



# Gospel Echoes

May 2011

## —A Word from Pastor John...

Dear Members and Friends of the St. Luke's UMC:

In the newsletter this month, I want to talk about the subject of *transitions*. Our Thursday night *Men's Fraternity* group finished up recently, and our last lesson was about the transitions that men go through in life. In the discussion following, we all agreed that the information was "right on" and these transitions are certainly a reality in a man's life. As I think about it, I'm sure that women also go through similar transitions in life—in fact, for the average person, life is full of transitions from the cradle to the grave!

Here at St. Luke's, we are beginning a season of transition. As many of you know, Pastor Jim Lamb will not be able to continue in "full time service" with us because of his health concerns, but we're praying that he will be able to work "part time" on our staff in the future. Also, Jim and Megan Wilson have informed our congregation about their decision for Jim to pursue his theological education, and they will be moving to Wilmore Kentucky

(Asbury Seminary), in August. Jim plans to pursue his *Master's* degree and eventually his *Doctorate*, and I'm confident that he will be very successful in these endeavors. I pray God's richest blessings upon Jim, Megan and the children as they move through this major transition in their lives, and also for St. Luke's as we prepare for a new staff person.

On Wednesday April 6<sup>th</sup>, Bishop Michael Coyner and District Superintendent Frank Beard came to St. Luke's to meet with our *Staff Parish Relations Committee (SPRC)* to talk about our needs for a new staff person. We have asked our Bishop and Cabinet to appoint an associate pastor here at St. Luke's who: 1) is young enough to work with our youth and help attract younger families, 2) seasoned enough to help me with some pastoral duties like preaching, teaching, visitation, counseling etc., and 3) a really "good fit" for our congregation who can, *hopefully*, succeed me as Senior Pastor when I retire in a few years. As Bishop Mike told us, he cannot guarantee that this new staff person will be my eventual successor, but he is willing to try to

provide us with a person who meets these criteria; consequently, when it's time for me to retire, our congregation will know whether our new associate will be a "good fit" for the Senior Pastor position.

The Bishop and Superintendent have given me permission to share this information with the congregation, at this time, and I'm asking each of you to pray with me and our *SPRC* for "just the right person" to come to St. Luke's.

Transitions can be scary but also a very exciting time in our lives. Let's pray for God's highest and best as we look to the future!

Onward & Upward,

Pastor John

MAY CHRISTIAN EDUCATION NEWS

Thank you to all of you who have encouraged our Kidz Bel I z!! We had a wonderful time performing for our Palm Sunday service, and the kids are relieved it's over! Isn't that funny?!



Our VBS this summer is called SONFURF BEACH BASH! Everyone loves the beach, right? It's scheduled for June 13<sup>th</sup>-17<sup>th</sup> from 6-8 p.m. I'll be looking for volunteers, so if you see me coming toward you, please don't run away :o) Please be praying for many children to attend!

Blessings,  
Melinda



A WORD FROM TODD & TAMMY WILSON, MISSIONARIES IN UKRAINE

Great news! We found a property to buy for the church here! We've been searching for 3 years and could never find the right one. But this week, after much prayer and fasting, God led us to the perfect place! Please pray for us, that God would work out all the details for acquiring it. Later, of course, we'll have to build a small church building for services, but for now this is perfect for us. Please pass on our joy and gratitude to the church there. You all have blessed us richly with your prayers and support over the years.

God bless,  
Todd and Tammy Wilson, Ukraine

**Our ATTENDANCE for the month of APRIL...**

4/03/2011: 10:00: 263	4/24/2011: 10:00: 356
4/10/2011: 10:00: 200	Attendance: <b>Total: 1101</b>
4/17/2011: 10:00: 282	

The 2011 St. Luke's stewardship campaign desires to teach the basics of Christian stewardship. Here is our message for May:

Money is a means to the greater end of glorifying God as we demonstrate practical Christianity in our lives.

"So whether you eat or drink or whatever you do, do it all for the glory of God."  
(1 Cor. 10:31)

**Our GIVING for the month of APRIL...**



March total: \$54,289.73  
March needed: \$49,815.08  
March difference: \$4,474.65

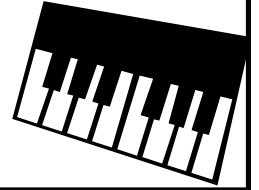


4/03/2011: \$15,076.85  
4/10/2011: \$ 9,651.97  
4/17/2011: \$15,118.75  
4/24/2011: \$16,544.86



**J** **JOY FELLOWSHIP** will meet on Friday, May 6th, at 11:00 AM, at the church. Susie Neher from the Howard County Extension Office will share some "Advice from Mothers." Following the program, we will have a fellowship lunch. Meatloaf will be provided. Please bring a covered dish, a white elephant, and a friend!

**O** **JOY FELLOWSHIP** will meet on Friday, May 20th, at 11:00 AM, at the church. Gary Reed will play the piano and share some great gospel songs. Ham and beans will be provided for the fellowship meal. Please bring a covered dish, a bingo prize, and a friend!



The Harold Williams Scholarship Fund received contributions of \$1,500, in celebration of Rev. Williams' 90th birthday. In addition to that, United Methodist Women hosted two meals for Church Women United, and the profits from these meals, totaling \$700, were also donated to this special University of Indianapolis scholarship fund. Contributions may still be made by placing your money in an envelope, (make checks payable to St. Luke's UMC), marking the envelope "Harold Williams Scholarship Fund," and placing it in the offering plate.

## UMW News

**Hope Circle** will meet on Tuesday, May 3rd, at 1:00 pm, in the church Parlor. Lois Hoban will do the calling. Mary Kay Tedlock will give the devotions. Judy Cotterman will give the lesson, and the refreshments will be served by Mary Miner.

**Naomi Circle** will meet on Tuesday, May 3rd, at 7:00 pm, at St. Luke 's Church. Lou Westray will be the hostess. Judy Cotterman will have the lesson. Ladies, you are welcome to come!

### **MOTHER-DAUGHTER LUNCHEON**

St. Luke's UMW is hosting a special program honoring Mothers and all Fancy Gals of all ages! "Fancy Schmancy...Living the Good Life" is the spring luncheon, which will be held on Saturday, May 7, at noon. If you like, wear your favorite fancy dress, or shoes, or a special piece of jewelry. Carry a special clutch or just bring something very special to share with gals at your table. RSVP in the church narthex by May 3rd, or contact Grace Harshman, 765-210-2846. Tickets are \$4 per person.





**May 2011** Submitted by Cindi Myers RN, BSN Parish Nurse/Congregational Nurse

**Having Trouble Sleeping? Go to bed and get up at about the same time** every day, even on the weekends. Sticking to a schedule helps reinforce your body's sleep-wake cycle and can help you fall asleep more easily.

**Don't eat or drink large amounts** before bedtime. Eat a light dinner at least two hours before sleeping. If you're prone to heartburn, avoid spicy or fatty foods which can make your heartburn flare and prevent a restful sleep. Also, limit how much you drink before bed. Too much liquid can cause you to wake up repeatedly during the night for trips to the bathroom.

**Avoid nicotine, caffeine and alcohol** in the evening. Smokers often experience withdrawal symptoms at night, and smoking in bed is dangerous. Avoid caffeine for eight hours before your planned bedtime. Your body doesn't store caffeine, but it takes many hours to eliminate the stimulant and its effects. Although believed to be a sedative, alcohol actually disrupts sleep.

**Exercise regularly.** Regular physical activity, especially aerobic exercise, can help you fall asleep faster and make your sleep more restful. However, for some people, exercising right before bed may make getting to sleep more difficult.

**Make your bedroom cool, dark, quiet and comfortable.** Create a room that's ideal for sleeping. Adjust the lighting, temperature, humidity and noise level to your preferences. Use blackout curtains, eye covers, earplugs, extra blankets, a fan or white-noise generator, a humidifier or other devices to create an environment that suits your needs.

**Sleep primarily at night.** Daytime naps may steal hours from nighttime slumber. Limit daytime sleep to about a half-hour and make it during mid-afternoon. If you work nights, keep your window coverings closed so that sunlight, which adjusts the body's internal clock, doesn't interrupt your sleep. If you have a day job and sleep at night, but still have trouble waking up, leave the window coverings open and let the sunlight help awaken you.

**Choose a comfortable mattress and pillow.** Features of a good bed are subjective and differ for each person. But make sure you have a bed that's comfortable. If you share your bed, make sure there's enough room for two. Children and pets are often disruptive, so you may need to set limits on how often they sleep in bed with you.

**Start a relaxing bedtime routine.** Do the same things each night to tell your body it's time to wind down. This may include taking a warm bath or shower, reading a book, or listening to soothing music. Relaxing activities done with lowered lights can help ease the transition between wakefulness and sleepiness.

**Go to bed when you're tired and turn out the lights.** If you don't fall asleep within 15 to 20 minutes, get up and do something else. Go back to bed when you're tired. Don't agonize over falling asleep. The stress will only prevent sleep.

**Only as a Last Resort, use sleeping pills.** Check with your doctor before taking any sleep medications. He or she can make sure the pills won't interact with your other medications or with an existing medical condition. Your doctor can also help you determine the best dosage. If you do take a sleep medication, reduce the dosage gradually when you want to quit, and never mix alcohol and sleeping pills. If you feel sleepy or dizzy during the day, talk to your doctor about changing the dosage or discontinuing the pills.

Source: Mayo Clinic, and CDC [Centers for Disease Control]



# ANNOUNCEMENTS



My grateful thanks to the many friends and acquaintances who sent cards, made calls and visits, and lifted up prayers for my recovery after knee surgery. I appreciate them all.  
—Macon Dale Traxler

**THANK YOU** so very much to all the wonderful friends at St. Luke's for the many thoughtful birthday cards and notes sent to Dad for his 90th birthday. Dad was truly surprised, and has so enjoyed and appreciated over 500 cards and many phone calls as well. We are all very grateful and touched by the tremendous response. Bless you all! Becky and Joanne....and, a personal word from Dad...

"My gratitude to my dear daughters for all their effort in arranging for the celebration of my 90th birthday. I want to thank each member and friend for your kind and commendable expressions of my life and ministry. I have taken your expressions and used them to give praise to God for it is only through His saving grace and enabling that I have accomplished anything worthwhile. God continue his blessings upon you!"

LETTER CARRIERS' FOOD DRIVE (notice date change)

The letter carriers' food drive will be Saturday, May 14th, 2011. We set up in the church parking lot, sort and pack boxes of food as the letter carriers bring it. Please prayerfully consider volunteering to help. Anytime you could come, 9:00 AM to 4:00 PM, would be appreciated. We especially need some strong, young men.

RUN FOR THE SON

On May 7th, the Redemption Road Riders chapter members and motorcyclists from across America will be riding their motorcycles to raise funds for the Christian Motorcyclists Association's National Organization and its support of Christian ministries locally. The Run for the Son ride will begin at Maximum Power Sports in Peru, ride approximately 100 miles, and end at the Oakbrook Valley Park in Kokomo. Registration begins at 9:00 AM on May 7th, and riders will head out at 10:00 AM, rain or shine. For further information, or to RSVP, please contact rfs@redemptionroadriders.org or Steve Linerode at 438-8477.

Dear Pastor John,

It is with great pleasure that I can announce to my home church, and the church of my candidacy, that I have passed all the qualifications and have subsequently been approved, by the Board of Ordained Ministry, to be ordained as an Elder in Full-connection this coming annual conference.

St. Luke's is the place where I came to know the great love of God through Jesus Christ and the members of the church have played a huge role in my personal spiritual growth and in helping me to pursue my call to pastoral ministry in the Indiana Conference of the United Methodist Church.

Please pass on my heartfelt thanks and blessings. I also invite anyone who is interested to come to the ordination service and to share with me this exciting and wonderful event in my life. The ordination service will take place on June 11 at 10 a.m. at Emens Hall on the campus of Ball State University in Muncie, Indiana.

Thank you.

Shalom,

Pastor Kevin Marsh  
Give thanks to the LORD, for he is good; his love endures forever.  
(Psalms 118:1, NIV)

NATIONAL DAY OF PRAYER

In observance of the 60th annual National Day of Prayer, in Howard County, we will have our National Day of Prayer event on Thursday, May 5th, at the Howard County Courthouse from noon—1:00 PM. This year's theme is "A Mighty Fortress is Our God."

Coke Machine: You may be aware that proceeds from the Coke Machine support St. Luke's Youth Ministries. You may also be aware that the occasional beverage in the Coke Machine is past its expiration date. You may even be aware that the Coke Company will take unused expired products back for a full refund. Unfortunately when I took over responsi-

bility of the Coke Machine I was unaware of this last part, and only recently did I become informed of this fact. So let me officially apologize to any of you who since October 2007 have paid your dollar for a cool, refreshing, can't live without it Coke product only to find that it was expired and had possibly even lost its carbonation. I am happy to announce, however, that I have restocked the Coke machine with fresh beverages and will do my best to keep it that way. In the unlikely event that an expired beverage slips through you may return it to me for a fresh one as long as you haven't opened it. Thanks for your continued support of St. Luke's Youth Ministries. —Jim Wilson

## Youth Group Activities by Jim Wilson

You may remember from last month's newsletter that I announced our plans for an At-Home Mission Trip for our youth group. Well now I'm showing you exactly what it is we're doing. This is an ambitious list, but I believe with good youth turnout and strong volunteer support from you, we can get every bit of this list done in just 5 days. We have specific needs for volunteers, which you can find listed in the Missions Corner of the Narthex. Please prayerfully consider volunteering your time in a particular area to help our work. Thanks.

### Inside Projects:

1. Professionally refinish Terazzo floors and install baby changing stations in A Hall and C Hall restrooms.
2. Replace light switch with motion sensor switch in all restrooms.
3. Restore, repair, and/or paint all restroom stalls and hardware.
4. Repair ceiling water damage and install vents in doors in D Hall Men's restroom.
5. Install door bumper, new smaller hot water heater, and replace floor tile in D Hall Women's restroom.
6. Paint A Hall and D Hall Men's and Women's restrooms.
7. Paint A Hall, C Hall, and D Hall.
8. Paint door frames in A Hall, C Hall, and D Hall.
9. Refinish all older wooden doors to remove blemishes.
10. Replace some EXIT signs with newer units.
11. Replace 20watt bulbs in remaining EXIT signs with High Efficiency LED bulbs.
12. Paint North and South block walls and door frames (Chapel).
13. Insulate wall between Chapel and UMW storage room.
14. Install new vinyl wall base (Chapel).
15. Insulate wall between Chapel and Attic.
16. Replace wood trim around stained glass window (Fa-Ho-Cha Room).
17. Replace trim and seal A/C unit (A-1 Coke Room).
18. Repair concrete step by North Gym doors and seal doors (Gym).



### Outside Projects:

1. Paint 3 metal crosses on Southeast side of Sanctuary.
2. Patch parking lot under electric sign.
3. Remove trash from in and around all bushes on property.
4. Paint metal frames holding concrete block on South side of church.
5. Repair play gym and other items in the North Courtyard.
6. Wash outside windows around the whole church.
7. Weed flower beds.
8. Trim bushes.
9. Modify eve trough by South side Sanctuary exit door.
10. Replace eve trough drain covers around entire Sanctuary.
11. Paint bezels around lights at main entrance canopy.
12. Make parking lot marking stakes for winter season.
13. Remove parking lot island bushes (10 total).
14. Level dips in the highway ditch.
15. Replace cracked drain pipe on Northwest side of Sanctuary.
16. Seal the Parsonage deck.





## May 2011

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
<b>1</b> 9:00am Sunday School Hr 10:00am Worship 1:00pm Boy Scout Venture 6:00pm Youth Group	<b>2</b> 11:45am Altar Prayer 1:00pm Staff Meeting 6:30pm Pastor's Bible Study	<b>3</b> 1:00pm Hope Circle 7:00pm Naomi Circle	<b>4</b> 1:00pm Pastor's Bible Study 1:00pm Prayer/Bible Study 6:00pm Memorial Handbells 7:00pm Chancel Choir	<b>5</b> 8:00am Seekers 6:00pm UMW Ex. Board Mtg. 7:00pm Praise Team Practice	<b>6</b> 11:00am Joy Fellowship	<b>7</b> 11:00am Mother/Daughter
<b>8</b> 9:00am Sunday School Hr 10:00am Worship 12:00pm Rushions 6:00pm Youth Group	<b>9</b> 11:45am Altar Prayer 1:00pm Staff Meeting 4:00pm Prayer and Share 5:00pm Stephen Ministry 6:30pm Pastor's Bible Study	<b>10</b> 4:30pm Missions Committee Meeting 6:30pm Trustee Meeting	<b>11</b> 1:00pm Pastor's Bible Study 1:00pm Prayer/Bible Study 6:00pm Memorial Handbells 7:00pm Chancel Choir	<b>12</b> 8:00am Seekers 7:00pm Praise Team Practice	<b>13</b> 5:00pm Youth - Nerf Night	<b>14</b> 9:00am Cindi Myers 11:00am Laciinda Chapmen
<b>15</b> 9:00am Sunday School Hr 10:00am Worship 12:00pm Preschool Graduation 1:30pm BoyScout Venture 6:00pm Youth Group	<b>16</b> 11:45am Altar Prayer 1:00pm Staff Meeting 6:00pm Gideons Meeting 6:30pm Pastor's Bible Study	<b>17</b>	<b>18</b> 1:00pm Prayer/Bible Study 1:00pm Pastor's Bible Study 6:00pm Memorial Handbells 7:00pm Chancel Choir	<b>19</b> 8:00am Seekers 7:00pm Praise Team Practice	<b>20</b> 8:00am Newsletter Deadline 11:00am Joy Fellowship	<b>21</b> 9:00am District Committee on Ministry
<b>22</b> 9:00am Sunday School Hr 10:00am Worship 2:00pm Ron & Bonnie Harris Anniversary Open House 6:00pm Youth Group	<b>23</b> 11:45am Altar Prayer 1:00pm Staff Meeting 4:00pm Prayer and Share 6:30pm Pastor's Bible Study	<b>24</b> 7:00pm Administrative Board Meeting	<b>25</b> 1:00pm Pastor's Bible Study 1:00pm Prayer/Bible Study 6:00pm Memorial Handbells 7:00pm Chancel Choir	<b>26</b> 8:00am Seekers 7:00pm Praise Team Practice	<b>27</b>	<b>28</b>
<b>29</b> 9:00am Sunday School Hr 10:00am Worship 6:00pm Youth Group	<b>30</b>	<b>31</b>				