St. Luke's
United Methodist Church

November 2026
480 S. Highland
Memphis, TN 38111-4302
901-452-6262 • www.stlukesumc.org
Rev. Jim McKinney, Pastor

The Epistle

The Monthly Newsletter of St. Luke's United Methodist Church

Stewardship Campaign for 2027

Invest In What Matters - Making Our Lives Count for Christ

St. Luke's,

God has entrusted each of us with something. He has given us time, talents, resources, relationships, opportunities, influence, and - most importantly - the gift of His grace through Jesus Christ.

As we think about stewardship for 2027, the question is not simply, "How much should I give?" The deeper question is, "What am I doing with what God has entrusted to me?"

Jesus' Parable of the Talents reminds us that we are called to faithfully use what God has given us. Paul reminds us that those who sow generously will reep generously and that God loves a cheerful giver.

Our stewardship campaign, "Invest in What Matters", is a call to examine how we are investing our lives. We cannot take our possessions with us, but we can use them to make a difference that lasts.

- We cannot keep our time forever, but we can spend it serving God and others.
- We cannot keep our talents to ourselves and expect them to grow.
- And we cannot hoard God's love without sharing it.

This campaign is about more than just meeting a budget.

- It is about gratitude.
- It is about faith.
- It is about generosity.
- lt is about making our lives count.

As we consider our commitments to St Luke's UMC, let us remember that everything we have is ultimately a gift from God. May we use what He has entrusted to us wisely, generously, and joyfully.

And may we live and give in such a way that at the end of our journey, we can hear those words:
"Well done, good and faithful servant"

Our Stewardship Sundays will be November 15 and 22, with Pledge Sunday on November 22. Thank you for your faithfulness to St. Luke's UMC.

Faithfully,



Pastor Jim



What Child IS This?

Beyond the Lullaby

ADVENT – CHRISTMAS
WORSHIP SCHEDULE

In 1865, William Chatterton Dix penned a poem that would become the beloved Christmas-time favorite, "What Child Is This?" During Advent, we will dive into this question that is much more complicated than the lilting lullaby tune, "Greensleeves," conveys. We will see the story of the time leading up to the birth of Christ in its historical trauma-informed fullness. The story of humanity and its recurring themes of oppression and corruption run right through history and into our own narratives. Yet, we can rely on the assurance of the carol to confirm that God is "present with us" in powerful ways that continue to be the Word of Hope, Peace, Joy, and Love even and especially in the midst of hard times.



SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 29
First Sunday of Advent
10:30 AM



SATURDAY, DECEMBER 13
Concert of Lessons and Carols
3:00 PM



MONDAY, DECEMBER 21
Longest Night Service
6:00 PM | Chapel



THURSDAY, DECEMBER 24
Christmas Eve Service
5:00 PM



Join us for Cocoa and Carols and More .....

PLAN NOW TO GET INTO THE CHRISTMAS SPIRIT WITH

SONGS OF THE SEASON, FUN, FOOD, AND FELLOWSHIP

WHEN: Sunday, December 6, 2026, immediately following worship (about 11:40)

WHAT: Caroling on Front Steps of St. Luke's U.M. C's Sanctuary facing Highland

Followed by a Light lunch of cocoa, cookies, hot dogs, etc.

Bounce Houses for the kids plus A visit from jolly old Santa Claus

WHO: Family, Friends, and Neighbors







Everyone is welcome! Come and bring a friend!

Share Your *Nativity Scenes*

THE CRÈCHE MUSEUM

As part of our Advent celebration this year, you are invited to bring a Nativity scene to share with the congregation! This is a wonderful opportunity to share special pieces that have been part of your family traditions, perhaps for many generations.

Each display will include the donor's name and a brief description of the Nativity scene's origin.

Please consider bringing one or more of your Nativity scenes to be included in our Crèche Museum.

DROP-OFF TIMES

in the Parlor

Sunday, November 29	*following worship* (11:00 AM – 1:00 PM)
Tuesday, December 1	11:00 AM – 1:00 PM
Wednesday, December 2	5:00 – 6:00 PM
Thursday, December 3	11:00 AM – 1:00 PM

The Crèche Museum will be open for viewing from
DECEMBER 6 THROUGH DECEMBER 27.



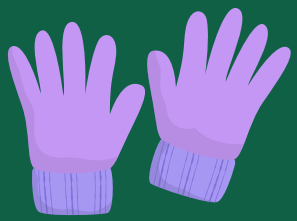
St. Luke's Mitten Tree





St. Luke's Mitton Tree is in the Hospitality Hall for the Annual Sherwood Elementary School winter gear drive. Gifts of mittens, gloves, hats, scarves, warm socks and coats are all welcome. Monetary gifts, specified for Sherwood Elementary, are also welcome on the St. Luke's giving app. Thanks for sharing Christ's Love with this special school. Collection is from Nov. 1st to Dec. 13th.





The Church Ladies small group, Melinda Kaler, Barbara Simpson, and Jacki Romey
mtkaler1111@gmail.com





ROOM IN THE INN MEMPHIS

Greetings!

Since the last Epistle, we have changed the dates of Room In The Inn here at St. Luke's. We will be hosting the SECOND Saturday of the months November - March (11/14/26, 12/12/26, 01/09/27, 02/13/27, and 03/13/27). The reason we switched weeks, is there were three other congregations signed up on the third Saturday of the month (we were the fourth), so we changed to the second Saturday of the month, which only has one other Congregation.

We need YOUR help for this mission project!
Scan the QR Code to sign up to help!
Questions? Call or text Jonathan St.Gelais 901-508-7207
or Lisa St.Gelais 901-230-9174.

The fun BUNCH

The Fun Bunch Activites

November 12 at 11:30 a.m. — Annual Thanksgiving Feast

Please join us in the Lounge for our annual Thanksgiving Feast!
Jeanne and Jim will furnish the ham and turkey, and the rest of the meal will be potluck.
Please sign up at the Hospitality Hall desk to let us know how many people will be attending and what you plan to bring.
We look forward to sharing this special time of fellowship and thanksgiving with everyone!

WE WILL BE CLOSED
11/11/26
IN HONOR OF VETERANS DAY



Preacher's Chair

If you have any stories, memories, or historical information about the "Preacher's Chair,"please share them with Pastor Jim or Warren Morrison, who is restoring the chair for display in the Heritage Room.

Children & Youth Event

Save The Date!!

December Friday	Saturday	Sunday
18	19 Party	20

Mark your calendars! Christmas fun is coming! Drop the kids off for a few hours of holiday fun while you enjoy a little time to yourself. Stay tuned for more details!





Christmas Poinsettias order forms coming soon!

$30 Each





Saturday Supper Ministry

Help us share a warm meal with our neighbors!

Our Saturday supper meals are now served at **St. John's UMC.** We gather about six times a year to prepare and serve a meal for approximately 50 neighbors.

We meet in our church kitchen with a planned menu and supplies, then head to St. John's on Peabody at **3:00 p.m.** We prepare the meal, make lemonade, and serve at **4:30 p.m.** Cleanup is completed by **5:30 p.m.**

Upcoming Meals:
November 22 *and* **November 28**

Join our team!

We need about six volunteers to cook, serve, and share hospitality with women, children, and men in our community.

Contact **Linda Hensley** at **(901) 603-9534** to get involved!

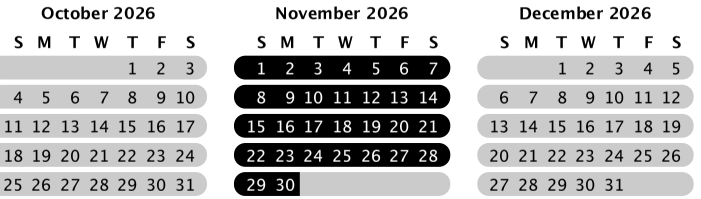
PRAYING TOGETHER

All Welcome!

Every Sunday
in the Chapel
10:05a - 10:20a



November 2026



St. Luke's UMC
Holidays in United States

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
1 8:00AM Community Breakfast 9:00AM Sunday School 10:30AM Worship Service 11:30AM Breaking Bread Together Again 3:00PM Handbell Practice	**2** 6:30AM Men's Basketball League 8:15AM Yoga Class 9:00AM Chair Aerobics 6:30PM Boy Scouts Troop 40	**3** 1:00PM Pickleball 6:00PM Yoga 6:30PM Cub Scouts 7:00PM Coin Club Meeting	**4** 6:30AM Men's Basketball League 9:00AM Chair Aerobics 10:30AM Exercise Class 12:00PM Practice Pickleball 2:30PM Wings Gymnastics 6:00PM Stamp Club 6:30PM Choir Practice	**5** 10:00AM Al-Anon 1:00PM Art Gathering 1:00PM Pickleball	**6** 6:30AM Men's Basketball League	**7** 9:30AM Yoga
8 8:00AM Community Breakfast 9:00AM Sunday School 10:30AM Worship Service 11:30AM SPRC Meeting 3:00PM Handbell Practice	**9** 6:30AM Men's Basketball League 8:15AM Yoga Class 9:00AM Chair Aerobics 6:30PM Boy Scouts Troop 40	**10** 1:00PM Pickleball 6:00PM United Women of Faith 6:00PM Yoga 6:30PM Cub Scouts	**11** 6:30AM Men's Basketball League 9:00AM Chair Aerobics 10:30AM Exercise Class 12:00PM Practice Pickleball 2:30PM Wings Gymnastics 6:30PM Choir Practice	**12** 9:30AM Food Pantry 10:00AM Al-Anon 1:00PM Art Gathering 1:00PM Pickleball	**13** 6:30AM Men's Basketball League	**14** 9:30AM Yoga
15 8:00AM Community Breakfast 9:00AM Sunday School 10:30AM Worship Service 11:30AM Program Planning 3:00PM Handbell Practice	**16** 6:30AM Men's Basketball League 8:15AM Yoga Class 9:00AM Chair Aerobics 6:30PM Boy Scouts Troop 40	**17** 1:00PM Pickleball 6:00PM Trustee Meeting 6:00PM Yoga 6:30PM Cub Scouts 7:00PM Coin Club	**18** 6:30AM Men's Basketball League 9:00AM Chair Aerobics 10:30AM Exercise Class 12:00PM Practice Pickleball 2:30PM Wings Gymnastics 6:30PM Choir Practice	**19** 10:00AM Al-Anon 1:00PM Art Gathering 1:00PM Pickleball 5:30PM Communication Committee	**20** 6:30AM Men's Basketball League	**21** 9:30AM Yoga
22 8:00AM Community Breakfast 9:00AM Sunday School 10:00AM Sweet Sunday 10:30AM Worship Service 3:00PM Handbell Practice	**23** 6:30AM Men's Basketball League 8:15AM Yoga Class 9:00AM Chair Aerobics 6:30PM Boy Scouts Troop 40	**24** 1:00PM Pickleball 6:00PM Finance Meeting 6:00PM Yoga 6:30PM Cub Scouts	**25** 6:30AM Men's Basketball League 9:00AM Chair Aerobics 10:30AM Exercise Class 12:00PM Practice Pickleball 2:30PM Wings Gymnastics 6:30PM Choir Practice	**26** 9:30AM Food Pantry 10:00AM Al-Anon 1:00PM Art Gathering 1:00PM Pickleball	**27** 6:30AM Men's Basketball League	**28** 9:30AM Yoga
29 8:00AM Community Breakfast 9:00AM Sunday School 10:30AM Worship Service 3:00PM Handbell Practice	**30** 6:30AM Men's Basketball League 8:15AM Yoga Class 9:00AM Chair Aerobics 6:30PM Boy Scouts Troop 40	**1** 1:00PM Pickleball 6:00PM Yoga 6:30PM Cub Scouts 7:00PM Coin Club Meeting	**2** 6:30AM Men's Basketball League 9:00AM Chair Aerobics 10:30AM Exercise Class 12:00PM Practice Pickleball 2:30PM Wings Gymnastics 6:30PM Choir Practice	**3** 10:00AM Al-Anon 1:00PM Art Gathering 1:00PM Pickleball	**4** 6:30AM Men's Basketball League	**5** 9:30AM Yoga