

The icing on the Cake!

The St. Luke's-St. John's parking garage is scheduled to open next Sunday, March 26. There will be plenty of parking for everyone! After today, there will be no shuttles to and from the Briar Club.

Blood Drive Today!

St. Luke's is hosting a blood drive for the Gulf Coast Regional Blood Center. Come by the Blanton Building next to the West Alabama entrance until 1 p.m. today and give the gift of life!

Pure Sound presents *Seussical* final performance is Today, March 19 at 2:30 p.m., Lowe Theater at St. John's School Enjoy this fantastical family musical based on the works of Dr. Seuss. \$15 Adult / \$10 Student with ID / \$5 Children 8 & under.

Vacation Bible School

Super Heroes take note! Super special worship leaders are flying in to help us kick off VBS the week of June 5-9 in our brand new buildings! Register children and teen helpers at StLukesMethodist.org/vbs

Lenten Music for Meditation and Reflection | 12 p.m. | Chapel

Join us each Thursday during Lent as a selection of Houston's finest musicians present 25-minute recitals designed for reflection and meditation.

Looking for a little extra help to pay for college next fall? St. Luke's Methodist Church Foundation is now accepting 2017 Scholarship Applications. Scholarships are restricted to students who are members or children of members pursuing a college degree. For more information about

each scholarship, and to download an application, go to StLukesMethodist.org/give/#foundation. Completed applications are due Thursday, April 6.

Say hello to Scripture + Shared! St. Luke's new Bible Study app available at the Apple Store (Mac) or Google Play (Android) Ask a friend to be your "Bible Buddy" and study the materials together. Learn more at StLukesMethodist.org/bible

Are you receiving Dr. Pace's weekly messages? Our pastor shares his spiritual journey through a personal prayer and insights into the weekly sermon. Read his blog at StLukesMethodist.org/inside-out-with-dr-tom-pace or subscribe to his Friday emails through our member portal at **Membership**. StLukesMethodist.org

Prayer Eggs

Each Sunday during Lent, our children receive a plastic Easter eggs containing the Lord's Prayer and names to pray for that week. Everyone is invited to join in. Eggs are available at the info desk in the Fellowship Walk. Take an egg and pray for those names during the week.

Contributions to the Lenten Flowers Fund are a wonderful way to honor or remember loved ones. Acknowledgements will be made in the bulletins on Easter Sunday. Forms are available at the Information Desk or the Church Office and must be received by April 3. Contact Gayle Eury at 713-402-5027.

Complete list of Lenten and Easter events at StLukesMethodist.org/easter

WE GIVE OURSELVES AWAY

in generosity and service.

Be an Easter Greeter

Easter Sunday is just four Sundays away, and we expect over 5,000 people in worship over the course of our 10 services on the Westheimer Campus! That's a lot of people, and many who do not come on a typical Sunday. If you have a happy and welcoming smile, we would love to invite you to volunteer as a greeter for a service or two so that we can make everyone feel welcomed at St. Luke's. There will be a captain who will give you your spot, and the rest is all love. Contact Jennifer Gould at 713-402-5084 or jgould@stlukemethodist.org



#stlukeshouston



/stlukeshouston

INSIDE-OUT HABITS

WE PRAY

Sunday, March 19

Dear Lord, please help us to increase our faith in a world where things don't always go our way. So that we may be an encouragement to others in your name Amen.
-Prayer by Dwayne

Monday, March 20

Father, In Jesus' name I thank you for being my God and letting me live in your world. I want to love you more, trust you more, and see more of you in me. Thank you, Amen.

Tuesday, March 21

Father God, you are so kind and loving to each of us. We thank and praise you for everything, Amen.
-Prayer by Anne

Wednesday, March 22

Dear Heavenly Father, Thank you for this new day. Fill us each morning with your love and let us carry it out into your world. Help us to remember we can do all things through you. Guide our steps. Thank you for your many blessings. Amen.

Thursday, March 23

God, our Father, we ask that you provide us with guidance today in all our activities. Let the Holy Spirit work within us to provide insight in what we say and do. We thank you for the gift of your son and the grace He bestowed on us. Amen.

Friday, March 24

Heavenly Father, look down upon us and provide guidance in this troubled world to honor your existence. It is important that we know you and make you part of our life daily. Encourage those non-believers to seek more information and begin a relationship. Amen.

Saturday, March 25

Dear Lord, Give me rest, eight hours would be best. Give me dreams to lead me through so I can wake and know what to do. Thank you for the gift of each night and for each new morning too. Amen.
-Prayer by a new Mom

WE PRAY!

Lent is a great time to visit the interactive prayer wall at StLukesMethodist.org/prayer. Not only is the Prayer Wall a place to share your prayers, it is also a place where you can go to pray for others, and when you do, be sure and check the box that says you prayed. Why not do it daily?

IF YOU OR SOMEONE YOU KNOW NEEDS PRAYER, a hospital visit or contact from one of our ministers, please call Rev. Bill Denham at 713-402-5156. 24-hour Prayer and Praise Line: 713-402-5088.

SERVICE OF PRAYER AND HEALING

Wednesday, March 22 at 6:30 p.m. | Gethsemane Campus Sanctuary
This special Lenten service offers a quiet space for reflection and simply sitting in the presence of God. There will be time for private and communal prayer, and healing through the anointing of oil.

WE STUDY THE BIBLE

Luke 4:16-30

¹⁶When he came to Nazareth, where he had been brought up, he went to the synagogue on the sabbath day, as was his custom. He stood up to read, ¹⁷ and the scroll of the prophet Isaiah was given to him. He unrolled the scroll and found the place where it was written:

¹⁸ "The Spirit of the Lord is upon me,
because he has anointed me
to bring good news to the poor.

He has sent me to proclaim release to the captives
and recovery of sight to the blind,
to let the oppressed go free,

¹⁹ to proclaim the year of the Lord's favor."

²⁰ And he rolled up the scroll, gave it back to the attendant, and sat down. The eyes of all in the synagogue were fixed on him. ²¹ Then he began to say to them, "Today this scripture has been fulfilled in your hearing." ²² All spoke well of him and were amazed at the gracious words that came from his mouth. They said, "Is not this Joseph's son?" ²³ He said to them, "Doubtless you will quote to me this proverb, 'Doctor, cure yourself!' And you will say, 'Do here also in your hometown the things that we have heard you did at Capernaum.'" ²⁴ And he said, "Truly I tell you, no prophet is accepted in the prophet's hometown. ²⁵ But the truth is, there were many widows in Israel in the time of Elijah, when the heaven was shut up three years and six months, and there was a severe famine over all the land; ²⁶ yet Elijah was sent to none of them except to a widow at Zarephath in Sidon. ²⁷ There were also many lepers[a] in Israel in the time of the prophet Elisha, and none of them was cleansed except Naaman the Syrian." ²⁸ When they heard this, all in the synagogue were filled with rage. ²⁹ They got up, drove him out of the town, and led him to the brow of the hill on which their town was built, so that they might hurl him off the cliff. ³⁰ But he passed through the midst of them and went on his way.

Sermon Notes

Rejected but Resolute
Last in a series *In the Wilderness*
Dr. Tom Pace preaching

- 1) Rejected
 - a) when you do not belong
 - b) when they hear your message
 - c) when they see your change
- 2) Resolute
 - a) in your purpose
 - b) in your identity

KEY VERSE FOR THE WEEK:

And he said, "Truly I tell you, no prophet is accepted in the prophet's hometown." —Luke 4:24

QUESTIONS FOR CONVERSATION

When have you felt rejected and for what reason? How have you changed, and how was that change received?

WE TELL OUR STORIES



THE ICING ON THE CAKE

by Sally Penning

Next week our shared St. John's-St. Luke's parking garage is scheduled to open. It is an exciting time. It means that our three-year construction project is completed, and, for me as a staff member, that is a little bittersweet. Yes, the bus was inconvenient, but there were some pluses to riding the shuttle. For starters, I have been a member of St. Luke's my entire life, but until the shuttle dropped me off, I had never entered the Sanctuary through our beautiful front entry. There is a kind of comradery that develops when we are put together with others in the same situation. We form a bond, even if for a brief time. And during that time we talked about our church and the sermon and we got to know each other. It was genuine fellowship and it was good.

Kerry, pictured above, often drove the shuttle bus I took from the Briar Club garage. He told me what a blessing it had been for him to get to know St. Luke's and how kind all the members had been. Although he was never actually in one of our worship services, he began watching the videos. He also said that he would ask his passengers what they learned that morning, and he had some interesting conversations. Kerry told me he would miss his Sundays driving but the first thing he was going to do when the assignment was over was to actually attend a St. Luke's worship service—to sit inside and be a part of it rather than just hear about it secondhand. I hope Kerry is with us soon, and I can't wait to welcome him inside our church.

As we began the capital campaign in 2013, Dr. Pace told us the experience would bring us together in ways we could never imagine, and he was right. The construction period has been my favorite time at St. Luke's. It was exciting and it was messy and it was inconvenient, but most of all it challenged us to be our very best and to keep the important things first. We had to continually remind ourselves that what we were building was not about us, but about building the Kingdom of God, and construction may be over, but there's still plenty of work to do. And that is the real icing on the cake.