Volume 6 May 17, 2026 No. 20

Thad's Thoughts

School is winding down, children are getting excited, and parents are stressed! Did I sum that up correctly? Children are so excited because responsibility and homework are over for a while. They have nothing on their minds except pool parties, sleeping late, and relaxing for a few months. Parents, on the other hand, are stressed because they have to find the balance between a regular workload and coordinating the social life for their excited children. As I witness all of that happening, it takes me back to the days when Laura and I were those parents. It seems like just last year we were part of the stressed out parents club, trying to balance it all.

If we aren't careful, we wind up wishing away seasons of life. During those stressful parenting days, it is easy to slip into thinking that life will be better once we don't have to cart children around. However, time flies and we find ourselves with an empty nest wishing that we could do it all over again. The point is this, life is short and our best bet is to enjoy each stage for what it is. Here are the lyrics to a song by Jeremy Camp called, "Keep Me in the Moment." I think this sums it up well:

"I've been thinking 'bout time, and where does it go
How can I stop my life from passing me by, I don't know
I've been thinking 'bout family and how it's going so fast
Will I wake up one morning just wishing that I could go back
I've been thinking 'bout lately, maybe,
I can make a change and let You change me
So, with all of my heart, this is my prayer
Singing, oh Lord, keep me in the moment
Help me live with my eyes wide open
'Cause I don't wanna miss what You have for me
Singing, oh Lord, show me what matters
Throw away what I'm chasing after
'Cause I don't wanna miss what You have for me
Keep me in the moment"

Make the most of the time you have. Be present in the moment. Don't wish away anything. God has a wonderful plan for your life in this season whatever season that is. Praise Him for that, and enjoy the moment!

Thad Haygood, Senior Pastor
thaygood@stlukecolumbus.org

St. Luke CHURCH

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Ministry Center (706) 256-1017
Prayer Room (706) 327-4078
E-mail: stluke@stlukecolumbus.org
Website: www.stlukecolumbus.org
www.facebook.com/stlukecolumbusga

OUR WORSHIP SERVICES

Traditional Service 8:30 a.m. & 11:00 a.m. (Sanctuary)
Contemporary Service 9:00 a.m. (Ministry Center)
Worship in Spanish 12:30 p.m. (Turner Chapel)

ORDER OF WORSHIP

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

May 17, 2026 Ascension Sunday

8:30 a.m. & 11:00 a.m.

Prelude....."Lift High the Cross".....arr. Mark Hayes

Welcome and Opening Prayer

*Hymn ....."Crown Him with Many Crowns".....Number 327

***The Affirmation of Faith..... "The Apostles' Creed" .....Number 881
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) .....Number 70

The Sacrament of Baptism (11:00).....Rayleigh Addison Maddox
Daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Tyler (Kathryn) Maddox.

As Christ's body, the church, we reaffirm both our rejection of sin and our commitment to Christ. With God's help, we will proclaim the good news and live according to the example of Christ. We will surround the Maddox family with a community of love and forgiveness, that they may grow in their trust in God and be found faithful in their service to others. We will pray for them, that they may be true disciples who walk in the way that leads to life.

Anthem....."Crown Him Lord of All".....Benjamin Hanby
"Who is He in yonder stall, at whose feet the shepherds fall? Who is He in deep distress, fasting in the wilderness? *'Tis the Lord! O wondrous story! 'Tis the Lord! The King of glory! At His feet we humbly fall, crown Him, crown Him Lord of all!* Who is He the people bless for His words of gentleness? Who is He to whom they bring all the sick and sorrowing? *'Tis the Lord... .* Lo at midnight, who is He prays in dark Gethsemane? Who is He on yonder tree dies in grief and agony? *Tis the Lord... .* Who is He that from the grave comes to heal and help and save? Who is He that from His throne rules through all the world alone? *Tis the Lord... .*"

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.

Choral Prayer Response....."Danish Amen".....Anon.

*Hymn ....."Because He Lives".....Number 364

Offertory....."Sonata No. 2".....Georg Philipp Telemann

The Dedication of Offerings..... "The Doxology" .....Number 95

The Written Word.....Acts 1:6-14 *(p. 110 NT in pew Bible)*

The Spoken Word....."**THE ASCENSION**".....*Rev. Thad Haygood*

*Hymn....."Thine Be the Glory".....Number 308

*The Benediction

Choral Benediction Response *(11:00)*.."Sevenfold Amen".....Peter Lutkin

Postlude....."Thine Be the Glory".....Organ Improvisation

Standing as able.* ** quick* means "living"; *catholic* means "universal"

OPPORTUNITIES OF THE WEEK

Sunday, May 17

8:30 a.m. Worship Service (Sanctuary, Main)
9:00 a.m. The Nine - Contemporary Service (MIN)
Live streamed at www.stlukecolumbus.org
K-5th Grade Worship (MIN)
10:00 a.m. Pre-recorded broadcast of worship service on WTVM Channel 9
(Broadcast over WLTC 103.7 Lite FM and at www.stlukecolumbus.org beginning at 11:00 a.m.)
Worship in Spanish (Turner Chapel, Main)
11:00 a.m. Worship Service (Sanctuary)/K-5th Grade Worship (MIN)
4:00 p.m. SLC Security Meeting (Room 110)
5:00 p.m. Student Ministry (Youth Room)
11:30 p.m. Pre-recorded broadcast of The Nine worship service, WTVM Channel 9

Monday, May 18 **SLS TEACHER IN SERVICE DAY**

10:00 a.m. On-Site Respite (1021 Third Ave.)
11:00 a.m. Angie Hart Funeral (Sanctuary)

Tuesday, May 19

7:00 a.m. Men's Bible Study (SD, MIN)
9:00 a.m. Free Spirits Day trip to Ft. Mitchell

Wednesday, May 20

10:00 a.m. On-Site Respite (1021 Third Ave.)
12 Noon Men's Young Professional Bible Study (Youth Room, MIN)
Ministry Center Committee Meeting (Meeting Room)
3:00 p.m. College House Ministry (College House)
5:00 p.m. Handbell Rehearsal (Handbell Room)
6:00 p.m. Student Ministry (Gym, Youth Area)
7:00 p.m. Chancel Choir Rehearsal (Choir Room, Main)

Thursday, May 21

10:00 a.m. On-Site Respite (1021 Third Ave.)
1:30 p.m. Blood Drive (Stockwell Hall, Main)
4:00 p.m. Right from the Start Board Meeting (Conference Room)

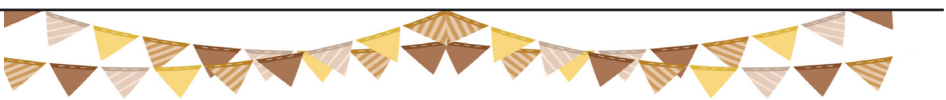
Friday, May 22

8:30 a.m. Military Ministry Weekly Bible Study (MMC, 1022 2nd Ave.)
9:00 a.m. Area on Aging Wellness Fair (LD, MIN)
5:00 p.m. Bokota/Drew Wedding Rehearsal (Chapel)

Saturday, May 23

4:00 p.m. Bokota/Drew Wedding (Chapel)
6:30 p.m. New Dawn Choir Concert (Sanctuary)

Main (Main Building). MIN (Ministry Center). LD (Large Dining Room). SD (Small Dining Room), MMC (Military Ministry Center). Contact the Ministry Center for information about renting or reserving rooms, 706-256-1017.



Happy Retirement Mitch!

Please join us for a reception to honor and celebrate Mitch Watts on his retirement on **Sunday, May 31st at Noon in Stockwell Hall.**

CONNECT with one another

OUR KNOWN SICK: Jack Hughston: Leita Coleman, ICU Room 4. **Orchard View Rehabilitation:** Bryan Sargent, 116. **St. Francis:** Tommy Kemp, 239.

IN MEMORIAM
Mrs. Angie Hart
5-5-26

ST. LUKE CHURCH WOMEN'S MINISTRY

Breathe
making room for sabbath

Step into a summer of renewal and discover the gift of rest God intends for His people. Through the study Breathe, by Priscilla Shirer, women will explore freedom from busyness, the blessing of Sabbath, and how making margin for God can reshape daily life.

Book Link

Join Kent Butler and Suzanne McCluskey, as they lead this 5-week study, June 16-July 14, Tuesdays from 1:30-3:00 PM at the College House.

Registration is open through June 1.
Contact Doris Reid to sign-up at 706.888.9172 or dorishreid@gmail.com
Use the QR code to order your study book.

GROW in our relationship with Christ

Who's on the Couch?

PRESENTED BY THE ST. LUKE CHURCH WOMEN'S MINISTRY

Join us for a lunch where stories take center stage! A green couch, **A SURPRISE GUEST**, and a powerful testimony you won't hear anywhere else.

Take a seat, share a meal, and be part of the story. Each gathering brings a different voice; honest, encouraging, and rooted in what God is doing in real life.

Thursday, June 4th
12:00 pm - 1:00 pm
Ministry Center, Large Dining Room
Cost: $15 includes lunch

Scan QR code or
call Julie @706-327-4343 to register

COLLEGE HOUSE
Revelation 3:20

College House

For more information
contact Kami Davidson
kdavidson@stlukecolumbus.org

Sunday School
@ College House after The Nine

Mondays @7:00 p.m.
Dinner and Bible study

Wednesdays @7:00 p.m.
Dinner,worship, message
FREE LUNCH Noon-1:30 p.m.
(stay and eat or take a plate to go)

STudents LUKE
COLUMBUS. GA

For more information, contact Derek Hay, Director of Student Ministries,
dhay@stlukcolumbus.org

MAY 17: SENIOR SEND OFF!
4:00-7:00 p.m.
A fun night together celebrating our seniors as they close out their time with SLSM. Barbs for dinner!

ST. LUKE kids
BIRTH – 5TH GRADE

For more information, contact Maddie Kratchman, *Director of Children's Ministries,* mkratchman@stlukecolumbus.org

ALL THINGS KIDS!

Scan the QR code to find information and register for all upcoming St. Luke Kids events.

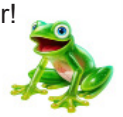
ST. LUKE SUMMER CAMP

July 6-10
Rising 4th and 5th graders
Scan QR code to register.

St. Luke Vacation Bible School

July 13-17
Pre-K - rising 5th graders.
Scan the kids QR code above to register!

Volunteers Needed for VBS!
Scan the kids QR Code to Sign up



SERVE others in response to Christ's call

For more information on how you can serve, contact Laura Haygood, *Director of Missions and Outreach,* lhaygood@stlukecolumbus.org

MAY MISSION BASKET

This May, we're caring for women and families in tangible ways through Belize and our Uptown Outreach Center.

Please bring products for women such as feminine products, incontinence pads/pull ups, and adult diapers.

Baskets will be located outside both services.

MISSION OPPORTUNITY- VBS WITH WILSON HOMES

Monday, June 1st & 8th and Wednesday, June 3rd & 10th
11:45 a.m. - 2:00 p.m.

We are excited to share the gospel by doing a mini VBS (2 hours per day) with our friends at Wilson Homes this summer. Please let Laura know if you would like to volunteer. High school age or older.

BE A PART OF ST. LUKE'S

MINI MISSION

Help provide shoes for at-risk kids attending camp... each kid will receive a pair of Reebok Shaquille O'Neal shoes!

250 camp kids
$18/pair of shoes
$4500 total needed for shoes

PURCHASE SHOES AND/OR REGISTER FOR DAY TRIP HERE

Camp Grace
WED, JUNE 10

**Make checks payable to St Luke Church for Camp Grace
Questions? Contact LHaygood@stlukecolumbus.org or 706.256.1310

Details: St. Luke buses leave the church at 3:30pm on June 10th, drive to Camp Grace in Roberta, GA, and return that evening.

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.

Food Pantry: In honor of Mrs. Amy Ward by Mrs. Mildred McAfee.
Youth Ministry: In honor of Mr. Derek Hay by Mr. and Mrs. Bryan Christopher.
Respite Care: In memory of Marvin and Wynelle Foster by Mr. and Mrs. Larry Cardin.
Children's Ministry: In honor of Rayleigh Maddox by Mrs. Peggy Gindville.
Memorial Maintenance Fund: In memory of Mrs. Angie Hart by Mrs. Dianne Estes.

Military Ministry

Warriors Battle brings together a community of brave individuals who share a bond forged by honor, sacrifice, and service. Offering a supportive environment where these courageous individuals can share their experiences, be heard, and receive encouragement and empathy from their peers through a proven biblical faith-based approach. Join Warriors Set Free in one of their upcoming Men's Encounters (Warriors Battle) from August 12 - 15, 2026, in Brandenburg, KY, or November 4-7, 2026, in Lake Allatoona, GA. There is also a devoted Women's Encounter (Heroes Reflect) from November 18-21, 2026, in Lake Allatoona, GA. Learn more at warriorssetfree.org/battle/.

Respite Care

SAFETY TIPS FOR CAREGIVING

Reduce clutter, install locks and ensure adequate lighting to prevent falls and wandering. Consider a GPS watch to track where your loved one is for walks and when you are separated. For more information on St. Luke Respite Care Ministry, call Kathryn Fussell, 706.256.3117

Acolyte Ministry

If you have a 4th, 5th, or 6th grader interested in serving as an acolyte in 2026, please contact:
Laurie Dudley @704-891-7837

WORSHIP together and experience God's love

Music Box

Marc F. Boensel, DMA; 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.

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

Join the Music Ministry! Children, 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 Children's Choir meets on Sunday afternoons. The St. Luke Orchestra is a wind and percussion ensemble that meets periodically throughout the year.

Thank you Gabriel Grant for playing oboe in the offertory today!

ALTAR FLOWERS: The beautiful flowers in the chancel area are given to the glory of God and in loving memory of Mrs. Weezie Butler by Mr. and Mrs. Steve (Kent) Butler and Mr. and Mrs. Al (Betsy) Ramsay.

OPEN ALTAR FLOWER DATES: June 28; July 5; August 23; September 13, 20, 27; October 11, 25; November 15, 22, 29.

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