St. Luke's Newsletter

JUNE 2021

"Love one another as I have loved you.

John 15:12b

INSIDE THIS ISSUE:

Summer of Service	2
Worship Plans for June	3
Youth Group	4
Boosting Our Resiliency	6
Food Pantry/ Meals 4 Moms	8
The More You Know	9
Calendar	12

Pastor's Note

Dear Friends,

David Crowder released a new song recently called "Good God Almighty" and it's one of those songs that makes me want to roll my windows down while I sing at the top of my lungs. The lyrics of the song include these truths:

Good God Almighty I hope You'll find me
Praising Your name no matter what comes

'Cause I know where I'd be without Your mercy
So I keep praising Your name at the top of my lungs

Tell me is He good? (He's good) Tell me is He God? (He's God)
He is, Good God Almighty

In all of our days, in the joy and the pain, the shouts of hallelujah and the cries for help, our God is with us and he has us securely in the palm of his hand. Romans 8:32 tells us that *"He who did not withhold his own Son, but gave him up for all of us, will he not with him also give us everything else?"*

So tell me, is he good? Tell me, is he God? I believe that God is good and mighty and has given us everything, through his Son, Jesus the Christ! Are you ready to sing his praises with me, maybe even with your windows rolled down? :-)

In God's Love,

Pastor Jody

Adventure Island VBS Online

Mark Your Calendars Now For Our

Adventure Island VBS Online

Monday, July 19th
through
Friday, July 23rd

*** Watch your email and June newsletter for more details on backpack pick up.***

A Summer of Service

The St. Luke's Outreach Committee invites you to be part of these opportunities to serve our community in June and July:

Friday, June 11th, 18th and 25th Hummingbird Pantry

We will be volunteering from 1:00-3:00 p.m. at the Hummingbird Pantry food distribution, which is held at Riverview Elementary (3000 Jolly St., Titusville). Please wear close-toed shoes, sunscreen, and be parked and ready to work no later than 12:45 p.m. You MUST RSVP by Thursday of each week if you want to be part of our volunteer team so we have the right number of spots figured out for each of our team members. Please RSVP to M.E. Kelly at (321) 960-0710.

Wednesday, July 7th and 14th The Children's Hunger Project

We will be volunteering from 9:30-11:30 a.m. at The Children's Hunger Project (1855 W. King Street, Cocoa) packing gallon-size Ziplock bags with nutritious food for the children of our community who need food support. Please wear close-toed shoes and be ready to work no later than 9:15 a.m. You MUST RSVP by Monday of each week if you want to be part of our volunteer team so we have the right number of spots figured out for our team members. Please RSVP to M.E. Kelly at (321) 960-0710.

Presbyterian Women

You Are Cordially Invited To Attend the PW June Meeting and Bible Study

Tuesday, June 8th at 9:30 a.m. in Fellowship Hall

We will have visiting time, have Brunch (please bring something to contribute to the table/meal), conduct the business meeting, and Pastor Jody will lead the Ch. 9 final Bible Study in "Finding Hope Through Prayers of Lament."

June Worship

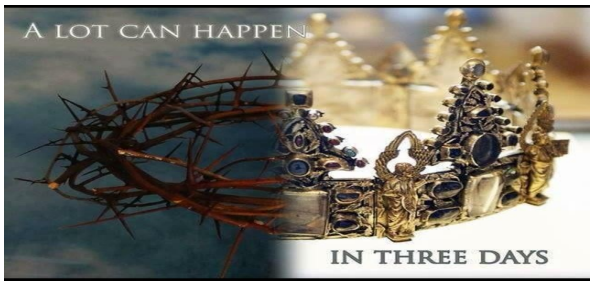
The four Sundays in June provide us with wonderful opportunities for worship, sharing the sacrament of Communion, and celebrating the Men of the Church!

Sunday, June 6th and we will share in the sacrament of Communion together as part of the service. Pastor Jody will co-lead worship with Elder M.E. Kelly and Sheila King. The Old Testament reading is Psalm 130, the New Testament reading is 2nd Corinthians 4, and the sermon title is "Extraordinary Power." In the afternoon, Pastor Jody and Mike will take Church On The Road to Royal Oaks Assisted Living for a 1:30 p.m. worship and Communion service in the Royal Oaks Dining Room.

Sunday, June 13th worship will begin at 10:00 a.m. in the Sanctuary and via the livestream on the church's Facebook page. Ruling Elder M.E. Kelly, Sheila King and Pastor Jody will co-lead the worship service. The Old Testament reading is Psalm 131, the New Testament Reading is 2nd Corinthians 5, and the sermon title is "Faith vs. Sight."

On **Sunday, June 20th** we will celebrate **The Men of the Church** as we worship beginning at 10:00 a.m. in-person and via livestream on the church's Facebook page. Sheila King, Elder M.E. Kelly, and Pastor Jody will co-lead the service. The Old Testament reading is Psalm 111, the New Testament reading is 2nd Corinthians 6, and the sermon title is "Withhold Nothing."

Sunday, June 27th Pastor Jody, Sheila King, and Ruling Elder M.E. Kelly will co-lead, the Old Testament reading is Psalm 112, the New Testament reading is 2nd Corinthians 7, and the sermon title is "Our Consolation."



Worship Next Steps

At their May 27th meeting, the Session voted to make the wearing of masks during worship optional **beginning Sunday, June 6th.** Congregants will still be invited to use hand sanitizer as you enter the Sanctuary (germ control is always helpful), we will continue using individual Communion cups with wafers, the Offering will be collected in the Narthex as you depart from worship, everyone is encouraged to sing, and we will continue to use the Liturgy of Peace as our way to safely share the Peace of Christ with each other. Thanks you all for your support of the Session's decisions as they have worked these past 14 months to keep everyone safe while at church!

* Youth Group News *

Youth Group is about growing deeper in our faith, participating in mission projects, making friends, and having fun. Here's our line up of Youth Group activities coming soon:

- Friday, June 4th 1:00-3:00 p.m. We will head to Renee Vanlaningham's home to help clear out her garden beds and get new plants into the ground/watered.
- Friday, June 11th 1:00-3:00 p.m. We will volunteer at Hummingbird Pantry to help provide food to our neighbors.
- Friday, June 18th 1:00-3:00 p.m. We will volunteer at Hummingbird Pantry to help provide food to our neighbors.
- Friday, June 25th 1:00-3:00 p.m. We will volunteer at Hummingbird Pantry to help provide food to our neighbors.

*NOTE: Youth Group members will need signed permission slips in order to participate in these Mission Trip activities. RSVP to Pastor Jody (419-306-4591) no later than the day before each activity to ensure that we have enough seats in cars for everyone to travel together. We will leave church at 12:30 p.m. each Friday. Please wear close-toed shoes and bring a water bottle.

Homework Club: ***The last day of Homework Club is Thursday, May 27th but Jeff Moody is available for help the first week of June if your youth needs help with homework, projects and/or final exams. Jeff is also available this summer to help youth who need to take summer school classes. Please call Pastor Jody if your youth needs help with summer school classes or Final Exam Week work.***

Are You Ready To Make Some Great Memories Together?

Rev. Jay Seabrook's 75th Birthday

Honorably Retired Rev. Jay Seabrook served the congregation of St. Luke's for almost 17 years (September 10, 1995 - January 31st, 2012). He and his wife Anne, who has gone home to be with our Lord, loved the congregation of St. Luke's, raised their son and daughter while they also served our church, and made Titusville a better community through their involvement in many organizations and non-profits.

Pastor Jay will turn 75 years old on Saturday, June 12th and you are invited to help surprise him with a flood of birthday well wishes on his special day. Whether you know Pastor Jay or not, this is a wonderful way to celebrate a man who has been faithful to his call and who blessed this congregation with nearly 17 years of leadership.

If you would like to call Pastor Jay on his birthday, his cell is (321) 652-6188. If you would like to send Pastor Jay an email, his address is jseabrookjr@att.net. If you would like to mail a card to help surprise Pastor Jay, his mailing address is:

205 Bud Nalley Drive
Easley, SC 29642

Thank you for helping to surprise Jay for his birthday and make the day extra special for him!

Need A Laugh? :-)

St. Luke's Rummage Sale News

Due to Covid-19, the decision has been made to hold the Rummage Sale in October. We are blessed that Susan Crum and Layne Hamilton will again be serving as the co-leaders for the Sale. They will be working with their team to set a date for the Sale and, when that is done, we will communicate the information out to the congregation. In the meantime, please continue to donate your gently used furniture, household appliances, seasonal decorations, cookware, purses, jewelry, clothing, pictures, tools, sporting equipment, collectibles, books, games, children's clothing and shoes, etc. to the church for the Sale.

In past years, the Sale has raised anywhere from $5-7k for the general operating budget of the church and another $500-700 from the Bake Sale to benefit the Summer Youth Mission Trip. It also gives us a great opportunity to meet our neighbors and pass out free Bibles/devotional materials to help people grow in their faith journeys.

As it gets closer to the time of the Sale, Susan and Layne will need people to help on the sorting team and volunteers to work 1 or 2 days of the Sale. They will also need volunteers to help with setting up the rooms, cleaning up after the Sale, putting yard signs out both days of the Sale, and collecting the yards signs. If you would like to help, please let Susan or Layne know.

Five ways to be kind to yourself and help boost your resiliency

- **Get enough sleep.** If you find it difficult to get enough rest, try establishing a sleep routine.
- **Eat right.** Try to eat a healthy diet of minimally processed foods, especially fruits and vegetables, nuts, fish, healthy fats (such as olive oil), and whole grains.
- **Move your body.** Physical exercise has positive effects on both our bodies and minds.
- **Manage stress.** While we can't eliminate stress completely, we can learn to manage it effectively.
- **Enjoy the outdoors.** Being in nature is good for our well-being.

My 7th Anniversary @ SLPC

On June 14th, I will have the joy of marking my 7 year anniversary of journeying with you as your Pastor. It has been my absolute honor to preach, teach, and love you all!

Some of the joys of my ministry so far with you have included leading worship with you, baptizing adults and children, marrying couples, journeying with the youth group members each year and adults chaperones who were crazy enough to say yes to my invitation to do Lock-Ins and Mission Trips, listening as you poured out your pain and questioned where God is in it all with you, laughing with you as we shared jokes and celebrations, playing and singing music together with you as we praised our Lord, renovating the buildings and grounds of the church, hosting Rummage Sales that let us meet/pray over so many of our neighbors and raise important money for our operating budgets, journeying with you and your loved one as they came to the end of their physical days before going home to be with Jesus, and so much more.

You have helped me navigate learning to be a parent and friend to our daughters as they went to college, tried out different jobs, met the loves of their lives, and began their families. You have given Mike the blessing of a church home that he loves and where he is appreciated for being himself. You have supported me through major surgeries that helped me get to this awesome place where I'm almost 5 years cancer free and moving great with two titanium knees.

Together with the Lord, we have come from being on the brink of a very uncertain future to a place where our congregation is thriving. We have added 52 new members in the past 2.5 years, our budget is now running solidly in the black, we have been able to significantly increase our volunteer and financial support of schools and organizations fighting hunger in our community, we helped our sister congregation close their church in ways that honored and supported them, you have supported me in serving on four Administrative Commissions in our presbytery to help churches struggling with tough decisions find their way to answers with grace and love, and you have supported me as I led our presbytery's New Church Development Committee for six years as we walked with diverse new worshiping communities that led to the chartering of one new church and untold numbers of people coming to know Jesus as their Lord and Savior.

As a congregation, we have drawn on the strength and help of the Lord to navigate the challenges of Covid-19. Mike Noble and Jerry Phillips kept our A/V going so we could livestream in unknown technological situations, we welcomed Rev. David Lindemer and Merritt Island Presbyterian Church to journey with us from April - June 2020, we supported the Elders as they did their best to make decisions to keep us all safe, Sheila King launched The Bells of St. Luke's and Pure Percussion to provide special music in our worship services during days when we could not sing in the Sanctuary, we found ways to still host weddings and funerals safely, and so much more. There were definitely bumps along the road and different thoughts on how we should solve the challenges but, through it all, we held onto our Lord and each other and have come through it all stronger because of it.

As we begin our next year of journeying together, my prayer is that we will continue to be locked in prayer, that we will listen for the Lord's leading, that we will say "Yes, Lord" and take risks together that are affirmed through our prayer times, and that we will be blessed by our Lord with the gift of time so we can continue to carry his Good News together into all the world!

In God's Love, Pastor Jody

June Food Pantry

The Church Food Pantry will be open throughout the month of June on Wednesdays and Thursdays from 9:00 am - 5:00 pm and by appointment. By expanding the hours when food is available to be picked up, we hope to be able to help more of our neighbors. If you or someone you know needs food help, our church food pantry is always available to help. And, if you're not able to get to the food pantry on Wednesday or Thursday, please call one of the Elders and they can arrange for someone to meet you at church to get you into Room 4 where the food pantry items are stored. Food items needed for our June "Meals for Moms" include:

- Bags of wide egg noodles
- 1 lb. packages of ground beef
- Medium yellow onions
- Bags of fresh green beans
- 10.5 oz cans of condensed beef broth
- 8 oz containers of sour cream
- Slivered almonds
- Cool Whip (frozen)
- Boxes of instant chocolate pudding
- Half gallons of milk

Apple Crisp With Pie Filling

May's dessert for Meals For Moms was an Apple Crisp using pie filling, which made it super easy and fast.

1 (21 ounce) can apple pie filling
½ cup all-purpose flour
1/3 up butter or margarine, softened
¾ teaspoon ground nutmeg
¾ cup packed brown sugar
½ quick-cooking or old-fashioned oats
¾ teaspoon ground cinnamon

Serve with cream or ice cream

Heat oven to 375. Grease bottom and sides of an 8-inch pan.

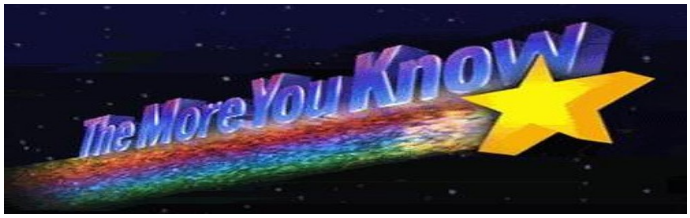
Spread pie filling in prepared 8-inch pan. Stir remaining ingredients, except cream, until well mixed; sprinkle over apples.

Bake 30 minutes or until topping is golden brown. Serve warm with cream or ice cream.

The More You Know

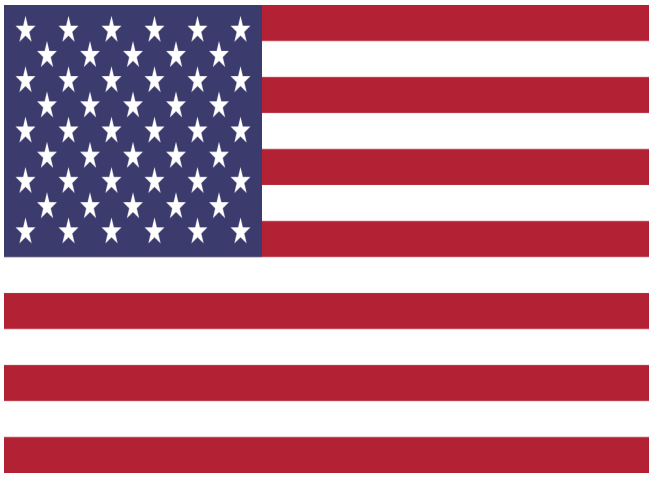
The Session continues to work to provide good answers to your questions each month on our church life together. Recent questions we have been asked include:

1. Who coordinates the Meals For Moms and Food Pantry program? Both programs are housed within the Evangelism and Outreach Committee, which is led by Ruling Elder M.E. Kelly. Carolyn Henderson is the leader of the Meals For Moms program and she does a fabulous job of putting together a 3-course meal each month for the moms to prepare that is fun, fast, and nutritious. Carolyn also keeps an eye on the Food Pantry stock to ensure that items are still within their freshness dates.
2. Who are our Deacons and what do they do? Our current Deacons are Kassie Mudrak (Class of 2021), Karen Amador (Class of 2022), Peggy Hall (Class of 2022), Crystal Hedden (Class of 2023), Brandilyn Hoftyzer (Class of 2023), and Mike Noble (Class of 2023). The Deacons pray daily over our congregation, help with projects and meals to assist our congregants, host the annual Blessing of the Pets, support the work of many of our church's committees, and are currently preparing to send Treat Packages to our active duty military members.
3. What is the next Eagle Scout project that will take place at St. Luke's? Tyler Trawle presented his proposed Eagle Scout project to build a 90' long sidewalk that will extend from the Classroom 8 area out to the Vesper's Circle. The sidewalk will be 6' wide and the project will also include running conduit/electrical out to the Vespers Circle. The Session approved the project (estimated cost is $2,010), will match Tyler's fundraising efforts up to $1,000, and invites the congregation to contribute to support Tyle's Eagle Scout Project as fundraising lunches are not yet possible.
4. What things are the Ruling Elders working on this month? In addition to their regular committee work, the Elders are beginning to rough out their 2022 budgets, prepare a list of things they would like to do at church if their committee had an additional $3-6k, and completing the annual personnel evaluations for Pastor Jody and Sheila King.



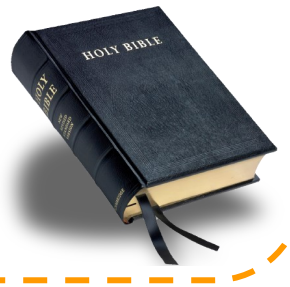
American Flag Retirement Ceremony

We are so blessed to charter Scout Troop 488 and to support the important work the Troop is doing to shape the lives of young men in our community. On Memorial Day Sunday, the Troop will provide a Color Guard to present the colors at the beginning of our worship service. After worship, the Troop will lead a Flag Retirement Ceremony at the Vespers Circle behind the Sanctuary to honorably retire flags donated by our community members. We are so grateful for the adults who serve as the Troop leadership team and for each of the young men who are members of the Troop!



Worship Bible Texts and Sermon Titles

Sunday, June 6th:	**2nd Sunday After Pentecost & Communion Sunday** Old Testament reading is Psalm 130 New Testament reading is 2nd Corinthians 4 Sermon Title "Extraordinary Power"
Sunday, June 13th:	**3rd Sunday After Pentecost** Old Testament reading is Psalm 131 New Testament reading is 2nd Corinthians 5 Sermon Title "Faith vs. Sight"
Sunday, June 20th:	**Men of the Church Sunday & 4th Sunday After Pentecost** Old Testament reading is Psalm 111 New Testament reading is 2nd Corinthians 6 Sermon Title "Withhold Nothing"
Sunday, June 27th:	**5th Sunday After Pentecost** Old Testament reading is Psalm 112 New Testament reading is 2nd Corinthians 7 Sermon Title "Our Consolation"



Year To Date Financial Information

Financial Report as of April 30th:

2021 Operating Income Year to Date $ 64,830.84
2021 Operating Expenses Year to Date $ 46,558.60
Net Income Year to Date: $ 18, 272.24

Worship Attendance

May 2nd Communion & 5th Sunday of Easter Tide
65 in worship and 332 livestream views as of 5/29/21

May 9th Baccalaureate & Women of the Church Sunday
56 in worship and 352 livestream views as of 5/29/21

May 16th Ascension Sunday
40 in worship 178 livestream views as of 5/29/21

May 23rd Pentecost Sunday (Last Sunday of Easter Tide)
59 in worship 347 livestream views as of 5/29/21

May 30th Trinity & Memorial Day Sunday
TBD

Special Occasions

Anniversaries
Bill & Carole Rushing (6/5)
Steve & Roanna Wilson (6/6)
Jim & Betty Parks (6/9)
Jerry & Susan Beverly (6/20)
George & Diane Kay (6/28)

Birthdays
Mark Koontz (6/1)
Barbara Weitz (6/7)

Birthdays (continued)
Donna Bianchini (6/7)
Dawn Lake (6/11)
Betty Parks (6/12)
Rev. Jay Seabrook (6/12)
Lois Kiss (6/26)
Marie Talmadge (6/29)
Krista Colquhoun (6/30)
Haley Mann (6/30)

June 2021

Sun	Mon	Tues	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
		1	2 **7:00 a.m.** Men's Study @ Cracker Barrel **2:30-6:30 p.m.** Homework Club Room 3 (Final)	3 **1:00 p.m.** Women's Bible Study in FHall **2:00-7:30 p.m.** Central FL Presbytery Summer meeting via Zoom	4 **1:00-3:00 p.m.** Youth Group Volunteer at Renee V's to plant her garden	5
6 Communion **10:00 am** Worship and Communion **11:30 a.m.** Deacon assembly of Treat Packages for active duty service members **1:30 p.m.** Church on the Road (worship and Communion) at Royal Oaks	7 **7:00 p.m.** Deacon Zoom Meeting	8 **9:30-11:00 a.m.** Presbyterian Women's Mtg. and Bible Study in Fellowship Hall **7:00 p.m.** Scout Troop 488, Fellowship Hall	9 **7:00 a.m.** Men's Study @ Cracker Barrel	10 **1:00 p.m.** Women's Bible Study in FHall **7:00-8:00 p.m.** Girl Scouts, Rm 6	11 **7:30-11:30 a.m.** TOPS meeting in FHall and Rm 6 **1:00-3:00 p.m.** Volunteer at Hummingbird Pantry	12
13 **10:00 am** Worship **11:30 a.m.** Youth Group casual lunch, crafts and conversation	14 **7:00 p.m.** Boy Scout Troop 488, Committee Meeting	15 **7:00 p.m.** Scout Troop 488, Fellowship Hall	16 **7:00 a.m.** Men's Study @ Cracker Barrel **2:30-6:30 p.m.** Homework Club Room 3	17 **1:00 p.m.** Women's Bible Study in FHall **7:00-8:00 p.m.** Girl Scouts, Rm 6	18 **7:30-11:30 a.m.** TOPS meeting in FHall and Rm 6 **1:00-3:00 p.m.** Volunteer at Hummingbird Pantry	19
20 Men of the Church Sunday **10:00 am** Worship **11:30 a.m.** Youth Group casual lunch, crafts and conversation	21	22 **7:00 p.m.** Scout Troop 488, Fellowship Hall	23 **7:00 a.m.** Men's Study @ Cracker Barrel **Meals 4 Moms** Pick up meals in Room 4	24 **1:00 p.m.** Women's Bible Study in FHall **Meals 4 Moms** Pick up meals in Room 4 **6:30 p.m.** Session Meeting in Fellowship Hall	25 **7:30-11:30 a.m.** TOPS meeting in FHall and Rm 6 **1:00-3:00 p.m.** Volunteer at Hummingbird Pantry	26
27 **10:00 am** Worship **11:30 a.m.** Youth Group casual lunch, crafts and conversation	28	29 **7:00 p.m.** Scout Troop 488, Fellowship Hall	30 **7:00 a.m.** Men's Study @ Cracker Barrel **2:30-6:30 p.m.** Homework Club Room 3			