

STL ACTS OF FAITH

The Newsletter of St. Luke's Episcopal Church



Palm Sunday
8 and 10:30
10:30 Joint with IBP

Maunder Thursday Service
7 p.m.

Good Friday
12 p.m. Holy Eucharist
6 p.m. The Women of the
Cross

Easter Sunday
8 and 10:30 services
Brunch in Johnson Hall
between services

Walking Through Holy Week

A journey into love that refuses to let death have the final word.

There are weeks in the Church year that invite us to remember.

Holy Week invites us to enter in.

This is not a week we observe from a distance.

It's a week we walk—step by step—through joy, confusion, intimacy, grief, silence... and finally, resurrection.

It is the story at the center of everything. And it's a story that still has the power to reshape our lives.

[Holy Week cont. from page 1]

Palm Sunday – One Story, Many Voices (Joint Service with IBP)

We begin with celebration—palms in hand, voices raised, hope alive in the air.

But even here, there is tension.

Because the same crowd that shouts “Hosanna!” will soon fall silent.

This year, we’ll mark Palm Sunday with a joint service alongside Iglesia Buen Pastor (IBP)—a blending of traditions, languages, and expressions of faith. It’s a visible reminder that the body of Christ is always larger than our own experience of it.

And yes... there will be a live donkey.

Because this story is not abstract.

It’s embodied, earthy, real.

We will process together, pray together, and step into the week as one community—honoring both the beauty and the complexity of the road ahead.

Maundy Thursday – The Invitation

This night slows everything down.

We gather around a table.

We remember a meal.

And we encounter a love that kneels.

This year, we will enter into a new expression of this ancient story—one that stays deeply rooted in the tradition, while opening a new way of experiencing it.

The Invitation:

Dear friends in Christ,

On this night we remember a moment that must have surprised the disciples.

Their teacher – the one they called Lord – knelt before them with a towel and basin.

And one by one he washed their feet.

It was not simply an act of kindness.

It was a revelation of who God is.

The God we meet in Jesus is not a God who clings to power,
but a God who kneels in love.

And then Jesus said something that echoes through the centuries:

“I have set you an example, that you also should do as I have done to you.” (John 13:15)

The heart of this night is not really about feet.

It is about love that is willing to kneel.

Love that serves.

Love that takes the lowest place for the sake of another.

On Maundy Thursday, instead of washing feet, we will invite you to be anointed with oil.

In the ancient world, oil placed on the head was a sign of blessing,
a sign of belonging,

and a sign of being set apart for God’s work.

As the oil touches our heads, we remember two things at the same time.

First, that we are beloved children of God – claimed and blessed before we have done anything to deserve it.

And second, that those who are blessed by Christ are also sent by Christ.

So tonight the oil becomes our reminder of the basin and towel.

The blessing placed on our heads flows outward into our lives.

Just as Jesus knelt in love before his friends,

so we are sent to kneel in love before the world.

Because the call of Christ is not simply to admire his humility –
but to follow his example.

Good Friday - Sitting in the Mystery (12:00 PM)

Good Friday is not something we rush through.

It's something we sit in.

At noon, we gather for a simple, meaningful liturgy that invites us to slow down and face the weight of the Passion. There are no easy answers here. No quick turn to resurrection.

Just the cross.

Just the silence.

Just the mystery of a God who does not avoid suffering—but enters it fully.

This is the day we tell the truth.

About pain.

About injustice.

About love that refuses to turn away.

Good Friday - Women of the Cross (6:00 PM)

Later that evening, we return for something deeply powerful.

Women of the Cross invites us to walk the Stations of the Cross through the eyes of the women who were there—the ones who stayed, who watched, who bore witness when others fled.

This is not just a retelling.

It's a reframing.

It gives voice to perspectives often left in the background and allows us to encounter the Passion through presence, courage, grief, and fierce love.

It is one of the most moving liturgies we offer.

Easter - Life Breaking Through

And then... Easter.

Not as an escape from the week, but as its fulfillment. Because Easter doesn't undo the cross—it reveals what was true all along: that love is stronger than death, that life cannot be contained, and that what looks finished is not the end.

Our liturgy will begin with the flowering of the cross—taking what was once a symbol of death and covering it in life. Flowers pressed into wood. Beauty emerging from what once held suffering. It's not pretending the cross wasn't real. It's proclaiming that it is no longer the final word.

From there, we move into celebration—full, joyful, and unrestrained. Because resurrection is not quiet. It is life breaking in, hope made visible, the world being remade in real time. And in between the services, we'll gather for a shared Easter brunch—because resurrection doesn't just change what we believe, it draws us back to the table, back to one another, back into joy.

This is the day we remember who we are: people of resurrection, people of hope, people who trust that even now, life is rising.

The Invitation of the Week

Holy Week isn't about getting it all right. It's about showing up—showing up to the joy, to the confusion, to the grief—and trusting that somehow, through it all, God is already at work.

Because this is the story we return to again and again: a love that kneels, a love that stays, a love that goes all the way to the cross. And even there—especially there—love is not defeated.

So come. Walk the story. Enter the mystery. And let it do its work in you.

Holy Week Services:

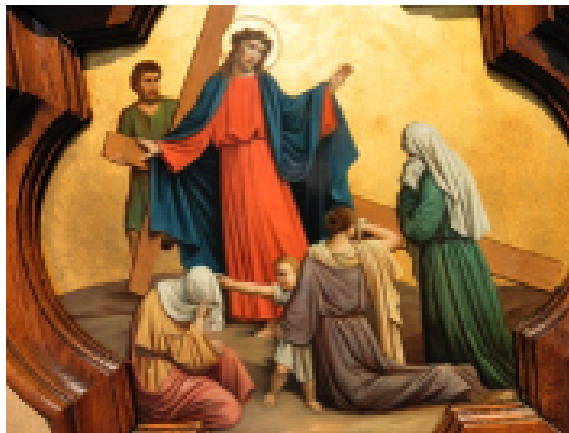


Palm Sunday, March 29:
St. Luke's/IBP Combined Service, 10:30 a.m.
(shh.. there are rumors of a live donkey)

Maundy Thursday, April 2: 7 p.m.

Good Friday, April 3:
12 p.m. Service
6 p.m. Women of the Cross

Easter Sunday, April 5:
Services at 8 a.m. and 10:30 a.m.
Brunch between the services



The Women of the Cross, Good Friday, April 3, 2026, 6 p.m. at St. Luke's Episcopal Church

Join us for this powerful version of the Stations of the Cross—each station describing a Biblical woman's relationship with Jesus. This quiet, meditative liturgy brings to life the man we call Jesus and the women who knew him.

St. Luke's, 1737 Hillandale, Durham, North Carolina 27705
(corner of Hillandale and I-85)
stlukesdurham.org/919-286-2273

Upcoming Events and Opportunities

Chrismon Workshop

Wednesday, Apr 1, 1-4 p.m., Kramer Room

Maundy Thursday Service

Apr 2, 7 p.m.

Good Friday

12 p.m. Holy Eucharist
6 p.m. The Women of the Cross

Easter Sunday

8 and 10:30 services
Brunch in Johnson Hall between services

St. Luke's Stitchers

Wednesday, Apr 15, 1:30-3:30 p.m., Kramer Room

Spring Fling

Saturday, Apr 18, 7 a.m.-12 p.m., Johnson Hall

Garden Work Day

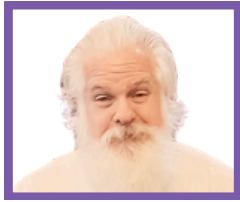
Saturday, Apr 18, 8-10 a.m.

St. Luke's Men's Lunch Group

Tuesday, Apr 21, Kramer Room

Arts at St. Luke's Presents May Musicale

Sunday, May 17, 4 p.m., Nave



Music Notes

David Arcus
Director of Music and Organist



Nothing says “Easter” like Easter music. My earliest memories of Easter services involved music as a special event, whether it was additional instruments like brass or a spectacular long choir cantata. Some of the most telling moments in my vocation as a church musician have happened on Easter Sunday. The simplest of my church positions, St. Peter’s Episcopal in Lithgow NY, brought in a Vassar College voice faculty member to sing Mozart’s Exultate! Jubilate! as the featured music of the service. I remember the experience as my first with a “real professional singer,” whose high “c” at the end of “Alleluia!” could be heard clear across into Connecticut.

Subsequent Easters as a college student often presented opportunities in how to spice things up for the congregation without becoming the center of attention or finding something “challenging but not too difficult” for the choir. I did not always work in liturgically astute settings, so the texts of these selections came from all over. These services would also be among my first compositional endeavors – an activity squarely outside of my academic pursuits. I wrote an original text for a choral preface loosely based on the hymn tune *Lasst uns erfreuen* for the Easter service at the First Congregational Church in Branford CT, where I served during my first year in graduate school, mostly to make sure the two trumpets the church hired had something to play on other than hymns. I wrote out a brass quintet and timpani introduction-fanfare to “Welcome, happy morning!” at Trinity on-the-Green in New Haven, which gave valuable lessons in composing parts for instrumentalists.

In 1986, when I served as Director for the Duke Divinity School Choir, Easter and the School’s closing Convocation service in Duke Chapel were in the same week. The student singers had strong opinions about the music they wanted to sing, and the composite “ideal” anthem wasn’t in our library. Nor was it in my mental catalogue of possibilities. So out came pencil and manuscript paper and down on it was the earliest version of *The Song of Triumph*, which became a favorite staple of the Duke Chapel Choir. Speaking of which, very little compares to an Easter service in that hallowed space. Where else can you hear a 12-piece ensemble of brass and percussion supplement two phenomenal pipe organs in those glorious acoustics support the choir singing the closing section of Mahler’s “Resurrection” Symphony No. 2?

After seven years at St. Matthew’s Episcopal Church, Hillsborough, and a year each at St. Paul’s in Greenville NC and Holy Name of Jesus Cathedral in Raleigh, the tradition of Easter extravagance continues with my third Easter service at St. Luke’s. Come and hear the handbells regal us with the strains of Easter Hymn and the choir shout “Hallelujah,” “Hilariter,” and “Easter triumph,” as we all lift our voices to proclaim, “Christ is Alive!”



2025 Spring Fling Volunteers

Spring Fling

St. Luke's major fundraiser in which we give 100% of our proceeds to Durham nonprofits will be on **April 18**.

Mark your calendars for these dates:

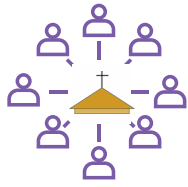
- Drop Off Week—Sunday, April 12, 9 a.m. to NOON on Thursday, April 16)
- Friday Fling—Friday, April 17, 2026 (4:30 p.m. to 6:00 p.m.)
- Spring Fling—Saturday, April 18, 2026 (7 a.m. to 12 p.m.)

Start cleaning out your kitchen, your closets, your drawers, your cabinets! Let someone else who needs these treasures buy and use them. Start with a box in your home where you collect those wonderful knickknacks, odds and ends, beloved household items that you no longer need; give thanks for them, then store in your box until April. Second, if you see appropriate items on your neighborhood list serves that are free, grab them for us! This includes small furniture that you (or someone) could easily fit in your car. Save it for us!

We sell home goods, kitchen goods, linens, craft and office supplies, toys, games and frames, jewelry and luggage, yard equipment, sports equipment, small furniture, technology. (See St. Luke's website for more details and exceptions. We do not sell clothing of any kind.) We also sell amazing **PLANTS!!**

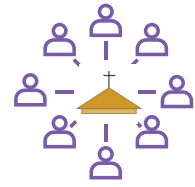
Please note: all donated items must be clean, only gently used, and working. If you are donating linens, please package with twine (or tape), and attach note regarding size and details.

Email us if you have any questions: Joan Hodges, jehodges@me.com and Debbie Carter, klink509@gmail.com.



Connecting at St. Luke's

Learn about groups you may want to join



The Garden Grounds Care Ministry

The Garden Grounds Care Ministry meets once monthly from February to November each year. We have a rotating task list based on seasonal needs. We just completed our mulching effort in February. We cleaned the beds and spread an amazing amount of mulch. Both communities from StL and IBP worked side by side to complete the task. We spread roughly 80 yards of mulch which is a personal record. We normally spread about half that amount! We had the assistance of our landscape team from Clean cuts. There were many proud moments of working together with IBP. Many smiles and laughs were exchanged. It was beautiful. We were truly two congregations with one unified goal of making the campus more appealing.

We gather from 8am to 10am once a month on Saturdays. We always gather on the StL campus because that is where the work that needs to be completed is.

This role/ post is especially important to me because I enjoy organizing and coordinating the grounds care. It is something that I've been doing for about 8 years now. It is a very tangible way of making a difference on our campus. Caring for our grounds and making an environmental impact at the same time is very rewarding. It is our goal as a team to make the grounds functional, beautiful, as well as sustainable for the insect community. We have a lot of native plants that are beneficial for pollinators and that are also drought resistant; requiring less maintenance overall.

--Daniel Emory



St. Luke's Durham Bulls Outing - June 7

Would you like to see a Durham Bulls Game with St. Luke's? We are planning a group outing to the Durham Bulls v. Charlotte Knights on Sunday, June 7 at 5:05 p.m. Tickets are \$16 each and seats are in the Terrace View, Section 212. Deadline to sign up and pay for tickets is Sunday, May 31. There are only 22 tickets available! Sign up here - [https://www.signupgenius.com/go/70A0B4EAFA62FA5F85-durham#/-](https://www.signupgenius.com/go/70A0B4EAFA62FA5F85-durham#/) or there is a sign-up sheet in the Sprague Room. Please give cash or check to Mike or Cindy Henry (Venmo also accepted). Please contact Mike or Cindy Henry for information, Clnh248@gmail.com.

Join us for a fun night at the ballpark!



A Note from Beth Bonner about the Annual Easter Sunday Brunch!

Easter is fast approaching, just around the corner: April 5th. Let's celebrate with an Easter covered-dish breakfast between services at 9:15 am. Sharing delicious food and warm hospitality Easter morning with all of our St. Luke's family is the greatest!!

I am always asked what to bring so below are a few suggestions:

- breakfast casseroles dishes (meat or vegetarian)--deviled eggs-biscuits-assorted bagels-cream cheese-jam/jellies-breakfast muffins-scones-sweet breads-breakfast cupcakes-any kind of sweets-any breakfast food that is easy to serve (cold/hot, we can reheat). Please Note: bacon, sausage patties, grits (plain & cheese), orange juice, water, and coffee will be provided.

Please bring your donation to Johnson Hall that Saturday before 5 p.m. if possible or Sunday before 8:45 a.m. as we will need to plate and arrange food on tables.

**Volunteers are needed for table and chair set-up Saturday (starting at 10 a.m.) and for cleanup following brunch. Please let me know if you can help.

Thanks,
Beth Bonner (919)383-3265 land line, (919)724-8001 cell



St. Luke's Artists hard at work!



Chrismon Ministry



St. Luke's Stitches



Safe Church Training by Deacon Monnie

The Episcopal Diocese of NC requires many ministry positions and volunteers to complete Safe Church Training every three years.

All Safe Church Training is now done through online modules from [Praesidium Academy](#), or diocesan Zoom trainings. Both satisfy the diocesan Safe Church Training requirement for three years.

Those required to take this training are listed below:

- Clergy
- Church Staff and anyone elected to a governing body (VESTRY)
- Anyone who works with children or youth —
- Anyone who makes at-home or other visits on behalf of the church (e.g. Lay Eucharistic Visitors, Pastoral Care Committee members, Faith Team members)

For Diocesan Zoom Trainees:

- 1.Register for your preferred training.
- 2.You will receive an email with the Zoom link.
- 3.The training will start on time. Please log in a few minutes early and have your camera on. This is required to receive credit for the training.
- 4.The training will last for the entire two hours.

Date: [March 30, 2026](#)
Time: 6:00 p.m. - 8:00 p.m.
Venue: [Zoom](#)
[REGISTER](#)

Date: [May 18, 2026](#)
Time: 6:00 p.m. - 8:00 p.m.
Venue: [Zoom](#)
[REGISTER](#)

Date: [April 30, 2026](#)
Time: 12:00 p.m. - 2:00 p.m.
Venue: [Zoom](#)
[REGISTER](#)

Date: [May 21, 2026](#)
Time: 12:00 p.m. - 2:00 p.m.
Venue: [Zoom](#)
[REGISTER](#)

Date: [May 17, 2026](#)
Time: 12:00 p.m. - 2:00 p.m.
Venue: [Zoom](#)
[REGISTER](#)

If you have questions or need to take the training online, please reach out to me at deacon@stlukesdurham.org.

St. Luke's Church
Contributions to Outreach Organizations
Jim Brunnell, Treasurer

I am not sure if you are aware of this, but we have a very generous church. The following is a summary of total outreach in 2025 and through 3/18/26.

	2025	2026 through 3/18/26
Rector's Discretionary Fund	\$32,678	\$6,308
Deacon's Discretionary Fund	0	621
Holy Cross School	2,680	3,000
Voluntary Dio NC Contribution	0	389
Outreach Gifts	13,114	0
Duke Divinity School	5,000	0
Educational Scholarships	1,500	0
Share Your Christmas	2,962	0
Total	\$57,934	\$10,318

Notes:

The above is in addition to our Fair Share contributions to the Diocese of NC of \$42,969 in 2025 and \$10,247 thus far in 2026. We make outreach gifts each fall. The Duke Divinity School contribution was for our intern. The Holy Cross School donation in 2026 was a part of our trip to the school in Belize.

In 2025, our combined outreach of \$57,934 was 14% of our pledge contributions and unpledged offerings of \$406,726. Amazing!



O Lord, Giver of Life and Source of Freedom

O Lord, Giver of Life and Source of Freedom. We know that all we have is received from your hand. Gracious and loving God, you call us to be stewards of your Abundance, the caretakers of all you have entrusted to us. Help us always to use your gifts wisely and teach us to share them generously. Send the Holy Spirit to work through us, bringing your message to those we serve. May our faithful stewardship be a witness to the love of Jesus Christ in our lives. We pray with grateful hearts in the name of Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

--Episcopal Diocese of Washington



World Labyrinth Day – May 2, 12:30 to 1:30

On May 2, St. Luke's will join walkers around the world in celebrating the 18th annual World Labyrinth Day (WLD). Every year on the first Saturday in May, thousands of people participate in this moving meditation for world peace and shared appreciation of the labyrinth experience. As in previous years, walkers "walk as one at 1:00" in their local time creating a unified rolling wave of peaceful energy passing from one time zone to the next around the globe.

Whether you are a regular walker or interested in learning more, this walk is an opportunity to step onto the path with fellow parishioners and community members and have a sense of being part of a global community.

Each time we gather to walk, we open with a meditation to set our intention for the walk. We each step into the labyrinth and walk at a pace that is personally meaningful. Once everyone has completed their walk, we will close the experience with observations anyone wants to share, or some choose to leave in silence. The labyrinth walk is very individual. There is no right or wrong way to do it!

For more information about the labyrinth ministry at St. Luke's [visit our webpage](#), or contact [Annette Medlin](mailto:annette@annettedmedlin.com), annette@annettedmedlin.com

Intention for World Labyrinth Day:

"May love and harmony sing out from the soles of the feet of those who walk on this day. May we walk with intention and hope for a world where compassion and peace fill every broken heart to restore us to wholeness." (from a labyrinth walker in Phoenix, Arizona, shared on the [WLD website](#).)

Peace,
Annette



Come Hike with Us!

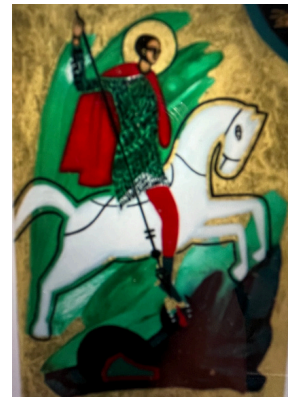
An old silo, a family cemetery, and a labyrinth – these are some of the things your fellow members of St. Luke’s enjoyed on March 14th when they hiked a trail in Brumley North Nature Preserve. The outing ended with a great lunch at the New Hope Market.

Our next outing will take place on **April 11th (rain date April 25th)** when we will hike the Confluence Natural Area, 4214 Highland Farm Road, Hillsborough. Confluence Natural Area - Eno River Association The Confluence Natural Area is so named because the East and West Forks of the Eno River flow from the north to merge here, thus forming the Eno River. The trail is not difficult, but good walking shoes and walking sticks are always recommended. If you want to carpool, please be at church by 9:30. Afterwards, those interested will have lunch together at the Weaver Street Market, 228 S. Churton St, Hillsborough.



Photos for St. Luke’s Photo Directory

Our photo directory is looking better and better as parishioners add their photos. This directory provides an excellent way for us to put faces and names together while also serving as a source of email addresses and phone numbers. If you wish to have the directory set up on your phone or other electronic device, contact Alan Schueler. Please watch for announcements for our next scheduled photo sessions.



The Icon Corner

Mimi Games

April 23 is the celebration of St. George. His Slaying the Dragon is a subject of classical painters Raphael, Rubens and Donatello. St. George is the national namesake and patron of the Eastern European country of Georgia. Eastern and Western Christians as well as the Islamic tradition have revered St. George.

In the 5th C, George was a knight from Cappadocia, Turkey, who entered a town battling with a swamp dragon. Townspeople feed the dragon two sheep daily to prevent it attacking residents. Eventually the town ran out of sheep and townspeople decided to draw lots and offer human sacrifices to ensure their safety. George entered the town just as a young woman, dressed as a bride, was to be given to the dragon. George offered to kill the dragon if the residents would accept Christ as their savior. George killed the dragon with his spear and the young woman was spared. Many thousand people were then baptized.

Butler's Lives of the Saints states that St George was a real person who died for his faith, but we know little of his actual life. The icon portrays the power given by Jesus Christ to kill evil and save others.

Georgian, 15th C - the dragon is dramatically rendered. At the upper right, the hand of God appears to bless George.

The town's mayor sits behind George on a horse as St. George stabs the dragon; the woman saved and townspeople watch from afar.

A contemporary example of St George spearing the dragon.



The Green Team's April Report



Thoughts for the Month

"And he arose, and rebuked the wind, and said unto the sea. Peace, be still. And the wind ceased and there was a great calm." Mark 4:39

"Spring is nature's way of saying 'Let's party.'" Robin Williams

April Green Tip

It is hard to recycle Styrofoam, but there is a place that does it. It is the Eno River Farmers Market located at 144 E. Margaret Lane in Hillsborough, NC 27278. They are open every Saturday. From April to November, the hours are 8 am to 12 pm; from December to March, they are 9 am to 12 pm. If you bring clean Styrofoam to the market, a team of volunteers will deliver it to be recycled. The collected Styrofoam is densified into ingots, which can be manufactured into a variety of materials.

They accept both clean food service containers, such as cups, egg cartons, and take-out boxes, as well as packaging material used for coolers and shipping fragile products. Styrofoam must be clean, dry, and free of tape and labels for recycling. Drop off your Styrofoam products by the Community Compost Collection station. They are unable to collect packing "peanuts" or soft foam products.

Earth Day and Triangle Celebrations

In early 1969, there was a huge oil spill near Santa Barbara, California, dumping around 100,000 barrels of crude oil into the channel and onto the beaches. This disaster, which, at the time, was the largest oil spill in the United States, served as part of the motivation for Earth Day. The first Earth Day took place on April 22, 1970. Earth Day is celebrated on April 22 every year, although events take place all month. For a list of just some of the events happening to celebrate Earth Day, go to Triangle on the Cheap at <https://triangleonthecheap.com/earth-day-triangle-nc/>.

St. Luke's Solar Savings

St. Luke's solar savings for February 2026 were \$392.09. For January and February of this year, the combined savings were \$750.85. Since installation, the total savings are \$32,436.29.



God, maker of marvels, you weave the planet and all its creatures together in kinship;
your unifying love is revealed in the interdependence of relationships
in the complex world that you have made.

Save us from the illusion that humankind is separate and alone,
and join us in communion with all inhabitants of the universe;
through Jesus Christ, our Redeemer,
who topples the dividing walls by the power of your Holy Spirit,
and who lives and reigns with you, for ever and ever. Amen.



"Safe" social media from the diocese: Join the Beloved Community on Circle

Maybe you read about the Beloved Community on Circle in a recent St. Luke's newsletter but still aren't sure what it is. Maybe the phrase "social media" doesn't inspire confidence and optimism in you. The Episcopal Diocese of North Carolina wants to help you see it more positively. The Diocese has organized a new social media space called The Beloved Community on a platform called Circle. (If you are a Facebook user, Circle looks a little like it, *but has nothing to do with Facebook* or any other popular mainstream social media space.)

Anyone in the diocese is welcome to join via this link <https://episditionc.org/join-the-beloved-community-on-circle/>, or through the Circle phone app, with a simple username and password setup. There are no algorithms, advertising, or anyone collecting your data. The intention is to allow Episcopalians across the state to share common interests, whether related to parish life or not (for instance you might want to ask about others doing your particular ministry, or just post a photo of your emerging spring garden, or talk about a book you read, maybe related to faith, maybe not). There are community standards of behavior and communication which everyone is expected to take seriously to keep the atmosphere congenial. Congregations are encouraged to post about events, so you might find out about something of interest to attend. Join and see who you find to connect with!

April Birthdays



1 Bill Yarger	19 Lauren Sloan
5 Linda Serra	19 Lorraine Haskell
7 Nik Gullett	19 Julie Hege
7 Seth Griffin	20 Anne Burgess
9 Trudy Wagoner	21 Allan Simpson
10 Anne Hodges-Copple	25 Linda Yankes
11 Michael Gray	26 Cara Triebel
12 John Willard	26 Beth Bonner
13 Jim Slaughter	30 Jon Stonehouse

Prayer Concerns

Almighty God, we entrust all who are dear to us to your never-failing care and love, for this life and the life to come, knowing that you are doing for them better things than we can desire or pray for; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

"For Those We Love" BCP 831

Please pray for:

- Lorraine Haskell, who remains seriously ill at Duke Hospital.
- Jeanne Alton, who fell and fractured her arm in two places. She is home but will require months of recovery time.
- Jim Craven, recovering well after a recent heart attack.
- C. V. Conner, recovering from recent surgery.
- thanksgiving for the recent arrival of Lois Kathleen Beck, newborn daughter of Meghan and Mark Beck.
- Marie Levchak, recovering from a broken wrist.
- Anne Thornton, recovering from surgery after a recent fall.
- healing for Kurt Yantz, husband of newcomer Denise DeCarlo.
- Jim and Vicki Fuller's son, Jamie, in his ongoing struggle with heart-related issues.
- Safety and protection for our neighbors who are feeling threatened and afraid.

Almighty and everliving God, ruler of all things in heaven and earth, hear our prayers for this parish family. Strengthen the faithful, arouse the careless, and restore the penitent. Grant us all things necessary for our common life, and bring us all to be of one heart and mind within your Holy Church; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

Jesus, we believe you;
all we heard is true.
You break the bread, we recognise you,
you are the fire that burns within us;
use us to light the world.
Hear this prayer for your love's sake.
Amen.



Arts at St. Luke's presentation of storyteller and folklorist Liz Z Pardue on March 15 was a great success, drawing many members of the wider community and raising \$810 in donations for our Music and Arts Fund. Many thanks to the members of our Arts Ministry for their support and hard work in making this event possible. We were especially pleased to welcome a large number of guests from outside St. Luke's, many of whom commented on the beauty of our space and the warmth of our hospitality.

Our scheduled April 26 event, An Afternoon with Jay Sidebotham, has been postponed to the 2026–27 season. We are delighted that Jay will still be joining us—just a little later than expected. Watch for more details in the coming months.

Our final event of the season will take place on May 17 at 4:00 p.m. with our May Musicale. This “mixed bouquet” of music will feature Kaye Saunders, David Arcus, and other St. Luke's musicians, offering selections from the 16th through the 21st centuries. Highlights include Bach's Musical Offering for flute, violin, and basso continuo; David Arcus's award-winning Song of Ruth and Naomi for soprano and organ; beloved favorites such as “The Swan” from Carnival of the Animals, Schubert's Ave Maria, and selections from Vivaldi's Gloria; along with original choral works and beautiful contemporary pieces—all presented by your talented St. Luke's musicians!

Plan on joining us for this special event, which will be followed by a reception.



Storyteller Liz Z Pardue at St. Luke's

St. Luke's Email-What's in it for you?

Our email list lets you stay up to date on parish news and fellowship events (weekly announcements email), stay aware of difficult times facing your fellow parishioners (weekly e-prayers email), and know when the latest issue of our monthly newsletter, **Acts of Faith**, is published. But, to paraphrase a saying, you have to be on it to get it! Make sure the Parish Coordinator (parish-coord@stlukesdurham.org) has your email address, or subscribe automatically by going to <https://www.stlukesdurham.org/> and scrolling down to "Connect with us".

St. Luke's Calendar

Our calendar is up to date on our website: <https://stlukesdurham.org/parish-calendar/>. Weddings, baptisms, funerals, and other special services are scheduled by the rector. The Parish Coordinator, Kaye Saunders, can help you arrange meetings or other events.

Online Church Directory

To find contact information for other parishioners in St. Luke's online parish directory, you must activate your account using your email address on file with the parish. Don't know what that is? Need instructions for activating your account? Contact directory@stlukesdurham.org

St. Luke's Parish Office Hours:

Monday-Thursday 9-3
(Closed Tuesdays 10-11:15)

Rector Office Hours:

Monday-Wednesday 9-5
Thursdays available by phone.
Other times by appointment.

Stewardship at St. Luke's

As a reminder, you can give to St. Luke's Church in several ways:

- Cash or Check (drop in the plate or mail to the office)
- Use PayPal with a debit/credit card via St. Luke's website
- Push payments from your bank or credit union to the Church, just like bill-pay payments for your regular bills
- Initiate a Qualified Charitable Distribution from your IRA if you are 70 1/2 or older.

In the Episcopal Church, we ask our members to make a pledge, which is an estimate of giving in the coming year. It represents your commitment to God's work in this place. To make a pledge, please email our Parish Coordinator, Kaye Saunders at parish-coord@stlukesdurham.org.

Submission of materials for the newsletter:

The deadline for submitting materials for the newsletter is the 20th of each month. Please email your materials to Babs Wise: babswise@gmail.com.

Flowers for Worship

If you would like to provide flowers for a Sunday service, please sign up on the flowers calendar on the wall in the south narthex just outside the parish office. The florist has increased the cost of Sunday flowers. The cost is \$150.

For Children

Our Nursery is open in Johnson Hall Sunday mornings 9-11:30 for infants through three year olds. Older children through elementary school are invited to join in Godly Play, beginning at 10:15 also in Johnson Hall. Please ask an usher if you need directions or assistance.

Contact us: St. Luke's Episcopal Church
1737 Hillandale Road Durham, NC 27705 phone 919-286-2273
www.stlukesdurham.org

The Rev. Gregory Farrand, Rector
The Rev. Monnie Riggin, Deacon
Kaye Saunders, Parish Coordinator & Assoc. Director of Music
David Arcus, Director of Music & Organist

Treasurer Jim Brunnquell
Vestry Clerk: Jim Wise

Vestry

Class of 2026
Bob Buchanan
Wendy Cook,
Hope Galunas, Senior Warden
Pike Hege

Class of 2027
Carlton Brown
Kelley Lawton
Debbie Stonehouse
Peter Taflan

Class of 2028
Steve Dedrick, Junior Warden
Daniel Emory
Brian Gullett
Martha Lassiter



St. Luke's Episcopal Church
1737 Hillandale Road
Durham, NC 27705
Address Service Requested
The art of living your faith