

ST. LUKE'S

PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH (USA)



Artwork by Hannah Price, Age 7

11 a.m. December 8, 2013
Second Sunday of Advent

Our Mission: Responding to God's call and empowered by the Holy Spirit, we invite all to join us in knowing, serving, and sharing Jesus Christ here and around the world.

Our Vision: To be a beacon of faith, hope, and love—every member an active disciple in Christ's ministry.



ST. LUKE'S

PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH (USA)

1978 Mt. Vernon Road

Dunwoody, Georgia 30338-4617

770-393-1424 www.slpres.org

8:30 a.m. Chapel Communion Service

9:30 a.m. Sunday School

11:00 a.m. Sanctuary Worship Service

Nursery provided for all services and Sunday School

Office Hours: M-F, 8:30 a.m. - 4:30 p.m.

Dr. Jason Whitener, Pastor

Rev. Shannon Dill, Associate Pastor

Rev. Phil Brown, Associate Pastor

Dr. E. Moss Robertson, Pastor Emeritus

WELCOME, GUESTS!

We are delighted you are worshipping with us!
As a guest, you are invited to:

1. During the **Celebration of Community**, please print the requested information on the Friendship Pad and pass the Friendship Pad down the pew.
2. After the worship service, please join Deacon Rebecca Strickland, Elder Jim Bryant, and our Pastors in the Narthex (Sanctuary lobby). They will answer questions and provide you with a Guest Packet and a loaf of bread lovingly made by St. Luke's member, Cindy Nunez.
3. If you are interested in learning more about St. Luke's or are interested in joining, please contact Jason Whitener: jasonwhitener@slpres.org or 770-393-1424, ext. 223.

DECEMBER 8, 2013

SECOND SUNDAY OF ADVENT

The flowers today are given by the Holley-Wolfe family to the Glory of God and in loving memory of Mary Anne McClurkin Wolfe, birth mother of Hayley and Chris Wolfe

SERVING TODAY

Acolytes

Crucifer..... Sam Wassell

Candle LighterAllie Hearn

Banner Bearer.....Emma Troha

Bell RingerEmily Vail

Bible Bearer.....Elise Hearn

Special thank you to Christine Turnbull for being the Candle Lighter on 12/1, and to Valentina Thelen for being the Banner Bearer on 12/1.

Chancel Guild..... Tom & Mary Grace Schaaap

UshersJohn & Peggy Tienken,
Mary Louise Connor, Jim & Edna Schell

Continental Breakfast..... Charlotte Wiseman

Faithful FriendsNiki & Jack Rabren

GreetersJim Bryant, Gena Spears

Nursery Supervisor Marcy Williams

Open/CloseJim Cox

Sound Crew Lindsay Ballow



That All May Worship: St. Luke's strives to be a welcoming church for all. Assistive hearing devices, large print hymnals, large print bulletins and pew cushions are available. Please contact an usher for further assistance.

Parents: During the worship service, if necessary, the parlor is a comfortable place to be with your child and still see the service. Children's Worship Notebooks are available for all ages on the shelves in the Narthex (Sanctuary lobby), along with activity sheets pertaining to today's scripture. An usher can assist you.

In Preparation for Worship

Most glorious God, You judge Your people with righteousness and justice. The mountains yield prosperity for all Your people and the hills are clothed with Your splendor. You defend the cause of the poor and deliver the needy. You are like rain that falls on the mown grass, like showers that water the earth. Filled with the joy and peace of believing, we will sing You our praises and serve You with our whole being, to the end that the nations may affirm Your glory. Amen

Gathering Prayer of Adoration

Jason Whitener

Prelude

Christmas Carols / Catherine Kitchens, harp

Advent Wreath

Brian and Allison Aicher

* Processional Hymn #8

Lift Up Your Heads, Ye Mighty Gates / TRURO

Celebration of Community

Introduction of New Members

Shannon Dill

Gerald & Kari Aldridge, Dianne Brice, Tim & Lyn Brown and children
Wyatt & Ainsley, Presh Murray, Joe & Peta Nolan and daughter Amelia

* Invitation to Confession

O-So-So / Geonyong Lee



Come now, O_ God of love, make us one bo-dy,



come O Lord Je - sus; re-con-cile all_ peo-ple.

* Call to Prayer

Leader: The Lord be with you.

People: And also with you.

Leader: Let us pray.

* Prayer of Confession

O God, You judge Your people with righteousness; we judge our neighbors either right or wrong. You bring deliverance to the needy, but we sometimes stand in the way of its being received. You send us a Savior Who will crush the oppressor, but we raise up idols in His stead. Make us mindful of Your dominion, how You rule while sun and moon endure. May we bow down before You and pay You the tribute that You are due.

* Assurance of Forgiveness

* Gloria

Jacques Berthier

Glo - ri - a, glo - ri - a, in ex - cel - sis De - o!
Glo - ri - a, glo - ri - a, al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia!

WE HEAR GOD'S WORD PROCLAIMED

Tell Us Our Story

Shannon Dill & Catherine Anne Thomas

Presbyterian Women's

Christmas Gift to the Children

Donna Nall & Debie Radloff

Children are always welcome to stay in worship. However, parents may take your child(ren) to the nursery.

Parents of children in pre-k, kindergarten, and first grade may take them to the Faithful Friends Class in Room 121.

Morning Prayer & The Lord's Prayer

Our Father Who art in heaven, hallowed be Thy name. Thy kingdom come, Thy will be done, on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread; and forgive us our debts, as we forgive our debtors; and lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For Thine is the kingdom and the power and the glory, forever. Amen.

Old Testament Reading

Isaiah 7:10-16 / Todd Parker

Leader: The Word of the Lord.

People: Thanks be to God.

Anthem

Child of the Light / Kelly Sloan

(World Premiere) Chancel Choir / Jill Hudson, flute

A child born in the night sent to reveal God's light. Laid in a manger soft and warm. Mary gazed at her son, through Him our victory won. This babe that would save us from our sin? His name is Jesus, Emmanuel, the Savior of the world. Angels proclaim His birth and sing. The shepherds saw the star, bright shining from afar. Wise men bestowed gifts to their King. The miracle of this unlikely child, the power of God in one so meek and mild. He came to save, to light the world, to show the way, to give us hope beyond the grave. God's promise fulfilled for humankind. The child of the light, He shall be glorified, the greatest gift the world's received.

(Lesley Shaw & Kelly Sloan)

(Parents may return to their seats during the Anthem.)

New Testament Reading

Matthew 1:1-17 / Jason Whitener

Leader: The Word of the Lord.

People: Thanks be to God.

 WE RESPOND TO GOD'S WORD

*** Apostle's Creed**

We believe in God, the Father Almighty, Maker of heaven and earth, and in Jesus Christ, His only Son our Lord; Who was conceived by the Holy Ghost, born of the Virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate; was crucified, dead, and buried; He descended into hell; the third day He rose again from the dead; He ascended into heaven, and sitteth on the right hand of God the Father Almighty; from thence He shall come to judge the quick and the dead. I believe in the Holy Ghost; the holy catholic church; the communion of saints; the forgiveness of sins; the resurrection of the body; and the life everlasting. Amen.

Offering & Offertory

Variations on 'O Come, O Come Emmanuel' / Daniel Pinkham

*** Doxology**

NUN KOMM, DER HEIDEN HEILAND

Bright-ly does Your man - ger shine, glo - rious is its light di - vine.

Let not sin o'er - cloud this_ light; ev - er be our faith_ thus bright.

*** Prayer of Dedication**

 WE GO IN GOD'S NAME

*** Sending Hymn #9**

O Come, O Come, Emmanuel / VENI EMMANUEL

*** Benediction***** Benediction Response**

Go Now in Peace / Natalie Sleeth

Chancel Choir

Go now in peace. May the God of love surround you everywhere you may go.

*** Postlude**

O Come, O Come Emmanuel / Robert J. Powell

Worship Note: Today's service music is accompanied by Yvonne Miller on the flute.

Join us in Welcoming our New Members:

Aldridge, Gerald and Kari Deacon: Michelle Vail
209 Jefferson Circle, NE
Sandy Springs, GA 30328
Gerald cell: 301-807-0188 / geraldaldridge@gmail.com
Kari cell: 301-461-8284 / karialdridge@gmail.com
Kari work: 404-727-4542

Brice, Alyce “Dianne” Deacon: Taylor Vivian
2437 Echo Drive
Atlanta, Ga. 30345
Home: 404-633-0568 / dianebrice2007@comcast.net
Cell: 404-984-7310

Brown, Tim and Lyn Deacon: Michelle Vail
Wyatt and Ainsley
2295 Vernon Oaks Way
Dunwoody, GA 30338
Home: 770-396-0107
Tim: 404-202-2897 / tim@thebrownpropertygroup.com
Tim work: 404-537-5200
Lyn: 404-538-1090 / jacquelyncbrown@bellsouth.net

Murray, Lynne “Presh” Deacon: Amanda Dunnick
755 Amster Green Dr.
Atlanta, GA 30350
Home: 770-668-0115 / preshmurray@gmail.com
Cell: 770-329-6627

Nolan, Joe and Peta Deacon: Amanda Dunnick
2821 Fontainebleau Dr.
Dunwoody, GA 30360
Joe: 470-296-3001 / jpn010@gmail.com
Peta: 586-703-3781

Officer Recommendations: If you would like to recommend someone to be a deacon or elder for the Class of 2017, please complete an Officer Recommendation form (available in the lobby and narthex) and place it in the boxes provided. Recommendations are due **TODAY**, December 8. Be sure to have requested permission from the individual you nominate. Thanks from the Officer Nomination Committee.

Mark Your Calendars for the 2014 Women’s Retreat: We will gather together on Friday afternoon, March 14 and return home on Sunday, March 16, 2014. Details will be coming in January so mark your calendars and plan to join us.

For more information on our Advent and Christmas events, please see the flyers available in the lobby, narthex, and on our website, www.slpres.org.

Visit St. Luke’s Library! The library elves have gathered up all the Christmas books for your convenience in finding just the right ones to enjoy this Advent season. From a few board books (*The Animals’ Christmas*), nativity stories to read to preschoolers (*When Joy Came*), and children’s stories (*Best Christmas Pageant Ever*), to adult books of all kinds, there is something for everyone.

Advent Daily Devotionals Take a New Approach for 2013

We are happy to offer this year's daily devotional for Advent in multiple formats: online, via Twitter or Facebook or as a soft cover book! We also have a daily email specifically for youth, elementary students and their families.

This year's devotional is from *Sacred Space*. *Sacred Space* is inspired by the spirituality of Saint Ignatius of Loyola whose insights into God's working with the human heart have been of great assistance to countless people over the centuries. *Sacred Space* is a work of the Irish Province of the Society of Jesus - the Jesuits. We think that you will find the daily devotions a powerful way to prepare yourselves for the birth of Jesus.

To view the daily devotions online <http://www.sacredspace.ie/>

To link to them via Facebook <https://www.facebook.com/sacredspace.ie>

To link to them via Twitter @sacredspacepray

If you do not have computer/smart phone access, a limited number of copies of the book version is available at the church office for \$2 per copy.

If you prefer a more condensed daily devotion, we recommend Pittsburg Presbyterian Theological Seminary's online devotional, which may be found here: http://www.pts.edu/devotional_1. This version is also available via Facebook, Twitter and email. Follow the link above for more information.

For our youth and elementary students, we encourage you subscribe to the Daily Prayer RSS feed (which will send you devotionals daily via email) at <http://www.umsmprays.org/>.

For the children's advent devotional guide from Presbyterian Church, USA, please go to their website at <http://webelieve.pcusa.org/we-believe/advent-calendar>.

If you have any questions or need help, please contact Shannon Dill (shannondill@slpres.org).

FEAST for ALL! Register now for our Wednesday night fellowship and learning program, which begins Wednesday, January 15. Please leave your completed registration form and payment in the picnic basket in Sheppard Hall or in Liz Catlett's mailbox. Note the family dinner deal! More details are in the brochures which can be found on our website, www.slpres.org, in the lobby, in the narthex, or in the Sheppard Hall lobby. Don't forget you can also sign up for dinner weekly on the blue pew cards, or call Sally Hawkins in the church office by noon on Monday.

Men's Bible Study: Meets every Friday, year round, 6:40-8 a.m. in the Parlor, Room 145, and is led by Dave Elkins. Gather with other men before you start your day to share in Bible study and fellowship. We are studying First John.

St. Luke's Presbyterian Women (SLPW)

Monday, December 9: Christmas dinner and communion service. See the Advent brochure.

Circle Meetings will resume in January.

Questions? Contact Ellen Womack, Moderator, at epwomack@bellsouth.net or 770-913-0314.

Adult Sunday School ~ 9:30-10:30 a.m.

Each of our Sunday School classes will be studying

Christmas: Light Splits the Night: Jesus Christ, the Savior-Messiah and King of kings, came to us as a child born in a cattle stall and grew into a person like no other in history. Each Advent season, with all its fanfare, gives us an opening to remember the strange and wonderful time when light split the night and God became one of us. We hope that you will join us on Sundays and at other special times and be a part of this Advent season when we explore how God's amazing light illuminates the world.

Faith Foundations, Room 232

FINCH (Families in Christ), Room 203

The New Testament - The Historical Jesus,
Room 145, Parlor

Seasons of the Spirit, Room 231-233

Soul Food, Room 235

Questions? Contact Shannon Dill at shannondill@slpres.org or 770-393-1424 ext. 229.

Youth Connection (SLYC)

Youth Sunday School: Sundays, 9:30-10:30 a.m. in the Youth rooms

December 8: Toys for Tots toy sorting and packing. Meet at church at 3:45 p.m. After we get the toys packed, your family is welcome to stay for the concert or bring money for dinner at Moe's.

December 15: Youth Christmas Parties - see Christmas events brochure for more information

Youth Choir: Sundays, 7-8 p.m., Choir Room

Questions? Contact Phil Brown at philbrown@slpres.org or 770-393-1424 ext. 238.

News from SPLASH! Children's Ministries

Please remember to bring a "birthday party item" for the Community Assistance Center this week. Families served by the CAC love picking up cake mixes, birthday candles, sprinkles, and party paper products for their own celebrations throughout the year. Our collection box is located under the bulletin board in the main lobby.

Our Christmas Eve Family Worship participants will rehearse after 11:00 worship on Sunday, December 15. This is our only run-through, and it won't take more than an hour. Please contact cathomas@slpres.org or 770-393-1424 ext. 228 with questions or offers to help.

We need a few “Bethlehem people” to complete our Live Nativity on Tuesday evening, December 17. Please contact gkent4@aol.com to volunteer. Children can be angels or shepherds, and adults can be wise men, Mary, or Joseph. The community loves this annual gift from St. Luke’s, so please consider this special opportunity!

Marriage Enrichment Group Monthly Meetings: Our monthly meetings will resume in January. New couples or couples with questions may contact Kimey and Mark Reed at kimeyreed@gmail.com or 404-441-8614.

Next Men’s Breakfast is at 8:00 on January 11, 2014. All St. Luke’s men and their guests are welcome to come and enjoy an excellent breakfast and program. We will have our always popular session on legislative news. Fran Millar, Tom Taylor and Wendell Willard have been invited as our guest speakers. Hope you can attend. Questions? Please contact Daryl Moore: 404-993-6203 ddmoore@yahoo.com

Jobs & Java–St. Luke’s Job Seekers Support Group on Tuesday, December 10: We will meet at noon in Room 230 for networking and support. For information, contact Jim Garrison, jimgarrison@mindspring.com, or Jared Elliot, jared.elliott@att.net.

2014 Flowers: To give flowers in memory or in honor of someone or for a special event, sign up now! Cost is \$80. The calendar is located on the main lobby bulletin board. Questions? Call Celeste Fischer, 404-434-8099 or Faye Cashwell, 770-409-1960.

Better Marriages Getaway Weekend for Your Marriage: Registration is underway for the Better Marriage Getaway Weekend, “Pathways to the Heart”, February 14-16, 2014, at the Sea Palms Resort in St. Simons Island, GA. Registration fee is \$225 per couple before January 13, then \$255. The hotel room is booked separately at \$129 per night. Registration forms can be found at www.BetterMarriagesGA.org or contact Kimey and Mark Reed at kimeyreed@gmail.com or 404-441-8614. This would be a fantastic Valentine’s gift.

The Worship Exploratory Task Force: We are engaged in ongoing discussions on how we can better serve our congregants in worship and we want to hear from you! Please contact a member of the committee or Bruce Jones, chair: stratocaster2@comcast.net or 404-304-5346, with your comments, concerns, and suggestions. Members of the committee are Mary Louise Connor, Parker Cutler, Debi Elkins, Jim Giesler, Jill Hudson, Tom Loftis, Clair Maxwell, Wendy Moreland, Paula Morris, Roby Price, Kimey Reed, Edna Schell, Jim Schell and Jason Whitener.

PALS Enrichment Classes: Perimeter Adult Learning & Services, Inc. begin their classes on January 6 and they run through March 3, 2014 at Dunwoody United Methodist Church. For more information, pick up a pink brochure in the lobby kiosk, contact PALS at 770-698-0801, or visit their website, www.palsonline.org

From the Choir Loft

Next Sunday is *Lessons and Carols*, so be sure to join us at either service for this annual worship highlight.

Chancel Choir (adults) Wednesdays through Dec. 18, 7:30-9 p.m.

Festival Ringers (youth & adults) Wednesdays through Dec. 11, 6:15-7:15 p.m.

Youth Choir (6th-12th grades) Sundays, 7-8 p.m., in the Choir Room; **Dec. 15: 9:30-10:30 a.m.**

Westminster Choir (2nd-5th grades) Wednesdays through Dec. 18, 5-5:45 p.m.

Cherub Choir (4 years - 1st grade) Wednesdays through Dec. 18, 5:15-5:45 p.m.

Contact Clair Maxwell (clairmaxwell@slpres.org or 770-393-1424 ext. 227) about participating and sharing your musical gifts. Join us!

Today at 4:00
in the Sanctuary:

Toys for Tots Benefit Concert

Bring an unwrapped toy
to donate and enjoy
special holiday music

SERVE

Buy Some; Share One: St. Luke's has an ongoing food drive to support local organizations. We ask that every time you go to the grocery store, pick up one extra non-perishable item and put it in one of the carts in the main lobby (just inside the doors at the Manhasset entrance) - Buy Some; Share One! Their most needed items are canned meats such as chicken and tuna, peanut butter, jelly, cereal, rice, canned vegetables, cereal and toilet paper. Please help fill the pantry for neighbors seeking assistance. We are now collecting for the Interfaith Outreach Home.

Volunteers Needed to Provide Dinner at IOH: Interfaith Outreach Home (IOH) provides transitional housing for homeless families. St. Luke's provides and delivers a meal on the third Thursday of each month when the parents receive life skills training. Reimbursement for IOH meals is budgeted. This typically involves approximately 10 adults and 15 children. If you, your family, or group are willing to provide and serve a meal for IOH, please put your name on the sign-up sheet on the lobby bulletin board or contact Al Bridges at 770-394-6581. We still need someone to sign up for the dinner on May 15, 2014. If you would like to help with a dinner for another night, please contact the person already signed up.

Share a Dinner at Journey Night Shelter: St. Luke's provides dinner on the fourth Sunday of the month for 26 homeless men at Journey (formerly Druid Hills). Volunteers are needed for each month, from now through August 2014. The following dates in 2014 are still available: April 27, May 25, June 27, July 27. If you, your family, or group are willing to provide a meal one month, please sign up on the sheet on the lobby bulletin board or you may call Al Bridges at 770-394-6581.

Get together with some friends for a continental breakfast here at St. Luke's every Sunday morning and welcome folks as they arrive. If you and your friends could furnish one of these breakfasts, we will be glad to reimburse you. Please sign up on <http://bit.ly/slpcbrkfst> or contact Jay Burton, jburton@mflaw.com. We also need volunteers to greet folks as they come in through the lobby and narthex. All you need is a smile and to be able to open a door! Families are encouraged to help. Sign up to be a greeter at <http://bit.ly/slpcgreet2> or contact Jay Burton, jburton@mflaw.com.

Looking to serve your church? There is a need for those willing to serve in a friendly and welcoming way as ushers. Duties include greeting everyone, passing out bulletins, taking up the offering, directing congregants during communion, and tidying up after worship. Questions? Contact John Tienken, 770-394-1104, tienkenj@gmail.com.

Helping Hands: This ministry matches short term or emergent needs in the congregation with available resources. Could you use your time and talent to assist someone in the congregation? Examples are setting up or assisting with a computer, driving a member to an appointment, helping change light bulbs. If this interests you, contact Billy Martin, billybeer214@yahoo.com or 770-441-0373. If you need the Helping Hands team, contact your Deacon.

Looking for a great way to meet other St. Luke's members while serving our congregation? St. Luke's meal ministry provides meals for families or individuals who are recovering from a recent surgery or illness, suffering from the loss of a loved one, or celebrating the birth or adoption of a new baby. If you are interested in delivering a meal to a congregation member or would like more information, please contact Krissy Williams at bkcook71@yahoo.com.

R.O.C.K. (Reaching Out Through Crocheting & Knitting): Wednesdays, 10 a.m. - noon. Men and women, young and not quite so young, of varying skill levels (absolute beginners to experts) are welcome! We make prayer shawls, layette sets for preemies, squares for blankets, and a variety of other items for outreach projects.

Prayer Ministry: Our St. Luke's Prayer Ministry Team is involved in intercessory prayer. Intercessory prayer is the act of praying on behalf of others. The Bible is clear that Christians are called to be intercessors. If you would like to become a part of the Prayer Ministry Team, contact Paula Barbin, barbin@fulton.K12.ga.us or 678-297-9877.

Note about the Bulletin: Hello! I'm Tina Knoedler and I'm the new Director of Communications at St. Luke's. I'm thrilled to join the St. Luke's family and to do the work for which God has called me. One of my first responsibilities is to take a fresh look at the weekly bulletin and find ways to make it as useful and user-friendly as possible. I hope that explains this new layout, and I expect to continue making adjustments over the next few weeks as we find what works best. I would appreciate your feedback in this process: TinaKnoedler@slpres.org. Blessings!

LAST SUNDAY:

Tithes & Offerings	\$28,930
8:30 attendance	54
11:00 attendance	225
Nursery	30

Financial reports available online.

CHURCH STAFF

Pastor	Dr. Jason Whitener
Associate Pastor	Rev. Shannon Dill
Associate Pastor	Rev. Phil Brown
Pastor Emeritus	Dr. E. Moss Robertson
Facilities Manager	Roby Price
Receptionist	Sally Hawkins
Treasurer	Gary Phipps
Dir. of Children's Ministries	Catherine Anne Thomas
Dir. of Music & Organist	Clair Maxwell
Dir. of St. Luke's Little Saints Preschool & Kindergarten	Carol Perry
Dir. of Communications	Tina Knoedler
Administrative Assistants	Liz Catlett & Bonnie Farrar

PASTORAL COUNSELING

St. Luke's Perimeter Counseling Center

Georgia C. Griffin, J.D., M. Div., Director
Perimeter Center, Licensed Marriage & Family Therapist/Mediator
404-636-1457, ext. 452 www.cccgeorgia.org



ST. LUKE'S

PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH (USA)

1978 Mount Vernon Road
Dunwoody, Georgia 30338

ELDERS

Class of 2014:

Tricia Bridges, Jim Bryant,
Faye Cashwell (Clerk of Session),
Parker Cutler (Youth Elder),
Annie Hardy, Sally Joyce,
David King, Dick Miller, John Ray

Class of 2015:

Jennie Burroughs, Jared Elliot,
Tricia Igleheart, Fern Mitropoulos,
Mark Reed, Chris Wiseman,
Chris Wallace, Les Woodsides

Class of 2016:

Rich Crutchfield, Mary Guerrant,
Tom Loftis, David McKenney,
Wayne Radloff, Mark Ryan,
David Tharp, Allison Thornton

DEACONS

Class of 2014:

Diane Beidl, Jay Burton,
Jim Giesler (Moderator),
Joyce Johnson, Jean Kammerer,
Paula Morris, Luis Sepulveda,
Carol Sweigert, Kris Turnbull

Class of 2015:

Maria Barnhart, Matt Biggerstaff,
Sarah Caverhill, Peter Keohane,
Julie Knotts, Billy Martin,
Gena Spears, Taylor Vivian,
Krissy Williams

Class of 2016:

Sandra Clay, Amanda Dunnick,
Shawn Hamlin, Niki Rabren,
Katherine Robeson,
Rebecca Strickland, Jenny Troha,
Michelle Vail, Meg Wallace