

TIDINGS

VOL. 63, NO. 3

a newsletter of St. Luke's Episcopal Church and School

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ST. LUKE'S LIVE
ROOM RENOVATIONS
FALL FORMATION

Fall 2022



ST. LUKE'S
EPISCOPAL CHURCH & SCHOOL

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Upcoming Baptism Dates

Oct 2

Nov 6, All Saints Sunday

Dec 4

Jan 8

Feb 4

We have a Sunday set aside each month to celebrate the sacrament of baptism. For more information on being baptized or having your child baptized at St. Luke's, contact Sara Spreen at (210) 828-6425 or email saras@stlukes-sa.net.

Congratulations
TO THE NEWLY BAPTIZED!



In June and July new members of the St. Luke's family were received into the church through the sacrament of baptism!

Harvey Alexander Bruns-Chuguyev
Leonard William Bruns-Chuguyev
Ava Eliana Akula
Korban Kole Akula

From the RECTOR



Rector
RECTOR@STLUKES-SA.NET

The beginning of the school year is always an exciting time. Here at St. Luke's, there was so much activity behind the scenes throughout the summer, with so many people getting ready for St. Luke's School's new academic year. The activity ramped up in August when faculty showed up – first new teachers, and then returning teachers. The building staff went above and beyond getting classrooms and other school spaces ready for the first day of school.

The school year got off to a great start here. As I write, the School has 256 students enrolled, and there is so much to celebrate. If you're ever curious about what's going on at the School, I encourage you to call and arrange a tour.

I'm grateful also for the teachers and school administrators in our church community with roles at other schools, and I hope their year is also off to a strong start. I give thanks for the people who dedicate themselves to schools of all shapes and sizes, which play such an important role in our society. It was great fun on August 14 to ask God's blessings on all the students and teachers and staff who came to church that day. That occasion also helped to build up excitement for the classes we'll offer here for people of all ages who want to nurture their own faith.

With the beginning of the new school year comes the beginning of the church's new program year. In the fall, ministries return after taking time off in the summer, and we introduce new offerings as well.

I'm especially excited about Rally Day on Sunday, September 11. With summer and the Labor Day weekend behind us, Rally Day serves as a chance for all of us to recommit to getting involved in the life and the ministries of the church. The Ministry Fair will once again feature displays highlighting the many ministry opportunities at St. Luke's. I hope you'll plan to tour the Ministry Fair: you can celebrate all that's going on these days, and I hope you'll keep your eyes open for new ways that you might get involved.



My hope continues to be that St. Luke's Church will be a place where people can meet God in worship, make connections with other people, and put their talents and resources to good use in efforts that serve God's purposes and make a difference in the world.

See you on Sunday!

IRV ✓ +

THE REV. IRV CUTTER

Rector
rector@stlukes-sa.net



From the ASSOCIATE RECTOR



Associate Rector
REAGANG@STLUKES-SA.NET

SUNDAY MORNINGS AT 10 AM THIS FALL

BOOK STUDY: THE GIFTS OF IMPERFECTION BY BRENÉ BROWN

Join David Chidgey and Sudi Alexander for a dive into the work of Brené Brown.

What transforms this book from words to effective daily practices are the 10 guideposts to wholehearted living. The guideposts not only help us understand the practices that will allow us to change our lives and families, they also walk us through the unattainable and sabotaging expectations that get in the way. Brené writes, "This book is an invitation to join a wholehearted revolution. A small, quiet, grassroots movement that starts with each of us saying, 'My story matters because I matter.' Revolution might sound a little dramatic, but in this world, choosing authenticity and worthiness is an absolute act of resistance."

Class begins October 2nd in the Large Conference Room. Books are \$15 and can be purchased from the church office, or you may purchase your own copy at a local bookstore or online.

"WHY WE DO WHAT WE DO, AND HOW TO DO IT!"

Rev. Reagan will be guiding you through personal piety in worship (when and how to cross yourself, when and how to genuflect), Eucharistic theology (tour of the sacristy included), and use of the Book of Common Prayer (for corporate and personal use).

We will meet at 10 am beginning September 18 for four weeks.

INQUIRERS' CLASS

If you are new to The Episcopal Church, we invite you to join Fr. Irv for an introductory class to our branch of the Jesus movement. Topics will include worship, history, structure, theology, and more. This class counts as the requirement to be confirmed or received into The Episcopal Church. Class runs for six weeks beginning October 16th. Location TBD.

COURAGEOUS CONVERSATIONS

We live in a time of sharp political divide. As Christians we are called to see the world through the lens of the Gospels of Jesus. In this facilitated discussion we will talk about how to approach real life topics in a Christ like fashion. We will discuss how Jesus might approach modern day issues, and how we as Christians can give an alternate approach to the division we see around us.

ADVENT SERIES

During the season of Advent we will be preparing our hearts and minds for the coming of Emmanuel at Christmas. We'll take these four weeks to slow down from the busy rush of shopping, decorating, and cooking, and take time to read scripture and prepare a space for Jesus to come into our lives. November 27 - December 21 in the Large Conference Room.

**FOR INFORMATION ON OUR ONGOING WEEKLY STUDY
GROUPS VISIT SLECSA.ORG/ADULT-FORMATION**

SUNDAY MORNING CLASS SCHEDULE

- September 18 - October 9 "Why we do what we do, and how to do it"
- October 2 - November 20: Brené Brown Book Study
- October 16 - November 20: Courageous Conversations & Inquirer's Class
- November 2 - December 18: Advent Series

SPECIAL EVENTS

PARISH RETREAT

September 23-25

Mark your calendars for the St. Luke's Parish Retreat September 23-25 at Camp Capers. This is a retreat for our whole parish to gather together to celebrate our community and look to the future with hope.

The Rev. Beth Wyndham, Vicar of St. Nicholas Episcopal Church in Bulverde, will be our guest speaker on Saturday morning. You can learn more about St. Nicholas and Rev. Beth at stnickshillcountry.org

There will be opportunities to enjoy the beauty of Camp Capers through worship, fellowship, walking, kayaking, swimming, the ropes course, and more.

Register for the retreat at bit.ly/SLEC-2022-Retreat or by scanning the QR code above. For scholarship information contact Rev. Reagan.



THEOLOGY GOES TO THE MOVIES

Thursday, October 6, 6-7:30 pm

Join Bryan Gonzalez for this new quarterly series where we will explore theological questions through the lens of popular movies. October's film will be *The Good, The Bad, and The Ugly* and we'll be looking at the theology of morality. Participants are encouraged to watch the film ahead of time (streaming services to access the film will be recommended and a physical copy will be made available prior to the class), while clips from the film will be used to highlight key moments that pertain to the theological topic. Teenagers are welcome if accompanied by a parent or guardian.

Blood Drive

On September 18th (Sunday) from 7:30am-12:30pm there will be a blood drive held at St. Luke's Episcopal Church. We've all seen the stories in the paper, on TV, or social media about the dire need for blood in the San Antonio community. Be a hero and save lives by donating during this time. The bloodmobile will be parked on the south driveway at the base of the steps to the church. It only takes about 45 minutes to complete the paperwork and give to save a life. Use the QR code below to sign up for the best time that fits your schedule.





New Staff

Hi! My name is Jennie McLendon, and I am the new Director of The Mustard Seed. I am so excited to join the St. Luke's community! My husband and I have been married for 14 years. We have 3 children (ages 9, 11 and 23), two dogs and two guinea pigs. I enjoy spending time with family, camping and cooking.

I have spent the last six years as an Older 2s teacher at Alamo Heights United Methodist Weekday School. I enjoy being around children and helping them learn and grow. Watching children discover new things brings me great joy. I am looking forward to welcoming our students on Tuesday, August 30th. Our teachers have been busy preparing their classroom. The newly renovated classrooms are so bright and inviting.

I am thankful for the opportunity to lead The Mustard Seed, and I am grateful for the staff who has helped make this a smooth transition. This is going to be a great school year! My door is always open. Feel free to pop in and say "Hello". If I can help with any Mustard Seed questions, you can also send an email to me at mustardsee@stlukes-sa.net.

Jennie McLendon,
Mustard Seed Director
MUSTARDSEED@STLUKES-SA.NET

Who, What, When, Where?

LUNCH BUNCH

The Lunch Bunch is an outreach ministry of St. Luke's Church, offering informative and entertaining programs each month. We meet on the 3rd Tuesday of each month at noon.* Box lunches have been our offerings this past year as we recovered from the pandemic. We hope to return to our delicious buffet meals soon. We will keep you updated!

This fellowship is open to all - parishioners and friends, men and women, and it is not limited to seniors! We invite all interested folks to join us. Sign-up sheets are posted in the church halls three weeks prior to each event. You can also RSVP by contacting the church. Our next program is on September 20, so RSVP today!

Please join us! We hope to see you in September!

Lunch price is \$12.00.

UPCOMING PROGRAM DETAILS

- September 20: Godly Play with Ann Allen
- October 18: Water Conservation with Mark Petersen
- November 21: Hemisfair Park Conservancy with Anne Krause
- December 13: Songs of the Season with Jessie Ash

*December's meeting will be held on the 13th to allow for Christmas travel.

Join us as we celebrate and envision the future of
our youth and family ministry at



St. Luke's LIVE

on
Wednesday, September 28
at 6:30 in the evening
St. Luke's Episcopal Church
San Antonio, TX

Dinner & Drinks
Live Auction & Raffle
Rick Cavender's Band performing
Childcare will be available

Ticket sales and underwriting are now available online
and in-person. If you would like to purchase tickets by mail
please detach this page and fill out the reverse side.

REGISTER FOR **St. Luke's LIVE!**



You can use the form below to purchase tickets for St. Luke's LIVE! on September 28, 2022, at 6:30 pm. The event will feature dinner and drinks, an auction and raffle, and live music from Rick Cavender's Band. Tickets to the event are \$50, benefitting the ministries of St. Luke's Episcopal Church. Kris Spilker will present on the present and future of our Children & Family Ministry.

Remove this page from the Tidings and mail it along with a check to 11 St. Luke's Ln, San Antonio, TX 78209. Multiply that number by \$50 to reach your total amount. (For example, \$100 for two tickets, \$150 for three tickets, and so on.) Please note St. Luke's LIVE in the memo line.

First and Last Name: _____

Phone Number: __ (____) _____

Email Address: _____

Address: _____

How many tickets would you like to purchase?: _____

If you would like to pay online you may do so at www.slecsa.org. If you would like to pay by credit card you can pay over the phone by calling us at 210-828-6425. All payment methods are accepted on-site if you are joining us for worship on Sunday morning.

Upcoming events from the DIOCESE OF WEST TEXAS



We Will Continue - And How! // September 16 - 17

A diocesan festival of fellowship and revival taking place September 16 and 17 at the San Marcos Convention Center. Join together with friends from all corners of the Episcopal Diocese of West Texas for two days of Good News, worship, music, workshops, exhibits, and celebration, featuring the Rev. Becca Stevens of Thistle Farms as keynote speaker.

Spiritual Retreat in Recovery // September 30 - October 2

Spiritual Retreats in Recovery provides a safe place to deepen one's spiritual journey - open to all in recovery from alcoholism or other abuses, as well as to families and friends affected by the disease of addiction. All members of twelve-step programs (AA, Al-anon, NA, CA, ACA, etc.) are welcome to share their experience, strength, and hope with each other in a community of love and support, exploring what it was like, what happened, and what we are like now.

51st Annual Silent Retreat // October 13 - 16

Each year, the Diocesan Silent Retreat is anchored in praying the Daily Offices together and celebrating daily Eucharist. Communal silence is nourished by sharing holy space and the natural beauty of the surroundings, with ample personal time built in to "be your naked self before God and be found by him" (Bill Gaultiere). Individual lodging space with balcony views, delicious meals, and a companionable community all contribute to the spiritual refreshment and restoration that are unique gifts of solitude and the practice of silence.

The Election of our Next Bishop // Important upcoming dates

September 19, 2022 - Diocesan Profile published

September 26, 2022 - Nomination Process opens

October 10, 2022 - Nomination Process closes

October 2022 - Nominating Committee interviews of nominees and makes reference calls; background checks conducted

November 1, 2022 - Nominating Committee invites selected candidates to Discernment Retreat

November 14-17, 2022 - Nominating Committee and Consultant on retreat with selected candidates

December 18, 2022 - Final slate of candidates for Bishop Coadjutor published

**GET MORE INFO ON ALL
OF THESE EVENTS AT
WWW.DWTX.ORG**



CHILDREN AND FAMILY MINISTRIES

Director of Children and Family Ministries
KRISTINES@STLUKES-SA.NET



103 before



103 after



102 before



ROOM REVISIONS

The staff of both our Nursery and Mustard Seed programs know that providing an engaging space for infants and toddlers is foundational to our ministry and mission as a church. As we welcome many new families with young children into our church family, we knew it was time to refresh and redesign certain rooms.

Throughout the summer, we focused attention on four rooms for reasons rooted in accomplishing our mission. Updating these areas communicates that we highly value “each member of our community” as reflected in our mission statement, by creating a sacred space for the children, leaders, and educators to work in harmony.

St. Luke's children, youth, and family ministries show Christ's love through Inclusivity, Intentionality, and Service.

CLASSROOMS / NURSERY ROOMS:

Keeping the developmental needs of each age group in mind, classrooms needed to be better set up for inviting engaging play, which is a child's “work”. The renovations to the classrooms allow for more ample enclosed storage so toys, books, and materials can be rotated regularly and will ensure a safer and more cohesive educational environment. You can learn about all of our Sunday School classes and other groups and events for families at www.slecsa.org.

Changes that have been made to our classrooms include...

INFANT / 1 & 2 CLASSROOM:

- Child safe blinds on all windows
- Larger sink with built-in cabinets
- Flooring replaced with laminate wood for easier sanitization
- Repainted built-in shelves and added sliding cabinet doors
- Walls painted
- New developmentally appropriate classroom rugs

TODDLER 3 & 4:

- Child safe blinds on all windows
- Larger sink and cabinets with softer corners
- Wider/deeper floor to ceiling built-in cabinets with sliding doors
- Walls painted
- New developmentally appropriate classroom rugs

OFFICE:

We redesigned the shared directors office of both the Mustard Seed and Nursery to be a more inviting space for parents to visit with directors in a professional and welcoming setting. One of the main improvements has been repainting the walls and shelves, enclosing them with sliding cabinet doors. We also added new laminate wood flooring to match the classrooms. Furniture was rearranged and added to be welcoming for all ages.

BRIDE'S ROOM / MOTHER'S ROOM:

Vestments have been moved upstairs to room 204 in order to redesign the Bride's Room as a multi-used space both for brides and nursing mothers. We envision a family room set up with seating areas for brides, bridal parties, and for nursing mothers. A television monitor is being installed with a live feed to services.

Thank you for your consideration and for all you do to ensure we have truly sacred spaces for all ages.

**SIGN UP FOR ST. LUKE'S E-NEWS ON SLECSA.ORG
TO GET THE LATEST UPDATES.**



102 after



office before



office after

FALL CALENDAR AT ST. LUKE'S

SEPT. 4 // INTERGENERATIONAL GODLY PLAY

SEPT. 11 // RALLY DAY

SEPT. 18 // SUNDAY SCHOOL BEGINS

SEPT. 25 // COMBINED GODLY PLAY

OCT. 2 // BLESSING OF THE ANIMALS (6PM)

OCT. 16 // FALL FESTIVAL

NOV. 6 // ALL SAINTS' DAY

Volunteer Opportunity SUNDAY SCHOOL TEACHER

We are excited about the plans we have for Sunday school classes this new school year. While we do have skilled and wise teachers at all age levels, we are still working on forming four teams with 2 storytellers/teachers and 2 teaching assistants per team.

The minimum commitment we ask is to sign up for two Sundays a month. That comes out to two hours each month in-class time. Curriculum and materials are provided and ready to use. We ask that teachers and assistants commit to praying for their class and to memorizing the story and reading all materials beforehand to be ready.

We believe that teaching is truly a mutual blessing and that we are all always learning. If you have a spirit of learning and are interested in helping us lead, please pray about joining one of our class teams as a teacher or assistant. I look forward to talking with you about getting involved.

Kris Spilker, Director of Children and
Family Ministries
KRISTINES@STLUKES-SA.NET

YOUTH MINISTRIES



Director of
Youth Ministries
HANNAHB@STLUKES-SA.NET

This summer we had a great time reading, playing games, and learning more about the prophets of the Old Testament! I wanted to thank everyone who helped make this summer happen, I am so grateful for all the help I have received from our incredible congregation.

Youth activities will begin again on September 18. We will continue having youth groups on Sundays with intermittent programming throughout the week for volunteer events or group activities. Middle school youth group will be from 5-5:30 pm, we will have a shared meal from 5:30-6 pm, and highschool youth group will be from 6:30-7:30 pm.

A combined faith formation hour will take place from 10-10:50 am on Sundays in the youth room. Like last year, we will learn from the *Connect* curriculum to help students connect with one another and the Bible!

If you are interested in volunteering with the youth please reach out to me via email! We have such an amazing and intelligent group of students in our program who are passionate and curious about doing good for the church and for the world.

**SIGN UP FOR ST. LUKE'S E-NEWS ON SLECSA.ORG
TO GET THE LATEST UPDATES.**

Welcoming the BROTHERHOOD OF ST. ANDREW

The Brotherhood of St. Andrew (BOSA) is a Men's Ministry of the Episcopal Church and Anglican Communion. It is based on three disciplines – Prayer, Study, and Service. A new chapter of BOSA will begin at St. Luke's in the fall. David Cotton will be working with Steven Rodriguez on "Prayer," Charles John will head up "Study," and David Schrantz will lead "Service." We are currently having a membership drive to gain as many members as possible when we submit our application in September. The officers have already paid their annual membership dues of \$50.00. All male members of St. Luke's are asked to prayerfully consider joining during September. Of course, you can always join later, but we want to start with a large contingent of men interested in improving their prayer life, Biblical study, and service to those less fortunate in our community. Please email one of the officers to get the process started.

President - David Schrantz
sooepigs@satx.rr.com

Vice President - Charles John
cjohnaia@gmail.com

Secretary - David Cotton
daancotton@gmail.com

Treasurer - Mark Tittel
mtittel@yahoo.com



MUSIC AT ST. LUKE'S

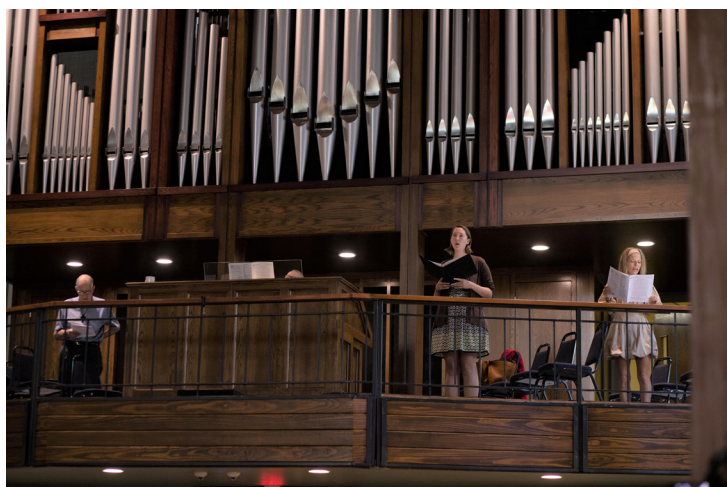


Organist and Director
of Music
RUSSELLJ@STLUKES-SA.NET

SING MY SOUL

And we're off again! It's not like anything actually stopped – summer has been a constant rush in order to stand still – but we have big plans for the new term. The Choir returns on Sunday, September 11, which is Rally Day.

In June, the Choir made another CD, this time of unaccompanied anthems from the liturgical year: **Sing My Soul**. It features all kinds of music from the renaissance, baroque, classical to modern/contemporary; Anglican, Italian, Mexican, Norwegian and American; from Latin polyphony to Spirituals and Gospel. Some pieces are Thomas Dorsey's *Precious Lord*, Lotti's *Crucifixus*, arr. RJ *Steal Away*, Stanford's *Three Motets*; something from all seasons for all tastes. Even I like it! And just in time to make your Christmas shopping easier...



In July, I made the inaugural recording of our new organ on the Raven Records label. As you probably know from previous articles, the organ is designed in

the French Symphonic tradition with lots of warmth, color, and fire. All the music is French, and designed to show off the instrument in all its glory. I don't know when it will be released but I heard the master recording and was astonished at how good it sounds (the organ, not me.)

I'm planning the *Music List* and *Concert Series* as I type and they will be on the website soon with hard copies in the narthex. This year is in preparation for our tour to Ireland when the Choir will be singing in-residence at St. Patrick's Cathedral, Dublin. The cathedral has an excellent music program, and it's a privilege for us to continue their tradition of choral worship. Of course, none of this is possible without the magnificent people who make up St. Luke's Choir. These are beautiful people from all walks of life, and it's a tremendous joy to work with them every week.

Below is the first verse of Sing My Soul (which, ironically, we didn't record) but it describes what we're about and our hope for all of us.

Russell

*Sing, my soul, his wondrous love,
who, from yon bright throne above,
ever watchful o'er our race,
still to us extends his grace*

**VISIT SLECSA.ORG/MUSIC TO LEARN MORE ABOUT
MUSIC EVENTS THROUGHOUT THE YEAR**

FINANCIAL REPORT

The Finance Committee will provide a financial update with each issue of Tidings. This report shows the revenues received and expenditures for the Year-to-Date. If you have any questions, please contact the Treasurer, Seth McCabe or the Parish Administrator, Angie Hudgins at (210) 828-6425.

St. Luke's Episcopal Church Statement of Activities - Operating Funds January 1, 2022 - July 31, 2022

	Year-To-Date		Annual Budget
	Actual 7/31/22	Budget 7/31/22	
Revenues			
<i>Contributions</i>			
Current year pledges	\$ 578,171	\$ 577,823	\$ 979,361
Nonpledged gifts	59,816	71,250	225,000
Loose plate offerings	10,282	9,333	16,000
Prior year pledges	5,612	3,000	3,000
Special offerings	2,355	2,500	5,000
<i>Total Contributions</i>	<u>656,236</u>	<u>663,906</u>	<u>1,228,361</u>
<i>Other Revenue</i>			
Endowment Trust Distribution	176,591	176,591	176,591
Fundraising Event (S. L. Live)	-	-	30,000
Interest and Other Income	22,058	20,991	29,300
<i>Other Revenue</i>	<u>198,649</u>	<u>197,582</u>	<u>235,891</u>
Total Revenues	<u>854,885</u>	<u>861,488</u>	<u>1,464,252</u>
 Program and Operating Expense			
Personnel Costs	472,805	499,579	856,548
Diocesan Apportionment	140,931	140,931	241,596
Church Ministries	24,355	34,104	67,950
Administration and Operations	48,434	51,283	81,750
Church Building and Grounds	152,367	146,946	251,269
<i>Total Program and Oprtg. Exp.</i>	<u>838,892</u>	<u>872,843</u>	<u>1,499,113</u>
Income (loss) from ops.	<u>\$ 15,993</u>	<u>\$ (11,355)</u>	<u>\$ (34,861)</u>

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The Rev. Dr. Mark Lee

Priest Associate - chaplainlee@gmail.com

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