

Advent Activities 2016



St. Luke United Methodist Church

1394 East Nine Mile Road - Pensacola, FL 32514 - (850) 477-3145 (850)478-2085 fax

www.stluke-umc.org

Chili Supper and Hanging of the Greens - Sunday, November 27th

-Chili Supper at 5:00 p.m. -Hanging of the Greens Service at 6:30 p.m.

Prior to the Hanging of the Greens service, the St. Luke Youth will host a Chili Supper in the Fellowship Hall. (see Chili Cook-Off below!) Come enjoy chili and fellowship before the service! *Then...* join your St. Luke family for the joyous and festive Hanging of the Greens service celebrating the beginning of Advent with Music, Scripture lessons and the hanging of the beautiful Chrismons on the Christmas Tree. The Hanging of the Greens is a special service your entire family can participate in and will enjoy.

Please cook up your best chili and bring a pot to our annual **Chili Cook-Off (5:00 pm) Sunday, November 27** before our Hanging of the Greens service (6:30 pm)! Thank you so much for your participation, friendly competition, and support of the St. Luke Youth Group!



Santa Claus will be joining us in the Fellowship Hall following the Hanging of the Greens!

A Night in Bethlehem - A Hands-On Holy Land Experience

Friday, December 2nd, 6:00 p.m. - 8:00 p.m.

Mark your calendars now for **Friday, December 2**, as we celebrate the birth of Jesus by re-creating a Biblical Times marketplace open to the community from **6:00 p.m. – 8:00 p.m.** ALL families are invited to “*a Christmas experience where participants do more than just hear about the birth of Jesus—they’ll see, touch, feel, and smell what life was like during this miraculous time.*” Preparations are underway for our annual Night in Bethlehem! For more information or if you would like to volunteer, contact **Sandra Taylor** at mygirls2012@gmail.com or 850-292-1539.

Son Seekers Annual Christmas Party and Cookie Exchange

Saturday, December 3rd

Open Meeting - You are invited to attend on Saturday, December 3, 2016

Where: Fellowship Hall **Time:** 6:30 p.m.

Bring a side dish and 2 dozen cookies to swap in the cookie exchange. RSVP by Dec.1, 2016 to VSBRDH@aol.com or leave a message at (850)791-6925. Learn about the walk to Emmaus. This is an open meeting whether you have been on the Walk or Not.

Children’s Choir Christmas Musical

Elementary Children’s Choir to present “*The Christmas Carol Special Report*”

Wednesday, December 14th, 6:00 p.m. - Sanctuary

Many of the carols we enjoy and sing at Christmas have exciting histories from countries around the world. Giving us the scoop on these festive songs of the birth of Christ, and coming to us live from the television studios of KMAS, we tune into *The Christmas Carol Special Report!* Join Jim and Natalie (news anchors at KMAS) and three on-location reporters stationed across the globe, as they broadcast Christmas carolers live and give some remarkable history behind Christmas celebrations around the world!

Pie and Caroling, December 11th: 6:00 p.m.

Join us on December 11th, at 6:00 p.m. for Pie and Caroling. Everyone is welcome to come along. Bundle up and we'll climb into a trailer (think hay ride) and take a ride through our neighborhood stopping to sing carols for our neighbors. Join us as we begin spread Christmas Cheer in our own backyard. Afterwards we'll enjoy pie, hot chocolate and hot cider in the fellowship hall. Please bring a pie (or other holiday treat) to share. Questions, contact Darlene Henderson (850-602-4521 or via email at DandWH@aol.com) or Mark Taylor at mark@stluke-umc.org or (850) 554-5440.

Kids Day Out - Christmas Edition - Saturday, December 10th!

In December, we will have a **Kids DAY Out**, so that parents can finish their last minute Christmas shopping. :

Date - Saturday, December 10

Time – 9:00 AM – 2:00 PM. Please drop off in the Fellowship Hall.

Ages – 6 weeks old to 6th grade

Cost - \$25 for one child, \$40 for two siblings, \$50 for three, \$60 for four

~Lunch and Snack provided! ~ Please email esther@stluke-umc.org, or text (850) 291-6048, to register.



Chancel Choir Presents: "Holding On To Christmas", Sunday, December 11th

8:00 a.m. and 11:00 a.m. - Sanctuary

Join your St. Luke family as we enjoy the musical celebration entitled "Holding On To Christmas" presented by St. Luke Chancel Choir. "This delightfully charming, "comfort-the-soul" musical is a warm invitation to "come sit by the fireside, wrap up in your favorite Christmas blanket, and reminisce about Christmas" as, together, we celebrate family and friends, and most importantly, the Savior who was born so long ago on that first Christmas night in Bethlehem."

- **Other Notes for Cantata Sunday, December 11th:**

- A nursery will be provided for all 3 services.
- Fellowship Time/Refreshments will still take place at 9:00 a.m. in the Fellowship Hall.
- Sunday School at 9:30 a.m. & 11:00 a.m. will meet as usual
- There will be a Contemporary Worship Service at 9:30 a.m.

9:30 a.m. Contemporary Service Worship Service, December 11

Rev. Don Abrams, Preaching - Worship Team Presents their "Bluegrass Christmas" music

Youth Progressive Christmas Party- Friday, December 16th, From 6:00 - 10:30 p.m.

Join us for our annual Youth Christmas party! All 6th – 12th grade students are encouraged to be a part of our progressive dinner: we'll board a trolley and visit the Strength and McCrory homes along the way, enjoying fellowship and good food. Afterward, we will play "sneaky Santa," so you'll want to bring an inexpensive, wrapped gift, to place under our tree in the youth building. Meet at the Youth Building - the trolley will leave at 6:15 p.m., so make sure you're there on time!

Christmas Eve Candlelight Communion Services

Saturday, December 24th at 4:00 p.m., 5:30 p.m. and 7:00 p.m.

Services of special music, Scripture readings, Christmas message, Holy Communion & candles.

Christmas Eve Worship Services:

4:00 PM – Traditional Worship Service with Children's Choir

5:30 PM – Contemporary Worship Service

7:00 PM – Traditional Worship Service

Nursery Notes: A nursery for **Preschool Age Children Only** will be available for ALL of the worship services including WNT, special events and services: Hanging of the Greens and Christmas Eve.



MERRY CHRISTMAS

Christmas Day, Sunday, December 25th

ONE worship Service at 10:30 a.m.

No Sunday School, No Refreshment Time

Other Advent/Holiday Notes

- **Poinsettias 2016** (last day to order is 11/27/16) !
- **Ensley Elementary Secret Santa Program is now underway!** Look for the Secret Santa Tree in the Gathering Area and your opportunity to sign up to be the elf of your choice!
- **Advent Devotional Booklets:** To enrich your preparation for Christmas, a copy of An Advent Calendar of Devotions by Dale Clem is available as a gift for each family. Look for them in the Narthex.
 - **"Gift of Treasures"** Pat Hayne will be selling her "Gift of Treasures" once again in the Narthex this Christmas season. The CD set includes "Piano Treasures From My Heart" and "Christmas Treasures". She will be selling the set for \$10 and **all proceeds go to St. Luke**. The set is beautifully wrapped with a festive bow, ready for gift giving! What a treasure to be able to enjoy Pat's beautiful music all year round!

Church Office Holiday Closures:

-**Thanksgiving Holidays:** Wednesday, November 23 (beginning @ 12 Noon), Thursday, November 24 and Friday, November 25, 2016

-**Christmas Holiday** – Monday, December 26, 2016

-**New Year's Holiday** –Monday, January 2, 2017

St. Luke Preschool Closures:

-**Thanksgiving Break** – Monday, November 21 – Friday, November 25, 2016

-**Christmas Holidays** – December 19, 2016 – January 2, 2017 (Closed for Christmas & New Year Holidays)

-Classes resume Tuesday, January 3, 2017