



THE VIEW

Mission Statement: God calls us to be a community in Christ and to be Christ to the world.

EPIPHANY ISSUE

JANUARY 2018

New Year's Office Hours and Service

On Sunday, December 31, we will have one service at 10:00 AM. Our organist, David Thoresen, will lead the congregation in Christmas hymns. For the New Year's holiday, the church office will be closed on Monday and Tuesday, January 1st and 2nd.

Farewell to the Wyckoffs Sunday, January 7



On his final Sunday with us as the Third Rector of St. Luke's on the Lake, Fr. Mike Wyckoff will preach at all three morning services, 7:45, 9:00 and 11:30 AM. Please join us for worship on this special day.

Additionally, the Vestry would like to recognize and express our gratitude for the ministry of Fr. Mike and Martha as they step away from parish ministry. They have blessed our church family in many ways, and we invite your participation in the following gestures. First, we hope everyone will plan to attend the reception to be held on the afternoon of his last Sunday with us.

Second, we wish to assemble a "memory box" of cards, notes, pictures or other memorabilia for them to have as a keepsake of their time here. If you are unable to bring these items on January 7th, you may send them to Mary Miner in the church office. Finally, it is customary for a congregation to present retiring clergy with a financial gift, a purse, for their use and enjoyment as they begin a new chapter in life. If you wish to contribute, please send a check payable to St. Luke's on the Lake, noting "Wyckoff gift" on the memo line, to Anne Severson at the church.

We hope to see everyone on January 7th as we say farewell to Mike and Martha and wish them Godspeed.

Retirement Celebration!

RECEPTION HONORING

*Mike and Martha
Wyckoff*

SUNDAY, JANUARY 7, 2018
4 TO 6 O'CLOCK

ST. LUKE'S ON THE LAKE
FELLOWSHIP HALL

Annual Parish Meeting, January 21



Every year, St. Luke's on the Lake hosts its Annual Parish Meeting. The Canons of the Church require that two items must be attended to – the election of the Vestry (here, it is accomplished by a slate of four candidates) and the presentation of the 2018 budget. This year the Vestry will provide information on the transition process as we call our Fourth Rector. The Annual Parish Meeting will be on Sunday, January 21, at 10:15 AM in the Fellowship Hall.



The Church year renewed the first Sunday in December and now our secular calendar has caught up. It is hard to believe that 2018 is upon us and we are all headed into a new year together. Many will be starting this New Year with anticipation and much relief as 2017 is behind us now, but many can feel some apprehension to what lies ahead.

One thing that this switch in calendar years always reminds me of is the switch from BC to AD. Many of us grew up thinking the BC meant Before Christ and AD meant after death. The problem is of course that does not count the 33 years that Jesus lived on the earth. Once we figured out that AD is short for the Latin form of Anno Domini, "In the year of the Lord," we now see the shift to a recognition of the birth of Jesus in our everyday life.

Christians can be reminded of Jesus in so many ways in their lives and their daily work in this world. For me, I am reminded every time I look at the date that we are living in the years of our Lord. My strength comes from my Lord who lived on this earth over 2000 years ago, and I am still walking with him on a daily basis.

I hope that you can find peace and strength in knowing something as simple as the date can be a constant reminder that Jesus Christ is with us.

The Rev. Mark Chambers

NewsLetter DEADLINE

Next newsletter deadline will be January 3, 2018 for the February/March issue of The View. Focus for this issue will be Epiphany/Lent.

Lots happening with the middle and high school EYC! For the past few months, we've been going through some key passages in the book of Acts where the disciples (who Jesus had told would eventually become fishers of men) began to experience resistance from religious leaders as they spread the Gospel of Jesus. When two of them were imprisoned overnight for healing a lame man, the crowds asked them where their power came from, and of course they told them, "Jesus." The authorities set them free, but asked them to please stop talking about Jesus! Their response was, "We can't stop talking about what we've seen and what we've heard."

The Gospel is not a new set of beliefs or an addendum to Judaism or some new philosophy. The Gospel is based on an actual event in history where Jesus was crucified, buried, and rose again for the forgiveness of our sins. The only way anyone will ever know about this event is if somebody tells them. Therefore, what we learned is that the Gospel message is not an intuitive message. In other words, you cannot sit underneath an apple tree and come to the knowledge of this event. Someone has to tell you, which is why the disciples later prayed for boldness to proclaim God's Word.

As believers, even as a youth group, God is molding us to become "fishers of people," because we know the only way our friends will ever know about the message of Jesus is if someone tells them. God also set it up for us to partner with the church (and retreats like Happening) so when we invite our friends, they will hear this amazing message of God's love.

In January, we continue to learn and grow together while we combine lots of fun and activities! Here's a quick breakdown of some upcoming January events:

Sunday, Jan 7 - EYC returns

Jan 12-14 Happening #158

Sunday, Jan 14th NO EYC

Sunday, Jan 21 EYC & pre-EYC

Jan 26/27 Youth Discovery weekend

Sunday, Jan 28 NO EYC

Sunday, Feb 4 SUPER BOWL PARTY in the Annex

Introductions for Visitors/Guests:

First Sunday Of Each Month at 10:30 AM

Meet in the Narthex (Sanctuary Foyer)

Whether you are a guest, recently arrived worshiper, or a curious long-time member at St. Luke's on the Lake, this is the best entry point for learning how we practice the Christian faith here. Introductions is a safe place to ask any question about Christianity, the Episcopal Church, and St. Luke's on the Lake, then explore the answers with others. All are welcome here! Led by Barbara Frazell, Introductions touches on the history of the Episcopal Church, our Sunday worship structure, how to get connected at St. Luke's, and a brief walking tour/history of our campus. Time is reserved to answer your specific questions.

2018 Dates:

January 7,

February 4,

March 4,

May 6

IHS,

Barbara Frazell, Director of Programs & Communications

GROUP HAPPENINGS

St. Margaret/St. Ann Guild

St. Margaret/St. Ann Guild will meet at 10 a.m. Tuesday, January 9 at the home of Mollie Brownfield, 1306 Mesquite Road, Cedar Park. Our study is *Beginner's Grace: Bringing Prayer into Your Life* by Kate Braestrup.

All women and friends of St. Luke's are welcome to our fellowship. For more information, please call Robbie Jurek, 512-266-1416.

Martha Guild

Martha Guild is currently studying a book entitled *Jesus Among Other Gods: The Absolute Claims of the Christian Message* by Ravi Zacharias.

The January meeting will be on the 13th at 9:30 at the home of Robin Solis at 1500 Deer Run, Cedar Park, TX 78613, 512-258-5940.

St. Luke's Study Guild

We are a group that encourages lively conversation and the exchange of ideas based on a book which we read and study together. We will enjoy fellowship, and discuss our book study: *The Also Life* by Barbara Cawthorne Crafton. All are welcome. Please contact Marilyn Zwicker (512)659-3980 marilynzwickerg@gmail.com for more information. **Coffee will begin at 9:30 followed by the meeting and discussion at 10:00 in the Library except as noted.**

January 2 - Chapter 4 (Pages 45—67)

February 6 - Chapters 5 and 6
(Pages 69—93)

March 6 – Chapter 7 (Pages 96—109)

April 3 – Chapter 8 (Pages 111—129)

May 1 – Chapters 9 and 10
(Pages 131—152)

June 5 – Spring Salad luncheon
11:00 (Parish Hall)

Daughters of the King

The St. Luke's Chapter of Daughters of the King will meet at 9:30 a.m. on Saturday, January 20, 2018, in the Library, for a program and business meeting. Come at 9:15 for coffee and fellowship. Women interested in learning more about Daughters are invited to attend.

Memorial Gifts



**Given in memory of
Virginia Dobbs**
by

Alice Jean Timberlake

**Given in memory of
Walta Jean Smith**
by

Alice Jean Timberlake

**Given in memory of
Mavis Raggio**
by

Patrice & Jim Ramsbottom

**Given in memory of
Hank Wheeler**
by

Alice Jean Timberlake

Clergy Staff

The Rev. Mark Chambers,
Curate

Ministry Staff

LoriAnn Lavallee,
Dir. of Children & Family Ministries
Ayesha Cox
Nursery Coordinator
Jimmy Cazin,
Dir. of Youth Ministries
Barbara Frazell,
Dir. of Programs &
Communications

Music Staff

9:00 am Service
Donald Grantham,
Choir Director
David Thoresen,
Organist
11:30 am Service
Richard Curlee,
Contemporary Music Dir.

Administrative Staff

Anne Severson,
Parish Administrator
Mary Miner,
Parish Secretary
Kim Weigers,
Bookkeeper
Michael Balli,
Sexton

St. Luke's on the Lake MISSION STATEMENT

"God calls us to be
a community in Christ
and to be
Christ to the world."

LEADERSHIP STATEMENT

Ministry leaders will use their time and talent to serve Jesus Christ and His Body at St. Luke's on the Lake. The purpose of a leader is to teach, mentor, and disciple members of the Body, and then release them for ministry. A ministry leader will serve with love, humility, integrity, and accountability.

CHILDREN AND FAMILY MINISTRIES



When I think of New Year's, I immediately see the big light ball in New York City, traveling down to the new year's number. Fireworks light up the sky and remind me that newness is often associated with Light. The Light. Hold that thought.

I also think of Casey Casum's voice doing the countdown for the ball. And in turn, that reminds me of Top 40's count downs on Sunday mornings when I was a teen, and how, just as SOON as the last prayer in church ended, I would try to slip out to the car to hear the top 3 songs of the week after church. My Dad (the preacher) would roll his eyes as I quickly shook the Parishioners' hands or hugged everyone before RUSHING outside and into the car. There I would anxiously wait for Casey's voice and the top pop hit of the week – what is more important to a teen in the '70's than knowing what the top song was for that week??

Music and Light.

Music (and rushing to be AWAY from anyone older than 22) is still very important to your children. Your youth. Sound is one of the strongest memory tugs in the human brain. How many times have you heard an old song (from your youth) and have a memory light up before your eyes? Remember how important music was to you and see that though "their music" does not sound like yours and mine did, it is still important to them. An expression of who they are and sometimes, a light to guide them through their very own dark time.

And Light? Light is what is needed to pervade the darkness. While every new year brings us an opportunity to envision newness and light, we must share The Light every day. Every new day gives us a brand new opportunity to share God's grace and goodness with everyone around us.

Be the music: make memories WITH your youth (even if it really does not sound like music). Be the light: let us shine His Light, reflected by who we are, what we do and how we treat others. Just by being who we are: a Community in Christ and Christ to the World.

Calendar Updates and Important Info:

January 7, 2018:

- Rite K and Little Liturgy.

Both are back, as usual. We will have a bit of a delayed start on Rite K, as the Magi will be processing for Epiphany!

- **Epiphany:** The Wise Ones cometh. As is our tradition, we will have three older elementary students, representing the Magi (read as Wise Men OR Women), to bring gifts to Jesus at the beginning of the 9am service and the 11:30am service. We will process with our Wise People and Mary, Joseph and an older Jesus-child.

- **Sunday School:** Watch the weekly Cliff Notes email and the Parent eBLAST Update for what is happening during the Sunday School hour this day. We expect to start Formation classes for ages 18 and below.

January 14th:

- **Everything back to business**, including Sunday School and Children's worship services.

January 21st:

- **Annual meeting** at 10:30am. All adults and confirmed youth are invited to join the Annual Meeting in the Parish Hall.

- **Sunday School** for the kids: Preschool stays in nursery; Kinder – 5th grade meet as usual, adding in the 6/7th graders for fun; 8th grade (and older teens in Confirmation Class) meets as usual. High school can either quietly hang out in the Youth Annex or join the Annual Meeting.

- **Pre-EYC** meets from 5-7pm in Big Room Riker. We just get together and have some fun (and it can definitely get a little crazy), building relationships and marshmallow towers. Okay, so we will ALSO see what marshmallows have to do with Jesus, so you will want to be there and even invite a friend to join us. We feed them, regular food.

And marshmallows.

January 26th – 27th:

- Youth Discovery Lock-in.

Please pray for our High School Leaders and our Confirmation Candidates to find a closer place in their hearts with each other and with Jesus.

January 28th:

- **Rite K, Little Liturgy, and regular classes** resume for all ages, 1 to 101.

Google Calendar Alert – Save the Dates:

• Camp Allen will likely be to wait list for summer camps by the end of January. Please register your child TODAY to attend our Diocese's beautiful encampment. Scholarships are available, easier than ever to apply for, so please do not hesitate. Go to campallen.org or contact LoriAnn for further details.

• The Diocese of Texas is sponsoring several retreats for our 4th graders through College. We have several kids from St. Luke's who have attended these and would recommend them: it is a great way to get a glance at Camp Allen for the Summer Camps! Go now to epicenter.org to register.

• College Retreat is **January 26th-28th**. Cost is only \$25.

• High School Mid-Winter Retreat is/was December 28th-30th. Cost is \$75, with scholarships available.

• Intermediate Retreat (4th-6th grades) and Jr High Retreat (6th-8th grades): they are coincidental on **March 2nd-4th**. Cost: \$75, with scholarships available.

• Volunteer registration (and children of volunteers) for VBS2018 **begins mid-February**. PLEASE sign up early!

• Palm Sunday Egg-stravaganza! Be here and bring the neighborhood!

• VBS2018. Mark your calendars now: **June 18th-22nd**. Still 9-noon, Monday through Friday.

VBS2018: Why do we start so early with planning and registration!? Because creating an amazing adventure into the Word of God for over 200 kids and

Continued on next page

ST. LUKE'S

*Continued from Children
and Family Ministries*

130 volunteers needs to start NOW! Your first job (and we ALL have a job in St. Luke's VBS) is to pray. Pray for leaders and other volunteers to step forward early (I pray that might include you ☺). Pray for discernment as to what role you can play as we explore God's Word through another exciting theme! Please contact LoriAnn at lalavallee@stlukesonthelake.org or 512-266-2455 if you have any questions or to find out how you can help.

Wait. What is the theme, you ask? Well . . . would you rather be amped with excitement or splash into adventure? Stay tuned and read next month's newsletter to find out . . .

LoriAnn Lavallee
Director of Children and Family Ministry



To our Friends at
St. Luke's on the Lake,

I cannot tell you how much your donation means to the people of Honduras, but I can try. With every year, we see more and more young people growing into educated, respectable men and women, who are the prides of their families and communities. We see their parents beaming, knowing their children will grow to meet the opportunities that they seek. We see these things because you and your congregation give, and for that, we thank you.

Thiery Sparks,
Honduras Good Works Board

Online Giving Options

Dear Parishioners,

Many of you have inquired about online options for sending donations to St. Luke's on the Lake. This letter is intended to inform you of some convenient electronic alternatives to fulfill your pledge for the upcoming year. Electronic delivery of your pledge to the parish is easy to set up and is available in a number of varieties:

1. Automated Payment issued via your own financial institution: Using this option, you may set up a regular, automated payment from your bank account directly to St. Luke's on the Lake. In most cases, banks refer to this service as "Online" or "Web" Bill Pay, and it results in the regular issuance of a check that is mailed directly to us. Contact your bank or your bank's website for details on this service, or click on the "Online Giving" link on the our home page (<http://stlukesonthelake.org>) for more information (including direct links to many local banks).

2. Automated Payment through our Vanco service: Using this option, you may set up a recurring electronic payment between your bank account and St. Luke's on the Lake. In this case, no check is issued/mailed- your payment is made electronically via the same automated clearing house (ACH) process that banks and retailers use to clear checks. We contract with a company called Vanco to provide this service. This is the fastest, least expensive way to regularly get your pledge to the parish. Click on the "Online Giving" link on our home page for more information or call the church office if you need assistance.

Credit Card Payment through our Vanco service: Using this option, you may set up a recurring electronic payment using a major credit/debit card. Your regular payment will be charged to the authorized card. This is also done via our service provider, Vanco. While convenient, this is the most expensive payment mechanism for the church. St. Luke's will incur a fee of 2%-3% for each credit card transaction. We would encourage you to take that fee into account when setting the amount of your pledge. Click on the "Online Giving" link on our home page for more information or call the church office if you need assistance.

These same electronic giving options are also available for other recurring and one-time contributions to St. Luke's on the Lake. This includes Endowment Pledges, Missions and Outreach giving, Vacation Bible School (VBS) and Youth (EYC) contributions, and SLOL special events.

If you have already made your stewardship pledge, please consider these options as an easy, low maintenance way of fulfilling that promise throughout next year. If you have not made your pledge yet, prayerfully consider the good works that can come from even a small weekly or monthly pledge. Electronic giving is an easy way to make that possible, and to thank God for that which He has so graciously entrusted to us.

Yours in Christ,
Brad Powell, Treasurer

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WEEKLY SERVICES

7:45 am Sunday - Holy Eucharist - Without Music
9:00 am Sunday - Holy Eucharist - Choir and Organ
10:15 am Sunday - Christian Education
11:30 am Sunday - Holy Eucharist - Contemporary Music
10:00 am Wednesday - Holy Eucharist

The View - January 2018

