



St. Luke's Episcopal Church

Rincon, Georgia

SHARING FAITH THROUGH HEARTS THAT WELCOME AND HANDS THAT SERVE

From the Vestry: Meeting on Sunday February 12, 2012

Special Events coming up In March:

- Tuesday March 12, at 10:30am Effingham county Alzheimer's support group
- Wednesday March 14, Potluck Dinner, Ashley Center 6:30pm
- Zack Blaylock will be in a performance of "Into the Woods" See calendar for details. March 2-4,9-11

Father Liam's report — CDI (Church Development Institute) will be a significant factor in providing guidance in the leadership of St. Luke's. (for more information on what the CDI is, go to the official diocese website at www.georgia.anglican.org and search for CDI)

Ten people will be confirmed, received, reaffirmed or baptized on February 25, 2012 during the Bishop's visit. We will continue the confirmation classes after Wednesday night services during Lent rather than conducting them on Sundays.

Sierra Wilkinson will be ordained at Christ Church Savannah on February 18, 2012.

On February 25, 2012, members of the Vestry will be meeting with the Bishop over a hosted dinner.

Our need for nursery service is growing and Thelma is working on a solution to meet some of this need.

Mary Ann reported that Dan Mobley will prepare the engraved pavers and two larger plaques for the memorial garden. Jane volunteered to type up the content for those special pavers.

Concrete should be poured this week for the base for the columbarium and the two larger raised plaques.

The Vestry established a price of \$300 for each columbarium niche (whether they hold one or two cremated remains). This covers our costs and any future maintenance.

We now have dusk-to-dawn lights for the playground area. The switch and instructions are in the back closet of the Ashley center.

Continued on page 2..

The Season of Lent

The purpose of Lent is to be a season of fasting, self-denial, spiritual growth, conversion, and simplicity. Lent, which comes from the Teutonic (Germanic) word for springtime, can be viewed as a spiritual spring cleaning; a time for taking spiritual inventory and then cleaning out those things which hinder our corporate and personal relationships with Jesus Christ and our service to him.

Thus, it is fitting that the season of Lent begin with a symbol of repentance: placing ashes mixed with oil on one's head or forehead. Our Lenten disciplines are supposed to

ultimately transform our entire person: body, soul, and spirit, and help us become more like Christ. Eastern Christians call this process theosis, which St. Athanasius describes as "becoming by grace what God is by nature."

There are a few basic tasks that traditionally have been associated with Lent, such as fasting, almsgiving, and prayer. Many of these have a long, fascinating history.

Lent & Mardi Gras (Carnival): In many places around the world, the last day before Lent (known variously as Mardi Gras, Shrove Tues-

day, Carnival, or Fasching) is celebrated as a last fling before the solemn days of Lent. Carnival is a common name because, for centuries, people were expected to fast by abstaining from meat during lent, and the term *carnivale* is Latin for "farewell to meat."

In the Christian liturgical calendar, Lent is the penitential period of 40 days from Ash Wednesday to Easter. Traditional Christians observances of Lent include fasting and penitence, both in preparation for Easter and as a way of spiritually "joining" Jesus with the fasting and meditation as he did in the wilderness.

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From the Vestry Continued...



Manna House is a food bank/thrift store for Effingham county located on HWY 21 across from the YMCA

The vestry discussed the opportunity to obtain a replacement organ at a very good price. This will be added to the items to discuss with the Budget Committee.

The ministries priorities in working are Budget Committee and the Nursery.

Mary Ann Calloway will price pine straw for the back bed (next to the fence) in the

memorial garden. If the cost is \$200 or less, Mary Ann then will order that in the next two weeks.

The next Vestry meeting is moved to March 18, 2012 at 8:00 AM

We agreed to purchase a 1/4 page add from the Effingham Herald for the March 30, 2012 Easter edition for \$82.50. Cheryl Ferguson will ask for

help in drawing up that ad during the announcements.

Update on some of the vestry minutes items:

The columbarium will be delivered on Friday, February 24th at 3:00 pm.

We also have 65 bales of pine straw to spread in the garden on Friday. Please contact Cheryl if you wish to help.

St. Luke's Ministries:

*A clean heart
create in me, O
God, and a
steadfast spirit
renew within
me."
- Psalm 51, 12.*

St. Luke's Facebook ministry: The goal is to maintain an up to date Facebook page that informs people about current events, services, activities, youth events, bible studies, etc. Sally Freeman is lead person with Sherri Chamless assisting. We could use people who are willing to become administrators to keep the page up to date and photos of events and activities.

If you wish to contribute to the growth of our Facebook page the way to help would be to post pictures on your own Facebook page and tag St. Luke's as the location or to send any pictures of church activities to any of our administrators to post on the St. Luke's page.

Med Bank ministry: The goal is to help provide services for those people who are un-

able to afford medications. We hope to reach as many of those in need as we can. This ministry helps fill out paperwork and can sometimes help get emergency medications.

The contact persons are Barbara Westerfield and Eddie Atkins. Although we have enough persons in the ministry, we can always use more people to spread the word to help advocate this mission.



MedBank at St. Luke's will be adding Blood Pressure checks during the Wednesday 3pm-5pm hours

Odds and Ends:

Happy Birthday Girl Scouts! Girl Scout Birthday, March 12, commemorates the day in 1912 when Juliette Gordon-Low officially registered the organization's first eighteen girl members in Savannah Georgia. Girl Scout Sunday on March 11th, and Girl Scout Sabbath give girls an opportunity to attend their place of worship and be recognized as a Girl Scout.

St. Luke's has a Girl Scout troop that meets in the Ashley Center two Sundays a Month.

If a place of worship is the group sponsor, girls may perform a service, such as greeting, ushering, or doing a flag ceremony.

Sunday Services 9:30am followed by coffee hour in the Ashley Center.

Wednesday Evening Healing Service 6PM followed by Bible Study at 7PM

The Newsletter will be posted to St. Luke's web site: www.stlukesrincon.com

If you have a comment/suggestion or story for the newsletter, please contact Sherry Sanford at (414) 218-1010