



St Luke's Vestry

*Reset to the New Normal:
The Work Continues*

Class of 2026

Yvonne Hall
Beverly Turner, Jr. Warden
Joni James
Errol Porter, Sr. Warden

Class of 2027

Angela Blalock
Robert Green
Joseph Ray
Rudolph Wise

Class of 2028

Edwina Fields
Cynthia Goines
Herman Hickman
Cynthia Parker Reed

Clerk of the Vestry

Patricia Ancrum

In the news...

St. Luke's attends the Union of Black Episcopalians Gala



Several members from St. Luke's attended the Union of Black Episcopalians Conference Gala in Raleigh, NC on July 31st. Bishop Michael B. Curry was the keynote speaker.



Pictured left to right - Mrs. Curry, Bishop Curry, Julia Meadows, Corliss Wise, and Cynthia Parker Reed



Pictured left to right - Keneitha DeLaney, Joe Cato, Maxima and Darnell Holmes, Corliss Wise, Julia Meadows, DeNell and Herman Hickman, and Cynthia Parker Reed

In this edition

- UBE conference & gala memories
- Anniversary Souvenir Booklet clergy
- Recognizing our members
- Community Events
- Liturgical Calendar and Servants for the Lord
- Parish Calendar



Bishop Curry with St. Luke's attendees

Interested in publishing information in the newsletter? Submit all articles and photos (jpeg or other photo format) to shaunahicks24@gmail.com by the 20th of the month for the following month's publication.

St. Luke's 155th Anniversary Souvenir Booklet

The sponsorships levels for the 155th St. Luke's Souvenir Booklet are named in honor of the following clergy who have made significant contributions to the Episcopal Church.

After Whom are the Souvenir Ad Sponsorships Named?



James Theodore Holly (October 3, 1829 – March 13, 1911)

- Co-founded the Protestant Episcopal Society for Promoting the Extension of the Church Among Colored People, which worked to have the General Convention adopt a position against slavery.
- Ordained to priesthood in 1856
- Served as rector of St. Luke's Church, New Haven, CT, during this time he made several trips to Haiti, the world's first black republic.
- In 1861, he resigned from St. Luke's to lead 110 African Americans and Canadians to Haiti
- In 1874, Holly was consecrated as missionary bishop of Haiti in a service at Grace Episcopal Church, NY
- Bishop Holly is honored on March 13th in the Episcopal Liturgical Calendar of Lesser Feasts



Barbara Clementine Harris (June 12, 1930 – March 13, 2020)

- She participated in Freedom Rides and Marches in the 1960's
- Bishop Harris attended Villanova University, the Urban Theology Unit in England, and graduated from the Pennsylvania Foundation for Pastoral Counseling.
- She served as an acolyte in the historic service, where the Philadelphia Eleven, were ordained Episcopal priests in 1974.
- She was ordained as a deacon in 1979 and as a priest in 1980.
- Harris served as the vicar of St. Augustine of Hippo Church in Norristown, PA, chaplain to the Philadelphia County prisons, and counsel to industrial corporations for public policy issues and social concerns.
- In February 1989, she was consecrated bishop suffragan of the Episcopal Diocese of Massachusetts. She was the first woman bishop in the Anglican Communion.



Absalom Jones (November 7, 1746 – February 13, 1818)

- Although enslaved, Absalom Jones was educated at a night school for blacks operated by Quakers.
- Absalom began worshipping at St. George's Methodist Episcopal Church, where he met Richard Allen and the two became lifelong friends.
- In 1787, Jones and Allen founded the Free African Society a mutual aid benevolent organization that was the first of its kind organized by and for black people.
- When the members of St George's decided to segregate the black worshippers in the church gallery, most of the black members present walked out of St. George's in a body.
- Richard Allen and some of the members left St. Georges and formed the AME church.
- Absalom Jones and his followers formed St. Thomas African Episcopal Church in 1794
- In 1802, Absalom Jones was ordained the first Black priest in the Episcopal Church



Former St. Luke's chorister, LaDejia T. Douglas, upcoming operatic performance

LeDejia Douglas will perform in the **North Carolina Baroque Orchestra's presentation of Henry Purcell's King Arthur ... a charming semi-opera in English.**

A correction to the ticket for the Lancaster production is listed here - <https://www.lcactickets.org>

Elliott Brown, St. Luke's Choirister

Congratulations Elliott on your new position as choral and piano teacher at the John W. Moore Middle School in Florence, SC.



Happy Birthday wishes to

- 2 - Audrey Evans
Carmen Murray
- 3 - Shauna Hicks
- 4 - Corliss Wise
- 5 - Michelle Walker
- 7 - Adrienne Hickman
- 8 - Rachel Hall
- 10 - Cory James
Loretta Johnson
- 11 - Sheryl Thompson Belcher
- 12 - James McLemore
- 17 - Yvonne Hall
- 22 - Cassandra Sims
- 24 - Frankie Point



Happy
Anniversary

6 - Leon and Annie Green

Community Events - Mark Your Calendar



Allen University 2026 Homecoming

Greetings!

The Allen University Homecoming Committee is pleased to announce the **2026 Homecoming Celebration Parade for 10:00 am Saturday morning, October 31, 2026**, in downtown Columbia. All are invited to participate.

The parade will commence at Sumter and Calhoun Streets and travel down Sumter Street culminating on Lady Street.

If you or your organization is interested in participating contact the Allen University Homecoming Parade Committee at www.homecoming@allenuniversity.edu no later than October 23rd. An application, waiver of liability document and \$30 entry fee are required for participation.



INTERSECTIONS ON MAIN:

Celebrating the Journey




Tuesday, September 1
4:00 - 7:00 PM

After three years at the Columbia Museum of Art, Intersection on Main Street is drawing to a close.

Join us for a final celebration featuring a 6:00 PM screening of *A True Likeness*, highlighting renowned Columbia photographer Richard Samuel Roberts, followed by a talkback with his grandson, Judge Richard Roberts, and a closing reception.

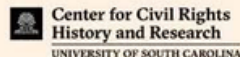
RSVP by Tuesday,
August 25



Columbia
Museum of Art
1515 Main Street
Columbia, SC







September Liturgical Calendar & Servants for the Lord

Father Raphiell+ is on Sabbatical through September 8 2026.

September 6 - 10:00 am - Nave - The Fifteenth Sunday after Pentecost - The Holy Eucharist: Rite II
Supply Priest: The Rev. Mark Abdelnour

Old Testament Lesson: Karen Castelli

Epistle: Valencia Hammond

Prayers of the People Form IV: Sheryl Belcher

Chalice: Corliss Wise

Oblation Bearers: Chris Evans, Joseph Evans

Ushers: Brian Baldwin, Karen Castelli, Darnell Holmes

Acolytes: Jaylen Caldwell, Desmond Goines, Herman Hickman

Supply Organist: Susan Moffitt

September 13 - 10:00 am - Nave - The Sixteenth Sunday after Pentecost - The Holy Eucharist: Rite II

Old Testament Lesson: Levi Johnson, III

Epistle: Cassandra Sims

Prayers of the People Form IV: Stephanie Baldwin

Chalice: Desmond Goines

Oblation Bearers: Timothy Kirby, Trinessa Kirby

Ushers: Gloria Eaddy, Joseph Evans, Ronald Turner

Acolytes: Jaylen Caldwell, Desmond Goines, DeNell Hickman, Herman Hickman, Levi Johnson, III

Supply Organist: Leonard Gordon

September 20 - 10:00 am - Nave - The Seventeen Sunday after Pentecost (Proper 15) - Holy Eucharist: Rite II

Old Testament Lesson: Sheryl Belcher

Epistle: Errol Porter

Prayers of the People: Patwin Lawrence

Chalice: Sheryl Belcher

Oblation Bearers: Loretta Johnson, Venesia Johnson

Ushers: Loretta Johnson, Stephanie Baldwin, Joseph Evans

Acolytes: Jaylen Caldwell, DeNell Hickman, Herman Hickman, Kennedy Johnson, Levi Johnson, III

Supply Organist: Susan Moffitt

September 27 - 10:00 am - Nave - The Eighteenth Sunday after Pentecost - The Holy Eucharist Rite II

Old Testament Lesson: Angela Blalock

Epistle: Jean Indriago

Prayers of the People: Venesia Johnson

Chalice: Patwin Lawrence

Oblation Bearers: Gwendolyn Spann, Gloria Johnson

Ushers: Darnell Holmes, Loretta Johnson, Venesia Johnson

Acolytes: Jaylen Caldwell, DeNell Hickman, Herman Hickman, Cory James, Levi Johnson, III

Supply Organist: Susan Moffitt

Monday

7th - Labor Day - Parish Office Closed. DOK Service Preparation - TBD

Historic Waverly Association Meeting - 6:00 pm - 7:30 pm - Bishop's Memorial AME Church

14th, 21st, 28th - Rector's Day Off

Tuesday

1st - Intersections on Main: Celebrating the Journey - 4:00 pm - 7:00 pm - Columbia Museum of Art;
6:00 pm - Celebration & Reception Screening of A True Likeness w/Judge Richard Roberts, grandson of
photographer Richard Samuel Roberts

8th - Rector Returns from Sabbatical - 1:00 pm - 2:00 pm - Meeting with Wardens & Parish Secretary
Archives Committee - 10:30 am - 1:00 pm - Archives Room

Rector meets with Finance Committee Members - Theme - Stewardship Theme and Approach - 6:00
pm - 6:30 pm - Griffin Hall

15th - Finance Committee - 4:00 pm - 5:15 pm - Griffin Hall

- Vestry Meeting - 6:00 pm - 7:15 pm - Griffin Hall

22nd - Buildings & Grounds - 5:30 pm - 6:30 pm - Griffin Hall

Wednesday

16th - Quilters & Crafters - 10:30 am - 1:00 pm - Griffin Hall

23rd - Quilters & Crafters - 10:30 am - 1:00 pm - Griffin Hall

Thursday

3rd, 10th, 17th, 24th - Fresh Start Ministry - 9:00 am - 12:00 noon - The O'Neal Center

Friday

4th, 11th, 18th, 25th - Parish Office Closed

Saturday

5th, 12th, 19th, 26th - Parish Office Closed

12th - 2nd Saturday Feeding - 12:00 noon - 1:00 pm - Griffin Hall Entrance Doorway

19th - Acolyte Meeting Review/Lay Eucharistic Ministry Meeting - 10:30 am - Nave

Diocesan - DOK Fall Assembly - 9:00 am - 3:00 pm - Church of the Advent - Spartanburg

26th - 4th Saturday Feeding - 12:00 noon - 1:00 pm - Griffin Hall Entrance Doorway

Sunday

See Liturgical Calendar

6th, 13th, 20th, 27th - Choir Rehearsal - 8:30 am - 9:15 am - Chancel

20th, 27th - DOK Service Preparation - TBD

**Just a reminder to keep your financial obligations (pledges, etc.) to the church up to date over
the summer months**

Parish Office Hours - 10:00 am - 2:00 - Monday through Thursday

**St. Luke's Episcopal Church 1300 Pine Street/Columbia,
South Carolina 29204 (803) 254-2327**

The Reverend C. Raphiell Ashford, Rector

Sheryl D. Belcher, Parish Secretary

~

Karen Castelli, Website Administrator

Shauna Hicks, Newsletter Editor

Valerie Riley, Executive Director—Fresh Start Ministry

~

Patricia Cokley, Parish Treasurer

Darnell Holmes, William Smith, Jr., Asst. Parish
Treasurers

Sheryl D. Belcher, Assoc. Parish Treasurer

stlukescolumbia@gmail.com (Email) <http://www.stlukescolasc.org> (Website)

www.facebook.com/stlukescolumbia YouTube: @Fr.Raphiell6290

“The Episcopal Church is a secret too well kept. Many are starved for what we experience daily and too easily take for granted. Invite others to come to your parish to experience this joy.”

Louie Crew, author of 101 Reasons to be Episcopalian