



*Welcoming all to worship the
Risen Christ and live as his
disciples*

March 2021

THE PARISH LIFE

The Newsletter of Saint Luke's Episcopal Church

309 East Baltimore Street □ Jackson, Tennessee 38301 □ 731-424-0556 □ www.estlukes.org

Dear Friends in Christ,

As we entered into a very Blessed Lenten Season this year, he encourages us to come closer to God and remember all His blessings that He has bestowed on us. I am thankfully saying that during this pandemic, God has saved St. Luke's entire congregation, and by the Grace of God, we are still in God's hand—who takes care of us every day. Moreover, I just want to updates two things, which we have commenced: First, I am working on making a Pastoral care team that comprises six members. It was an open invitation to join this team, and we have received good standing volunteers who have a passion for working within the congregation. The purpose of building this team is not only to reach those who are very regular in the church but also those who want us to reach them. However, this team will reach to everyone to make sure that their spiritual needs being fulfilled. It is humbly requested to you when they will call you. Please give them time, and if you want to share anything with them, please feel free to share that we can help to maintain your spiritual life. Secondly, St. Luke's is offering during weekdays Bible study classes via zoom to touch with each other. Through this, you have a great opportunity to learn the word of God, having fellowship with others, making new friends, and spending some time thinking about what God wants us to do in this concise life. I want to encourage you; please join us if you are able. Please remember us in your prayers.

My prayers and blessings are always with you.

May God always protect you and sustain you forever.
Blessings ,

Jeffrey+

STAFF EMAIL ADDRESSES

Rev. Jeffrey Samuel
Priest-in-Charge—jeffrey@estlukes.org

Cody Blue Miller
Organist/Choirmaster - cody@estlukes.org

Chuck Humphrey
Youth Minister - chumpfr4@gmail.com

Allison Shull
Parish Administrator—allison@estlukes.org

SAINT LUKE'S EPISCOPAL CHURCH

309 East Baltimore St. • Jackson, TN 38301
(731) 424-0556 • (731) 423-3688, fax
www.estlukes.org
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Parish Offices Open
Monday-Friday 8:30am—5pm
Rev. Jeffrey Samuel, *Priest-in-Charge*
Cody Blue Miller, *Organist/Choirmaster*
Chuck Humphrey, *Youth Minister*
Allison Shull, *Parish Administrator*

Vestry

Jerry Smith, *Senior Warden*
Ben Guyer, *Junior Warden*
Chris Wheeler, *Treasurer*
DJ Plunk, *Clerk*

Berta Garrity, Gary Wake, Ben Guyer, Vickie Clement,
Chris Wheeler, Erin Sharp, Jason Cole,
Michele Jackson,
Johnathan Kendrick, Jerry Smith, Roger Stanfield, Preston Turner, & Todd Wilhite

THE LECTIONARY: YEAR B

March 7th—Third Sunday in Lent
 Exodus 20:1-17
 1 Corinthians 1:18-25
 John 2:13-22
 Psalm 19

March 14th—Fourth Sunday in Lent
 Numbers 21:4-9
 Ephesians 2:1-10
 John 3:14-21
 Psalm 107:1-3, 17-22

March 21st—Fifth Sunday in Lent
 Jeremiah 31:31-34
 Hebrews 5:5-10
 John 12:20-33
 Psalm 51:1-13

March 28th—Sunday of the Passion: Palm Sunday

The Liturgy of the Palms
 Mark 11:1-11
 Psalm 118:1-2, 19-29

The Liturgy of the Word
 Isaiah 50:4-9a
 Philippians 2:5-11
 Mark 14:1-15:47
 Psalm 31:9-16

Young Families Ministries

Join us on Sunday's at 9:30 for children's Sunday School via zoom (Meeting code: 93616442709)

Also, on Wednesday nights at 6 pm via Zoom (Meeting code: 71079562306)

If you have any questions, please contact Chuck at chumphr4@gmail.com.

You can also find these links and more information on the St. Luke's Young Families Ministries page on Facebook.

March Anniversaries

Ron and Emily Canter March 22nd

March Birthdays

George Pakis	1-Mar
Rachel Guyer	4-Mar
Ginny Estes	6-Mar
Lillian McCraw	8-Mar
Ron Canter	9-Mar
Edward Hazlehurst	9-Mar
Larry Butler	11-Mar
Preston Turner	13-Mar
Elizabeth Wallis	14-Mar
Augustanna Cole	19-Mar
Sherry Dunn	19-Mar
Elizabeth Duke	19-Mar
Michele Jackson	20-Mar
Crystal Williams	23-Mar
Nash Humphrey	24-Mar
Fred Bowyer	29-Mar
James Craig	30-Mar
John Foxx	30-Mar

The Altar Supplies for March were given to the Glory of God and in honor of all medical personnel and associated workers taking care of everyone in this COVID-19 crisis
 by Susan Francisco

St. Luke's Racial Justice Class

"Forgiveness and healing cannot begin until we become aware of the historical roots of the problem and acknowledge the harm caused." -Latasha Morrison

Last fall, a group of individuals gathered virtually on Wednesday nights to study the book *Color of Compromise* by Jamar Tisby. Tisby's book provided an overview of Christ's church's role in systemic racism in American history while offering some ways for modern-day Christians to stand up against racism. The study proved "eye-opening" to many participants of the study, so the group elected to continue examining the church's role in racial justice this spring semester of 2021. On Wednesday nights, the group now reads and discusses Latasha Morrison's book, *Be the Bridge: Pursuing God's Heart for Racial Reconciliation*. The themes of Morrison's book coincide with many themes of the Lenten season. Confession, forgiveness, repentance, and the Lord's mercy are current topics that the group is dissecting and discussing on Wednesday nights. During our discussions, the group is exposed to national, regional, and local historic events that have contributed to the systemic racism rooted in our culture.

The group is composed of individuals from both St. Luke's congregation and other congregations from across the state. We have had guest speakers share their experiences, including Pastor Ivy Chism of Sandhill Baptist Church and presenter Kenston Henderson of Columbus, OH. On March 3rd, Bishop Phoebe Roaf will share with the group for a session. The group has also discussed some potential "action items" including promoting Christ's inclusive love through signage, witnessing, and even maybe visiting a healing garden locally in Jackson. While the Covid-19 Pandemic provides obstacles to traditional means of outreach, the group continues to discuss ways to overcome these obstacles.

Please feel free to join and invite a friend. The group is open to all who are interested. Reading the book is suggested, but not required. At our core, we come from a place of humility and desire to live Christ's love in all aspects, including through promoting racial justice. The group continues to meet via Zoom on Wednesdays at 6:30pm. For more information, contact Elizabeth Duke at eliz.k.duke@gmail.com or Allison at allison@estlukes.org.



Youth Programs and the EYC

The Lenten season is full of rich liturgy, that ties our faith to our Messiah's life and triumphant ministry. We hope that your children can attend all of our youth programs, as we are encouraged and encourage one another to be bold in our faith.

Please encourage one another to attend our 9:30 am Zoom Sunday School or our 10:30am in-person Children's Church at St. Luke's. In addition, we offer a short devotional each Wednesday night at 6:00pm. Currently, our Wednesday nights are focused on our Lenten series for the youth.

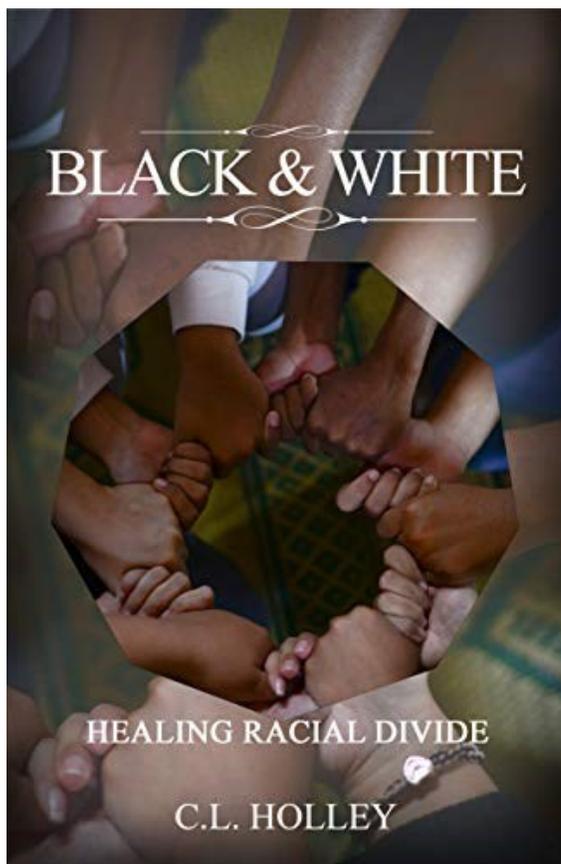
The links to our youth programs can also be found on our Young Family Ministries Facebook page.

If you have trouble with the links, copy and paste the link into your browser to be sure.

For our 9:30am Sunday School: Join Zoom Meeting code: 93616442709

For our 6:30pm Wednesday Devotional: Join Zoom Meeting code: 71079562306

Guest Speaker C. L. Holley



In our continuing study of how to better address racial issues within the body of Christ and better represent the Church as members of the body; our Wednesday night discussion group facilitated by Gary Wake and Elizabeth Duke will be hosting International author and speaker C. L. Holley. Recently his work includes *Black & White: Healing Racial Divide* and *The Next Level Believer: Release the Pain, Embrace the Peace*. His books are highly rated on Amazon and his awards and recognition for public communications speak for themselves. He is very passionate about his message and his ministry at his home church in Northern Alabama.

Mr. Holley was kind enough to send free copies of his book, *Black & White: Healing Racial Divide*. There are five copies left in the church office, if you are interested in reading and joining us. We can always purchase a copy on Amazon and help support his ministry. The date is TBD, but it will certainly be at 6:30pm (our normal meeting time) on a Wednesday in March. We will send out an update after we speak with Mr. Holley again.

Come Join us for an exciting Wednesday evening in March!



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Find us on Facebook, too!

SAINT LUKE'S EPISCOPAL CHURCH - WELCOMING ALL TO WORSHIP THE RISEN CHRIST AND LIVE AS HIS DISCIPLES

Outreach Spotlight

Homelessness is not a new problem in Jackson, as we at St Lukes are aware, but there has been much light brought to it this winter. Unfortunately the death of a homeless man happened earlier this winter on the streets of downtown Jackson. The process of starting a full time men's shelter began in the summer of 2020 and hopefully it will be opening before too long.

There have been several grass roots organizations that have started recently. They are doing amazing things at helping provide for the immediate needs of those who are homeless or that are in need of food. The Give Back Jack Blessing Boxes have sprouted up in multiple location throughout Jackson. They are being stocked by individuals with food and personal need items. The blessings are being documented through Facebook and they are occurring not only for those in need but also for those who are giving.

Jackson Madison County Homeless Resources is another Facebook based group that is getting more organized to help the homeless navigate help for their needs. These are two local groups who are just people working to help change the situation for anyone that they can. Tennessee Homeless Solutions is the nonprofit who is working with the city for the emergency shelter that is in place at the civic center. These are all working toward helping those of need in our community. Please pray for these groups and get involved if you are called to do so.
