

# TIDINGS

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

JUNE  
JULY  
AUGUST  
2021

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THIS FAR BY FAITH



**ST. LUKE'S**  
EPISCOPAL CHURCH & SCHOOL

# TIDINGS

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Angie Hudgins, Dave Thomas, and Amy Foster.

## ST. LUKE'S STAFF TRANSITION

In July we'll have some changes in administrative positions on the church staff.

- Parish Administrator Dave Thomas plans to retire in mid-July. Dave has worked at St. Luke's since 2009, and we appreciate so much his diligence in overseeing many complex aspects of parish life at St. Luke's Church!
- Angie Hudgins joined the staff earlier this year as our Financial Associate. Upon Dave's retirement, Angie will step into the role of Parish Administrator. She and Dave have been working together on this transition, and we anticipate that she will do a great job as she moves into this new role.

- Amy Foster will succeed Angie as the next Financial Associate. Amy has been our Mustard Seed Director since fall 2019. We will combine these two positions into one: Amy will continue to oversee the Mustard Seed during the school year, and her work with the church's finances will fill out the rest of her time.

We appreciate the work that Dave and Angie and Amy have done so far, and as Dave eases into retirement, we're so excited about the new roles that Angie and Amy are taking on. Many thanks to them and to all the staff who are so dedicated to supporting our common life here at St. Luke's Church!

# JUNE/JULY/AUGUST

## DATES TO KNOW

**THIS FAR BY FAITH**  
Virtual Pilgrimage  
June 15-August 15

**PARISH WORKDAY & VBS DECORATING DAY**  
Saturday, June 19, 9:30 am - 1pm

**ST. LUKE'S VBS SPORTS CAMP**  
June 21 - 25

**POOL PARTY - YOUTH GROUP**  
Tuesday, June 22, 6 pm - 8 pm

**PARISH MOVIE NIGHT - MARY POPPINS (ORIGINAL)**  
Wednesday, June 30, 6:30 pm  
School Gym

**GAME NIGHT - YOUTH GROUP**  
Tuesday, July 6, 6 pm - 8 pm

**THE BIBLICAL COSMOS**  
Sundays July 4 -August 8  
10 am - 10:45 am  
Small Conference and via Zoom

**TOP GOLF - YOUTH GROUP**  
Tuesday, July 20, 6 pm - 8 pm

**PARISH FIELD DAY & COOKOUT**  
Wednesday, July 21

**BEACH DAY - YOUTH GROUP**  
Monday, August 2, all day

**COMMUNICATION & THEOLOGY**  
Sundays August 15 -September 12

**BACKPACK BLESSING AND WATER DAY WITH LUNCH**  
Sunday, August 22

**SPIRITUAL GIFTS INVENTORY**  
Sundays Beginning September 12

**PARISH RETREAT**  
October 1 - 3

Sign up for St. Luke's E-News on slecsa.org to get the latest updates and more details on our Summer events and Fall Classes!



## 2021 PARISH RETREAT OCTOBER 1-3

Mark your calendars for the 2021 St. Luke's All Parish Retreat at Camp Capers!

We have lots of activities planned for all ages and stages. There will be time for rest and for play, time for spiritual nourishment, and time to reconnect with your parish family.

Our time together will begin Friday evening and conclude Sunday morning after Holy Eucharist. Registration will open in later summer and we can't wait to see you there!

## Welcome TO THE BODY

Congratulations to those who have been baptized in 2021!

- Imogen Renee Guido
- Gunner Douglas Jolley
- Noble Jack Jolley
- Adeline Lee Boebel
- Natalie Spalten

For more information on being baptized or having your child baptized at St. Luke's, contact Ilya Franco, Administrative Assistant to the Clergy, at clergysec@stlukes-sa.net.

# From the RECTOR



## SUMMER FEELS ODD THIS YEAR.

In a normal year, once we get past Memorial Day, life slows down somewhat, as people ease into summer mode. This year, however, because of improved conditions with the pandemic, many people who have been somewhat dormant are now excited about picking up the pace and returning to more active lives.

As we look ahead to the summer months, we'll continue to worship regularly on Sundays. I hope you'll come to church when you can, and if you're out of town, remember that you can worship with via the livestream of the 11 am service, which we plan to continue indefinitely. Andrea Thompson, our Director of Communications and Marketing, is looking at some options for upgrading our cameras later this year, which should enhance the livestream experience greatly.

Throughout the summer we'll also have plenty of opportunities for people of all ages to gather to enjoy fun and fellowship together. This issue of *Tidings* highlights several of those activities.

Additionally, here are some things that will occupy our energies this summer:

## RESPONSE TO THE PANDEMIC.

The Vestry has examined conditions regularly since the beginning of the pandemic, authorizing changes when the time has seemed right. The latest changes took effect at the beginning of June, with the biggest change being the allowance of fully vaccinated people to go without masks inside the church buildings. As we continue to see improvements in our conditions, the vestry will consider further revisions to our Covid protocols. A lot of the improvements are due to people getting their Covid vaccines, so if you're eligible and if you haven't yet done so, let me encourage you to get your vaccine. In the meantime, if you're not yet vaccinated, we expect you to continue wearing a mask indoors here at St. Luke's; if you're experiencing

Covid-like symptoms, we hope you'll stay at home; and we encourage you to respect those who prefer to maintain social distancing at this time.

Staff members are working with representatives from various church groups to discuss how they might migrate back to the church after having been meeting remotely for the past year.

## THE CAPITAL CAMPAIGN.

The response to our campaign, "Transformation and Celebration", continues to be strong. We have received commitments of almost \$1.95 million. We are so close to our goal of \$2 million! If you have not yet made a commitment, there's still time. And if you feel inspired to increase your commitment, to help us cross the finish line, we'd love for you to let us know.

The first big project is the new pipe organ. The Reuter Organ Company continues to make great progress building the organ at their facility in Lawrence, KS. We're doing site work on our end, to get the Organ Loft ready for the organ installation, which should happen in just a few months.

Later this year we'll plan to turn our attention to the other components of the campaign: the restoration of the church's stained glass windows, the updating of the Parlor, the landscaping and exterior improvements, and the HVAC and infrastructure needs.

## PLANNING FOR THE 2021-22 PROGRAM YEAR.

Summer is a great time to plan for the future. We've already got plans for classes for adults in the fall, and we're excited about the All-Parish Retreat, a weekend for people of all ages at Camp Capers the first weekend of October. We're working on other things too, so that St. Luke's can continue to thrive as we energize ourselves for our mission of illuminating San Antonio with the Light of Christ.

*Enjoy your summer!*

THE REV. IRV CUTTER

Rector

rector@stlukes-sa.net

## Parishioner

Mary Dixon's 2020 Spring Break plans came to an abrupt halt with an early morning call from her mother. The US was closing the borders to help stop the spread of Covid-19 and they had 24 hours to get home. Dr. Dixon, a Distinguished Senior Lecturer at UTSA, her husband, and two children were in Amsterdam for Spring Break scrambled to find a flight back to the US.

She started seeing stories asking for volunteers for the Pfizer vaccine trials happening in San Antonio and she jumped at the chance to do something, other than just staying at home. "It's one of those moments where you think, If not me then who? Who's supposed to do it?"

She weighed the pros and cons and there wasn't a good reason not to do it; no health conditions that put her at greater risk, and she'd never had a bad reaction to vaccines. She's a healthy middle-aged person and so she filled out the application.

It had been two months since Dr. Dixon filled out her application for the vaccine trial and as we collectively eased into curbside and carry out life, she was still waiting to be called. Two days before the trial began her phone rang and she picked the first available time and became patient 001 of the Pfizer vaccine trials in San Antonio.

Ten hours after the second shot she suspected she was in the vaccine group and not the placebo. "Instinctively when you have chills, fever, dry mouth you know something is going on. I couldn't get warm. I had on extra layers of clothes, in the middle of summer, I was freezing." Her suspicions were confirmed when her group was unblind-

## DR. MARY DIXON

PFIZER VACCINE TRIALS,  
PATIENT 001



"YOU HAVE FAITH IN THE LORD THAT HE HAS SENT US THE VACCINE AND IS GIVING YOU THE OPPORTUNITY TO PROTECT YOURSELF AND YOUR FAMILY BUT YOU HAVE TO TAKE ADVANTAGE OF IT, YOU HAVE TO GRAB IT WHEN IT COMES TO YOU."

## Stories

ed in January of this year, six months after the trial began.

Because of existing RNA technology, the vaccines for Covid-19 were able to be developed in record time. The trials were a giant success but last year this was an unknown risk, it wasn't guaranteed that the vaccine would be effective or safe. "Once you know you have the vaccine that's where faith really kicks in. That's what we prayed for every day. Lord keep us safe, keep us healthy, and keep my mother healthy."

One of the joyful side effects of the vaccine was being able to share her experiences to give people around her confidence in the vaccine. She felt called to connect with people on Twitter,

on Facebook, in the media to let people know it's ok to be scared but you know someone who's been through this trial. You can ask me questions to help you feel more confident when you get your turn.

God puts opportunities in your path and for Dr. Dixon taking part in the vaccine trials has allowed her to be a voice for people that don't have faith in the science behind the vaccine. She's been able to be the voice for faith and science. "You have faith in the Lord that He has sent us the vaccine and He's giving you the opportunity to protect yourself and your family but you to take advantage of it. Science and faith are one - the Lord has given you the knowledge to make life safer and easier but you have to grab it when it comes to you."

**READ MORE OF MARY'S STORY ON OUR NEW ONLINE TIDINGS PAGE! [SLECSA.ORG/TIDINGS](https://www.slecsa.org/tidings).**



# YOUTH MINISTRIES



Director of Youth Ministries  
SARAH@STLUKES-SA.NET

## SUMMER AT ST. LUKE'S

St Luke's youth are invited to all parish events during the summer & fall, including the Parish Retreat October 1-3 at Camp Capers.

In addition to these fun & exciting events, we will continue being involved in outreach opportunities as well during the summer! Earlier this month, we headed out to help out and serve with Snack Pak 4 Kids. We packed TONS of bags full of food for students!

Stay tuned for more details on community service opportunities including SP4K, Christian Assistance Ministry, and more!

This year came with many challenges, but we are looking forward to bringing some old (and new) things back to the youth ministry program in the coming months!

If you have any questions or concerns, please email Sarah Carlson.

## SUMMER YOUTH EVENTS

All rising 6th grade students through 12th grade students are invited!

**TUESDAY, JUNE 22:** Pool Party, 6 pm - 8 pm

**TUESDAY, JULY 6:** Game Night, 6 pm - 8 pm

**TUESDAY, JULY 20:** Top Golf, 6 pm - 8 pm

**MONDAY, AUGUST 2:** Trip to the Beach, all day

We are so excited to partner up with University Presbyterian Church & Travis Park Church this summer!

This is a great chance to make new friends with other youth in San Antonio! Hannah Cooley, University Presbyterian Church, and Alex Cato, Travis Park Church, are also Center for Youth Ministry Training (CYMT) residents/youth directors and are so excited to meet you!

If your student would like to participate in any of these events go to the youth page on the church website or use the QR Code!



RSVP is required to attend.

More information regarding location and other details to come!

**SIGN UP FOR ST. LUKE'S E-NEWS ON SLECSA.ORG/YOUTH TO GET THE LATEST UPDATES AND MORE DETAILS ON OUR SUMMER EVENTS AND FALL CLASSES!**

## Confirmation 2021



Pictured with Bishop High, Reed Sandidge, Luke Thurmond, Hannah Ketchum, Cayden Bordano, Campbell Dixon, Alex West, Ella Furst, Charlotte Stevens



REED SANDIDGE

I chose to be confirmed to show my commitment to the church community and to God. It is one part of a lifetime of learning and it has made me feel closer to my church family



CAMPBELL DIXSON

I decided to be confirmed to become closer to Christ. This journey guided me to my path for the rest of my life and gave me an opportunity to learn more about my beliefs.

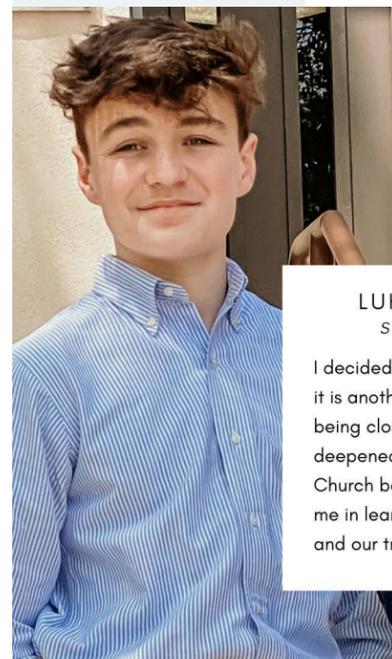
HANNAH KETCHUM

This journey represents a deeper relationship with God and an important step in my faith. It has helped me to learn more about Jesus Christ and to independently confirm my faith.



DEREK BERLIN

The Episcopal Church has welcomed me with open arms. I was instantly made to feel as if I had been a member for many years. The Episcopal way of thinking has deepened my relationship with the church by representing a beautiful worship space, using the loving words of Christ with intelligent thinking.



LUKE THURMOND  
ST. LUKE ACOLYTE

I decided to be confirmed because it is another step in my journey of being closer to Christ. This has deepened my relationship with the Church because it has educated me in learning more about Christ and our traditions.

CAYDEN BORDANO

I wanted to be confirmed by belief with Jesus and God and now more connected to God than I was before.



KATHLEEN BALL

I've spent the last ten years of my life searching for a church that truly embodies the values that Christ taught and I've found that at St. Luke's. This community is not afraid to have courageous conversations or discuss challenging topics. I've felt welcomed from the first time I reached out to Fr. Irv. I look forward to continuing to grow and be challenged in my walk with God.

## Parents vs. Students BIBLE JEOPARDY!

Our 4th and 5th grade students and parents ended the year with a special Parents vs. Students Bible Jeopardy! Congratulations to our students on their win and our parents for getting the highest parent score!





# WELCOMING MINISTRIES

We all know how intimidating it can be to walk into a new church for the first time. There are new people to meet, a new building to try and navigate, the worry of where to sit without taking someone's pew, and anxiety that comes with worshipping using unfamiliar liturgy.

To help ease our visitor's fears, and to make them feel right at home, St. Luke's is revamping its welcoming ministries.

*Here are three ways to get involved:*

## GREETERS

Greeters welcome visitors into our doors, make them feel welcome, help them find a seat, introduce them to parishioners and the clergy, invite them to St. Luke's programs and events, and invite them back again.

# GREEN DOOR THRIFT SHOP

## CHRISTIAN GIVING GRANTS

Each year the Green Door Thrift Shop supports non-profit, 501(c)(3) organizations dedicated to charitable and humanitarian efforts using proceeds from its sales. Organizations must have a mission and vision consistent with that of St. Luke's Episcopal Church and The Episcopal Church.

The Christian Giving Committee of the Green Door Board will begin accepting requests for 2022 support beginning June 30 of this year, applications will be due by 5 pm Friday, August 13. In addition to 501(c)(3) status and a mission consistent with that of St. Luke's Church and The Episcopal Church, grants will

Welcoming Ministries are a wonderful way to serve St. Luke's and share God's gift of hospitality to all who walk through our doors. To get involved or to ask questions contact Reagan. reangang@stlukes-sa.net

## NEWCOMER MENTORS

Newcomer mentors help incorporate new members into the full life of St. Luke's. Mentors will be matched with 1-2 newcomers a year, and can expect to meet or assist the newcomer 1-3 hours over a couple of months depending on the newcomer's needs. All are welcome to be Newcomer Mentors, including teens and recent newcomers. This ministry is a way for both mentors and newcomers to deepen their faith by building community with one another and St. Luke's as a whole.

## WELCOME TOUR GUIDES

Our church is not the easiest to get around when you're new! Welcome Tour Guides volunteer to lead a tour of our buildings for new members on a scheduled basis. Guides should be comfortable speaking in groups and familiar with our facilities. Guides can be older youth or adults.

be evaluated based on programs or projects that:

- are well-defined, specific and measurable
- address a significant need or improve the quality of life
- benefit EITHER a large population OR a small population in a major way
- are transformative
- increase the capacity of those served to help themselves

For more information or to request a grant application email greendoorgives@gmail.com.

# MUSTARD SEED

## HEALTHY CHILD CARE TEXAS - SOCIAL EMOTIONAL DEVELOPMENT

The Mustard Seed was selected as one of fifty schools to participate in the Healthy Child Care Texas - Social Emotional Development (HCCT-SED) Project funded by the Texas Association for the Education of Young Children (TXAEYC). The goal of the HCCT-SED Project is to increase the number of children receiving developmental screening in child care programs for children ages 0 to 5. This age range is a critical period of child development and a child's success in school increases the sooner they receive early intervention services.

The Mustard Seed staff attended a 6-hour child development training led by Child Care Health Consul-

tant, Dr. LuzDalia Sanchez, where they learned how to use and administer the Ages and Stages Questionnaires "ASQ". The ASQ's are a children's developmental and social-emotional screening tool, which helps to identify a child's areas of strength and areas to foster growth. The ASQ's are a collaboration with parents to unlock critical knowledge of their child's development, enabling teachers to plan developmentally appropriate activities for each of their students.

The Mustard Seed was honored to be a part of the statewide initiative to improve outcomes for all children and families in Texas by giving children the best start in life.



*Congratulations*  
TO ST. LUKE'S EPISCOPAL  
SCHOOL CLASS OF 2021!

- |                                   |                |
|-----------------------------------|----------------|
| Jordyn - TMI                      | Cecelia - AHHS |
| Kat - Antonian                    | Ryan - TMI     |
| Ivana - TMI                       | Gabriel - AHHS |
| Grayson - TMI                     | James - AHHS   |
| Alicia (not pictured) - Reagan HS |                |

EXCELLENCE. EVERY DAY, EVERY WAY St. Luke's is currently accepting applications for the 2021-2022 academic year. We invite you to learn about our admissions process, apply online, and to explore the exciting things happening at St. Luke's by visiting sles-sa.org.



# CHILDREN'S MINISTRIES

This Spring has been full of worship and fellowship opportunities for families. It has been fun to see families gathering for worship at the 9am service on the lawn which returned to the worship calendar this Spring. As of Sunday, June 6 this service will be returning to the Sanctuary. As a reminder, there is plenty of room for social distancing in the sanctuary and every other pew is blocked off to allow extra room in-between worship goers. If your family hasn't attended the 9am service yet please consider joining us very soon! The service is intentionally geared towards families but all are welcome. Children are an integral part of this service. They serve as greeters and bell ringers and are invited to participate in various ways throughout the service.



Families have also been gathering on the playground for a time of fellowship and fun every Sunday at 10am. This time has been a wonderful opportunity for parents to visit and children to play together in a safe way. Our playground has plenty of space to play and plenty of shade for the warmer Spring and Summer days so this offering will continue through Summer 2021! Coffee, water and a small snack are provided every Sunday. Masks are now optional for all ages during outdoor activities, feel free to keep masks off during playground time if that is your preference.

Other Children and Family Ministries offerings for the summer will include VBS Sports Camp in June and some all-parish events. Please save the dates for these and plan to attend as many as you are able!

## SAVE-THE-DATE FOR THESE SUMMER EVENTS:

**SATURDAY, JUNE 19:** Parish Workday and VBS Decorating Day

**WEDNESDAY, JUNE 30:** Parish Movie Night

**WEDNESDAY, July 21:** Parish Field Day and Cookout

**SUNDAY, AUGUST 22:** Backpack Blessing and Water Day with Lunch on the Lawn

Looking to the Fall, I am hard at work making plans for safe, socially-distant indoor Sunday school classes this Fall. You'll see many familiar Sunday School teachers ready to greet Godly Play, Communion Instruction and 4th and 5th Grade students when they return in September. Look for more information in emails and future tidings and reach out to me if you have any questions about these Sunday school offerings.



**SUZANNA GREEN**  
Director of Children and Family Ministries  
SUZANNAF@STLUKES-SA.NET

## VBS SPORTS CAMP

Registration is open and plans are underway for this fun event in June! Sports camp will run June 21-25, 2021. AO Sports incorporates exciting sports games with a VBS theme, for fun, laughs, and more. There is an option for a full or half-day program. Scan the QR code or visit slecsa.org for more information.



A Pilgrimage Through The Diocese of West Texas  
A HISTORY OF RACIAL INJUSTICE IN ORDER TO HEAL OUR PRESENT.

Virtual Pilgrimage Dates:  
June 15-August 15

### WHAT IS A PILGRIMAGE?

A pilgrimage is a journey that holds religious significance. Christians have been going on pilgrimages since the beginning of the church. Walking to and near places that tell a part of our faith story has been a sacred way to celebrate and deepen spiritual lives throughout history. One of the most famous pilgrimages is the Camino de Santiago in Spain. Every year thousands of pilgrims travel to the Holy Land, Rome, Iona in Scotland, and other significant sites of Christianity. These journeys are a way to deepen our connection with God, feel connected to Christians around the world, and to experience prayer through walking and the use of our bodies.

### WHAT IS UNIQUE ABOUT THIS PILGRIMAGE?

This pilgrimage is unique in three ways. First, this is a virtual pilgrimage. We will not physically be traveling to the locations we'll be talking about. Instead, pilgrims will be submitting their steps each week, and collectively we will walk our journey together. Second, this is a local pilgrimage. We will be virtually journeying through the span of the Diocese of West Texas. We begin in San Antonio, make a large and spiraling loop through each city with an Episcopal church, and complete the trip back in San Antonio. Third, the theme of this pilgrimage is racial reconciliation. At each stop we will pray for wisdom and God's presence to be with us on our travels, but also for reconciliation. We will read a cultural story from history that has not often been told, and reflect on ways that we can better strive for justice and peace to see the image of God in all persons, and respect the dignity of every human being.

We will be collectively walking the span of our diocese this Summer. It's roughly 2,000 miles or about 4,000,000 steps. We will be adding all our steps together to make the journey. Along the way we will "stop" in each city with an Episcopal Church. While in that city we will learn about a story of racial justice or injustice that took place in the area. This is one small way that we can acknowledge our nation's historic struggle with racial equality and a small step towards reconciliation for our nation.



Each week in your email inbox you will receive:

- An update on where we are in the diocese
- Stories of racial injustice or cultural significance from the area
- Prayers for pilgrims and for racial reconciliation
- Journal prompts to use at your leisure
- A Google form link to send in your steps/miles taken

Once registered you can also come to the church to pick up your pilgrimage packet which includes:

- A holding cross to carry as you walk your steps
- A journal for notes and reflections during the journey
- Prayers for pilgrimage and more

Register today at slecsa.org or by scanning the QR Code. If you have any questions please email Reagan at reagan@stlukes-sa.net.





# ADULT FORMATION



Associate Rector  
REAGANG@STLUKES-SA.NET

*Greetings friends,*

It's been a busy season for Adult Formation! On Sunday mornings our Confirmation/Episcopal 101 class explored topics of our Christian Faith and Episcopal tradition. A variety of Bible classes and our Meditation Group continued to take place throughout the week via Zoom, the Monday Mom's group began to meet again, and we held our first Easter Book Club on Wednesday nights.

I'm grateful to our leaders and our participants for their perseverance and dedication to formation in

spite of the challenges of this year. As we continue to adapt to our new way of doing things I hope you will find classes and opportunities to engage with your St. Luke's family and deepen your discipleship throughout the year. I'm grateful to be serving and learning among you, and with joy look forward to continuing to get to know you. Please see the below for upcoming events and contact me with any questions you may have.

In God's peace,  
Reagan+

## Ongoing CLASSES

### LUKE'S MEN BIBLE STUDY

Second and Fourth Tuesdays of the month 7:30-8:15 am in the Large Conference Room.

Contact:  
Charles John  
cjohnaia@gmail.com

As meetings begin to transition back to in-person, locations may change. Please check with the Ministry leads with any questions.

### YOUNG ADULT SMALL GROUP

Currently meeting every other Tuesday in various locations.

If fellowship, formation, and community among young adult peers are what you are looking for this is the group for you.

Contact:  
Suzanna Green  
suzannaf@stlukes-sa.net

### WEDNESDAY MORNING BIBLE STUDY

Wednesdays at 11 am currently meeting on Zoom.

This Bible Study focuses on reading the bible one book at a time as a group.

Contact:  
Diane Thrush  
dianewt@aol.com

### THURSDAY MEDITATION GROUP

Thursdays at 9 am currently meeting on Zoom.

Come learn, explore, and practice spiritual meditation. The time is split between 30 minutes of learning/discussion and 30 minutes of meditation.

Contact:  
Gretchen Bealer  
grbealer@gmail.com

## Upcoming CLASSES

### BRAVING THE WILDERNESS BY BRENE BROWN

Sundays May 9 - June 27  
10 am - 10:45 am  
Small Conference and via Zoom

As we begin to come out of the pandemic and seek to reconnect with friends, family, and our communities, this book will guide us in exploring what work we can do to help cultivate true belonging and build relationships in authentic and sacred ways. The class reading guide can be found on our Adult Formation page on slecsa.org.

### THE BIBLICAL COSMOS

Sundays July 4 -August 8  
10 am - 10:45 am  
Small Conference and via Zoom

Join us as we explore the context and world view of biblical times. From a flat earth, oceans with dragons, mystical mountains, demonic deserts, temples that reach the heavens, and more, we will explore just how different the world inhabited by the Bible's characters is from our own. Not leaving us there we'll also talk about how this world view can help speak God's word afresh in our modern world. No reading required.

### COMMUNICATION AND THEOLOGY

Sundays August 15 -September 12

Dr. Katherine Hampsten will lead a class on communication and how it intertwines with scripture and our faith. You can watch Dr. Hampsten's TED-Ed talk, How miscommunication happens (and how to avoid it) on their website: [ed.ted.com/lessons/how-to-avoid-miscommunication-katherine-hampsten](https://ed.ted.com/lessons/how-to-avoid-miscommunication-katherine-hampsten)

### SPIRITUAL GIFTS INVENTORY

Sundays Beginning September 12

Dr. Steven Rodriguez will lead a class on accessing our spiritual gifts and how through those gifts we can be a blessing to the church and to the world.

Sign up for St. Luke's E-News on [slecsa.org](https://slecsa.org) to get the latest updates and more details on our Fall Classes!



*Baby Gonzalez #2 is on the way!*

Reagan and Bryan Gonzalez, along with big brother James, are excited to welcome a baby girl into the family in mid-August. Reagan will take maternity leave in the late Summer-early Fall. The Gonzalezes are grateful to be welcoming another child into the family of St. Luke's and ask for your prayers for a continued healthy pregnancy and safe delivery. The whole parish is invited to celebrate the Gonzalezes at a drive-thru diaper shower on Sunday, July 11.



# MUSIC AT ST. LUKE'S

## MUSICAL MATTERS

In her online article [Quantum Music](#), Katie McCormick addresses music in a way connected to quantum mechanics. She also draws on Pythagoras and Galileo. But the subtitle: What if dissonance yields better results? is key. In my own terms, all things have vibrations, waves or harmonics; these are absolutely natural to everything.

Pythagoras realized the scale cannot be broken into

12 or thirteen (a repeat of 1) equal parts. Octaves should meet and the fourth and fifth should be perfect, but then everything else falls apart. Bach had this problem (thus writing his Well-Tempered Clavier) and any music before the baroque period had to favor certain keys in order to be playable, or to be listenable. The unacceptable keys were said to have a “wolf” because the dissonance “howled,” and Bach would purposely play in these keys to encourage mathematicians and tuners to devise a more universal tuning method. As science progressed they were able to break down the 12 (13) notes into perfectly divided pitches, which meant every single interval was impure and wrong, and we became inured to it. You hear the greatest concert pianists playing on a piano that is purposely totally out of tune, but our ears accept it. Now, when we hear pure tonalities we think it sounds sour.

If we tune a system based on perfect fifths (which is how we tune) C to G, then G to D, etc., we eventually get back to the original C (13) but that C 13 is wildly

out of tune with the original C thus proving perfection is not real, and dissonance is perfect. To make it fit (beat it into submission) each interval has to be drawn in by a fiftieth (doesn't sound much) to make the Cs meet.

Enter Galileo. Until recent times the Church refused to embrace science. The world was flat, and Earth was the center of the Universe. Around 1582 the Church

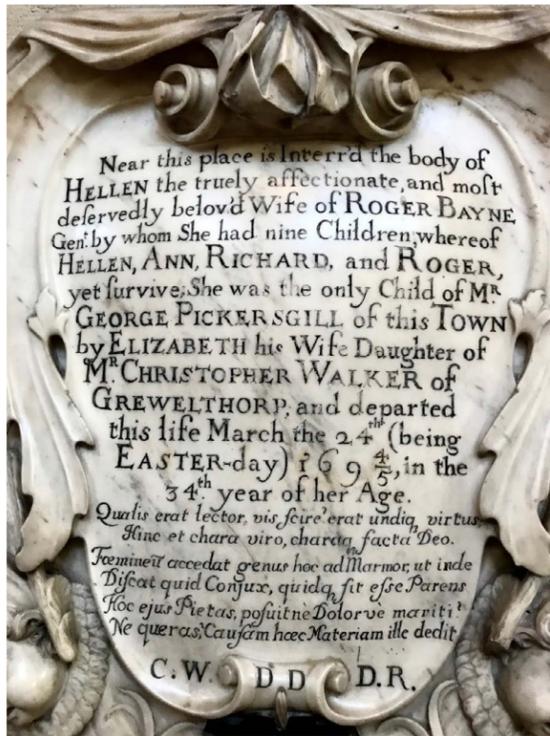
had no choice but to flip from the Julian Calendar (named after Julius Caesar) to the Gregorian Calendar – the Eastern Orthodox are still unhappy about it. Galileo could tell from his study of the Solar System that something was off, and it was big leap for Pope Gregory XIII to make this change. However, it took until 1992 for the Vatican to acknowledge Galileo was correct all along! Nevertheless, even now the day isn't exactly 24 hours long (it's 24 hours and 26 seconds) and every four years we need to make an adjustment – the leap year.

In recent times, with the advent of nuclear microscopy, we have learned that fractal patterns constantly evolve but never end. The closer you get, the more the pattern develops. This is the same with the harmonic series and the universe. There may be a beginning but there's certainly no end. It could be a simile for the Christian Life.

TO READ KATIE'S ARTICLE VISIT:  
[AEON.CO/ESSAYS/UNITING-THE-MYSTERIOUS-WORLDS-OF-QUANTUM-PHYSICS-AND-MUSIC](http://AEON.CO/ESSAYS/UNITING-THE-MYSTERIOUS-WORLDS-OF-QUANTUM-PHYSICS-AND-MUSIC)



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



# 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, Dave Thomas at (210) 828-6425.

## St. Luke's Episcopal Church Statement of Activities - Operating Funds January 1, 2021 - April 30, 2021

	Year-To-Date		Annual Budget
	Actual 4/30/21	Budget 4/30/21	
<b>Revenues</b>			
<b>Contributions</b>			
Current year pledges	\$ 293,306	\$ 340,565	\$ 930,000
Nonpledged gifts	39,173	66,667	200,000
Loose plate offerings	2,667	5,000	15,000
Prior year pledges	440	3,000	3,000
Special offerings	2,175	2,500	7,500
<b>Total Contributions</b>	<b>337,761</b>	<b>417,732</b>	<b>1,155,500</b>
<b>Other Revenue</b>			
Endowment Trust Distribution	53,015	53,015	159,045
Fundraising Event (S. L. Live)	-	-	20,000
Interest and Other Income	18,017	8,605	26,117
<b>Other Revenue</b>	<b>71,032</b>	<b>61,620</b>	<b>205,162</b>
<b>Total Revenues</b>	<b>408,793</b>	<b>479,352</b>	<b>1,360,662</b>
<b>Program and Operating Expense</b>			
Personnel Costs	279,457	282,093	856,849
Diocesan Apportionment	74,084	74,084	222,252
Church Ministries	9,854	22,067	64,000
Administration and Operations	27,257	26,619	75,861
Church Building and Grounds	82,539	80,593	239,944
Interest on Long-term Debt	1,039	1,039	-
<b>Total Program and Oprtg. Exp.</b>	<b>474,230</b>	<b>486,494</b>	<b>1,458,906</b>
<b>Income (loss) from ops.</b>	<b>\$ (65,437)</b>	<b>\$ (7,142)</b>	<b>\$ (98,244)</b>

St. Luke's Episcopal Church and School  
11 St. Luke's Lane  
San Antonio, Texas 78209

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**ST. LUKE'S**  
EPISCOPAL CHURCH & SCHOOL

St. Luke's Episcopal Church  
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