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No. 51

December 22, 2019

Volume 55


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 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 annual 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 2020. So far 247 families have pledged \$2,461,890 for ministry and mission in 2020. There are still 79 families who pledged and gave last year who have not made a commitment for 2020. **If you have not returned your 2020 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 St. Luke ministries** 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

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 WTVM Channel 9 at 10:00 a.m.

December 22, 2019

Fourth Sunday of Advent

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

Color: Purple

Prelude..... “Wedding Day at Troldhaugen”Edward Grieg
(George Sigman, pianist)

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

*Hymn..... “Once in Royal David’s City”.....Number 250

Lighting of the Advent Wreath.....Rev. Dr. Adriane Burgess

Long ago the people were given a sign of God’s presence. “Look, the virgin shall conceive and bear a son, and they shall name him Emmanuel,” which means “God with us”. God’s promise to us remains sure and true. God’s Anointed One will soon walk among us, to lighten our darkness, to restore the joy of our salvation, to save us from our sins. Four lights now shine in spite of our despair. Jesus is coming soon!

Come, O long-expected Jesus, born to set your people free. From our fears and sins release us; Christ, in whom our rest shall be.

Lighting of the fourth Advent candle

Pastoral Prayer and Lord’s Prayer.....Rev. Burgess

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..... “Celtic Christmas Lullaby”Joel Raney
(Chancel Choir with Stephanie Payne, flute)

Children’s Sermon..... Rev. Brett Maddocks

After the 11:00 a.m. Children’s Sermon, children who are in Kindergarten-5th grade are invited to go to Corner Kidz for a time of extended worship. Parents pick them up in Stockwell Hall when this service is completed.

*Hymn..... “What Child is This”Number 219

Offertory Prayer.....(8:30 a.m.) Rev. Beckum
(11:00 a.m.) Rev. Maddocks

Offertory..... “I Wonder As I Wander”John Niles
(Marc Boensel, baritone with Ken Bailey, organ)

*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.....Matthew 1:18-25 (p. 1, NT in pew Bible)

The Spoken Word..... “**WHAT’S IN A NAME?**”Rev. Beckum

*Hymn..... “Hark! The Herald Angels Sing”Number 240

*The Benediction.....Rev. Beckum

Choral Benediction Response (11:00 a.m.).... “Love Came Down at Christmas”John Purifoy

Postlude..... “Deck the Halls”Improvisation a la George Wright

**Standing as able*

Acolytes (11:00 a.m.): Chase Townsend and Trinity McAfee

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 Brett Maddocks or any of the pastors at 706-327-4343 or bmaddocks@stlukeum.com. Thank you for blessing us with your presence.

OPPORTUNITIES OF THE WEEK

Sunday, December 22

- 8:30 a.m. Worship Service (Sanctuary, Main)
- 9:00 a.m. Contemporary Service (LD, 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.
- 12:20 p.m. Worship in Spanish (Chapel, Main) with Fellowship (Stockwell Hall)
- 1-4:00 p.m. Hispanic Sunday School Classes
- 4:30 p.m. The Longest Night Service and Reception (Turner Chapel/Room 110)

Tuesday, December 24 - Church offices close at noon, ELC & Respite closed all day

- 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)
- 11:00 p.m. St. Luke Christmas Eve pre-recorded Broadcast, www.stlukeum.com,
WTVM Channel 9

Wednesday, December 25 - Church office, Ministry Center, ELC and Respite closed

Thursday, December 26 - Church office, Ministry Center, ELC and Respite closed

Sunday, December 29 - Combined Sunday School

- 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.
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and 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
- 11:00 p.m. Pre-recorded broadcast of The Nine worship service, WTVM Channel 9.

Tuesday, December 31

College leaves for Passion

Wednesday, January 1 - Church Office, Ministry Center, ELC and Respite Closed.

Saturday, January 4

- 10:30 a.m. First Saturday (Stockwell Hall)

Main (Church Building/Sanctuary), MIN (Ministry Center). Contact the Ministry Center for information about renting or reserving rooms, 706-256-1017.

HOLIDAY HOURS

St. Luke School and **St. Luke Preschool** will be closed beginning December 23 and will reopen Monday, January 6.

The **ELC** will be closed December 24-26, December 31 at 12:00 p.m. and will be closed January 1.

Respite Care will reopen Tuesday, January 7.

The **church office** will close at noon on December 24 and will be closed December 25-26, and January 1.

WEDNESDAY NIGHT SUPPERS WILL RESUME ON JANUARY 8.

The next regular bulletin will be published on January 5,
and will include abiding gifts.

Permit

ST. LUKE (552680) is published weekly except Christmas by St. Luke United Methodist Church, 1104 Second Avenue, Columbus, Georgia 31901. Periodical Postage entered and paid at Columbus, GA POSTMASTER: Send address changes to St. Luke, P.O. Box 867, Columbus, GA 31902.

Music Box

Dr. Marc F. Boensel, Director of Music Ministries, mboensel@stlukeum.com

The Music Scholarship Fund assists six students from the Schwob School of Music with expenses related to their study of music. All of these students sing in our Chancel Choir at 8:30 a.m. and 11:00 a.m. and are a vital part of the Music Ministry. Please consider supporting the Music Scholarship Fund so that St. Luke can continue to assist these students with their music education. Donations can be placed in the offering and marked 'Music Scholarship'.

The Music Ministry welcomes new vocal and instrumental members throughout the year. No auditions are required. Please contact Marc Boensel at the e-mail address above or at 706-256-2682.

Announcing the new **Masterwork Chorale!** Members of the Masterwork Chorale will rehearse for 6 weeks on the special music that the Chancel Choir will present on Good Friday, and join the choir for this event. Rehearsals will take place after church on Sunday afternoons at 12:30 p.m. beginning in late February. For more information, contact Marc Boensel.

WORSHIP IN SPANISH: 12:20 p.m. worship in chapel, Rev. Dr. José Resto, Palabra Hablada: "Por Fe y no por obras." Palabra Escrita: Efesios 2:8-10.

CONTEMPORARY SERVICE (THE NINE): 9:00 a.m., Ministry Center, Rev. Brett Maddocks preaching, "The Presence of Joy" (Isaiah 35:1-10).

ALTAR FLOWERS: The beautiful flowers in the chancel area are given to the glory of God by the Altar Guild.

OUR KNOWN SICK: **St Francis:** Bill Montgomery, 204. **Columbs Hospice:** Jimmy Thompson, 20.

CHRISTIAN LOVE AND SYMPATHY: To Mr. Rich Newton in the death of his mother, Mrs. Arlene Newton, December 17, 2019, in Pensacola, Florida. To Mr. and Mrs. Robert (Jeannette Hall) Dratwa in the death of her son, Mr. Grady Hall, December 14, 2019, Columbus, GA.

OPEN FLOWER DATES: Please contact Maggie Roberson at maggie@stlukeum.com to reserve available dates, January 5, 19, 26, February 16, 23, March 1, 8, 22, and 29.

CONGRATULATIONS: Mr. & Mrs. Rembert Cliatt Houser, Jr. (Cindy) announce the birth of a son, Jamie Rembert Houser, December 2, 2019, Los Angeles, CA. Grandfather is Mr. Rem Houser and great-grandmother is Mrs. Ruth Cliatt Gilbert.

The **S.A.W. (Servants At Work) Ministry** is looking for twin and double beds, chests of drawers and household furniture you may want to donate. Generally, these items will be used in apartments and rental units for families who, many times, have been without beds, chairs and other household items. Please contact Lee Myers, Richard Jarboe or the church office at 706-327-4343 if you have items that may be of service to this ministry.



Christmas Eve Schedule

- 3:00 p.m.** Christmas Eve Service of Holy Communion, Word, and Music (Sanctuary)
The Rev. Robert Beckum, preaching
- 5:00 p.m.** Family Service of Holy Communion,
Children's Christmas Pageant (Ministry Center)
- 8:00 p.m.** Candlelight Christmas Eve Service of
Holy Communion, Word, and Music, (Sanctuary)
The Rev. Robert Beckum, preaching
- 11:00 p.m.** *St. Luke Christmas Eve Service pre-recorded Broadcast,*
www.stlukeum.com, WTVM Channel 9



CHILDREN'S MINISTRY

www.cornerkidz.com

CORNER KIDZ (9:00 a.m.) welcomes K-5th grade students! Children will be escorted upstairs to the Corner Kidz Room (beside the gymnasium) after the welcome.

SUNDAY SCHOOL will be combined this week. Our greeters will help you and your child find their Sunday School class. Parents may drop off their child at 10:00 a.m. and pick up their child promptly by 10:50 a.m., as many of our teachers attend the 11:00 a.m. worship service.

CORNER KIDZ (11:00 a.m.) welcomes K-5th grade students! Children will be escorted to Stockwell Hall after the children's sermon. Please pick up your child in Stockwell Hall after the service.

-Respite Care-

"Caring for loved ones and caregivers"

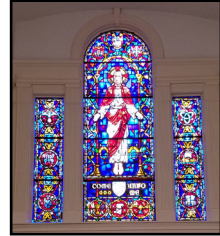
Respite Ministry - (706) 256-3117



SOME GIFTS TO GIVE

Some gifts you can give this Christmas are beyond monetary value: mend a quarrel, dismiss suspicion, tell someone "I Love You," give something away - anonymously, forgive someone who has treated you wrong, turn away wrath with a soft answer, visit someone in a nursing home, apologize if you were wrong, be especially kind to someone with whom you work, give as God gave to you in Christ, without obligation or announcement or reservation or hypocrisy.

Charles Swindoll, Growing Strong



THE LONGEST NIGHT SERVICE

Turner Chapel

4:30 p.m., Sunday, December 22.

This service of peace, hope and consolation will be followed by a reception and is sponsored by the Bereavement Ministry.

All are welcome.

IGNITE RETREAT

St. Luke adults! Join us for a wonderful weekend getaway designed to IGNITE your MARRIAGE and foster fellowship, community and personal growth in Christ. **January 17-19, 2020** at beautiful Ross Bridge Resort in Birmingham, AL.

Register by December 31 at

www.saintlukecolumbus.org.

Contact Sandra Hollingsworth for more information, **706-587-1770**.



Passion 2020

with St. Luke's College House Ministry
December 31-January 2

Mercedes-Benz Stadium, Atlanta, GA

Sign up online at

www.collegehouseministries.com

Total cost is \$220

(Includes ticket, hotel, transportation, t-shirt and most meals)

OUR CLERGY STAFF

Rev. Robert Beckum
Senior Minister

Rev. Brett Maddocks
Associate Pastor

Rev. Dr. Adriane Burgess
Associate Pastor

Rev. Dick Reese
Minister of Pastoral Care

Rev. Dr. José Resto
Hispanic Ministries

Bishop James King
Bishop in Residence

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 29, abiding gifts will appear in the January 5 bulletin.

Memorial Maintenance Fund: In memory of Mr. David Cartledge, Mr. Larry Neal, and Mr. Joe Robertson by Mr. and Mrs. Clifton Fay. In memory of Mr. Larry Neal by Mr. and Mrs. Curtis Wegener. In memory of Mrs. Thelma D. Sexton by the Bunko Girls. In memory of Mrs. Jean Amos by Mr. Rembert Houser. In memory of Mrs. Martha Cunningham, Mr. David Cartledge, and Mr. Larry Neal by Mr. and Mrs. George Mize. In memory of Mrs. Susan Martin by the Bereavement Ministry.

St. Luke School: In memory of Mr. Gordon "Butch" Estes, Mrs. Martha Cunningham, and Johnson Yarbrough by Mr. and Mrs. Morris Wynn.

Naomi's Village: In memory of Mr. Joe Robertson by Mr. and Mrs. Richard Ramey. In honor of the Frances and George McCluskey Family by Dr. and Mrs. Tommy Lawhorne. In honor of Mr. and Mrs. Rick Anthony by Ms. Nancy Pedersen.

Samaritan Fund: In honor of Mr. and Mrs. Billy Chambers by Mrs. Sue Vaughan. In honor of Mrs. Annette Pollock by Ms. Nancy Pedersen and Mr. and Mrs. Rick Anthony.

Open Door: In honor of Ms. Kim Jenkins by Dr. and Mrs. Tommy Lawhorne.

Meals on Wheels: In memory of Mrs. Martha Cunningham by Mr. and Mrs. Mizell Alexander.

Respite Care: In honor of Ms. Nancy Pedersen by Mr. Patrick Robinson. In memory of Mrs. Susan Martin by Mr. and Mrs. Mote Andrews, Jr. In honor of Mrs. Norma Butler and Mrs. Geraldine King by Mrs. Annette Pollock.

Music Scholarship Fund: In memory of Mr. and Mrs. Erling Pedersen by Ms. Nancy Pedersen.



THE CORNER

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



Merry Christmas from all of our Corner/Crosswalk family!

DECEMBER 22 we have **NO SCHEDULED STUDENT MINISTRY**. Spend time with family and enjoy the season!

DECEMBER 24 at 5:00 p.m. in the Large Dining Room - Bring your entire family for the St. Luke Christmas Eve Service Service!

DECEMBER 29 The Corner and Crosswalk **MEET AT THE MOVIES (RITZ 13)!** Come watch Frozen 2 for just \$5. Come a few minutes before 5:00 p.m. We have reserved an entire theater for our Corner/Crosswalk fam! Bring friends and some money for snacks! Gonna be a great night!

JANUARY 5 Winter Kick-off for Sunday Morning Small Groups at 10:00 a.m. and we begin a brand new series on Sunday nights as well!

THIS HAS BEEN THE BIGGEST YEAR EVER AT THE CORNER...PRAISE GOD AND LET'S MAKE 2020 EVEN BIGGER!!!

FEBRUARY 14-17 We are all going to the mountains for skiing, tubing, Big Lee McBride, worship, and our annual winter retreat!!! Sign-ups begin Sunday, December 22!
