

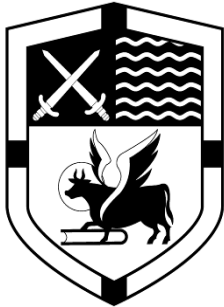
The Evangel

St. Luke's Episcopal Church

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November 2016



From the Rector

A special spiritual date for Christians this year is November 8th - Election Day.

Voting is not just a civic duty, but for Christians it is also spiritual exercise.

As all citizens it is our job to reflect seriously of the issues of the election and the character and philosophy of the candidates, but as Christians we have a further task. Before we should vote we should undertake the spiritual discipline of examine our conscious (a review of one's past and present thoughts, words, actions, and omissions for the purpose of ascertaining their conformity with, or deviation from, the moral law).

As Christians we are required to our vote not only as a political act but as a concrete acting out of Gospel values.

We must ask not only about the policies and characters of the candidates, but also about our own motives, characters, values and obligations to God, our brothers and sisters and planet.

May I suggest one area that we should be particularly attentive?

Americans pride themselves on their attention to and empowerment of the individual, while other societies are far more concerned with protecting society. While this priority has produced much good including a innovative and efficient economy, the danger is that under what we understand as the power of sin, individualism can deteriorate into selfishness.

Selfishness shows itself in the context of elections when our sole concern becomes not the world or the nation, or others or the health of society, but how we will benefit. Once I heard someone say before voting: I know the nation would be better off if party A was elected, but I am voting for party B because they will lower my taxes. (The point here is not about high or low taxes, but this person- who was a Christian- was voting solely on his selfish concerns and with complete disregard for the needs of others. This is what we call being in a state of sin).

We Christians worship and depend upon a God who is completely immune from selfishness and is completely driven by love and concern for the other, to the point that the earliest Christians wrote a hymn that said:

Let the same mind be in you that was in Christ Jesus
who, though he was in the form of God,
did not regard equality with God
as something to be exploited,
but emptied himself,
taking the form of a slave,
being born in human likeness.
And being found in human form,
he humbled himself
and became obedient to the point of death —
even death on a cross.
(*Philippians 2:5b-8 NRSV*)

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PLEASE NOTE:

The deadline for the newsletter items is the 15th of each month.

As the hymn says we are called to be of the same mind, one that takes me from the center of the universe and place God and others there.

So before we decide how to vote. Ask the these questions:

- ◆ Who am I concern about?
- ◆ Do I commend my faith in this vote?
- ◆ Am a servant in this vote

Yes, this a secret ballot, but remember what UCLA basketball coach John Wooden said: “The true test of a man’s character is what he does when no one is watching.”

Yours in Christ,

Peter

From the Senior Warden



I begin with a huge shout out of “**Thanks!**” to all who helped preparing for and recovering from Hurricane Matthew. The cleanup party made an impression on our guest Priest, Canon Tim. The good news is that we got a great head start on the cleanup for the Holiday Fair, the bad news is that we are starting a very busy month already tired. Thank you for your perseverance!

After the Fair, we will be kicking off our Stewardship campaign. On November 13th we will have a Parrish meeting to go over the proposed budget. This budget is the minimum operating budget. There is a high potential for maintenance and repair projects to come up during the next year and we will be talking about them as well for you to consider when you make decision on giving.

Other updates: Work on the Sound and Lighting Systems will be going on this month. We are still exploring options for how to handle the yard maintenance. Given our acreage, obstacles (tombstones, fencing, etc), pinecones, and flowerbeds this can be costly in time and/or money; so if you have some thoughts please share them with Reny.

Thank you for giving so faithfully in your time, talent and treasure.

Yours in Christ, *Pam*

Join us for the 32nd Annual

St. Luke's Episcopal Church Holiday Fair

on

Saturday, November 5th

9:00 a.m. - 3:00 p.m.

Don't miss this family fun event with something for everyone.

The St. Luke's congregation puts on a group effort for this entertaining event to raise funds. All proceeds go to the Central Brevard Sharing Center, the charitable organization that provides food and assistance to thousands of needy Brevard residents.

Admission and parking is free!

Lunch is served from 11:00 a.m. - 2:00 p.m.

with hamburgers, hotdogs, delicious BBQ, homemade chili and a variety of soups. Booths will feature items for sale: "attic treasures", baked goods of all sorts, books and plants.

Children's activities with fun and games, face-painting.



Eight members of the congregation of St. Luke's Episcopal Church have been working all summer to sew an original quilt called "Star Crazy."

This year's finished quilt will be raffled at 3:00 p.m.



"Star Crazy" is a magnificent and cozy work of art that will grace any home, and don't forget, Christmas is coming and this quilt would be a perfect gift.

There will be tours of the St. Luke's chapel and cemetery at 11:00 p.m. and 1:00 p.m.

St. Luke's Episcopal Church and Cemetery is an historic Carpenter Gothic style Episcopal church building built in 1888.

The chapel and its cemetery are on the National Register of Historic Places.

Live entertainment throughout the day!

32nd Annual HOLIDAY FAIR

Saturday, November 5, 2016
9 a.m. to 3 p.m.

Annual
Benefit
for the

Central Brevard Sharing Center

HISTORIC CHAPEL TOURS
11 a.m. and 1 p.m.

LIVE ENTERTAINMENT
Throughout the Day

Lunch
11 a.m. to 2 p.m.

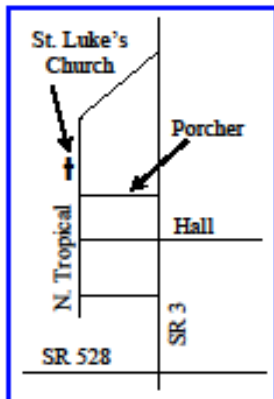
Hamburgers, Hot Dogs,
BBQ, Chili, Soups
Chips, Sodas

Fair Booths

- ◆ Attic Treasures
- ◆ Books
- ◆ Plants
- ◆ Silent Auction
- ◆ Quilt Raffle
- ◆ Children's Activities

Bake Sale
All Day

Breads, Brownies, Cakes,
Cookies, Fudge, Pies



St. Luke's Episcopal Church
5555 N. Tropical Trail
Merritt Island, FL 32953
321-452-5260



All members of St. Luke's and friends
are invited to join us for a field trip
on
Saturday, November 12th
at 10:00a.m.
to the



White Sands Buddhist Center

We will leave from the church at 10:00 a.m. and will convoy and carpool to the location in Mims off of Aurantia Road for about an hour, then on up to Oak Hill to Goodrich's Restaurant for lunch.

After lunch we'll drive down the road to Seminole Rest for a brief tour, then back to the LaGrange Community Church and cemetery in Mims and a final stop at Frisbee's soft serve ice cream for dessert before heading back to the church.

Invite your family and friends!
There's something for everyone!



November Schedule

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
BDG: Bible Discussion Group CFP: Christian Formation Program HE: Holy Eucharist and Sermon		PCE: Parish Choral Eucharist HS: Healing Service MP/EP: Morning/Evening Prayer				
		1 All Saints 7:00pm Safeguarding God's Children	2 All Souls 10:30am HE 7:00pm Safeguarding God's Children	3 7:00pm Safeguarding God's Children	4 6:00pm GSA	5 Holiday Fair
6 The Twenty-fifth Sunday of Pentecost (G) 9:30am PCE Rite II (B)	7 Willibrord Archbishop of Utrecht 739 6:30pm Cub Committee 7:00am NMIHO	8 6:30pm BSA 7:00pm HC 7:30pm Vestry	9 10:30am HE 7:00pm Safeguarding God Children	10 Leo the Great, Bishop of Rome 461 6:00pm Cub Den Meeting 6:30pm BSA Committee Cub Den Meeting	11 Martin Of Tours 397	12 Charles Simeon 1836
13 The Twenty-sixth Sunday of Pentecost (G) 8:00am HE Rite II (B) 9:15am Safeguarding God's Children 10:30am PCE Rite I (II)	14 Consecration of Samuel Seabury 1784 5:45 pm Cub Den Meeting	15 6:30pm BSA	16 Margaret, Queen of Scotland 1093 10:30am HE 6:30pm Cub Den Meeting	17 Hugh of Lincoln 1200 and Robert Grosseteste 1253	18 Hilda, Abbess of Whitby 680 6:00pm GSA	19 Elizabeth, Princess of Hungary 1231 8:00am Gardening Group
20 Thanksgiving 10:30am Thanksgiving Celebration and Parish Dinner.	21 6:30pm Scout Pack Meeting	22 CS Lewis 1963 6:30pm BSA	23 Clement, Bishop of Rome c.100 10:30am HE	24 Thanksgiving	25 James Otis Huntington 1935	26
27 Advent 1 8:00am HE Rite 1-I 9:15am Safeguarding God's Children 10:30am HE Rite 2-D	28 Kamehameha and Emma of Hawaii 5:45 pm Cub Den Meeting	29 6:30pm BSA	30 Andrew 10:30am HE 6:30pm Cub Den Meeting			



Prayer for an Election

Almighty God, to whom we must account for all our powers and privileges: Guide the people of the United States (or of this community) in the election of officials and representatives; that, by faithful administration and wise laws, the rights of all may be protected and our nation be enabled to fulfill your purposes; through Jesus Christ our Lord. *Amen*

<http://advocacy.episcopalchurch.org/EpiscopaliansVote>



Worship Schedule

Sundays:

Holy Eucharist	8:00 a.m.
Christian Formation Program	9:15 a.m.
Choral Eucharist (Nursery)	10:30 a.m.

Wednesdays:

Holy Eucharist & Healing Service	10:30 a.m.
Holy Eucharist & Healing Service	7:00 p.m.
Choir Rehearsal	7:30 p.m.

(On Sundays beginning at 10:15 a.m. nursery for children under six years old is provided in the last room of Perrine Hall by parish volunteers)

In the 1870's the LaRoche, Porcher, and Sams families settled in Courtenay, named after a mayor of Charleston. Episcopalians from the Charleston/John's Island Area of South Carolina met in homes for worship. In 1886, the diocese of Florida established St. Luke's Mission and in 1888, the first church building was constructed on land given by Mr. Edward Porcher, with funds provided by Mrs. Lucy A. Boardman of Connecticut. This building remained the church building until a new one was dedicated on January 25, 1978, and the old building was designated the chapel. St. Luke's congregation uses the new building for most worship services and the chapel for small weddings and funerals.

St. Luke's Parish offers a full program of worship and Christian Education on Sunday mornings. We also have a mid-week program of Eucharist and Healing Service Study. In addition, dedicated adult leaders staff our Youth Group for grades 6th-12th.

St. Luke's Parish was one of the founders of the Central Brevard Sharing Center, which seeks to meet the needs of those people who cannot find help through regular service agencies. Since 1886, St. Luke's Church has sought to offer the love and worship of God through Jesus Christ by serving their neighbors and strives to make a positive contribution to the spiritual growth of Merritt Island and Central Brevard County.

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