

A Message From Our Pastor



My Dear Loved Ones,

As we move forward in our Lenten Journey, we must seriously look within ourselves and make an honest assessment of our commitment to Christ and our spiritual maturity. Lent is really about us decreasing in ourselves and increasing in the Lord. In order for us to increase in the Lord, there must be genuine surrender on our part to the Lord and in doing His will in our lives.

Someone has aptly said, "too many believers do not seek God's will; we simply do things and ask God to bless what we do, rather than seeking His will FIRST and doing what He says He will bless." This is the tension that many of us, who profess faith in God through Christ live in. In order for us to know God's will we must become serious about our prayer lives and about studying His Word. Over the years and even today, I hear so many church people, "blame things on God." They do things that they want and say that, "God told them to do it." Most often these things have absolutely nothing to do with the will of God for our lives and everything to do with our selfish and self-centered desires.

One of my prayers and hopes for SLBC is that our Lenten Journey will enable us to individually and congregationally hear God calling us into a more committed and consistent relationship with Him; a relationship where we demonstrate by how we live that God is indeed the head of our lives, and that our steps are being ordered and directed by Him.

Our families, our city, our nation, and our world desperately needs the influence and the impact of Christians who take Jesus and His word SERIOUSLY! May we become such Christians and may those in our immediate sphere and environment be touched and changed by the power of Christ in our lives.

May each of us be serious about deepening our relationship with the Lord, now and forever.

I love you with all of my love!

Pastor Clayton

Let's stay connected. Become my friend on www.facebook.com/kdrclayton; Follow me on [@kdrclayton](https://twitter.com/kdrclayton) or on [Instagram](https://www.instagram.com/kdrclayton).

St. Luke at Worship

Sunday, March 19, 2017
7:30am and 10:50am Worship Services

From World to Worship...

MORNING PRAISE

PLEASE STAND AS WE SING PRAISE TO GOD

The Call to Worship

"This is the day that the Lord has made, Let us rejoice and be glad in it; oh magnify the Lord with me and let us exalt the Lord's name together. Praise ye the Lord."

The Hymn of Worship

Hymn #232 "I Must Tell Jesus"

The Affirmation of Unity

"Lord Make Us One"

"Lord make us one as we enter your house. Lord make us one as we open our hearts. Lord make us one as we lift our voices. Give us one faith confirmed in baptism. Give us one love, from heart to heart. Give us one hope as we open your word. Give us one prayer for you are our Father. Give us one song that the angels can't sing. Give us one praise as we lift up your name! Lord make us one, Lord make us one."

The Church In Prayer

The Choral Response

Words of Welcome to Our First Time Guests, Returning Visitors, and ALL Gathered in Worship

The Ministry of Music

Youth and Teen Choir

The Morning Message

Pastor Clayton

The Invitation to Salvation, Christian Discipleship, and Church Membership

This invitation is extended for you to accept Jesus Christ as your Lord and Savior. It is also an invitation for those who are already Christians who are in search of a church home. This is a holy moment when people are making a decision that will affect their eternity. Please respect those making a decision for the Lord by limiting your movement and conversation during the invitation.

The Offertory Prayer

"Praise God from Whom All Blessings Flow"

Tithing Affirmation

(If you believe in John 3:16 you must also believe in Malachi 3:8-10.)

Leader: We are called to be a **tithing** church because the Word of God teaches **tithing**, our experience gives witness to **tithing**, our obedience to God requires **tithing**, and our blessings come as a result of **tithing**.

People: **Tithing** blesses the heart by making it receptive to God's will. **Tithing** blesses the life by lifting it to a higher plane of grace. **Tithing** blesses the hands by making them willing to do God's work. **Tithing** blesses the mind by giving it the satisfaction of doing the right thing. **Tithing** blesses the nine-tenths that remain because God has been honored. **Tithing** blesses the individual by giving each a part in God's world-wide program. **Tithing** blesses the church by enabling it to carry out a greater ministry.

Leader: Then let us bring our **tithes** and offerings to the Lord as He has prospered us, for the "tenth shall be holy unto the Lord."

The Giving of God's Tithes and Offering *"Bring ye all the tithes (and offerings) into the storehouse." (Malachi 3:8-10)*

The General Offering *(Ushers and Trustees will NOT make change PLEASE do not ask)*

The Pastoral Observations

The Benediction

Our Departing Affirmation

"As for me and my house we will serve the Lord"

From Worship to Service...

Please note that the order of worship is under the direction of the Holy Spirit and is subject to change without notice.

Six Ways To Give At SLBC

As a disciple of SLBC, you are encouraged to provide consistent and regular financial support of our ministry by one of the following 6 means:



In Person

With Your Membership Envelope
(On Sunday or During Church Office Hours)



Online

www.stlukebaptist.org
(Anytime)



In Our Bookstore

Using Your Debit Card
(Anytime the Bookstore is Open or During Church Office Hours)



SLBC Mobile App

(Anytime)



Givelify Mobile App

(Anytime)



Mail

St. Luke Baptist Church
139 Carroll Street
Paterson, NJ 07501
Attn: Church Business Administrator

Your regular support and generosity is encouraged and greatly appreciated.



Visit the SLBC Bookstore Today Christian books, Bibles, and other products can be purchased in the SLBC Bookstore.

This week the Bookstore is open:

Sunday

9:45am – 10:45am

1:00pm – 1:30pm

Wednesday

12:45pm – 1:15pm

6:30pm – 7:15pm

Our Prayer Emphasis for the Week

"This week we are challenged to pray that our journey through Lent will help us to develop a genuine desire to love people like Christ loves us."

The SLBC Family Extends a Word of Welcome to

Yvonne C. Bauer

Victor Gee

Who Made a Decision for Christ on Last Sunday!

And To

Iyonna Bush

Wayne Chambers

Charise Reid

Cameron Rowe

Jayden Rowe

Who Received the Right Hand of Fellowship on Last Sunday!



This building is handicap accessible by ramp at the rear of the building. If you need assistance, please see any member of the Security Ministry, Hospitality Ministry, or an Usher.

There are parking spaces reserved for the physically challenged.

How Do I????

As our church by God's grace continues to grow, many times new disciples (as well as longtime disciples) have problems knowing how to contact the church and the church leaders when the need arises. Please govern yourself by the following:

DEATH: Family members of SLBC disciples should contact the Church Office with the news of death as soon as possible. A service of worship and repast will be planned according to the church guidelines for disciples of our congregation. For the relatives of SLBC disciples, an appropriate expression/acknowledgement will be sent as an expression of sympathy. When notifying the church of a relative's death, please have all of the vital information.

WEDDINGS: Couples interested in getting married at SLBC must be SLBC disciples (either prospective bride or groom). The first step is to contact the Church Office to see if the date is available. Couples will then receive a wedding package in the mail which details all of the requirements, fees, etc. Couples being married at SLBC must attend premarital classes. Weddings for persons who are not SLBC disciples are occasionally permitted according to the church's calendar.

HOSPITALIZATION: When a disciple of SLBC is hospitalized our church desires to express our care and concern. If you are unable to call yourself, please have a family member or a hospital staff person contact the Church Office.

APPOINTMENTS: Our Pastor and Staff are available to meet with SLBC disciples BY APPOINTMENT. The office is open daily, but please do not just "show up" and expect to be seen. Please call the office to schedule an appointment. Also remember that Sunday IS NOT the day to schedule an appointment, to discuss or engage in business unrelated to worship.

INFANT DEDICATIONS: Infant dedications are performed as an opportunity for parents to express thanks to God for allowing them to be parents and to consecrate the life of the child and family to Christ and the church. To inquire about a specific date, please call the Church Office.

THOUGHT FOR THE WEEK

"Lent is a time to decrease in self; in order to increase in Christ."

WELCOME TO ST LUKE...

Hope Lives Here, Freedom is Found Here, Changed Lives Leave Here

IF YOU ARE A VISITOR, the Pastoral Staff, Leaders, and the entire SLBC Family would like to extend to you a heartfelt **WELCOME!** We invite you to experience the presence of God as you worship with us. If you are new to the area and have no church home, we would love for you to become a part of the St. Luke Family. Please come forward at the end of the sermon and we will gladly share with you the reality of Jesus Christ and how to become a disciple of Christ through St. Luke. From your visit with us today we hope that you will feel the love of Christ and the sweet fellowship that comes from our love for Him. This is our special way of providing a rewarding and memorable worship experience. Visitors are not expected to give during the offertory period. Our ministry is supported by the committed disciples of our congregation. If you desire to give an offering, we thank you for your gift. God bless you and thank you for your visit with us. If you leave the sanctuary during the preaching moment you will be asked to wait in the overflow until after the message and the Invitation to Christian discipleship has been extended. Thank you for your cooperation as we seek to honor and respect the preaching moment.

TODAY

- Following BOTH worship services voter registration will take place. If you are 18 years of age or older, not registered, recently changed your name or address, PLEASE see a member of the Social/Political Action Committee to (re)register in the foyer.
- Following the 10:50am Worship Service the Security Ministry will meet. Persons interested in joining this ministry are invited to attend.
- If you would like to purchase an Easter Lily, please see Sister Vanessa Darden, Sister Mae Frye, or Sister Gwendolyn Ndubuisi following the 7:30am Worship Service or see Sister Charlene Easley-Sumlin or Sister Carolyn McClide following the 10:50am Worship Service.
- At 4:00pm the Adult Ushers, Youth/Young Adult Ushers, Combined Health Ministry and the Hospitality Ministry will celebrate their service to our congregation. Our special guests will be the Rev. Dr. Jerry M. Carter, Jr. and the Calvary Baptist Church of Morristown, NJ.
- 2017 Membership Contribution Envelopes are available in Founders Hall. Please pick yours up today.
- 2016 Membership Contribution Statement Forms are now available at BOTH entrances. Completion of this form is THE ONLY ACCEPTED MEANS of requesting and receiving a copy of your 2016 Contribution Statement for tax purposes. Completed forms can be placed in a Red Box at either entrance. We pray for peace, justice, and an end to violence in Paterson, in our nation, and in the world.
- SLBC Ministry Leaders, please check your ministry mailboxes.

**Please be advised that participation in any St. Luke Baptist Church experience grants us permission to respectfully use, reproduce, and/or publish photography, videos or print materials with your name, image, likeness, and/or voice in any/all of our publications and outreach efforts including but not limited to our website, social media outlets, worship, discipleship or evangelism materials without compensation or any other consideration.*



When you are unable to be in worship physically, you can worship with us via ustream at <http://www.ustream.tv/channel/st-luke-baptist-church-paterson-nj>



The Children's Nursery is open for "King's Kids" during our 10:50am Worship Service for infants to children age 6 in Founders Hall. Parents with infants may view the services via closed circuit TV in the Chapel.



Van Service is available for Sunday Bible Study Class and 10:50am Worship Service every Sunday. To secure van service, please call the Church Office at (973) 345-4309 no later than Friday at 4:00pm.

Attention All SLBC Ministries and Disciples

- **ALL** eating and drinking is restricted to Founders Hall **AT ALL TIMES!** All ministries that hold meetings and rehearsals, please be advised of this restriction, abide by it and inform all ministry participants.
- The SLBC Administrative Staff is asking **ALL** ministries to please regularly check and clean out your ministry mailbox.
- The Fair Street entrance is NOT to be used as a regular entrance/exit. It is only to be used when supervised by a member of our Security Ministry and authorized by Pastor Clayton or designated Church Leadership.

The Week Ahead

Monday, March 20 – Sunday, March 26, 2017

Monday, March 20, 2017

7:00 AM	"Determined" television broadcast on Public Access Channel 75	
12:00 NOON	"Determined" Internet Radio Broadcast on www.wmocradio.net	
5:30 PM	The Children's Dance Ministry (ages 5-12) will rehearse. Persons interested in joining this ministry are invited to attend.	Tuskegee Room
6:00 PM	New Discipleship Class – Class #7	New Discipleship Class
6:00 PM	The Teen Dance Ministry (ages 13-17) will rehearse. Persons interested in joining this ministry are invited to attend.	Sanctuary
6:30 PM	The Adult Dance Ministry (ages 35-64) will rehearse. Persons interested in joining this ministry are invited to attend.	Tuskegee Room
6:30 PM	The Hospitality Ministry will meet. Persons interested in joining this ministry are invited to attend.	Chapel
6:30 PM	Exercise Class	Founders Hall
6:30 PM	Darshell's Quality Music Inc. will meet	St. Luke Learning Center
7:00 PM	The Sight and Sound Ministry will meet. Persons interested in joining this ministry are invited to attend.	Overflow

Tuesday, March 21, 2017

11:00 AM-2:00 PM	Christhouse is Open	
5:00 PM-7:00 PM	St. Luke CDC Computer Lab is Open	305 Broadway
5:30 PM	The Children's Dance Ministry (ages 5-12) will rehearse. Persons interested in joining this ministry are invited to attend.	Tuskegee Room
6:00 PM	The Teen Dance Ministry (ages 13-17) will rehearse. Persons interested in joining this ministry are invited to attend.	Founders Hall
6:30 PM	The Adult Dance Ministry (ages 35-64) will rehearse. Persons interested in joining this ministry are invited to attend.	Tuskegee Room
7:00 PM	The Men's Choir will rehearse. Men interested in joining this choir are invited to attend.	Overflow

Wednesday, March 22, 2017

Churchwide Fast – 6:00am-6:00pm

6:30 AM	Early Morning Prayer will be held. Join us as we begin the day in PRAYER!	Chapel
11:30 AM	Midday Prayer Service	Overflow
12:00 NOON	Noonday Bible Study. Please read John chapters 1-3 as we study The Good News – Fullness of His Grace.	Overflow
5:30 PM	The Adult Dance Ministry (ages 35-64) will rehearse. Persons interested in joining this ministry are invited to attend.	Tuskegee Room
6:00 PM	We will break the fast	Founders Hall
6:45 PM	Evening Prayer Service. The Women of SLBC will lead us in our time of prayer.	Sanctuary
7:30 PM	Adult Bible Study. Please read 2 nd Peter chapter 1:12-21.	Sanctuary

Thursday, March 23, 2017

11:00 AM-2:00 PM	Christhouse is Open	
5:00 PM-7:00 PM	St. Luke CDC Computer Lab is Open	305 Broadway
5:30 PM	The Children's Dance Ministry (ages 5-12) will rehearse. Persons interested in joining this ministry are invited to attend.	Tuskegee Room
6:00 PM	The Young Adult Dance Ministry (ages 18-34) will rehearse. Persons interested in joining this ministry are invited to attend.	Founders Hall
6:00 PM	SLEAT (Education/Scholarship Committee) will meet. All committee members are encouraged to attend. Persons interested in joining this ministry are invited to attend.	A.M. Tyler Conference Room
6:30 PM	The Adult Dance Ministry (ages 35-64) will rehearse. Persons interested in joining this ministry are invited to attend.	Tuskegee Room
7:00 PM	The Men's Choir will rehearse. Men interested in joining this choir are invited to attend.	Overflow
9:00 PM	"Determined" television broadcast on Public Access Channel 75	

Friday, March 24, 2017

7:00 PM	"J.A.M. City" (our Children's Ministry) will meet. ALL children ages 5-12 are invited to be present and bring a friend!	St. Luke Learning Center
7:00 PM	"F.R.E.E. Fridays" (our Youth Ministry) will meet. ALL teens ages 13-18 are invited to be present and bring a friend!	Youth Center

Saturday, March 25, 2017

10:00 AM	The Women's Ministry Outreach at Straight and Narrow (Secaucus)	
10:00 AM	The Young Adult Dance Ministry (ages 18-34) will rehearse. Persons interested in joining this ministry are invited to attend.	Tuskegee Room
10:00 AM	The Paterson Branch NAACP hosts their Annual Black History Essay Contest Breakfast here at St. Luke	Founders Hall
11:00 AM-2:00 PM	Christhouse is Open	
4:00 PM	"Determined" television broadcast on Public Access Channel 75	

Sunday, March 26, 2017

7:00 AM	Early Morning Prayer	Sanctuary
7:30 AM	Early Morning Worship Service	Sanctuary
9:45 AM	Sunday Bible Study Classes and New Discipleship Classes	
10:50 AM	Adult New Discipleship Class – Class #4	New Discipleship Room
5:00 PM	Morning Worship Service	Sanctuary
5:00 PM	Pastor and People will worship with Pastor Joel Rudolph and the Christian Fellowship Center of Paterson. Pastor Clayton will preach, the Mass Choir will sing, and ALL Ushers, Nurses and SLBC disciples are invited to share in this service.	

The Month Ahead

Prayer Leaders:

The following SLBC Ministries are EXPECTED to lead SLBC in prayer in Wednesday evening Prayer Service at 6:45pm assisted by the Deacons of SLBC.

March 29th – Birthday Ministry

Wednesday, March 29

At 7:00pm we will celebrate in our Pre-Church Anniversary Worship in celebration of our 90th Church Anniversary. We will welcome as our special guests, the Rev. Gregory L. Wilson and the Grace Chapel Baptist Church of Paterson, NJ. The Grace Chapel Church is one of two "daughter churches" birthed from St. Luke. We are all expected to share in this evening of worship and celebration.

Sunday, April 2nd

In a United Worship Service at 10:00am the St. Luke Family will proudly celebrate her 90th Church Anniversary. Our Guest Celebrant will be the Rev. Dr. Carolyn Ann Knight of Atlanta, GA. Every SLBC disciple is asked to give a sacrificial offering of \$90.00 above our regular tithes and offerings on this day. Dinner will be served following the morning worship service.

Saturday, April 8th

At 1:00pm, the Young Adult Ministry will gather for the first installment in their Millennial Matters Series. We will be hosting a panel discussion on how to successfully navigate our careers, entrepreneurship, and personal branding. We've prepared a lineup of phenomenal panelists who will share their expertise and provide valuable insight. Please save the date and invite other young adults to attend. More details are forthcoming.



Register To Vote

Every 3rd Sunday the SLBC/Political Action Committee does voter registration in the Foyer.

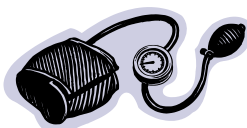


Become a Member of the NAACP

by completing a form and submitting payment in the Bookstore

DID YOU KNOW????????????????

High Blood Pressure, or Hypertension, is a major reason that people develop heart disease, kidney failure, and strokes.....



The Health and Wholeness Ministry
provides **FREE Blood Pressure Screening**
When: Every 2nd and 4th Sunday
Where: Victoria Anderson Nurse's Room
Time: 9:45am – 10:45am



When blood pressure is under control, the risk of developing heart disease, kidney failure, or stroke is lower.
"Say to Him: long life to you! Good health to you and your household! And good health to all that is yours."

Please Remember In Your Prayers



Bereaved:

Sister Mary Baskerville on the death of her nephew
Sister Nellie Owens on the death of her sister
Sister Tina Sumter on the death of her mother (Maxine Randolph)

Those Hospitalized or In: Nursing Homes or Adult Facilities:

Sister Connie Clayton Chestnut Convalescent Center Passaic, NJ	Sister Ocie High St. Joseph's Hospital Paterson, NJ	Sister Nellie Reed Atrium at Wayne Care Center Wayne, NJ
Sister Mary DeGroat Barnert Subacute Rehabilitation Center Paterson, NJ	Sister Mae Jones Advanced Care Center at Wayne Wayne, NJ	Brother Jerel Stone Robert Wood Johnson Hospital Somerset, NJ
Sister Pamela Haywood Barnert Subacute Rehabilitation Center Paterson, NJ	Deacon Jack Moore NJ Veterans Memorial Paramus, NJ	Brother Irving Watkins, Sr. Hackensack University Medical Center Hackensack, NJ

Those Recovering at Home:

Sister Gloria Battle	Sister Beulah Jackson	Sister Doris Smith
Sister Jean Battle	Sister Rachel Jackson	Sister Retha Sumter
Sister Mabel Biggs	Sister Damita McClam	Sister Mary Thomas-Carter
Sister Edna Black	Brother John McKenzie	Sister Patricia Thompson
Sister Peggy Brown	Sister Morgan McMillan	Sister Cynthia Thorne
Sister Edith Douglas	Sister Alice Robinson	Sister Miriam Threet
Sister Wendy Drakeford	Sister Georgiana Rogers	Sister Ola Mae Whitaker
Brother LaMar Gaines	Sister Stephanie Samuels	Sister Marian Williams
Sister Hattie Haynesworth		

Those In Need of Healing and Strength:

Sister Thwana Bowman	Sister Jennifer Foxworth	Brother Malinque Haskins
Brother Carnie P. Bragg, Jr.	Sister Lanitra Green	Sister Leticia McGuire

Our Loved Ones Who Are Incarcerated:

Kenneth Brogsdale	Kevin Malik Myles	Frederick Simpson
Gary Davis	Chamar Myles	Rashad State
Edward Fairley	Wilmyra Nero	Denzel Thompson
Justin Keith		

Our Deacons of the Week:

David Boyd	Charlie Jackson	Argentina Mallory
------------	-----------------	-------------------

**To add your name or the name of a loved one to any of these areas, please call the Church Office at extension 11 for directions/details.*

Please Remember In Your Prayers



Our Extended Family:

Barbara Barnwell
Michael Beasley
Mazie Blackmon
Hafiz Brown
Ronea Bundick
Alaysia Chambers
Carolyn Coleman
Naomi Coleman

Stanley Darden
Rev. Diane Faison
Rev. Ronnie Faison
Sherry Foster
Russell Graddy
Rev. Dr. Gadson L. Graham
Mike Peterson
Chanise Pryor

Mack Simpkins, Jr.
Johnnie Sims, Jr.
Glenda Smith
Ruth Smith
Mark Thompson
Laverne Walton
James Wilson

Our College Students:

Jahlil Bennett
Dahmir Blackwell
Shaheed Brimley-Thompson
Kendrick Clayton
Kenneth Clayton

Ebony Gilchrist
Zhanía Gladden
Chaniya Hill
Keiara Lewis
Darius McDowell

Janiah Mitchell
Dominic Osioyibo
Maia Pipkin
Tysheema Roberts
Da'Wan Wade

SLBC Family Members in the Armed Forces:

Mychal Alexander (nephew of Mary Baskerville) who is in South Korea
Keon Arrick
Jah'mel Ayers (nephew of Sister Cynthia Toppin) who is in Kuwait
Rose Marie Berry (niece of Cleophus Pelt)
Akeem Fraser
Ronald Hinton (brother of Darnetta and Davon Roberts)
Maximillian Johnson (cousin of Antionette Brevard) who is in Japan
Gregory Jones (nephew of Mary Buckingham) who is in Iraq
Javon Riddick (grandson of Mary Wade)
RJ Roberts
Mystic Smith (niece of Tanya Williams)
Kareem Stephen
Nyree Wilson
Sterling Wynn (son of Germaine Romero)

****To add your name or the name of a loved one to any of these areas, please call the Church Office at extension 11 for directions/details.***

Lent 2017

“Denying Some Things in Order to Develop Some Things”

Matthew 16:24; Luke 9:23

What Is Lent?

The English word lent (stems from an Anglo-Saxon word for “spring” and is related to the English word lengthen) refers to the penitential period preceding Easter. Early Christians felt that the magnitude of the Easter celebration called for special preparation. As early as the second century, many Christians observed several days of fasting as part of that preparation. Over the next few centuries, perhaps in remembrance of Jesus’ fasting for forty days in the wilderness (Matthew 4:1-2), forty days became the accepted length of the Lenten season. Since, from the earliest years of Christianity, it had been considered inappropriate to fast on the day of the resurrection, Sundays were not counted in the forty days. Thus, the Wednesday 46 days before Easter came to be regarded as the beginning of Lent.

- ❖ **FAST** from 6:00am-6:00pm each Wednesday during Lent. Throughout the day as you are fasting, **PRAY** for a closer walk and greater commitment to Christ, and for a more obedient life.
- ❖ **BREAK THE FAST** at 6:00pm in Founders Hall each Wednesday during Lent.
- ❖ **PARTICIPATE** in our Lenten Journey. Share in our designated weeks of abstaining from foods/practices; **FAST** on Wednesdays; **READ** our Lenten Devotional; **SACRIFICE** for missions by saving an amount designated by you each day of Lent to be given on Resurrection Sunday for local and foreign missions support; and be serious about deepening your faith that we might live resurrected lives and lead unsaved/unchurched people to new life in Christ.
- ❖ **COMMIT** to deepening your discipleship during and **AFTER** Lent by participating in Bible Study, Congregational Prayer, and participating in a service ministry.

A Congregational Call To Fast and Pray!!

In the Gospel of Mark Chapter 9 verse 29, Jesus tells his disciples “This kind can come forth by nothing, but by prayer and fasting.”

Jesus was teaching his disciples (then and now) that the power to do the work of Jesus is available to followers of Jesus ONLY BY PRAYER and FASTING.

Our congregation is being called to FAST and PRAY in the season of Lent, so that individually and congregationally we might be renewed and empowered to serve the Lord, and be disciples that will serve and minister in the name and power of the Lord.

What Is A Fast?

Fasting is an act of worship, a spiritual discipline where one goes without food, drink (or certain foods) for a prescribed period of time. It is an act that is done in conjunction with prayer to change the individual in ways that have social and interpersonal impact for the Lord. We worship not just to please ourselves, but to become empowered to change the world.

Why Are We Fasting?

We are fasting because we realize that in our personal lives and in our church, God wants to use us to do greater work for Him. The Word of God teaches us that we can only accomplish great work for God in our personal lives, and in the life of the church “by prayer and fasting.” As we fast and pray we will be focusing more closely on our need of God’s power in our lives, our families, and the life of SLBC. We will devote this time asking God to deepen our commitment to following Him, praying, studying, and obeying His word, and be empowered to serve and please God with our lives.

Church-Wide Fast Begins:

Ash Wednesday, March 1, 2017, 6:00am – 6:00pm
and continues EVERY Wednesday throughout Lent.

In addition, during the week (Monday-Friday) we will be asked to abstain from:

March 6th-10th – No caffeinated food or drinks

March 13th-17th – No candy, sweets, or desserts of any kind

March 20th-24th – No Social Media

(If you are not on any social media outlet(s), No television – except for the news)

March 27th-31st – No red meat

April 3rd-7th – No fried foods

April 10th-14th – No negative speech or conversation

*During the entire season of Lent we are asked NOT to listen to any music other than gospel/inspirational music.

St. Luke Baptist Church

139 A.M. Tyler Place (Carroll Street)

Paterson, New Jersey 07501

Website: www.stlukebaptist.org

Phone: 973-345-4309

Fax: 973-345-9495

Prayer Line: 973-225-0268

Special Events Line: 973-345-4309 Extension 19

Email: stlukebaptist@aol.com

Ministers to The World: The Congregation Ministers to the Congregation:

Our Pastoral Team

Kenneth D.R. Clayton, Senior Pastor

kdrclayton@stlukebaptist.org

973-345-4309 Extension 12

Aisha Taylor, Associate Minister for Children, Youth, and Young Adults

amtaylor@stlukebaptist.org

973-345-4309 Extension 28

Our Music Team

Ron Faison, Minister of Music

rfaison@stlukebaptist.org

973-345-4309 Extension 17

Jared McClain, Director of Music

Kendrick Clayton, Percussionist

Taylor Moore, Percussionist

Jordan Randolph, Organist

Our Administrative Team

Lana Royal, Church Business Manager/Treasurer

lroyal@stlukebaptist.org

973-345-4309 Extension 15

Jalonda Bell, Office Assistant

jbelle@stlukebaptist.org

973-345-4309 Extension 10

Aria Corbin Smith, Church Secretary

acsmith@stlukebaptist.org

973-345-4309 Extension 11

Antoinette Brevard, St. Luke CDC

abrevard@stlukebaptist.org

973-345-4309 Extension 27

Vivian Clayton, Pastor's Administrative Assistant

vclayton@stlukebaptist.org

973-345-4309 Extension 29

Mary L. Cook, Data Entry

Our Facilities Team

Lamont McCain, Facilities Manager

lmccain@stlukebaptist.org

973-345-4309 Extension 16

Shaheed Brimley-Thompson

Stanley DeVore

The Church Office is open Monday through Friday from 9:00am-7:00pm to facilitate the needs of our congregation and ministry. To contact a member of the Church Staff, please use the above-mentioned information.

To Stay Connected to SLBC:



Facebook



Facebook for Youth Ministry



Facebook for Young Adult Ministry



Facebook for CDC



Twitter



Instagram

facebook.com/slbcpat

facebook.com/SLBCYouth

facebook.com/SLBCYAM

facebook.com/slcdc

@SLBCPAT

@slbcpat

The SLBC Mobile App Is Now Available For Google and Apple Mobile Devices. Devices include: Androids, iPads, iPods and iPhones



SLBC Newsletter

slbcchronicle@aol.com

Our Leaders

Deacons Ministry

Gregory Anderson, Chairman

973-345-4309 Extension 26

deacons@stlukebaptist.org

Trustee Ministry

Richard Cook, Chairman

973-345-4309 Extension 13

St. Luke Is a Member of and Supports:

Lott Carey Foreign Missions Convention – www.lottcarey.org

National Baptist Convention, USA, Inc. – www.nationalbaptist.com

United Missionary Baptist Convention of NJ, Inc. – www.umbcnj.org

Shiloh Baptist Association of NJ, Inc.



United Missionary Baptist Convention of NJ, Inc.

A MESSAGE FROM "REV. AISHA"



Greetings St. Luke Family,

This is the day that the Lord has made. We must make a choice to rejoice and be glad in it! Having joy in the Lord is not a feeling, but a command. And we must make a choice daily to heed to that command. Regardless of what is going on in us or around us, as children of God we must be able to rejoice. Why? Well, our joy is not predicated by our circumstances. But real joy is unconditional and determined only by our relationship with Christ. When we are in relationship with God, His joy becomes our joy. As a result, our feelings must succumb to our faith and joy overflows.

I encourage our young people to rejoice! Don't let life get you to a place where you are always depressed, upset, disappointed, or in a foul mood. But make a choice every day to have joy in the Lord. Then and only then will you be able to stand strong in the midst of chaos. Life is never easy, but God is never failing!

Children, Youth, and Young Adult Ministry Announcements/Reminders

Young Adult Fellowship – Millennial Matters Series – Navigating Your Career, Entrepreneurship, & Personal Branding

All young adults are invited to join us for the first installment in our Millennial Matters Series on Saturday, April 8th at 1:00pm. We will be hosting a panel discussion on how to successfully navigate our careers, entrepreneurship, and personal branding. We've prepared a lineup of phenomenal panelists who will share their expertise and provide valuable insight. Please save the date and invite other young adults to attend. More details are forthcoming.

Young Adult Bible Study

All young adults (ages 19-35) are encouraged and invited to attend Young Adult Bible Study every Wednesday at 7:30pm. Our study and knowledge of God's Word is integral to our spiritual development. We meet in the chapel and we hope to see you there! We are currently studying Philippians, Chapter 4.

Youth Ministry – F.R.E.E. Fridays

All youth, ages 13-18, are welcome to join us for F.R.E.E. Fridays every Friday at 7:00pm (except the 1st Friday of the month). F.R.E.E. Fridays provide an opportunity for our teens to learn more about Christ through relevant and meaningful discussions and activities. All sessions are held at the Youth Center at Christ House (269 Fair Street). **F.R.E.E. Fridays will meet again on March 24th. Please note the new start time of 7:00pm!**

Children's Ministry - J.A.M. City

All parents of children, ages 5-12, are invited and encouraged to become a part of our children's ministry, J.A.M. (Jesus and Me) City. **J.A.M. City now meets EVERY FRIDAY EXCEPT THE LAST FRIDAY OF EACH MONTH at 7:00pm at the St. Luke Learning Center, 128 Carroll Street.** J.A.M. City is dedicated to providing a space where our children can learn about Christ while having fun. The children participate in various learning, recreational, and community service activities...and so much more! Please make sure that your children are a part of our Children's Ministry. Let's work together to ensure that their lives are built on a firm foundation...Jesus Christ. **J.A.M. City will meet again on March 24th.**

Please contact me for more information on how you and/or your children can become a part of these awesome ministries.

Be blessed. Be a blessing.

Rev. Aisha

amtaylor@stlukebaptist.org



St. Luke CDC is a nonprofit 501©(3) community based organization located in Paterson, NJ. St. Luke CDC was established by St. Luke Baptist Church in 1997 under the direction of the Rev. Kenneth Clayton to serve as a catalyst for economic and community development in the City of Paterson and Passaic County.

As a not for profit entity, the St. Luke CDC aims to:

- Establish programs and services to the broad and diverse socio-economic needs of the residents of Paterson and Passaic County.
- Provide leadership in and form partnerships with private and public sector institutions to improve the quality of life for residents of Paterson and Passaic County.

The CDC currently operates

*** After School Program (ASAP)**

*** House of Mercy**

(Women’s Transitional House)

*** Summer Camp (Kamp Kreative Kidz)**

*** St. Luke CDF Freedom School®**

www.childrensdefense.org



*** St. Luke CDC Computer Lab**

*** The Literacy Projects**

- a) Computer Literacy
- b) Children’s Literacy
- c) Adult Literacy
- d) Public Speaking Class

***The Re-Entry Program**

Services provided to aid incarcerated individuals who are released from jail to re-acclimate themselves into society.

*** Counseling Services**

Feeling overwhelmed, seeking support, struggling with changing addictive behaviors, suffering from mental health symptoms? Counseling provides a healthy way to address these concerns. Through an integrative approach in individual and group settings we will work to improve coping skills and resilience in dealing with mental health and co-occurring disorder. Call for a consultation or information, please call Tranetta Harris, MS, LPC via phone at (973) 977-8201, via fax at (973) 977-8202 or via email at tharris@stlukebaptist.org.

*** Christhouse – Food and Clothing Center**

If you are interested in volunteering at Christhouse, PLEASE call (973) 345-5300.

For the week of Monday, March 6th – Saturday, March 11th Christhouse served 129 individuals!

We remain thankful to those who support Christhouse with generous food and clothing donations. As we strive to continue this work we solicit your financial support and your donations of the following nonperishable food items:

- | | |
|---------------|-----------------|
| Pasta | Spaghetti Sauce |
| Rice | Tuna Fish |
| Ramen Noodles | Vienna Sausage |



as well as clothing in all sizes items for: Men Women Boys
Girls Infants Toddlers



Ways to Give:

Givelify Mobile App (Anytime)
Select: Saint Luke CDC



OR

Online at
<http://www.stlukebaptist.org/st-luke-cdc.html>

To find out more about the St. Luke CDC, please contact Antoinette Brevard at (973) 345-4309 ext 27, go to the St. Luke CDC link on the St. Luke website www.stlukebaptist.org, or like us on Facebook at [facebook.com/slcdc](https://www.facebook.com/slcdc).

Tithing Calculator

Weekly Income	10%	11%	12%	13%	14%	15%
\$100	\$10	\$11	\$12	\$13	\$14	\$15
\$150	15	16.50	18	19.50	21	22.50
\$200	20	22.00	24	26.00	28	30.00
\$250	25	27.50	30	32.50	35	37.50
\$300	30	33.00	36	39.00	42	45.00
\$350	35	38.50	42	45.50	49	52.50
\$400	40	44.00	48	52.00	56	60.00
\$450	45	49.50	54	58.50	63	67.50
\$500	50	55.00	60	65.00	70	75.00
\$550	55	60.50	66	71.50	77	82.50
\$600	60	66.00	72	78.00	84	90.00
\$650	65	71.50	78	84.50	91	97.50
\$700	70	77.00	84	91.00	98	105.00
\$750	75	82.50	90	97.50	105	112.50
\$800	80	88.00	96	104.00	112	120.00
\$850	85	93.50	102	110.50	119	127.50
\$900	90	99.00	108	117.00	126	135.00
\$950	95	104.50	114	123.50	133	142.50
\$1,000	100	110.00	120	130.00	140	150.00
\$1,050	105	115.50	126	136.50	147	157.50
\$1,100	110	121.00	132	143.00	154	165.00
\$1,150	115	126.50	138	149.50	161	172.50
\$1,200	120	132.00	144	156.00	168	180.00
\$1,250	125	137.50	150	162.50	175	187.50
\$1,300	130	143.00	156	169.00	182	195.00
\$1,350	135	148.50	162	175.50	189	202.50
\$1,400	140	154.00	168	182.00	196	210.00

The Tithing Calculator is posted to help us better understand and determine what an actual tithe (or Tenth) is based on our income.

Christian disciples who obey the Word of God, tithe in response to the Lord’s command, in light of the Lord’s graciousness and also to ensure that the local congregation has all that she needs to do ministry that honors the Lord, equips individuals and to build a wholesome Christian community. (Malachi 3:8-10)

If you are not yet a committed part of our “tithing community” we encourage you to prayerfully trust God today, pray and begin surrendering your life to His will in this and every area of your life.

Let the words of Jesus become real and evident in your life according to Matthew 6:33, *“But seek first his kingdom and his righteousness, and all these things will be given to you as well.”*

You cannot believe in John 3:16 and NOT believe in Malachi 3:8-10!

Attention “Ladies of the Luke”

Save The Dates!!!

March Sunday Morning Bible Study

(For Women)



“Hidden Figures”
with Guest Instructor
Rev. Thurselle Watts

Sundays, March 19th, and 26th at 9:45am

St. Luke CDC Is Proud To Announce Counseling Services Available To The Community

Tranetta Harris, MS, LPC
Licensed Professional Counselor
tharris@stlukebaptist.org

305 Broadway
(Martin Luther King Way)
Paterson, NJ 07501

Office: (973) 977-8201
Cell: (973) 462-2255
Fax: (973) 977-8202

Feeling overwhelmed, seeking support, struggling with changing addictive behaviors, suffering from mental health symptoms? Counseling provides a healthy way to address these concerns. Through an integrative approach in individual and group settings we will work to improve coping skills and resilience in dealing with mental health and co-occurring disorder. Services provided to persons age 18 years and older.

For a consultation or information, please call Tranetta Harris, MS, LPC via phone at (973) 977-8201, via fax at (973) 977-8202 or via email at tharris@stlukebaptist.org.

Join Us For Sunday Bible Study!!

Sunday Mornings At 9:45 AM

Class	Instructor(s)	Location
Beginners	Deacon Vivian Clayton/ Sister Kendalyn Sumter	128 Carroll Street
Primary (Ages 6-8)	Sister Pamela Jones	128 Carroll Street 2nd Floor
Junior (Ages 9-11)	Sister Tiesha Williams	128 Carroll Street 2nd Floor
Youth (12-14) Male	Brother Robert Whitehead	128 Carroll Street 2nd Floor
Youth (12-14) Female	Sister Gail Brown	128 Carroll Street 2nd Floor
Youth (15-19)	Rev. Aisha Taylor	269 Fair Street/Youth Center 2nd Floor
Young Adult Women (19-35)	Sister Tiffany Smith	Bryant/Eaton Prayer Room
Women	Deacon Vivian Gaines	Sanctuary
New Discipleship Class	Deacon Cleophus Pelt Deacon Gregory Anderson Deacon Linton Gaines	New Discipleship Office
Children's New Discipleship Class	Brother Stacy Arrick, Sr. Sister Susan Corbin	Tuskegee Room
Men's Bible Study Class	Pastor Clayton	Chapel

St. Luke Baptist Church
As "A Church Determined to Know Christ and Make Him Known!"

We Are Striving To Be:

- A Christian Church: Jesus Is The Head, We Are The Body. Ephesians 5:23; 1st Corinthians 12:12-28
- A Bible Based Church: We Are Doers of God's Word. Psalm 119:105; 2nd Timothy 2:15; James 1:22
- A Praying Church: We Pray Without Ceasing. Matthew 18:19-20; Acts 2; 42; Acts 12:5; Luke 18:1
- A Spirit Filled Church: We Surrender To the Holy Ghost. Roman 12; Galatians 5:16-26; Ephesians 4:11-16
- A Tithing Church: We Give Back 10% Of All God Gives To Us. Malachi 3:8-10; Matthew 23:23 Luke 6:38; 1st Corinthians 16: 1-2
- A Loving Church: We Visit, Care, & Build Up Each Other. John 14:21; John 15:9-13; 1st Corinthians 13
- A Growing Church: We Mature and Bear Good Fruit. Matthew 7:17; John 15:8; Romans 7:4 Galatians 5:22-23
- A Prophetic Church: God Breaks Yokes through St. Luke. Isaiah 6:1; Jeremiah 1:4-10; Ezekiel 3:4-9; Luke 4
- A Witnessing Church: We Spare No Expense To Win Souls. Matthew 18:11; Luke 15; Acts 1:8 Romans 10:13-15
- A Learning Church: We Learn/Teach Bible, History, Etc. Deuteronomy 6:5-9; Proverbs 22: 6; Acts 8:31
- A Community Serving Church: We Help People In Need. Matthew 25:31-46; James 2:14-15; 1st John 3:17
- A Joyful Church: We Celebrate/Claim Victory. Psalm 100:2; Nehemiah 8:10; 1 Corinthians 15:57
- A Working Church: Every Member Works for God. Nehemiah 4:6; John 6:29; John 9:4
- A Friendly Church: Gratitude Is Our Attitude: We Love Our Brothers And Sisters As Ourselves. Psalm 150; John 15:14; Hebrews 13:1-3

Our 2017 Challenge

Becoming A G R E A T Church

Growing In Discipleship – “Our Maturity”
(Through Study, Prayer, and Stewardship)

Reaching Souls for Christ – “Our Witness”

Excelling In Ministry – “Our Service”

Authentic in Worship – “Our Praise”

Trustworthy in Spirit – “Our Unity”

As we strive to become a GREAT Church, each of us should be challenged to **GROW** together!

Go to God in prayer; **R**ead our Bibles; **O**bey the Word; **W**itness to nonbelievers

Let's Become Great in Order to Grow



Stewardship Reflection

THE ECONOMIC BASIS FOR TITHING

By the Rev. Dr. Wyatt Tee Walker

What I gave, I have; what I spent, I had, what I kept, I lost. (Old Epitaph)

Commitment to the tithing principle is *contagious*. No sanctified tither can long pursue the commitment of tithing without experiencing how "the Lord can work wonders in Zion." When you unleash the power of your personal faith in God, "It is no secret what God can do; what he's done for others, He'll do for you...." I cannot guarantee to you that if you commit your life to tithing that your burdens will be any less. The fact of the matter is that your burdens may increase. But the inner peace and tranquility that you possess, will more than fortify you for whatever comes. A hymn poet said not long ago:

*You have the joy of this assurance;
Your heavenly Father hears and answers prayer,
And He knows, O yes He knows,
Just how much you can bear."*

That which God works in your life will be such that you cannot keep it to yourself. You have to tell somebody. The conviction with which you relate how God works wonders in your life will draw others closer to Him. "If I be lifted up from the earth, I'll draw all men unto me!" There is a Gospel adaptation of that hymn that declares, "I need *somebody* to help me lift Jesus." Why don't you, Christian, help me lift Jesus? A small cadre of sanctified tithers in a congregation will be like heaven in the loaf. God's righteousness is such that He must keep his word. God's word on tithing is that He "will open the windows of heaven and pour you out a blessing that you are unable to receive...." The fulfillment of that promise must be shared with others. Your conviction will convict others for Christ.

Commitment to tithing principle *amplifies personal stewardship*. So far, I have discussed tithing on the narrow ground of money, that is, in terms of goods. It is not my intention to be crass, but experience persuades me that the most difficult hurdle for the professing Christian is to make the heart-decision to give God the cash. There are larger dividends for the kingdom. Once we learn the lesson of faith as it relates to money, the rest comes easy. Those who practice the discipline of giving on the basis of a heart decision soon find that patience and forgiveness come more readily. Generosity softens the spirit. You seldom find a *generous* mean person.

In the Canaan adventure, I have found that tithers generally attend church more regularly and are moved more quickly to make an offering unto the Lord. They generally give over and above the tithe. Tithers' dispositions improve; they are more giving in their personal relationships. Women become better wives and men, better husbands. A philanthropic spirit *must* grow. Service to the kingdom is volunteered, choir members sing better, board members are more cooperative and hearts are more receptive to the preaching of the Gospel. The general life of the church family is improved.

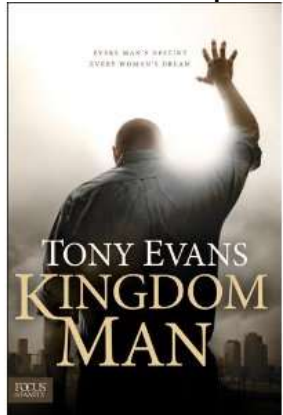


Attention SLBC Disciples...

Attention Men of St. Luke...

Join the Men of SLBC
for
Men's Bible Study

Sundays at 9:45am
In the Chapel



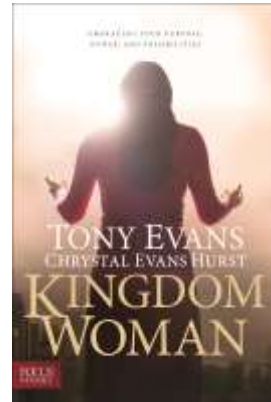
Read Chapter 12

"A Kingdom Man and His Personal Life"

Attention Ladies of the Luke...

Join the SLBC Women's Ministry
for
Women's Bible Study

Saturdays, April 1st and 8th
9:00am



Read Chapter 12

"A Kingdom Woman and Her Community"
(pages 178-186)

Operation PRAY!

"If my people, who are called by my name, will humble themselves and pray and seek my face and turn from their wicked ways, then will I hear from heaven and will forgive their sin and will heal their land."

II Chronicles 7:14

The Challenge - To overcome and defeat prayerlessness individually and as a congregation.

The Goal - To increase the attendance and participation in **ALL** church sponsored Prayer Gatherings and subsequently empower our church to do "greater works" for the Lord
(MUCH PRAYER=MUCH POWER, LITTLE PRAYER=LITTLE POWER, NO PRAYER=NO POWER)

What We Must Do - **REGULARLY** participate in one of our scheduled Prayer Times

Sunday - 8:00am

Wednesday - 6:30am in the Chapel

- 11:30am in the Overflow

- 6:45pm in the Sanctuary

REGULARLY pray about the printed prayer concerns, weekly prayer emphasis and pray for sick, hospitalized, recovering, college students, relatives in the military, etc.

NEED A PLACE TO PRAY?

The Bryant-Eaton Prayer Room is open during Church Office hours, on Sundays, and when evening activities are held.

SLBC on a Mission

"Mission is the purpose of the church to provide evidence of the heart of God, spreading the gospel of Jesus Christ in real and practical ways."



February 2017

- The SLBC Missionaries and the Patricia Tyler Guild renewed our monthly outreach at Barnert Subacute Rehabilitation Center.
- The SLBC Music Ministry distributed free cups of soup to persons in our community.
- SLBC youth shared in an outreach project at Lakeview Rehab Center in Wayne, NJ.
- SLBC during the month of February gave in support of (4) four HBCU's as selected by the Helping Hand Ministry.
- Book donations made to Passaic County Jail
- Allowed cheerleaders of Public School #6 use of our facilities for practice. They were unable to use school on Saturday because of budget issues.
- Food delivered to the residents of Good Shepherd Mission
- Missionaries prepared 100 sandwiches for homeless in our city in partnership with Paterson Cares
- SLBC disciples participated in Super Bowl Sunday food drive for Christhouse, providing monetary support and nonperishable food items.
- Women's Outreach Team provided Bible Study for women at Straight and Narrow (Secaucus)

**This is in addition to our weekly work at Christhouse through the St. Luke CDC, and our monthly support of the Foreign Mission Board and the Home Mission Board of the National Baptist Convention, USA, Inc.

Message Notes

"I will delight in your principles and not forget your word."

Psalm 119:16

Date: _____

Scripture Text: _____

Preacher/Messenger: _____

Subject: _____

Sermon Notes:

How Should This Sermon Influence My Christian Growth and Service?:

Special Points to Consider:

Our Response To Today's Message

As we are being challenged to be HEARERS and DOERS of the Word, we are being called to a serious response to each message/ sermon that we hear. The following pattern has been designed to encourage each of us to hear the WORD and LIVE IT!!!

First, READ

the sermon text slowly, meditatively and expectantly three times. Allow God's Word to be your primary focus. As you read, listen for God's message to His people both then and for you now. Ask yourself, "What truth is God calling me to learn and live out today?" (5 minutes)

Second, REFLECT

in the scripture. Record your observations. Note those things which stand out, pique your interest or make you wonder. Pay attention to the names of people, places, special events, sequences, repetition, patterns, etc. Note the use of verbs and verb tenses. (10 minutes)

Next, RETREAT

in prayer. Take two or three minutes to share your prayer concerns with God. Then devote the balance of your prayer time to silently and expectantly listening for God's words to you. Record both your prayers and God's response.

Finally, RESPOND

with action! God's answer to prayer almost always calls for a corresponding act on the part of those to whom God has given His Word. As the Lord addresses the prayers you have set before Him, ask yourself, "What is the one thing I will do in light of what I have discovered today?" Record this and commit to carrying it out today.