

2018 Stewardship Look Book and Promise Card

I wish you
MORE

The Story of Joseph



A Look Back at 2017 Kingdom Work

THE KINGDOM MOMENTS AND MINISTRIES LISTED BELOW WERE MADE POSSIBLE THROUGH YOUR GIFTS TO THE 2017 GENERAL OPERATING BUDGET.



Dear St. Luke's Stewards,

When I was a child, my grandparents had a home on the north side of St. Pete. On one side of their lawn, the neighbors never kept their yard groomed, so there were always wild flowers growing. My favorite treasure to find was a dandelion. I would pick it and blow as hard as I could to make the seeds float into the world. I didn't know then that those seeds would float away and land somewhere to start another patch of dandelions for another curious and eager child.

This year your generosity has sent seeds of grace, mercy, and justice into our congregation, community, and world. This booklet includes photos and highlights made possible by your generosity in 2017. The pictures and testimonies only begin to scratch the surface of all the seeds of God's love and grace your generosity has planted in the hearts of children, youth, and adults. We have seen fruits of the spirit produced not only within our congregation but also in our community through neighborhood stabilization, debt reduction, and opportunity gaps filled in the lives of children and families.

At St. Luke's Leadership Retreat in January, I gave each leader a children's book I received from my parents' church. "I Wish You More" by Amy Krouse Rosenthal presents all the wishes and dreams a parent has for their child. I believe God holds wishes for us as his children as well. Wishes for us to trust fully in the promises God offers to provide for us and testing that faithfulness by promising our lives back to God. That's what tithing is, a promise to give back to God our first fruits, so we always remember where our lives come from.

This booklet will help you see exactly what it costs for us to do the ministry you have grown accustomed to over the recent years at St. Luke's. There are slight increases to cover rising costs of living and products but essentially, the 2018 budget is what it costs to do the same ministry we have been doing.

But there is also a wish budget. We believe God is wishing for us to do more, to reach more people, and to have an even greater impact. God doesn't just wish us more work to do. I believe God wishes us to trust more, to lean in to our relationships more, to stretch ourselves more in order to step out in faith and watch what God will accomplish if we too dream and wish.

This year we are asking for a promise. A promise between you and God to wish and dream with us. To imagine the possibilities of what God can do if we see our stewardship with the excitement and curiosity of a child finding a dandelion. It is an exciting time to be a part of this dynamic church family and there is even more God is calling us to do. There are more seeds to not only scatter and plant, but to tend to and nurture into abundant Kingdom fruit. There are wishes and dreams God is calling us to begin to fulfill to continue the work of building disciples and the Kingdom.

Here's to wishing, dreaming, and trusting in the promises of God,

Jennifer Stiles Williams

The Rev. Jennifer Stiles Williams
St. Luke's Lead Pastor



WORSHIP MINISTRIES:

In 2017, The Worship ministry saw the opening of Founder's Hall on the celebration of Pentecost. Our traditional choir, contemporary worship team, sacred dancers, children's choir, and theater ministry came together to welcome the congregation into the new space with brand new music and some of the congregation's favorite music to showcase and celebrate worship. We produced a children's musical for our growing children's choir ministry and our summer musical, Disney's Beauty and the Beast brought out talent both from our church and our community to share the transformational story of love and acceptance.



CONNECT MINISTRIES:

Meet-n-Greets: In February of 2017, we fulfilled our longtime goal of offering monthly Meet-n-Greet events where new guests could learn more about St. Luke's, ask questions, and even take a campus tour! Since launching these sessions, we've met 82 new friends (not including children and youth), many of whom have already become full members of St. Luke's, are participating in Cluster and Grow groups, and are now actively involved in the life of the church!

Cluster Groups: Also in February, St. Lukers told us about their interests at the Connect Fair. As a result, four (4) new Cluster Groups formed and even more are in the works.

Senior/60+ Ministries: In collaboration with the Inclusivity Committee as well as staff members, we held a Senior Appreciation Luncheon in May to honor the steadfast wisdom and long time commitment our St. Luke's seniors have shared with our church family.





St. Luke's Child Development Center: St. Luke's CDC offers a scholarship program for families needing assistance with tuition. The average number of families receiving scholarships each year ranges from 7-12. Our scholarship program allows families to continue their child's enrollment regardless of financial circumstances. There is not a limit on the number of families who can apply for scholarships. Each family's application is reviewed and handled in a confidential manner. The ministry of CDC provides a safe and loving environment for children as well as their entire family.

CARE MINISTRIES:

Community Counseling Center: St. Luke's has provided counseling center scholarships for 28 people for a total of 74 sessions.

Stephen Ministers: Each year we train apx. 10 new Stephen Ministers on the Theology of Care, Listening, and Confidentiality and how to provide one on one comfort and care. We have 31 active Stephen Ministers.

Buddy Break: Our loving Buddy Break team provides a 3-hour respite to those caring for a loved one with special needs. Buddy Break offers a variety of supervised activities giving caregivers much needed time off.



Caring Kitchen: One of several new Care Ministries, this team gathers together on the first Thursday of the month to prepare and freeze delicious crock-pot meals for St. Lukers recovering from surgery. They make 24 meals a month totaling 192 meals to date. (*This ministry is a part of the dream for the 2018 budget.)

Care Visitation Team: A new Care Ministry this year, the Care Visitation Team (CVT) visits St. Lukers who are in the hospital providing comfort and care, support and prayer. As this team grows, they will also begin visiting St. Lukers in rehabilitation and nursing home facilities as well as St. Lukers who are shut-ins. (*This ministry is a part of the dream for the 2018 budget.)

Cancer Support Ministry: This new support group is for persons affected by cancer, either by diagnosis themselves or of a loved one. A trained team leads this monthly support group that addresses diverse subjects around cancer. (*This ministry is a part of the dream for the 2018 budget.)



Autism Spectrum Disorder Parent Support Group: This new Care Ministry has already multiplied from one group into two! Having a child on the Autism Spectrum (ASD) brings blessings and challenges. These two groups provide comfort and care as well as practical strategies from experts in ASD. One group is for parents of children and teens; the other is for parents of adults and soon-to-be adults. (*This ministry is a part of the dream for the 2018 budget.)

GriefShare Support Group: This Care ministry was launched at the end of 2016. This year St. Luke's offered three 13-week sessions offering hope and healing for St. Lukers and people in the community who have lost a loved one. Currently, GriefShare is only offered in the evenings. In 2018, we will also offer two 13-week cycles during the day and with additional funding, we hope to offer scholarships for this course (\$25/person).

GROW MINISTRIES:

In 2017 Grow Ministries celebrated with an estimated 600 people at Easterfest and 400 children and volunteers at Vacation Bible School. Close to 765 St. Lukers have attended an adult spiritual formation class in 2017 and we are especially excited about the depth of commitment resulting from the Shalom series. St. Luke's U and Wednesday night dinners had an exciting restart in 2017. We are also encouraged by the direction of our youth ministry under the new leadership of Brandon Sangster and Antony Larry.

Our ongoing ministries through sports, fitness, Sunday School and youth group continues to encourage people in their spiritual development.

A Look Back at 2017 Kingdom Work *(CONTINUED)*



international scale as Serve ministries prepared seven new lay ministry leaders and staff to lead peace and reconciliation work through a mission experience in Belfast. This team will share St. Luke's best mission practices with Methodist churches in the region.

In Rwanda, St. Luke's partnered with ZOE ministries and over 250 Rwandan children in 3 Working Groups as they work through ZOE's empowerment model which will help them transition from "beggars to bosses"! Serve Ministries also continued building the Kingdom through the support of three missionaries in South Africa, Belfast, and Florida City, and even added a new missionary in Melones, Cuba.

Here at home, 10 adults' lives are altered because St. Luke's sponsored their employability skill development course through Jobs Partnership! St. Luke's also increased its Prison Ministry impact by doubling the support through Good News Jail Ministry, and investing in a Christian curriculum for the Shalom Readers Club. Last but certainly not least, Serve Ministries hired full-time director Amy Winslow, essentially doubling the capacity of the ministry program.

SERVE MINISTRIES:

In 2017, Serve Ministries stabilized the financial emergency of over 50 families from the community through the Family Assistance ministry by helping them secure housing, avoid foreclosure, secure gainful employment, access medical assistance, and more. Additionally, St. Luke's is still the only funder of the Orange County Public School (OCPS) Social Workers Emergency Fund, which allows these public-school professionals to address families' financial emergencies. In continuing our commitment to helping OCPS students succeed, St. Luke's expanded the Math Bee from 7 Title 1 (under-resourced) elementary schools to 20 in 2017. The church also found ways to boost morale by inspiring improved academic and social achievements at Mollie Ray Elementary School by using funds allocated for Educational IMPACT in creative ways to support a student incentive store - the Lion's Den. St. Luke's knows that in order to perform well in the classroom, students need consistent nourishment and this year, St. Luke's provided 200 bags of food for children in Pine Hills, at Mollie Ray Elementary, and at Olympia High School. The church also provided 425 bags of food - 5 weeks'



worth of supplemental food, for 85 farmworkers in Immokalee who constantly struggle to put food on their own table while feeding the rest of us.

Serve Ministries continues to focus on training leaders who serve through building dignified interdependent relationships. This year the team trained 10 lay leaders and staff in Bridges out of Poverty, Cost of Poverty Experience, and Cultural Intelligence. The ministry area also partially sponsored 15 St. Luke's youth for a hands-on leadership development serving opportunity in partnership with Branches in Florida City. Training and ministry growth is even happening on an

2017 FINANCIAL DONATIONS *(ABOVE & BEYOND OPERATING BUDGET)*

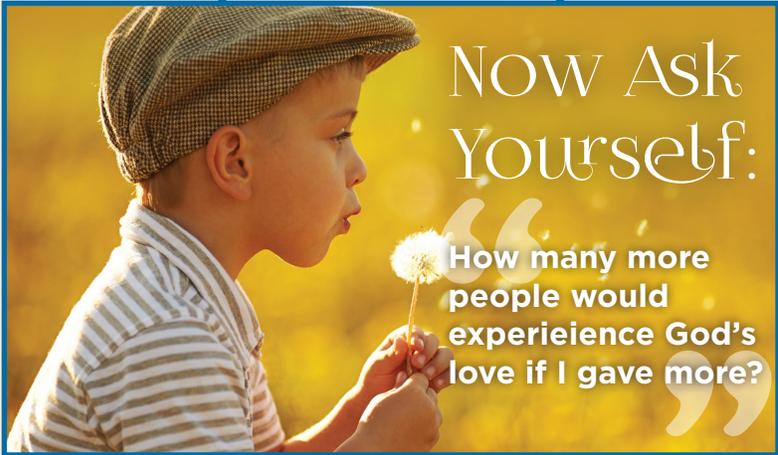
Backpacks About 2,070 OCPS students supported through cash and in-kind donations.	\$17,208
Hurricane Providing relief for Orlo Vista, Immokalee, Lake Placid and Puerto Rico	\$29,581
ZOE 50 orphan and vulnerable children in Rwanda sponsored to participate in a 3 year empowerment program to get out of poverty	\$26,032
Wish Tree 108 additional children from families who are financially struggling receiving Christmas gifts	\$2,696
TOTAL	\$75,517



YOU CAN SHARE MORE OF GOD'S LOVE

INCREASE
your giving by
5-10%
so existing ministries can grow and new ministries can be planted

BEGIN
promising your resources so
85
more St. Lukers help support Kingdom building ministries.



WORSHIP

- Advance Children's Music Ministries
- Add Additional Worship Services
- Expand Theater Program

CONNECT/CARE

- Expand Support Groups
- Training Opportunities
- Build Partnerships with External Care Organizations
- Broaden St. Luke's Reach through Evangelism

GROW

- Implement Innovative Youth Ministry
- Launch Exciting Children's Programming
- Expand On-Campus Family Events and Sports Activities

SERVE

- Cultivate Relationships with St. Luke's Mission Partners
- Collaborate for Community Transformation
- Close the Education Gap for Low Income Children

Wishes + Promises = Kingdom Dreams Realized

- 60 new children participating in children's ministries
- 120 new St. Lukers connecting for communication and care
- 50 new St. Lukers involved in theater and worship leadership roles
- 10-13 more families could enroll in Circles
- 230 new St. Lukers in worship



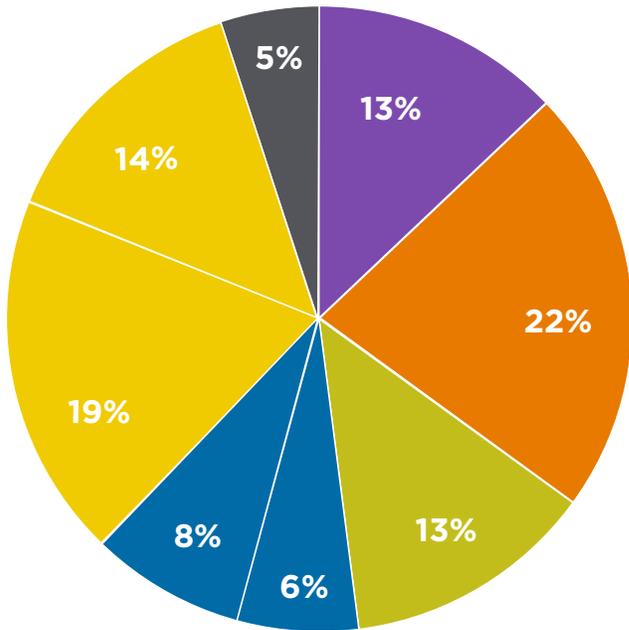
GOD WISHES US MORE SO THAT WE CAN WISH MORE FOR OTHERS

Call St. Luke's Today!
407.876.4991 ext. 227

Make Your Promise Online!
st.lukes.org/stewardship

2018 Proposed Operating Budget

THE CHART BELOW REPRESENTS THE PROPOSED OPERATING BUDGET FOR 2018 AND IS DIVIDED BY MINISTRY AREA. (NUMBERS HAVE BEEN ROUNDED)



13% WORSHIP: \$593,435
Includes worship, music, and theater ministries

22% CONNECT & CARE: \$977,810
Includes Counseling Center, Child Development Center, Cluster Groups, and Care Ministries

13% GROW: \$578,819
Includes children, youth, young adult, adult, and family ministries

6% SERVE: \$272,913
Includes serving within the community and within the church

8% APPORTIONMENTS: \$366,926
Includes supporting The United Methodist Church's international, national, and regional ministries

19% SUPPORT: \$867,604
Includes technology, marketing, operations, and finance

14% FACILITIES: \$659,238
Includes facilities maintenance and capital expenses.

5% PASTORAL STAFF: \$216,272
Includes compensation and benefits packages for appointed pastors



Why Promise?



Reasons to make a 2018 stewardship promise:

- A promise is a sign of faithfulness to join God's work.
- A promise is a way of holding yourself accountable to God and the church.

There are numerous ways to fulfill your promise:

- Enclose a check with this form.
- Utilize st.lukes.org/give for one-time or automatic online giving via credit card or electronic funds transfer
- Utilize weekly offering time during worship



My 2018 PROMISE

Name(s) _____

Address _____

Phone _____

Email _____

_____ I/We commit to **PRAY** for the amazing work that God is doing through St. Luke's.



_____ I/We commit to **WORSHIP** 3 to 4 times a month and/or view services online.



_____ I/We commit to **CONNECT** through a social Cluster Group, supportive Care Ministry, or get more information on other opportunities.



_____ I/We commit to **GROW** by participating in a Bible study/ Grow Group for spiritual formation.



_____ I/We commit to **SERVE** on campus or off campus.



_____ I/We **COMMIT** to the operating budget of St. Luke's

\$ _____ per Year/Quarter/Month/Week.
(Circle one)



I/We would like information regarding special giving arrangements. (i.e. last will and testament, charitable gift annuity, stocks, bonds, mutual funds, life insurance, etc.)



I/We have remembered St. Luke's in our will or planned gift.

Please return this card in WORSHIP, via mail, or to the church office, or make your pledge at st.lukes.org/stewardship by Sunday, November 26.

Thank you for your generous gift toward building disciples to help build the Kingdom of God!

WEEKLY GIVING CHART

TITHE

ANNUAL INCOME	TITHE											
	1%	2%	3%	4%	5%	6%	7%	8%	9%	10%	12%	15%
\$10,000	\$2	\$4	\$6	\$8	\$10	\$12	\$13	\$15	\$17	\$19	\$23	\$29
\$20,000	4	8	12	15	19	23	27	31	35	38	46	58
\$30,000	6	12	17	23	29	35	40	46	52	58	69	87
\$40,000	8	15	23	31	38	46	54	62	69	77	92	115
\$50,000	10	19	29	38	48	58	67	77	87	96	115	144
\$60,000	12	23	35	46	58	69	81	92	104	115	138	173
\$70,000	13	27	40	54	67	81	94	108	121	135	162	202
\$80,000	15	31	46	62	77	92	108	123	138	154	185	231
\$90,000	17	35	52	69	87	104	121	138	158	173	208	260
\$100,000	19	38	58	77	96	115	135	154	173	192	231	288
\$110,000	21	42	63	85	106	127	148	169	190	212	254	317
\$120,000	23	46	69	92	115	138	162	185	208	231	277	346
\$130,000	25	50	75	100	125	150	175	200	225	250	300	375
\$140,000	27	54	81	108	135	162	188	215	242	269	323	404
\$150,000	29	58	87	115	144	173	202	231	260	288	346	433
\$175,000	34	67	101	135	168	202	236	269	303	337	404	505
\$200,000	38	77	115	154	192	231	269	308	346	385	462	577
\$250,000	48	96	144	192	240	288	337	385	433	481	577	721

ST LUKE'S
UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

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