



Thankful
FOR THE
CUP

October 11th, 2026
11:15 am • Sanctuary & Online

CHURCH OFFICE

4444 5th Avenue North • St. Petersburg, FL 33713
(727) 321-1335 • st-lukesumc.com

Tuesday & Thursday 9 am – 12:30 pm
The pastors are available by appointment

Your Pastoral Team

Rev. Erick Ashley – erick@spconnection.org
Rev. Tracie Ashley – tracie@spconnection.org
Rev. Sue Garcia – sue@spconnection.org

Administrative Assistant – Patti Redmond-Marshall – patti@spconnection.org
Director of Music – Bruce Mook | AV Tech – Izz Prange

Bishop of the Florida Annual Conference – Rev. Tom Berlin
Gulf Central District Superintendent – Rev. Emily Hotho

WELCOME

Welcome to St. Luke's United Methodist Church. Every week, we look forward to this time to gather as a community. We are glad YOU are here today with us!

You can use this bulletin to help lead through worship and throughout the week. We truly hope you enjoy your time here this morning and hope you return soon.

Some logistics you may find helpful:

- Worship runs about an hour and fifteen minutes, sometimes a bit shorter & sometimes a bit longer.
- Grab a nametag from the table in the Narthex. If you are a guest, our Hospitality Team will be happy to assist you.
- The restrooms are straight out the sanctuary doors and down the hall.
- Prayer Cards are available in the pew in front of you and in the narthex. Please place your prayer card in the offering plate when it comes around toward the end of the service. It is our joy and privilege to be praying with and for you.
- We have several ways you can give financially to support St. Luke's mission.
 1. Place cash/check in the offering plate or mail to the church.
 2. Text any amount to (833) 959-1469.
 3. Visit st-lukesumc.com/give.
 4. Use your bank's bill payer system.

ORDER OF WORSHIP

UMH: United Methodist Hymnal • TFWS: The Faith We Sing

**Please stand as you are able*

WE GATHER

Welcome & Announcements

Call to Worship*

Hymn* | *Praise to the Lord, the Almighty* – UMH 139 (vs 1, 4, 5)

WE PROCLAIM

Affirmation of Faith* | *The Apostles' Creed* - UMH 881

Gloria Patri* | *Glory Be To The Father* – UMH 70

Pastoral Prayer

Passing of the Peace*

Hymn* | *Come, Thou Fount of Every Blessing* – UMH 400

Prayer For Illumination

Scripture Reading | *Matthew 25: 14-30* NRSVUE

Choral Response | *Freely, Freely* – UMH 389 (Chorus only)

Message | *What's in Your Cup?* – Rev. Sue Garcia

WE RESPOND

Presentation of Tithes and Offerings

Offertory Music

Doxology* | *Praise God, From Whom All Blessings Flow* – UMH 95

Offertory Prayer*

WE GO OUT

Hymn* | *Take My Life, and Let It Be* – UMH 399

Benediction*

*Flowers have been placed on the alter in honor of
October Birthdays and Anniversaries*

WHAT'S HAPPENING?

Let's Celebrate! Join us after worship today as we celebrate everyone with an October birthday or anniversary! Come share some joy, fellowship, and celebration with our church family!

Pumpkin Unloading Days – We Need YOU! Our first delivery was delayed because of Hurricane Isaias, so our initial delivery will now be Sunday, Oct 11 at 4 pm. Please make every effort to join us! The second delivery will still be Saturday, October 17 at 8 am. Bring a friend and come ready to lend a hand. All ages and abilities are welcome—many hands make light work! Thank you for helping make our Pumpkin Patch a success!

Help Make Worship Happen! – There's a lot that happens behind the scenes every Sunday! Join our AV-Tech SERVE Team and help with sound, slides, or livestreaming. No experience needed—we'll train you! Sign up today or talk with one of the pastors to get involved.

United Women in Faith - All women are invited to join United Women in Faith for our meeting on Tuesday, October 13 at 10 am. Stay for Bible Study at 11 am, as well. Come enjoy a time of fellowship, faith, and connection as we gather. We'd love to have you join us!

Discover Your Spiritual Gifts - God has gifted each of us in unique ways to serve, lead, and make a difference! Join us for a Spiritual Gifts Workshop as we explore the gifts God has given us and how we can put them to work in the church and community. Come discover your gifts—and how God might be calling you to use them!

Choose the session that works best for you:

Sunday, October 18 | 3–5 pm

First Gulfport - Fellowship Hall

Monday, October 19 | 6:30–8:30 pm

St. Luke's – Joy Room

Keep GROWing with Grace Group! – Join us Tuesdays at 5:30 pm for fellowship, meaningful conversation, and opportunities to grow deeper in faith together. Everyone is welcome come GROW with us!

CALLING ALL CRAFTERS - If you are planning to participate in the Homemade from the Heart Craft Sale in the patch on Saturday 10/24, please let me know. I need to put the schedule together and I certainly don't want to leave anyone out. I can be reached at 727-213-8400. (Text preferred.) Thank you. Judy Tenison

Trunk-or-Treat – October 31, 5–7 pm Bring your family, invite your neighbors, and join us for a fun, safe evening of decorated trunks, lots of candy, costumes, and community at Lakewood UMC! Want to help? Host a trunk, donate individually wrapped candy, or volunteer to help. Let's make it a sweet night of fun and connection for our community!

SOUTH PINELLAS CONNECTION UPCOMING DATES

Oct 11	Pumpkin Unloading at Clearview	4 pm	CV
Oct 13	UWIF Friendship Circle	10 am	SL
Oct 13	Women’s Bible Study	11 am	SL
Oct 17	Pumpkin Unloading at Clearview	8 am	CV
Oct 17	Yard Sale Market	9 am-12pm	FG
Oct 18	Discover Your Spiritual Gifts	3 – 5 pm	FG
Oct 19	Discover Your Spiritual Gifts	6:30 – 8:30 pm	SL
Oct 31	Trunk or Treat at Lakewood	5-7 pm	LW
Nov 1	All SPC Connection Church Conferences	1:30 pm	GP

KEY

Clearview (CV)	First Gulfport (FG)	Lakewood (LW)	St. Luke's (SL)
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STEWARDSHIP OF PRESENCE & GIFTS

Week of Oct 4

Worship	33
Online Worship	21
Giving Received	\$2,926.00
Giving Needed	\$3,055.78
Surplus/Loss	-\$129.78

2026 Year To Date

Worship (avg)	34
Online (avg)	18
Giving Received	\$120,522.79
Giving Needed	\$122,231.20
Surplus/Loss	-\$1,708.41

ST. LUKE'S WEEKLY CALENDAR

SUNDAY, OCTOBER 11

- Sunday School, 10 am – Library
- St. Luke’s Worship, 11:15 am – Sanctuary & Online
- October Birthday & Anniversary Celebrations, 12:15ish - Narthex

MONDAY, OCTOBER 12

- Parkinson’s Support Group, 1 pm – Wesley Hall
- Chair Volleyball, 3 pm – Wesley Hall
- Karate/Self Defense, 5 pm – 2nd Floor Rec Room

TUESDAY, OCTOBER 13

- Office Open, 9 am – 12:30 pm
- Grow Group, 5:30 pm – Joy Room

WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 14

- Thrift Store, 9 am – 1 pm - Thrift Store

THURSDAY, OCTOBER 15

- Thrift Store, 9 am – 1 pm - Thrift Store
- Karate/Self Defense, 5 pm – 2nd Floor Rec Room
- Girl Scouts, 6:30 pm – Girl Scout Room

FRIDAY, OCTOBER 16

- Chair Volleyball, 1 pm – Wesley Hall
- Food Pantry, 5 pm – Parking Lot
- Children/Youth, 5:30 pm – 2nd Floor Rec Room

SATURDAY, OCTOBER 17

- **AA "Carry the Message,"** 11 am-3 pm – Wesley Hall
- **Thrift Store Open,** 9 am – 1 pm - Thrift Store

SUNDAY, OCTOBER 18

- **Sunday School,** 10 am – Library
- **St. Luke's Worship,** 11:15 am – Sanctuary & Online

THIS WEEK'S PRAYER LIST

COMPLETE A PRAYER CARD FROM THE PEW AND PLACE IT IN THE OFFERING PLATE

St. Luke's: Larry Frye

St. Luke's Ongoing: Gary Antonellis, Bev, Lisa, Trent, Mike, LouAnn, Jacob & Jess Becker, Christine Brockway, Fred Bunnell, Jr., Melissa Celurale, Jeannine Colbert, Judith Fain, Cheryl Fennell, Cliff Flowers, Larry Frye, Marian Galloway, Nina Hartley, Eric Harvey, Trudy James, The Leonard Family, Geraldine Parsons, Buck & Sunny Roberts, Harriett Swartzmiller, Joelle Wells, Justin Wells, Annalise, Audrey, Ellie, Pastor Sue's sister, Lea

Clearview: Kara Butler has cancer and was given 6 months to live, she's in her 30's and has 2 children. (Jill G's neighbors' cousin); our family as we travel to TN to camp for a cousin's wedding. Blessing for Anthony and Brittany as they enter their marriage. (Ericka Pierce); Peace in our family. Pray for us to figure out a way to communicate in a healthy and productive way, so that we can positively influence and support Violet through a difficult transition into middle school. (Codee); Edna Trumble healing from open heart surgery. (Lynda Waite's sister).

Clearview Ongoing: Pamela Arnold, Cassie Berg, Eileen Clark, Carol Comerford, the Family of Dale, Kathy Davis, Stephen Davis, Trevor Davis, Tim Deacon, Genevieve DeHoog, John Goude, Theresa Goude, Amy Gordon, Mary Grauv, Carl Gunn, Robert "Skip" Hanshe, Ruth Hockersmith, Rycky Holliman, DeeDee Hornby, Letha & Marc Jones, Ruth Katzen, Nelson Kimber, Charlotte Klotzbach, Ian Kolaczyk, Carolyn McGovern, Sabrina Mull, Kirstin Owens, Jim Patterson, Scott Pierce, Tiffany R, Tammi Radcliff, Donna Robertson, George Roth, Sr., Linda Stanley, Anver Suleman, Logan Sullivan, Crystal, Eldridge Jr, Hilary, Kelly, Lydi, Max, Blayne, Amber, George, Rollie, Steve & Alba, Diana, Theresa & Scott, Mamaw, Aunt Teresa, Family of Dale, Susie

Gulfport: Anita from the Funky Flamingo, she's been ill for several weeks and has been in the hospital (Celinda Bailey)

Gulfport Ongoing: Jean Blackman, Wendy Christy's son, Alice Johnson, Laura Magill, Valerie Schmidt, Allison (Cindy & Per Lee's granddaughter), Debbie S, Francine, George (Jack Wamhoff's son), Family of Dean Wilde, Mary & Bill; Pam & Jeff, Willie

Lakewood: No requests received

Lakewood Ongoing: Joan and family, Myra Hoffman, Otha Hudson (Josephine's husband), The family of JoAnn & Richard Knight, Pastor Sue's Aunt Sharon, Rose and Richard Scantlebury

South Pinellas Active-Duty Military: Matthew Burdewick, Seth Crist, Will Dudley, Casey Linde-Powers

THIS WEEK'S "AT HOME" DEVOTIONAL

What Are We Doing With What We Have? — Acts 2:42–47

GATHERING

Light a candle and place several cups together to remember that God’s blessing is shared and that we belong to one another.

PRAYER OF THE WEEK

God of our shared life, thank you for gathering us into the body of Christ. Help us see the gifts already present among us. Give us generous hearts, attentive ears, and willing hands. Teach us to use our collective resources to meet real needs and welcome our neighbors. Through Christ our Lord. Amen.

CARING CONVERSATION - Take a few moments to check in with one another.

Highs & Lows

- What is one thing that brought you joy this week?
- When did you experience the help or encouragement of a community this week?

THINKING ABOUT THE UPCOMING WEEK’S SCRIPTURE

The early believers devoted themselves to teaching, fellowship, breaking bread, and prayer. Their shared faith became shared responsibility as they responded to people’s needs. The overflowing cup was not only personal; it belonged to a community learning to love together.

- What gifts are already present in our household or church?
- How does shared faith change the way we respond to someone’s need?
- What can we accomplish together that we cannot do alone?
- Whose voice should we hear before deciding how to help?

DAILY BIBLE READINGS - As you read this week, ask: How can our shared gifts become a blessing to our community?

DAY	READING	THEME
Sunday	Matthew 25:14–30	<i>Faithful with What We Have</i>
Monday	Psalms 23:1–6	<i>A Table of God’s Provision</i>
Tuesday	Exodus 35:20–29	<i>Willing Hearts Bring Gifts</i>
Wednesday	Nehemiah 3:1–12	<i>Many Hands Rebuild Together</i>
Thursday	Ezra 3:8–13	<i>Rebuilding with Shared Purpose</i>
Friday	Acts 4:32–35	<i>Responding to Every Need</i>
Saturday	1 Corinthians 12:12–27	<i>Every Member Matters</i>
Sunday	Acts 2:42–47	<i>A Community That Shares</i>

If your household includes children, feel free to use a children’s Bible or summarize the readings in simple language.

DEVOTIONAL

Gratitude grows when “what I have” becomes “what we can share.” God gathers people with different experiences, abilities, and resources into one body. Together, these gifts can meet needs that would overwhelm any one person.

Acts 2 describes a community shaped by teaching, fellowship, breaking bread, and prayer. Their spiritual life did not remain separate from practical concerns. They shared possessions and resources so that people’s needs could be met. Worship and generosity belonged together.

Scripture offers other pictures of shared work. The Israelites brought willing offerings for the tabernacle. Nehemiah’s account names families and workers rebuilding different sections of the wall. Returning exiles rebuilt the temple together. No single person supplied everything.

Our churches also hold gifts that may be easy to overlook: kitchens, classrooms, practical knowledge, friendships, volunteers, and people who know the community’s needs. Before asking for more, we can ask how to use what is already available with greater faithfulness.

Imagine a family facing a crisis. One neighbor brings a meal, another offers transportation, someone listens, and others help connect the family with lasting support. Small contributions can become meaningful care when offered together.

We are blessed as a community to be a blessing to our community. That calling begins with listening, sharing decisions, and honoring everyone’s dignity. The cup is shared, and every person has something to receive and something to offer.

PRAY TOGETHER

Invite each person to name one strength of your household or church and one community need that calls for a shared response. Then pray together:

God of fellowship, thank you for the gifts you have placed among us. Help us notice needs, listen to our neighbors, and work together without seeking credit. Make our church a community where burdens are shared, gifts are welcomed, and your love becomes practical care. Amen.

MEALTIME PRAYER

God of one family, thank you for this meal and the people gathered here. Bless those who eat alone or lack enough food and show us how to share your provision. Amen.

SERVICE CHALLENGE - This is one way we share God’s love with the world.

Explore your church’s service opportunities with another person. Choose one shared action that uses gifts you already have. Listen to the ministry’s leaders and those it serves, then offer specific, dependable help.

CLOSING & BLESSING

Extinguish your candle as a reminder that God’s light shines through a community that shares its gifts and carries one another’s burdens.

With permission, make the sign of the cross on one another’s hands or foreheads and say: **“We are blessed together to be a blessing together. Share your gifts, carry one another’s burdens, and serve your neighbors with love.”**