

Knowing Serving Sharing



The Mission & Vision of St. Luke's Presbyterian Church

Our Mission

Responding to God's call and empowered by the Holy Spirit,
we invite all to join us in
knowing, serving, and sharing
Jesus Christ here and around the world.

Our Vision

To be a beacon of faith, hope, and love ~
every member an active disciple in Christ's ministry.

A Word from Jason

Dear Friends,

I'm so glad you have this copy of the **Fall Connections** in your hand (or are reading it on your computer or phone!). I want to ask you to flip through every page of this wonderful resource so you can see the many, many ways for you to be involved in God's work here at St. Luke's.

As September rolls around, you will hear continued encouragement for all ages to be involved in Sunday morning Sunday School. Our Christian Education "Kick-off" will be on Sunday, September 11th. If you aren't already involved with Sunday School, I hope you'll look through the list of classes for all ages (see pages 2-4) prior to the 11th and see which one will be a good fit for you. I can almost guarantee you that if you give it a try, you'll be glad that you did!

Whether it's Sunday School, DISCIPLE Bible Study, FEAST For All, Presbyterian Women, Men's Breakfast, OWLS, Music Ministry or any combination of these and many other opportunities, I simply encourage you to find that place where your faith can grow, and where you can offer your gifts for the good of Christ's Church.

In Christ's Love,

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KNOW

ALL

Christian Education

Special Pre-Season Gathering on Sunday, August 21 in the Chapel from 9:30 to 10:30 a.m. Our guest speakers will be Tony and Maria Barnhart. Tony is a renowned author, radio and TV personality (of all things football). He and Maria have been active members of St. Luke's for over 15 years. They will be sharing their Christian faith and values along with how important St. Luke's has been to their faith journey. Plan to attend!



Sunday, September 11

9:30 - 10:30 a.m. in the Great Hall

Pancake Breakfast & Christian Education Kickoff

Come join us in the Great Hall on Sunday, September 11, from 9:30-10:30 a.m., for a pancake breakfast and a chance to learn about the many Christian Education opportunities of St. Luke's. This is a great time to connect with others and discover new ways of knowing Christ!

ADULTS

Sundays

Sunday School: 9:30 - 10:30 a.m.

Seasons of the Spirit, Room 235

Leaders: Paula Barbin, Jan Billions, Wayne Radloff & Mark Rogers

This discussion class is biblically-based and follows the Revised Common Lectionary. The curriculum enables adults to study and consider the same Scriptures which are frequently used in the worship service.

The Present Word, Room 145 (Parlor)

Leaders: John Bradley, Susan Edmonson, John Massey & Jim Schell

A traditional Bible study using "The Present Word" curriculum. Relevant, thought-provoking and stimulating, this class is appropriate for all levels of biblical knowledge.

Kerygma, Room 232

Leaders: Steve Cashwell, Beth Drescher & Mary Martin

This class explores Scripture, Christian belief, and our faith with the goal of growing as Christian disciples.

Soul Food, Room 234

Leaders: Jim Bryant, Hannah Esther, Alan Larson & David Tharp

Finding Sustenance for Faithful Living: Fellowship, study and discussion on a range of topics related to spirituality in our lives. The "Thoughtful Christian" curriculum provides the source material for this class.

FINCH (Families in Christ), Room 203

Leaders: Joanna Mangum & Emily Voigt

This class brings together parents and adults to learn and grow in their own faith and their ability to share that faith with their families. Jason and Kristy Whitener will start off in September with a seven-week study of, "The Busy Family's Guide to Spirituality" by David Robinson.

KNOW

Wednesdays - Adults involved in FEAST For All

See pages 6-8 for details about Wednesday Night FEAST For All.



YOUTH - The Basics

YOUTH

The ministry to the youth of St. Luke's is a VALUE-based youth ministry. There are five key Christian values we strive to embody through all our ministry. We need help in all these areas. If you have particular gifts for any of these we'd love the help. Each value drives particular programs in our ministry.

Welcoming: We affirm that everyone belongs to Christ. Therefore all belong at church. We will know each other by name as we make deep connections with one another.

Caring: We embrace and connect with each other by sharing all of who we are and by praying for each other.

Faith Growth: We seek to provide an environment where we all will learn and grow in faith, asking questions, and figuring out God's call for who God wants us to be and what God wants us to do.

Love and Service: We serve others by stretching out to people in need, and building relationships of compassion. Jesus said the greatest commandment is to love one another. Love is patient, unconditional, uplifting, and selfless.

Administration: We will provide efficient, loving, and empowering training, organization, and support for all youth ministry at St. Luke's Presbyterian Church.

Weekly e-mails will be sent out with all info. Please contact Phil Brown at philbrown@slpres.org or 770-393-1424 ext. 238.

To find out the latest and greatest going on in Youth check the blog at:
www.stlukespres.blogspot.com

St. Luke's Youth Ministry welcomes all into a caring environment as we grow in faith to become active disciples through love and service.

Sundays

- ☐ **Sunday School:** 9:30 - 10:30 a.m., Youth Rooms, Grades 6-12
- ☐ **Youth Choir:** 4:30 - 5:30 p.m., Choir Room
- ☐ **Youth Fellowship:** 5:30 - 7:30 p.m., Great Hall and Youth Rooms
- ☐ **W.O.W. (Worship Our Way):** October 16, November 20, December 11

Wednesdays

See page 8 for details about Wednesday Night FEAST For All.



KNOW

CHILDREN

Sundays

Sunday School, 9:30 - 10:30 a.m.

Nursery Friends

We welcome infants, little walkers, big walkers and twos. Our professional caregivers provide lots of smiles and age-appropriate activities as these little ones learn that church is a kind and caring place.

Godly Play

Designed especially for threes, fours, and fives, this imagination-driven preschool program begins each class with "I wonder...". We wonder (and learn) about Bible stories, parables, and Christian traditions through play with simple wood figures. We also love creating works of art and singing!

Faith Journey

Children in first through fifth grades will love our "never the same thing twice" approach to learning! Each week we will meet together as a large group at 9:30 (usually on the Great Hall stage, but we will meet in our "traveling tabernacle" in mid-October through November). After getting a preview of our lesson, we divide into age-level groups to explore the topic through art, movies, science, stories, games, or cooking. "Joseph" is our first unit this fall, which will remind us that God is present in our lives during good times and bad. After a large-group service project on October 16, we will turn our focus on "Building the Tabernacle," where we will discover the fascinating history of worship – and learn how we can also use our time and talents to glorify God.

During Worship

Child care is provided at both the 8:30 a.m. and 11 a.m. worship services for children through age three.

Faithful Friends is a worship preparation program for Pre-K and five-year-olds during our 11 a.m. service. These children begin worship with their families in the sanctuary, and then go to learn about the why's and how's of worship. Our Faithful Friends become familiar with the order of our service, the Lord's Prayer, the Gloria Patri, and the Doxology. They also experience their own "sermon" in the forms of a different Bible point and related project each week.

W.O.W.! (Worship Our Way) Service is for grades 1 through 12, usually on the third Sunday of the month during our 11 a.m. service. The children begin worship in the sanctuary and sit with their families until dismissed to the chapel, where they will continue with worship. (Dates: September 16, October 20, December 11)

Acolyte Ministry is a way for children and youth (2nd to 8th grade) to be involved in the leadership of the 11 a.m. worship service. See page 12 for more information.

Wednesdays - FEAST For All - see Page 6 for details.

Special Events

Trunk-n-Treat is always a big hit with our church families! Join us on **Wednesday, October 26** as we celebrate the sweetness of fall with costumes and candy. Parking in the Mt. Vernon lot begins at 4:45 p.m. and the trunk trek will begin at 5:30 p.m., followed by a Chick-fil-A dinner in the Great Hall. Prizes will be awarded for costumes and trunk décor...so start thinking now!

Happy Birthday Jesus! Come celebrate the most wonderful time of the year with all the children in our church family on **Sunday, December 4th from 9:30 - 10:30 a.m.** in the Great Hall. We'll make Advent and Christmas crafts, play games, and of, course, eat birthday cake as we prepare our hearts for Christ's birth.

KNOW

St. Luke's Little Saints (SLLS) Preschool and Kindergarten

CHILDREN



St. Luke's Presbyterian Church offers your child a nurturing and loving environment in which to grow during our weekday Preschool and Kindergarten program. Located in Sheppard Hall, your Little Saint will enjoy learning through play in our Preschool. Our Kindergarten program embraces the playful spirit of children while preparing each child for academic success, with extended hours twice a week.

If your "Little Saint" is ready for a wonderful weekday experience, come join us! Please call to inquire about available space.

Preschool

Age: 12 months to 4 years

Hours: 9:15 a.m. to 12:15 p.m.

Kindergarten

Age: 5 years old by September 1st

Hours: Mon/Wed/Fri, 9:15 a.m. to 12:15 p.m. and Tues/Thurs, 9:15 a.m. to 2:30 p.m.

Lunch Bunch and a selection of Enrichment Classes are offered for 3's and older from 12:15-1:15 p.m.

St. Luke's Little Saints Preschool & Kindergarten is accredited by SACS/AdvancED.

SLLS is a member of Georgia Preschool Association; GAYC (Georgia Association of Young Children); North Georgia Preschool Association; Metro Atlanta Preschool Directors' Group; and Preschool Directors' Network.

For more information or to make an appointment to tour the school, please contact Carol Perry, Director, at 770-393-1424 ext. 240, carolperry@slpres.org.

St. Luke's Little Saints - "Holiday Shopping Spree!"

ALL



**You are cordially invited to attend the
8th annual Holiday Shopping Spree
November 2nd and 3rd in The Great Hall**

All proceeds are used by the school to further the early childhood education of our Little Saints.

If you are interested in participating in the Holiday Shopping Spree as a vendor, please contact Carol Perry at carolperry@slpres.org

KNOW

ALL

Wednesdays ~ FEAST For All



Wednesday evenings are for everyone at St. Luke's with dinner, fellowship and a wide range of opportunities to know and share in the love of Christ. Complete information and class and dinner registration forms are available in the FEAST For All brochure found on the church website, www.slpres.org, and in the church lobby. Come and share the feast!

The Wednesday dates for FEAST are: September 21 through October 19, November 2-16, and special programs will be held on November 30 and December 7.

Registrations are due by Sunday, September 14! Questions? Contact Liz Catlett at 770-393-1424 ext. 236 or lizcatlett@slpres.org.

Dinner Details

Adult Dinner Details: Adult serving lines open at 5:45 p.m. during each FEAST Wednesday. Dinners may be reserved in advance for the entire semester (at a reduced price) or reserved for individual weeks (\$6.50/per person) through the pew card or by calling the church office (by noon on Monday). See the registration form for more details.

Youth Dinner Details: Youth may reserve their meals through the advance reservation form or they may simply show up with their \$5 payment. Look for the youth table reserved in the Great Hall. See the registration form for more details.

Kids Dinner Details: The kids' serving line opens at 6 p.m. on FEAST Wednesdays. Meals for children registered for classes may be reserved in advance for the entire semester (at a reduced price). Meals for children (\$5 or Toddler \$2) who are not enrolled in classes may be reserved through the pew cards or by calling the church office in advance (by Monday noon). See the FEAST registration form for more details.

CHILDREN

FEAST For Children

Pre-K & Kindergarten (6:20 - 7:15 p.m.) Now Two Separate Classes!

Good News! This age group will experience exciting stories about Jesus! All lessons and activities will be provided each week, but we will need most parents to teach their child's class at least once during the semester. If you have a child in this age group, please check the date or dates that you would like to teach, using the registration form. We will need two parents in each class every week, so invite a spouse or a friend to help!

1st through 3rd Grade (6:20 - 7:15 p.m.)

The Promised Land: Continuing with the wildly popular "What's in the Bible?" video series (by Phil Vischer of Veggie Tales fame), these children will be learning about the Old Testament books of Joshua, Judges, and Ruth. In addition to the videos and related discussions, we will also be reinforcing the lessons with art, games, and more! We will be using a large-group/small-group format, so we will need three adult volunteers to serve as small group leaders for the entire semester. Please indicate your interest in this position by checking the box in the volunteer portion of the registration form.

4th through 5th Grade (6:20 - 7:15 p.m.)

Our exploration of "The Magician's Nephew" by C.S. Lewis is intertwined with some of our basic Christian beliefs and practices in this interactive and informative class. Books will be provided for each student.

KNOW

Child Care

Children younger than Pre-K will enjoy church nursery time with toys, movies, books, and coloring sheets. The nursery is open from 5:15 p.m. until 7:20 p.m. each FEAST Wednesday. Children in this age group who eat the FEAST dinner will eat with their families in the Great Hall, but they are welcome to eat in the classroom if they bring their own meal. (Toddler meals are available at a special price! See registration form for details.)

FEAST For Youth

YOUTH

Youth Connection (6:20 - 7:15 p.m.)

Both middle and high school youth will welcome a break in their week to hang out at church, reconnect with friends, and dive deeper into their day-to-day faith. High school will be working through financial issues and faith using Dave Ramsey's youth curriculum: *Generation Change*. Middle School will be getting to know some famous people from the Old Testament.

Music Opportunities:

Youth are always invited to join both the Festival Ringers and the Chancel Choir (see the information on page 10).

FEAST For Adults

ADULTS

Study Opportunities for Adults: Choose between the semester-long Bible study option or the elective parenting study. All studies meet from 6:20 - 7:15 p.m.

Bible Study:

Philippians

Led by Jason Whitener in the Chapel

"I press on toward the goal for the prize of the heavenly call of God in Christ Jesus."

"Rejoice in the Lord always; again I will say, rejoice."

"The peace of God, which surpasses all understanding, will guard your hearts and your minds in Christ Jesus."

"I can do all things through him who strengthens me."

We will explore these wonderful verses of Scripture and many more as we spend eight weeks in Paul's thank you letter to the Philippians. This book is filled with expressions of joy and peace in the midst of life's challenges. Our readings and discussions are sure to strengthen our own trust in God's power and peace.

Elective Study:

Pro-Active Parenting

Led by Shannon Dill in Room 203

Pro-Active Parenting of children and teens involves planning ahead - not just our calendars and schedules that seem to dominate family life, but making a plan to live out your family's priorities and values while keeping our focus on God. We begin with the basics - finding your family's "North Star," writing a family mission statement together, balancing time and commitments, and keeping the family strong. Then we will address the "D-word!" That would be discipline. We will discuss how to develop reasonable boundaries, limits and consequences for our children at each stage of childhood development. And we will discuss parenting as a team and empowering our children for the future.

KNOW

ALL

FEAST Special Events for All

Wednesday, November 30: After a shared meal, we will get involved in an Advent Service Project as we package 10,000 meals for STOP HUNGER NOW.

Wednesday, December 7: All ages will come together for a break in the “busy-ness” as we celebrate the coming birth of Christ together. After sharing a meal we will enjoy an evening of Christmas fun and fellowship.

ALL

FEAST Music Opportunities

Opportunities to participate in the choirs of St. Luke’s are offered throughout the evening on Wednesdays. For a complete listing see Page 10.

Music Opportunities for Youth & Adults:

Festival Ringers: Meets from 6:15-7:15 p.m. in the bell room. The only prerequisite is the desire to learn. Music-reading skills as well as advanced bell techniques are taught.

Chancel Choir: Meets from 7:30-9:30 p.m. in the choir room. This choir is comprised of youth and adults who come together each week to prepare music for regular services, special concerts and events.

ADULTS

DISCIPLE Bible Study

DISCIPLE Bible Study program is an approach to Bible Study that emphasizes disciplined reading of and listening to Scripture. It results in biblically nourished people committed to live as disciples. The classes begin in the fall and continue through May. The DISCIPLE program is:

- † **Enriching:** spending dedicated time in God’s Word gives greater meaning to your life.
- † **Informational:** learn the overarching biblical themes that tie the Old and New Testaments together as well as the stories of the Christian faith.
- † **Transformational:** priorities of the heart and life will be changed by those who invest themselves in this Bible study.
- † **Faith deepening:** even those who have been Christians for many years experience a deepening of their faith unlike any other Bible study.
- † **Fellowship:** develop deep and lasting friendships in these small groups that meet weekly to study, reflect, pray and grow together.

To find out more information about the studies being offered this fall, pick up a DISCIPLE brochure/registration form in the lobby or on the website. You may also contact **Bill Barbin (678-297-9877 or wjbpsu70@comcast.net) or Shannon Dill (770-393-1424 ext. or shannondill@slpres.org)**. Registration begins early August.

ADULTS

Men’s Bible Study

Men’s Friday A.M. Bible Study, 6:40 - 8 a.m., in the Parlor. All men are welcome to attend. For more information, please contact **Dave Elkins at 770-458-6415 or d.elkins@att.net**.

KNOW

Presbyterian Women

A Welcome Note from Donna Mason, Moderator of PW

Calling all women of St. Luke's! You are invited to join Presbyterian Women (PW). PW offers fellowship, Bible Study, and many outreach opportunities to help our church and others, locally and world-wide.

We have three different Circle groups which meet once a month (usually the second week) in the Parlor on Monday morning and evening and on Tuesday morning. Child care is provided for the Monday morning Circle. Our first meetings are: Monday morning, Sept. 12, 9:30 - 11:30 a.m.; Monday evening, Sept. 12, 7:30 - 9 p.m.; and Tuesday morning, Sept. 13, 9:30 - 11:30 a.m.

This year's Bible Study is Soul Feast: An Invitation to the Christian Spiritual Life. Each chapter discusses practical ways (such as praying, worshipping, and hospitality) in which we can increase the sway of God's Spirit in us.

We'll have an information and registration table at church on Sunday, August 28, September 4 and September 11. Stop by to learn more or to sign up for your preferred Circle. You may also pay your membership dues (\$50 made out to "St. Luke's PW") and pick up a copy of your study book at that time.

Please come join us at one of our September Circle meetings . . . and encourage a friend to come along as well.

Peace,
Donna Mason
770-698-9147, donna.mason@me.com

Marriage Matters Ministry

ADULTS

This ministry is supported by married couples who are dedicated to enriching their own marriages as well as other marriages in our church and community. Our goal is to "build better marriages, beginning with our own." This ministry offers a variety of activities, including the following:

Marriage Enrichment Group (MEG)

A small group meets on Sunday evenings in the Parlor from 5 - 6:30 p.m. monthly, from September to May. This group is open to church members and others in our community. The format starts with a time to share fellowship and prayer concerns. That is followed by an activity designed to enrich each couple's relationship. Some couples may choose to go out to dinner afterwards. (September 18, October 16, November 20; not meeting in December).

FINCH Class Sunday School Studies

This class has offered studies of books focusing on married couple relationships including "Five Love Languages" by Gary Chapman and "Love & Respect" by Dr. Emerson Eggerich.

BETTER MARRIAGES GETAWAY

SAVE THE DATE, February 10-12, 2012, at Callaway Gardens in Pine Mountain, GA

Registration begins in September and forms can be found on their website (www.bettermarriagesga.org). This is a fantastic getaway weekend for your marriage and a perfect Valentine's gift.

For further information regarding any of the above, contact either:
Kimey & Mark Reed at 770-394-3243 or kimeyreed@gmail.com
Amy & George Stewart at 770-668-9257 or stewartga@comcast.net

SHARE

Music Ministry

At St. Luke's everyone has an opportunity to participate in music. Choirs sing regularly in worship and for other special events in the church and community. Special music occurs in the Sanctuary, Chapel and at various social events. Groups of musicians present concerts and special events throughout the year. Consider how you may be called to "share" your gifts.

Wednesday evening rehearsals are held in conjunction with FEAST For All. See page 8 for more information.

CHILDREN

Wednesdays

Cherub Choir, 5:15 - 5:45 p.m. (4 years to 1st grade) Room 203, rehearsals resume September 21. Directed by Kristy Whitener.

Westminster Choir, 5:00-5:45 p.m. (2nd-5th Grade) Choir Room, rehearsals resume September 21.

ADULTS

Festival Ringers, 6:15 - 7:15 p.m. Handbell Room, rehearsals resume September 21. The only prerequisite is the desire to learn. Music-reading skills as well as advanced bell techniques are taught. Both youth and adults are welcome to join.

Chancel Choir, 7:30 - 9:30 p.m. Choir Room, rehearsals resume August 24. The choir is comprised of adults, young and old, who come together each week to prepare music for regular services, special concerts and events.

YOUTH

Sundays

Youth Choir, 4:30 - 5:30 p.m. (6th-12th Grade) Choir Room, rehearsals resume Sunday, September 18. Our newest and fastest growing choir sings several times a year in worship and enjoys learning about and expressing their faith through singing together.

ALL

Special Music Events

Orff Experience, Wednesday, September 7 from 5-7 p.m. in the Choir Room. Yvonne Miller will lead this hands-on musical learning experience on our Orff instruments (drums, shakers, xylophones...to name a few) for all ages first grade and up. If you have a recorder, bring that along. Come join the fun!

In Remembrance: An Eclectic Requiem, Sunday, September 11 at Druid Hills Presbyterian Church at 7 p.m. Singers from Druid Hills, St. Luke's and the Choral Guild of Atlanta will perform this Requiem as we remember September 11, 2001.

Pedals, Pipes & Pizza, Wednesday, September 14 from 5-7 p.m. Clair Maxwell will lead this informative and engaging event as all ages learn about the pipe organs at St. Luke's. We will see a short video about the instrument, have a hands-on opportunity to play both our Chapel and Sanctuary organs, participate in an organ crawl to see how the organ is constructed, and, of course, eat PIZZA!

The King and I at St. Luke's, October 14-16 and 21-22

The King and I is coming to St. Luke's Presbyterian Church and ACT UP! would love for you to be involved. We need men, women and children. There are singing and non-singing roles available. This is a church and community production of the classic Rodgers and Hammerstein's, The King and I. Rehearsals being in early September and performances will be October 14th, 15th, 16th, 21st and 22nd. If you are interested in more information, please contact Glenda Gray (770-880-8593 or heyautgg@aol.com).

SHARE

Celebrate the Arts at St. Luke's

ALL

The **2011-2012 Celebrate the Arts Series** offers a beautiful variety of music and musicians to inspire and engage the joy of music in us all.

- ♪ **Dueling Organists, Sunday, November 13 at 5 p.m.** featuring Charles Goehring and Clair Maxwell.
- ♪ **Christmas Concert Benefitting Toys for Tots, Sunday, December 4 at 5 p.m.** Participate in the season of giving with great style and joy. Be sure to bring a new toy to donate and hear choir, brass and handbell music presented by our choirs.
- ♪ **Service of Lessons & Carols, Sunday, December 18 at the 11 a.m. service.** Choirs and instruments present an annual tradition at St. Luke's. Celebrate with us the Nativity of Christ in scripture, song and candlelight during this holy season.

Advent & Special Christmas Events

ALL

"Service of Comfort and Rest"

Sunday, December 11, 5 p.m. in the Chapel

For those who have experienced loss - through death, divorce, depression, and many other life challenges - and for those under stress during the holiday season who need a time of rest. With singing and Scripture reading, a homily and special music, this service invites those who attend to take comfort and rest. Hosted by the Stephen Ministry.

Live Nativity

Monday, December 19, 6 - 7:30 p.m. in the church yard

Bethlehem comes alive on the front lawn of St. Luke's. Bring the whole family, neighbors and friends to experience the magic of the Nativity. Watch for details or contact Mary Kent (770-671-0645) for more information or to find how you can participate.

Church-wide Christmas Caroling

Tuesday, December 20, 6 - 8 p.m.

All ages are invited to join the fun as we share in song the wonderful message of Christmas with those who may be homebound or unable to get to church on this special evening.

Christmas Eve Services will be held on Saturday, December 24

5:30 p.m. Family Worship, 8 p.m. Candlelight & Communion Service and 11 p.m. Candlelight & Communion Service

Christmas Day, Sunday, December 25

No 8:30 a.m. Worship Service; 9:30 a.m. Church-wide Sunday School in the Chapel with Christmas Carol sing-a-long; and a 11 a.m. Worship Service

Friends of Music & Gift of an Anthem

Become a Friend of Music by financially supporting the Music Ministry here at St. Luke's:

Friend (\$1-\$24) Supporter (\$25-\$99) Sponsor (\$100-\$499)
 Guarantor (\$500-\$999) Angel (\$1000 or more)

Gift of an Anthem: Consider giving the gift of a choir anthem to our music library in honor, memory or dedication of a special friend, family member or loved one. This is a wonderful way to add to the music library here. Contact Clair to get this process started.

To find out more about the Music Ministry at St. Luke's or to support Friends of Music, contact Clair Maxwell (770-393-1424 ext. 227 or clairmaxwell@slpres.org). You can also check out our webpage at www.slpres.org/music.asp.

SERVE

CHILDREN

Acolytes

YOUTH

Are you looking for a way to get your child more involved in the church? Is your child willing to fill one of the most important worship service leadership positions for St. Luke's during the 11 a.m. service? Then being an acolyte is the spot for your child. The acolyte positions are: Bible Bearer/Water Bearer (2nd & 3rd grade), Candle Lighter (4th & 5th grade), Crucifer (5th & 6th grade), and Bell Ringer (7th & 8th grade). We would love to have your child be a part of this vital worship ministry.

We will hold a training session for all new and returning acolytes in the Parlor on September 11 following the 11 a.m. worship service. If you would like to sign your child up for the Fall/Winter acolyte schedule or for more information, please contact either Kay Loerch (770-392-3562 or kayloerch@sperduto.com) or Jenny Cummiskey (404-256-3562 or jcummiskey@peachtreebenefitgroup.com). Let us hear from you!

ADULTS

Stephen Ministry



Stephen ministry is a caring and listening ministry we began in 2008. We have grown to thirteen trained ministers and five leaders. The relationship between a care giver and a care receiver is confidential. They meet for about one hour each week to discuss concerns the individual may be experiencing in his or her life. We believe that we are a conduit between the individual and God and hope that non-judgmental listening and prayer can be a source of comfort and help to anyone experiencing difficult times.

Stephen Ministry can provide care for people with different types of needs such as: unemployment, relocation, severe financial setback, living with a degenerative or chronic disease, empty nest, parent support of an adult child, divorce, caring for an elderly or ill family member, or following the death of a loved one. These are only a few examples.

If you are experiencing difficult times and would like a Stephen Minister to help, please contact Stephen Ministry Referrals Coordinators: Rev. Shannon Dill (770-393-1424 ext. 229 or shannondill@slpres.org), or Laura Strange (770-392-9284 or lstrange@rti.org). If you have a friend in need, have the person call or obtain permission to inquire on their behalf.

Divorce Recovery Group

Wednesdays, August 17 – October 26, 7-8:30 p.m.

The Stephen Ministry is sponsoring a Divorce Recovery group for members of St. Luke's and as an outreach for friends, neighbors and co-workers. Many people who have gone through the pain of divorce find it helps to go through the healing process with others. Group members meet together to share thoughts and feelings. Facilitators encourage sane thinking and support. In a safe environment, members have an opportunity to vent with people who have been there and to help themselves as well as others. Healing in this setting is remarkable!

The group is no more than eight members, so make sure you sign up quickly as we will open this to the community as well. We will meet for eleven weeks. For more information or to sign up, please call Paula Morris at 404-326-6889/pmorris@cvtv.com or Bob Polensek at 678-478-9627/bobpolensek@yahoo.com.

"Service of Comfort and Rest"

Sunday, December 11, 5 p.m. in the Chapel

Please see page 11 for complete information.

SERVE

St. Luke's Perimeter Counseling Center

ALL

St. Luke's partners with the Care and Counseling Center of Georgia to provide the community with confidential counseling, pastoral care and education for individuals, couples and families at the Perimeter Counseling Center on the St. Luke's campus. Georgia Griffin, through CCCG, serves as the Pastoral Counselor in residence. The office is located near the Chapel with a private entrance. If you would like to know more, contact Georgia Griffin (404-636-1457 ext. 52) or one of the pastors.

Caring Opportunities through Deacon Care Teams

ALL

At St. Luke's, we believe that Congregational Care is a shared responsibility. Our church community is stronger when our pastors, staff, officers, and our entire membership is engaged together in caring for one another. We seek to achieve this through a variety of ministries, understanding that congregational care involves a wide range of circumstances, needs, and concerns.

Every one of our Deacons serve on six different teams that help to organize and implement these care-based ministries. Those teams are Loving Care, Welcome to Worship, Join us, Member Connections, Special Life Events and Visiting Care. All teams welcome congregation members who are interested in sharing their spiritual gifts. If you are interested in becoming involved with one of these teams, please contact Beth Eisenmesser (404-295-6557 or beisenmesser@gmail.com), Shannon Dill (770-393-1424 ext. 229 or shannondill@slpres.org) or contact the Team Chair person directly as listed below.

Loving Care Team

The Loving Care Team is comprised of three separate, but interconnected sub-teams: the Prayer Team, Meal Coordination and Helping Hands.

Prayer Team

We are all called to pray in some form or another. This team focuses on intercessory prayer that involves people who feel specially called and equipped by God through the Holy Spirit to spend time in earnest prayer for others. There are many ways to be a part of this team. You can be a member that prays daily for people who are listed on the Prayer and Praise Guide. You could be asked to say a special prayer regarding an emergent situation. You could be a part of a group that gathers every Sunday morning at 10:30 and prays together. If you are interested in becoming a part of the Prayer Team ministry, please contact Paula Barbin (678-297-9877 or barbin@fulton.K12.ga.us) or Paul Clay (678-443-9818 or paul.clay@comcast.net).

Meal Coordination

Would you be willing to prepare and deliver a meal to congregational families who are dealing with significant life events (e.g., a loss, major surgery or the birth of a child)? If you feel called to do this, please contact Beth Collins Himes (678-441-0789 or bcollinshimes@alumni.duke.edu) or Andrew Grinnell (770-522-8309 or and_gri@msn.com). If you're in need of a meal, please contact your Deacon and they will help get you set up.

SERVE

ADULTS

Caring Opportunities (continued) - Loving Care Team

Helping Hands

This is a new attempt to match short term or emergent needs within the congregation with readily available resources. Could you use your time and talent to assist someone in the congregation? Some examples are setting up or assisting with a computer, driving a member to an appointment, helping change light bulbs. If this might interest you, please contact Paula Barbin (678-297-9877 or barbin@fulton.K12.ga.us). If you have a need for the Helping Hands team, please contact your Deacon.

Welcome to Worship Team

One of the greatest ways to share Christ's love on Sunday mornings is to make every person who walks through our doors feel welcome. The Welcome to Worship team does this through the greeters and with continental breakfast.

Greeters

Do you have a warm smile and friendly handshake to offer guests and members as they enter St. Luke's? Then we want YOU as a greeter! Contact Tom McKinney (770-396-3598 or mckinneyt@bellsouth.net).

Continental Breakfast

There is nothing like taking the time to converse with fellow members and catch up during the time before the church service begins. What better way than to have continental breakfast to chat over? Each Sunday morning, someone from the congregation, or a group of people, volunteer to bring in the breakfast. You can help by signing up to volunteer for yourself, or with a group of people to share the responsibility. There is reimbursement available from the church for this, you just need to bring the treats. Please consider helping us to keep this service going by contacting either Jay Burton (770-671-8733 or jburton@mflaw.com) or Tom McGurk (770-804-0111 or tdmcgurk@yahoo.com).

Join Us

The goal of the Join Us team is to walk with individuals from their first visit to St. Luke's to attending an Inquirers'/New Members' Class to joining the church, to becoming an active member.

Visitor Bread

At St. Luke's, we welcome first time visitors with a fresh baked loaf of bread made by one of our members. Included with the bread is a packet of information about the church and its programs. The Deacons and Elders are responsible for this distribution after worship services.

Visitor Follow-up

This group meets on Mondays at 1:00 p.m. to discuss visitor follow-up. This group tracks visitors and any information we have on them for the purpose of following up with them and inviting them back, perhaps to one of our Inquirers' classes. If you are interested in being a part of the Visitor Follow-up Team, please contact Mary Kent (770-671-0645 or gkent4@aol.com).

SERVE

Caring Opportunities (continued)

ADULTS

Member Connections Team

This team is a fairly new innovation started in 2010. The goal of the group is to prayerfully create a visible, accessible and active resource for members of St. Luke's to connect with other congregation members through the process of introduction.

This committee is open to the congregation, especially those interested in making connections, and those who are well connected. The initial goal is to create a connection point for deacons to be introduced to their flock members. The next goal is to find ways to get the new members connected right away once they have joined. The sky is the limit with what this committee can do in conjunction with other church committees.

The long-term goal is to be a resource database which can connect members on many different levels, whether they are church related, social, spiritual, practical or educational. If you are interested in being one of our "superconnectors," please contact Leigh Ann Haertel (770-449-5793 or leighannhaertel@yahoo.com).

Special Life Events

This team helps deacons and the congregation respond to events occurring in members' lives that are to be celebrated. Births, adoptions, baptisms, confirmation, and major anniversaries. Some of their duties are:

- ◆ Recognizing births or adoptions with roses on the pulpit.
- ◆ Placing announcements of special life events in the bulletin.
- ◆ Coordinating the Red Rose Reception for new parents and their children. (The next one is planned for January 8, 2012.)
- ◆ Coordinating the involvement of Deacons in baptisms.

If you are interested in becoming involved in this ministry, or have a need for their services, please contact Kelly Sloan (770-730-0371 or kellymsloan@yahoo.com).

Visiting Care Team/Homebound Communion

Are you unable to get out and about as easily as you used to? Does it cause you to miss the fellowship of your brothers and sisters in Christ? Might you or someone you know enjoy visits from friendly, smiling faces? Or do you have the desire to go out and share time and companionship with others who are in this situation?

Organized by the Diaconate, the Visiting Care Team provides fellowship, support, and opportunities for church involvement to members and friends who are unable to be present on the St. Luke's campus by organizing and tracking visits by team members.

There are also trained Elders and Deacons who can serve homebound communion in order to supplement the pastors who also perform this sacrament.

If you are interested in being a part of this deeply rewarding ministry, please contact Chris Alexander (770-676-9254 or cjaalexander@aol.com).

SERVE

ALL

Mission and Outreach

Local Outreach at St. Luke's

R.O.C.K. (Reaching Out Through Crocheting & Knitting) is a group of people who like to reach out to others who are experiencing great trauma in their lives through their gifts of knitted or crocheted items. We enjoy great fellowship and sharing our work in weekly meetings that are scheduled on Wednesday morning, 10 a.m. to 12 noon, in the church Parlor. We make layette sets for Share Atlanta, a grief support group that reaches out to families who have lost a baby. We also make prayer shawls, squares for blankets, scarves for the annual Special Olympics USA Scarf Project and a variety of other outreach projects. We even have spare needles and yarn to teach those who would like to learn to knit or crochet. Please come and join us!

Buy Some, Share One is St. Luke's ongoing food drive to support local organizations including Community Action Center (CAC), Interfaith Outreach Home (IOH) and Six Star Refugee Program, which provide food to their participants. We ask that you make and keep a resolution that every time you go to the grocery store, to pick up one extra non-perishable item and put it in the carts in the lobby. Food is sent to CAC or IOH on an alternating basis. There are signs on the food bins indicating where each month's donation will be sent.



Tartan Trot 2012 will be Saturday, January 28. The Tartan Trot is a 5k and 10k road race that serves as a major fundraiser primarily for youth outreach. It's an amazing race. We need all the help we can get for this event that welcomes over 1000 people to St. Luke's. Sponsorships are available if you or your company want to help with this event. We'd love to have you. Please plan on volunteering. There is something for everyone in the midst of the Tartan Trot. You can also run in the race. It's a great morning filled with community and a lot of smiles. Finally, please pray for this event and the amazing impact the funds have on this world. Check out www.TartanTrot.com for more info or talk to Phil Brown or Marty Whitcomb.

ALL

Local Outreach In the Community

Community Action Center (CAC) and St. Vincent de Paul are our local ministry partners who offer support to people in the Sandy Springs/Dunwoody/Chamblee communities in need of financial, food, or other relief assistance. St. Luke's supports the partners through ongoing support (food, clothing, and financial contributions). There are also many ongoing opportunities for volunteers at CAC throughout the year. Contact Jerry Smith (770-393-6406 or smilerv@comcast.net) for more information about this ministry.

Interfaith Outreach Home (IOH) provides transitional housing for homeless families. The parents have classes on the third Thursday of each month and St. Luke's provides and delivers a meal (August-May) for the families (approximately 10 adults and 15 children), on these occasions. Reimbursement is budgeted for these meals. If you or your group would like to help, please contact AI Bridges at 770-394-6581.

The Druid Hills Night Shelter provides transitional housing for up to thirty men who are employed or actively seeking work. Our guests receive dinner, a safe night's sleep, a shower and breakfast. St. Luke's partners with this ministry by providing meals (fourth Sunday of the month October-April), and by gifts of blankets, sheets, pillows and pillowcases, multi-vitamins, and laundry detergent. If you or your group would like to help, please contact AI Bridges at 770-394-6581.

SERVE

Six Star Refugee Partnership provides housing and supportive services to refugee families during their transition to self-reliance and advocates on behalf of the refugee community. St. Luke's members serving on the Board of Directors are Kim Fadel, Bill Womack and Ellen Womack. St. Luke's members have helped by donating furniture, household items, and stocking the pantry for newly arriving families. There are also tutoring, computer assistance and mentoring opportunities. A new family arrived in July and we'll let you know how to get involved with this exciting outreach partner. To learn more, go to www.six-star-refugee.org or to volunteer, contact Ellen or Bill Womack (epwomack@bellsouth.net) or Kim Fadel at kimfadel@att.net.

Mission Trips Coming Up

ADULTS

Mountain T.O.P. is a life-changing experience for youth and adults that go to the Tennessee Mountains to work on building projects and programs for the children there. St. Luke's has even helped to stock a school library. Our next scheduled weekends for adults are **October 20-23 and October 27-30. Other weekends are available if these don't fit your schedule.** If you would like to go or have questions, please contact Ted Guerrant ASAP (atlguerrants@bellsouth.net or 770-455-9493). Forms are available on the website (www.mountain-top.org).

Church-wide Mission Weekend Trip, January 13-15, 2012. Plans are now underway for our first ever, out-of-state weekend mission experience! Everyone from ages 5 to 105 is invited to take part. There will be a variety of ways for each person to use their gifts of time, talent and energy serving God and neighbor. If you are interested in being a part of the planning team of this great experience, please contact Shannon Dill (770-393-1424 ext. 229 or shannondill@slpres.org).

Seasonal Outreach Opportunities

ALL

Angel Tree Program offers an opportunity to partner with the Salvation Army to provide Christmas gifts for children, ages 1-12, of families with at least one parent incarcerated. The tree will be set up in early November in the church lobby. The tree will be decorated with "angels" for you to "adopt" and provide toys/clothing as Christmas gifts from the wish list of each "angel." It brings smiles and joy to these children and their families. **The deadline to turn these gifts in will be Sunday, November 20th by 6 p.m.** Questions? Contact Krissy Williams (404-252-2865 or bkcook71@yahoo.com).

Trinity Alternative Gift Market: During Advent season, members can purchase a gift for a loved one by making a financial donation to one of St. Luke's Outreach Partners. Gifts start at \$1, so both children and adults can participate. What a wonderful way to be a blessing to the giver and the receiver! **(December 4, 11 & 18 after the 8:30 a.m. service and before and after the 11 a.m. service in the main lobby.)** Questions? Contact Gretchen Keyser (404-790-5831 or gretakey@bellsouth.net).

Operation Christmas Child brings joy and hope to children in desperate situations worldwide through simple gift-filled shoe boxes and the good news of God's love. This is a simple, yet powerful way to share. Bring your extra empty shoeboxes for others to use for gifts to Operation Christmas Child. There will be a donation site set up in the lobby. This year, we will also offer plastic shoeboxes for sale for \$1 each; quantity is limited. They are easy to decorate for OCC gifts and are also useful for the children to keep their treasures in after Christmas. **(Brochures and shoeboxes will be available November 6 & 13. Final drop-off date is November 20th at 6 p.m.)** Questions? Contact Gretchen Keyser (404-790-5831 or gretakey@bellsouth.net).

SHARE

Seasonal Outreach Opportunities Continued

Presbyterian Women is involved in many service projects including: making Chrismons "Christ Monogram" for the children of St. Luke's, providing gifts for children at Thornwell Home, collecting gifts for older adults through Santa Claus Express for Presbyterian Homes, and many other ways to give back. Please see page 9 for more information about Presbyterian Women.

CHILDREN

Scouting @ St. Luke's

YOUTH

Give your son a valuable gift by encouraging him to join Scouting today. Boy Scout Troop 764 is open to boys ages 11 to 17; Cub Scout Pack 764 is open to boys ages 7 to 10 (1st through 5 grade) in the Dunwoody area. For more information please visit their websites (www.troop764.org and www.pack764.org) or contact Brian LaRose (770-350-9835 or brianhlarose@gmail.com).

Annual Popcorn fundraiser will be held on Sunday, **September 11 through October 16 from 9:30 a.m. - 1 p.m.** There will be microwave popcorn, caramel, cheese, and chocolate to name a few. In addition, they will be accepting donations to send popcorn to the troops. Prices range from \$10 to \$50. Plan now to support our Scouts. The popcorn makes wonderful Christmas presents.

ADULTS

Fellowship Groups

Young Adult Ministry

Breathing new life into this ministry is the goal for this year. We are looking for new ways of connecting us all together. If you would like to be part of this exciting new growth please let Phil Brown know.

During the year we still have much going on:

- ◆ **Service Opportunities** include Habitat for Humanity, Men's Night Shelter, and Mountain T.O.P. to name a few.
- ◆ **Sunday School:** adult classes abound, or volunteer to teach little ones all the way to the high school classes.

Please join us whenever you can. For more information, contact Phil Brown at philbrown@slpres.org or 770-393-1424 ext. 238.

OWLS (Older, Wiser, Loving Seniors)

Our regular meeting date is the fourth Tuesday of the month, but is subject to change. Hope you can join us!

- ◆ **Tuesday, September 27, starting at 11:30 a.m. for lunch in the Great Hall**
Cost for lunch is \$7 per plate.
Program: Canine Assistants
- ◆ **Tuesday, October 25, starting at 11:30 a.m. for lunch in the Great Hall**
Cost for lunch is \$7 per plate.
Program: "Disciple in Song" (love offering will be taken)

SHARE

OWLS (Older, Wiser, Loving Seniors) Continued

◆ **Tuesday, November 15, 11:30 to 1 p.m.**

Cost for lunch is \$7 per person.

Program: Scott Hilley, a two man show

◆ **December's program has not been finalized.** Watch for details.

For more information about the OWLS, please feel free to contact Claydene Dunlap (770-396-5861 or csdjed@bellsouth.net) or see the St. Luke's website for more information at www.slpres.org.

Men's Ministry

Men's Breakfast (second Saturday of the month, August through May) is held at 8 a.m. in the Great Hall. To RSVP for any Men's Breakfast, contact Daryl Moore at 678-441-6203 or ddmoore@yahoo.com. Upcoming Dates:

8/13 - Tony Barnhart's College Predictions

9/10 - "State of the Church" with St. Luke's Pastoral Staff

10/8 - TBD; watch for details

11/12 - Visit with Dodd-Sterling UMC

12/10 - TBD (includes Toys for Tots drive)

Men's Golf Fellowship meets the first Saturday of the month (March-November) for golf and fellowship. Sign-up at st-lukes-golf@att.net and provide an e-mail address and your cell phone number. For more information, please contact Dave Elkins at 770-458-6415 or d.elkins@att.net. Fore!

Men's Friday Morning Bible Study: See page 8 for information on the Men's Bible study.

Fall Fellowship Events

ADULTS

Supper Club, Saturday, September 24, 6:30 - 8:30 p.m. Groups of eight gather for dinner in a member's home to enjoy food and fellowship. Watch for details and sign-up sheet in the lobby.

Church-Wide Luncheon is scheduled for Sunday October 30. Watch for details and sign-up sheet in the lobby

Chili Night, Saturday, November 5, 6-9 p.m.

The cost is \$7 per person. Chili with all the fixings and drinks will be provided. You are asked to bring an appetizer or dessert. Place yet to be determined, but you will want to save the date for this fun annual event hosted by Mary and Billy Martin and Faye and Steve Cashwell. Watch for the sign-up sheet in the lobby or contact Faye at fcashwell@bellsouth.net or 770-409-1960. This is an adult only event.

Church-wide Adult Christmas Party is planned for early December. Watch for details.

For more information contact Beth Underhill (678-491-1765 or underhill.mail@gmail.com).

Rev. Dr. Jason Whitener
Pastor
770-393-1424 ext. 223
jasonwhitener@slpres.org

Rev. Shannon Dill
Associate Pastor
770-393-1424 ext. 229
shannondill@slpres.org

Rev. Phil Brown
Associate Pastor
770-393-1424 ext. 238
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Catherine Anne Thomas
Director of Children's Ministries
770-393-1424 ext. 228
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Clair Maxwell
Director of Music & Organist
770-393-1424 ext. 227
clairmaxwell@slpres.org

Carol Perry
Director, Little Saints Preschool
& Kindergarten
770-393-1424 ext. 240
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**Sally Hawkins
& Betsy Turner**
Receptionists
sallyhawkins@slpres.org
betsyturner@slpres.org
770-393-1424 ext. 221

Sunday mornings

**8:30 a.m. Worship
with Communion
in the Chapel**

**9:30 a.m. Sunday
school for all ages**

**11:00 a.m. Worship
Service in the
Sanctuary**

**www.slpres.org
770-393-1424**

St. Luke's Presbyterian Church
1978 Mount Vernon Road
Dunwoody, GA 30338-4617

Faith & Film Nights

Faith & Film Night is an informal opportunity for adults of all ages to get together and explore their own faith through the lens of films, and the theological perspective and claims made within today's film culture.

The group meets the third Friday of each month. Dinner is served at 7 p.m. and the movie starts around 7:30 p.m., in the Youth Center, Room 207.

If you plan to attend, please RSVP to Josh and Cindy Nunez at cd_nunez@bellsouth.net or see the sign-up sheet on the lobby bulletin board. If you would like to help with food, give them a call at 770-451-9545.

Upcoming movies:

8/19 - Freedom Writers	9/16 - Invictus	10/21 - Groundhog Day
11/18 - Pieces of April	12/16 - Joyeux Noel	

Health, Wellness, and Recreation

Flu Shots Coming in early Fall - More information to follow soon.

Blood Drive - Sunday, October 2, from 8 a.m. to 1 p.m. in the Great Hall. Be sure to bring a photo ID with you and drink plenty of fluids (avoiding caffeine) before you come. Give the gift of life! For more information or to sign up please contact Patsy Bradley at 770-394-5383.

Tai Chi - Tuesday and Thursday, 1:15 - 2:15 p.m., contact the church office (770-393-1424) for more information.

Posture Perfect - Monday, 12:30 - 1:30 p.m., \$5 per class. This class consists of gentle stretches and exercises designed to bring joint alignment to alleviate pain and maintain the body structural integrity. Drop-ins are welcome. Be sure to bring a towel or yoga mat.

Men's Pick-up Basketball - Tuesday and Thursday, 7:30 - 9:30 p.m. Just for fun and a little exercise! Schedule does vary during the year. For more information contact George Stewart (770-668-9257 or stewartga@comcast.net).

Job Seekers Support Group

"Jobs & Java"

This group of St. Luke's men and women meets every other Tuesday at noon at the Starbucks in Dunwoody Village for networking and support. For more information, please contact Louise Lewis (LewisLouise@bellsouth.net) or Jared Elliot (jared.elliott@att.net).

St. Luke's
PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH PC(USA)

1978 Mount Vernon Road
Dunwoody, GA 30338-4617