

# ACTS of ST. LUKE'S EPISCOPAL CHURCH

DECEMBER 2018 AND JANUARY 2019

## *Happy New Year!*



**Jessica Hitchcock**

The church year starts with the season of Advent, which is composed of (about) the four weeks before Christmas.

Here's a request for a (church year) New Year's resolution. When you see the priest out in public, please don't apologize for not being in church lately. The priest is probably just happy to see you and would love to hear about how your life is going.

Here's the thing: Now—in 2018—when someone says they go to church regularly, they actually go to church an average of every 3.3 weeks. YOU ARE NORMAL. AVERAGE. REJOICE. Life is busy and full. I know that. And God is out there in the midst of that which is keeping you away from the church building: visiting friends and family, pursuing passions, serving those in need, or enjoying some much needed sabbath rest. It is your responsibility to pay attention to God in the midst of those things, and it is my responsibility to help you cultivate that habit. But please—don't let an apology be the first thing that comes out of your mouth if you see me at the grocery store.

In the midst of the beginning of this new church year, I want to share a little bit about the church calendar.

Again, the church year begins with Advent, which is about four weeks before Christmas. Then there are the 12 days of Christmas—that's where that comes from. Christmas is not the final day in the 12 days of Christmas; it is the first day. Then there is Epiphany: Jan 6<sup>th</sup>. And the season of Epiphany, which lasts until Lent, whenever that is. Lent begins with Ash Wednesday, 40 days—not counting Sundays—before Easter, and Easter's date is determined by a certain full moon which is why Easter moves. Easter is 50 days—not one day, and culminates in our celebration of Pentecost, when we remember the Holy Spirit descending upon the disciples, guiding them to share Jesus's radical message that we are called to a specific way of life: love God and love our neighbor. We spend the time between Pentecost and the next Advent with the stories of Jesus's life, learning how to live as we were created to live.

I want you to experience the full year, the full story arc. But I know you can't get here every Sunday, so continue reading to see a map for getting the high points.

*(Happy New Year, continued on page 4)*

**PARISH**



December 2018						
S	M	T	W	T	F	S
						1
2	3	4	5	6	7	8
9	10	11	12	13	14	15
16	17	18	19	20	21	22
23	24	25	26	27	28	29
30	31					

Larry Legates	2 <sup>nd</sup>	
Movita Hercules	3 <sup>rd</sup>	
Anna Votaw	7 <sup>th</sup>	
Maggie Pearson	9 <sup>th</sup>	2 December
Bill Casson	10 <sup>th</sup>	
Vonda O'Sullivan	15 <sup>th</sup>	8 December
John Elsbree	18 <sup>th</sup>	15 December
Miranda Marks	18 <sup>th</sup>	16 December
Oliver Stewart	24 <sup>th</sup>	21 December
Leslyn Thorne	26 <sup>th</sup>	24 December
Jim Marks	26 <sup>th</sup>	
Diane Fox	26 <sup>th</sup>	24 December –
Daphne Legates	27 <sup>th</sup>	1 January
Dan Eberly	27 <sup>th</sup>	25-27 December
Lisa Secrest	29 <sup>th</sup>	30 December
Erica James	30 <sup>th</sup>	31 December

**Community Engagement Cluster**  
**Looking to the Future**

**December Special Dates**

Bishop's Visit
Hanukkah begins
All Parish Christmas Party
Blue Christmas
Loaves and Fishes
First Day of Winter
5 pm Holy Eucharist with Children's Story Telling
9 pm Holy Eucharist with Music
MCPS Winter Break
Office closed
Be the Church 5 <sup>th</sup> Sunday
Office Closed

The ACTS is now distributed electronically using the email address that we have for you on file in the office. If you did not receive it, please update your email address with Cynthia. [admin@stlukesbethesda.org](mailto:admin@stlukesbethesda.org).

The parish prayer list is printed in the Sunday *Hot News* bulletin.

If you do not see your birthday listed during the year, please contact Cynthia.



January 2019						
S	M	T	W	T	F	S
		1	2	3	4	5
6	7	8	9	10	11	12
13	14	15	16	17	18	19
20	21	22	23	24	25	26
27	28	29	30	31		

Cliff Johnson	3 <sup>rd</sup>	
Jane Reaves	5 <sup>th</sup>	
Kathleen Hall	11 <sup>th</sup>	24 December –
Sharon Murphy	11 <sup>th</sup>	1 January
Jackie Shipp	11 <sup>th</sup>	1 January
Elizabeth Tinling	15 <sup>th</sup>	
Michelle Bales	18 <sup>th</sup>	
Griffin Matuszek	22 <sup>nd</sup>	20 January
Bill Nellist	23 <sup>rd</sup>	21 January
Don Park	25 <sup>th</sup>	
Alix Park	26 <sup>th</sup>	27 January
Mira Ray	28 <sup>th</sup>	28 January

**Community Engagement Cluster**  
**Basic Needs**

**January Special Dates**

MCPS winter break
New Year's Day
Office closed
Supper Group Open House
Loaves & Fishes
Martin Luther King, Jr Day
Office closed; MCPS closed
Broadening Our Horizons: Croatia
MCPS closed

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## SENIOR WARDEN

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**Pat Rogers**

### ***Passing the Baton***

This is the last issue of *ACTS* in which I will write an article as St. Luke's Senior Warden. It has been my honor and pleasure to serve in that capacity for the past 4 ½ years—a time in which St. Luke's has faced some major changes and challenges.

For example, Sarah Horick joined us, building on the music program we already had but also taking it in new directions. The Community Engagement committee revamped and reorganized our outreach efforts, helping us keep this activity—which has always been central to our mission—at the core of what we do. The Financial Ministry, the Vestry, and the parish as a whole grappled with our budget situation (inspiring generous donations to a Bridge Fund), and while we're not out of the woods yet—our expenses still exceed our income—I feel confident that we're getting there. Then Stephanie retired, and we had to come to terms both with how much we would miss her and Joann, and how we would need to craft a new path for being St. Luke's without her presence. And then, about 10 months ago, we called Jessica to be our Priest-in-Charge; and although she had been a cherished part of our St. Luke's family for several years, in her new role she has shown even more the depth and breadth of her gifts.

By the time this *ACTS* is delivered to our in-boxes/mailboxes, St. Luke's will have elected a new Senior Warden and new Vestry members. And the message I would leave for them is one of hope and confidence. The thing these recent changes have in common is that they've all been positive; when there were challenges, we met them, we dealt with them, and we emerged stronger.

As Senior Warden, I've often felt that one of my most important roles was to serve as "chief cheerleader" for St. Luke's. And fortunately, that's really easy to do. The people of this parish have been for so many of us our second family, offering support, understanding, fellowship, and often practical assistance. As horrible events seem to be occurring more and more frequently outside our walls and our civil discourse seems to be deteriorating, we turn to St. Luke's and to one another as we try to discern how to respond and as we strive to counter evil by showing God's love and inclusiveness.

So although there have been many changes in recent years, I believe that St. Luke's remains the same in its essentials—a group of people committed to one another and working together to discern what God wants us to do and be in this place and this time. Thanks be to God!

*Pat*

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## PARISH

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*(Happy New Year, continued from page 1)*

Suggestions, map, for the church year:

- \* 1 Sunday in Advent
  - \* Christmas Eve
    - \* 1 Sunday in Epiphany
      - \* Ash Wednesday (March 6)
- \* 1 Sunday in Lent (this is a good place for a stretch goal so maybe more)
  - \* Palm Sunday (April 14)
    - \* Maundy Thursday and/or Good Friday
      - \* Easter Sunday (April 21)
- \* 1 Sunday in the 50 days following Easter
  - \* Pentecost (June 9)
    - \* Season of Pentecost: Freedom for All Sunday, Blessing of Animals, St. Luke's Day, Indigenous People's Day
      - \* All Saints (Nov 3)

When we talk about giving of your time, talent, and treasure—this is the time part: showing up. The St. Luke's community of Jesus followers is made stronger, wiser, richer when you are with us. We are also made stronger, wiser, richer because of all the things you do outside of church. It's complicated. Life is complicated. Get here when you can. Having an intentional plan might help. But no matter what: Look for God wherever you are, all the time. God is everywhere. You are responsible for paying attention; I am here to help you in whatever way I can.

*Jessica*

*The Clergy, the Wardens, and the Vestry of St. Luke's  
invite you to attend services on Sunday, December 2, 2018,  
to celebrate the first Sunday in Advent.*

*The Rt. Rev. Mariann Budde will officiate at both the  
8 am and 10 am services.*

*At the end of the 10 am service, we will join in blessing the marriage of  
Jessica K. Hitchcock and Mike Pilone*

*Reception (with wedding cake) to follow in Ludlum Hall.*



## **ST. LUKE'S CHRISTMAS PARTY!**

**Saturday, December 8<sup>th</sup>, from 5 — 9 pm**

***Come and celebrate with us!***

**At 5 pm**, the party starts downstairs for adults and children with snacks and activities.

Upstairs there will be appetizers, beverages & “*Hope for the Holidays*” card-making.



**At 6 pm**, our *delicious* family holiday meal begins in Ludlum. (A donation of \$5 per person or \$10 per family is appreciated)



St. Luke's provides ham and turkey, and beer, wine and non-alcoholic beverages. ***Please sign up*** to contribute to the potluck portion of the meal: salad, vegetable, side dish, or dessert.

Helping hands are also needed on Friday afternoon to assist with set-up and decorating, and on Saturday to assist with bartending, clean-up, or a variety of other small tasks.

**Look for sign-ups in Ludlum & on-line.**

**Let's make this the best St. Luke's Christmas Party yet!**

### ***Christmas Greens and Flowers***



If you wish to make a memorial or thanksgiving gift toward Christmas greens and flowers, envelopes may be found in the pews. Or, simply enclose an extra amount in your regular gift envelope. State the name(s) of those you wish to remember and indicate whether your gift is in thanksgiving or in memorium. Don't forget to include your pledge (contribution) number!

Altar flowers are supported entirely through your contributions. Thank you.

*Holly Stone*

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## PARISH

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### **Recycling Public Service Announcement**

This information might be helpful to you or an elderly/disabled friend or family member who lives in Montgomery County. It was shared with me by a neighbor who learned this in a phone call with the County Department of Environmental Protection.



The County has an optional 35-gallon wheeled recycle cart which could be much more manageable for the elderly/disabled or those with a steep driveway. (The standard wheeled recycle cart has a capacity of 65 gallons which can get quite heavy.) If you request the change-out to the 35-gallon cart, the County will pick up your 65-gallon cart.

Additionally, the County has an “exempt list” for the elderly or disabled. Those on the exempt list may put their recycle bin outside their garage or front door, and the pickup crew will retrieve the bins and return them to the same location.

You may wish to use the Montgomery County Department of Environmental Protection (DEP) website (<https://www.montgomerycountymd.gov/dep/contact.html>) to submit a request for more information about this. Scroll down to fill in the form, and a DEP representative will return your call. You may also be able to submit a service request by calling 311 or 240-777-0311.

*Bill Casson*

### **Blessing of Pledges**

Gracious and loving God, giver of all that is good and true and beautiful and life-giving. Our pledges represent our sweat, they represent our lives, they represent our dreams. They are pledged in thanksgiving for all we have received, for all we have been inspired to be, for all we are challenged to become, in this place. May they be the first fruits of all we have and not what we have left over, so that we may live out as closely as possible how you give to us. May we see them as our offering to you, sacred, holy, yet earthy, filled with possibilities. May we hold this image in our hearts and minds so as we watch our offerings each week come to your table, we can see our very selves being part of this offering. It is us on the table, living sacrifices to you. Amen.

109 Pledges

13 New Pledges

74% Increased Pledges

Total Pledged: \$411,172

### **Broadening Our Horizons: Croatia**

A shimmering jewel on the Adriatic

Join Dave and Linda Freeman after the 10 am service on **Sunday, January 27** in the Reaves Room to see slides of their recent trip to Croatia. This past September in a Road Scholar tour, they traveled from Zagreb, the country’s bustling capital, to Plitvice National Park with its 16 waterfalls, by small boat (40 people including crew) to some of its most picturesque islands and finally to the Dubrovnik, the so-called Pearl of the Adriatic with its UNESCO-recognized medieval town center.

As we travel with them, they will discuss the delights of the country’s excellent beer, the glorious swimming off the boat, and the always-stunning views of Croatia’s coast. Light snacks will be served at 11:30 followed by the presentation. All are welcome. You don’t want to miss it, so mark your calendar **NOW!** For more information, contact Susie Casson.

*Susie Casson*



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## FELLOWSHIP

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### SUPPER GROUP

Happy New Year, SUPPER GROUP! Let's celebrate with *old* acquaintances (who shouldn't be forgot) *and* new at a...

**New Year's Day Open House\* January 1, 2019 2 – 5 pm**

Home of Elizabeth and Walt Tirling



South of Jones Bridge Road, east of Rockville Pike, close to Walter Reed Hospital

**Please contact** the Tirlings to say you're coming (hosts do need to know!) and plan to bring either **1) an appetizer or 2) a dessert**—or any dish that you think would complement them. If you'd like wine or beer—or champagne?—*please bring some* (other beverages provided). Blessed are those who carpool and who bring the party with them at the early end.

In Corinthians, Paul says, "Therefore if any man be in Christ, he is a **new** creature: old things are passed away; behold, all things are become **new**."

Is that Good News, or *what??!!* Adult St. Lukers, let's celebrate it together.

Questions? Ride? Contact Treva Miller.

*\*Come and go any time you choose between 2 and 5 pm.*

Treva Miller

### Women of St. Luke's



The Women of St. Luke's will not meet in December but, weather permitting, will meet on **January 15 at 11:30 am** in the Reaves room. Please bring a brown bag lunch and your Christmas stories.

Leslie Roberts

### Book Lovers

Most of us are familiar with the *names* of great works of English and American literature; few of us become well-*read* in that genre. For many reasons, these books, at first attempt, fail to engage us. So, what's all the fuss about? Why are these "classics"? At the January meetings of **BOOK LOVERS**, Dr. Linda Freeman addresses these questions. Her knowledge of 19<sup>th</sup> and early 20<sup>th</sup> century English and American literature has enabled our appreciation of many of these books. Why, we have actually *enjoyed* most of them!



The featured book for January is ***The Tenant of Wildfell Hall*** by **Anne Bronte** (so dramatic that it inspired a 1996 BBC TV award-winning mini-series). It's about a mysterious young widow and her son who try to start new lives in the long-vacant Wildfell Hall. They fail to escape past scandal . . . and the plot unfolds from there.

Critics of the day were scandalized by this book, calling it extreme, coarse, and brutal. Today it is considered "a landmark feminist text" (Wikipedia), one of the first to challenge English law and customs regarding marital life.

Please join us at **7:30 on Tuesday, January 15** (snow date January 22) at the home of Marie Holbrook and Phil Taylor, near the NIH in Bethesda. As a courtesy, **please contact** Marie to say you're coming. Don't miss this once-a-year opportunity to learn from an expert and to learn what makes this book a classic.

Do you have questions? Do you need a ride? Please contact Treva Miller.

Treva Miller

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## COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT

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Over the past decade (2007-2017), remarkably generous St. Lukers contributed nearly \$150,000 to Episcopal Relief & Development (ERD)—known to us as Holy Cow. The fact that our gifts have impacted our brothers and sisters all over the world is something we can all be proud of. As we begin a new year of support for ERD, they have re-branded their logo and made women’s equality, children’s health, and fighting climate change their organizational priorities—while remaining focused on disaster relief and eradicating poverty.

**Please stop by Ludlum Hall after both Sunday services on December 2 (we’ll share the good news with Bishop Mariann!), December 9, December 16, and December 23.** You’ll see the cow, and friendly faces at a table with the “Gifts for Life” catalog—so you can get your holiday shopping done, too! You can write a check to St. Luke’s and note “ERD” in the memo line. If you prefer to make your donation online, go to:

<https://www.episcopalrelief.org/what-you-can-do/give/donate-now/individual-donation>.

Enter St. Luke’s Episcopal Church Bethesda, MD 20814 under “Church Information” (along with your personal information) and then please send an email to Jenny Bradley afterwards so that we may track ALL contributions. And of course, loose change is always appreciated! On Sundays, look for the loose-change jar.

This year all undesignated donations will go towards malaria nets and disaster relief packs. *Moochas gracias!*



### ***“Hope for the Holidays” ~ Being a Saint***

**During the Christmas party on Saturday, December 8,** please stop by the *Hope for the Holidays* table in Ludlum to make a card for young people who crossed our borders alone. We’ll have sample messages, cards, and art supplies! Children are welcome to draw pictures, too. This program is sponsored by Lutheran Immigration & Refugee Services (LIRS) whose work was instrumental in helping to reunite families separated at the border this summer. This holiday season, LIRS is amplifying the program, given the large numbers of families seeking asylum. On Monday, December 10, the cards will be mailed to LIRS, ensuring that they reach those in detention centers across the U.S. by Christmas morning. Because those in detention awaiting their hearings are often isolated from loved ones, these cards mean a great deal. Thank you!



### ***Be the Church Day – Sunday, December 30<sup>th</sup>!***

**The next 5<sup>th</sup> Sunday of the month is December 30<sup>th</sup>,** and we’ll again focus on Community Engagement! There will be various projects both at St. Luke’s and off-site, with opportunities for all parishioners to be of service to our neighbors. Please stay tuned for more details!

*Jenny Bradley*

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## COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT

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### ***Community Engagement – Basic Needs Cluster Kick-Off Meeting***

***January 13, 9:15 – 10 am***

The *Basic Needs Cluster* kick-off meeting will be held on **January 13, from 9:15 to 10 am**, in Ludlum Hall to introduce the activities that the Community Engagement team will be sponsoring during the January to April time frame. We will also have a discussion of our activities during the recently completed *Looking to the Future Cluster, September – December*.

The *Basic Needs Cluster* supports organizations and activities that address the basic needs of people living in our community—helping them to find jobs, shelter, sustenance and dignity. In particular, we support organizations that help those with the greatest needs to help themselves: by working with these individuals to take next steps to improve their lives; by implementing homelessness prevention measures; by supporting “Housing First” initiatives; and by providing emergency food, rental assistance payments, vouchers for transportation, and payments for prescription medicines and doctor visits.

We have assigned one month to each of the organizations supported through this Cluster. Our current schedule of events, which is still being developed, is as follows:

**January: Bethesda Cares.** We will be collecting winter clothes—coats, scarves, beanies, hats, gloves (**Note:** they have a surplus of socks, so no socks this year). We are hoping that the current Executive Director, John Mendez, will be preaching at the 8 and 10 am services on January 20 and will discuss Bethesda Cares.

**February: Loaves and Fishes.** As the cold weather sets in, please join us for making Blessing Bags for the guests at Loaves & Fishes; this is the longest-running feeding program in the DC metro area. It is also one of the projects available at **Be the Church Day on December 30**, and again between services on **Sunday, February 10** (tentative).

**March: Bethesda Help.** We will be collecting cans and boxes of food during the month to distribute to individuals and families. We will also have a **layette collection** for Interfaith Works during the entire month: diapers, onesies, socks, blankies, crib sheets, and wash cloths.

**April: Samaritan Ministry of Greater Washington.** The Empower the Homeless Campaign kicks off. Date to be announced.

Please come and learn more about the activities of these organizations and the way St. Luke’s Church supports their missions.

*Jack Orrick*



**FINANCE**

**FINANCE REPORT OCTOBER 2018**

	2017 Actual	2018 Budget	'18 Actual Thru Oct.	% of '18 Budget *
<b><u>RECEIPTS</u></b>				
Offering Plate	\$ 26,801	\$ 20,000	\$ 16,691	83.5%
Pledge Payments	439,561	440,000	384,551	87.4%
Donations for Facilities	42,310	40,000	33,194	83.0%
Altar Flower Donations	5,947	5,000	3,117	62.3%
Miscellaneous	58		34	
<b>Operating Receipts</b>	514,677	505,000	437,587	86.7%
<b><u>EXPENSES</u></b>				
Salaries & Benefits	\$ 360,248	\$ 301,870	\$ 236,046	78.2%
Program Support	17,545	29,200	20,808	71.3%
Parish Operations	105,367	122,600	88,491	72.2%
Outreach	19,026	20,000	15,286	76.4%
Diocesan Giving	42,000	44,000	36,682	83.4%
<b>Operating Expenses</b>	544,186	517,670	397,313	76.8%
<b>Surplus/(Deficit)</b>	<b>(28,509)</b>	<b>(12,670)</b>	40,274	
<b>Additional Funding – Reserves</b>	28,509	12,670	0	
<b>Net after Reserve funds</b>	\$ 0	\$ 0	\$ 40,274	

**ENDOWMENT FUND BALANCE**

\$66,305

\* YTD Oct. = 83.3% of the year

Budget Analysis: We continue to have a surplus of income over expenses for the year, currently equal to \$40,274. This is a result of income being high due to advance payments while expenses are below a straight-line estimate. All financial obligations for the year to date have been met and bills paid. The Bridge Fund balance is approximately \$70,000. We also received \$10,000 designated for the Endowment Fund. Your continued financial support will allow the growth and energy of St. Luke's to continue and strengthen.

*If you need to be reimbursed for a purchase or need the Treasurer to pay an invoice, please obtain a Payment Request Form from the Office. An authorized person must sign the request. All requests for extra money or donations by committees, individuals or church members, should have prior approval of the Vestry before solicitation.*

*Jenny Bradley, Treasurer*

## CALENDAR

### December 2018

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
<b>25</b> <b>8:00 AM Holy Eucharist</b> <b>10:00 AM</b> Children's Church <b>10:00 AM Holy Eucharist</b> <b>5:00 PM</b> <i>Cristo la Roca</i> <b>8:00 PM</b> <i>Youth AA</i>	<b>26</b> <b>10:30 AM</b> <i>OASIS</i> <b>10:30 AM</b> Staff Meeting <b>2:30 PM</b> <i>OASIS</i> <b>7:30 PM</b> <i>Wildwood Manor Meeting</i>	<b>27</b> <b>11:00 AM</b> <i>OASIS</i> <b>3:30 PM</b> <i>Cornerstone</i> <b>6:30 PM</b> <i>Jubilee</i> <b>7:30 PM</b> Book Lovers	<b>28</b> <b>10:30 AM</b> Retired Men's Group <b>12:00 PM</b> <b>Holy Eucharist</b> <b>7:30 PM</b> Choir Rehearsal	<b>29</b> <b>9:00 AM</b> <i>OASIS</i> <b>10:30 AM</b> <i>OASIS</i> <b>11:45 AM</b> <i>OASIS</i> <b>1:00 PM</b> <i>Cornerstone</i> <b>6:30 PM</b> <i>Jubilee</i>	<b>30</b> <b>10:00 AM</b> <i>OASIS</i>	<b>1</b> <b>5:00 PM</b> Prayers and Reserve Sacrament <b>7:00 PM</b> <i>Cristo la Roca</i>
<b>2</b> <b>Advent—1</b> <b>Bishop's Visitation</b> <b>8:00 AM Holy Eucharist</b> <b>10:00 AM</b> Children's Church <b>10:00 AM Holy Eucharist</b> <b>5:00 PM</b> <i>Cristo la Roca</i> <b>8:00 PM</b> <i>Youth AA</i>	<b>3</b> <b>10:30 AM</b> <i>OASIS</i> <b>10:30 AM</b> Staff Meeting	<b>4</b> <b>11:00 AM</b> <i>OASIS</i> <b>3:30 PM</b> <i>Cornerstone</i>	<b>5</b> <b>12:00 PM</b> <b>Holy Eucharist</b> <b>7:30 PM</b> Choir Rehearsal	<b>6</b> <b>9:00 AM</b> <i>OASIS</i> <b>10:30 AM</b> <i>OASIS</i> <b>11:45 AM</b> <i>OASIS</i> <b>1:00 PM</b> <i>Cornerstone</i>	<b>7</b> Men's Shelter Dinner <b>9:00 AM</b> <i>Center for Family Process</i>	<b>8</b> <b>5:00 PM</b> All Parish Christmas Party
<b>9</b> <b>Advent—2</b> <b>8:00 AM Holy Eucharist</b> <b>10:00 AM</b> Children's Church <b>10:00 AM Holy Eucharist</b> <b>10:00 AM</b> <i>Your Dog's Friend</i> <b>5:00 PM</b> <i>Cristo la Roca</i> <b>8:00 PM</b> <i>Youth AA</i>	<b>10</b> <b>10:30 AM</b> <i>OASIS</i> <b>10:30 AM</b> Staff Meeting <b>7:00 PM</b> Finance Meeting	<b>11</b> <b>11:00 AM</b> <i>OASIS</i> <b>3:30 PM</b> <i>Cornerstone</i> <b>6:30 PM</b> <i>Jubilee</i> <i>Cooking for Autism</i>	<b>12</b> <b>10:30 AM</b> Retired Men's Group <b>12:00 PM</b> <b>Holy Eucharist</b> <b>7:30 PM</b> Choir Rehearsal	<b>13</b> <b>10:30 AM</b> <i>OASIS</i> <b>11:45 AM</b> <i>OASIS</i> <b>1:00 PM</b> <i>Cornerstone</i> <b>5:15 PM</b> <i>Girl Scouts</i> <b>6:30 PM</b> <i>Jubilee</i>	<b>14</b>	<b>15</b> <b>5:00 PM</b> <b>Blue Christmas</b> <b>7:00 PM</b> <i>Cristo la Roca</i>
<b>16</b> <b>Advent—3</b> <b>Loaves &amp; Fishes</b> <b>8:00 AM Holy Eucharist</b> <b>10:00 AM</b> Children's Church <b>10:00 AM Holy Eucharist</b> <b>1:30 PM</b> <i>Your Dog's Friend</i> <b>5:00 PM</b> <i>Cristo la Roca</i> <b>8:00 PM</b> <i>Youth AA</i>	<b>17</b> <b>10:30 AM</b> Staff Meeting <b>4:00 PM</b> <i>Cornerstone</i> <b>7:00 PM</b> Vestry Meeting	<b>18</b> <b>11:00 AM</b> <i>OASIS</i> <b>3:30 PM</b> <i>Cornerstone</i>	<b>19</b> <b>12:00 PM</b> <b>Holy Eucharist</b> <b>7:30 PM</b> Choir Rehearsal	<b>20</b> <b>1:00 PM</b> <i>Cornerstone</i> <b>1:30 PM</b> <i>DW Colleague Group</i>	<b>21</b> <b>First Day of Winter</b>	<b>22</b> <b>7:00 PM</b> <i>Cristo la Roca</i>
<b>23</b> <b>Advent—4</b> <b>8:00 AM Holy Eucharist</b> <b>10:00 AM</b> Children's Church <b>10:00 AM Holy Eucharist</b> <b>5:00 PM</b> <i>Cristo la Roca</i> <b>8:00 PM</b> <i>Youth AA</i>	<b>24</b> <b>5:00 PM</b> <b>Telling the Story - Holy Eucharist</b> <b>9:00 PM</b> <b>Holy Eucharist with Music</b>	<b>25</b> <b>Christmas Day</b> Office Closed	<b>26</b> Office Closed	<b>27</b> Office Closed <b>1:00 PM</b> <i>Cornerstone</i>	<b>28</b>	<b>29</b> <b>7:00 PM</b> <i>Cristo la Roca</i>
<b>30</b> <b>Be the Church</b> <b>5<sup>th</sup> Sunday</b> <b>5:00 PM</b> <i>Cristo la Roca</i> <b>8:00 PM</b> <i>Youth AA</i>	<b>31</b> Office Closed	<b>1</b> <b>New Year's Day</b> Office Closed <b>2:00 PM</b> Supper Group Open House	<b>2</b> <b>12:00 PM</b> <b>Holy Eucharist</b> <b>7:30 PM</b> Choir Rehearsal	<b>3</b> <b>1:00 PM</b> <i>Cornerstone</i>	<b>4</b> Men's Shelter Dinner	<b>5</b> <b>Epiphany</b> <b>5:00 PM</b> Prayers and Reserve Sacrament <b>7:00 PM</b> <i>Cristo la Roca</i>

For further details, check the calendar on the church website

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Priest-in-Charge

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**ACTS of St. Luke's**

Newsletter for members and friends of St. Luke's;  
published monthly, except January & August.

**ACTS Deadline:** 15<sup>th</sup> of the preceding month  
Send articles and comments to [ACTS@stlukesbethesda.org](mailto:ACTS@stlukesbethesda.org)

## December 24



### *St. Luke's Christmas Worship Schedule*

*4:30 pm*

*Music*

*5:00 pm*

*Holy Eucharist and  
Telling the Story*

*8:30 pm*

*Music*

*9:00 pm*

*Holy Eucharist  
with Music*