

# TIDINGS



ST. LUKE'S  
EPISCOPAL CHURCH  
CHRIST'S LIGHT ON THE HILL

JANUARY 2007 Vol. 48 No. 1

*This month's focus in Tidings is Christian Formation.*

## Christian Formation at St. Luke's: Ready, Set, Grow

### Christmas Eve

- 10.00 a.m. Holy Eucharist  
(4th Sunday in Advent)<sup>†</sup>
- 5.00 p.m. Family Eucharist  
& Children's Sermon<sup>†</sup>
- 7.30 p.m. Christmas Concert  
8.00 p.m. Holy Eucharist<sup>†</sup>  
with Brass FX and  
Avanti Strings
- 10.30 p.m. Christmas Concert  
11.00 p.m. Solemn Eucharist  
with Brass FX and  
Avanti Strings

### Christmas Day

- 10.00 a.m. Holy Eucharist,  
Homily, & Traditional  
Hymns

### The First Sunday after Christmas Day

- 8.00 a.m. Holy Eucharist (spoken)  
10.00 a.m. Lessons & Carols,  
Holy Eucharist<sup>†</sup>

<sup>†</sup>Childcare (newborn through Kindergarten)  
available at this Service.



*Dorothy Tarbox*

Christian Formation at St. Luke's not only has something for everyone, it has it all! So often people will tell you they don't have time or there's not a program that interests them, but that just can't be the case at St. Luke's. They should look at the booklet called *Becoming*. They're sure to get excited about all that's available to them and their family. It doesn't matter if you're interested in current events or prefer a discussion on history, theology, and spirituality, you're sure to find a program that sparks your interest.

There are, in fact, five Tracks of varying interests that meet on Sunday mornings for adults. There is also Sunday morning programming for children, youth, and music; and Wednesday night programming for adults, children, youth, and music, men's Bible study, women's Bible study, house groups, Cursillo, meditation group, quiet days, and many other opportunities for individuals and families.

The adult side of Christian Formation has seen remarkable growth under the direction of Bp. John MacNaughton, Fr. Chip Prehn, and the Adult Education Committee led by James Dennis and Gill Cook, with the quality of the programming achieving new heights. The Christian Formation Team, consisting of staff members, meets every week for planning, trouble-shooting, and prayer. Recognizing that lifestyles and families with young children dictate that an occasional class must be missed, there are optional Tracks with subjects that can easily be followed even if a class is missed. The five Tracks offered on Sunday mornings for adults are: Scripture Studies; Living a Christian

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Give us an enquiring  
and discerning heart,  
the courage to will and  
to persevere.

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Lifestyle 24/7; News and Reviews; History, Theology, and Spirituality; and The ABC's of Discipleship and a Newcomer Class.

In brief, the Sunday morning adult tracks cover the following topics. Pick one, come join the group, try it out and grow!

**Track 1 Scriptural Studies** will examine the Psalms; the forty days of Lent will be considered in the context of Rick Warren's *Purpose Driven Life* and *Purpose Driven Church*; and the women of the Bible will be discussed.

**Track 2 Living a Christian Lifestyle 24/7** "Leap of Faith" is a gathering geared towards but not limited to parents with children of all ages. Fellowship and open discussion are paramount in this class.

**Track 3 News and Reviews**, has been a popular and lively class with all ages. Designed to raise the ethical and moral issues dealing with current events, you can be sure the class is never dull.

**Track 4 History, Theology, and Spirituality** includes the contemplative writings of Thomas Merton, an introduction to Rowan Williams, Archbishop of Canterbury, and a short course on Islam.

**Track 5 The ABC's of Discipleship and Newcomer Classes** are a series of short classes for those new to the Episcopal Church.

And that's just the Sunday offerings for adults! (See details of all the Sunday morning offerings for adults on page 4.)

Ann Allen directs the Children's Ministries program with a committee chaired by Suzanne Dickie. Chapel and Sunday School are available for two-year-olds

through fifth-graders at a level they can understand and relate to. From Bible teachings and stories to activities, nursery and fun, Sunday mornings and Wednesday evenings are filled with friendships, smiles, life lessons, and a strong Christian foundation. Nurseries are available for infants through Kindergarten. This is where children belong and find strength to go forth into their world and learn to stand strong.

The youth at St. Luke's are an active and thriving group. Under the direction of Chris Mitchell, Youth Ministry at St. Luke's has flourished. There are, of course, all of the traditional offerings that you expect; the Youth Group, the Confirmation preparation, mission trips, etc., but Chris has included numerous other opportunities for youth to gather and to learn about the Lord, giving and sharing, and about

being in His world and interacting with others.

Activities for youth at St. Luke's may be Sunday or Wednesday offerings such as Highway 146, Dinner and a Bible, Mission and Outreach, or maybe a friendly game of paintball!

If music is more your passion, David Eaton has a music program for you. Beginning pre-K through Kindergarten (Kinder Choristers), first and second grade (St. Cecilia's Choristers), third grade and up (St. Luke's Choristers), choir opportunities are available at St. Luke's. The Music Program at St. Luke's is known as one of San Antonio's finest. Even if you're one of those people who thinks you can't sing but have never really tried, now's the time to try. Give your voice to the Lord and rehearsal time to David!

*continued on page 3*

### House Groups: One group's perspective

*Jane Gidney*

**E**ach member of the ladies' Monday Night House Group was asked to describe our group. Their responses were:

"Hospitality, growth, new friends, intimacy, good fun, learning to laugh at ourselves."

"My house group gives me so much: weekly fellowship, sharing our individual spiritual journeys, a time for study and reflection, and an opportunity to reach out as a group."

"It gives me a community to study with intellectually and spiritually. With that, it also gives me friends who share of themselves and invite me in."

"I'm drawn to our group by the sharing, open-heartedness and trust developing among us."

"I'm enjoying seeing deep friendships which are developing along with spiritual growth."

"One of the things I like about our group is the commitment to trying to deepen our relationship with God which results in our ability to minister to one another."

"It's been a great blessing to me. I've enjoyed the books we've read. We've learned to be close to each other as trust has built."

"I like the opportunity to know better other members of St Luke's, the intimate sharing of our faith journeys, the mutual support of one another in response to what is happening in our lives, the intercessory prayer we do, and the good food."

"It's good to be with a group of women who value me and one another. The creative salads, desserts, and humor are both healthy and delicious."

"Every Monday night I have the opportunity to share God's Grace and Love with my house group. It is such a special time to me, and it has helped me to grow in so many ways. Through laughter and tears, we have all shared our lives and challenges that each day brings us. The studies that we have presented together have introduced thoughts and feelings that make me aware of my spiritual growth. Thank you St Luke's for this wonderful fellowship."

"Each one of us came away from our latest study of *Addiction and Grace* with a greater awareness of how addiction is about us; each of us stands in need of Grace."

When we restart in January, our study will be John Claypool's *Stories Jesus Still Tells*.

Perhaps you're a person who prefers smaller settings in which to gather. Maybe a book club (the Inklings), a Bible study, or a house group is for you. St. Luke's has eight different house groups! What is a house group? It's a ministry built on the model of the early Church, where Christians met, not only in the temple, but also in their homes, where they "partook of food with glad and generous hearts, praising God and having favor with all the people." (Acts 2:46-47)

At St. Luke's, groups of eight to fourteen people meet in someone's home or at the church on a regular basis to share fellowship, study, worship, and outreach. If this sounds like something you might like to be a part of, it's as easy as contacting Jane Fleisher in the Parish Office (828.6425, x206, [jane@saintlukes.net](mailto:jane@saintlukes.net)) or Gillian Cook (822.3873, [gillian.cook@worldnet.att.net](mailto:gillian.cook@worldnet.att.net)). They will be happy to connect you with a house group that fits your schedule.

On a personal level, you might want to make an intense spiritual connection through a parish quiet day, the meditation prayer group, or Cursillo. These are excellent ways to become aware of the Holy Spirit in your life. There was a quiet day sponsored by the Daughters of the King on December 9, and there will be another in March. The Meditation Class will be held periodically and will teach us how to develop our relationship with God and deepen our spiritual lives.

Cursillo, meaning "short pilgrimage", is a phenomenal four-day spiritual retreat providing an intensive re-introduction to the Christian faith. For more information on these classes and programs, contact the the Administrative Assistant for Christian Formation, Jane Fleischer (828.6425 x206, [jane@saintlukes.net](mailto:jane@saintlukes.net)).

St. Luke's has placed wonderful opportunities before us so we may grow and shape ourselves into Christians who are aware and caring. At St. Luke's, we can feed ourselves not only with relationships but with knowledge and spirituality. Every door we walk through holds opportunity for us. We simply need to pause and listen to what is going on in the rooms. Walk in, sit down and be a part of it. Christian Formation—it's happening at St. Luke's for children, for youth, and for adults. Be a part of it. Ready, Set, GROW!✠

## News & Reviews

Andrew Morrison

My wife traces the origin of News and Reviews to the time I sat in a Bible study with a former rector, armed with my Greek New Testament, and proceeded to ask irritating questions. In truth I had already proposed the creation of the class, but she believes the rector consented just to get me out of his class.

Irritating and provocative questions are our stock-in-trade today at *News and Reviews*. The class expects leaders to say their piece and then be prepared to field questions and opinions from a variety of more or less well-informed participants. We have had as regular or occasional members a bishop, a former Catholic, a current Episcopal priest, a former Unitarian minister, and a current Lutheran pastor and senior military chaplain. Others have made their careers in education, the military, the law or politics, psychiatric therapy, and a variety of other fields, providing an impressive array of instructive insights.

*New and Reviews* was intended in part to move those lingering in the parlor to discuss politics, movies or church matters into a Christian Education class and offer them a forum where we still could talk about the same things and try to agree on a Christian (or at least an Anglican) perspective. Another concern was that class members be exposed to different views on things. People would have their received ideas tested. We rarely reach a firm conclu-

sion, but sometimes people ponder the topic during the following week.

No subject is off-limits. Our inspiration, taken from the Rite of Baptism, remains: "Give us an enquiring and discerning heart, the courage to will and to persevere." The class often addresses political or theological subjects which the clergy may not want to discuss for fear of alienating someone. We provide a forum where these matters can be discussed without official attribution or responsibility.

We have fun. We sometimes gently tease each other, but we give everyone a fair and respectful hearing. Along the way we have come to learn something valuable about community and about the Anglican way. We are a broad church. We can learn from each other if we learn to listen properly. Constructive, respectful engagement and debate serve us better than returning to our bunkers, playing to our base, and demonizing the opposition. Perhaps we will be able to negotiate a middle way, perhaps not. But in any case we will understand that good people can see things differently and that probably none of us has been given all the correct answers by God.

Like good Episcopalians we end in a prayer, usually led by the incomparable Bill Killam, Wayne Knutson, or Tim Turner. Each has the uncanny ability to recombine us, refocus us, and send us out in service to the same Lord, refreshed and renewed.



*On this and the following page are our current Adult Sunday School offerings*

**Track I: Scriptural Studies**

**Psalms: The Music and Poetry of Israel: A Study of the Psalms**

Leaders John MacNaughton, and Shirley MacNaughton  
 Location Parish Hall  
 Dates Jan. 7 - Feb. 11

We sing the Psalms on Sunday. How can we understand them better?

**Sunday Mornings in Lent: Forty Days of Purpose**

Leader The Rev. Dr. Malcolm Ellis  
 Location Parish Hall  
 Dates Lent Feb. 25 - Apr. 1

The entire Parish is invited to participate in this six-week Sunday morning class. Led by Dr. Ellis, Father Prehn, and a team of facilitators, we shall enter upon a common quest to go deeper into our purpose in life as Christian persons and families. In the Bible, the number 40 is an important symbol of fulfillment, fruition, and completion. God can accomplish much in 40 days! Using materials provided by Rick Warren, the best-selling author of *The Purpose-driven Life* and *The Purpose-driven Church*, members of St. Luke's Church – and, by all means, bring your friends and neighbors! – will have a chance to “grow in the knowledge and love of the Lord” and to learn how God wants to transfigure our hectic days and weeks into *purposeful* and satisfying lives. *Begins February 25*. More information about *Forty Days of Purpose* will be available after the first of the year.

**Women of the Bible**

Leader Diane Thrush, a member of St. Luke's Church and a gifted group leader  
 Location Parish Hall  
 Dates Apr. 15 - May 20

The Bible is full of stories about women of faith who have played important roles in the history of our faith. We will look at some of these women, from the famous Mary to the not so famous Huldah, and learn the unique gifts they bring to us today.

**Track II: Living a Christian Lifestyle 24/7**

**Leap of Faith**

Leaders Will and Kim Russell & others  
 Location Room 201  
 Dates through - May 20

This is a class where fellowship and open discussion are of paramount importance. The offering is geared but not limited to parents with children of all ages. We meet each Sunday morning for fellowship and open discussion that is focused on a single topic in the following areas:

- Studying and living a Christian lifestyle
- Helping our children become better Christians
- Bible study and its application to our lives, and
- Prayer

We invite you to join us, and bring your thoughts and ideas to share.

**Track III: News and Reviews**

Leaders James Dennis and Andrew Morrison  
 Location Large Conference Room  
 Dates Year round

A continuing, usually provocative, sometimes controversial, and never dull examination of current events in the religious and secular worlds with an eye to the moral and ethical content of these events. The class is designed to raise the ethical and moral issues in our contemporary culture and to provoke our thought about appropriate religious and specifically Christian responses to them. While the subject is carefully prepared, the class encourages full discussions from the participants.

**Track IV: History, Theology & Spirituality**

**Preparing the Soil of the Soul for the Seeds of Contemplation: A Reflective Class on Contemplative Writings of Thomas Merton**

Leader Sylvia Maddox  
 Location Room 202  
 Dates Jan. 7 - Feb. 11

Thomas Merton was a Trappist monk and spiritual writer whose love of the con-

templative life spread beyond the confines of the monastery to people in all vocations and of all Christian denominations. In his understanding, “the seeds of contemplation and sanctity . . . are planted in every Christian soul at Baptism. But these seeds must grow before you reap the harvest.”

In this class we will have the opportunity to explore together the seeds of contemplation, such as the importance of silence and solitude, the value of our true self in Christ, the mystery of paradox, ways to express the contemplative dimension in life, and the intersection between contemplation and the world of action.

**An Introduction to Rowan Williams**

Leaders Gillian Cook and James Dennis. Both are members of St. Luke's Church and gifted teachers.

Location Room 202  
 Dates Lent, Feb. 25 - April. 1

We will examine the work of Dr. Rowan Williams, the Archbishop of Canterbury and the leader of the Anglican Communion. He is a noted poet and widely recognized as perhaps the best Anglican theologian of our time. Like our Church, Dr. Williams at times presents a very orthodox theological vision and at other times seems quite progressive. Thus, he is not a stranger to controversy. Some believe the breadth of his vision may help to bridge the widening chasm in the theology of the northern and southern hemispheres, between liberal and conservatives, and between high church and low church.

**Islam—A Very Short Course**

Leader Dr. Frank Garcia-Treto, Farris Bailey King Professor of Religion, Trinity University, San Antonio, TX

Location Room 202  
 Dates Apr. 15 - May 20

Although the influence of Islam and of the Islamic world in the development of Western Civilization has been considerable and goes back to the times of late antiquity, we have unfortunately tended to ignore this third of the “Abrahamic religions” unless, as at present, a tragic crisis

develops. While extremist factions in contemporary Islam, such as the *Taliban and jihadist* groups like *al-Qaeda*, present a hostile and aggressive face of Islam to the West, they do not represent the majority of Muslims, nor the entirety of Islam as a religion or as a culture. There is much that we need to know about Islam in order to be able to enter into constructive dialogue with our Muslim neighbors, and even to understand the roots of the current conflict.

This course will attempt to begin the process of learning about Islam. Topics that will be discussed include Muhammad and his world; The Qur'an; Islamic practice: the "Pillars of Islam;" Islam as an "Abrahamic religion;" Jesus in the Qur'an; Islamic views of Christianity and of Judaism; the spread and varieties of Islam; fundamentalism and Islamic alternatives.

### Track V: Newcomer Class & The ABCs of Discipleship

A **Newcomer Class** will meet on the first Sunday of each month of the year (except July). All Newcomers to St. Luke's are urged to attend this class. This is a basic orientation to St. Luke's Church, an introduction to our faith, our mission, our worship, and our many opportunities to serve the Lord and advance the Gospel through ministry and mission.

Location Room 204  
Dates Year round, except July,  
next meeting January 7

In addition to the monthly Newcomer Class, St. Luke's Church will offer a series of short Sunday morning classes through

the course of the program year geared to those who are new to the Parish, the Episcopal Church, or the Christian faith. **The ABCs of Discipleship** will explore the most basic Christian doctrines and Anglican theology but also offer participants practical steps and guidelines for becoming committed disciples of Jesus Christ. The series is comprised of the following components:

#### **A is for Alpha**

The 10-week Alpha Course, an introduction to the heart of our Faith, will be offered to anyone who wishes to participate on **Wednesday evenings**, beginning on August 30 (a second Alpha Course will be offered beginning in January of each year). For more information about the Alpha Course, please see the Wednesday Night on the Hill section on page 15.

#### **B is for Believing**

The *Believing* class is an introduction to Anglican theology, the Episcopal Church, and how we at St. Luke's Church in particular live out the baptismal covenant.

**This 4-session course is required for those who wish to be confirmed or received into the Episcopal Church.**

**C is for Commitment** (see box at right)

#### **D is for Discipleship**

The *Discipleship* class will reflect upon what Jesus taught about believing, commitment, and true discipleship in the real world. This several-session class is an opportunity to deepen our spirituality and see how to be Christ's committed people at home and in the workplace.

### Welcome to St. Luke's Newcomer Class

Are you new to St. Luke's?  
Are you interested in becoming part of this dynamic community?

Join us in **Room 204** to learn more about the broad spectrum of worship, music, spiritual formation, and ministry opportunities at St. Luke's.

**Sunday**  
**January 7**  
**at 10.20 a.m.**

### C is for Commitment

January 7, 14, 21

#### Small Conference Room

This Sunday morning class will help you discover more of ministry. Following the Alpha and Believing courses, we come to **C is for Commitment**. What does 'ministry' mean? What are my areas of ministry and how can I offer myself appropriately?

The Rev. Doug Storment, previous Rector of St. Francis, San Antonio, will lead this fascinating and important program. Initially, participants will discover more of their calling in life and discern how it fits in with the scriptures. There will then be some very practical applications of discernment. If you want to discern more of your ministry, if you want to know more about what it means to be faithful and how you can enter a ministry, come to this class.

It is important for us to acknowledge that while many ministries function from the church, our call to ministry is not limited to these areas. There may be other ministries that are open for us, but what is important is that we have a clarity as to what our call is at this time.

You **DO NOT** have to have been through **A** and **B**, Alpha and Believing, to participate in Commitment.



### Life Line Screening

**Tuesday, January 9, Parlor**

Four different health screenings will be offered for people 40 years old and older: 1. carotid artery screening –visualizes the build up of plaque in the carotid arteries, which leads to stroke. 2. abdominal aortic aneurysm (AAA) test – looks for an enlargement in the abdominal aorta that could lead to a ruptured aortic artery. 3. ankle brachial index (ABI) – screens for peripheral arterial disease in the lower extremities, which is closely linked to carotid artery disease. 4. bone density screening– tests for the early detection of osteoporosis.

You must Pre-Register by calling 800.324.1851. These screenings are painless, non-invasive, and require less than one hour to complete all. The cost is \$45 for each vascular screening or \$109 for all vascular screenings and \$35 for osteoporosis or \$119 for all four screenings. Ask your Life Line Screening Representative for details when registering. The results will be sent directly to you and referred to your doctor.

### Life After Loss class for the bereaved

**January 10 - February 14, 4.00-5.30 p.m., Large Conference Room**

Dealing with the death of a loved one is one of life's most difficult and stressful experiences, and many people have found that meeting with others who understand helps them to heal and find meaning in life again. For several years, St. Luke's has offered Life After Loss, a six-week education and support group for anyone grieving the death of a loved one, which combines teaching, discussion, and learning activities.

Co-facilitators for the group are Gretchen Bealer, LCSW, Volunteer Bereavement Coordinator at St. Luke's and Darwin Huartson, M. Div., BCC, Bereavement Director at VITAS Innovative Hospice and a member of Christ Lutheran Church. If you would like to know more about the group, contact Gretchen (824.6191) or Elizabeth Turner (828.6425 x212, [elizabeth@saintlukes.net](mailto:elizabeth@saintlukes.net)). Or feel free to simply join us on January 10.

### Stephen Ministry continuing education

**January 16, 7.00-8.00 p.m., Large Conference Room**

St. Luke's Stephen Ministry continuing education event for January will feature Jay Burchfield of Anger Solutions Network who will speak on dealing with anger. This event is open to everyone.

### Blood Pressure Checks

The Parish Nurse Ministry will no longer check blood pressure on the first Sunday of the month. If you have any questions please contact the Parish Office (828.6425).

### Fashion models wanted

**for the upcoming Green Door Fashion Show and Luncheon  
March 5**

All men, women, and children who are interested in participating in this fun and worthy event should contact Anne Krause (930.4201, [annekrause@marykay.com](mailto:annekrause@marykay.com)) for further details.



### SAMM Shelter Volunteer Night

**January 14, 5.00–8.00 p.m., SAMM Shelter**

**SAMMinistries** ([www.samm.org](http://www.samm.org)) is an interfaith ministry to help the homeless and those at risk of becoming homeless

attain self-sufficiency by offering, with dignity and compassion, shelter, housing, and services. On second Sundays, volunteers have opportunities to be renewed and fulfilled as they serve. Contact David Schrantz (493.2771, [sooeeepigs@satx.rr.com](mailto:sooeeepigs@satx.rr.com)) or Gaya and Allen Hamilton (490.2125, [allengaya@yahoo.com](mailto:allengaya@yahoo.com)).

### Tuesday Lunch Bunch

**Tuesday, January 16, 11.30 a.m., Church and Parlor**

The Lunch Bunch program for January will be a talk by Jimmy Wilborn, Bexar County Constable, Precinct 2. Most of us have no idea what constables do even though we vote for them in our local elections. Constable Wilborn has a reputation for being entertaining and will enlighten us. We will follow our usual routine of Eucharist at 11.30 a.m., delicious lunch (\$7) at noon with the program following. Please sign up on the reservations board in the Main Hallway no later than Sunday, January 14. Parishioners of retirement age and their guests are welcome.

### Amigos

**Friday, January 19, 7.00 p.m.**

**at the home of Carra and Jorge Garza**

*Amigos!* is a group of singles and couples, ranging in age from mid-20s to 40-somethings, many with young children. They meet monthly for dinner at a couple's home.

### Annual Parish Meeting

**Sunday, January 28**

**10.20-11.05 a.m., Church**

Please plan to attend. We will discuss vital church matters and elect of new Vestry members.

### Up and Coming

**Sunday, January 28, 12.30 p.m., Flying Saucer (Huebner and I-10)**

This group for single or married, twenty-to-thirty-somethings, meets monthly for lunch after the 11.15 a.m. Sunday service. For more information, contact Casandra Garcia ([casandrm@lonestar.utsa.edu](mailto:casandrm@lonestar.utsa.edu)).

### Wednesday Nights–The Early Class

This class (also called "Passing on the Faith") meets in Room 202, 6.00-6.45 p.m. Beginning January 10 and for the following Wednesday (January 17) Shirley Berdecio will speak about "learning differences" - both our own and those of our children! Shirley is Head of St. Luke's School and is back "by popular demand!" Then, beginning on January 24 and for the next three Wednesdays (January 31, February 7 and February 14) Diane Thrush will lead a series on a basic "walk through the Bible." Diane is a member of this parish and is a gifted and accomplished Bible teacher. She will provide an overview of the Bible which will be so helpful both for us as adults and for those of us who have the responsibility to share God's word with our children. This class is open to all, and childcare is provided.

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## CHILDREN'S MINISTRIES

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### First Communion Class

#### beginning Sunday, January 7

We will offer a special Sunday School class in First Communion instruction beginning on Sunday, January 7, and for the next eight Sundays. This series is geared for children who are first grade age and takes the place of their regular first grade Godly Play class for those nine weeks. Parents of first-graders should have received a letter and registration form in the mail. If not, please contact Ann Allen (828.6425, [ann@saintlukes.net](mailto:ann@saintlukes.net)). The class is also open to older elementary-age children. Parents of those children who are interested should contact Ann Allen.

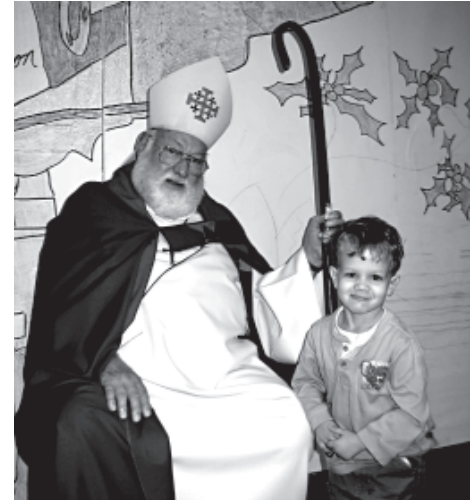
### Rolling Stones

#### January 7, 4.00-5.30 p.m., Ice Center at Northwoods (17530 Henderson Pass)

Hey fourth- and 5th graders! We'll meet at the Ice Center at Northwoods. The cost is \$8 per person (plus money for the snack bar). Bring a friend!

### December Thank-You's

There was an abundance of activities for children and families during Advent and Christmas, and, as always, their success was based on the involvement of many dedicated volunteers. Among those who helped to coordinate these activities were: Bonnie Giddens and Kelly Goodrich for the Advent Event (they were also assisted by some of our wonderful teens!); Mary Klefforth and Day and Elizabeth Smith for the Caroling on the Trolleys Event; and Katy Dahlman, Carra Garza and Laralee Wahrmond for the Christmas Pageant. Heartfelt thanks to each of them, and to all others who gave of their time to help make these events so memorable for our children and families!



St. Nicholas of Myra aka Fr. Omar Pitman, portrayed the saint at St. Luke's first-ever St. Nicholas Day Event on December 6.

### Vacation Bible School 2007

Mark your calendars for June 11-15!  
These are the dates for our annual VBS.  
More details to come.

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## MUSIC, LITURGY & THE ARTS

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### South Texas Wind Soloists Concert

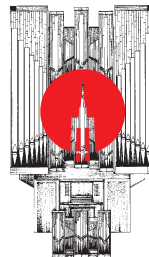
#### Sunday, January 14, 7.00 p.m., Church

The South Texas Wind Soloists consists of six wind players—two clarinets, two horns, and two bassoons—who are members of the U.S. Air Force Band of the West, the Mid-Texas Symphony, the Victoria Symphony, the Corpus Christi Symphony Orchestra, and the Laredo Philharmonic. The music played by the STWS is drawn from a rich tradition of outdoor music that was wildly popular from 1750 to 1825 in the palace courtyards of the nobility and in the gardens of wealthy patrons of music.

The St. Luke's program will open with Mozart's *Serenade in E-flat*, K. 375 and continue with several waltzes by Conradin Kreutzer, a contemporary and friend of Beethoven. The concert will conclude with F. H. J. Castil-Blaze's *Sextet No. 1*, a brilliant work in romantic style.

### Donations sought for acolyte trip

The hardworking, well-trained St. Luke's acolytes are planning a trip to participate in Texas Day at Washington Cathedral in Washington, D.C. this April, and they need your financial assistance to help make this trip possible. If you can help, please contact Fr. Chip or Michael Mortensen (240.2637, [michaelmort@satx.rr.com](mailto:michaelmort@satx.rr.com)).



## MUSIC AT ST. LUKE'S

*Sunday, January 7, 8.00 p.m.*  
**1st Sundays @ 8: Compline**

*Sunday, January 14, 7.00 p.m.*  
**South Texas Wind Soloists**

*Saturday, January 20, 5.00 p.m.*  
**Texas Bach & Collegium**

While church services are always free and open to the public, there may be a charge for some concerts and other events. For tickets and information, please contact David D. Eaton (828.6425, [eaton@saintlukes.net](mailto:eaton@saintlukes.net)).

### Texas Bach Choir and Collegium

#### Saturday, January 20, 5.00 p.m., Church

The Texas Bach Choir and Collegium examines the music of three "friends" during the Baroque Era: Bach, Handel, and Telemann. This concert will feature instrumental works of Bach and Telemann with soloists David Eaton, harpsichord; Lee Lattimore, Baroque flute and Boel Gidolm, violin, including Bach's monumental *Brandenburg Concerto No. 5*. Concert attendees will also delight in the excitingly youthful choral work, *Dixit Dominus* by Handel.

## Clergy in our midst: Wayne Knutson

Neal Wagner

[Editor's Note: As many parishioners already know, a number of clergy are members of St. Luke's. We thought it might be interesting to our readers to find out what brought them to our parish. For the next few issues of Tidings, look for our short series Clergy in Our Midst.]

Wayne Knutson has such a trim figure and boyish face that it is hard to believe he has spent 27 years in the Air Force. He is also remarkably cheerful and upbeat for a chaplain who is always on call to attend to airmen and their families.

Knutson, his wife Molly, and children Christopher and Chloe enjoy everything about St. Luke's. They love the Eucharistic liturgy, especially as enhanced by the musical efforts of David Eaton and the Parish Choir. The Knutson's find "spirit" here—"a sense of community around word and sacrament." From his background of ministering to many faiths, Wayne cherishes the diversity at St. Luke's and likes the interplay of ideas in the News and Reviews Class.

Knutson was graduated from St. Olaf

College in 1973 and spent six years as an officer in the Air Force, serving at an ICBM site. He resigned his commission in 1980 to attend Luther Seminary in St. Paul. In 1985, he got a call from the Air Force. He married Molly shortly after his ordination.

For many years he provided a "Liturgical Service" to Episcopalians, Lutherans, and many others. Assignments have taken this family throughout the U.S., Germany, and South Korea, and—for Wayne without his family—to the Middle East.

In 2002 Knutson became Wing Chaplain at Lackland AFB, supervising 38 services each week given by 24 chaplains, who provide or provide for the religious needs of the Air Force community, including every Christian denomination, Muslims, Jews, Buddhists, Hindus, and even Wiccans.

About this same time, Wayne and Molly were looking for a church centered on a weekly Eucharist which they could attend as a family. Because they had already been to one service at St. Luke's, they thought of our church first.

The services the Knutson's found in



The Knutson Family

2003 were led by Omar Pittman and Jane Patterson. They were smitten with St. Luke's immediately.

Since 2005 Wayne has served at the Air Force Air Intelligence Agency, which has involved travel but often has left him free on weekends. He recently received a striking honor: the Legion of Merit Award.

The Knutson's future in San Antonio is uncertain. Wayne is set to stay for another year, but this depends on the Air Force's needs. St. Luke's has been blessed to have this family with us. ✠

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## Our First Duty

The Rev. Dr. Walter L. Prehn, III, Assistant Rector

One tried-and-true means by which we may abide in the worship of the Church of Christ is the Daily Office. "Office" comes from the Latin word for duty. The Daily Office of Morning and Evening Prayer is a wholesome part of our Anglican tradition. The Office is a happy duty because it is a practical way to be devoted and loyal to Jesus, to offer the sacrifice of praise and thanksgiving with regularity, to make intercession for ourselves and others, and to consume systematically the Word of God in the Scriptures and offer it back to him in praise.

It is increasingly obvious that Christendom is no more. It could very well be that we are even living in a post-Christian society. While this does not at all mean that people are less religious, it is our duty more than ever to participate as much as possible in what the Creed calls "the communion of the saints" and to work overtime to allow the Spirit to give us "the mind of Christ" (I Corinthians 2.16; Colossians 3.2) in the life of Grace.

This life doesn't just happen. We must

give ourselves to it. The Daily Office is an almost perfect way to immerse ourselves in that alternative world that is represented in the Scriptures. As one Swiss theologian put it, "To clasp the hands in prayer is to begin the overthrow of the world."

No activity is destined to be more neglected in our current culture than the Daily Office. We are addicted to "experiences" of all kinds, and where we are not mad about personal thrills and spiritual hedonism, we are committed to what amounts to self-help religion. But self-help gets old, and even Christian service is ruined if it is not the fruit of the self-denial that is the essence of Christian worship.

The Divine Office reminds us that we have souls and not just appetites; that when we allow the Spirit to drive us into the invisible chambers of the heart, we find again our radical need of God and even our love for him. Mature faith is getting to the point where we are not so often asking what God can do for us as what we—recognizing on a deep level what He did for us—can do for Him. When we un-

derstand that we are the first cause of the Lord's eternal solicitude and of Christ's Passion and that He actually saves us, then the New Life can begin in earnest. And then we will worship without ceasing.

We offer up the Divine Office at St. Luke's Church and School each day. We pray Matins or Morning Prayer at 9.10 a.m. It is the School's Chapel. But we also must thank those devoted persons who hold up, day by day, week after week, the Daily Office of Evensong or Evening Prayer in this Parish. These Parishioners go to the church and offer up the Office at 5.30 p.m., Monday through Friday. They are there holding up the corporate worship of the Church rain or shine, summer and winter, and I am very proud to know them; for there is hardly anything more important. These souls (who know their blessing) are: Judy Durbin, Chris Caddell, Kathryn Cocke, Jeff Craig, Kay Fitch, Joe Franzello, Carroll Fultz, Victor Harding, Bill Killam, Colette Kohler, Bob Mitchell, Kelly Smith, Kathy Warmack, and Quintin Stansell, Sr. (Captain of the Lay-Readers). ✠

**Former St. Luker attends Presiding Bishop's installation**

Laurie Eiserloh

[Editor's Note: St. Luke's parishioner Helen Eiserloh attended the Installation Service of Katharine Jefferts Schori as Presiding Bishop with her daughter Laurie, who now lives in Austin. Laurie grew up in this Parish and used to be an acolyte here.]

A bishop, I remind myself, is not quite as other men." Herbert Hensley Henson, Bishop of Durham 1920-39

On November 4, Katharine Jefferts Schori, or Bishop Katharine, as she wishes to be called, was installed as the twenty-sixth Presiding Bishop of the Episcopal Church of the United States. She is the first woman to lead a branch of the Anglican Communion in its five-hundred-year history.

I attended the installation service with my mother, Helen Eiserloh, who is a member of St. Luke's in San Antonio. The service was at the Washington National Cathedral, with over three thousand attending. Near us were people from all lands:



NPR's Diane Rehm and Laurie Eiserloh

three generations of Episcopalian women from Alabama (the youngest age 9, the oldest 91); Tibetan monks; an Indian woman in exquisite green and gold sari; Episcopal nuns in habits; a woman with clerical collar in a wheelchair who could not sit up without someone holding her.

The ceremony opened with an Indian

chant by a tribe native to Bishop Katharine's home Diocese of Nevada. Native Americans in ceremonial dress processed with burning sage and cedar bundles which they fanned with eagle feathers in a purification rite. About three hundred bishops processed dressed in red and white, each carrying a silver bowl with a sprig of green leaves. Large blue urns of water, bread, and wine were moved in close to the Altar.

After being presented with a gospel book, water, bread, wine water and the primatial staff, Bishop Katherine asked the people to renew their baptismal vows. The bishops then filled their silver bowls with consecrated water and with the sprigs of leaves sprinkled water on the people while we sang the spirited African hymn "We are marching in the light of God."

At the end of the service, many in the crowd moved into to greet Bishop Katharine or to shake her hand. Other bishops surrounded her to keep the crowd from overrunning her. I was reminded of how hungry we are for spiritual leadership.

It is my sincere hope that Bishop Katharine's homily will set the tone for her tenure. Her message was one of inclusiveness and reconciliation, a message that we need not only in our church, but also in our broken world. She stated:

"We all ache for a community that will take us in, with all our warts and quirks and petty meannesses and yet they still celebrate when they see us coming! That vision of homegoing and homecoming that underlies our deepest spiritual yearnings is also the job assignment each one of us gets in Baptism: go home, and while you're at it, help to build a home for everyone else on earth. For none of us can truly find our rest in God until all of our brothers and sisters have also been welcomed home like the prodigal." The Presiding Bishop's sermon is available online at [www.episcopalchurch.org/ens/](http://www.episcopalchurch.org/ens/). ✕

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LETTERBOX

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During January I will be away from St Luke's. January 2-6, I will take my General Ordination Exams. This is an opportunity to sum up what I have learned by writing seven three-and-one-half-hour exams in such areas as scripture, theology, and ethics. Please pray for me!

After these exams, I will be in Mexico for three weeks continuing my Spanish immersion course. I anticipate that using Spanish will be an important part of my future ministry and am looking forward to gaining more skills and comfort with the language and culture. I will miss you and keep you in prayer. I look forward to seeing you in February.

Susanne Methven  
Seminarian-in-Residence

On behalf of the brave men and women that make up our Armed Forces and fight for our freedom— and in Honor of my grandpa—I would like to take this opportunity to thank my St. Luke's Family. The Stuff A Soldier's Stocking (SASS) program was very successful in its first year. We received 80 stocking bags and \$361 in donations for shipping costs. Thank you to the Eighth Grade of St. Luke's Episcopal School for writing letters to our soldiers. Each bag received a letter or a card. Thank you to Miss Jane for helping us to secure the gift bags for shipping. I would like to give a special thank you to Chris Mitchell, Fr. Prehn, and Fr. Ellis for helping me to make SASS happen. And lastly, thank you to my Mom for her help and encouragement.

Cameron Planas



Cameron Planas and Chris Mitchell

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## FAMILY MATTERS

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Welcome to Family Matters! Each month we hope to provide examples of family oriented themes that are easy to do and will bring family members closer to each other and closer to God. With a new calendar year, what a great time to spread God's love and blessings all over our homes.

### Scripture

Those who love me will keep my word, and my Father will love them, and we will come to them and make our home in them. *John 14:23*

Choose this day whom you will serve...as for me and my household, we will serve the Lord. *Joshua 24:15*

### Suggested Activities

Gather either outside the front door or in a central part of the house. As a family bless the house with this prayer: "Lord our God, come and bless this house. Surround this shelter with your Holy Spirit. Encompass all its four sides with the power of your protection so no evil or harm will come near." Make the sign of the cross on the door.

(For a complete list of blessing for other rooms in your house, please visit St. Luke's web page under Family Matters.)

As a family, discuss the topic "How can we serve the Lord in our house?" Decide on one way (or more) in which everyone in your household will focus on serving the Lord in your house. Then talk about how successful you are at achieving this goal at dinner once a week.

*As God's children, we have the power to bless others and spread God's word!*

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## PRAYER REQUESTS

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### Members

#### CURRENT

Schot Buzzini  
Jack Dix  
Maxine Dwyer  
Joe Lee Hensley  
Lydia Moody  
William Tinney & Family  
Fred Tips, Jr.  
Alice Waldman  
Kay Windrow

#### LONG TERM

Bryan Cronkhite  
Anne Eckles  
Ellen Engelke  
Jacquie Field  
Margaret Forbes  
Kevin Franks  
Jenny Fultz  
Ames Gill  
Ken Graves  
Jim O'Brien  
Steve Pogue  
Michael Schrantz  
Kaye Taylor  
Rosalie Trcka  
Sybil Woolley

#### EXTENDED TERM

Sammie Beer  
Maxene Bowen  
Roland Caldwell

Evelyn Callen  
John Cook  
Mildred Cory  
Kelly Cox  
Dorothy Crues  
Sharon Escamilla  
Jean Harris  
Amelia Hausser  
John Howell  
Lou Kingry  
Gus Kroschewsky  
Ann Mani  
Charles Mardiros  
Stutsy Olsson  
Robert Paschal  
Billie Rice  
Charles Rogers  
Jo An Rogers  
Mim Ruhlen  
Eleanor Russell  
Ellanore Sledge  
Cay Smith  
PFC Michael Vaello  
The Robert Zepeda, Jr.  
Family

### Friends

#### CURRENT

Angel Cevallos  
Concepcion  
The Rt. Rev. William Frey  
Claudia Gowen  
Travis Hamilton

Sue & Bob Henderson  
Nannie Johnson  
Mercedes & Michael  
William Moses  
Gail Sears  
Taylor Schaeffer  
M.O. Turner  
Sarah Wymer  
Elizabeth Louise Wymer

#### LONG TERM

Laird Anderson  
The Rev. Don Baugh  
Mary Boyd  
Larry Boyd  
John Boyea  
Brenda  
Mary Leita Carter & Family  
Christy & Family  
Mabel Daffern  
Scott Davis  
Rob, Jeremy, John & Jared  
Dodson  
Carol Dumpys  
Sister John Martin Ebrum  
Trey Garrison  
Louella Hardie  
Julie Heinen  
Kay Hollimon  
Henry Johns  
Jack Kane  
C.T. Kutschke  
SPC Curtis Lundgren

Mark Matthews  
Julie Miller  
Dan Moran  
Sally  
Monica & Raj Sampat  
Jill Faulkner Summers  
Gerald Uretsky  
Steven Waldman  
Maurine Weber  
Dinah Zike

#### EXTENDED TERM

Jordan Arriaga  
Chris Bertollett  
David Buchanan  
PFC Scott Alan Chumbley  
Madelyn E. Coffey  
Cecilia Couri  
Sharon Deering  
Sean Dennis  
Lisbeth Anne Dunlap  
Brian Dusek  
Roger Flores  
Kate Gates  
Sgt. Chris Greenfield  
Marsha Harris  
Margaret Heather  
Jack Hicks  
Carol Ivey  
SPC Marcus Johnson  
Bill Jordan  
Capt. Matt Jordan  
Donna Kay & Hank Langlet

Lauren Lauterjung  
Martha Lilly  
Joyce Lof  
Joe McGillivary  
Sara Miles  
Kate Mortenson  
Craig Nemecek  
Frank Page  
Susan & Dan Pankowski  
Mark Rich  
Richard Sanders  
Marilyn Spence  
Pam Stokes  
Mike Taylor  
Weldon Whitaker  
Sgt. David & Anna Paprskar  
White  
Shelley Wood  
Dorothy Young

### Deaths

Cindy Deegear  
Wanda Tassos  
Dr. Robert V. West, Jr.

### Marriages

Elizabeth Frances Fite &  
Patrick Allen Blische

### Births

Piper Catherine Smith

*Please update your prayer requests by calling the Pastoral Care Office (828.6425, x212),  
filling out a prayer card located in the tract rack in the Narthex, or online (www.saintlukesepiscopal.net).*

## ANNIVERSARIES

1	Bonnie & Wade Giddens	11	Brook & Steves Rosser	25	Rhonda & Bill Jordan
2	Ann & Jay Vineyard	12	Becky & Loren Gulley	26	Nicole & Michael Schafer
3	Ruth & Tom Moore	13	Margaret & Robert Ritchie	27	Anne & Ken Graves
4	Diane & Mike Greiner	14	Nancy & Michael Avellar	28	Marian & Kaighin Watts
5	Bryn & Chris Caddell	15	Mari & Steve Marion	29	Nicole & Victor Saucedo
6	Gail & Patrick Greener	16	Fran & Don Wagner	30	Pat & John Andrews
7	Gaye & Brian Werner	17	Leah & Joe Harris	31	Ruth & George Swain
		18	Margaret & Frank Ford		Yvonne & John Webbles
		19			Heike & Dennis LeMaster

## BIRTHDAYS

1	John Howell	Deborah Callanan	Sharon Moa	23	Marion Tillotson
2	A. J. Dimaline	Calvin Giddens	Kit Williamson	24	Jackie Loring
3	Michael Nelson	Benjamin Giddens	Mae Greer	25	Ellen Engelke
4	Nancy Avellar	Robert Maurer	17	26	Roy Huff
5	Karen Helveston	9	Aaron Penalzo	27	Margaret Ritchie
6	Debbie Ryniker	10	Colin White	28	Ginny Myers
7	Alyssa Saucedo	11	Olivia Crimmins	29	Kathleen Keene
8	Cameron Ocker	12	18	30	Jonathan Prevost
9	Cecile Nelson	13	Ruth Beard	31	Kristin Gerety
10	Susan Okaty	14	Steve Pogue		Samuel McAllister
11	Maggie Houston	15	Ken Halliday		26
12	Nicholas Rhodes	16	Louis Manz		Bobby Dean
13	James Dickson	17	Matthew Carabin		Ed Held
14	Catharine Whittingburg	18	Molly Brothers		Kay Fitch
15	Bill Gowen	19	Claire Sawtelle		Cary Straus
16	Karen Page	20	Dylan White		Kim Russell
17	Kaye Taylor	21	Lucas Cotter		Abigail Watts
18	Carolyn Elliott	22	Catherine Remington		27
19	Pre Ball	23	19		Sybil Judge
20	Kurt Wahrmond	24	Sandy McPherson		Carole Rigsby
21	Steve Browning	25	Tom Broughton		Camille Medore
22	Karen Waring	26	Elizabeth Kowalik		Rett Andersen
23	Elizabeth Farrimond	27	20		George Musselman
24	Tyler Heinemeyer	28	Mildred Cory		28
25	Antonio Esparza	29	Helen Eiserloh		Arthur Bayern
26	Carol Barnes	30	Charles Kimmell		Bill Waring
27	Maxine Farrimond	31	Bill Killam		Sara Briggs
28	Nancy Maurer		Wes Waldman		Warren Monnich
29	Suzanne Carter		Felicita Meyer		Tami Ellis
30	Korie O'Connor		Jim Carter		Amanda Brown
31	Tammie Reese-Petry		Blair Brady		Emmalee Brown
	Catherine McGanity		21		29
	8		Don Wagner		Robert Morrison
	Pat Mann		Darleen Knight		30
	Eric George		Ruth Sawtelle		Chandler Wahrmond
			Nancy Mortensen		31
			Bridgette Watson		Mimi Gill
			Connor Holden		Fernando Esparza
			22		Benjamin Foster
			Lynn Arneson		Robby Hausser
			Clara Ketchum		

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 The Rt. Rev. John H. MacNaughton,  
 Bishop-in-Residence  
 The Rev. Susanne Methven, Seminarian-in-  
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 Elizabeth Turner, Newcomer & Pastoral  
 Ministries, *elizabeth@saintlukes.net*

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 Nancy Avellar *Treasurer*  
 Wade Dahlman *Children's Ministries*  
 James Dennis *Parish Clerk Adult Education*  
 Victor Harding *Pastoral Care*  
 Barbara Jackson *Stewardship*  
 Kirk James *Adult Education*  
 Helen Mack *Church-School Liaison*  
 Louis Manz *Missions*  
 Curt Mowen  
 Mary Peñaloza *Communications*  
 David Schrantz *Evangelism & Assimilation*  
 Michael Seiferth *Worship*  
 Marjorie Strayer *Outreach*  
 Rebecca Williams *Jr. Warden & Youth Ministries*

ST. LUKE'S EPISCOPAL SCHOOL  
 Telephone: 210.826.0664  
 www.saintlukes.net

**Good Lord, deliver us**



SHE DIDN'T EVEN PROMISE TO OBEY HIM!

**Submissions to TIDINGS**

Issue	Deadline
February .....	January 3
March .....	February 5
April .....	March 5

Your contributions to **TIDINGS** on matters related to St. Luke's Church & School, the Episcopal Church, Anglicanism, and Christianity are encouraged. We invite you to respond to what you read here. Submissions may be in these forms: typewritten copy, diskette, telefax (828.1645), or Email ([publish@saintlukes.net](mailto:publish@saintlukes.net)).

Submissions will be edited for length and clarity and published according to their timeliness and relevance to the mission of St. Luke's Church. **Be sure to include your name and daytime telephone number.**

If you wish to receive an Email reminder of **TIDINGS** deadlines, send an Email message to [publish@saintlukes.net](mailto:publish@saintlukes.net) and enter "subscribe to Tidings deadline" in the subject line.

**SERVICE SCHEDULE**

**Sunday**

Holy Eucharist 7.45, 9.00, 11.15 a.m., Church  
6.00 p.m., North Chapel

**Monday**

Evening Prayer 5.30 p.m., North Chapel

**Tuesday**

Evening Prayer 5.30 p.m., North Chapel

**Wednesday**

Holy Eucharist 10.00 a.m., North Chapel  
Evening Prayer 5.30 p.m., North Chapel

**Thursday**

Holy Eucharist 7.00 a.m., Christ the King Chapel  
Evening Prayer 5.30 p.m., North Chapel

**Friday**

Evening Prayer 5.30 p.m., North Chapel

**Baptismal Dates**

The Parish clergy have established the dates for Holy Baptism according to the prescription of the *Book of Common Prayer* (page 312) and our own Parish needs.

**2007**

January 7	Baptism of Our Lord	11.15 a.m.
April 15	Second Sunday in Easter	both services
May 27	Pentecost	10.00 a.m.
August 5	Transfiguration	10.00 a.m.
November 4	All Saints' Sunday	9.00 a.m.
November 25	Sunday after Thanksgiving	11.15 a.m.



*St. Luke's Church is a Stephen Ministry Congregation. Stephen Ministry is a program in which extensively trained volunteers offer confidential, one-to-one Christian care to people who are experiencing a life challenge or crisis. If you would like to speak with a Stephen Minister, please telephone the Pastoral Care Office (828.6425, ext. 212). A Stephen Minister will be assigned to you within twenty-four hours.*

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