



The Heart of St. Luke's

St. Luke's Episcopal Church | 320 Broad St NW

P. O. Box 5, Cleveland, TN 37364-0005 | 423-476-5541 | stlukes@stlukesccleveland.org

December 2025, January, February 2026



Sunday, Nov. 30th | Advent Lessons and Carols
Service at 6:00 PM*

Join us as we enter the season of Advent with a service of Lessons and Carols led by the St. Luke's Adult Choir and Episcopal Youth Community.



Fr. Joel will be offering an Advent Meditation Series on Tuesdays at 12:10 PM as part of Noonday Prayer* throughout the season of Advent. Each meditation will look closely at one of the Advent Lectionary readings as we consider anew what it means to live in a season of waiting, hope, and expectation.



Sun., December 14th | Bishop's Visit & Confirmation
Services at 8:00, 9:30, & 10:45 AM*

On Sunday, December 14th, St. Luke's will welcome Bishop Brian Cole for his annual visit to the church. He will be the celebrant and preacher at all three services. The 10:45 AM Service will include Confirmation and Reception.

If you are interested in being Confirmed or Received during the Bishop's visit and have not yet spoken with Fr. Joel, please contact the church office at (423) 476-5541.

Join us after the 10:45 AM Service for a Reception in the Parish Hall honoring Bishop Brian Cole and the Confirmands.

Events marked with an asterisk () are offered in-person and online, on the St. Luke's website and Facebook page.*



Just a reminder that we upload regular content in various formats on our digital platforms that we hope resonate with you and encourage you to share those with your friends and family.

- Connect with worship services, sermon clips, and music offerings.
- Stay informed on upcoming and recent events, and receive the latest weekly announcements and reminders.
- Engage regularly with sermon and formation offerings on our podcast and other platforms.
- Share on your social media and promote the life of St. Luke's in your digital spaces.

By sharing these posts and resources, you not only keep our community connected but also extend an open invitation to others to experience God's love through St. Luke's. Every click, repost, and conversation becomes a simple yet powerful way to practice evangelism in today's digital world.



Bach's Lunch & Concert Series

★ Wednesdays in Advent at Noon
Offered in-person and online

December 3rd Dr. Devon Howard <i>Organ</i>	December 10th Walker Valley High School Chamber Choir directed by Tristen Rowland	December 17th Stephen Humphries <i>Hammered Dulcimer</i>
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A light lunch will follow in the Parish Hall.
320 Broad St NW | www.stlukescleveland.org




Christmas Flowers
Help us decorate the church for
the Christmas Season

Donations can be made to St. Luke's
Episcopal Church with "Christmas
Flowers in the memo line"



Name

Phone Number

In Memory of

In Thanksgiving for

In Honor of

Given by

As part of our Christmas tradition here at St. Luke's we decorate the church with beautiful poinsettias every year to the glory of God and in honor, memory, or thanksgiving of a loved one. It serves not only to make St. Luke's more beautiful, but as a thoughtful reminder throughout the Christmas season of those we hold dear.

If you would like to include a remembrance in the bulletin, please list their names on this form and return it to the church office no later than Monday, December 15th.

Please make your check payable to St. Luke's Episcopal Church and indicate "Christmas Flowers" on the memo line.

Amount Given \$ _____

Christmas Services

ST. LUKE'S EPISCOPAL CHURCH | CLEVELAND, TENNESSEE

CHRISTMAS EVE, DECEMBER 24TH

5:00 PM Holy Eucharist and Christmas Pageant

In-Person and Online, Nursery Provided

8:00 PM Holy Eucharist, Rite I

In-Person, Nursery Provided

10:30 PM Holy Eucharist, Rite II

In-Person and Online

CHRISTMAS DAY, DECEMBER 25TH

10:00 AM Holy Eucharist, Rite I



Join us at St. Luke's
for our celebration of the
Christmas Season!

Wednesday, December 24th Christmas Eve

5:00 PM | Holy Eucharist, Rite II
with Christmas Pageant*

Nursery Provided

8:00 PM | Holy Eucharist, Rite I
Nursery Provided

10:30 PM | Holy Eucharist, Rite II*

Thursday, December 25th Christmas Day

10:00 AM | Holy Eucharist, Rite I

Sunday, December 28th 1st Sunday of Christmas

8:00 AM | Holy Eucharist, Rite I

10:00 AM | Holy Eucharist, Rite II*
Nursery Provided

Thursday, January 1st No Noonday Eucharist

Sunday, January 4th 2nd Sunday of Christmas

8:00 AM | Holy Eucharist, Rite I

10:00 AM | Holy Eucharist, Rite II*
Nursery Provided

Thursday, January 8th 12:10 PM | Noonday Eucharist

(Services with an (*)) are live-streamed
on the St. Luke's website and
Facebook pages.)

EUCARIST SERVICES IN THE CHRISTMAS SEASON

FIRST SUNDAY OF CHRISTMAS, DECEMBER 28

8:00 AM Holy Eucharist, Rite I

10:00 AM Holy Eucharist, Rite II

THURSDAY, JANUARY 1 - NO NOONDAY EUCARIST

SECOND SUNDAY OF CHRISTMAS, JANUARY 4

8:00 AM Holy Eucharist, Rite I

10:00 AM Holy Eucharist, Rite II

THURSDAY, JANUARY 8

12:10 PM Holy Eucharist, Rite II



Christmas Pageant DECEMBER 24TH | 5:00 PM SERVICE

Rehearsals for Children and Youth

Wednesdays, December 3rd, 10th, & 17th
5:30-6:15 PM

Wednesday, December 24th
3:30 PM



Christmas Eve, December 24th | Christmas Pageant Service at 5:00 PM*

If your Children and Youth will be in town for Christmas
Eve and would like to participate in the Christmas
Pageant, please let Isaac know as soon as possible so
we have enough parts and costumes. We would love to
include as many children and grandchildren as possible,
especially those who might be visiting from out of town! If
you would like to volunteer to assist with the pageant,
please contact Isaac in the church office at (423) 476-5541.

Sunday, January 11th Epiphany Feast of Lights Service at 10:45 AM*

Join us as we celebrate Epiphany with The Feast of
Lights and Holy Eucharist led by the St. Luke's Adult
Choir and Episcopal Youth Community.

Our 8:00 AM and 9:30 AM Services of Holy Eucharist
and Church School Classes will happen as usual.

Feast of Lights & Holy Eucharist

Sunday, January 11th
10:45 AM

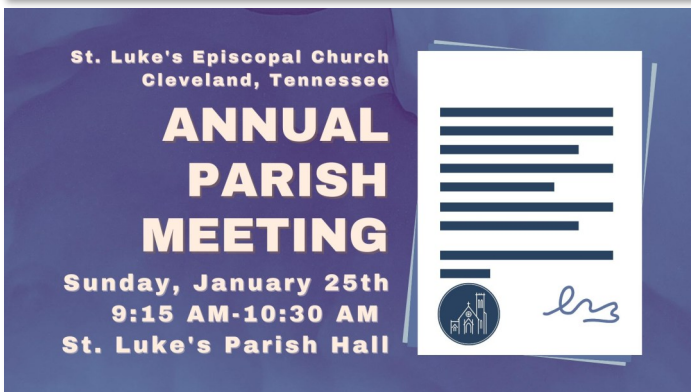
Our 8:00 AM and 9:30 AM
Services of Holy Eucharist
and Church School Classes
will happen as usual.



A NOTE FROM THE OFFICE: The deadline for financial contributions to the church to be included in your 2025 Statement is December 29th. Online, Stock, and Bill Pay contributions must be submitted by December 19th so that they will clear before the end of the year.

Parish Family Notes

- Congratulations to Jackie Rhinehart and Larry White, who were married on October 17th.
- Welcome to David Cocke, who transferred his membership to St. Luke's.
- Welcome to Pam Doty, who transferred her membership to St. Luke's.
- Welcome to Peter and Julia French, who transferred their membership to St. Luke's.
- Congratulations to Traace Pierce on his baptism. Traace is the son of Drew and Xanadu Crissman.
- Congratulations to Arabella Rogers and Eric Rogers on their baptisms. Arabella and Eric are the children of Jennifer Rogers and the grandchildren of Theresa and David Bledsoe.



In January 2026 we will elect four new Vestry members to serve a three-year term on the St. Luke's Vestry. The Nominating Committee will meet to form a slate of nominees.

The members of the Nominating Committee are Lou Patten (Senior Warden), Heather Jackson, Leslie Melton, Tammy Randolph, and Amy Wasson. **The deadline for suggestions is Friday, December 5th. To make a suggestion to the Nominating Committee, please contact the church office at (423) 476-5541.**

Biographies for the eight Vestry Nominees will be published in January. **The Vestry Election will be held as part of the Annual Parish Meeting on Sunday, January 25, 2026, at 9:15 AM.**

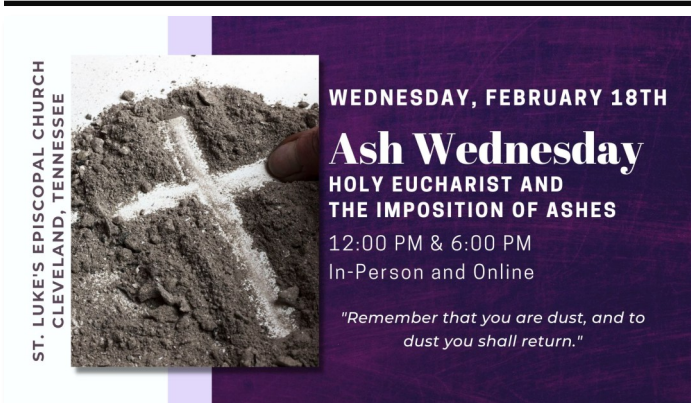
St. Luke's Episcopal Church is part of the Episcopal Diocese of East Tennessee which maintains Safe Church, Safe Communities policies in accordance with national church guidelines. Under those guidelines all church members in positions of leadership, supervision of children and youth, or with key holder access must renew their SCSC Training every three years. These policies were updated in 2023 and we are due for a round of recertifications.

From the diocesan website: "The Episcopal Diocese of East Tennessee is committed to protecting each child of God. Sexual misconduct on the part of any clergy person, employee or volunteer of any congregation, school, or diocesan affiliated organization violates the mission of the Church, is prohibited and will not be tolerated. The Safe Church, Safe Communities courses teach how exploitation and harassment occur, the awareness we need to prevent such occurrences, and how to respond, should an incident of exploitation or harassment occur."

Those persons needing to complete the Safe Church, Safe Communities Training or Recertification will be contacted by Isaac Doty, St. Luke's Safe Church Coordinator, in January 2026. Please follow the instructions provided and complete the necessary modules by March 31st.

This process is by and large a formality to keep St. Luke's in compliance with the updated national and diocesan policies for Safe Church, Safe Communities. We're grateful for each of you and your ministry within the congregation of St. Luke's.

Respectfully submitted,
Isaac Doty
Safe Church, Safe Communities Coordinator



Ash Wednesday | Wednesday, February 18th
12:00 PM | Holy Eucharist and Imposition of Ashes*
6:00 PM | Holy Eucharist and Imposition of Ashes*
Nursery provided for the 6:00 PM service



TRAVELING BY A DIFFERENT WAY

JOEL W. HUFFSTETLER

Both timeless and timely, *Traveling by a Different Way* speaks to anyone who's ever felt disoriented and wondered how to find their way back to peace. It's a book to read slowly, to return to often, and to share with anyone longing for hope that feels both honest and hard-won.

From the Preface:

The biblical meditations contained in this collection come from the year 2021. First offered at St. Luke's Episcopal Church in Cleveland, Tennessee, all have been revised for publication. While each address was first crafted to meet a particular moment in the life of a particular Christian congregation, they were also offered with a view to the future, asking both preacher and hearer: What are the lessons we are meant to be learning during these turbulent times? What changes in our ways of thinking and acting are we being called to make? Are there silver linings to be discerned amidst the myriad challenges none of us would have chosen to face? To put it in more obviously theological terms, each address was meant to face the question: How can this time be redeemed? Or put another way: Going forward, are we being called to travel by a different way?

Available Now!

Traveling by a Different Way... and Discovering God Along the Road.

What happens when everything you took for granted—your routines, your church, your sense of safety—suddenly disappears?

In this luminous and deeply comforting collection, Fr. Joel W. Huffstetler, rector of St. Luke's Episcopal Church in Cleveland, Tennessee, invites us to see life's upheavals through the steady light of grace. Preached during the pandemic and refined for readers everywhere, these thirty-six meditations remind us that even in the hardest seasons, God is quietly shaping us for something new.

With wit, warmth, and pastoral wisdom, Huffstetler draws on Scripture and real-life moments to explore:

- How disruption can open the door to spiritual renewal
- Why faith often begins where certainty ends
- What it means to love, trust, and serve in a divided world
- How to recognize "silver linings in the cloud"

Traveling By A Different Way

"Well informed, insightful biblical interpretation...in all these sermons we hear an imaginative, theologically astute preacher and life observer..."

—Carl R. Holladay, C. H. Candler Professor
Emeritus of New Testament, Emory University

"With his trademark combination of humility and brilliance, Joel Huffstetler invites us to see a deeply troubled world through the eyes of grace and redemption."

—Jeff Ringer, Associate Professor of English, University of Tennessee

"These meditations...both comfort and challenge..."

—Denise King, Provost (retired),
Big Sandy Community and Technical College

"These deeply thought-provoking and engaging sermons...remain relevant for all times and places."

—Brenda Orcutt, Member of Oil Painters of America,
American Impressionist Society, and American Women Artists

"Fr. Joel is a priest, pastor, teacher, and preacher who lives deeply in the context of Holy Scripture."

—Brian Cole, Fifth Bishop of the Episcopal Diocese of East Tennessee.

JOEL W. HUFFSTETLER is Rector of St. Luke's Episcopal Church in Cleveland, Tennessee. Ordained in 1990, he previously served as Assistant to the Rector of St. Paul's Episcopal Church, Chattanooga, Tennessee, and as Rector of St. Andrew's Episcopal Church, Canton, North Carolina. He is the author or editor of fourteen books, including, *Practical Faith and Active Love: Meditations on the Epistle of James* (2020), and *Changed Eyes: Pandemic, Protests, Proclamation* (2023), both by Apocryphile Press, and numerous articles and reviews. He and his wife Debbie live in Cleveland, Tennessee.

THE APOCRYPHILE PRESS
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www.apocryphilepress.com

THEOLOGY / SPIRITUALITY



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2026 PHOTO DIRECTORY

Please update your contact information
www.stlukescleveland.org/directory



St. Luke's is working to produce a new Photo Directory for 2026! St. Luke's has been blessed with many new faces over the past two years, with new households joining us on a regular basis. With that in mind, we will be printing a new Photo Directory to assist in our ability to know each other better. **But we need your help collecting portraits and updating your contact information.**

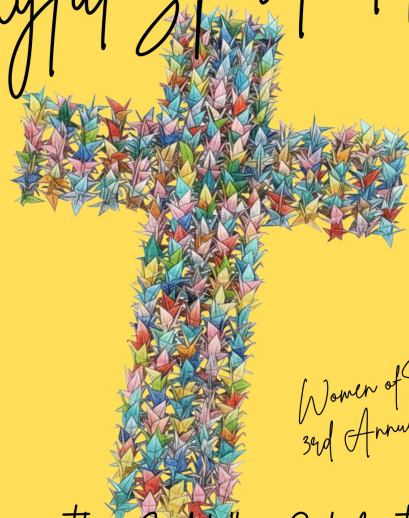
We ask you to do **ONE** of the following:

- **Keep Your Most Recent Portrait**
If you would like to keep your portrait from the 2024 Photo Directory, please contact the church office and update your contact information, and tell us to reuse the portrait.
- **Submit a New Portrait of Your Household**
Submit a high resolution portrait of the persons in your household to the church office. Please ensure the photo is appropriate to a church directory and does not include pets, or persons not in your household. We ask you to avoid submitting casual or candid photos (no selfies) in favor of a staged portrait. You may submit your photo and update your contact information at www.stlukescleveland.org/directory.
- **Schedule an Appointment to be Photographed**
Schedule an appointment to have your portrait taken at the church office. Available times are Mondays, Tuesdays, and Thursdays from 10 AM — 4 PM, and Sundays during Coffee Hour. If you need to schedule an appointment outside this availability, please let us know and we will make other arrangements. Please call ahead to schedule your time.

The church office reserves the right to request a different photo if needed. If you have any questions about the type of photo, please contact the church office at (423) 476-5541.

Please either submit your portrait or schedule your appointment by February 28th, 2026, so we can have the 2026 Photo Directory formatted and printed by Easter Sunday.

Playful Spirituality



Women of St. Luke's
3rd Annual Retreat

Pursuing the God Who Celebrates!
With Casey Cole Higginbotham

Grace Point Camp & Retreat Center

April 17th-19th 2026



Mark your calendars! The 3rd Annual St. Luke's Women's Retreat will be held at Grace Point Camp and Retreat Center in Kingston, TN on April 17-19, 2026.

The theme for this year is "A Playful Spirituality: Pursuing the God Who Celebrates".

Casey Cole Higginbotham returns as our featured speaker. You can learn more about Casey's current ministry at www.caseyandcompany.org. Details and registration will be available following the Annual Meeting on January 25, 2026.

St. Luke's Prayer Chain is an email-based ministry of St. Luke's that offers prayers of intercession and thanksgiving on behalf of those on our Prayer List, which is read during the Prayers of the People during services. When a name is added to the Prayer List, an email is sent out to those on the Prayer Chain with a Prayer Request stating, in general terms, the person's need. If you would like to join the Prayer Chain to receive Prayer Requests, or place a name on the Prayer List, please contact the church office at (423) 476-5541 or at www.stlukescleveland.org/prayer-request.



Church School for Adults meets on Sundays at 9:30 AM in the Gathering Room in the Parish House.

These classes will be audio recorded and released on our podcast in batches after each series completes. You can check out past series on the St. Luke's website and the Faithful Echoes podcast.

November 23rd, 30th, & December 7th

"The Saints of Advent" with Jennifer Matthews

December 14th | Bishop's Visit and Confirmation

December 21st

"Encountering Jesus at Hanukkah" with Lori Jacob

December 28th & January 4th | Christmas Break

January 11th & 18th

"What Makes Anglicanism Unique" with Deacon Art Bass

January 25th | Annual Parish Meeting

February 1st, 8th, & 15th

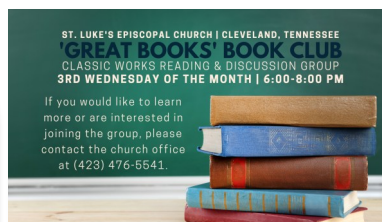
"Grace and Grounding: Finding God in Everyday Life" with Jennifer Matthews

February 22nd, March 1st, & 8th

"The Unspoken Sermons of George McDonald" with Dr. Matthew Melton

March 15th, & 22nd, & 29th

"Words of Power: New Testament Language and Easter Proclamation" with Dr. Nathan Napier



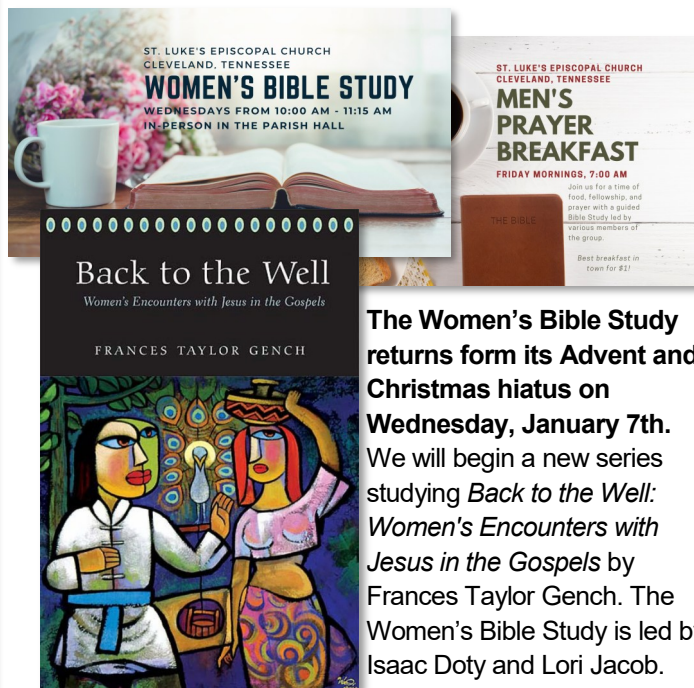
The 'Great Books' Book Club meets on a Wednesday evening each month from 5 PM —7 PM to discuss a great literary work. If you would like to learn

more or are interested in joining the group, please contact Fred Mueller at (423) 650-1867 or the church office at (423) 476-5541.

Dec. 17 | "The Stout Gentlemen" by Washington Irving

Jan. 21 | "The Great Good Place" by Henry James

Feb. 18 | Bleak House by Charles Dickens



The Women's Bible Study returns from its Advent and Christmas hiatus on Wednesday, January 7th.

We will begin a new series studying *Back to the Well: Women's Encounters with Jesus in the Gospels* by Frances Taylor Gench. The Women's Bible Study is led by Isaac Doty and Lori Jacob.

Men's Prayer Breakfast meets Friday mornings at 7:00 AM for food, fellowship, and prayer with a guided Bible Study each week.



St. Luke's Episcopal Youth Community is offered for all youth of the church in 6th—12th grades. All are welcome and encouraged to participate in our weekly programming on Wednesday nights from 5:30 PM—7:00 PM.

- **Sunday, November 30th—Advent Lessons & Carols**
5:00 PM Rehearsal | 6:00 PM Service
- **Sunday, Dec. 7th—Christmas Gift Shopping Trip**
5:00PM—6:30 PM | @ Target
- **Wednesdays, December 3rd, 10th, & 17th**
All Ages—5:30—6:15 PM | Christmas Pageant Reh.
6:15 PM—7:00 PM | Fellowship Nights/Wrap Party
- **Sunday, Dec. 14th—Bishop's Visit & Confirmation**
9:30 AM Arrival | 10:45 AM Service
- **Wednesday, December 24th — Christmas Pageant**
All Ages—3:30 PM Rehearsal | 5:00 PM Service

NO EYC on Dec. 31st, Jan. 14th, & Feb. 4th

- **Wednesday, January 7th**
5:30—7:00 PM | Loaves & Fishes Prep | FoL Rehearsal
- **Sunday, January 11th—Epiphany Feast of Lights**
9:00 AM Rehearsal | 10:45 AM Service
- **Wednesday, January 21st**
5:30—7:00 PM | Family Bowling Night
- **Wednesday, January 28th**
5:30—7:00 PM | Peer Ministry Leadership
New Beginnings #8 (6th-8th grades)
February 6th-8th | Grace Point, Kingston, TN
- **Sunday, February 8th**
4:00—6:30 PM | Loaves and Fishes (To Go)
- **Wednesday, February 11th**
5:30—7:00 PM | Fellowship Night
Friday, Feb. 13th—Monday, Feb. 16th
Sr. EYC Ski Trip, Sugar Mountain, NC
- **Wednesday, February 18th**
6:00 PM | Ash Wednesday Service

ST. LUKE'S MEMORIAL EPISCOPAL CHURCH
P. O. BOX 5
CLEVELAND, TENNESSEE 37364-0005

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RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED

St. Luke's Episcopal Church

Central Ave. at Ocoee St.
P. O. Box 5, Cleveland, TN 37364-0005
423-476-5541, stlukes@stlukescleveland.org

The Rt. Rev. Brian L. Cole, Bishop
The People of St. Luke's, Ministers

St. Luke's Vestry

2026	2027	2028
Heather Jackson	Rose Allen	Sarah Brown
Leslie Melton	Nathan Napier	Gary Farlow
Tammy Randolph	Chad Shores	Lou Patten
Amy Wasson	Stephanie Taylor	Abbey Waddell

Regular Service Schedule

Sundays, 8:00 AM — Holy Eucharist, Rite I
Sundays, 9:30 AM — Holy Eucharist, Rite II
Sundays, 10:45 AM — Holy Eucharist, Rite II*

Thursdays, 12:10 PM — Holy Eucharist, Rite II*

**Services also available online at www.facebook.com/stlukescleveland/live and www.stlukescleveland.org/live.*

Office Hours

Monday—Friday, 9:00 AM — 4:00 PM

St. Luke's Staff

The Rev. Dr. Joel W. Huffstetler, *Rector*
The Rev. Arthur Bass, *Vocational Deacon*
Dr. Andrea Dismukes, *Director of Music*
Dr. Devon Howard, *Interim Organist*
Mr. Isaac Doty, *Director of Communications, Christian Formation, and Minister to Youth*
Mrs. Molly Jackson, *Children's Church School Coordinator*
Ms. Abbey Waddell, *Nursery Co-Supervisor*
Ms. Sadie Chartier, *Nursery Co-Supervisor*
Ms. Andrea Spraggins, *Parish Administrator*
Mrs. Donna Blair, *Sexton*
Mr. James Jackson, *Buildings Manager*

Keep Up To Date By Visiting Us Online!

Website: www.stlukescleveland.org
Facebook: www.facebook.com/stlukescleveland
YouTube: www.youtube.com/@stlukescleveland
Instagram: @stlukescleveland
Podcast: "Faithful Echoes: Readings and Sermons from St. Luke's"