



# Sharing Our Faith

St. Luke's United Methodist Church

3080 Okatie Highway, between the back gates of Sun City on Hwy 170

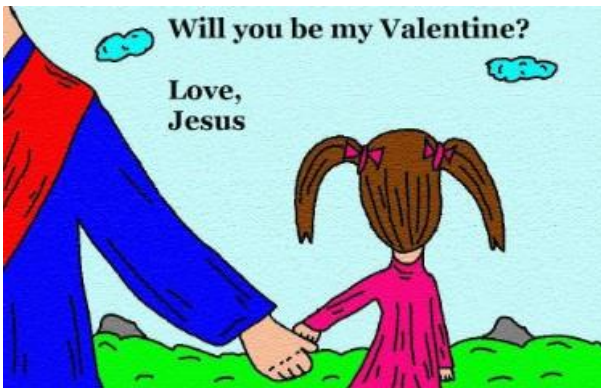
**"Praising and Serving God Thru the Ages"**

Volume 13, Issue 2

FEBRUARY 2020



## GREAT EXPECTATIONS



**Happy Valentine's Day every day!  
I Love You!!!  
Jesus**

I wanted to share this message I received today with each of you.

Grace and Peace,  
Brian



So, we are anticipating a great year ahead for St. Luke's!!

Your church council has begun with the planning process for a renovation project for the fellowship hall. We will finally realize our dreams as we pave the way for a remodeling of our existing structure. Floor plans will include a larger meeting/gathering area. Also, new handicap accessible restrooms, a new catering kitchen, new pastoral office, new laminates inside and out. This will surely be a much anticipated face-lift of our existing facility.

Of course, nothing happens without your support.

A new mailing will be forthcoming asking you to decide on a pledge plan. Please take the necessary steps to ensure our success in this very important undertaking. Each and every one of us will play an integral part of the project's success. This is your church. Take pride in it! Let us all be a part of the future success of St. Luke's.

Blessings,  
Ron Pozsonyi, Lay Leader



**PLEASE EXTEND A WARM WELCOME TO OUR ORGANIST, Geoffrey Borgelt** – Geoff attended the University of Toledo and received a Bachelor of Music Education degree majoring in

Pipe Organ. During his professional career, Geoff was employed by the Perrysburg School system in Perrysburg, Ohio and has served as Choral Music Director, organist and substitute organist at several churches in Ohio and the Bluffton area. Finding the sunshine irresistible, Geoff and his wife, Bonnie relocated to the area and built a home here in 2006.



Well, we wrapped up 2019 and are starting a new decade. I am pleased to report that in 2019 the operating budget for St. Luke's ended "in the black". While income was a little lower than budget, we compensated by cutting back expenses. As we move forward, our church family has every cause for optimism. Let's continue our momentum into the new year.

To me, moving forward means boldly reaching out to the community with our missions. Having identified that the current Fellowship Hall is an impediment to our outreach, the Council has approved moving forward with major renovations. (Including usable bathrooms!)

While this may seem a bold move, we only need to reflect on all of God's gifts to us. Now is the time to be bold in our support of St. Luke's and provide a welcoming place for worship, mission and fellowship. When you receive a letter and pledge card, consider first all that you have received and then respond generously. God has been good to us.

If you have any questions about church finances, please feel free to contact me at [rclark55@sc.rr.com](mailto:rclark55@sc.rr.com).

This is your church.

Rob Clark, Finance chairperson

## MISSIONS



For the month of December, the Mission Committee sent \$540.00 to Bluffton Self Help to assist in their Holiday giving programs.

Printed below is a thank you letter we received for this donation.

01/13/20

Dear Friends,

Thank you for joining us in our commitment to help Bluffton neighbors in need. Our critical programs rely on community support to put food on the table, keep families safe in their home, obtain employment, learn life skills and become self-sufficient. Together, we can break the cycle of poverty and provide a brighter future for those in need.

Your generous gift of \$540.00 on 12/17/2019 is able to provide hope and support to families like Tim's. Tim, a father of two sons was injured on the job. His company paid workers' compensation, but only at 60% of his pay rate. He has already missed 6 weeks of work and although his job was secure for his return, the doctor had not yet given release-to-work permission. This struggling dad was ready to get back to work, however, the doctor required 3 more weeks of physical therapy and additional evaluation before he could return. The mortgage was due and he could only cover 75% - he did not want to incur late penalties or credit issues. He was very concerned and came to Bluffton Self Help seeking assistance. After an interview and verification of information was submitted, we were able to help Tim and his family. Tim has since returned to shake hands with volunteers and staff members in an expression of gratitude.

Every day, your support makes stories like Time possible. Bluffton Self Help exists in order to help our neighbors, like Tim, in need of food, clothing, educational and financial assistance, and to provide programs that promote self-worth, dignity and create a pathway to personal success. Unfortunately Tim's story is one we hear too often. As the town of Bluffton grows in size, so do the needs among our residents. We have seen an exponential increase in assistance requests. After 31 years of serving our community, we still are true to our late founder, Mrs. Ida's vision to provide a place and a friend for all people in need. Last year, we supported more than 5,000 Bluffton residents and with your support this year we can serve even more. Your contribution helps us achieve the mission of helping our neighbors and working to break the cycle of those living in poverty.

On behalf of our board, staff, children and families, thank you!

With gratitude,

Kimberly Hall

Executive Director | Bluffton Self Help



Each month, we receive a thank you letter from **Bluffton Self Help** for the food we donate the first of the month. January's letter was dated 01/15/20 – it basically says the same thing each time, so I won't print it each newsletter. The last paragraph says:

“With more than 6,000 lbs of food being distributed every week from our pantry, a gift like yours is incredibly important and for that, we are grateful.”

On behalf of the board, staff and neighbors in need, thank you.

With gratitude,

**Kimberly Hall**

Executive Director | Bluffton Self Help



January 18, 2020

On behalf of everyone at Staying Connected I want to thank you for the generous support by St. Luke's United Methodist Church in 2019 – it is greatly appreciated. We depend on donations such as yours to allow us to provide service to residents in Sun City.

A breakdown of your charitable giving in 2019 is provided below:

Date: May 24, 2019      Amount: \$1,000.00

We encourage you to visit our web site at

[www.stayingconnectedschh.org](http://www.stayingconnectedschh.org) to follow our mission to give residents access to information, support, and services which provides them with a lifestyle consistent with the vision of an active adult community. Thank you again for your thoughtfulness and continued support.

Sincerely,

**Werner E Rotach, Treasurer**

**PLEASE MARK YOUR CALENDARS FOR THESE EVENTS**

THE START OF LENT  
**ASH**  
WEDNESDAY

SERVICE

February 26, 2020 6:00 P.M.

St. Luke's  
United Methodist Church  
3080 Okatie Hwy., Bluffton, SC 29909  
843.705.3022  
[stlukesumc-okatie.org](http://stlukesumc-okatie.org)

**Small Group STUDY**

WEEKLY CLASSES

FROM 10 a.m. to 12 p.m.  
EVERY Thursday: February 27 - April 2, 2020

St. Luke's United Methodist Church Fellowship Hall  
3080 Okatie Hwy., Bluffton, SC 29909  
843.705.3022      [stlukesumc-okatie.org](http://stlukesumc-okatie.org)



*"They Will Know Us By Our Love".*

The ladies of St. Luke's are invited to a LUNCHEON on **SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 22<sup>nd</sup>**, to be held at the Oak Terrace restaurant in Rose Hill from 11:30 AM – 1:30 PM. A select menu will be available and individual checks will be provided. Invite a friend as an outreach opportunity and include them in the warm fellowship that our ladies enjoy. **And please wear something RED!** RSVP no later than February 17<sup>th</sup> for a final count to the restaurant: Terri Reutter -[tmreutter@gmail.com](mailto:tmreutter@gmail.com) or call 302.562.9593.

#### **HAPPENINGS IN JANUARY...**

January 12<sup>th</sup> was Baptism of the Lord Sunday.

Pastor Brian had the congregation come forward to reaffirm their baptism.



January 5<sup>th</sup>, we were blessed with Special Music by Terri & Wes Reutter.



January 12<sup>th</sup>, Anita & David Leming performed *"I Have Seen the Light"*

January 19<sup>th</sup>, Anita & David Leming again sang *"Since Jesus Passed By"*



January 26<sup>th</sup>, special music by Judi Landin *"Broken and Spilled Out"*



Many Sunday's, we have enjoyed Anita on the piano and David playing his trumpet.



**FELLOWSHIP** – Between the services...



Coffee Fellowship

You are invited to stop by the Fellowship Hall between 9:30 & 10:00 a.m. to spend time with other church friends, catching up and enjoying refreshments.

In January, we were treated to some “Melted Snowmen” prepared by Janet Jacoby! As you can see, they even have knit hats on!!



These snowmen are adorable!!

Thank you Janet for being so talented and sharing your gift with us.

**FLOWERS**

If you would like to donate flowers on a particular Sunday, please sign up on the Flower Sheet in the Fellowship Hall. You may arrange your own flowers, or give a monetary donation and they will be purchased for you. Please contact Jane Disney with any questions (jabdisney@gmail.com).



**Drivers are needed to deliver the food collected at our First Sunday Food Mission Drives to our local food pantry, Bluffton Self Help. If you can help with this important ministry, please see the sign up sheet located in Fellowship Hall. Thanks!!**

**MEN'S BREAKFAST**

Like good fellowship, conversation, and food?



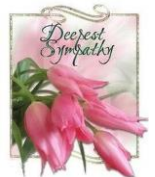
Then the Men's Breakfast, **Friday February 7, 2020, 8 a.m.**, The Clubhouse at Okatie Creek, Sun City, is for you! Ride sharing, directions, and/or Sun City passes are available, just email [information@stlukesumc-okatie.org](mailto:information@stlukesumc-okatie.org) or call 843.705.3022 and we'll email you a Sun City gate pass that can be used at any gate, or a will-call pass can be available at the Sun City South main gate - see you there!



**Let us remember with cards, and prayers...**

- Nancy Adkins**, 49 Heron's Bill Drive, Bluffton 29909
- Doris Boskey**, Sonata Viera, Rm; 208 - 3325 Breslay Dr, Melbourne FL 32940
- Elnora Ekholm**, 173 May River Rd., Bluffton 29910
- Ron Garner**, Veteran's Victory House, Hospice Care, 2461 Sidneys Road, Walterboro SC 29488
- Carolyn Ransier**, The Palmettos, 3035 Okatie Hwy, Memory Care, Rm. 102, Okatie, SC 29909
- Jane Slayton**, 47 Fenwick Drive, Bluffton SC ,29909

Our thoughts and prayers are extended to Ron Pozsonyi and family on the passing of his wife, **Jackie**, January 8, 2020. A **Memorial Service** will be held at St. Luke's on **Saturday, February 15<sup>th</sup> at 11:00 AM.**



(There are sign-up sheets in the Fellowship Hall if you would like to bring food and drinks for Jackie Pozsonyi's Memorial Service.)

# Happy Birthday

## February 2020 Birthdays

- 09 Linda Metcalf
- 10 Walker Hamilton
- 13 Bill Trainer
- 15 Ron Garner
- 18 Shelley Valentine
- 19 Linda Fisher
- 21 Marge Skinker
- 23 Bill Husson
- 26 Linda Batten



## February Anniversaries

- 02 Letty & Bill Husson
- 26 Nancy & John Sariscak
- 27 Ellie & Bob Antoine

## March Birthdays

- 02 Elnora Eckholm
- 02 Amy Erickson
- 06 John Sariscak
- 08 Ellie Antoine
- 11 Tony Ferrara
- 14 Joan Nations
- 15 George Batten
- 27 Kathy Klapp
- 31 Janet Jacoby

## March Anniversaries

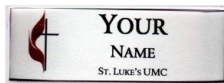
- 26 Marie & John Baldauf



**LET ME TAKE YOUR PHOTO!** If you are attending St. Luke's United Methodist Church, we would like to have you in our Photo Directory. We have many new faces attending our services and would like to put a name with a face. **We include visitors as well as members!**

Please see Pat Simmons in the Fellowship Hall between the worship services to have your photo taken. It only takes a minute of your time!

**NEED A "NAME BADGE"?** Please indicate on the attendance sheet and one will be made for you. These badges are magnetic...so, if for some reason you cannot wear a magnetic one, we also have them with pins.



## Greeters, Readers, Acolytes & Communion Servers

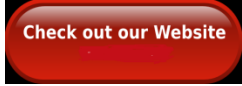
There are various opportunities to greet and/or be a gospel reader or acolyte, and participate in serving communion at our services. Please see the sign-up sheet on the back board, or contact Julie Bascom, 317.403.1577. Acolytes contact Jane Disney, 843.707.1764.



## IF YOU WOULD LIKE TO BECOME A MEMBER OF ST. LUKE'S

There are "Invitation to Membership" forms in holders on the back of the last pews. Fill it out and place it in the offering plate. You will be contacted.

**"Contact Us"** using email. Our church website, [www.stlukesumc-okatie.org](http://www.stlukesumc-okatie.org) is a valuable tool to attract people, share information and create interest in St. Luke's. To enhance capabilities and provide a foundation for the future, a collaborative effort is underway that changes some website organization, layout, content and navigation. For example "Weekly Bulletins" are now under the Worship link and Newsletters are available through the "About Us" area. For more information or assistance using the website, please contact Dave Disney, 706.372.2178 or [disneydw1@gmail.com](mailto:disneydw1@gmail.com)



## COMMUNITY *Lenten* Schedule

Community Lenten Services will be held at 12:00 Noon as listed below. A guest pastor from the area will share the message during the 30-minute service. Offerings received as part of the service will support missions and ministries selected by the host church. A light meal will be served after the service.

Wednesday	Host Church	Host Pastor	Proclaiming Pastor
Feb. 26	Campbell Chapel AME	Rev. Dr. Jon R. Black	Rev. Dr. Nannette Pierson
March 4	Bluffton United Methodist	Rev. Joey McDonald	Rev. Daniel Burbage
March 11	St. Andrew Bluffton Campus	Rev. Daniel Burbage	Rev. Joey McDonald
March 18	Church of the Palms	Rev. Pete Berntson	Rev. Stephanie Dion
March 25	Lowcountry Presbyterian	Rev. Chris Herrin	Rev. Bennie Jenkins
April 1	St. Luke's United Methodist	Rev. Brian Preveaux	Rev. Dr. Jon Black

### LISTEN FOR THE WHISPER

Shared by Ruth Dolan

A young and successful executive was traveling down a busy neighborhood street, going a bit too fast in his shiny, new red Jaguar. He was watching for kids darting out between cars parked and slowed down when he thought he saw something. As his car passed, no children appeared. Instead a brick



smashed into the side door of his car. He slammed on the brakes and spun the car around driving back to the spot where he thought the brick had been thrown. He jumped out of the car and saw a kid standing there. He shouted "What the heck are you doing? That brick hit my new car and it's going to cost lots of money to get it fixed. Why did you do that?" "Please mister, I'm sorry. I didn't know what else to do" pleaded the youngster. "I threw the brick because no one else would stop." Tears were dripping down the boy's chin as he pointed around the parked car. "It's my brother" he said. "He rolled off the curb and fell out of his wheelchair and I can't lift him up." Sobbing the boy asked "Would you please help me get him back into his wheelchair? He is hurt and too heavy for me to lift." Moved beyond words, the driver tried to swallow the rapidly swelling lump in his throat. He lifted the young man back in his wheelchair and took his handkerchief and wiped the scrapes and cuts, checking to see that everything was going to be OK. "Thank you mister and God bless you" the



grateful boy said to him. The man then watched the little boy push his brother down the sidewalk toward their home. It was a long, slow walk back to his car...a long, slow walk. He never did repair the side door of his car. Instead he kept the dent exactly as it was to remind him not to go through life so fast that someone has to throw a brick at you to get your attention. God WHISPERS to our soul and SPEAKS to our heart in many ways. **It's your choice: Listen for the WHISPER or wait for the BRICK...**



**OFFICERS FOR 2020**

Chairman Church Council	Angie Harting
Lay Leader	Ron Pozsonyi
Pastor/Parish Relations Chair	Marilyn Schum
Finance Chair	Rob Clark
Trustee Chair	Jim Seymore
Treasurer	Mary Goldfinch
Financial Secretary	Pat Simmons
Lay Delegate to Annual Conf.	Dave Disney
Alt. Lay Delegate	Pat Simmons
Outreach	Dottie Apgar
Missions	TBD
Nurture	Angie Harting
Stewardship	Wes Reutter
Worship Chair	Nancy Sariscak
Recording Secretary	Myree Flanagan
Church Historian	Pam Hoel
Membership Secretary	Pat Simmons
Endowment Representative	Rob Clark
Nominations Chair	Brian Preveaux

**Committee:**

Verna Crosby, Jane Seymore, Marie Baldauf, Paul LoMonaco

**Trustee Committee:**

Bill Husson, Steve Klapp, Bill Metcalf, Beth Peters, Jim Seymore, Norm Stark,  
Linda Batten, Myree Flanagan, Roger Weaver

**Pastor/Parish Relations Committee:**

Judi Landin, Marilyn Schum, Will Ross, Sarah Smith, Dave Disney, Ron Pozsonyi

**Finance Committee:**

George Batten, Mary Goldfinch, Pat Simmons, Eric Woods, Dave Disney, Ron Pozsonyi

**Worship Committee:**

Amy Erickson, Letty Husson, Loretta LoMonaco, Linda Metcalf

Office/Supply Coordinator: Diana Hamilton

**\*Committee Chairpersons have seats on the Church Council.**