



# St. Luke's United Methodist Church

Rev. Dr. Christopher L. Thompson  
Pastor



Where Friends and Faith Meet

January 18, 2026  
8:30 and 10:15 a.m.

3080 Okatie Hwy. 170 - Bluffton, SC 29909  
[www.stlukesumc-okatie.org](http://www.stlukesumc-okatie.org)

## WELCOME

Our hope is that you will experience God our Father's love in our worship service today. Guests, we are happy you are with us and hope we have extended to you a warm welcome. Please don't hesitate to ask any member about our church and the activities we offer. The informative information, located in the bins in the back of the church, provides some of St. Luke's history.

Please let us know you were with us today by signing the BLUE REGISTRATION PAD located at the end of each pew.

Church Office: 843-705-3022  
Mailing Address: PO Box 2779  
Bluffton, SC 29910  
Location: 3080 Okatie Hwy., Bluffton 29909  
Website: [www.stlukesumc-okatie.org](http://www.stlukesumc-okatie.org)  
Church's email address: [stlukesumc.hwy170@gmail.com](mailto:stlukesumc.hwy170@gmail.com)

Pastor's Mailing Address: Rev. Dr. Christopher L. Thompson  
465 Live Oak Walk  
Bluffton, SC 29910  
Cell phone: 864-704-0728  
Email address: [clthompson@umcsc.org](mailto:clthompson@umcsc.org)

PASTOR'S OFFICE HOURS: Monday – Thursday, 10 a.m. – 2:00 p.m. Please text or call his cell phone (864-704-0728) for an appointment to be sure he doesn't have a prior commitment.

MEETINGS: Project 150 – 5:30 p.m., Wed., Jan 21  
Trustees – 9:00 a.m., Tues., Feb. 3  
Vision Committee – 4:00 p.m., Wed. Feb. 4  
Missions – 1:00 p.m., Wed., February 11  
Council – 3:30 p.m., Thurs., Feb. 26



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Marsha Gerber, Music Director

Second Sunday after the Epiphany

January 18, 2026

Greeters & Ushers

8:30 Diana and Walker Hamilton

10:15 Leslie Richards and Barb Silcox

**PRELUDE:** "Celebration"

- Gary Davidson

**THREE BELLS**

Chiming of the Trinity

(See our prayer list)

**WELCOME/ANNOUNCEMENTS**

**\*PASSING OF THE PEACE**

"Family of God"

**CENTERING MOMENT**

**\*CALL TO WORSHIP:**

"Majesty, Worship His Majesty"

Verse 1

**OPENING PRAYER** – Congregation prays together:

Dear Lord, let your divine power flow through us! May you guide us to those who need us, and guide us to those who we need to serve your holy kingdom. Today, may we remain fixated on your mission and serve with a servant's heart. In the name of Jesus, we pray. Amen

**PSALTER READING:**

Psalm 40:1-11

No. 774

**\*GOSPEL READING:**

8:30 Letty Husson

10:15 Sherri Prosser

John 1:29-42

**\*OPENING HYMN:**

"Christ for the World We Sing"

Verses 1, 3 & 4

No. 568

**\*AFFIRMATION OF FAITH** No. 881

**\*GLORIA PATRI** "Glory Be to the Father" No. 70

**PASTORAL PRAYER/LORD'S PRAYER** No. 895

**THE GIVING OF OUR TITHES AND OFFERINGS/**

**OFFERTORY:** "Come and See"

- Marilyn Hamm

**\*DOXOLOGY** No. 95

**\*GRADUAL HYMN:**

"Leaning on the Everlasting Arms"

Verses 1, 2 & 3

No. 133

**SCRIPTURE:** John 1:29-42

**MESSAGE:**

"The Shift"

Rev. Thompson

**\*HYMN OF INVITATION**

"Precious Lord, Take My Hand"

Verses 1 & 3

Congregation sings 1<sup>st</sup> verse

Music Interlude during invitation

Congregation sings 3<sup>rd</sup> verse

No. 474

All are welcome to come to the altar to lift prayers and Praises during the last hymn.

**\*BENEDICTION**

"God Be with You Till we Meet Again" (Holding hands is optional)  
(Hymnal inside back cover)

**\*POSTLUDE:** "Postlude in C"

- Michael Thomas

\*Please stand as able.

MEXICAN TRAIN/DOMINO NIGHT – Saturday, January 24 at 4:00. Join the fun and bring a friend! Dinner will be served.

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MEN'S BIBLE STUDY – 8:00 a.m. Monday mornings in Fellowship Hall. Contact Alan Bethel or Rev. Dr. Lee van Rensburg for additional information.

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WOMEN'S BIBLE STUDY – Thursdays at 5:30 on the Book of Revelation. Please bring your Bible.

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CHOIR PRACTICE - Tuesdays at 7:00 p.m.

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### MISSIONS

BLANKET MINISTRY – Join us on MONDAY, JANUARY 26 at 10:00 a.m. to make no-sew blankets. Bring a lunch and stay for a time of fellowship afterwards. Please contact Kathy Smith with any questions.

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AGAPE FAMILY LIFE CENTER, 5855 Okatie Hwy., Hardeeville. Volunteers are needed to help distribute fresh food to local families in need on Wednesdays and Saturdays, 10:00-12:00. Please contact Leslie Richards for more information.

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BLUFFTON SELF HELP – Donations are collected the first Sunday of the month, or can be left in the Bluffton Self Help basket in Fellowship Hall.

PRITCHARDVILLE ELEMENTARY SCHOOL - Classes have resumed after the holidays, and there is a need for healthy snacks.

If you could pick up a box while shopping and drop it off in the Fellowship Hall, it would help the children to concentrate on learning.

Items need to be individually wrapped. NOTHING with peanuts due to allergies.

Suggestions:

Packs of Cheese crackers

Belvita cookies

Pretzels

Graham crackers

Little bags of Oreos

Raisins

Fruit snacks made with juice, etc.

Please see Lois Willig with any questions.

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### BIRTHDAYS

Ottice Adkins, 1/18

Kevin Prosser, 1/18

Joann Sandruck, 1/21

Matthew Melancon, 1/22

Agnes Scarlett, 1/25

Rick Beebe, 1/26

Michelle Cramer, 1/26

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### ANNIVERSARIES

None

Today's flowers are given to the Glory of God by Sherri Prosser in memory of Jeanette, wife of Harold Prosser. They were married for 63 years.

VISION IN ACTION: You're Invited! Vision Committee Meeting, WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 4 at 4:00 p.m. in Fellowship Hall. Join us as we come together to review our Mission Statement and reflect on the goals established on September 6, 2023. This important gathering will also focus on shaping new goals for 2026–2028, ensuring our church continues to move forward with purpose, faith, and clarity. Your voice matters. Everyone is encouraged to attend and participate. Whether you've been part of the process before or are joining for the first time, your insight, ideas, and perspective are valued and needed as we discern God's vision for the future. We look forward to seeing you there and working together to strengthen the path ahead. Come be part of the vision!

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COLOR OF THE MONTH this month is WHITE. Please wear white next Sunday, January 25.

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VOLUNTEERS are needed for GREETERS/USHERS and GOSPEL READERS for both the 8:30 and 10:15 services. A sign-up sheet is located on the bulletin board in the Sanctuary. If you have any questions, please contact Nancy Sariscak or Amy Erickson.

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FELLOWSHIP HALL RESERVATIONS – Please contact Amy Erickson if you would like to reserve Fellowship Hall for an event or a meeting. The Fellowship Hall calendar is posted on the bulletin board in Fellowship Hall.

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Please send information for UPCOMING MEETINGS, BULLETIN ANNOUNCEMENTS and the PRAYER REQUEST LIST to Amy Erickson and Linda Metcalf.

### **Change for Change: Small Gifts. Big Impact. Faith in Action.**

At St. Luke's, we believe in nurturing the hearts of our children and youth—not only in faith, but in compassion, leadership, and service to others. Through our **Change for Change** project, our children and youth are learning that even the smallest gifts, when offered with love, can make a meaningful difference in the lives of those who are less fortunate. Last year, your generosity spoke volumes. As the offering plate was passed, **Change for Change** donations totaled an incredible **\$2,199.26**—a powerful testimony that our congregation believes in empowering our young people to serve and lead.

This year, we are continuing this important ministry by placing a **Change for Change** donation container at the entrance of the sanctuary. While contributions so far have been modest, the purpose remains just as meaningful. Every coin, every dollar, and every act of generosity sends a clear message to our children and youth: your compassion matters, your voice is heard, and your efforts are making a difference.

We invite you to prayerfully consider supporting **Change for Change** as you enter worship. Your donation—no matter the amount—encourages our young people to grow in generosity, confidence, and faith, while helping them support causes that reflect Christ's love in action.

Together, let us invest in the next generation and show them what it truly means to serve with open hearts and willing hands.

## PRAYER REQUESTS

### **CONGREGANTS**

Ruth Dolan	Judi & Gary Landin	Andy & Sharon Makarick
Bill Trainer	Candace Payne	George Batten
Mim Mazon	Dave Fisher	Lois Finch

### **FAMILY AND FRIENDS OF CONGREGANTS**

Hannah Nystrom, friend of Marie Baldauf  
Beverly Byrd, friend of Cynthia Thompson  
Daughter of Don McKay  
Persephone, sister of Penelope Power  
Elaine, friend of Michele Elek  
Debbie Hamilton, sister-in-law of Diana & Walker Hamilton  
Nancy, mother-in-law of Michelle Cramer  
Dorothy Riley, friend of Peggy Firtion  
Rosalyn Perdue, mother of Allyn Perdue  
Dale Lawrence, nephew of Jerry Vagnier  
Stephanie, daughter of Nettie Peck  
Michael, uncle of Megan Sytsma  
Mother of Megan Sytsma  
Diane Oder, friend of Diana Hamilton  
Kim Piehl, daughter-in-law of Fran Iacovo  
Steve Rose, friend of Candace Payne  
Pete Burger, friend of Jane Tiffany  
Jan Demcsak, neighbor of Jane Tiffany  
Edith, friend of Barb Silcox  
Dennis Adelman, friend of Diana Hamilton  
John, grand-nephew of Meg Carmody  
Todd Rohde, son of Rich Rohde  
Angie, Karl and Zahg, son and family of Bill Husson  
Buffy Hopkins, friend of Dawn Hall  
Suzie Wiles, friend of Constance Ulrich  
Debbie Watkins, friend of Carol Jackson  
Pat & Bob Lawn, brothers of Carol Jackson