Luke Budget for Ministry and Mission for the current year. Each year about 25% of the support for ministry and mission at St. Luke is given by St. Luke members in December. December is always an important month for “catching up” or “completing” our annual giving. If you are behind in your giving for this year, or if it is your tradition to give your annual support in the month of December, I hope you will prayerfully consider completing your giving commitment for this year.

(2) Your estimate of giving (pledge) for 2019. So far 234 families have pledged $2,963,106 for ministry and mission in 2019. There are still 94 families who pledged and gave last year who have not made a commitment for 2019. If you have not returned your 2019 estimate of giving, please know your commitment is crucial for our planning to serve Christ in the year ahead. Commitments we make in this Christmas season can insure that the light of Christ shines brightly through all the months of the year.

(3) Your special Christmas gifts in support of particular ministries at St. Luke. Special gifts of love, above and beyond our support of the overall ministry represented by our budget, can be especially meaningful at this time of year. Instead of struggling to find or buy gifts we don’t really need this Christmas, consider a special gift to a St. Luke ministry of compassionate assistance: The Samaritan Fund, The Food Pantry, Servants At Work (S.A.W.) repairing homes and restoring lives, Friends and Neighbor Network (F.A.N.N.) helping those in need develop community and move from hunger to food sufficiency for their family, First Saturday (remember, we celebrate First Saturday every month not just in December).

In any or all of the ways above, you can be the “light of Christ” through your Christmas giving. I pray that Christ will richly bless you and your family in this season of love and sharing.

Robert Beckum, Senior Pastor
rbeckum@stlukeum.com
December 23, 2018
Fourth Sunday of Advent

8:30 a.m. & 11:00 a.m.  Color: Purple

Prelude........................................... “I Saw Three Ships” .........................arr. Richard Elliott
Welcome and Opening Prayer..............................................................Rev. Robert Beckum

*Hymn........................................... “O Come, All Ye Faithful” (Stanzas 1, 3 & 6)..............Number 234
The Lighting of the Advent Candles............................................... Thomas and Victoria Leggett-Adams
Congregational Response............... “People, Look East”................................. Number 202
Pastoral Prayer and Lord’s Prayer.....................................................(8:30 a.m.) Rev. Cindy Garrard
(11:00 a.m.) Rev. Brett Maddocks
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.................... “Dresden Amen” ...........................Johann Naumann
**Anthem......................................... “O Come, Emmanuel” ..................................Don Besig
(Chancel Choir with YeEun Yoo, violin)

Children’s Sermon..............................................................Rev. Dr. Cindy Cox Garrard
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........................................... “Hark! The Herald Angels Sing” .........................Number 240
Offertory Prayer..........................................................................................................Rev. Beckum
Offertory….. “Little Drummer Boy/Peace on Earth” …..duet, Matt Daniels and Thai Johnson

*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. Amen.

The Written Word….Isaiah 9:2 & 6; Isaiah 63:19; Isaiah 64:7-8 (p. 600, 652, 653, OT in pew Bible)
The Spoken Word… “THE LOVING FATHER FOR AN ORPHANED WORLD” …Rev. Beckum

*Hymn........................................... “Joy to the World” ..............................................Number 246
*The Benediction..............................................................Rev. Beckum
Choral Benediction Response............... “Come, Emmanuel” ..................................Marc Boensel
Postlude.................................................. “Joy to the World” ..................................Improvisation
* Standing as able.
** Music Box

Acolytes (11:00 a.m.): Sara Cartwright and Jake Albright.

Christmas Eve Services
December 24

3:00 p.m.  Service of Holy Communion (Sanctuary)
5:00 p.m.  A Service of Communion and Candle Lighting
Especially for families with children
(St. Luke Ministry Center)
8:00 p.m.  A Service of Candle Lighting and Holy Communion
(Sanctuary)
11:00 p.m.  Pre-Recorded St. Luke Christmas
Broadcast on WTVN Channel 9

ORDER OF WORSHIP
The 11:00 a.m. service is streamed at www.stlukeum.com and broadcast at WLTC 103.7 Lite FM
Rebroadcast on WTVN Channel 9 at 10:00 a.m.

December 23, 2018
Fourth Sunday of Advent

8:30 a.m. & 11:00 a.m.  Color: Purple

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Welcome and Opening Prayer..............................................................Rev. Robert Beckum

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(Sanctuary)
11:00 p.m.  Pre-Recorded St. Luke Christmas
Broadcast on WTVN Channel 9
OPPORTUNITIES OF THE WEEK

Sunday, December 23
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
12:20 p.m. Worship in Spanish (Chapel, Main)
1:00 p.m. Hispanic Sunday School Classes (Library) and Fellowship (Stockwell Hall, Main)
11:00 p.m. Pre-recorded broadcast of The Nine worship service, WTVM Channel 9.

Monday, December 24 - Church office closes at Noon.
3:00 p.m. St. Luke Christmas Service of Holy Communion (Sanctuary, Main)
5:00 p.m. St. Luke Christmas Pageant (LD, MIN)
8:00 p.m. St. Luke Christmas - A Service of Candle Lighting and Holy Communion (Sanctuary)

Tuesday, December 25 - Church Office, Ministry Center, ELC and Respite Closed.

Wednesday, December 26 - Church Office, Ministry Center, ELC and Respite Closed.

Friday, December 28
7:00 p.m. Hispanic Ministries Christmas Celebration (LD, MIN)
Main (main building, where Sanctuary is)/MIN (Ministry Center). Contact the Ministry Center for information about renting or reserving rooms.

ST. LUKE JR. K AND KINDERGARTEN SIGN-UPs
St. Luke School opens its doors for 2019-2020 Junior Kindergarten and Kindergarten sign-ups at 9:00 a.m., Monday, Jan. 7th. Children who will turn four (Jr-K) and five (K) by 9/1/19 are eligible to apply. Parents should come to the school office and fill out a waiting list card and pay the non-refundable fee of $25. Sign-ups will continue through the spring, but priorities do not apply after Friday, Jan. 11th. There will be 64 Jr-K and 64 K slots available for 2019-2020. Please see the school website (http://school.stlukeum.com/) for more information, or call the school office at 706-256-1301.

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.

Holiday Hours

NOTE: There will be no bulletin mailed on December 30th.
To be added to the bulletin email list, please contact maggie@stlukeum.com.
The next regular bulletin will be January 6th, 2019.
Abiding Gifts will be listed in the January 6th, 2019.

WEDNESDAY SUPPERS WILL RESUME ON JANUARY 9, 2019.

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 by the Altar Guild.


CONFIRMATION

If you are a member of St. Luke or have been visiting and interested in your child going through Confirmation, please contact Rev. Brett Maddocks bmaddocks@stlukeum.com. Confirmation is offered for 6th graders. The Confirmation Kick-off Breakfast is January 6, 2019 at 10:00 a.m. in the Large Dining Room of the Ministry Center. For more information about the Confirmation process, the Confirmation Retreat, or anything else, contact Brett at bmaddocks@stlukeum.com or Erin at erin@stlukeum.com.

-Respite Care-

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

Everyone at Respite Care received an extra measure of Christmas Spirit when the 4 Year Old classes of St Luke Preschool visited and shared the songs from their Christmas Program with us. Thank you!
ST. LUKE FREE SPIRITS
January Luncheon featuring East Wind Bluegrass Band
Please join us on Tuesday, January 22, 2019 11:30 a.m. St. Luke Ministry Center
Reservations: kym@stlukeum.com or Kym 706-327-4343.

THE FOOD PANTRY IS LOOKING FOR FIVE OR SIX VOLUNTEERS who want to show the love of Christ through servant leadership right here on the St. Luke Church campus. Anyone looking for a way to give back to our church and community is welcome! Retired adults, stay-at-home parents, mission-hearted students: this is a perfect opportunity for you to share and receive the reciprocal joy of Jesus through loving service to others. It requires a heart for the broken, and four hours of your time, just once a month. Please contact Richard Jarboe at jarboer@aol.com for more information.

IGNITE RETREAT

PRAYER BOOKS AVAILABLE
With the Boldness of Children, a book of the pastoral prayers of Rev. Cindy Cox Garrard, is available free to all St. Luke worshippers.

PASSION WITH COLLEGE HOUSE
January 2-4, 2019
Philips Arena, Atlanta, GA
Cost: $235. Sign up at www.collegehouseministries.com

St. Luke Women’s Conference
St. Luke Church (Ministry Center)
Saturday, February 2, 2019

Save the Date
With Morgan Cheek
St. Luke Church (Ministry Center)
Saturday, February 2, 2019

ST. LUKE FREE SPIRITS Lunchon featuring East Wind Bluegrass Band
Please join us on Tuesday, January 22, 2019 11:30 a.m. St. Luke Ministry Center
Reservations: kym@stlukeum.com or Kym 706-327-4343.

Meals on Wheels Volunteers Needed for Christmas Day
Please contact Julie Widener if you are able to help.
jwidener@stlukeum.com or 706-256-1017.
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.

Because there will be no mailed bulletin for December 30, abiding gifts received after December 16 will appear in the January 6 bulletin.

Food Pantry: In honor of Mrs. Ruth Laney by Mr. and Mrs. David Dunaway. In honor of Mr. and Mrs. David Dunaway by Mrs. Ruth Laney. In honor of Mr. Jack Thomas by Mrs. Mary Reed and Mrs. Mary Bass.

Meals on Wheels: In memory of Mrs. Rhonda Romeo by Mrs. Warene Taylor.

Respite Care: In memory of Mr. and Mrs. Frank S. Taylor and Mr. and Mrs. John W. Keel by Mrs. Warene Taylor.

Memorial Maintenance Fund: In memory of Mrs. June Hamilton by Ms. Nancy Pedersen. In honor of Mr. and Mrs. William L. Amos, Ill by Mr. Evan Fishman.

Naomi’s Village: In memory of Mr. Hal Averett and Mr. Mac Jenkins by Mrs. Brooks Dykes. In honor of Rev. and Mrs. Robert Beckum, Rev. Brett Maddocks, Rev. Dr. Cindy Garrard, Mr. Mitch Watts, and Bishop and Mrs. James King by Rev. and Mrs. Mike McAfee.

Bereavement Ministry: In honor of Rev. Dr. Cindy Garrard, Rev. Dick Reese, Rev. Loretta Dunbar, and Dr. Marc Boensel by Ms. Nancy Pedersen.

Berenthien Memorial Fund: In honor of Ms. Nancy Pedersen by Mr. and Mrs. Rick Anthony.

Chancel Choir: In memory of Mr. Paul Singer by Mrs. Annette Pollock.

St. Luke Academy Presents
The Scripture Way of Salvation: “The Life and Theology of John Wesley for Today”

We will be looking at the life and theology of one of the most important christians in history. We will be studying who John Wesley was, what he believed, and how he ignited a movement that literally impacted the world for Christ. If you have ever wanted to know who John Wesley was, what it means to be a Methodist/Wesleyan, and how John Wesley continues to impact St. Luke today then you are invited to attend this class.

Sunday Nights from 5:00 -7:00 p.m. (LD, Ministry Center)
January 13-April 14, 2019

There is no cost. Contact Brett Maddocks, bmaddocks@stlukeum.com, for more information.