



St. Luke's Sentinel

The Parish Paper of St. Luke's Episcopal Church, Blue Ridge

Volume XVIII, Issue 1 *Blue Ridge, Georgia* March/April 2017

Palm Sunday and Holy Week services announced

A number of opportunities to enter into our Lord's passion and prepare for Easter will be available at St. Luke's.

On Palm Sunday, Holy Communion will be celebrated at both the 8:15 and 10 a.m. services. At the latter, the Passion according to St. Matthew will be read by members of the congregation. Persons who wish to be assigned a part should speak to Verger Tony McConnell.

The Holy Communion will be celebrated at noon in the chapel Monday through Wednesday in Holy Week (Apr. 10-12). Passions from other of the canonical Gospels will be read at these services.

On Maundy Thursday, Apr. 13,



HOLY WEEK

the Holy Communion will be celebrated at 6 p.m. At the end of the service, the altar will be stripped, and the congregation will leave in silence.

Maundy Thursday takes its name from the Latin word for mandate or commandment. It was on this day that our Lord gave His apostles the new commandment that they should love one another, and it was also the day when He instituted the Supper of the Lord.

Two opportunities will be offered for worship and reflection on Good Friday, Apr. 14. At noon, the Litany and Ante-Communion will be read at St. Luke's, while at 7 p.m. a community service based on the Seven Last Words of Christ will be held at the Shepherd of the Hills Lutheran Church, Forge Mill Road, Morganton. The service is hosted each year by one of the participating churches. St. Luke's hosted it in 2016, the Methodist church in 2015. †

Help us save mailing costs by allowing us to send you the St. Luke's Sentinel by email. Send your request to stlukes@tds.net.

Blue Ridge Community Easter Egg Hunt set for April 15



St. Luke's men's group along with the Blue Ridge Kiwanis Club will assist with the 21st annual Blue Ridge Community Easter Egg Hunt set for Saturday, Apr. 15, on St. Luke's Churchyard.

A special hunting area will be provided for very young children. Other ages will be able to search in the historic cemetery area as well as on the lawn of the Parish House.

Following the hunt, children will be invited to go to Thomason Hall to collect prizes and for refreshments. A St. Luke's colouring book with Bible readings will be given to all children attending.

"We are very happy to again have Walmart as a corporate sponsor," said the Rev. Victor H. Morgan, rector of St. Luke's. "This is Walmart's second year to assist with prizes and eggs."

The Rector said that he is also very appreciative of

contributions by other donors. "Small or great, your gifts make a difference," he said.

In particular, St. Luke's members and friends are encouraged to give prizes and candy for stuffing plastic eggs. Candy must come wrapped from the factory. Many thanks to Virginia Thrasher, Arianna Thrasher and Megan Thrasher for agreeing to overseeing stuffing plastic eggs and distributing prizes.

Several days prior to the hunt, volunteers will be needed to dye 1000 real eggs. Date and time to be announced. Assistant Rector, the Rev. Ron Wikander, will coordinate this operation.

Father Morgan said that the number of children served have grown over the years, with over 300 participating in 2016.

"One of the most gratifying things about this event," the Rector said, "is that a number of parents who came themselves as children are now continuing the tradition by bringing their children." †

Needlepoint Guild has new project

St. Luke's Needlepoint Guild has taken on a new project. The pieces for the church are now complete and are being framed. Guild members do not wish to disband so they are offering their skills to stitch personal family crests.

The crests would be modeled after the crests that hang in the sanctuary and the chapel. You could provide the design or they would research the design for you.

The cost would be \$125.00 for the piece, about 16 x 16 inches. The mounting and framing would be a separate expense.

If you are interested to have your own crest stitched or in doing the stitching, contact Pat McConnell at 706-632-8443.

News from the ECW

The Episcopal Church Women (ECW) is excited as we start 2017 with a busy schedule. Our first Christmas Bazaar workshop was held on February 8th, and the room was buzzing with excitement to get started on new ideas.

Our next workshop is scheduled for Wednesday, March 22nd at 9:30 a.m., with future workshops to be announced. You do not have to have any talent to join us for some fun and camaraderie.

March 1st was the beginning of our 11-week Beth Moore Bible Study, "The Patriarchs." We continue to meet each Wednesday at Noon in Thomason Hall until May 10th. It's not too late to join us in fellowship and learning. We have the sessions on DVD for those who wish to catch up.

At the regular ECW meeting on Wednesday, March 8th, Father Ron Wikander was our guest speaker on his outreach ministry. If you are looking for a niche to volunteer a bit of your time and your talents, please

A Word about the outlook ministry

Some of you may be surprised by the fact that the Rector and the Vestry have recently decided to appoint me as the Outreach Minister. After all, Saint Luke's has consistently reached out to the community in various ways throughout its 30-year history. Since "ministry" is not reserved for the clergy only: what kind of fruit can be expected in the future?

The primary goal of this "new" ministry is to coordinate with all charitable agencies in the geographic area of our parish; to increase parishioner awareness of the scope and purpose of each charity; to identify community needs; and to provide resources from our parish (in terms of volunteerism, talent, and creativity) that will help address community needs in a Christ-centered way.

The secondary goal is to assure that each charitable agency is not competing or duplicating efforts in a way that reduces the effectiveness or efficiency of Christian Mission within our community.

With these two goals in mind, I hope to identify ways of measuring the success of each goal. By providing this information to parishioners, I expect to instill a greater



spirit for mission within the parish. I will work toward identifying and quantifying the opportunities for mission to encourage an even greater number of members to share their unique skills. I will track our extent of participation, so that others will want to join our ranks.

At this juncture, I have already accomplished the following: appointed Chaplain of the Marine Corps League; appointed to the Board of Directors of "Snack in a Backpack"; joined the Collaborative Committee of Fannin County Family Connection; and joined the HAF committee of Georgia Mountain Health.

I faithfully solicit your support in a renewed and expanded effort to exercise our Christian Mission in our community. †

✍ Father Ron Wikander

(Father Ron encourages all members of St. Luke's to keep him informed of their outreach efforts and to notify him of outreach and charitable opportunities in the area. Please contact Father Ron if you are looking for ways that you can serve your fellow man. His phone number is 706-633-0176, and his email address is vicarwikander@tds.net.)

contact Father Ron.

The ECW holds regular meetings at 9:30 a.m., the second Wednesday, every two months. We hope to have a speaker at each of our meetings this year. You will always be welcome.

✍ Meredith Yacavone

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Website: www.stlukesblueridge.org
Church Email: stlukes@tds.org
Telephone: (706) 632-8245

Rev. Victor H. Morgan, Publisher
James L. Yacavone III, Editor
Lynn Pigott, Technical Assistant
Tony and Sheila McConnell, Production



From the Rector...

✠ I am very pleased to announce that St. Luke's Senior Warden James Yacavone has agreed to serve as editor of the St. Luke's Sentinel. Jim and his wife Meredith relocated to Fannin County from Pinellas County, Fla., in 2013. Since that time, both have enriched the life of this church and that of the larger community.

In addition to being an attorney and gentleman farmer, Jim has training in journalism. I am confident that under his editorship the St. Luke's Sentinel will be a publication members and friends of St. Luke's, both near and far away, will look forward to receiving either by post or via email. Thank you Jim for your willingness to take on this important job.

✠ Soon we will enter Lent. The more years one worships in an Anglican / Episcopal church, the more one appreciates the rhythm of life that comes from observing the church seasons. Celebration is balanced by

reflection; learning by application; and worship by service.

Prayer Book spirituality is not a static state, but an onward journey. There are always new mountains to climb, new furrows to plough, new adventures to be experienced.

In that spirit, I invite each of you to begin now making plans to keep a holy and productive Lent. Look for clutter in your life that needs to be discarded, for tasks of a good and godly nature that could be taken on. In particular, I encourage you to be a part of one of several Bible studies that will be going on in this season.

✠ A 'tip of the Canterbury cap' is in order for the St. Luke's men's group for blowing additional insulation into the attic of the parish house. This operation will not only make the parish house more comfortable for the Rector, the Treasurer, parish administrators and guests, but will also lower the cost of heating and cooling the building.

Those participating in the project included: Neal McDonald, Pat Dearing, Rodney Allen, Bob Morgan and Ron Wikander. A job well done, men. Thanks! ✠

Learning about and from other faith communities

The 2006 Yearbook of American and Canadian Churches lists 217 denominations. In a series of articles, the Rector will explore the origin, belief, worship, government and leadership, divisions and famous members of some of the denominational families found in America.

Eastern Orthodox Church

Origin of the church. Up to 1054, the Christian Church remained more or less united. In that year, however, a split between the Church in the West, centered in Rome, and the Church in the East, centered in Constantinople, occurred. The schism had, in fact, been developing over a number of years. One reason for this growing apart was the difference in language: the Church in the West spoke Latin, while the Church in the East spoke Greek.

The actual breaking point came when the Church in the West added the *filioque* to the Nicene Creed. The *filioque* that phrase that says that the Holy Spirit proceeds from the Father and the Son. At that time, the Bishop of Rome (the Pope) excommunicated the Patriarch of Constantinople, and the Patriarch returned the favour.

The Eastern Orthodox Church is made up of those

churches which accept the decisions and degrees of the first seven general church councils and which remain in formal communion with the Patriarch of Constantinople. The Patriarch is not seen as the first among equals among the Bishops of the Eastern Orthodox.

Beliefs. Doctrine is based on the Bible, on the holy tradition, and on the decrees of the seven ecumenical councils. The Nicene Creed is recited in all liturgies and at vespers and matins. The Roman Catholic dogma of the pope as the sole "vicar of Christ on earth" is rejected, together with the dogma of papal infallibility. Orthodox churchmen honor the Virgin Mary as *theotokos* (God bearer). The use of carved images is forbidden. Icons, however, are very much a part of Eastern piety and worship.

Seven sacraments are accepted: Baptism, Anointing (Confirmation or Chrismation), Communion, Penance, Holy Orders, Marriage and Holy Unction. Both infants and adults are baptized by threefold immersion. The sacrament of anointing with chrism or holy oil (confirmation) is administered immediately after baptism. Holy Unction is administered to the sick but not always as a last rite.

Worship. The Holy Eucharist is the chief service

Continued on next page

Greek Orthodox

Worship. The Holy Eucharist is the chief service on all Sundays and holy days, and Orthodox churches believe and teach that the consecrated bread and wine are the body and blood of Christ. Purgatory is denied, but the dead are prayed for. Church services are elaborately ritualistic.

Government and Leadership. Government is Episcopal. There is usually a council of bishops, clergy and laymen and a synod of bishops over which an elected Archbishop, metropolitan, or patriarch presides.

Divisions. Eastern Orthodoxy has tended historically to divide into independent national and social

groups – Syrian, Russian, Serbian, Bulgarian, Romanian, Albanian, Greek and Georgian.

Famous Eastern Orthodox. Well-known Eastern Orthodox Christians include are: Vadimir Putin, Tom Hanks, George Stephanopoulos (communication director for Pres. Clinton; news show host) and Michael Dukakis (Massachusetts governor and unsuccessful Democratic nominee for President in 1988). †

Editor's Note: For more information, please see Handbook of Denominations in the United States by Frank S. Mead. The book may be borrowed from St. Luke's Parish Library.

Lenten mite boxes

It is traditional in many churches, including St. Luke's, to distribute mite boxes to encourage charitable giving during Lent. The small cardboard boxes are a convenient way to collect small pocket change over Lent to contribute to a worthy cause.

Perhaps the first mention of the mite box concept is in 2 Kings 12:9: "But Jehoiada the priest took a chest, and bored a hole in the lid of it, and set it beside the altar, on the right side as one cometh into the house of the LORD: and the priests that kept the door put therein all the money that was brought into the house of the LORD."

The modern practice of collecting alms using cardboard mite boxes is something of a mystery. They are known to have been used by the Baptist organization Woman's Mission to Woman in the late 1800s to funds, and it may have been inspired by various "cent" or "mite" societies of the early 1800s.



The Anglican Relief and
Development Fund

The word "mite" refers a coin of very small value. Its etymology traces back to Middle English and Middle Dutch from the Middle Low German "mite" which was a small Flemish coin.

In Mark 12:41-44 of King James Bible there is the story of Jesus observing a poor widow make an offering of "two mites, which make a farthing." The actual coin used was probably a lepton, a very minute coin of almost no worth used in Palestine at the time of Christ.

The money collected through the St. Luke's mite boxes will go to the Anglican Relief and Development Fund which supports Anglican charitable efforts in developing countries. Parishioners are encouraged to pick up a mite box in the narthex, use it to collect their small change and turn it in at Easter. It's a worthy cause. †

At a glance...

☞ NORTH GEORGIA COMMUNITY ACTION is always in need of our donations. The ECW has been most generous in supporting this effort, but sadly the monthly donations have been very sparse. Please remember to bring item to the church each Sunday. Paper and soap products are especially needed, as well canned foods and baking products, but all items are accepted. During the upcoming Lent season, let us fill the basket each Sunday.

☞ Pat McConnell has some leather bound prayer books and combination prayer/hymnal books for sale. If you are interested, call Pat at 706-632-8443.

☞ AARP TAX PREP ASSISTANCE. AARP Vol-

unteers continue their Senior's Tax Preparation in Thomason Hall in the lower level of the church. They are here every Friday from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. through April 1. The service is available to non-members of the church and operates on a first-come, first serve basis. For more information contact Steffanie Laven at 770-312-2258.

☞ MEMORIAL GARDEN/CEMETERY information is available from Pat McConnell at 706-632-8443.

☞ A sign-up sheet for Altar flowers is available in Thomason Hall for 2017. Please sign up for days you wish to commemorate.



March/April Birthdays and Anniversaries

March

01 Bob Morgan
 03 Bob Burson
 04 William Stroud
 06 Lynn Burson
 09 Jodi Beauregard
 (Dennis Wood)
10 Clive & Vicki Hale
 12 Catherine Finley
 14 Anna Herrington
 19 Dick Gensel
 20 Ann Thomason
 20 Josephine Walker
 21 Elizabeth Ann White
 21 Elizabeth Langley
 25 Teresa Wankel
 25 John Seiler
 30 Pat Webb
 30 Evelyn Smith

April

02 Ann Whitten Merritt
 (Christopher Normile Baylis)
 03 Harland Bryant
**03 Tom and Melissa
 McCormick**
04 Geoffrey & Mina Kinder
 05 Gloria Lee
 06 Connie Parks
 09 Joyce Geiger
09 William & Katherine Stroud
 12 Vicki Hale
 12 Matthew Muschamp
 14 Gennie Elliott
 19 Dan Myers
19 Jessie and Suzanne Heald
 21 Dr. Suzanne Turner
21 Ray and Lynn Pigott
 24 Betty Jane Bruce
 24 LaRay Hrytzay
**25 Bruce and Cathy
 Berkinshaw**
 25 Jessie Heald
 26 David Muschamp
28 Jim and Meredith Yacavone
 29 Ashley Harper- Gilmore

WORSHIP 1.0 "Whose Story Is It?"

As Christians we claim the Jewish faith (the faith of Jesus and His disciples) as the foundation stone of our faith in God the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit. We affirm God as the Creator, the Covenant Provider, the Merciful Father.

When we use Morning Prayer as our principal service on Sundays, we fall in line with the Judaism understanding of the written Word as being a most valued symbol of the Divine. The Jewish understanding is that where the Word of God is, there is holy ground.

The Hebrew Scriptures include the Torah (story of the formation of the people of Israel), the Prophets (the narratives about and the messages of the greatest preachers in the tradition), the Writings (collection of poems, short stories, and other works of religious literature.)

We are blessed in the Anglican tradition as emphasizing the extensive and comprehensive readings from Holy Scriptures as part of our worship services. The word "legere" which is Latin for Lector means "to read." God's truth is revealed in these readings and in the sermon who elaborates upon the readings. GOD REVEALS: WE RESPOND.

✠ Anna Herrington

Anna Herrington is our Parish Organist and is working on her doctorate in worship studies. She has also served as accompanist at Temple Beth David, a Reformed Jewish Synagogue, in Snellville, GA, as well as vocal coach for their cantor.

Recipe of the Month — SACHERTORE

by Diane Wikander

This Recipe come's from a friend of mine and a member of our church knitting group, Colleen Taylor. She found this recipe in a travel cruise magazine. We had invited Colleen and her husband, Ed, to dinner one night and she asked if she could bring the dessert. So I said sure. Well, she brought this cake that is so good. When the Sentinel asked for a recipe, I called Colleen and asked if I could share this one with all of you.

Ingredients

CAKE
 butter
 10 T Soft butter
 1/2 cup sifted conf.
 sugar
 8 egg yokes
 5oz. bittersweet
 chocolate
 2/3 cup flour
 1/2 cup sugar
 2 T apricot jam

GLAZE
 8 oz. bittersweet
 chocolate
 2 T butter

CAKE: Preheat oven to 375 Cream together butter and confectioner's sugar. Add 1 egg yolk at a time, mixing until creamy. Melt 5 oz. bitter- sweet chocolate in a double boiler or microwave, gradually add to the creamed mixture. Fold in the flour.

In a separate bowl, beat egg whites and sugar until stiff. Fold into chocolate mixture. Pour batter into a lined 9- inch springform pan. Bake for 50 -65 minutes. Remove from pan and let cool on wire rack.

Heat Jam and smooth on cake including the sides. Alternatively, you can split the cake in half and add the jam between the layers.

GLAZE: Melt the 8 oz bittersweet chocolate and frost the cake. Makes 8 to 10 servings.

Thank you Colleen and God Bless! ✠

Dates for March and April

Recurring dates

- ☞ Mon through Fri 7:30 AM **Matins** read
(Matins and Litany on Wed and Fri)
- ☞ Mon. 10:00 AM **Needlepoint Guild** meets at High Hope.
- ☞ Mon. 1:15 PM **Knitting Guild** meets in Thomason Hall
- ☞ Green Room: Mon/Tue/Thur noon—Serenity Group
Mon/Tues/Thur/Sat 6:00 PM—NA meeting
Mon/Fri. 7:00 PM and Thurs 8:00 PM—AA
Mon/Fri 8:00 PM—AA meeting.
Sun 6:00 PM—AA and NA
- ☞ Yellow Room: Mon 12:00—Blue Ridge AFG
Fri 7:00 PM—AA
Sun 6:00 PM—AA and NA

March 2017

- WED 1 *Ash Wednesday*. Noon—HC; 6:00 PM—HC
- FRI 3 AARP Tax Prep for Seniors 9:00 AM-1:00 PM Thomason Hall
- SUN 5 *First Sunday in Lent*. 8:15 AM—HC; 10:00 AM—HC
Please drop off paper & soap products in narthex
- WED 8 ECW Meets 9:30 AM Thomason Hall
Beth Moore Bible Study at noon in Thomason Hall
- FRI 10 AARP Tax Prep for Seniors 9:00 AM-1:00 PM Thomason Hall
- SUN 12 *Second Sunday in Lent*. 8:15 AM—HC; 10:00 AM—MP
- WED 15 Beth Moore Bible Study at noon in Thomason Hall
- FRI 17 AARP Tax Prep for Seniors 9:00 AM-1:00 PM Thomason Hall
- SUN 19 *Third Sunday in Lent*. 8:15 AM—HC; 10:00 AM—MP
- MON 20 First day of Spring
- WED 22 Beth Moore Bible Study at noon in Thomason Hall
- FRI 24 AARP Tax Prep for Seniors 9:00 AM-1:00 PM Thomason Hall
- SUN 26 *Fourth Sunday in Lent*. 8:15 AM—HC; 10:00 AM—MP
- FRI 31 AARP Tax Prep for Seniors 9:00 AM-1:00 PM Thomason Hall

April 2017

- SAT 1 Concerts by Candlelight, "Here Comes the Bride," at 7:00 PM
- SUN 2 *Fifth Sunday in Lent (Passion Sunday)*. 8:15 AM—HC;
10:00 AM—HC
- FRI 7 AARP Tax Prep for Seniors 9:00 AM-1:00 PM Thomason Hall
- SUN 9 *Palm Sunday*. 8:15 AM—HC; 10:00 AM—MP
- MON 10 *Monday in Holy Week*. Noon—HC
- TUE 11 *Tuesday in Holy Week*. Noon—HC
- WED 12 *Wednesday in Holy Week*. Noon—HC
- THU 13 *Maundy Thursday*. 6:00 PM—HC
- FRI 14 *Good Friday*. Litany and Ante-Communion at noon
Egg Boiling and Dyeing 9:00 AM Thomason Hall
- FRI 15 Community Easter Egg Hunt 1:00 PM
- SUN 16 *Easter Sunday*. 8:15 AM—HC; 10:00 AM—MP
- SUN 23 *First Sunday after Easter*. 8:15 AM—HC; 10:00 AM—MP
- TUE 25 *St. Mark the Evangelist*. Noon—HC
- SUN 30 *Second Sunday after Easter*. 8:15 AM—HC; 10:00 AM—MP

Men's spring camping retreat scheduled

All St. Luke's men are invited to the St. Luke's Men's Group (SLMG) spring camping retreat scheduled for Monday, May 22, to Friday, May 26, at Appletree Group Campground, Nantahala National Park, near Andrew, N.C.

This is not primitive camping. Large tents with cots or inflatable mattresses, comfortable camping chairs and coolers filled with beverages and good food are the order of the day. There are bathrooms and showers. The food is great, and the comradery is even better.

The site can accommodate up to 25 men, and many slots remain open so invite your sons, grandsons, nephews, friends, neighbors, etc., to this popular fellowship event. Contact me at n.mcdonaldiii@gmail.com if you are interested want more information.

Other SLMG activities

☞ On Saturday, April 15, the men's group will assist in the 21st annual Easter egg hunt at St. Luke's. Volunteers are needed. Please contact me if you are interested in helping.

☞ We will repair some shingle damage to the Parish House roof as soon as the weather is favorable. We are also planning to repair dry-rot and damage to St. Luke's steeple cupola and cross. Contact me if you want to help.

☞ SLMG members assisted Junior Warden Rodney Allen in blowing much needed insulation into the attic of the Parish House saving St. Luke's over a \$1,000 from the lowest commercial quote for the work.

☞ All men who attend St. Luke's are invited to become involved with the group. No special skills are required, and there few meetings. It's simply a bunch of good guys who get together every now and then for fellowship and comradery and the occasional good deed.

Contact me if you are not currently receiving emailed SLMG activities notices, and wish to do so.

☞Neil McDonald



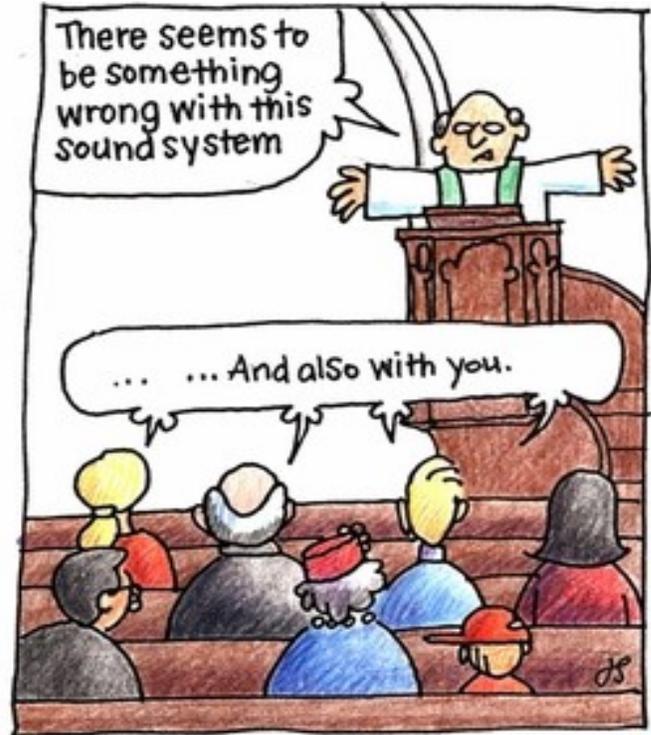
On the lighter side

Give me a sense of humor, Lord,
Give me the grace to see a joke,
To get some humor out of life
And pass it on to other folk.

An old Episcopal grandmother finally decided to read the Bible. She purchased a large-print edition and read it cover-to-cover. When she finished, she pulled the rector aside at coffee hour and confided, "I really enjoyed reading the Bible, but I was surprised how much it quotes the Book of Common Prayer!"

A 6-year-old was overheard reciting the Lord's Prayer at church service: "And forgive us our trash passes, as we forgive those who passed trash against us."

A little girl was talking to her teacher about whales. The teacher said it was physically impossible for a whale to swallow a human because even though it was a very large mammal its throat was very small. The little girl stated that Jonah was swallowed by a whale. Irritated, the teacher reiterated that a whale could not swallow a human; it was physically impossible. The little girl said, "When I get to heaven I will ask Jonah". The teacher asked, "What if Jonah went to hell?" The



little girl replied, "Then you ask him out?"

A boy was watching his father, a pastor, write a sermon. "How do you know what to say?" he asked. "Why, God tells me." "Oh, then why do you keep crossing things out?"

CLASSICS BY CANDLELIGHT -- 2017 SERIES

Dates for your Diary

Saturday, April 1 -- "Here Come the Bride!" . . . Music for Weddings

Jeanette Simpson, soprano Sam Hagan, tenor
Gregory Holland, trumpet Randall Romig, organ/piano

Saturday, June 3 -- "Heroic Music for Brass, Percussion and Organ"

St. Luke's 30th Anniversary Concert

Atlanta Brass Works Harvey Warner, percussion
Randall Romig, organ/piano

Saturday, October 7 -- "Choral Music of Superlative Artistry"

Coro Vocati John Dickson, director

Saturday, Dec. 16 -- "Carols by Candlelight"

The 4th Annual Christmas Concert
Choir, String Quartet, Soloists and Organ



**Shout joyfully to the LORD, all the earth;
Break forth and sing for joy and sing praises.
Psalm 98:4**

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Financial Pledge for the Year of our Lord 2017

It's not too late to pledge for 2017. Your pledge will help St. Luke's Vestry
in making sound budgeting and planning decisions for the church.

*As stewards of God's gifts and in gratitude for all blessings, I pledge the following amount to the
work of Christ through St. Luke's Church for 2017*

Name _____

Address _____

Amount _____

_____ Weekly _____ Monthly _____ Yearly
(Please check the appropriate blank)

*The generous soul will be made rich, and he who
waters will also be watered himself. Proverbs 11:25*