



## Pastor's Musings

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History is an unpleasant subject for many people. The study of the past seems to contradict our drive to look ahead. Overall, Americans are woefully ignorant about history, even recent history. A study completed some years ago showed a significant number of college students believed the words in the "Declaration of Independence" to be part of a communist document. Time and time again, various "man on the street" interviews and studies illustrate a remarkable ignorance of history.

In a few of our recent Bible Study classes I noted how too many Christians suffer from the same lack of historical knowledge—particularly as it pertains to the Old Testament. Comments such as, "We don't have to study the Old Testament now because Christ changed all of that," and "We don't need to know that stuff because we are living under grace" are common. You can even purchase Bibles that contain only the New Testament (with Psalms and Proverbs).

The general disregard for the Old Testament is unfortunate. Forfeited are countless blessings and a complete understanding of the New Testament. Jesus warned that he did not come to abolish the law and the prophets but to fulfill them. He further said, "I tell you the truth, until heaven and earth disappear, not the smallest letter, not the least stroke of a pen, will by any means disappear from the Law until everything is accomplished" (Matthew 5:18). Jesus admonished us not to fall into the trap of ignoring the Old Testament. Keep in mind that the Old Testament *was*

the Church's Bible for nearly 4 centuries! We must study the whole Bible if we are to fully comprehend the wonder and glory of God.

For example, we cannot even begin to grasp the nature of God unless we study how He interacted with His people throughout history. God's revelation of his character is important to understanding how we are to order our lives.

Immediately after Adam and Eve commit the first sin, God revealed his character by announcing his salvation plan in Genesis 3:15.

**"And I will put enmity between thee and the woman, and between thy seed and her seed; it shall bruise thy head, and thou shalt bruise his heel." Genesis 3:15**



God's sovereignty and the love for His people were displayed to the Israelites, Moses, and Pharaoh through the ten plagues bestowed upon Egypt (Exodus 7:14-12:30). The Exodus proves God's willingness to interact with us. The Law given to Moses provides moral instruction.



the cross is tantamount to reading only the climax of a book. If you read only the climax, it becomes an undefined and misunderstood event. You cannot know what lead to the climax, or what happens after. To be sure, not studying the Old Testament will limit your understanding of God as he revealed himself to us and you will miss the overall impact of what God has done for us. Perhaps this is why so many Christians do not understand “how wide and long and high and deep is the love of Christ, and to know this love that surpasses knowledge . . .” (Eph. 3:18-19).

God made covenants with Noah, promising not to destroy mankind through a flood again (Gen. 9:1-17); with Abraham, promising land, the seed of Christ and blessings (Gen. 15); with Moses, choosing the nation of Israel to be His people (Ex. 19:5-6); with David, promising to make the Davidic dynasty the throne of Israel.

These covenants, among others, demonstrate God’s willingness to commit himself unconditionally to bless us. God accepts our faith, though it is often smaller than a mustard seed, and gives to us a righteousness we could never attain. All these examples demonstrate the magnificent character of God.

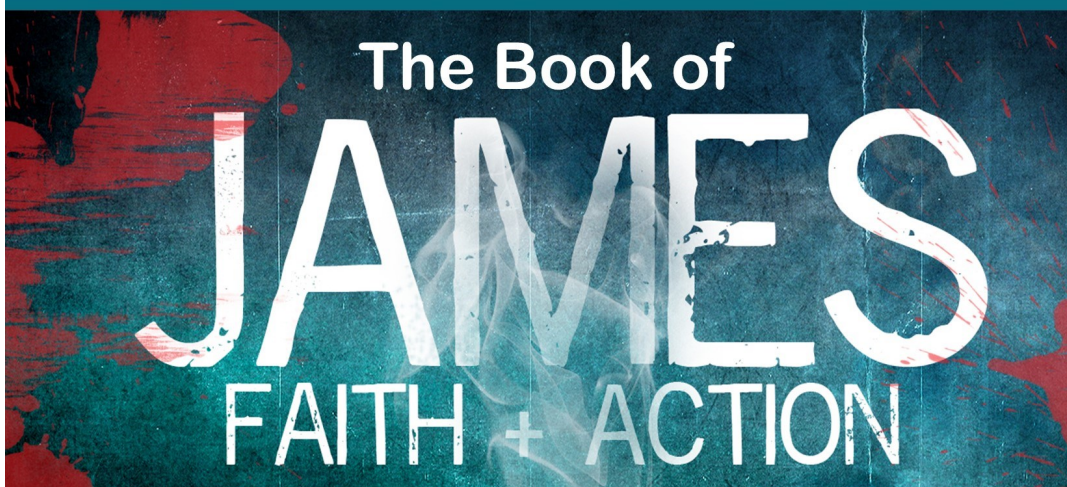
Though the greatest demonstration of God’s character is in Christ Jesus, unless we thoroughly understand the Old Testament, Christ’s work on

Peace.

*Pastor Dan*

The Son is the image of the invisible God, the firstborn over all creation. For God was pleased to have all his fullness dwell in him,  
Colossians 1:15, 19

**Monday Bible Study with Pastor Dan  
at 10:00am and 7:00pm**





## From The Anglican Book of Common Prayer

***Collect:*** Lord, you taught us that whatever we do without love is worth nothing; send your Holy spirit and pour into our hearts that most excellent gift of love, the true bond of peace and of all virtues, without which whoever lives is counted dead before you; grant this for your only Son Jesus Christ's sake

**Amen.**



[LEARN MORE](#)

The Northeast Annual Conference is part of the **Global Methodist Church**, as defined by the Book of Doctrine & Discipline. Our region includes all states from Maine to Maryland; Connecticut, Delaware, Maine, Massachusetts, Maryland, New Hampshire, New Jersey, New York, Rhode Island, Vermont, the eastern two-thirds of Pennsylvania, northern West Virginia, and the District of Columbia.

A HOLY SPIRIT INSPIRED MOVEMENT

**Through the empowerment of the Holy Spirit, the Global Methodist Church envisions multiplying disciples of Jesus Christ throughout the earth who flourish in scriptural holiness as we worship passionately, love extravagantly, and witness boldly.**

**Rev. Steven Taylor**

Conference Superintendent

**Rev. Matthew Sichel**

Conference Secretary

**Ms. Jacqueline Kim**

Conference Lay Leader

**Ms. Erika Renwick**

CFO/Treasurer

# Our Shared Life as the Body of Christ

**St. Luke's Methodist Church**



**THE SHARE SHOP**  
 Saturday, May 24th  
 9am-12pm

Donations of gently used clothing, toys, and household goods accepted May 18-22

 PALM SUNDAY	 GOOD FRIDAY	 EASTER SUNDAY
 MAUNDY THURSDAY		

**Palm Sunday Worship** April 13th @ 8:30 and 10:00 am  
 (Children's Easter Egg Hunt during Sunday School 9:45 am)

**Maundy Thursday Worship** April 17th @ 7:00 pm

**Good Friday Cross Walk** April 18th @ 12:00 pm

**Good Friday Worship** April 18th @ 7:00 pm

**Easter Sunday Worship** April 20th @ 8:30 and 10:00 am

**Easter Egg-Making Schedule April 6-9**

Sunday (6<sup>th</sup>) – Prepping & Measuring  
 Monday (7<sup>th</sup>) – Mixing & Shaping  
 Tuesday (8<sup>th</sup>) – Dipping  
 Wed (9<sup>th</sup>) – Decorating & Boxing & Packaging



**Saturday, May 3rd  
 @ 8am**



**Men's BREAKFAST**  
 FAITH • FOOD • FELLOWSHIP

**SAVE THE DATE**

June 8th—Graduate Recognition Sunday  
 June 15th—Father's Day Honor Roll  
 June 29th— OutREACH Sunday  
 July 21st-24th—VBS!!



# St. Luke's Methodist Church

St. Luke's Methodist Church has scholarship funding available for 50% of the cost of summer camp (up to \$500) for children or grandchildren of church members. Please register your child(ren) first and provide documentation of that registration with your scholarship request.

Parents/Grandparents Name(s) \_\_\_\_\_

Telephone \_\_\_\_\_ (cell/home)

Email \_\_\_\_\_

Name of Camp \_\_\_\_\_

Child(ren) registered for Camp	Session/Date Registered	Cost
_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____

Please pay the deposit due and attach or include a copy of the receipt with your application.

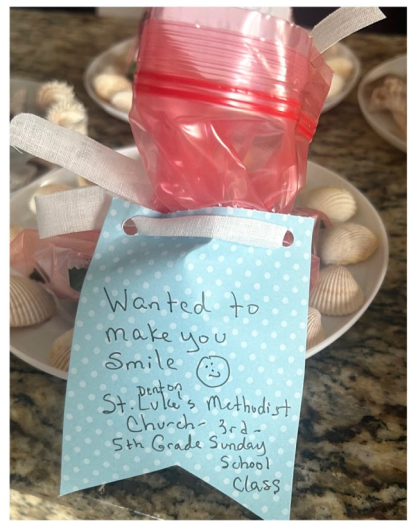
(For Office Use)

Date Request Received \_\_\_\_\_

Pastor's Authorization \_\_\_\_\_

Scholarship Awarded \$ \_\_\_\_\_







**St. Luke's Methodist Church Treasurer's Report**  
**For Period January 1st through February 28th, 2025**

Description	Annual Budget 2025	Actual Income or Expense To Date	Variance	S/B 16.7%
<b><u>Income</u></b>				
Offerings	220,000.00	27,268.00	192,732.00	12.39%
Interest Income	-	49.49	(49.49)	n/a
Building Use	2,000.00	440.00	1,560.00	22.00%
Cleaning Fees Building Use	1,000.00		1,000.00	0.00%
<b>Total Income</b>	<b>223,000.00</b>	<b>27,757.49</b>	<b>195,242.51</b>	<b>12.45%</b>
<b><u>Expenses</u></b>				
<b>Pastor Expenses</b>				
Salary	63,513.00	10,664.78	52,848.22	16.79%
Hospitalization/Dental	25,138.00	6,303.42	18,834.58	25.08%
Pension Plan	9,990.00	1,705.82	8,284.18	17.08%
Pastor Expenses - other			-	
<b>Total Pastor Expenses</b>	<b>98,641.00</b>	<b>18,674.02</b>	<b>79,966.98</b>	<b>18.93%</b>
<b>Staff Expenses</b>				
Staff Salaries	54,527.00	6,254.76	48,272.24	11.47%
Wage and Tax Expenses	4,000.00	478.49	3,521.51	11.96%
Worker's Compensation	500.00	-	500.00	0.00%
Expenses - other			-	
<b>Total Staff Expenses</b>	<b>59,027.00</b>	<b>6,733.25</b>	<b>52,293.75</b>	<b>11.41%</b>
<b>Other Operational Expenses</b>				
Accounting & Legal	1,200.00	-	1,200.00	0.00%
Christian Education/Sunday School	1,500.00	(370.43)	1,870.43	n/a
Connectional Funding GMC	8,875.00	2,218.90	6,656.10	25.00%
Janitorial Supplies	700.00	158.91	541.09	22.70%
Weekly Cleaning Service	11,000.00	1,871.66	9,128.34	17.02%
Church Electric	17,500.00	6,494.55	11,005.45	37.11%
Kitchen Propane	1,200.00	253.83	946.17	21.15%
Equipment Rental & Maintenance	4,000.00	710.46	3,289.54	17.76%
Grass and Shrubbery Maintenance	3,400.00	-	3,400.00	0.00%
Insurance	3,500.00	-	3,500.00	0.00%
Maintenance and Repairs	2,000.00	1,020.94	979.06	51.05%
Miscellaneous	-	20.00	(20.00)	n/a
MYF Program	-	-	-	
Office Supplies	1,300.00	630.53	669.47	48.50%
Postage	350.00	-	350.00	0.00%
Pastor/Organist, Substitutes	-	-	-	0.00%
Stewardship	1,200.00	76.00	1,124.00	6.33%
Telephone & Internet	2,400.00	557.20	1,842.80	23.22%
Water and Sewer	1,200.00	260.30	939.70	21.69%
Spiritual Life	1,500.00	554.64	945.36	36.98%
Worship Materials & Supplies	700.00	777.00	(77.00)	111.00%
<b>Total Operational Expenses</b>	<b>63,525.00</b>	<b>15,234.49</b>	<b>48,290.51</b>	<b>23.98%</b>
<b>Total Expenses</b>	<b>221,193.00</b>	<b>40,641.76</b>	<b>180,551.24</b>	<b>18.37%</b>
<b>Net Income over Expenses</b>	<b>1,807.00</b>	<b>(12,884.27)</b>	<b>14,691.27</b>	



Watch, O Lord, with those who wake, or watch, or weep tonight, and give your angels charge over those who sleep. Tend your sick ones, O Lord Christ. Rest your weary ones. Bless your dying ones. Soothe your suffering ones. Pity your afflicted ones. Shield your joyous ones. And for all your love's sake. Amen.

## Prayer Concerns for April & May

For those in our parish & community needing healing and comfort:

Craig Little, Jane Dieter, Marie & Mike, Janice Thomas, Jim Eveland, Sherry Schreiber, George Lacy, Virginia Liddell, Julie Pursley, Helen Parker, Rebecca Matthews, Lee Crouse, Fred Burton, William Torbert, Baby Ezra, Renee Barringer, Emily Baynard, Diane Matthews, Patsy Biggers, Allan and Cindy Boyd, Emily Patrick, Betty Barwick, Cristy Russell, Michael Mumford, Patty Downes, Jason Lee, and Mary Lynn Meloni.

For the family and friends of those who have died:

Brian Spiering, Cay Cutright. Rick Garner, Doris Hynson, Carol Hetrick, Ralph Starkey, Bruce Hastings, Sonny Callahan, Betsy Wood, Adam Anders, Lisa Golt, Jacob Brach, Nicholas Helgason, Victoria Gossage, Reverend Paul Dieter, and Lois Dunn.

For those serving in the U.S. Military:

Chelsea Bunker, Seth Gill, Gabe Griffith, Ethan Lister, Teagan Lister, Matthew Parker, Andrew Robbins, Jack Schroeder, and Bryan Hatch.

To add names to any of our lists, we ask that you either call (410-479-2171), [e-mail the church](#), or put a prayer card in the collection plate. Please be sure to include your name and telephone number so that we can contact you regarding the status of the person needing prayer; otherwise, the name will be removed after a few weeks.

The prayer team is continuing to remember many on our list who ask for prayer, but do not wish to be on the public list. Please know that we try to honor all requests and often call for updates. Also, **except for phone calls, please give information in writing, as there are too many changes to remember otherwise.**

*Thank you for your care, concern, and prayer for our church family and beyond!*



**Do you have gifts of  
*compassion and encouragement?***

**Join the work of caring for our  
St. Luke's Brothers and Sisters  
who need to stay**

**CONNECTED to their  
CHURCH FAMILY!**

**See Sherry Baker for more info**



Carry each other's burdens, and in this way you will fulfill the law of Christ.

- Galatians 6:2 -



**July 21st—24th**

**We need volunteers to help with  
sign-in & greeting, crafts,  
supervision, snacks, and setup.**

**Contact Carrie in the office!**

**410-479-2171**

**[stklukesdenton@gmail.com](mailto:stklukesdenton@gmail.com)**

*St. Luke's Methodist*



**St. Luke's Women of Faith** meet quarterly for fellowship and planning, and are actively involved in supporting the ministries of our church through helping with church fellowship events, fundraising and contributing toward ministries, and a variety of other activities.

All women of St. Luke's are most welcome to attend!

***Next meeting is Tuesday, April 1st,  
at 6:30pm***

## Summary of Meeting Minutes March 20th, 2025



### Team Reports

#### ***Property and Investment Management/Trustees (Barbara Little, Chair)***

- Water retention project cost estimate is \$28K and the Trustees will work with the contractor to bring that cost down
- Getting quotes for the cost of installing two large 8' ceiling fans in the fellowship hall.
- Cost estimate for installing TV's in the sanctuary is approximately \$5K .
- Hardware on the front doors will need replacing in future but will wait until it no longer works.
- Will Manship of East Bay Landscapes will do spring cleanup again this year (did a good job last two years.)
- Need an appraisal of the value of the church property & are looking for a for an appraisal company.
- Trustees have reviewed the current Building Use Agreement for church rentals and will also evaluate the fee structure for rentals.
- The ceiling in the library has two missing tiles and is difficult to fix. The Trustees are monitoring it to determine if it continues to leak before fixing it. If the roof needs replacing, the cost is approximately \$50K.

#### ***Mission and Ministry Committee (No Chair, No meeting)***

#### ***Finance Committee (Bob Willey, Treasurer)***

- Bob went over the Treasurer's and Financial Reports (see attached reports)
- He is a bit concerned about the overall giving, which is lagging behind projections. However, March has five Sundays, and Pastor Dan reported that Easter giving is often higher.
- A representative from the GMC Finance Team contacted Bob to offer assistance as needed with Church Finances.

#### ***Staff Parish Relations Committee (Laura Patrick, Chair)***

- CPR class is being rescheduled (due to illness of the instructor). Let Laura know if you would like to get certified.
- We had one lead for a pianist/organist, but it did not work out. We continue to advertise for the Organist and Sexton positions in local news and through church communications.
- SPRC continues to keep up-to-date with and document staff evaluations and issues.

### New Business:

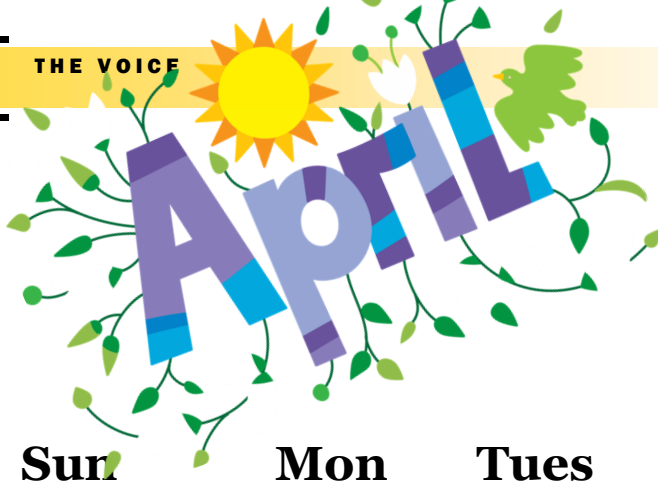
#### ***From Pastor Dan:***

- Lenten Soup Suppers are once again well attended. There will be no soup supper April 4th when he and Missy are out of town.
- GMC is still settling into its new denominational structures and making appointments to conference committees. Pastor Dan is very happy with the focus of the GMC to date.

#### ***From Jody Herb:***

- Sheriff Baker spoke with her about community needs and reported that many of the calls they receive involve child abuse cases. Jody plans to meet with a child liaison to see if the church can make comfort packets for kids.
- Linda Parsons and Paula Penn serve dinner to His Hope Haven periodically and if anyone is interested in helping them, or delivering a meal, they would be most welcome. [Link to Meal Train Signup.](#)





Sun

Mon

Tues

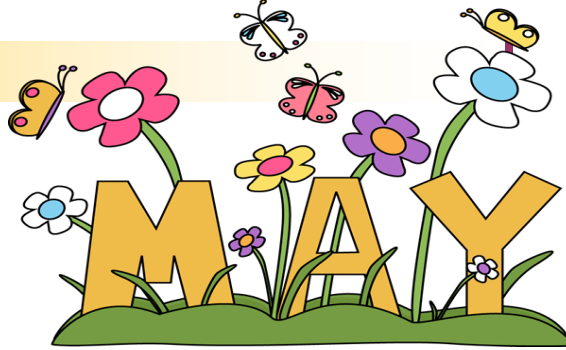
Wed

Thur

Fri

Sat

March 30th		1	2	3	4	5
9:45am Sunday School 10am "5th Sun" Worship		6:30pm <b>WOF Meeting</b>  7pm Praise Band Practice	1pm <b>Cards of Comfort</b>			
6	7	8	9	10	11	12
8:30 Traditional Worship 9:30 Adult Sunday Class 9:45 Sunday School 10:00 Ignite Worship	Easter Egg-Making 11am Prayer Team 6pm Wellness Pathways	7pm Praise Band Practice	→		<b>Last Lenten Soup Supper 6pm</b>	<b>9am Emmaus Fellowship &amp; Prayer</b>
13	14	15	16	17	18	
<b>Palm Sunday &amp; Communion</b> 8:30 Traditional Worship 9:30 Adult Sunday Class 9:45 Sunday School 10:00 Ignite Worship 11am Cantata Centreville	10am & 7pm Bible Study 11am Prayer Team 6pm Wellness Pathways	7pm Praise Band Practice		<b>7pm Holy Thursday Worship</b>	<b>12pm Crosswalk</b> <b>7pm Good Friday Worship</b>	
20	21	22	23	24	25	26
<b>Easter Sunday</b> 8:30 Traditional Worship 9:30 Adult Sunday Class 9:45 Sunday School 10:00 Ignite Worship	 <b>Office Closed</b> 6pm Wellness Pathways	7pm Praise Band Practice				<b>4:30pm Sewing Class</b>
27	28	29		May 1	2	3
<b>REACH Sunday</b> 8:30 Traditional Worship 9:30 Adult Sunday Class 9:45 Sunday School 10:00 Ignite Worship	10am & 7pm Bible Study 11am Prayer Team 6pm Wellness Pathways	7pm Praise Band Practice				<b>8am Men's Breakfast</b>  <b>4:30pm Sewing Class</b>



Sun

Mon

Tues

Wed

Thurs

Fri

Sat

				1	2	3 8am Men's Breakfast <b>4:30pm</b> Sewing Class
4 <b>Confirmation &amp; Communion</b> 8:30 Traditional Worship 9:30 Adult Sunday Class 9:45 Sunday School 10:00 Ignite Worship	5 10am & 7pm Bible Study 11am Prayer Team	6 7pm Praise Band Practice	7 1pm Cards of Comfort	8 North East GMC Annual Conference (Cortland, NY)	9	10 9am Emmaus Fellowship <b>4:30pm</b> Sewing Class
11 <b>Mother's Day</b> 8:30 Traditional Worship 9:30 Adult Sunday Class 9:45 Sunday School 10:00 Ignite Worship	12 10am & 7pm Bible Study 11am Prayer Team	13 7pm Praise Band Practice	14	15 6:30pm Leadership Committees 7:30pm Church Council	16	17 <b>4:30pm</b> Sewing Class
18 <b>Teacher Appreciation/ Last Day Sunday School</b> 8:30 Traditional Worship 9:30 Adult Sunday Class 9:45 Sunday School 10:00 Ignite Worship	19 10am & 7pm Bible Study 11am Prayer Team	20 7pm Praise Band Practice	21	22	23 	24 9am-12pm Share Shop
25 <b>Memorial and REACH Sunday</b> 8:30 Traditional Worship 9:30 Adult Sunday Class 10:00 Ignite Worship	26 Office Closed for Memorial Day	27 7pm Praise Band Practice	28 	29	30	31 <b>4:30pm</b> Sewing Class
June 1 8:30 Traditional Worship 9:30 Adult Sunday Class 10:00 Ignite Worship	2	3 6:30pm WOF Meeting 7pm Praise Band Practice	4 1 pm Cards of Comfort	5		





Join Us for St. Luke's "Sowing Seeds of Prayer"



# SEWING CLASS

Saturdays at 4:30 pm  
Starting April 26th

Bring your sewing machine  
Fabric is provided

Taught and sponsored by  
Elizabeth Escobar  
(owner of Betty's Boutique)!



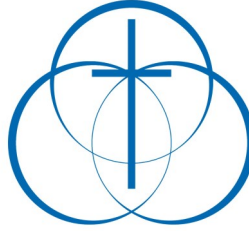
Please contact the office  
(410-479-2171)  
stlukesdenton@gmail.com  
to register for the class



**St. Luke's Methodist Church**

*A Global Methodist Church*

100 S. 5th Avenue  
Denton, Maryland 21629



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Office Phone: 410-479-2171  
Email: [stlukesdenton@gmail.com](mailto:stlukesdenton@gmail.com)

To:

# THE VOICE

**St. Luke's Methodist Church**  
**April & May 2025**

**St. Luke's Staff**

**Rev. Daniel Gedman– Pastor**

*Director of Youth Ministries:* Garrett Shull

*Director of Ignite Praise Band:* Alicia Weippert

*Administrative Assistant:* Carrie Soldano

*Nursery Coordinator:* Alex Penn

**Visit St. Luke's Online at [www.stlukesdenton.org](http://www.stlukesdenton.org)**

**or visit us on Facebook [www.facebook.com/  
Stlukesmethodist/](http://www.facebook.com/Stlukesmethodist/)**

**YouTube Channel [www.youtube.com/channel/  
UCGrQ5QHraky3SnEIDD8zY9A](http://www.youtube.com/channel/UCGrQ5QHraky3SnEIDD8zY9A)**

**Jesus Is Lord!**

