

**2019 STEWARDSHIP LOOK BOOK  
AND PROMISE CARD**

IN \_\_\_\_\_

WE TRUST



# A LOOK BACK AT 2018 KINGDOM WORK

THE KINGDOM MOMENTS AND MINISTRIES LISTED BELOW WERE MADE POSSIBLE THROUGH YOUR GIFTS TO THE 2018 GENERAL MINISTRY BUDGET.



*"For I know the plans I have for you, plans to prosper you and not to harm you, plans to give you hope and a future..." Jeremiah 29:11*

Dear St. Lukers,

Most of us like plans. Plans tell us what to do, how to focus, where to go, and what the end will be. Even in the world of ministry, we like plans – timelines, strategies, focus for worship and sermons, even budgets. To know God has a plan for us is powerful, but to know those plans give us hope and a future gives us assurance and confidence about the purpose and meaning of our lives. One of God's plans to bring people hope is the local church. When the local church works according to God's plans, empowered by the Holy Spirit, lives are transformed and hearts are changed.

In 2018, we have watched God's plans come to life as St. Lukers bring blessing, hope, joy and healing to so many in our congregation, community, and world. Your financial gifts, talents, and prayers have made ministries of hope, healing, and blessing possible. The stories and pictures you will find in this book just begin to scratch the surface of what God is doing in us and through us. For each story told and picture shared, there are countless more intangible expressions of God working out God's plan in people's lives through your generosity. You've been so generous this year that our YTD giving through September is up by 5% versus last year. Thank you!!!

This year we adopted our 2020+ Vision you helped to craft with your responses to questions in worship during the fall of 2017. Your responses helped us discover our giftedness as a congregation, dream about how those gifts and passions meet the needs of our congregation and community, and designed the next few years of strategic ministry. You helped us develop and envision God's plans for the next chapter of St. Luke's and your stewardship of resources, time, talent, prayers, and witness will help our ministries dedicated to:

- Reaching Beyond: extending beyond our campus with witness and evangelism
- Reconciling Love: building a beloved community
- Navigating Life: creating a culture of celebration and support on and off campus
- Awakening Disciples: growing disciples faith in deeper stewardship and witness
- Growing Young: emphasizing ministry for children, youth and young adults
- Restoring Hope: reducing hunger and homelessness in Central Florida.

Those vision pillars sound like some audacious plans to help every generation in our congregation and community prosper with hope for a future empowered by God. May the Spirit meet you as you read and dream about how you will be a part of God's 2020+ Vision plan for St. Luke's. May each of us give, serve, and love in ways that show in God we trust.

Grace and peace,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Jennifer Stiles Williams".

The Rev. Jennifer Stiles Williams  
Lead Pastor



## WORSHIP MINISTRIES:

**Worship Participation:** As we continue to grow and develop our worship experiences through creativity, new technologies and a continued focus on St. Luke's core values and vision, we have seen an increase in worship attendance in 2018. This growth is partially due to adding an option for St. Lukers who are out of town, as well as community members who might want to see what we're about before coming on campus to join us for worship virtually via Facebook Live. We anticipate continuing to grow in this new way of joining our community in the coming year.

**Theater Expansion:** 2018 was an exciting year for theater ministries: our first full season of theater programming. More than 250 people were part of casts and crews across our five shows, including three mainstage productions and two youth productions. In the last year, nearly 6,500 audience members experienced these stories come to life on the stage in Founder's Hall. Theater ministries have been one of our primary outreach and evangelism tools as well, with many of our new St. Lukers and Partners becoming part of our community after first being a part of one of our productions.

**Growing Young, Musically:** As we live into our new vision pillar of Growing Young, music ministries are a highlight, with about 100 young people involved in our music and worship ministries. This year, in addition to Wee Singers, Children's Choir and our Youth Praise Band, we launched a Youth Choir to expand opportunities for young people to engage their faith through music.

**Minister of Worship and Arts:** Worship and arts are central to our identity as a congregation, and this year we took the next step in living into that priority by adding the Rev. Melissa Cooper to our clergy team as Minister of Worship and Arts. Pastor Melissa will provide dedicated, focused and experienced leadership as we seek to grow not only in our reach via new worship opportunities and experiences, but also as we discern next steps in expanding our arts ministries, especially theater.



## CONNECT MINISTRIES:

Participating in **community events** such as the Ocoee Spring Fling, Relay for Life, and Orlando's Come Out With Pride, has allowed St. Luke's Ambassadors to share our core values of acceptance and hospitality with over 1,500 potential new St. Lukers.

During our inaugural **Take pART Festival of the Arts**, we opened our doors to artists from all over Central Florida. Attendees were able to view

Fine Art, take a variety of workshops, make & take their own artwork, and participate in an Open Mic session.

Our annual **Trunks, Treats, and More** event saw over 2,000 guests, more than half of whom had never been on our campus! This year's event closed with a stage show including performances by members of the Contemporary Praise Team and a sneak peek of St. Luke's youth production of *Disney's Freaky Friday, the musical*.

Through the all new **Project Connect**, 86 people (nearly 25% of First Time Guests attending worship services) have already begun the process of becoming partners at St. Luke's. To date, 55 of those have completed their Partnership Vows before the congregation, committing themselves as disciples ready to serve the Kingdom through St. Luke's ministries!



## CARE MINISTRIES:

In 2018, Care Ministries focused on expanding our care support groups as well as expanding consistent care visits to those in rehab/nursing home facilities and shut-ins. Through the help of our devoted Care Ministry volunteers we are able to spread God's love and care to St. Lukers and the community during various stages of life.

### **One-on-One Christian Care:**

Your gifts covered the cost for 15 St. Luke's Community Counseling Center clients to receive a total of 73 counseling sessions.

31 Stephen Ministers (lay individuals trained in the theology of care, listening, and confidentiality) provided support, encouragement, and prayers to care receivers helping them navigate life.

**Meals for Those in Need:** Caring Kitchen (launched in 2017) has provided 216 ready-made crock pot meals for St. Lukers recovering from surgery or struggling due to financial difficulties.

### **Featured Support Groups:**

The **Cancer Support Group** (launched in 2017) offers spiritual/emotional support as well as resources for those newly diagnosed with cancer, those receiving treatment, caregivers and survivors. A different topic is presented each month related to the key challenges of cancer.

Having a child on the **Autism Spectrum** (ASD) brings both blessings and challenges. St. Luke's provides a support group for parents of children and teens on the spectrum offering care and comfort as well as practical strategies from experts in ASD. Attendance for this support group has almost tripled in 2018.

In 2018 we expanded **GriefShare** to provide more groups for people in need of grief support. St. Luke's also offers a workshop in early November that helps those grieving learn ways to get through the holiday season. In January we will introduce a new two-hour workshop entitled "Loss of a Spouse" designed solely to offer support to grieving spouses. With additional funding, we hope to offer additional scholarships for all of these programs (\$25/person).

Throughout our congregation and community, people hurting from the pain of separation and divorce receive help and support through St. Luke's **DivorceCare**. This 13-week support group is offered twice a year.

St. Luke's is blessed to offer a new **Single & Parenting** support group this fall. Single parents receive training in finances, parenting tools, conflict resolution, and more. Each cycle runs 13 weeks and offers practical information, support, and hope for all single parents. With additional funding, we hope to offer scholarships to attend (\$25/person).

**Care Visitation Team** (CVT) volunteers provide additional support to clergy making follow up visits to St. Lukers who are hospitalized providing comfort, care, support, and prayers. This year our CVT team expanded their visits to include those who are in rehab/nursing homes as well as visiting those who can no longer make it to worship due to health concerns.

The **Hearts to Hands** ministry makes baby hats, blankets, prayer shawls, bereavement gowns, teddy bears, and more. Each child admitted to Arnold Palmer Hospital selects their own handmade pillowcase for their pillow to have while hospitalized and to take home. Hearts to Hands continues to bless all who receive their beautiful hand-crafted items. Free knitting/crochet classes are offered every Wednesday afternoon on campus.

After a funeral service, the **Helping Hands** ministry provides a warm reception for guests at no cost to the families. Your contributions can help offset the costs of food/beverages for these special gatherings.

With the congregation's support, in 2019, Care Ministries will expand the **Opening Doors** ministry to provide sensory friendly events and activities on campus for full participation in worship and programs for persons with special needs.



## GROW MINISTRIES:

Grow Ministries includes children, youth, adults and families in discipleship and recreational opportunities at St. Luke's. While quality of programming, attention to detail and building lasting relationships is always at the forefront of all of our ministry initiatives, this year we have significantly increased the number of people involved in our ministries.

### **Children's Ministry**

- The multi-purpose room (paid for through the COMMIT Campaign) has facilitated a rotation of Wednesday afternoon opportunities for those interested in choir, worship arts, and spiritual formation. This newly formatted Wednesday programming has drawn nearly 100% increase in participation and rave reviews.
- For the first time, elementary students will sit in chairs their size in seven newly renovated classrooms on the second floor of the B Building.
- Vacation Bible School increased participation by 21% to 421 pre-school and elementary age children and another 150 youth and adult volunteers with a 72% increase in families needing extended care.
- Summer Camp continued to grow by 11% to average 80 children per week over three weeks. There was a 32% increase in pre-schoolers needing extended care after camp was over.

### **Youth Ministry**

- The newly opened Youth Center (funded through your gifts to the COMMIT Campaign) has been a fantastic resource for the youth ministry.

# A LOOK BACK AT 2018 KINGDOM WORK (CONTINUED)

The renovated space balances appropriate conversation space with recreational space under one roof.

- High School youth ministry has experienced a 65% increase in attendance in 2018.
- Middle School youth ministry averages over 50 youth on Wednesday nights; a 40% increase in attendance.
- The youth group went on two summer mission trips for the first time in several years.
- A highlight of 2018 was the confirmation of 47 St. Luke's youth.

## Adult Ministry

- With over 200 St. Lukers participating weekly, spiritual formation continues to thrive.
- College students participated in #beyondthehashtag in 2018 where they learned so much about advocacy, they will be helping to train others in 2019.
- The Distance Learning Center housed the first class emanating weekly from Candler School of Theology in Atlanta.

## Family and Recreational Ministries

- Flag football was introduced this spring drawing 108 players from pre-school to middle school.
- Participation in St. Luke's basketball, cheerleading, and soccer leagues increased by 19% over the previous year.
- The Campout, Movie Nights, Orlando Magic Game Night and Easterfest were among the most well attended family events.
- Our many fitness groups continue to grow in numbers as well as grow in community.
- We have recreational opportunities almost every night and have started to empower our young St. Lukers to take charge and lead them.



trade and small business management, and growing their own food as they realize their short and long-term dreams. A team of 9 St. Lukers traveled to Rwanda in July to celebrate the successes of these hardworking children.

**Long-Term Disaster Recovery:** Hurricane Irma hit our community hard last September followed by Hurricane Maria which devastated Puerto Rico. We brought supplies to 30 of our most vulnerable adults in the community and in East Winter Garden. The Florida Conference organizes long-term recovery plans and we deployed our construction trailer to the effort. We provided \$29,000 for down payment assistance to Puerto Rico evacuees who remained in the area 6-months after the storm.

**Cost of Poverty Experience Training:** Training the community for the alleviation of poverty is one of our key initiatives. As the lead organization for COPE in Orange County, we brought this training to government leaders in Seminole and Orange counties as we connect to eliminate the root causes of poverty. Since November 2017, 528 people have participated in 11 of these trainings to create better understanding of and solutions to reducing poverty.



## 2018 FINANCIAL DONATIONS

(ABOVE AND BEYOND THE 2018 MINISTRY BUDGET)

St. Luke's collected the following for Orange County Public School families:

- 1092 backpacks
- 200 Bags of Grace for summer food
- 1075 Wish Tree gifts

Maxey and Mollie Ray students shopped for their backpacks at low-cost shops at their schools, while 80 East Winter Garden parents chose and purchased their children's Christmas gifts at our 5th annual Christmas celebration and low-cost shop.

## Restoring Dignity Through our COMMIT Campaign Community Transformation Initiative:

Thirteen new Circle Leaders began the 18-month relationship journey to get out of poverty and 7 leaders graduated from the program. Additionally, East Winter Garden resident leaders continue advocating for their community through a Neighborhood Alliance; 10 homes received Door-to-Curb exterior repairs and landscaping; 5 young people learned gardening and financial literacy through the Farmraiser pilot program; and multiple community events occurred celebrating holidays and history.

Our first of three Habitat for Humanity families closed on and moved into their new home in September in East Winter Garden making homeownership a reality. Home number two is halfway to completion and the third home will break ground in 2019.

## Missions Endowment Projects:

**Agua Viva: Funds** were dispersed to Agua Viva to rent equipment to drill to 75 feet through difficult terrain bringing safe drinking water to impoverished communities in Costa Rica. A team of 13 youth and adults traveled to the site to assist in digging and to teach English to students.

**The Dominican Republic:** Our previous partner church in the Dominican Republic requested funding to repair the roof of their sanctuary, which St. Luke's helped build, so that they can continue bringing the Word of God to their community.

## SERVE MINISTRIES:

In 2018, St. Luke's Serve Ministries (encompassing local and global missions) focused on empowerment and restoration of dignity in ministry to others. Volunteers logged 21,321 hours which equates to nearly \$500,000 in missions support.

**Empowering Children:** Over 2,000 OCPs fourth grade students from 25 Title 1 Schools reached for the stars participating in the 7th annual Math Bee. Seven years ago, St. Luke's Educational Impact Team, at Pineloch Elementary School, held the first Math Bee in one classroom. Today, this has become a district-wide program. This year, the Impact Math Bee team partnered with the Minority Achievement Office at OCPs. In after school programming, students participated in Robotics, Chess, Arts After 5 and presented the summer musical production Annie Jr, all funded by the Educational Impact programming and Community Transformation COMMIT Campaign funds. Annie Jr provided for positive summer activities for 30 young people in East Winter Garden both on stage and behind the scenes closing a critical opportunity gap for this low-income community.

In Rwanda, St. Luke's partnered with 450 orphaned children who joined Empowerment groups in 2018. These groups provide a community where vulnerable children receive training including hygiene, money management,

# WHEN WE TRUST IN GOD

**INCREASE**  
your giving  
**5-10%**  
ministries can grow  
and new ministries  
can be planted

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

## OUR 2020+ VISION CAN BEGIN TO TAKE SHAPE:

How many more people would experience Christ's love if you trusted God with more of your resources?

**WORSHIP**  
Diversify worship experiences  
Reach potential new St. Lukers  
Showcase our core values through music and theater

**CONNECT/CARE**  
Learn to share our faith  
Connect with the community Support  
Celebrate life's milestones  
Create bonds through sports

**GROW**  
Develop connection between children  
Explore authentic faith together  
Invest in our spiritual growth  
Strengthen mentoring relationships

**SERVE**  
Restore hope  
Inspire action and advocacy  
Put our spiritual gifts to work  
Reduce hunger and homelessness

# OUR 2020+ VISION + PROMISES = KINGDOM DREAMS REALIZED

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

Make Your Promise Online!  
[st.lukes.org/stewardship](http://st.lukes.org/stewardship)

**40** more children participating weekly in children's ministries

**15** new families connected through sports ministries

**35** more youth participating weekly in youth ministries

**35** more adults participating weekly in spiritual formation classes

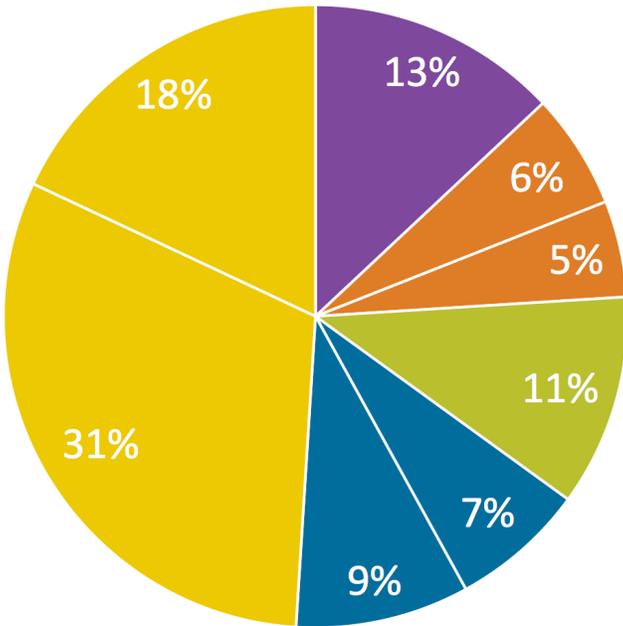
**80** St. Lukers will help 500 others find healing and hope

**500** more Costa Rican families will have access to clean water

**120** more OCPS families will be empowered to purchase their own school supplies

# 2019 PROPOSED MINISTRY BUDGET

THE CHART BELOW REPRESENTS THE PROPOSED MINISTRY BUDGET FOR 2019



- WORSHIP: \$491,499**

Includes worship, music, and theater ministries
- CONNECT \$208,726**

Includes Child Development Center, cluster groups, community events, and evangelism opportunities
- CARE \$169,976**

Includes Community Counseling Center, support groups, emergency needs, and funeral support
- GROW: \$425,647**

Includes children, youth, young adult, adult, and family ministries
- SERVE: \$278,795**

Includes serving within the community and within the church
- APPORTIONMENTS: \$323,045**

Includes supporting The United Methodist Church's international, national, and regional ministries
- COMMIT: \$1,146,874**

Includes administration, food services, technology, marketing, operations, Lead and Executive pastors and staff benefits
- FACILITIES: \$665,600**

Includes facilities maintenance, utilities, parsonages, and insurance



# WHY PROMISE?



## Reasons to make a 2019 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 QuickGive by visiting [st.lukes.org/give](http://st.lukes.org/give) for secure one-time or automated online giving via credit card or bank draft
- Utilize weekly offering time during worship



# My 2019 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 ministry budget of St. Luke's

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

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

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.)

**Please return this card in WORSHIP, via mail, or to the church office, or make your pledge at [st.lukes.org/stewardship](http://st.lukes.org/stewardship) by Sunday, November 25.**

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

# WEEKLY GIVING CHART

ANNUAL INCOME

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 Prayer Week

Sunday, November 4 beginning at 12:00 p.m. to Sunday, November 11 at 12:00 a.m.

Join fellow St. Lukers in dedicating time to not only present our requests, but to listen for God's direction. From Sunday, November 4 at 12:00 p.m. until Sunday, November 11, at 12:00 a.m. St. Lukers will be participating in an around the clock prayer vigil to seek God's vision.

**Sign up for a 30-minute personal prayer time at: [st.lukes.org/prayerweek](http://st.lukes.org/prayerweek)**



Each day of Prayer Week, we will focus on one of our upcoming 2020+ Pillars. Throughout the week, please pray for...

- **Sunday, November 4: Reaching Beyond**

Those in our community searching for an exciting place to experience God's love

- **Monday, November 5: Reconciling Love**

Those in our church/community searching for acceptance and belonging

- **Tuesday, November 6: Navigating Life**

Those in our church celebrating milestones or enduring change or loss

- **Wednesday, November 7: Awakening Disciples**

Those in our church seeking a deeper relationship with Jesus Christ

- **Thursday, November 8: Growing Young**

Those in our church sharing their lives amongst (or with other) generations.

- **Friday, November 9: Restoring Hope**

Those in our church/community seeking adequate food and housing.

- **Saturday, November 10:**

Those on our church staff seeking to challenge, uplift, and inspire our congregation through the word of God

You are welcome to participate on campus as we pray! The Building C Chapel will be open each day from 7:00 a.m. to 9:00 p.m. with interactive prayer stations and quiet time for your reflection and prayer.



### Advent Sermon Series: "Deck the Heart" Starts December 2

Join us starting Sunday, December 2 for our all new Advent sermon series, "Deck the Heart." The beauty of the season isn't just in the decorating we do at home. It's not about just preparing our homes, church, and community with the "stuff" of Christmas. It's about preparing our hearts as well. Join us as we move toward the coming of Christ, preparing our hearts to receive God's gifts through Jesus.