CONDOLENCES

St. Luke disciples offer our sympathy and prayers to the family of Lonnie Wayne McCutchen II (Mac), who died on June 12, 2025 in Gastonia, NC following a heart attack. Thank you for your prayer for Mac's family - Mother, St. Luke disciple, Shirley McCutchen; and sister, St. Luke disciple Marla Prozzi (Gino, Justin and Jacob).

PRAYER CONCERNS

Huggins Austin and Nora Austin (grandchildren of **Mark and Lisa Bedenbaugh**, were born prematurely and are currently at MUSC hospital); Joel Howle (father of St. Luke disciple **Joel Howle**, cancer); **Becky O'Neal**; Karen Rhodes (niece of **Jane Cheshire**); Richard Ringer (father of **Tim Ringer**, recovering from surgery); Bryson & Carrie Rowe (friends of **Michael & Jessica Bedenbaugh**, in motorcycle accident); Brooks Yelton (sister of Melanie Jackson, undergoing cancer treatment); Tommy Vernon (son-in-law of **Iris & Jimmy McFarland**, beginning new chemo treatment)

** If your prayer need is resolved, or if a name needs to be removed from the prayer list, please contact the church office at 843-383-5169 or office@stlukehartsville.com. We will keep all prayer requests in the Newsletter for one month. After that, they will be removed unless you tell us otherwise.

Join us at St. Luke for **5th Sunday Worship**! On Sunday, June 29 expect a special anointing of the Holy Spirit as we celebrate God's goodness with Music, Baptism, and special time in Prayer. You don't want to miss it, and be sure to invite a friend! We will also have a covered dish luncheon celebrating our **FAITH AND FREEDOM** following worship with meat and drinks provided – please bring side dish or dessert to share. Please RSVP to the church office no later than Monday, June 23 by NOON.



St. Luke Has A New Website! Over the past year we have been working to give the St. Luke church website a whole new look – Check it out!! (www.stlukehartsville.com or click this link: Home - St. Luke) We plan to use the new website as the primary source for information about activities in the church — there are links to GMC content, calendar of events, sign-up opportunities, information about the church staff, our small groups/classes and work in the community. We are proud of our new website and especially thank Reagan Taylor and Tracee Auman for their help over the past year making our new website a reality.

Pastoral Visitation

Pastor Todd enjoys visiting St. Luke homebound/other disciples. If you would like him to schedule a visit with you, please call the church office at 843-383-5169, or email Pastor Todd at: **pastor@stlukehartsville.com**

He is glad to visit anyone at anytime!



Worship Team News

Many thanks to St. Luke's Worship Team for ensuring that our Homebound and Online disciples will have Holy Communion elements available to them so they can celebrate Holy Communion on the First Sunday each month with the rest of our church family.

You can pick up Holy Communion Packets in the church office. If you need them delivered to your home, please let the church office know (843-383-5169).



St Luke Methodist Church

June 19, 2025

302 Dunlap Dr. Hartsville, SC 29550

office@stlukehartsville.com

843-383-5169 843-383-0916 (Fax)

Church Office Hours:

Monday-Thursday 8:30 AM-4:00 PM

The deadline for submitting information for the St. Luke Newsletter is the 1st and 3rd Mondays at Noon.

If you have a Pastoral
Care emergency
outside of regular
church office hours,
please email
Pastor Todd at:

pastor@stlukehartsville.com

GOOD NEWS

Are we keeping the "Main Thing" the Main Thing?

I recently read the following excerpt in The John Wesley Institute Weekly Newsletter by Dr. Ryan N. Danker. Danker writes, "As I've travelled across the US and the UK, I often run across many faithful church members who long for the vitality of early Methodism. Some long for the excitement of other periods of church history, the Oxford Movement or the American Holiness revivals for example. Many long for the dynamic growth and spirit of exciting periods in church history.

"I can't blame them for this. I want the same thing. We read, for example, in the Book of Acts in the second chapter where Peter boldly preached to the crowds in Jerusalem and "that day about three thousand persons were added" (2:41b). And, who wouldn't want to see people come to know the love of God in Christ!

As I've thought about this topic, I have landed on three reasons why I think this vitality was possible. There are more, of course, but these three come to mind most often.

Intentionality – The first is intentionality. Keep the main thing the main thing. Again, looking at Acts, we can see what the church was focused on: "the apostles' teaching and fellowship, the breaking of bread and the prayers" (2:42). In other words, they were devoted to the historic faith and fellowship with those called by Jesus, to the sacrament of the Eucharist, and to the liturgy of the people of God. In the aftermath of the explosive shock of the resurrection, this is how they followed Jesus.

In early Methodism—not founded to be a church, but a renewal movement within the Church of England—they had the historic teaching and fellowship, the sacraments, and the liturgy already but they also had a very specific mission built upon it: "to reform the nation, particularly the church, and to spread scriptural holiness over the land." We could say that they had a purpose, and they stuck to it. Wesley repeatedly claimed that the reason that God had brought the revival into being was to teach holiness of heart and life. It was, as the old Nazarene hymn says, their "watchword and song."

Expectation – The second is expectation. Early Methodism had expectation. Every period of renewal in the church has this. God is the one who calls each and every one of us to him. Early Methodists believed this and wanted to catch up with his work. They didn't just wait for it, though. They were proactive. If you read Wesley's Journal you'll notice that he spent an amazing amount of time trying to find out where God was on the move so that he could join in.

When early Methodists met, or when they went to their parish church, they went expecting that God would be there. Methodists didn't gather to meet, but to encounter. It wasn't a social gathering, but a transforming experience of God's presence with them. We might describe this as a combination of expectation and intentionality.

Continued on page 3



June

19 Ed Yarborough 20 Kim Hamilton 20 Larissa Mathis

20 Tara Goff

David Movd Elaine Mozingo

Virginia Anne Chapman

Annabelle Lopiccolo

Levi Mathis Herb Roos

Holley Anderson

Carson Able

Becca Benson 27 Jud Shaw

Lawson Cannarella

29 Lyndell Becker

Charles Urguhart 29 Remi Grace Beasley

30 Hannah Rudick

July

Belinda Copeland

Curry Dawkins John Whitehead

Bonnie Gardner

Braxton Cannarella

Kim Taylor Rick Jones

Nancy Edinger



June

30

July

Brad & Laurie McBride 25 Herb & Kristen Nicholson 28 Jeff & Jennifer Calabrese

Michael & Joanne Merck

Roger & Kyle Buckley Ed & Teri Groves

CALENDAR

Sunday, June 29

9:15 AM Sunday School

10:15 AM Worship Service & Childrens' Church

11:15 AM Fellowship Meal 5:30 PM Youth Ministry

Monday, June 30 6:00 PM Church Council

10:15 AM Worship Service & Tuesday, July 1 Children's Church

9:30 AM Days For Girls Wednesday, July 2

> 2:00 PM Ladies Game Day 5:30 PM Youth Ministry

6:00 PM Chancel Choir Rehearsal

Thursday, July 3 Church Office Closed

6:00 PM Bible Study with Ben Babb

July 5-12 Salkehatchie Sunday, July 6

9:15 AM Sunday School

10:15 AM Worship Service & Children's Church

5:30 PM Youth Ministry

Monday, July 7-Wednesday, July 9

9:00 AM—12:00 PM Summer Camp 5 & Under

Wednesday, July 9

2:00 PM Ladies Game Day 5:30 PM Youth Ministry

6:00 PM Chancel Choir Rehearsal

The church office will be closed on Thursday, July 3rd for the Independence Day holiday.

Pastor Todd will be on vacation June 19-23. If you have a pastoral care emergency, please contact Courtney Eubanks at 843-287-8799. Thank you for this time away to rest and renew.

CHURCH TEAMS

Greeter for June: Leigh Ann Bizzell

Thursday, June 19

Saturday, June 21

Sunday, June 22

Monday, June 23

Tuesday, June 24

Wednesday, June 25

Behold Annual Conference

5:30 PM Youth Ministry

Behold Annual Conference

Behold Annual Conference

Thursday, June 26

Friday, June 27

Saturday, June 28

2:00 PM Ladies Game Day

6:00 PM Chancel Choir Rehearsal

6:00 PM Bible Study with Ben Babb

9:00 AM Methodist Men Adopt a Highway

6:00 PM Bible Study with Ben Babb

(Meet at Soup Kitchen)

9:00 AM—12:00 PM Summer Camp Age 6-11

9:00 AM—12:00 PM Summer Camp Age 6-11

9:00 AM—12:00 PM Summer Camp Age 6-11

8:30 AM Prayers & Produce

9:15 AM Sunday School

5:30 PM Youth Ministry

9:30 AM Days For Girls

Greeter for July: Anne Guest

Counting Committee:

June 22: Don Lockman, Scott Cameron June 29: Scott Cameron, Kevin Kelley July 6: Scott Cameron, Johnny Sturdivant

Willard Brown (Captain), Marshall Odom, Russ Lockman, Scott Jackson

Winky Black (Captain), Will Black, Rhett Mitchell, Ben Babb

Bereavement Meal Committee # 10

Debbie Dawkins (Chair), Kristen Nicholson, Jane Cheshire, Elizabeth Gainey, Leah Babb, Feeka Ewing, Reagan Taylor, Karen Jeffords, Sara Buckles

FINANCIALS & ATTENDANCE

Weekly Contributions: June 8: \$7,760.49

June 15: \$14.718.00

Weekly Worship Attendance (online):

June 8: 237 (643) June 15: 151 (253) ST. LUKE METHODIST CHURCH

The Person and Work of the **Holy Spirit**

Strengthening our faithfulness through understanding God's gift of the Advocate

JOIN US MONDAY, JULY 14TH AT 10 AM

Who is the Holy Spirit and what is He like? In this 4-week study, we will examine Scripture that introduces us to the Holy Spirit and the character of His work. We will also learn simple steps to help us grow in our personal relationship with Him.

Contact Courtney Eubanks for more information! ministrydirector@stlukehartsville.com



Hartsville Food Bank:

For the month of June,

we will be collecting **PORK and BEANS & CANNED MEAT**

For July,

CANNED FRUIT



ADOPT A HIGHWAY

St. Luke's next Palmetto Pride "Adopt a Highway" **Dunlap Drive clean-up** event is June 28 at 9 am. **Meet in the Fellowship** Hall parking lot with gloves and pick-up tool.

All St. Luke disciples are invited to support this effort!



St. Luke Disciple, Ben Babb, is holding a Bible Study on Thursdays at 6:00 PM in the small conference room.

The study is on the Book of Revelation. All are welcomed and encouraged to attend!

With Sincere Gratitude

I would like to express my deepest appreciation for the thoughtful graduation gifts I received - an Anna Walding Acrylic Cross Block and a handcrafted wooden cross. These meaningful expressions of faith and encouragement are truly treasured and I am profoundly grateful for the kindness and support of my church family. Your generosity and prayers have made this milestone even more special, and I will carry these gifts as lasting reminders of God's presence and your love.

with heartfelt gratitude and love,

Elizabeth Hance



The Babb Family



Children's Department
Families of the Month



The Teal Family





Caring Cards

If you've been told you have excellent penmanship and still appreciate the joy of receiving "snail mail," Caring Cards is a ministry for your gifts. This group will focus on sending cards to our homebound disciples, those we haven't seen in worship in awhile, visitors, and anyone else who might need the nice surprise of a handwritten note. Would this be a mission opportunity you'd enjoy? Contact Courtney Eubanks at ministrydirector@stlukehartsville.com for information!

NEW Visitation Team

Do you enjoy spending time in fellowship with others? If so, St. Luke's Visitation Ministry Team NEEDS YOU! The Visitation Ministry will focus on spending time with our homebound disciples throughout the year, rotating in teams of two or three. Please contact Courtney Eubanks (ministrydirector@stlukehartsville.com) to join in this meaningful work of the church.

We want all disciples of St. Luke to receive **ALL** church communications so that you can be involved in the wonderful ministries of our church. Please make sure the church office has your correct/current email address. Call or Email church office at 843-383-5169 or office@stlukehartsville.com, or share your email when you register your attendance in worship.

Christmas in July

St. Luke's Hospitality Team will host a "Christmas in July" Indoor Flea Market on July 18th from 12-6pm and July 19th from 8am-12pm, with the proceeds benefiting our children and youth programs. They need donations of gently used Christmas/Winter decorations, beginning July 7th. Times to drop off items will be announced. If you would like to volunteer to sort items, set up, or man tables at the event, please contact Leigh Ann Bizzell (bizzellsfoodspirits@yahoo.com) or Courtney Eubanks (ministrydirector@stlukehartsville.com). Check those attics and garages and help grow the ministries of our youngest disciples!

Continued from front page

Movement – Finally, early Methodism, like the church in Acts, was a movement. Eventually the hallmarks of organization would emerge, but early Methodism—even into the American expansion—was distinctly flexible.

While keeping the main thing the main thing, they wanted to be flexible enough to catch up to the work of God. When he was moving, they moved. Sometimes they literally moved! But one of the keys to their growth was the ability to send "helpers" wherever necessary. Institution building was not the goal and if it inhibited the work they rejected it. Movement was key to their ability to spread the message of holiness wherever, and whenever.

If only Methodism retained its intentionality to spread scriptural holiness throughout the whole church, the flexibility to spread that message, and the expectation that God is on the move, just think what it would be! The history of the church can teach us a great deal if we'll only pay attention."

St. Luke disciples, let's be sure we are keeping the main thing the main thing – that we are a church teaching holiness of heart and life, that we are expecting a transforming experience of God in our worship and church life together, and that we are looking for what God wants us to do for Him and his Kingdom next!

We are SO BLESSED as a church family. Let's be sure we are using our blessings from God to bless others in the name of our Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ. May God continue to bless each and every one of you! *Pastor Todd*