

The SPIRE



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April 4 - Easter Sunday
Worship Services

8, 9, 10 and 11 a.m.
in the Sanctuary

9 a.m. Encounter Contemporary
in the Fellowship Hall

6 p.m. Improvisation Jazz
in the Chapel



Westheimer Campus

Easter at the Park

11 a.m. Outdoor worship followed by Easter egg hunt and family-friendly activities



Gethsemane Campus

Celebrate Easter: inside and out

With flowers in full bloom and humidity still bearable in the nation's fourth largest city, some believe Easter is best celebrated outdoors. St. Luke's will host an Easter at the Park service at 11 a.m. on April 4 at the Gethsemane campus located at 6856 Bellaire Blvd. This family-friendly worship will feature the musical talents of St. Luke's *Encounter* Band and Gethsemane choir, and an inspirational sermon by Rev. Justin Coleman. Senior Pastor Tom Pace says, "We invite all to enjoy Easter with their families -- whether in a relaxed outdoor setting, or indoors at our Westheimer campus where we will offer traditional Easter services in the Sanctuary at 8, 9, 10, 11 a.m. and 6 p.m. in addition to a contemporary Easter service at 9 a.m."

Families attending Easter at the Park can stay to enjoy crafts and an egg hunt on the Gethsemane lawn. "Acquiring and stuffing thousands of eggs is a unique and exciting experience," says Children's Ministry Director Julie Ellerbrock. "We have egg stuffing parties going on in many of the area neighborhoods and can hardly wait to see the youngsters' faces when they try to absorb the view of colorful eggs as far as their eyes can see!"

Easter at the Park's "family fun time" crafts will include age-appropriate activities such as beading, an activity illustrating the jelly bean prayer, as well as tables for children to create jeweled crowns, crosses and other Easter-related items. Information on this special day can be found at www.easteratthepark.com.

See page 7 for information on Holy Week and Easter services



plans to make

I read a story this week about a school in Warsaw, Indiana. A parent called the school and asked for a new calendar. The school secretary told the mother she would send a new January calendar home with the child. The parent said, "No, I need a new updated calendar that shows the snow days on it." The secretary asked, "You mean the make-up days we have built in to the school calendar?" The parent said, "No, I need a calendar that shows when the school will have a snow day. Just like this morning, I had no idea that school was going to be cancelled today. I have plans I need to make."

Oh how easy it is for us to want to completely manage our lives for maximum productivity and predictability. But this is not only impossible; it steals the excitement and joy out of life. How much more wonderful it would be to simply adopt the attitude which, I am sure, was that of this parent's children when they awoke and found the ground blanketed in white: "HOORAY! A SNOW DAY!"

In his letter to the church, James writes, *Come now, you who say, 'Today or tomorrow we will go to such and such a town and spend a year there, doing business and making money.' Yet you do not even know what tomorrow will bring...* James 4:13-14

O God, may we embrace every surprise of this day as the unwrapping of a gift. Amen.



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3471 Westheimer at Edloe
P.O. Box 22013, Houston, Texas 77227
713-622-5710
www.stlukesmethodist.org

connection corner

connecting to the
St. Luke's family



Youth Advocates Community Break Dancers ministry needs volunteers to prepare dinner on Mondays from 5:30-7:30 p.m. at St. Luke's Gethsemane Campus. Please contact Lynda at 713-402-5155 or lisensee@stlukes-hou.org.

outreach

reaching out to our
community and
the world

The importance of serving others

Giving of our time through service has great meaning to us. We have been involved in service through St. Luke's on many levels: week-long mission trips to Maine and Puerto Rico, work days for Habitat for Humanity and Rebuilding Houston, sorting clothes and handing out school supplies, and visiting an elderly friend who cannot attend church. Serving others reminds us of what is really important: family, relationships, and interaction with others. Doing the little things that really make a difference is true servant-based giving.

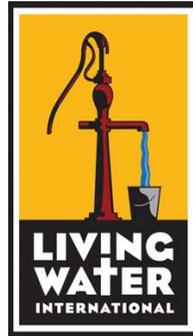


Serving is a good reminder of all that we have to be thankful for. The humility gained from seeing someone truly happy but who has nothing we consider of value, makes us realize how lucky we really are, and how unimportant many of the things that we consider valuable really are when compared to true happiness.

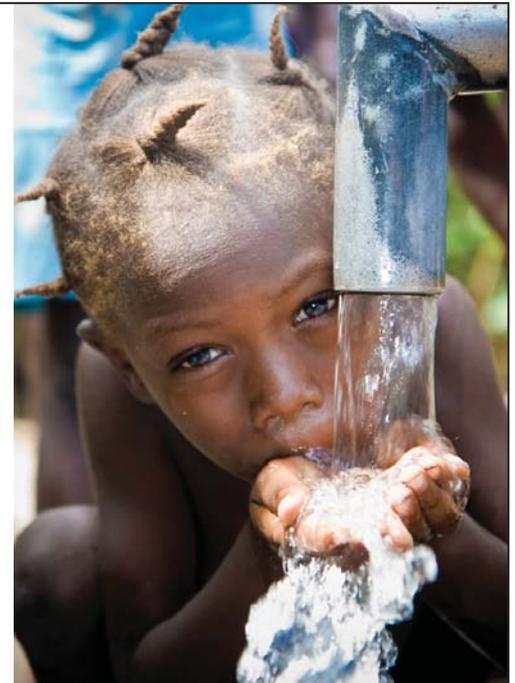
Mike and Dana Shields

Easter Offering

H₂O for Haiti: Helping a special cause



In an effort to make a difference in the global water crisis, St. Luke's is raising funds during the Lenten season for a special 2010 Easter offering for **Living Water International** to cover expenses associated with drilling water wells in Haiti, where a mere \$2 can provide one individual with clean water for a year. "After seeing video of families seeking water in post-earthquake conditions, I consider it a privilege to be a part of this effort to give the country's population greater access to clean water through Living Water International this Easter," says St. Luke's Outreach Director Susan Silvus. Last year, St. Luke's raised over \$60,000 via an Easter offering to **Living Water International's** Africa program. Living Water International display banners have been set up at both campuses. For every \$100 donated a photo sticker will be added as the offering grows.



Rummage Sale for Missions

Do your spring cleaning early and donate all those valuable but no longer useful items to the April 17 Rummage Sale at the Gethsemane Campus. The Rummage Sale is an annual event at Gethsemane and the proceeds fund mission projects in Liberia, Mexico, the Philippines; UMCOR; Wesley Community Center; and other local projects. The sale will be held from 8 a.m.-2 p.m. Donations are being accepted now at the Gethsemane Campus and donations can be brought to the Westheimer Campus on Sunday, April 11. To schedule a pick up of furniture or larger items, contact Bob Harrison, 713-771-5585.



Certified Emergency Response Team Training

A CERT class will start at the Gethsemane campus on Thursday, March 18 from 6-9 p.m. and will last for 8 weeks. If you would like to know more about disaster preparedness training, you can register by calling 713-774-7693, or email rsandria@gethsemane-umc.org. We will need your name, number, and email address or you can email sforeman@sbcglobal.net.



Marilyn Balke-Lowry,
How Green is Your Galaxy

media in both abstract and representational styles, some on paper and some on canvas or other materials.

Stop by the Gallery this Sunday, March 7 to meet some of the participating artists and view their works. They are planning to offer cookies to gallery visitors! If you are interested in purchasing a piece, contact Monica Griffin at 713-402-5110 or mgriffin@stlukes-hou.org. A portion of all proceeds benefits the Fine Arts Fund at St. Luke's.

March Artist of the Month

The Rotunda Gallery Artist of the Month in March is actually a consortium of artists called "Artists Alive and Well" (AAW), a local educational group that supports artists as they transition from "starving artist" to "abundant artist." AAW helps artists to create, show and sell their work with passion and confidence.

This growing community of artists is pleased to present its exhibit, "The Spirit of Spring" in our gallery through March 28. Twenty artists are represented in the exhibit; viewers will enjoy a variety of styles and mediums, such as sculpture, photography, pastel, collage, encaustic, Chinese ink and color, watercolor, oil, acrylic and mixed



Sally Stubbs, *Azaleas*

Gethsemane campus

The Restoration Movement

by Jacob Breeze, St. Luke's Staff

This post begins a series that takes you under the hood of one of St. Luke's newest ministries: restoring families with students at our Gethsemane Campus. In this series, we don't want to bombard you with information about our offerings. We want to talk about the direction of the young men and women in our community. We are concerned with who they are becoming, and we know you are too. In this series, we'll give you a glimpse of why we approach ministry to young men and women the way we do.



Romans 8:19 tells us that the creation is eagerly waiting for the children of God to be revealed. Why? St. Paul would have us believe that once the children of God are revealed, parts of God's good-but-broken creation will begin to be healed and restored. The big clunky word "salvation" has a history of misuse and abuse, but, at its heart is the simple dream that the good work God began in his creation won't be undone forever. In fact, the history of our world is God's journey to restore all things broken. At the center of this dream, and underlying history's journey, is an invitation for his children to be the key participants in this Restoration Movement.

This is the journey we continue. At St. Luke's, we are humbled by the task set before us, grateful for the trust bestowed, and mindful of the sacrifices it will take to raise the bar high for students and families. Our task is nothing less than to prepare the next generation to be the children of God that creation is waiting for, so that the creation will begin to be restored.

The kind of children of God that the creation is eagerly waiting for will neither be formed by

naively repeating past generations' attempts nor by implementing faddish and, often costly, new methods.

We don't need mere adjustments; we need an *awakening*. We don't need bland inclusion; we need a radical *embracing*. We don't simply need informational teaching; we need holistic *training*. We don't need new methods; we need a *movement*.

The majority of ministries to students fall into one of two categories: 1. fun and games 2. behavior modification

To be sure, there's nothing inherently wrong with having a good time or changing behaviors. However, if we are trying to create Romans 8:19 young men and women, games and abstinence education will prove inadequate for the task. As we begin new ministry adventures, particularly at our Gethsemane campus, we believe that our approach must transcend these two approaches. The next posts will examine these categories, share why we think they are ultimately impotent for our vision, and paint a picture of our third option: an approach that we believe matches our Restoration Movement vision.

New Gethsemane Site Council

As the two St. Luke's campuses continue with the merger process, staff members and volunteers from each campus are working with renewed enthusiasm to transition into one streamlined church. Fitting all the pieces into place is a delicate dance, but with the inspiration from our leaders, new ideas are emerging and taking off.

In the structural organization of St. Luke's, there are four Commissions: Worship, Outreach, Discipleship, and Finance and Administration. These four Commissions report to the Executive Committee, which then reports to the Board of Stewards about the activities of each Commission.

Because the Board of Stewards oversees administrative details for both campuses, it became clear that the Gethsemane campus needed its own administrative entity to be a "nimble and independent support group" for its lead pastor, Justin Coleman. So what was once called the Administrative Council at the Gethsemane campus has been reborn as the "Gethsemane Site Council" to provide that support.

Monthly reports from the Gethsemane Site Council will be delivered to the Executive Committee, just as the four Commissions' reports are.

Members of this new Council include:

- chair and lead pastor
- representatives from each Commission
- at-large members (three from each campus)
- a representative from Buildings and Grounds
- Youth Council president
- various staff ministry directors, all from the Gethsemane campus.

Expectations are that, Site Council Members will support St. Luke's with their prayers, presence, gifts and service, and will exhibit compassion, openness and togetherness. They should be will-

ing to prepare for and attend meetings, take action when needed and to be worshipful. Importantly, members must also be willing to tell the stories that will help the Gethsemane campus of St. Luke's fund important ministries and be engaged in the community that surrounds the campus.

This select group will be a visioning and thinking partner for Justin as he shepherds them to be the hands and feet of the Gethsemane campus, and these leaders will be a source of information to those in the congregation. They will help develop and monitor the site budget, brainstorm strategic initiatives, and when necessary, they will call into action small ministry teams to lead these initiatives.

Chair elect, Chicky Fowler says, "Our family has been members of Gethsemane for 41 years. Gethsemane has provided us with a Christian community that has blessed us, challenged us, stretched and guided us on our spiritual journey. I truly believe that God has led Gethsemane and St. Luke's to this merger of ministry and transformation in the southwest area of Houston. The needs are great, and as we work and minister to these needs, we too are transformed. It's humbling for me to be involved in the leadership of this new urban ministry."

What an exciting time it is to be a part of this dynamic St. Luke's team. What a joy it is to meet new friends who share the same dreams for our faith community to truly make a difference in the lives of our neighbors.



Counsel member
Bobby Plumber

I do not call you servants any longer, because the servant does not know what the master is doing; but I have called you friends... - John 15:15

People are sometimes surprised to hear me say that I believe that friendship is a theological issue. In fact, friendship, I believe, is vital to our understanding of Christian community. In his book *Friendship and Ways to Truth*, David Burrell gives a wonderful account of friendship, community, and tradition. Friendship is a complex thing. Surely there are secular understandings of friendship, but there are also spiritual understandings of friendship. The kinds of friendships we have are dependent upon the aims of the friends who make up those friendships and the communities and traditions in which friendships are formed and cultivated. Burrell's basic argument is that seeking and finding truth is connected to friendship.

In Christian community, there is something profound to be said about friendship and learning to live together. It is within this context that we are shaped in similar ways, develop similar interests and tastes. In a way, it is within the context of friendship that we learn what it means to love another. In chapter 15 of John's Gospel, Jesus will say to his disciples: "This is my commandment, that you love one another as I have loved you. No one has greater love than this, to lay down one's life for one's friends. You are my friends if you do what I command you. I do not call you servants any longer, because the servant does not know what the master is doing; but I have called you friends, because I have made known to you everything that I have heard from my Father. You did not choose me but I chose you." (vv.12-16) Wow! Jesus loves us enough to call us friends - He has chosen us to be his friends. The extension of this concept is that because Jesus has made us His friends, He has made us friends of one another in the Body of Christ. You may say, "Jesus, I signed up for friendship with you - not with these other folks!" But the reconciling, grace-filled reality is that you don't get Jesus without getting His friends.

Burrell suggests that love accompanies us on our journey as friends and allows us to 'turn debates into discussions' because of our care for one another in the quest for truth. As a community, we journey through and struggle through too much to be less than the friends Jesus has called us to be. Friendship helps us to have the hard discussion, make the difficult decisions, and come out at the end of it all with a sense of the Spirit's guidance and God's will being done among us as it is in heaven. Friends, we are called to think more of the potency of friendship so that we might think better about this God, who has made us His friends.

Justin



Friendship



Celebrating Lives

EDLOE WOODSHOP

In Honor of:

Joe Eason by Joyce E. Powitzky
FRIENDS OF MUSIC

In Memory of:

Tuleta Boatman by Phil & Vicki Kirchhoff
FUNERAL & RECEPTION COMMITTEE

In Honor of:

Karen Smith, Funeral & Reception Guild and Prayer Shawl Ministry by Allyson Cook
GENE DECKER OUTREACH ENDOWMENT

In Honor of:

Sally Matthews by Judy Bolling
OUTREACH - PRISON MINISTRY

In Memory of:

John Wildenthal by Pat Deckert
PRAYER SHAWL MINISTRY

In Honor of:

Karen Smith, Funeral & Reception Guild and Prayer Shawl Ministry by Allyson Cook
ST. LUKE'S METHODIST CHURCH FOUNDATION

In Memory of:

D. Shermer Alford by Peggy & Johnny Vardeman
Betty A. Biggs by Carolyn & Carlos Hamilton

Milton Mortimer "Tripp" Cooke III by Gateway Class

Jake Lebeaux by the Goodwill Class

John M. Mings V by Richmond, Vanessa & Tom Keeling & Becky Rush

John Wildenthal by Gus & Jackie Browning, Frank & Pat Fisher, Barbara & David Henington, Joan & Tom Humphrey, Shirley & Floyd Jennings, Charlie Rater, Max & Frances Slaughter, Pam & Bill Wallace, Page Williams, Lawrence & Renee Wright

SUSANNAH WESLEY SCHOLARSHIP

In Memory of:

Neal Blanton by Susannah Wesley Sunday School Class

In Honor of:

Celina Kilpatrick by Lois C. Furman, Loretta Hankins, and the Kendall Book Club

TV MINISTRY

In Memory of:

John M. Mings V by Kara Mings

UNITED METHODIST WOMEN SCHOLARSHIP

In Honor of:

Karen Johnson by the UMW Night Circle

May the God of hope fill you with joy and peace as you trust in Him Romans 15:13

As Christians, we are called to care and pray for one another.

Cares and Concerns:

Memorial Hermann Southwest

Selma "Sammie" Brown

St. Luke's Hospital

Sherri Glover

Lee McMurrey

Recently Discharged

Barbara Bennett

Lenora Carlson

Leona Holloway

Joan Lufburrow

Marvin Merritt

Carl Mueller

caring ministries

Congratulations to:

Joel and Cynthia Raiman on the birth of their son, Owen Elliott Raiman, on February 18. Proud older brothers are Carson and Wyatt Raiman.

Susan Marie Conrad and Daniel Shawn Matthews, who were united in marriage on February 27.

Our Sympathy to:

Mark Hightower on the death of his mother, Tommye Hightower, on February 3.

Nelle McLaughlin and Diane and Salvatore Nizza on the death of Nelle's brother-in-law, Robert Einar Gaustad, on February 14.

Kay and Ken Howton on the death of Kay's mother, Juvene Busch "Judy" Richards, on February 17.

Family and friends of Celina Margaret Kilpatrick, who died on February 19.

Jack and Ginger Blanton, Ruth Blanton, and their families on the death of Jack's brother, James Neal Blanton, Sr., on February 22.

Family and friends of Joan Harmon Howard, who died on February 23.

Ron and Carolyn Pope on the death of Ron's mother, Willie Mae "Billie" Pope, on February 26.

Doris Thomey on the death of her husband, William Richard "Dick" Thomey, on February 27.

senior adults

Bring a friend to Mainstreamer Day, March 11, 10 a.m.-1 p.m. We will hear the story of "Living Water International," an organization that helps communities around the world acquire safe clean drinking water. They have completed solutions in 7000 communities in 26 countries. Living Water International is the recipient of St. Luke's Easter Offering this year, targeting Haiti.

Our second program will feature author Anne Sloan. She calls herself a "neighborhood historian," and has just had a book published which is part of the Arcadia Photograph Series that is dedicated to preserving regional history. Anne's book features photos of early Heights history. Her previous books are mysteries set in the Heights. Programs are in the Parlor, lunch at noon in Fellowship Hall.

A.D. Players production of Ret and lunch on March 13. **Ret**, an intricately written play by Jeannette Clift George, echoes the book of Hosea and the power of forgiveness in its story about a playwright whose characters come off the page to confront the anger and bitterness distorting his life. Lunch "on your own" at Pronto's. Cost for tickets and transportation is \$25. We leave at noon and return after the play.

Monday, March 15: AARP Safe Driving Class for insurance reduction. Class hours are 9 a.m.-1 p.m. and is open to all persons 55 and older. Advance reservations are required.

Don't miss out on our Mystery Day Trip on March 19. We will travel about an hour and a half from Houston, learn some Texas history, see some spring flowers and much more. Lunch will be in an old fire-house with the most scrumptious desserts. Cost is \$25 and reservations and payment are due by March 11.

Texas Conference Fellowship of Older Adult Ministries Spring Retreat, April 20-22 at Camp Allen. We will be looking for "Hidden Treasures" as the Rev. Nancy Kellond, senior pastor of Montgomery UMC leads the retreat that she has themed *Leaving a Legacy*. Our Bible study leader will be Rev. Velosia Kibe, associate pastor at Windsor Village UMC; our music leader will be David Henry, Minister of Music at First UMC, Bryan. Brochures and information are available in the Senior Adult Ministries office or by calling 713-402-5031 or 713-402-5008.

Sundays

9:45-10:45 a.m., Youth Sunday School

Sunday morning is a fun environment filled with music, games, a relevant lesson from scripture, and a time to unpack what was discussed in small groups. **6th Graders** meet in their Confirmation groups in the Activities Center (gym). **7th & 8th graders** meet in the Attic. High school students meet in the Youth Chapel.

5:30-7 p.m., MYF a time of fellowship and fun. This is a great environment for our students to build Christ-centered relationships. **Junior High** will meet in the Attic. See times and costs on the calendar. **Senior High Sunday Night**, 5:30-7 p.m., \$5. Host Homes TBA. Call 713-213-6111 for information

Prepaid Snack Supper Passes are available online - \$50 for 10 meals.

Mark Your Calendar

Wednesdays, Midweek

Small Groups, 7-8:30 p.m. \$5 snack supper.

February 21 Junior High MYF - Pump-It-Up, 5:30-8:30 p.m., \$10, meet in the Attic

March 6

March 7

March 20

Confirmation Field Trip to St. Anne's YOSCARS, 5:30 - 7:30, \$10
ChristWalkers - Easter Basket Delivery, 1-5 p.m., Bring \$5 for ice cream, meet in the Attic

March 21

March 25, April 1 & 8 Sex, God & Me, 5:30-7 p.m., 7th-12th youth and parents, \$35 per person, register online

March 26-28

Junior High Spring Retreat

youth activities

Baptisms

Not pictured

Elizabeth Ann Wolkind, daughter of Edward Harold Wolkind and Jennifer Stone Wolkind on February 14.

Emery Charlotte Walls, daughter of Geoffrey William Walls and Kimberly Irelan Walls on February 15.



Charlotte Rose Shuford, daughter of James Franklin Shuford and Laura Ann Hamilton Shuford on February 7.

Ella Grace Haughn, daughter of Jarrod Christopher Haughn and Laura McMurry Haughn on February 14.



Paul Alexander Goydan III, son of Paul Alexander Goydan, Jr. and Rachael Muecke Goydan on February 28.

Caroline Cherry King, daughter of Jason Patrick King and Rebecca Briggs King on February 28.



Aubrey Rene Moritz, daughter of John Brandon Moritz and Amy Michelle Lugas Moritz on February 28.

Riley Elizabeth Naman, daughter of Barrett Bonnell Naman and Erin Campbell Naman on February 28.



Sarah Elizabeth Turcotte, daughter of Brad Alan Turcotte and Susan Thompson Turcotte on February 28.

Rob Landes at The Grand 1894 Opera House



If you're looking for the definition of "joyous music-making," put away your dictionary, close your "search engine," and join us at The Grand 1894 Opera House on Sunday, March 21 for an afternoon with The Rob Landes Trio. Rob truly loves to make music, and that joy comes alive as he flawlessly weaves timeless tunes and stories to create an amazing musical quilt.

Constructed in 1894, listed on the National Register of Historic Places and one of the few remaining theatres of its era, The Grand 1894 Opera House is the perfect setting to go back in time to hear Rob and his trio perform "Decades of Music". The show begins at 3 p.m., and tickets can be purchased online at <http://www.thegrand.com> or at the door. Or call 800-821-1894 to reserve yours!

Palm Sunday Parade, Picnic, & Egg Hunt

Mar. 28, 11 a.m.-1 p.m.

We hope the weather is just as beautiful as last year for our palm parade out to the Blanton field, where we'll enjoy an outdoor lunch, grilled fresh and served continuously by our friends at Skeeter's. We'll have live music from the *Encounter* Band, bounce houses for the children, and families can enjoy fun crafts and an old-fashioned cake walk, followed by an Egg Hunt at 12:15 p.m. We'll gather in the Activities Center immediately following Sunday School for the parade. Join the celebration when you can, and be sure to: dress casual, bring your picnic blankets and Easter baskets! Tickets for lunch are \$10 adult, \$5 child, \$40 family.



Veteran broadcaster Brent Clanton to speak on March 9



ANN650 Morning Show host Brent Clanton will be the dinner speaker on Tuesday, March 9, at 6:15 p.m. in the Hines Baker Room. His topic is *Ancient Wisdom for the "New Normal"*. Clanton will discuss national economic trends, plus information he has gleaned from interviews with national and international financial leaders.

He will also enlighten the audience on economic buzz phrases of the day, along with what 2010 might hold for Houston's business outlook. The cost of the dinner is \$10 and everyone is invited. To make reservations contact Anne Adams at aadams@stlukes-hou.org or 713-622-5710. Sponsored by St. Luke's United Methodist Men.

New Members



We welcome Justin and Callie Ezell, who unite with St. Luke's by Profession of Faith. Callie is employed by ConocoPhillips.

Andy and Candace McDowell join by Profession of Faith. Andy is Sales Manager for World Oil and Candace is a homemaker. They are the parents of Libby Mae McDowell, who is 8 months old.



Madelyn Cascio joins by transfer from another denomination. She is in sales support at Tudor, Pickering, Holt.

Michael and Amy Northcutt transfer from other denominations. Michael is an associate attorney with Crain, Caton, and Amy is a realtor with Greenwood King. They are the parents of John Robert Northcutt, age 14 months.



Toby and Cheryl Fullmer join by Profession of Faith. Toby is an attorney/partner with Fullmer & Matthews Law Firm and Cheryl is an RN and director of clinical research for St. Luke's Episcopal Hospital. Toby and Cheryl have 3 sons: Grant, age 5, Elliot, age 4, and Benjamin, age 8 months.

Terry, Pattie, and Kayla Newman join by transfer. Terry is lead accountant for Enterprise Products and Pattie is a 3rd grade reading/language arts specialist in H.I.S.D. They are members of the Genesis Class. Kayla is a high school sophomore and a member of the Youth Ministry.



Not pictured

Peter and Elizabeth Cooper join our church family by Profession of Faith. They have a 19-month-old daughter, Isabel Jones Cooper.

Jeannie Beebe unites with our congregation by transfer from another denomination. She and her husband, James, are the parents of a daughter, Linden, age 3, and a son, Winn, age 2.

Shane and Regan Bowen join St. Luke's, he by Profession of Faith and Baptism and she by Profession of Faith. Shane is a dentist and owner of Tamborello & Bowen, DDS, and Regan is an attorney recruiter for Proridus Group. They are the parents of Brady Parker Bowen, age 9 months.

We welcome Lauren Fritz, who transfers from another United Methodist church. She is an associate attorney with Vinson & Elkins LLP.

Gustavo and Kelsey Salcedo unite with St. Luke's by Profession of Faith. Gustavo is a chemicals trader/business developing manager with Panamerican Chemical Marketing and Kelsey is a fitness instructor for the YMCA of Greater Houston and a law student.

Allison Abel unites with our congregation by Profession of Faith. She is an associate attorney with Edison, McDowell and Hetherington, LLP. Allison and her husband, Alex Righetti, are the parents of Jake Righetti, age 17 months.

We welcome Victor Hong and Xiaoqing Li, who join by Profession of Faith. Their daughter, Wendi Kang, unites by Profession of Faith and Baptism. She is a high school junior.

Gunnar and Candice Heinisch join by transfer from another denomination. Gunnar is an attorney with Madan & Sriram, PC and Candice is the employee benefits manager for Brady, Chapman, Holland Insurance.



Ana Hilario unites with our congregation by Profession of Faith. She is a member of the Sojourners Class.

Tom Demissie unites with St. Luke's by Profession of Faith.



Andy Fung unites with St. Luke's by transfer from another denomination. He is a software engineer with Open Text Corporation.



Ryan and Kandace Moon join by transfer from another United Methodist church. Ryan is the owner of Digital Memory Productions and Kandace is an assistant

vice-president with Plains State Bank.

We welcome Juan Alvarez and Sara Teniente, who unite with St. Luke's by Profession of Faith. Juan and Sara have three sons: Edgar, age 11, Misael, age 10, and Juan, age 4. Edgar, Misael, and Juan



received the Sacrament of Baptism on February 7.



Dan and Jennifer Blum join by Profession of Faith. Dan is the managing director of Blum Realty Ventures, LLC. He and Jennifer are the parents of two daughters: Brooke,

age 3 1/2, and Lindsay, age 16 months.

Sean and Rachel Allen join by transfer from other denominations. Sean is manager of Fulcrum Power and Rachel is a senior associate with KPMG LLP.



Scot and Ashley Clinton join St. Luke's, he by Profession of Faith and Baptism and she by Profession of Faith. Scot is an assistant Attorney General

and Ashley is a staff psychologist at the V.A. Medical Center.

Ben and Christy Hartman join St. Luke's, he by transfer from another denomination and she by Profession of Faith. Ben is a banker with Macquarie Bank, Ltd. and Christy is marketing director for



Caprock Communications. They are the parents of Mallory Elizabeth Hartman, age 6 months.

Holy Week and Easter Sunday

April 1 - Maundy Thursday Communion services

April 2 - Good Friday Service of the Tenebrae at 7 p.m.
Westheimer (3471) and Gethsemane (6858 Bellaire) campuses

Special music: Lenten Concert Series every Thursday at noon at the Westheimer Chapel through April 1

April 3 - Music and Meditation for the "Anticipation of Easter" featuring Rob Landes
11 a.m. in the Westheimer Chapel

April 4 - Easter Sunday Worship Services

8, 9, 10 and 11 a.m. in the Sanctuary

9 a.m. *Encounter* Contemporary in the Fellowship Hall

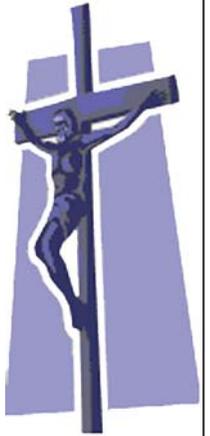
6 p.m. Improvisation Jazz in the Chapel

11 a.m., Easter at the Park at the Gethsemane Campus



Stations of the Cross – A prayer experience for Lent

Come to St. Luke's on March 26 or 27 to experience a re-creation of the path that Jesus took during his last hours of incarnate life. This walk or journey has become known through the centuries as *Stations of the Cross* or *The Way of the Cross*. The tradition of the Stations of the Cross was devised to allow Christians the opportunity to make a spiritual pilgrimage of prayer and meditation of the passion of Christ by visiting 15 stages of his walk to Golgotha depicted in images of His sufferings, death and resurrection.



From the earliest centuries of Christendom, believers have desired to travel to the Holy Lands to see the places described in scripture where Jesus lived, preached and died. Since most pilgrims typically visited spiritual places close to home and travel to the Holy Lands was prohibitive, the Passover pilgrimage to Jerusalem was, therefore, brought to the people by creating depictions of the 'stations' in a designated area of many churches. At each Station, the pilgrim stops to reflect on Christ's walk to the cross and to pray with the relevant scripture.

The *Stations of the Cross* will be set up at St. Luke's on Friday, March 26, in the Sanctuary between 9 a.m. and 12 noon so that you may take your own personal pilgrimage of Jesus' last hours. Or, if you prefer to participate with a group, join us at noon for a short presentation in the Chapel before the group walks the *Stations* together. On Saturday, March 27, the *Stations* will be set up at St. Luke's labyrinth, which is on the grounds by the Counseling Center, from 11 a.m.-2 p.m. A short presentation about the *Stations of the Cross* will be offered at noon. If you have not walked the labyrinth, now is an excellent time. It is another tool used to deepen your prayer life and also involves walking a path, just a different one. Someone will be present both days to assist you, as needed, on your personal pilgrimage.

adult ministries

New couples' class

Christy and Kevin Labban, longtime members of St. Luke's, are helping to organize a new Sunday School class for couples in their 30s. The class meets each Sunday at 9:45 a.m. Christy says, "We'd love for you to join us in R22 to take a deeper look at the sermon series. We are excited to have a new class that is growing by the week!"



Searchers class



Join this new group of adults in their 50s and 60s for a Bible study based on the common lectionary scriptures each week. They meet in B154, across from the Hines Baker Room.

Pure Sound Spaghetti

Come get your groove on this Sunday, March 7 as Peace, Love & Pure Sound will take over the Activities Center for the annual Pure Sound Spaghetti Lunch and Auction. Proceeds from this event are used to fund the activities of the choir, including scholarships for retreats and tours.



With continuous lunch service from 11 a.m.-1 p.m. (offering spaghetti, salad, bread, beverages and homemade desserts), music, opportunities to purchase creative items and services offered by our youth, a silent auction and two live auction seatings, there is a constant joyful buzz and so much to enjoy!

Pure Sound president, Kevin Culver says, "The Spaghetti Auction is one of the most important fundraisers, but it's more than just a way for us to raise money; it also brings us together as a community by serving the people who so generously help us meet our fundraising goals..."

Lunch is \$8 for adults and children 11 and over; \$5 for children 10 and under, \$30 maximum per family. Take out service is available, and our famous Pure Sound Spaghetti Sauce (either vegetarian or meat) will be available at \$12 per quart. Cash, check or credit cards accepted.

New this year is our online auction Web site <http://puresound.maestroweb.com> where you can purchase your tickets beforehand, browse the auction items and even pre-bid on your favorites! Check the site daily for the very latest exciting auction items!

worship



8:30 a.m. Sunday – Traditional Worship
with Holy Communion*

8:45 a.m. Sunday – *Encounter* Worship, Fellowship Hall

9:45 a.m. & 11 a.m. Sunday – Traditional Worship*

6 p.m. Sunday – Improvisation Jazz Worship, Chapel

* Sanctuary

Sermon videos, podcasts and corresponding study guides are available online at

www.stlukesmethodist.org/worship/sermons

March 7

"Give Us This Day"

Third in the series

The Lord's Prayer

John 6:30-35

Dr. Tom Pace preaching

Altar Flowers: are dedicated to the Glory of God

March 14

"Forgive Us Our Trespasses"

Fourth in the series

The Lord's Prayer

Matthew 18:21-35

Dr. Tom Pace preaching

Altar Flowers: are dedicated to the Glory of God in loving memory of Bobbie Jean Horton by her family

**Remember to set your clocks ahead one hour.
Daylight savings time begins at 2 a.m.**