

the connection

St. Luke's United Methodist Church

Address 2700 W. Villa Maria | Bryan, TX 77807

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Website www.stlukesbcs.org

Spring 2010

UPCOMING events

Wednesdays, Feb. 17–

March 31 @ 6 pm

Lenten Prayer Services

Sundays, Feb. 21–April 4

@ 10:30 am

“The 7 Final Days of
Jesus” Series

Friday, Feb. 26 @ 6 pm

Parents' Quarterly Meeting

Saturday, March 27

@ 10 am

Neighborhood Doorhangers

Sunday, March 28

@ 10:30 am

A Gospel Celebration of
Passover w/ special music

Sunday, March 28

@ noon

Easter Eggstravaganza

Sunday, April 4

@ 6 am and 10:30 am

Easter Sunrise and
Celebration Services

Sunday, April 11 @ noon

Prayer Partners Orientation

- 1 UPCOMING EVENTS
- THE POWER OF ONE
- 2 EQUIPPED FOR LEADERSHIP
- 3 CELEBRATIONS
- 4/5 LENT & EASTER
- 6 FINANCE REPORT
- PRAYER REQUESTS
- HAITI DISASTER RESPONSE
- 7 KINGDOM KIDS SCHEDULE
- DISCIPLESHIP GROUPS
- 8 VBS & PARENTS' MEETING

It All Begins With One

The mission of St. Luke's Church is to make witnesses of Jesus *one* life at a time.

BY REV. JASON A. BURNHAM, SENIOR PASTOR

Considering our mission to change one life at a time, it's appropriate then that our 2010 stewardship theme is The Power of One. Think about it with me. Each life changed has received power, and each person witnessing has been empowered—all from the only source of true power, Jesus Christ.

For the sake of this mission, God has led us to focus our efforts through three key drivers: Know the Word, Live the Word and Share the Word of God. Through an open process of prayerful discernment and visioning, St. Luke's leadership has been called to set forth four major goals for 2010, each aligning with one of the three key drivers (*see sidebar on page 2*).

If you haven't already, you have the opportunity to make your pledge toward the ministry of the church through two commitment cards, available in the Welcome Center each Sunday. The first is your Power of One stewardship card that allows you to make your commitment to Know, Live and Share the Word of God in 2010. The second is your Above and Beyond card that outlines many distinct volunteer needs in the life of the church you can get involved in.

(continued on page 2)

Power of One (cont.)

Please promptly return these commitment cards by mailing them to St. Luke's offices or by placing them in the offering basket in worship. I invite you to prayerfully consider this week how God has called you to respond and claim The Power of One.

Know the Word

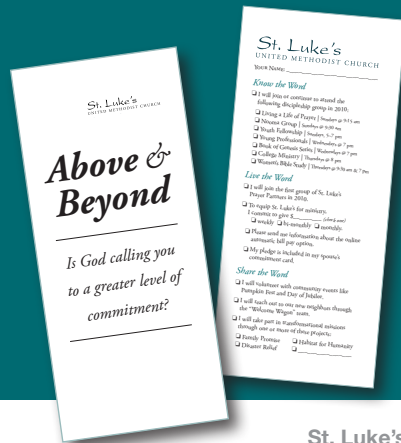
1) 100% of St. Luke's membership involved in a discipleship group.

Live the Word

2) Effectively launch a prayer partner ministry in 2010.

Share the Word

3) Congregation wide involvement in monthly community outreach.
4) 100% of St. Luke's membership volunteering in transformational missions (Family Promise, Habitat for Humanity or Prison Ministry).



Equipped for Leadership

Elected representatives from the body will be prayed over and commissioned for their work and ministry on Sunday, Feb. 28.

Lay Leadership

Rev. Jason Burnham, *chair*

2012 Susan Miller and Jamie Boyd
2011 Bobby Pope and Terry Davis
2010 Josh Stevens

Staff/Parish Relations

2012 Randy Miller and Louise Davis
2011 James McNeill and Sieb Green, *chair*
2010 Ken McCormick

Trustees

2012 Gwen Riddle
2011 Scott Pangburn and Paul Davis
2010 Walter Cagle, *chair* and Alice Trejo, *secretary*

Finance

2012 Rachel Moye
2011 Exa York and Dot Guttery, *chair*
2010 Laura Joost, *secretary*

Chair of the Councils Jackie Hook

Vice-Chair of the Councils Justin Albright

Lay Delegate Andrew Hook

Church Council At-Large

2011 Jane Ford and Brad Taylor
2010 Ginny Griggs, Denise Cook and Charlie Kornegay

Community Celebrations

NEW MEMBERS

- O.B. & Marion Jerome 11/2009
- Carolyn McGraw 11/29/2009
- Randy, Susan & David Miller 12/20/2009
- Carol Holt 1/31/2010
- Aaron & Megan Smith 2/14/2010
- Jeanie Algood 2/14/2010

BAPTISMS

- Alexander Lee Owens 12/13/2009
- Randy & David Miller 12/20/2009

COMMISSIONING AS A DEACON

On June 1, our Director of Music and Worship, **DeAndre Johnson**, will be commissioned and receive provisional membership as an ordained deacon in the Texas Annual Conference. This process requires taking exams, passing interviews, demonstrating gifts for ministry, writing a theological thesis and completing graduate education. DeAndre is on target to be ordained in two years. He has already taken active leadership roles within the Conference as the Music Director for the 2010 Annual Conference and has recently accepted the responsibility of being the 2011 Chair of the Worship Planning Team.



Prayer Partners

Orientation meeting for those interested in being a part of the first wave of our new prayer partner ministry will be held on **Sunday, April 11**, following worship. Lunch and child-care will be provided.

Family Promise

Mark your calendars for our next hands-on missions opportunity with Family Promise on **Tuesday, April 27 and Wednesday, April 28**. We



will be working with homeless families in transition who are currently housed at our buddy church, First UMC in Bryan. As always, volunteers are needed to drop off food, lead evening activities with the kids and/or spend the night. Contact Dot Guttery for more information or to sign up as a volunteer.

Lent & Easter 2010

Every **Sunday at 10:30 am** for seven weeks, we will take an in-depth look at the events prior to Jesus' crucifixion.

February 21 | Palm Sunday March 21 | Earning Inheritance
February 28 | Faith and Figs March 28 | Passover
March 07 | Love and Marriage April 04 | Easter
March 14 | Be Prepared

We will also be offering a meditative prayer service on **Wednesday nights at 6 pm**, Feb. 17–March 31.



ST. LUKE'S UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

THE FINAL DAYS OF JESUS



A Gospel Celebration of Passover

On **Sunday, March 28, at 10:30 am**, St. Luke's Choir will lead us in A Gospel Celebration of Passover. Together with the worship band, the choir will perform in worship the celebrated *Gospel Mass* by Robert Ray as well as Richard Smallwood's stirring paraphrase of Psalm 116, "I Love the Lord."

The mass is a service of worship most synonymous with the catholic tradition though its basic form can be seen in the worship practices of most mainline denominations. It is centered around expectancy of Christ's presence with us in worship through the reading of scripture (the liturgy of the Word) and the breaking of bread (the liturgy of the Eucharist).

Neighborhood Doorhangers

Join us on **Saturday, March 27, from 10 am until 12:30 pm**, as we walk the neighborhoods surrounding St. Luke's to extend invitations for our neighbors to worship with us for Easter. We'll also be inviting them to our annual Easter Eggstravaganza.



Easter Worship Services

Rise and shine **Early on Sunday, April 4, at 6 am** for our Easter Sunrise Service, to be held at the Outdoor Worship area with breakfast served in the main building afterwards. Later that morning, we will hold an Easter Celebration Service at the regular worship hour (**10:30 am**). You are encouraged to bring your families, friends, neighbors, classmates and co-workers as we enthusiastically celebrate our risen Lord!



As a part of honoring our 2010 goal to have monthly community outreach activities, we will again welcome our neighbors to St. Luke's Easter Eggstravaganza on **Sunday, March 28, from noon to 2:00 pm**. It's sure to be a fun, family-oriented time with hot dogs and hamburgers on the grill, bouncy houses, an egg hunt, a visit from the Easter Bunny, and outdoor games and crafts. If you're interested in volunteering, contact this year's event coordinator, DeAndre Johnson, at 979-822-9000 or djohnson@stlukesbcs.org.





Finance Committee Report

St. Luke's budget for 2009 was \$13,200/month. The 2010 budget is \$17,167/month. Here is the church's income over the past four months:

- ↑ **October 2009:** \$18,065
- ↓ **November 2009:** \$11,604
- ↓ **December 2009:** \$12,129
- ↓ **January 2010:** \$13,942

2009 Budget: \$189,000
 2009 Expenses: \$197,433

2010 Budget: \$206,000
 2010 Expenses (as of Jan. 31): \$15,493

Haiti Disaster Response

The United Methodist Committee on Relief (UMCOR) is still accepting donations for their disaster relief efforts following the earthquake in Haiti. Donate online at <http://gbgm-umc.org/umcor>. Since the Jan. 12 disaster, UMCOR has carried out an initial assessment of damages and needs, developed a five-year work plan, and shored up strategic partnerships with the United Nations, NGOs and the Methodist Church in Haiti.



Let Us Pray

Continued prayers are offered for the following individuals and needs:

- The family of Thomas Moore
- Carole Edwards
- April Wickman and her bone marrow match
- Chris Handlin and his family
- Roger Clark
- Ramanito Lyons
- Yearby & Eludia Webb

If you have any personal concerns, contact the church office at 979-822-9000 or fill out a prayer card in worship.

Kingdom Kids

PRESCHOOL

March 2010: Remembering Jesus

- March 07 Jesus and the Money Changers
- March 14 Remember Me
- March 21 Jesus Prays in the Garden
- March 28 Palm Sunday

April 2010: Easter and a New Life

- April 04 Jesus Lives!
- April 11 Jesus and His Friends
- April 18 Peter and John Heal a Man
- April 25 Philip Tells About Jesus

ELEMENTARY

March 2010: A Love to Remember

- March 07 Mary of Bethany
- March 14 The Last Supper
- March 21 Peter's Denial
- March 28 Palm Sunday/Holy Week

April 2010: Jesus Is Alive!

- April 04 The Resurrection
- April 11 Jesus and Thomas
- April 18 Breakfast on the Beach
- April 25 The Great Commission



Discipleship Groups

Delve deeper into scripture this spring through these opportunities.

"LIVING A LIFE OF PRAYER"

Sundays @ 9:15 am | Courtesy Room, St. Luke's
Contact: Jane Ford @ 979-823-7409

NOOMA GROUP

Sundays @ 9:30 am | Conference Room, St. Luke's
Contact: Kelsey Johnson @ 979-595-7571

YOUTH FELLOWSHIP

Sundays, 5-7 pm | St. Luke's Church
Contact: Jason Burnham @ 979-822-9000

YOUNG PROFESSIONALS

Wednesdays @ 7 pm | St. Luke's Church
Contact: Jason Burnham @ 979-822-9000

BOOK OF GENESIS SERIES

Wednesdays @ 6:30 pm | St. Luke's Church
Contact: Jason Burnham @ 979-822-9000

COLLEGE MINISTRY

Thursdays @ 8 pm | St. Luke's Church
Contact: Andrew Hook @ 979-255-3227

WOMEN'S BIBLE STUDY

"Anointed, Redeemed, Transformed"
Thursdays @ 9:30 am & 7 pm
Home of Louise Davis
Contact: Louise Davis @ 979-696-0559

VBS 2010 Will Be Out of This World!



Blast off! St. Luke's will be having it's very first Vacation Bible Sschool this summer the week of June 21–25 from 9 am to noon. We are inviting all children between the ages of 3 and 4th grade to become cadets on the starship Galactic Praise as we learn more about our wonderful, incredible, amazing and magnificent, awesome God. After a high-energy opening on the starship Galactic Praise, the cadets spacewalk to the Good News Galaxy. Through the Bible stories there, children will witness how our mighty God is at work in the world. Cadets will learn Praise Phrases and Bible Booster memory verses that will boost their faith long after VBS. The children will expand on what they've learned by participating in a variety of activities: making their own art projects at Cosmic Crafts, singing new music at Moons and Tunes, exploring science activities at the Orbital Observatory, participating in recreational activities at Rocket Rec and enjoying tasty snacks at the Astro Bistro. Mark your calendars for this cosmic adventure. Registration information and volunteer opportunities will be coming soon!

Spring Parents' Quarterly Meeting

We will hold our quarterly parents' meeting on **Friday, Feb. 26, 6–7:30 pm**. Bring your kids for a spaghetti supper followed by the parents' selection of our lessons for March through May. We have some exciting and formative lessons for the kids during this Lent and Easter season (*see page 7 for details*). It's important that every family make a huge effort to attend. If you're not going to make it, let Kelsey Johnson know so we can make adjustments on food and make sure we get together one-on-one to touch base another time.

CHECK OUT PARENT AND TEACHER RESOURCES!



Preschool: www.iamrocksolid.com



Elementary: www.ilivebig.com