Thad's Thoughts

This past Sunday, we began a four week sermon series on the Old Testament book of Jonah. We said that according to 2 Kings 14:25, Jonah was a prophet during the reign of King Jeroboam II. This dates the book somewhere around 760 B.C. We also said that Jonah was from the region of Galilee, just north of the town of Nazareth. He was an Israelite who worshiped the God of all creation. He knew God and he was known by God, and God had a specific calling for Jonah to carry out. However, Jonah ran the opposite direction and found himself in a world of trouble. Therefore, we said that we learn from Jonah that it is futile to try and run from God. Often, when things aren't going our way, or when we sense that God might be trying to move us in a direction that we don't want to go, we try to run. We try to hide from God. However, as the Psalmist reminds us, "nowhere can I go from your presence." Running from God is pointless.

As this new year begins, where do you need to turn back to God? Perhaps you got off track somewhere during 2023 and you feel like you are wandering around in a foreign land. Or, maybe you got tired of feeling like your life was out of control and your answer to that was to try and take things into your own hands, only to become frustrated that you can't do it all under your own power. Whatever the case might be, we all stand in need of God and His guidance in our lives. The more we try to control things under our own power, the more frustrated we become. On the contrary, the more we turn things over to God and trust in His control of our lives, the more fulfilling life becomes. As we also learn from Jonah, God is always working a plan for salvation. God only wants the very best for us, and the more we rely on His providence, the more He is able to bless us.

Turn your entire life over to God in 2024, recommit yourself to following His lead, and let Him take control of your life. Most likely, He will lead you into some situations and places that you wouldn't necessarily go under your own power, but if you will follow Him and trust Him, you will be amazed and deeply blessed by what He has in store. When it comes to a life in Jesus Christ, there is no need to run. He has done it all for us!

Thad Haygood, Senior Pastor thaygood@stlukecolumbus.org



ing Disciples of Christ

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ORDER OF WORSHIP

The 11:00 a.m. service is streamed at www.stlukecolumbus.org and broadcast at WLTC 103.7 Lite FM • Broadcast on WTVM Channel 9 at 10:00 a.m.

January 21, 2024 3rd Sunday after the Epiphany 8:30 a.m. & 11:00 a.m. Prelude.......arr. Mark Hayes Welcome and Opening Prayer ***The Affirmation of Faith...... "The Apostles' Creed" I 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 Spirit, born of the Virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, dead, and buried, the third day he rose from the dead; he ascended into heaven, and sitteth at 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 Spirit, the holy catholic*** church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body. and the life everlasting. Amen. *The Gloria Patri (Glory Be to the Father) Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Ghost. As it was in the beginning, is now and ever shall be, world without end, Amen, Amen. Pastoral Prayer and 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 trespasses as we forgive those who trespass against us. And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, forever. (Following the children's sermon at 11:00 a.m., children who are in Kindergarten-4th grade are invited to go to Turner Chapel for Children's Worship. Children return to parents during the Benediction.) *Hymn......Number 396 Offertory Prayer *The Dedication of Offerings......." "The Doxology"Number 95 *Hymn.......Number 557 *The Benediction Choral Benediction Response (11:00 a.m.)..... "Sevenfold Amen"Peter Lutkin Postlude.......God of Grace and God of Glory"Organ Improvisation *** quick means "living"; catholic means "universal" *Standing as able. **See Music Box

OPPORTUNITIES OF THE WEEK

Sunday, January 21

8:30 a.m. Worship Service (Sanctuary, Main)

9:00 a.m. Contemporary Service (MIN) Live streamed at www.stlukecolumbus.org

K-4th Grade Worship

9:45 a.m. Sunday School

10:00 a.m. Pre-recorded broadcast of worship service on WTVM Channel 9

11:00 a.m. Worship Service (Sanctuary, Main)

K-4th Grade Worship

Broadcast over WLTC 103.7 Lite FM and at www.stlukecolumbus.org

beginning at 11:00 a.m.

12:30 p.m. Worship in Spanish (Turner Chapel, Main) 5-7:00 p.m. Sunday Evening Youth (The Corner)

Extreme Kids for 3rd-5th Graders (Gym, MIN)

11:30 p.m. Pre-recorded broadcast of The Nine worship service, WTVM Channel 9

Monday, January 22

SLS Spring Play Rehearsal (LD, MIN) 7:00 a.m.

12 Noon Alzheimer's Community Support Group (Respite)

4:30 p.m. SLS Basketball Game (Gym, MIN)

6:30 p.m. Monday Night Women's Bible Study (Rm 110, Main) College House Ministry - Bible Project (College House) 7:00 p.m.

Tuesday, January 23

7:00 a.m. Men's Prayer Breakfast (SD, MIN) 8:30 a.m. Prayer Moms (History Room, MIN) 9:30 a.m. Women in the Word (Youth Room, MIN) On-Site Respite (1021 Third Ave.) 10:00 a.m.

Soul Sisters Bible Study (College House) 1:00 p.m.

Wednesday, January 24

SLS Spring Play Rehearsal (LD, MIN) 7:00 a.m.

8:30 a.m. SLS Chapel (Sanctuary)

10:00 a.m. On-Site Respite (1021 Third Ave.) Preschool and ELC Chapel (Sanctuary) 10:30 a.m.

SLS Faculty Meeting (LD, MIN) 3:30 p.m.

Handbell Rehearsal (Handbell Room, Main) 5:00 p.m. 5:30 p.m. Midweek Supper and Studies (LD, MIN)

The Talk (Rm 220 and 223)

CMDA Weekly Bible Study (SD, MIN) 6:15 p.m.

Forever Young Bible Study (Rm 221, Main)

6:30 p.m. Middle School and High School Girl/Boys Bible Study (Youth Room)

7:00 p.m. College House Fellowship and Bible Study (College House)

> Choir Rehearsal (Choir Room, Main) Administrative Board Meeting (LD, MIN)

Thursday, January 25

10:00 a.m. On-Site Respite (1021 Third Ave.)

Men's Ministry Meeting (Conference Room) 11:30 a.m. 12 Noon College House Lunch (College House) Jump Bunch (Youth Room, MIN) 3:30 p.m. SLS Basketball Game (Gym, MIN) 5:00 p.m.

Friday, January 26

SLS Spring Play Rehearsal (LD, MIN) 7:00 a.m. 6:00 p.m. Ignite Marriage Conference (LD, MIN)

Saturday, January 27

8:30 a.m. SLS Math Tournament (LD & SD, MIN)

10:00 a.m. Ignite (LD, MIN)

Main (main building). MIN (Ministry Center). Contact the Ministry Center for information about renting or reserving rooms, 706-256-1017.



Enjoy a great meal with great people at a great price Wednesdays at MIDWEEK! Serving lines open at 5:30 p.m. Breakout sessions begin at 6:15 p.m. Children and students also have breakout sessions. MIDWEEK Nursery in the Ministry Center is provided for those needing it.

January 24 & 31 - Knowing God's Names led by Amy Ward February 7 - Knowing God's Names led by Rob Ward

Pay \$9 per person with a \$30 max per family at the door (cash, check, or contactless payment). Menu: Fried chicken, lasagna, green beans, squash casserole, roasted potatoes, garlic breadsticks, salad and assorted desserts.

Permit

ST. LUKE (552680) is published weekly except Christmas by St. Luke Church, 1104 Second Avenue, Columbus, Georgia 31901. Periodical Postage entered and paid at Columbus, GA POSTMASTER: Send address changes to St. Luke, P.O. Box 867, Columbus, GA 31902.

Music Box

Marc F. Boensel, Director of Music Ministries, mboensel@stlukecolumbus.org

The Music Scholarship Fund needs your support! We are able to offer a modest scholarship to music students from CSU who participate in our Music Ministry only through the generous donations of the congregation to the Music Scholarship Fund. Please help as you are able.

2128 Project! The revitalization plan for our wonderful 1948 pipe organ. St. Luke will be 200 years old in 2028, and if we can refurbish our organ with the latest technology by then, we will be preserving this wonderful instrument for the next 100 years! Donations to the **Organ Fund** will go directly to this project.

Please consider supporting the Music Ministry by making a donation to the Music Fund or the Orchestra Fund.

Join the Music Ministry! Both youth and adults are welcome in the Music Ministry. The Chancel Choir meets on Wednesdays at 7pm, and sings at the 8:30 or 11am services weekly. The Handbell Team meets on Wednesdays at 5:00pm, and plays at the 8:30 and 11am services monthly. The St. Luke Orchestra is a concert band that meets periodically throughout the year.

Today's anthem: "Your only son, no sin to hide, but you have sent him from your side to walk upon this guilty sod, and to become the Lamb of God. Your gift of love they crucified, they laughed and scorned him as he died, the humble King they named a fraud, and sacrificed the Lamb of God. O Lamb of God, sweet Lamb of God, I love the holy Lamb of God. O wash me in his precious blood. My Jesus Christ the Lamb of God. I was so lost I should have died, but you have brought me to your side to be led by your staff and rod, and to be called a lamb of God. O Lamb of God...."

CONTEMPORARY SERVICE (THE NINE): 9:00 a.m., Ministry Center, Rev. Thad Haygood, preaching.

WORSHIP IN SPANISH: 12:30 p.m. worship in Turner Chapel.

ALTAR FLOWERS: The beautiful flowers in the chancel area are given to the glory of God and in loving memory of Mr. Neal Pope by Mrs. Virginia Pope.

OPEN ALTAR FLOWER DATES: March 3; April 21 and 28. For more information contact Maggie Roberson at 706-327-4343 or maggie@stlukecolumbus.org.

BIRTH ANNOUNCEMENT: Mr. and Mrs. William Ripley Singer, Jr. announce the birth of a son, Thomas Ripley Singer, on January 12, 2024, in Columbus, GA. Proud grandparents are Mr. and Mrs. Harold Neil Ennis. A rose has been placed in the chancel area in his honor.

CHRISTIAN LOVE AND SYMPATHY: To Mr. and Mrs. Michael Kane (Karey) in the death of her mother and Mr. and Mrs. Jackson Connally (Selena) and Ms. Miller Connally, in the death of their grandmother, Mrs. Kathryn Jackson Murphy, on December 29, 2023, in Box Springs, GA.

To Mr. and Mrs. Tom (Allison) Miller and family in the death of her mother, Mrs. Claudia Kelly Cantrell, on January 12, 2024, in Columbus, GA.

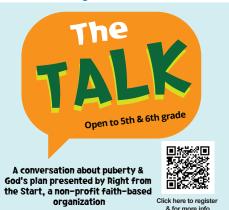
RESPITE MINISTRY

Are you looking for a place to serve where you can help others and have lots of fun too? Respite Care is the place. Each week volunteers engage with participants in games, crafts, exercise and gospel singing. Volunteers and participants become almost like family as they share experiences in a homelike setting. Respite Care also gives a welcome respite to the caregivers for participants who often have dementia. For more information on volunteering call Kathryn Fussell, 706.256.3117.

CHILDREN'S MINISTRY

nmayne@stlukecolumbus.org





Sign up link: https://forms.gle/oKuuY2yP42p9HRiz9

Tanuary 24 & 31, 2024 @ 5:30 p.m.*CHANGE THE DATE* SLSC 2024 • July 22-26



MILITARY MINISTRY

Military Ministry: We invite military couples to join us for the *Ignite* conference on Friday, Jan. 26, and Saturday, Jan. 27. We are offering **complimentary** seats at our table to our military families. We have space for **TWO** couples on Friday and **FOUR** couples on Saturday. Contact Tony Mayne at tony@gallantfew.org to register for the available space.

Making Ministry Happen

St. Luke 2024 Budget

Thank you for your pledges toward our 2024 operating budget! To date we have received pledges totaling \$3,076,997 for ministry and mission in 2024. This is 91% of last year's pledge total and includes 45 brand new pledges! If you have not yet returned your pledge for 2024, let me encourage you to add your commitment to these that have been made. The Administrative Board will vote to finalize the 2024 budget at our meeting on Wednesday, January 24.

-Rev. Thad Haygood

You can make your pledge by either:

- 1. Filling out a pledge card found around the church, or
- Contacting Renee Wilkinson at the church (706-327-4343, renee@stlukecolumbus.org)

Thank you for your partnership in ministry here in Columbus and around the world.

ABIDING GIFTS

If you wish to honor or remember someone, please attach to your check, the name of that person and the address to which you wish the acknowledgment sent and mail or bring to the church office. Contact maggie@stlukecolumbus.org.

Memorial Maintenance Fund: In memory of Mrs. Louise Darrah Martin by Dr. and Mrs. Greg Foster. In memory of Mr. W. J. Barrs by Mr. and Mrs. Sam Massey, Ms. Angie Rush, Mr. and Mrs. John Shinkle, and Mr. and Mrs. Andy Robinson.

Respite Care: In honor of Mrs. Barbara Warren, Mrs. Pam Reynolds, Mrs. Melanie Hutchens, and Mr. and Mrs. Larry King by Miss Olivia Binns.

Respite Construction Fund: In memory of Mrs. Eudine Horton by Mr. and Mrs. Larry King.

Organ Fund: In honor of Mrs. Jerrie Tinkler, Mrs. Terri Grammer, and Mrs. Gay Dickinson by Mrs. Linda Phillips.

NOW Class Fund: In memory of Mrs. Joan Brannen by Leon Belk and Frances Woolfolk.

THE ST. LUKE PRAYER ROOM MINISTRY

wants church members who are willing to come to the church's prayer room for one hour per month to pray for, write encouraging notes to, and/or make phone calls to those who are on our prayer list. To sign up to serve, please contact Julie Widener at 706-327-4343.

Missions Moment

Chuck Bolton, Director of Missions and Outreach, cbolton@stlukecolumbus.org

"...How beautiful are the feet of those who bring good news." Rom. 10:15

Is God calling you to step out and make a difference in the lives of those that desperately need to know His love for them? Is He calling you to go?

Please consider a life changing mission trip with us this year.

- May 18th 28th Kenya Family trip to Naomi's Village
- June 16th 22nd Mexico Church wide family trip to Ensenada, Mexico with YUGO Ministries
- July 28th Aug. 3rd Mexico St. Luke College House Ministry trip to Ensenada, Mexico with YUGO Ministries
- August 8th 17th Kenya Adults/Couples trip to Naomi's Village
- 2025: July 17th 25th Kenya Family trip to Naomi's Village



SUNDAY NIGHT STUDENTS 5-7 PM

St. Luke Free Spirits

Please join us for a quided tour of the

NATIONAL CIVIL WAR

NAVAL MUSEUM

Tuesday, January 23

Meet at 10:30 a.m. at The Museum \$20/person

(includes entrance, box lunch and guided tour)

For reservations, contact Julie at 706-327-4343 or email jwidener@stlukecolumbus.org by Friday, January 19, 2024.

COLLEGE HOUSE MINISTRY



Monday - 7pmBible Project and Free Food

Wednesday - 7pmWorship, Message and Free Food

Thursday - Noon-1:30pm Free Lunch

Sunday - 10am Sunday School at College House