

TIDINGS

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

It's all about relationship!

The Rev. Raymond E. Cole, Jr., Interim Rector

In this issue

Missions

Does mission work interest you? This month, we take a look at this important ministry. See what St. Luke's has been doing in Northern Mexico.

Meet the Interim Rector

Fr. Cole shares some introductory thoughts. We've got his bio as well.

Reflection

Fr. Carl Wright has returned to the Middle East. Check out his first message from Kuwait.

Next month

We'll look at Evangelism and Assimilation.

You will hear me repeat the phrase above often during my tenure as your interim rector. It will be often repeated because it is what I believe to be at the heart of the gospel. Our relationship with God, to be sure. After all, it was for the purpose of restoring our relationship with God that Jesus was born, lived, taught, died, rose again and sent the Holy Spirit. He shows us just how far he will go to make things right between us – even to death.

But that is not all! Because he invites us into the same dying and rising life that he himself was called to live. I often, for example, tell couples that the vows they make in marriage are not just nice words, rather they seal a commitment to “give themselves to each other forever – no matter what!” That is the way God gives himself to us. That is the way he expects us to give ourselves to him and to one-another. In a society that is concerned about “my rights” and in so many ways holds up “being right” as a cultural virtue, God invites us to something quite different. He invites us to *give up my right to be right for the sake of our right relationship*. This does not mean that we cannot disagree on important matters; we do not stop thinking, sharing and seeking holiness. But it does mean that we hold our “oneness in Christ” as more important than winning arguments. That is why forgiveness and seeking forgiveness are so important. It is the difference between “being right” and living the truth.

The truth about us is that in our baptism we are one with Christ and one with each other. Often the way we live would seem to deny that truth; the “facts” about us do not always tell the “truth” about us.

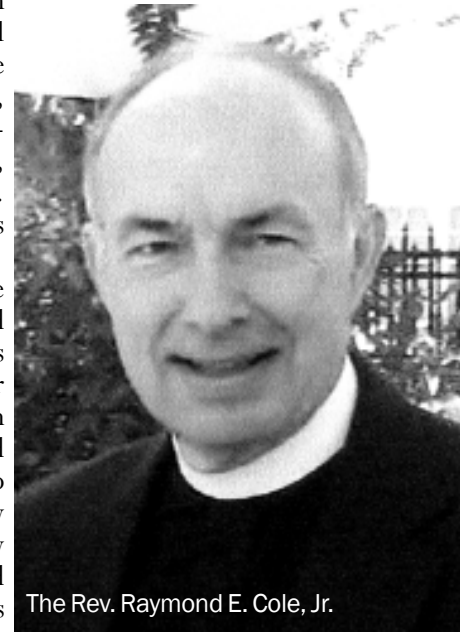
The “facts” will often highlight our anger, hurt and hostility; our need to be “right” will frequently be the wedge that draws us apart; our pride will sometimes stand in the way of seeking a restored relationship. Jesus asks that, in humility, we allow him to work through us to restore relationships and live into the “truth” of who we are. It is hard work – but it is kingdom work. It is all about relationship!

Today, right now, I urge you to think of someone with whom you need to renew the truth of your relationship. Perhaps it is someone with whom you have disagreed. Maybe someone whom you have hurt or who has hurt you: a relative, friend, coworker, or fellow parishioner. And then, I invite you to seek out that person and begin the steps to restored fellowship

And let me know how you're doing—or if I can help. God bless you in this kingdom work.


Yours in Christ,

The Rev. Raymond E. Cole, Jr., ray@stlukes-sa.net



The Rev. Raymond E. Cole, Jr.

A Prayer for Mission

 *Almighty and everlasting God, by whose Spirit the whole body of your faithful people is governed and sanctified: Receive our supplications and prayers which we offer before you for all members of your holy Church, that in their vocation and ministry they may truly and devoutly serve you; through our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ. Amen.*

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WHO IS RAYMOND COLE?

Raymond Cole was born in Newburyport, Massachusetts, where he lived until the seventh grade, when his family moved to Bucks County, Pennsylvania. He holds a B.A. from Lehigh University and a M.Div. from the General Theological Seminary. He was ordained deacon and later priest in 1963.

In the same year, he married his wife **Keena**. The Coles have three adult sons: twins **Chris** and **Craig**, born in 1966, and **Raymond III**, born in 1974. Chris is a priest in Hillsboro, Oregon. He is married and has two daughters. Craig is Executive Director of Five Talents International, a micro business/micro credit ministry serving the Anglican Communion. He and his wife have a son and daughter and live in Fairfax, Virginia. The Coles' third son is Irrigation Manager of the Robert Trent Jones Trail golf course in Birmingham, Alabama.

If you have been to the Bishop Jones Center, you may already know Keena, who works part-time with Betty Chumney in the World Missions Department. She served as Bishop Hibb's administrative assistant during the year before he retired.

Fr. Raymond has served five congregations: Grace Church, Mt. Airy, Philadelphia (curate, 1963-1966); Church of the Epiphany, Royersford, Pennsylvania (vicar, 1966-1973); Church of the Good Samaritan, Pailo, Pennsylvania (1973-1979); St. Mark's Church, Glen Ellyn, Illinois (rector, 1979-1996), and St. George Church,

San Antonio (rector, 1996-2004), from which he retired. He has been Interim Rector at two other churches: St. Philip's, Uvalde, and Trinity Church, Victoria.

During nearly 44 years of ministry, he worked on Diocesan committees in these capacities: Youth Ministry, Cursillo, Resolutions committee, Spiritual Growth, Budget, Parish Consultation, and Episcopal Schools Commission, to name a few. In addition, several years ago, he and Keena were National Executive Clergy Couple for the Episcopal expression of Marriage Encounter. Currently he serves as the Bishop's Deputy for Episcopal Schools and was recently asked to co-chair with Bishop Reed a committee to explore the possibility of introducing the Vocational Diaconate in the Diocese of West Texas.

Fr. Ray admits to spending most of his life in "Yankee-land." He met Keena—born and bred in Corpus Christi—in New York City during his senior year at seminary and had the good sense to marry her, with the mission of making a Yankee out of her. As it turned out, when they moved to Texas from Chicago and crossed the state line, she soon made a Texan out of him. Says Fr. Ray, "One of our missions in life is to see a professional baseball game in every major league park. We are Cubs fans—so we know how to live with and survive frustration."✠

AROUND THE CHURCHYARD

St. Luke's Slow Pitch Softball

May 6, Rusty Lyons Field

This is a recreational league. Great athletes are not required. We play one hour games between 2.00 and 5.00 p.m. The last game of the season is May 6-- against St. Thomas at 3.35 p.m.

Tuesday Lunch Bunch

Tuesday, May 15, 11.30 a.m., Church and Parlor

Following our custom of the last few years, our May speaker comes from the Express-News: J. Michael Parker, Religion Editor. He will speak on "22 Years of South Texas Religion Reporting". Parishioners of retirement age and their guests are invited so sign up in the Main Hallway no later than Sunday, May 13. Holy Eucharist is at 11.30, delicious lunch (\$7) at noon, and program about 12.30 p.m.

Need a Place to Donate Your "Spring Cleaning?"

The St. Luke's Nursery Committee is sponsoring its annual "All Things Kids Sale" this summer, and so now is the time to clean your closets of "used-and-in-good-condition" children's items! These include clothing, toys and furnishings (no car seats, please) as well as maternity clothing. You may bring your items to the Nursery office on Sundays or during the week. To schedule pick-up of larger items, call Diane Greiner (828.6425).

Amigos

Friday, May 18, 7.00 p.m., at the Fisher's home

Amigos is a group of singles and couples, ranging in age from mid-20s to 40-some-things, many with young children. They meet monthly for dinner at a couple's home. RSVP to Lauren Fisher (828.6425). Reserve childcare by May 11.

Sundays in May

May 6 Senior Recognition Day Please contact Chris Mitchell (chris@stlukes-sa.net) or Jane Fleischer (jane@stlukes-sa.net) in the Parish Office if you have a graduating senior (in high school or college). The seniors will be recognized at both the 9.00 and 11.15 a.m. services.

May 13 Confirmation Day for eighth-grade students with Bp. Reed at the 11.15 a.m. service.

Baptism

The next date for Baptisms is **May 27, The Day of Pentecost**, at 10.00 a.m. To schedule a Baptism, please contact Barbara Green (clergy@stlukes-sa.net, 828-6425 x208) A Baptism preparation class for parents and godparents (as well as for adults wishing to be baptized) will be held at the church on the day before.

Green Door chair retires

In May, Ruth Ann Keil will step down as Chairman of the Green Door Thrift Shop after eight years of service. She has revitalized the shop, and her kind and caring heart has touched customers and volunteers. Under her leadership, the shop has improved and generated more funds to support the work of the Women of St. Luke's.

If you would like to show your appreciation for Ruth Ann, you may do so with letters, cards, or photographs which will be collected into a memory book for her. Please leave them in the Parish Office by May 31. Maximum size for cards and notes should be 6" x 6". Photographs will be returned if you write your name on the back. More questions? Contact Ann Mewborn (490.3899).

In-Town Summer Mission Trip Opportunity

St. Luke's, along with Christ Church, St. Mark's and other Episcopal churches will sponsor a Vacation Bible School at the Good Samaritan Center this summer, June 25-29, from about 9.00 a.m. to 12.00 p.m. St. Luke's will be responsible for providing volunteers for one of the centers through which the children will rotate during the morning. This will be a chance to reach out to our neighbors in San Antonio! Volunteers are needed for one day, several days, or all five days—junior and senior high students as well as adults! If interested, contact Ann Allen (828.6425 x204, ann@stlukes-sa.net) or Chris Mitchell (828.6425 x205, youth@stlukes-sa.net).

SAMM Shelter Volunteer Night

Sunday, May 13, 5.00–8.00 p.m.

SAMMinistries (www.samm.org) helps the homeless and near-homeless attain self-sufficiency by offering shelter, housing, and services. On second Sundays, volunteers have opportunities to be renewed and fulfilled as they serve. Contact Gaya and Allen Hamilton (allengaya@yahoo.com).

Guest Sunday, Newcomer Class

May 6

At Diocesan Council in February, Bp. Lillibridge called for churches to hold two "guest" Sundays a year. On May 6, we hope you will do your best to bring along a friend or two who have not been to St. Luke's. Plans are in the works to make them feel especially welcome. Watch for details.

We will also offer the Newcomer class on this date for anyone who wishes to get acquainted with the St. Luke's worship and music, spiritual formation, and mission and ministry opportunities.

Memorial Gifts to St. Luke's Church for Lamuril Cooper by Josephine Sheffield; for Dorothy "Fritzi" Abbott by Raysh and Jackie Aldredge; for Robert West by Ed and Almeda Hodge; for Harold Guentert by Gwen Rose, for James and Vivian Montgomery by Mr. and Mrs. J. E. Montgomery; for Roane Harwood by Ann Wells; and for James Valentine by Cay Smith.

Help needy children go to Camp Capers

Last summer, 150 children from the Good Samaritan Center had the chance to go to Camp Capers. In addition to tuition, the children need basic supplies for their camping experience. Each of us can help by supplying a few supplies or a cash donation to purchase supplies for the campers. We will collect items or cash contributions before the 9.00 and 11.15 a.m. services in May. Or call Kelly Goodrich (828.6425) for pick up.

Our goal is to collect 150 of the following items: toothbrush, toothpaste, soap, soap dish, shampoo, conditioner, comb/brush, deodorant, towel, washcloth, sleeping bag, twin sheets, pillow and case, disposable camera, pen/pencil, spiral notebook, sunscreen, sunglasses, beach towel, flashlight, underwear, water shoes, hat, pajamas, paperback Bible, laundry bag, swimsuit, t-shirt, shorts, athletic shoes, and socks.

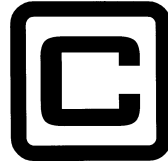
Mother's Day Offering

Sunday, May 13

Bp. Gary Lillibridge has directed this year's Mother's Day offering to children around the world who are abused, neglected, abandoned, or orphaned, hungry, sick, or in need of educational assistance. The funds collected will be distributed to the various missionary ministries of the Diocese of West Texas.

Feed My Sheep

Feed My Sheep is a service group of the Women of St. Luke's which offers a meal to parishioners after coming home from the hospital. This ministry exists solely because there are people willing to provide and deliver a meal to those in need. For more information, contact Dawn Gerety (828.6425). Thanks to the following who recently provided meals: Juli Reese-Petry, Jess Lundgren, Bonnie Giddens, and Dawn Gerety.



Acolyte travel to Washington Cathedral

St. Luke's acolytes were present for Texas Day at Washington Cathedral. The group, led by Acolyte Master Michael Mortensen and Assistant Director, Nancy Hawkins, included parents and helpers Nancy Avellar, Fr. Chip Prehn, Will Brown, Charlie Alfaro, Rebecca Williams, Lisa Petrosky, and Ann Brown.

Activities for the group included a tour of the capital, monument tour by moonlight, and tours of the Cathedral. Our acolytes will share their experience and videos with the congregation at a special event later this spring. In addition, the acolytes have been invited to the acolyte festival in Kerville on May 5. We are fortunate to have such a dedicated acolyte group, and acolytes were also lucky, as Texas Day at the Cathedral happens just every four years.

Acolytes on the trip were: Louisa Avellar, Sarah Avellar, Erin Hawkins, Chloe Knutsen, Barrett Powers, Matthew Mooney, Cameron Flanas, John Hopper, David Prehn, Claire Petrosky, Jimmy Williams, and Julie Alfaro.

Acolyte Training Session

May 12, 10.00 a.m. to 12.00 p.m.

Join us in the Parlor at 9.45 a.m. for juice and tacos. Anyone finishing fourth grade in May who would like to become an acolyte is encouraged to attend. Contact Michael Mortensen (michaelm@palmertodd.com).

Music Notes

Texas Bach Choir

Saturday, May 5, 5.00 p.m., Church
Tickets: Adults \$15, seniors/KPAC members \$12, students w/ID \$3, music students: free

Sung Compline

Sunday, May 6, 8.00 p.m., Church

Buxtehude Organ Recital with David Eaton

Saturday, May 12, 5.00 p.m., Church
Tickets: \$15

Brass FX

Saturday, May 13, 4.00 p.m., Church
This event is free and open to the public.

CHILDREN'S MINISTRIES

Holy Strollers

May 2, Noah's Ark Room

May 16, San Antonio Zoo

Holy Strollers is a fellowship and support ministry for moms and their children (newborn through Pre-K) meeting on first and third Wednesdays, 9.30-11.00 a.m. Contact Kate Simpson or Jessica Lundgren (828.6425).

Clean as a whistle!

On Palm Sunday afternoon, several of our dedicated Nursery moms donated their time for a "Spring Cleaning" of the two church Nurseries. Headed by Maegan Stansell, they thoroughly cleaned each toy, tabletop, and cupboard from top to bottom, so that, at the end of the time, our Nurseries were absolutely spotless! These hardworking moms included Maegan Stansell, Diane Greiner, Michelle Harris, Blyth Treuhaft, Dawn Gerety, Bryn Caddell, Jessica Lundgren, Sonia Thrush, and Lisa Chamberlain. Their effort continues to help to maintain and improve our Nurseries!

Vacation Bible School 2007

June 11-15, 9.00 a.m. -12.00 p.m.

For Ages 4 years (by 9/1/07) through entering fifth grade (Fall 2007)* This year's VBS promises to be as fun and spirit-filled as ever. The theme is "Game Day Central - St. Luke's All Stars." Throughout the week we will hear stories, create crafts, sing songs, and play games all about our guiding scripture: Hebrews 12:1-2: "*Let us run with endurance the race that lies before us, keeping our eyes on Jesus, the source and perfecter of our faith.*"

A registration form is included in this issue of *Tidings* and is available on the church website www.saintlukesepiscopal.net as well as in the Parish Office. The fee is just \$15 per child for the week (scholarships are available - contact Ann Allen at 828-6425 or ann@stlukes-sa.net). The deadline for registering is **May 20**. After May 20, the registration fee will be \$20 per child, and reservations may be placed on a waiting list.

Volunteer opportunities abound for VBS, including "ahead-of-time" craft preparation as well as helping during the actual week of VBS. This is always SUCH a fun and rewarding time, so if you feel called to help in any way, please call VBS Chair Sally Blecher (828.6425).

Registration fee: \$10; \$15 after May 20.

*Youth ages 6th-12th grade (entering fall, 2007) may register as "Teen Helpers" but still need to fill out the registration form!

Rolling Stones

End-of -School Event

Friday-Saturday, May 11-12, 8.00 p.m., Youth Room

The Rolling Stones Group (4th and 5th graders) will have an end-of-the-year Overnighter Event Friday, May 11-Saturday, May 12th. Be sure to have supper before you come to the church. We'll go to Laser Quest, then return to church. We'll have breakfast tacos on Saturday morning and end by 8.00 a.m. Watch for a flyer and permission form in the mail. More info? Contact Ann Allen (828.6425 x204, ann@stlukes-sa.net) or Chris Mitchell (828.6425 x205, youth@stlukes-sa.net).

Parents' Night Out Friday

May 4, 5.30-10.00 p.m., Nurseries

First Friday evenings. Capable childcare while parents enjoy an evening out. Cost: \$12 per child; \$30 maximum per family. Contact Paula Guajardo (828.6425 x254) for more details. A sign-up sheet will be on the on the Nursery Office doors April 22 and 29.

Our Volunteers

Did you know that throughout the year there are over 150 volunteers involved in various ministries to children and families? Many of these help to develop and support seasonal events or help with our nurseries, and about fifty people serve as teachers or Chapel leaders on Sunday mornings. Those who give their time on Sundays also devote time during the week to preparing lessons so that the children can have the best experience possible. As an example, Godly Play teachers spend an average of at least two hours just preparing and memorizing their stories, and some of these have devoted extra time to be accredited as certified Godly Play teachers.

Our last day of Sunday School classes is Sunday, May 20, so May would be a wonderful time to thank these teachers, whether you have a child in their classes or not! Their names are listed on the Children's Ministries bulletin board in the Main Hallway. All of our volunteers are vital to our ministry to children and families here at St. Luke's!

YOUTH MINISTRIES

Youth on a Mission

This summer, St. Luke's youth will answer the call of Jesus to Peter in the 21st chapter of John, feeding his lambs, taking care of his sheep, and feeding his sheep. The youth will have the chance to do all three, going over the border with high school students (Summer in the Valley I & II) or with their families (Family Mission Trip), or by staying in San Antonio, serving the children of St. Luke's (Vacation Bible School) or those at the Good Samaritan Center (Middle School In-Town Mission, Good Sam VBS).

We are also honored to have new, exciting relationships with the people of Piedras Negras, St. George, and Christ Episcopal Churches. The third week of July will be spent assisting the summer VBS at El Buen Pastor Iglesia Anglicana de Mexico where we will serve up to 1000 children. We will rebuild home for a single mother of two, and much more. This trip is for all—anyone who is interested in mission work should join us on this trip.

We will also join with St. Peter & St. Paul Episcopal Church in Mission, Texas, in orphanage ministry in Reynosa for the third year. We will make two trips.

This will be the first year for Vacation Bible School at San Antonio's Good Samaritan Center. This is our in-town mission trip for middle school students from area Episcopal churches and a great way to meet up with Camp Capers friends, all while serving the community of Saltillo Avenue.

Spaces are limited for the Summer in the Valley trips, so reserve your place now! For details & registration forms for any of the trips or events for this year's schedule, please log onto the website www.saintlukesepiscopal.net/youth or contact Chris (youth@stlukes-sa.net).

CHILDREN'S MINISTRIES

Godly Play prepared for Easter

During Lent, the children in St. Luke's Godly Play prepared for the Mystery of Easter by hearing the stories of Christ's journey toward the cross and then His resurrection—the stories of Jesus' birth and growth, His being "lost" and then found in the temple in Jerusalem, His baptism, desert discovery experience, the Last Supper, and ultimately His crucifixion and resurrection! After each story was presented, the children were asked to ponder its connection with other stories of the People of God. The children brought items from other stories (both Old and New Testament) to place beside the stories they had heard that day. It is always fascinating and humbling to see the connections they make! The photos included show the Pre-Kindergarten and Kindergarten children. Ask one of them to share their work with you, "for the kingdom of heaven belongs to such as these."



Godly Play



Godly Play



Godly Play

Easter Thank-You's

Despite the rain, our annual Easter Egg Hunt was a huge success. The children were once again entertained by Jimmy the Clown, and hundreds of eggs were expertly hidden (by some of our Youth) and found inside our spacious building! Many thanks to the event coordinators, Melany Andersen and Donelle Holck!



Easter Egg Hunt



Easter Egg Hunt

Youth Ministry Summer Dates

- May 25-28 Piedras Negras, Mexico Prep Trip, limited to 6 upper-class high school students
- June 8, 11-15 VBS Teen Helpers, middle & high school students
- June 20 Fiesta Texas
- June 26-30 Summer in the Valley I, limited to 15 high school students to Mission, TX & Reynosa, Mexico
- June 25-29 Middle School In-town Mission Trip, Good Samaritan Center VBS
- July 11 Afternoon at Malibu Castle
- July 15-21 Piedras Negras, Mexico Family Mission Trip
- August 14-18 Summer in the Valley II, limited to 15 high school students to Mission, TX & Reynosa, Mexico

Water Ministry

Honduras



Business Philosophy

Honduras Water Ministry's focus is to develop the water resources necessary for providing the people of a village with the water needed to sustain and improve their health and living conditions by involving those people in projects which are sustainable beyond the missionaries' presence.

Vision and Product of Honduras Water Ministry

● Provide safe, adequate water resources to people in the rural developing areas, to teach them to maintain safe water sources, and show them how to sustain and improve their own lives and the lives of their neighbors through the gift of water.

● Through the ministry's work in Honduras, provide a model for all people to have access to safe drinking water and sanitation.

- To make a difference and improve the quality of life both physically and spiritually by providing the "living water" to those we serve.
- The ministry is largely a volunteer organization and that provides an important service to its volunteers by providing them the opportunity to participate in a very worthy philanthropic effort to help the poor that would not receive such help.

Extra Notes

**Needed
Volun-
teers
\$2,000-
\$3,500
per well
Prayers**

**The Honduras
project has three
rigs: one large
and two smaller
portable units**

**The Ministry includes water
hygiene training, water qual-
ity evaluations, English teach-
ing and children's ministry**

**When the Ministry is out of
Region, Rotary International
continues the project and pays
all expenses for drilling**

**Since 2003, 23 of 30 bore holes have
met minimum requirements for water**

**Ninety percent of the bore wells
successfully bring in water.**

Northern Mexico

The Water Ministry is going in new directions by venturing into Northern Mexico. The new drill rig moved to the Valley to begin drill camp training Friday, April 13.

- Drill camp training is expected to continue through the summer with plans for the well being drilled in early fall.
- Those interested in helping or gaining more information about future drilling may contact Jeremy Cooper (jeremyncooper@satx.rr.com).
- For more information on the work in Mexico contact Jeremy Cooper or Curt Mowen; or email the ministry (water@satx.rr.com).



El Buen Pastor Piedras Negras, Mexico



In a show of faith by the community, a large six foot cross has been raised on site, and church services with supper are held every Tuesday.

"It is the closest foreign city to San Antonio where a person can do mission work in a third world setting." Bobby Hausser



Padre Miguel Cristerna, along with his wife Maria Elena, the only female Anglican priest in Northern Mexico, have an outreach program in Piedras Negras. Both are well known and respected on both sides of the Rio Grande. El Buen Pastor is a refuge for the abused.

Build It and They Will Come

- Missionaries and clergy regularly make the two-and-a-half hour trip to Piedras Negras (pop. 300,000); it and Eagle Pass are the two safest cities on the U.S.-Mexican border.
- In February 2007 the City Council of Piedras Negras deeded a piece of land to Padre Miguel Cristerna and El Buen Pastor for a new church on the new town plaza and park in the colonia Las Lajas. The church will be the only structure on this entire block and will be a social center for the entire neighborhood. The people in the colonia gave a signed petition to city council in support of this church.
- The church has one year to pour a foundation with columns for wall and roof support. If no construction is done by February 2008 the church will lose the property.
- A second project being undertaken is the building of a new cinder block home for a single mother and two children. This project is being undertaken by the youth and parents of St. Luke's Church, Christ Church and St. George. Here is a chance to work together as Christians for a better community on both sides of the Rio Grande.
- If you have any interest or questions, please call Chris Mitchell, St. Luke's Youth Minister or Bobby Hausser, World Missions.

Godly Play



Women from El Buen Pastor learn how to teach the children through Godly Play as part of the Mission boards work. Sandy Graciano makes regular trips to educate and encourage the group.

Needs

The congregation of El Buen Pastor needs \$10,000 seed money to begin building their church.

The mission board of St. Luke's Church is asking for your monetary support for the building of a new Anglican Church in Piedras Negras. Checks can be made out to St. Luke's, World Missions with the notation "New Church, Piedras Negras, Mexico" and given to Gary Christensen in the church office.

Vacation Bible School

Family Mission Trip for all ages
Assisting with VBS
July 15-21 at El Buen Pastor Iglesia Anglicana de Mexico in Piedras Negras in the mornings;
in the colonias in afternoons



Sunday Mornings

Track I: Scriptural Studies

Women of the Bible

Leader: Diane Thrush, a member of St. Luke's Church and a gifted group leader; Location: Room 202

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 Russell & others; Location: Room 201

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. Join us and bring your thoughts and ideas to share.

Track III: News and Reviews

Leaders: Andrew Morrison and James Dennis

Location: Large Conference Room

Always topical and provocative, this class examines current events and discusses potential Christian responses to them.

Track IV:

Islam: A Very Short Course

Leader: Dr. Frank Garcia-Treto, Farris Railey King Professor of Religion, Trinity University; Location: Parish Hall

See box at right.

Track V: The ABCs of Discipleship

Believing

April 15 - May 6, 10.20-11.05 a.m., Small Conference Room

Leaders: The Rt. Rev. John MacNaughton and The Rev. Dr.

Chip Prehn

The Believing class is an introduction to Anglican theology, the Episcopal Church, and how we at St. Luke's 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.

Welcome to St. Luke's Newcomer Class

Sunday, May 6, 10.20 a.m.

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.

Wednesday Evenings

The Early Class

May 2, and May 9 Back by popular demand, John Rayls will follow up on how to apply the information we learned in our DISC profiles to our family life!

Learning Christian Faith

Leader: Fr. Prehn

6.30 p.m., through May 2, Parish Hall

Let's consider some current and very important questions such as: *Are there any secrets? Did Jesus have heirs? Could Judas have produced a Gospel?*

Every song has a story

Leader: Joe Kittle

6.30 p.m., May 9, Parish Hall

A look at the stories behind some familiar songs and hymns.

The Inklings

Leader: James Dennis, 6.30 p.m., Large Conference Room

The group will study Rowan Williams' *Ray of Darkness*.

Men's Bible Study

Leader: Ben Powers and Rad Fleischer, 6.30 p.m., Room 204

A Study of the Book of Isaiah Isaiah was more than just a prophet of the Messiah. He was a statesman who spoke of God's word to steer a nation through sixty years of crisis. He was a messenger who announced God's desire and plans and who reminded a forgetful nation of God's character.

Trinity Professor gives insights on Islam

"Islam is the relative we don't talk about," says Dr. Frank Garcia-Treto, currently teaching a course on Islam during the Sunday School hour through May 20. "We as Christians need to know how we can connect to it—after all, as an Abrahamic religion, it branches from the same historical roots as our own faith. We cannot understand many of the developments of the Middle Ages unless we understand the contributions of Islam."

In this brief overview class, Dr. Garcia is tracing Islamic history and practices and hopes to correct the popular misunderstanding that Islam is a monolithic religion composed only of jihadists. Dr. Garcia brings a rich and diverse background to the study. A native of Cuba, a naturalized citizen, a graduate of Princeton Theological Seminary, and an ordained Presbyterian minister, he taught at Trinity University for forty years in the Department of Religion.

Here we go again

Fr. Carl W. Wright, Chaplain, Major, USAF



Here we go again, same old stuff again!" Those are words to the soldier's well-known marching jodie (cleaned-up of course for Christian consumption). Here I go again, in the Middle East, in the middle of Lent, my second tour of duty at the Front. I think I'm a part of the surge that's supposed to make everything right once and for all. (No comment on that.) But I had a feeling my Lent would be profitable this year, and God has not disappointed.

Having been here in Kuwait a couple of weeks, I'd like to share some thoughts about my present reality. First it begs comparison to the combat M*A*S*H hospital in Iraq last year. There is no comparison. Last year was more danger and more action. This year is safer and more remote. I am an Air Force chaplain on the Kuwaiti Naval Base, situated right on the beautiful Persian Gulf, in a small Air Force contingent, making occasional forays into Iraq, answerable to an Army chain-of-command, serving hundreds of transient sailors, soldiers, and marines! How's that for a clear description? It may be bad grammar, but it perfectly describes my job.

Worse, I'm quartered in what could easily pass for an Iraqi prison, in my own little cell. My private bath consists of a crude shower head that looks like an instrument of torture and toilet that's a hole in the floor attractively surrounded by Arabic ceramic tiles. But I'm not complaining.

Already I've divined a first Lenten lesson: this wartime experience will be more difficult for me than last year's. Last year I experienced first hand the horrors of war. I touched death daily. This year I'm slightly removed from it; and will go in and out of it. Where last year I was an eye-witness, almost a victim; this year I'm a "hear-say" witness to the action.

God is speaking to me. It was easier to deal with the opposite extreme of my American way of life; which was Iraq last year. It will be more difficult, however, to deal with oil-rich Kuwait for these six months, where the most exciting thing I'll do is preach the Gospel, celebrate the Sacraments, feed the orphans, and listen to warriors' confessions.

Oh dear, what am I saying? How ungrateful can one be? Have I forgotten how blessed I am to be here, God's servant to hundreds of grateful young souls? Too many of us chaplains vainly seek to be where the "action" is, forgetting that in ministry the action is wherever God sends us. So I guess my second Lenten lesson can be summarised in the words of that good ole Baptist hymn, "Count your blessings, name them one-by-one; count your blessings and see what the Lord hath done!" Amen. ✠

Fr. Carl Wright attended St. Luke's Church while stationed at Lackland AFB. In August 2005, he was transferred to Iraq where he served as Expeditionary Medical Group Chaplain. After a yera stateside, he was transferred to Kuwait in March of this year. His E-mail address is: carl.wright@kuwait.swa.army.mil.



Easter sunrise on the beach in Kuwait. Permission from the Kuwaiti government was required to erect the cross.

Clergy in our midst: The Rev. Lloyd Johnson

Neal Wagner

You can usually find Lloyd Johnson and his wife Janie at the 10.00 a.m. Wednesday Healing Eucharist, sometimes with an infant grandson Campbell in tow. Janie became a member of St. Luke's this January, while as a priest, Lloyd remains canonically resident in the Diocese of Northern Indiana. They knew San Antonio and St. Luke's from visits over the past fourteen years. According to Lloyd, for thirty years the family parish had been a "given," because of his position as Rector; now it was Janie's turn to choose. They looked at five churches, and the worship life at St. Luke's was closest to what they were accustomed to.



Lloyd became involved with the Episcopal Church at the University of Vermont in 1957 as a freshman. He remembers a specific evening by himself where he felt a calling to the priesthood. He finished a degree in accounting at the University of Miami, following his mom's advice to have a backup profession, but in fact accounting was useful to him in his ministry. In 1966 he finished Nashotah Seminary (just west of Milwaukee), where Chip Prehn would finish his own studies two decades later. There he received his "strong spiritual formation as a person of prayer and as a Catholic Episcopalian."

After his ordination, he got a call to St. Gregory's in Boca Raton, where he met Janie in the first year of an eight-year stay.

ODDS AND ENDS

Their three children were born there; they now have seven grandchildren. In 1974 he became rector of Saint Peter's Church, Canton, Illinois, a small parish which for ten years proved to be a good place to raise children. In 1984 he became rector of St. Paul's in Pekin, Illinois, a larger parish. In 2001 he wanted a new challenge and moved on to St. Alban's in Fort Wayne, Indiana, and retired in 2006, partly exhausted from all the work that a rector of a pastoral size parish is called to do.

Lloyd is proud that in 1979 he and his wife began leading Marriage Encounter Weekends that would strengthen and enrich couples' lives. For twenty years they led a group every three months or so, all over the country and even abroad. They also were active in Cursillo, the Alpha Course, and marriage preparations. Lloyd and Janie bring to St. Luke's very special talents and experience, particularly regarding ministry to couples. Please introduce yourselves and make them welcome. ✠

•**The Rev. Susanne Methven** will be graduated from the Episcopal Seminary of the Southwest on Tuesday, May 15, in Commencement Exercises at St. Matthew's Church, Austin. The Presiding Bishop, The Most Rev. Dr. Katharine Jefferts Schori will be the preacher.

Easter Vigil and Paschal Reception memorable Despite the rain and cold, a large congregation assembled on Saturday, April 7, for the great Vigil of Easter and the Paschal Reception in the Parlor which followed. Each year, interest in the Vigil has grown with a significant number of young adults and their children participating. We are indebted to our liturgical and musical ministry volunteers for their hard work and talents which enable St. Luke's to offer the Vigil service.

Many thanks are also due to the volunteers who provided a splendid array of food and drink at the Paschal Reception. It was everything that the "feast" of Easter should be.

Thank you very much to Gracie Gonzalez for arranging everything so beautifully in the Parlor.

Dear St. Luke's Family,
Barbara and I wish to thank you for your prayers, visits, calls, gifts and the love you have showered on us. During the most trying time of my life I was never alone. You, my brothers and sisters, held Barbara and me up and helped us survive a difficult journey. St. Luke's is truly God's shining light on the hill. There is no place on Earth I want to be.

Victor Harding

PRAYER REQUESTS

Members

CURRENT

Gretchen Bealer
Joan Buerschinger
Marge Childs
Sarah Conger
Mildred Cory
Jack Dix
John Foster
Jenny Fultz
Bruce Fryburger
Richard Hampton
Victor Harding
Freda Hensley
Anne Krause & Family
Ella Lundgren
George O'Katy
Steve Pogue
Betty Ann Rogers
Mary Ellen Ryniker
Dorothy Tarbox & Family
Alice Waldman
Kay Windrow

LONG TERM

John Case
Gerardo, Emma & Juanita
Harriet Kelley
Carol Phipps
Kaye Taylor
Sybil Woolley

EXTENDED TERM

Vera Alexander
Maxene Bowen
Roland Caldwell

Evelyn Callen
Bryan Cronkhite
Dorothy Crues
Maxine Dwyer
Anne Eckles
Ellen Engelke
Jacquie Field
Margaret Forbes
Kevin Franks
Jean Harris
Amelia Hausser
John Howell
Keith
Ginny Myers
Robert Paschal
Nancy Pickett
Jo An & Charles Rogers
Michael Schrantz
Cay Smith

Friends

CURRENT

Margaret Brown
Harry Cliffe
Jenny Diehl & Larry Chesnut
Patty Edwards
Douglas Gibson
Mitsuko Greiner
Dean Grover
Travis Hamilton
The Hardison Family
Bob Hayes
The Holland Family
Kelly Hunter
Dick Looser

Mike Mason
Ken Morris
Celia Rivera
Dorothy Young
Jim Youngson

LONG TERM

Catherine Blossom
Ruth Bowers
Marrs Bowman
Don Bynum
Toni Canamar
Marty Cantine
Bobby Cassels
Sean Cook
Betty Dahlman
Dave
Travis Dodson
Dominique Drew
Stacy Eastland
Bengt Eklund
Denise Elmore
Juanita Esparza
The Rev. Peter Funk
Michelle Kinsella
Kara Laam
Cheryl Lundgren
Madison, Brandon, & Jennifer
The Rt. Rev. Earl McArthur
Doris Middleton
Nancy & Jerry Murphy
Linda Pace
Grace Riddles

Horace Stigger
Lauri Vogt
Matthew Walls
Michael Welsh

EXTENDED TERM

Jordan Arriaga
John Bergmann, Jr.
Jon Boyea
Brenda
PFC Scott Alan Chumbley
Madelyn E. Coffey
Robert Conger
Cecilia Couri
Sharon Deering
Gabriella & Carly DelToro
Rob, Jeremy, John & Jared Dodson
Brian Dusek
Sister John Martin Ebrom
Betty Fleischer
Roger Flores
Kate Gates
Claudia Gowen
Sgt. Chris Greenfield
Louella Hardie
Marsha Harris
Margaret Heather
Sue & Bob Henderson
Trinidad E. Holguin
Kay Hollimon
Kevin Johannes
SPC Marcus Johnson
Capt. Matt Jordan
Jack Kane

Donna Kay & Hank Langlet
Lauren Lauterjung
Martha Lilly
Joyce Lof
SPC Curtis Lundgren
Steven Manz
Joe McGillivray
Mercedes & Michael
Sara Miles
Lily Mills
Dan Moran
William Moses
Craig Nemeck
Frank Page
Susan & Dan Pankowski
Nathan Rhodes
Mark Rich
Richard Sanders
Frank Saucedo
Gail Sears
Pam Stokes
Mike Taylor
M.O. Turner
Gerald Uretsky
Steven Waldman
Maurine Weber
Bob Wehmeyer
Weldon Whitaker
Sgt. David & Anna Paprskar
White
Dinah Zike

DEATHS

John Cook
James Valentine

ANNIVERSARIES

2	13	23
Ali & Boyd Naylor	Dorah & Dwayne Putney	Chris & Susan Heinemeyer
4	15	Annyce & Konrad Kuykendall
Candy & Jeff Carver	Ashley & Weston Stone	27
Rebecca & Jimmy Williams	16	Cindi & Kelly Malone
5	Rebecca & Joe Pendon	Kate & Joe Imber
Carla & Andrew Morrison	17	Melanie & Daniel Ritsema
6	Christine & Bobby Hausser	29
Christine & Daniel Oxford	18	Joan & Bob Mitchell
7	Cheryl & Paul Bower	Mary & Larry Tutor
Jessica & Joe Bakke	Renee & Keith Wright	30
Jennifer & John Pawloski	20	Nancy & Dan Wallace
8	Lynn & Doug Gillaspay	31
Maye & Jack Dix	21	Evette & Timothy Chalmers
11	Gretchen & Alex Bealer	Carol & Peter McGanity
Ann & Bruce Mewborne	Yongok & Gary Parks	
Verne Lee Cooper & Fred Duhl	22	
12	Sara & Edward Briggs	
Courtney & Scott Storment		

BIRTHDAYS

1	Roger Thurmond	17	Jeremy Cooper
Joan Mitchell	Heather Smith	Bill Dean	Matthew Grooms
Mario Carter	Frances Harris	Curtis Vaughan	Samantha Bryan
Paul Bower	Hunter Barrett	Michael Nufer	25
Austin James	9	Jesse Straus	Gene Scott
Kara Hudson	Marian Planas	Nigel Duncan	Barbara Bertolett
2	Deri Rosow	18	Jessica Young
Susan Farrimond	Megan Harris	Meghan Maloney	Karen Vaughan
Patrick Looney	10	19	Virginia Lyda
Will Leslie	Sarah Conger	Robert Jones	Jeremy Cannon
Andrew Kittle	Wes Johnson	Richard Hampton	Diane Greiner
Jacob Stidham	11	Margaret Kelley	26
3	Lee Rodgers	Timothy Broughton	Joe Franzello
Bob Alexander	Dorothy Crues	Nicole Schafer	Suzu Sledge
Macy Bayern	Diane Thrush	20	Robert Nelson
Claire Rose	Sandra Power	Rick Kenworthy	Richard Chamberlain
4	Armando Cespedes	Robert Buchek	Kari Dix
Neal Wagner	Cathy Cocker	Robbie Bauder	Tamara Wahrmund
Jennifer Shelby	Sara Jones	Ford Hausser	27
Christina Malcolm	Eric Tubilla	Sonny McClelland	Lexie Altgelt
Katerina Damm	12	Abigail Dickie	Cindy Mantz
5	Mary James	21	Andrea Jahn-Kunz
Eva Worrel	Kirsten Pelsor	LeRoy Jahn	Sophie Watts
6	Amy Hudson	Matt Ellis	28
Bill Fitch	Kathryn Jackson	Jared Naylor	T. J. Hopper Jr.
Gary Fite	Cliff Molak	Reed Shemwell	Ryan Dodge
Carla Morrison	Adeline Miller	Caleb Cannon	Gretchen Greer
Amy Buchek	Jessica Wellford	22	29
Morgan Vaughan	13	Paige Alyn	Charles Rogers Jr.
Mamie Barnes	Caroline Cotter	Laralee Wahrmund	Barbara Arneson
Raleigh Stansell	Daniel Ritsema	Aileena Harman	Charles Garrett
7	14	23	Scott Lundgren
Allison Bergmann	Gillian Cook	Valerie Guenther	30
Rachel Rigsby	Mary Young	Dan Schantz	David Stout
Logan Malone	Catherine Manterola	Davis Bray	Anna Saulsbury
Patton Cocker	Christian Powell	Susan Brown	Robert Dean
8	16	Paris Shemwell	Hannah Rose
Art Winden	Jackie Raney	24	31
Mary Kittle	Marisa Denosowicz	John Speck	Emma Andersen
		Rita Browning	

If your birthday or anniversary is missing or incorrect, please contact Parish Secretary Rhonda Jordan (828.6425 x214, rhonda@stlukes-sa.net).

Telephone: 210.828.6425
 Telefax: 210.828.1645
www.saintlukesepiscopal.net

CLERGY

The Rev. Dr. Raymond E. Cole, Interim Rector, ray@stlukes-sa.net

The Rev. Dr. Walter L. Prehn III, Asst. Rector, chip@stlukes-sa.net

The Rt. Rev. John H. MacNaughton, Bishop-in-Residence

The Rev. Susanne Methven, Seminarian-in-Residence smethven@ets.edu

PARISH STAFF

Ann Allen, Children's Ministries ann@stlukes-sa.net

Bobbie Anderson, Mustard Seed Director

Gary Christensen, Parish Administrator church@stlukes-sa.net

David D. Eaton, DMA, Director of Music, Organist & Choirmaster eaton@stlukes-sa.net

Jane Fleischer, Admin. Assist., Christian Formation, jane@stlukes-sa.net

Dan Garcia, Head Sexton

Barbara Green, Clergy Secretary clergy@stlukes-sa.net

Paula Guajardo, Nursery Superintendent

Rhonda Jordan, Parish Secretary rhonda@stlukes-sa.net

Melissa Lopez, Youth Intern

AnnMarie McLoughlin, Receptionist annmarie@stlukes-sa.net

Lynne McMillan, Godly Play Director mcmillan1979@wildblue.net

Christopher R. Mitchell, Youth Minister youth@stlukes-sa.net

Warren Taylor, Publishing & Communications publish@stlukes-sa.net

Elizabeth Turner, Newcomer & Pastoral Ministries, elizabeth@stlukes-sa.net

VESTRY

Curt Mowen *Senior Warden*,

Larry Morgan *Junior Warden*

JC Stromberger *Treasurer*

James Dennis *Parish Clerk, Pastoral Ministries*

Wade Dahlman *Children's Ministries*

Dan Hanke *Stewardship*

Victor Harding *Music & Worship*

Barbara Jackson *Parish Life*

Kirk James *Adult Education*

Louis Manz *Missions*

Larry Martin *Church-School Liaison*

Michael Mortensen *Youth Ministries*

Mary Peñaloza *Communications*

David Schrantz *Outreach & Evangelism*

Michael Seiferth *Music & Worship*

ST. LUKE'S EPISCOPAL SCHOOL

Telephone: 210.826.0664

www.saintlukes.net

Good Lord, deliver us



WHICH ONES ARE THE DIET?

Submissions to TIDINGS

Issue	Deadline
June	May 1
July	June 4
August	July 2

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@stlukes-sa.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@stlukes-sa.net and enter "subscribe to Tidings deadline" in the subject line.

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

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.

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

Holy Eucharist 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



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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