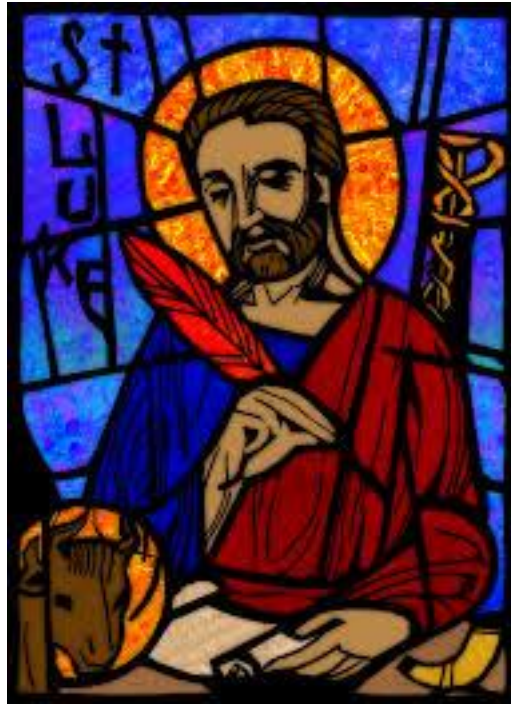


# 143rd ANNUAL PARISH MEETING



January 31, 2021

ST. LUKE'S EPISCOPAL CHURCH  
402 South Scott Street  
Scottsboro, Alabama, 35768

256-574-6216

[stlukesscottsboro.com](http://stlukesscottsboro.com)

143rd Annual Parish Meeting of St. Luke's Episcopal Church  
Sunday, January 31, 2021 via Zoom

1. Opening Prayer
2. Welcome & Declaration of Quorum The Rev. Polly H. Robb
3. Recognition of Retiring Vestry Members The Rev. Polly H. Robb  
Jean Duke and Melody Reed
4. Vestry Elections nominations committee Jean Duke and Melody Reed  
Current Vestry Members:  
Phil Kimmel, Tony Loop  
Duke Miller, Lourie Casteel
5. Finance Matters: 2020 Budget Charles Heath
6. Reports
  - a. Senior Warden (Melody Reed)
  - b. Junior Warden (Duke Miller)
  - c. Parish Life (Lourie Casteel)
  - d. EYC (Alicia Bell)
  - e. Christmas Charities (Nancy Gauldin)
  - f. Altar Guild (Deb McBride and Deborah Miller)
  - g. Christian Formation (The Rev. Polly H. Robb)
  - h. Nursery (Melody Reed)
  - i. Meals on Wheels (Barbara Heath)
  - j. Ruth Chapter, Daughters Of The King (Jean Duke)
  - k. Clerk of The Vestry Report (Ann Moody)
  - l. Memorial Committee (Barbara Heath)
  - m. Finance Committee (Charles Heath)
  - n. Food Pantry Ministry (Melody Reed)
  - o. Missions & Outreach (Phil Kimmel)
  - p. Columbarium Committee (JP Parsons)
7. Adjournment

## SENIOR WARDEN

This year has reminded us in so many ways of the strength and closeness of our community. Even when we are unable to gather in person, the Spirit keeps us together, connecting us. Many in the media or in our society kept referring to our churches as “closed,” but we were never closed. We continued following the Gospel call to live in love with our neighbors, finding ever new ways to seek and serve Christ in all people.

I want to remind us of the many ways in which our ministries have pressed on during this time, and through which the generosity and strength of your spirit is consistently made clear.

- St. Luke’s did not miss a beat in taking up the charge to put church online and ever improve upon the technological processes keeping us together via Zoom.
- We had four book studies deepening our connections with each other and providing time for personal growth.
- EYC made every effort to stay connected via Zoom and safely resume meetings. All our teens are back and happy to be together again.
- Pantry recognized the local needs and doubled down on food and communication efforts providing 5-6 bags of groceries per family every 2 weeks in our most critical months. The St. Luke’s pantry is now monthly serving 30% more families in need than this time last year. Many volunteers continue to give their time and effort and willingly serve to meet Scottsboro’s needs. We are so thankful for the specific donations that continue to come in.
- We have several parishioners who faithfully serve the community monthly through Meals on Wheels.
- The parish hall is now in regular use by the ARC of Jackson County and the weekly women’s painting club. Family Wellness Court also uses our parish hall for teaching and ceremonies.
- Our cleaning team has done an incredible job deep cleaning and keep our facilities up to Covid standards.
- Daughters of the King have faithfully reached out and held our needs in prayer.
- Body Mind and Spirit reflective yoga class via zoom & YouTube aired twice a week for multiple months and plans to begin again in February this year.
- We held the community outreach service of Blessing of the Animals hosting many first-time guests.
- The basement is cleared, cleaned, and back in weekly use by AA looking brighter than ever.
- Our church has grown during this time of pandemic with new members physically as well as online.
- We continue our Sunday worship with occasional Eucharist, and our Wednesday evening prayer services are live on Facebook. Christian formation continues along with Godly Play online in collaboration with other Northeast Alabama churches.

Our ministries are alive and well. There is much to look forward to. The Lord is still working! Amen! Most of all, all this speaks to the love we bear for each other and the world around us. As we look to the year to come, we are more committed than ever to the ministry and love we share with our community and our neighbors.

In the spirit of generosity and love,  
~ Melody Reed

## JUNIOR WARDEN

This has been a busy year for the Junior Warden. Our buildings and grounds must be maintained while staying on budget so we can return to normal activities after the interruption

from COVID. I would like to give special thanks for the advice and work of all my committee members: Danny Bridges, Paul Holland, Tony Loop, and Rob Robb. Danny has already confronted most of the problems faced by this Junior Warden, and his advice and help have allowed me to have some success in this role. Rob Robb seems to be able to fix most anything, which has allowed us to keep up with most of the problems that occur. Also, Polly was very helpful with her advice and counseling when some of the problems of this job seemed insurmountable. A brief description of some of our accomplishments will follow in the report.

The property behind the playground received a makeover. It consisted of cutting and the removal of several trees, trimming trees that extended beyond our property, fence cleaning (mostly by hand), removal of debris in the ditch on our western property edge, hauling away three loads of debris after we reached the max allowed for free City pickup, and two rounds of heavy duty bush hogging with a skid steer. The playground and our grounds benefited from a dump truck load of much-needed mulch donated by Tony Loop and the Millers.

The irrigation systems were fixed. Water no longer comes up in the parking lot cracks as the leaks were repaired allowing enough pressure in the system, so it works again with automatic control. The massive leak on the eastern side was repaired and it can now be manually controlled. Special thanks to Danny and Rob for their help on this project. An added benefit of these repairs was the removal and replacement of a large piece of sidewalk that had been drastically altered by roots and had become dangerous on this much-traveled area.

We had a huge mold problem above the alter rails. This was rectified by the work of Everett, Melody, and Jared.

The urinal in the restroom was repaired and flushes once again.

Rob and Danny replaced a kitchen light and fixed the blemish in the ceiling caused by a water leak. Rick Whitehead fixed a problem with the boot on the roof and donated his services to the church.

Rob and Danny installed a new LED light in the office.

Polly and Rob installed drain extensions to reduce the basement water problem. In addition, we had the leaves and accumulated debris removed from the north basement windows. This seems to have solved the problem *for now*. As you may know, this has been a recurring problem for many years.

I hope you have noticed an improvement in the appearance of our church grounds. This is due to the hard work of Victor Ortez, our new grounds person. He has kept the grounds clean during the autumnal season, which is a considerable task. Please notice the southeastern area of our grounds. Victor has removed the privet and made this area beautiful again. The same diligence has been demonstrated all over the church grounds. Polly and I are pleased with his work so far, and we expect to see the same as the seasons progress.

Please check out our new “nice and clean” ice maker. Special thanks to Polly for the ice maker research and providing the impetus for this project; to Melody, Everett, and Jared who helped me unload it from my truck and place it safely in Bradford Hall; to Tim and Danny for removing the old one and to Johnny Cantrell for cleaning the resultant mess; and to Margie for helping me chase the 53 foot trailer to the industrial park so I could transfer it to my truck.

Although it is impossible for me to predict problems, I do have a concern for 2021. I will closely monitor the air conditioning for Bradford Hall. The double HVAC system on the west side of Bradford Hall is very old. One unit quit working several years ago. We were able to finish the warm weather with a relatively cheap fix to the single functioning unit. This fix may last months or years, so we must be ready to replace the units when the time comes. I have discussed this with my committee and the vestry, procured estimates and have received helpful financial advice for paying for the new system from Charles Heath. I believe we will be able to fix this problem if or when it happens.

Please let me know if you see a problem that is in the purview of grounds and maintenance.

Yours in Christ  
~ Duke Miller, Junior Warden

### PARISH LIFE...SPECIAL EVENTS SUMMARY

Our Parish began 2020 with hopes and aspirations of a church teeming with activity! Just a few annual activities on the Parish Life Committee's schedule were Shrove Tuesday Pancake Dinner, Lenten Meals, Palm Sunday, Easter, Youth Sunday, Pentecost Picnic, Senior Recognition Day, Blessings of The Backpacks, Blessing of the Animals, Feast Day, Confirmation Luncheon, a visit from our Bishop, Advent and Christmas. In addition, we added new programs for the church and community. A Mother's Day Out Program, Steady for Life (balance/ movement) class, and Yoga. Moving forward with hopes of strengthening relationships and building new ones, with each other and our new priest, our year was painted with the challenges of a pandemic.

In spite of those challenges, we experienced amazing unexpected growth in relationships and community. Although we were unable to meet in person for many of the parish activities, we were able to grow in the bonds of shared struggle through this time of pandemic, political unrest and social injustice with love, support and encouragement.

We did experience the joy of being together in the first few months of the year, and then as the pandemic spread and numbers of virus increased in our county, we moved to virtual or outdoor meetings, as weather and situation allowed. With heavy hearts, we felt it necessary for the health and safety of our parishioners and the community, to postpone many events on our calendar until a time when we can move forward with confidence that it will be safe for our health and the health of others.

St. Luke's embraced creativity and searched for ways to move closer to each other and our community as a whole. In June we joined a community prayer walk and our first outdoor gathering.

In October we shared The Blessing of the Animals in an outdoor service. Our church was joined by Rev. Lacey Smith and the AME church as well as many from within the community. We also enjoyed an outdoor celebration of St. Luke's Feast Day together.

Due to the risk of Covid, we were unable to host the Bishop in person this year but enjoyed a Zoom visit with her and will celebrate confirmation as soon as circumstances allow.

In December our hopes were lifted with the Advent Journey. This was a new event birthed by our own Rev. Polly. I would like to thank Polly and our Parish Life Committee, who worked together many long hours to bring this vision to fruition. The contemplative worship of The Advent Journey gave us all a sense of hope and joy as we shared in the blessing of Christmas.

This year has changed the way we look at worship and definitely how we view the gift of being together in time and space. I count it all a blessing to have had this time of growth and love with St. Luke's and look with a joyful heart to the year ahead.

~ Lourie Casteel

## EYC

### **2020 EYC:**

#### **Graduates (2020):**

Carley Bell, Chase Bradford, Madelyn Cantrell, Ethan Collins, Emily Littles, Bradley Stelzner

#### **Seniors:**

Aidan Cantrell, Hannah Cloud, Noah Collins, Sheldon Crownover, Ava Duke, Eli Hicklen, Rylie Hughes, Brandon Kirtland, Rylie Lassetter, Jacob Tillman

#### **Juniors:**

Tyler Allen, JoJo Carlile, Riley Guffey

#### **Sophomores:**

Xander Argiro

#### **Freshmen:**

Alex Farr, Harrison Stone, Eli Weekly

#### **8<sup>th</sup> Graders:**

Aiden Collins

#### **Vestry Liaison:**

Jean Duke

#### **EYC Director :**

Alicia Bell

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“When norms get disrupted, the ministry continues.” Priscilla Shirer used these words to describe a healthy church in a talk I listened to recently. By this definition, I would absolutely deem St. Luke's, and our EYC, healthy! 2020 wasn't the year any of us imagined, and yet, ministry continued! In fact, ministry did more than continue; it was innovative, fresh, appreciated, and supported. While many events had to be rescheduled, modified, or replaced to meet social distancing protocols, we were still able to celebrate, converse, study, worship, and grow individually and collectively.

2020 for the youth was certainly different due to the pandemic, and yet, much the same because of their willingness, excitement, and dedication. Our youth continue to impress me! They show up, participate, invite, welcome, and accept others regardless of the circumstances. The unknown surrounding the pandemic found us in both traditional face to face and virtual zoom settings. It even found us idle for several weeks. Through it all, the youth maintained positive attitudes and seemed to roll with the changes. They have remained steadfast in their dedication to St. Luke's and to each other.

During 2020, we -

- Shared meals
- Played games
- Talked
- Studied
- Burned palm branches
- Made pancakes
- Picnicked
- Celebrated graduates
- Held Popcorn Theology
- Carved pumpkins
- Cleaned our community by picking up trash
- Assisted with the food pantry

I am thankful for our youth and for the leadership within EYC. During 2020, our leadership was a team approach thanks to Polly Robb, Lourie Casteel, and our entire parish family. From supervision, meal prep, financial support, and prayer, these youth have been blessed by all of us. Polly, Lourie, and I worked together planning and supervising weekly meetings and activities. We also supported, motivated, and encouraged the youth and each other. Polly and Lou, the youth and I thank you both for all you do for each of us and for St. Luke's!

Respectfully submitted,  
~ Alicia B. Bell

### CHRISTMAS CHARITIES

Adopting needy families through Christmas Charities and the Jackson County DHR has been a tradition of St. Luke's for many years. This year we adopted 8 families! We take care when adopting our families so that some are elderly and living alone, some disabled and some are families with children. This year we provided gifts for 11 children from 4 households and 4 elderly/disabled persons.

Those applying for this program provided us their "wish lists" and several of our St. Luke's parishioners shopped for the gifts (online for the most part to stay "safe" and not have to physically shop in stores). What a fantastic job they did in finding just the perfect items that would surprise and delight these individuals: we had DVD players, Spiderman toys, baby dolls, a skateboard, a Razor scooter, hoodies, shoes, comforters, sheets/towels, , and Alabama and Auburn gear. . . and lots more! In addition to the multiple gifts given to each person, we provided much needed household items, a ham or turkey, as well as a \$50 gift card to the elderly/disabled, donated by Bruce's Food Land.

Many thanks to all who gave so generously, enabling us to bring "Christmas cheer" to these families. What would we do without so many who made monetary donations, our shoppers and gift wrappers? Thank you to ALL who participated in this rewarding outreach project!

~ Nancy Gauldin

### ALTAR GUILD

The altar was prepared weekly during 2020. We started the year with a rotational schedule. It was working beautifully until COVID. The Altar Guild then went into "emergency mode" and the people who worked closely with Rev. Polly to set up what was needed receive a big THANK YOU. We hope that in 2021 when regular services begin again that the rotational schedule will begin again. Meanwhile; to start 2021, Deb McBride is preparing altar during January. Barbara and Patrick Martin will work February, and Deborah Miller will do March.

The duty of the altar guild is to prepare all the things necessary for the celebration of the Eucharist or any of the sacraments and offices of the church. The altar guild is a ministry--a gift of time and talent to serve God in His house. The rector is the head of the guild. She sets the rules, the style and the tone of the services. The altar guild welcomes new members. Please share your talents to the Glory of God.

Thank you to those who serve Christ through this ministry.

~ Deb McBride, Co-Chair

~ Deb Miller, Co-Chair

## CHRISTIAN FORMATION

The canons of the church state that, “It shall be the duty of the Rector to ensure all persons in their charge receive Instruction in the Holy Scriptures; in the subjects contained in An Outline of the Faith, commonly called the Catechism; in the doctrine, discipline, and worship of this Church; and in the exercise of their ministry as baptized persons.” (Canon III.9.6.a)

The canons do not say how this should be done in a time of pandemic. Luckily, God created humans with creativity and ingenuity, and humans created Zoom.

We began Christian formation in 2020 with Sunday morning classes as follows:

January 5	Walkabout Report Out
January 12	Episcopate 101
January 19	Traveling the Way of Love—“Learn” video interview with Bishop Curry
January 26	Annual Parish Meeting
February 2	Bryan Dodson, Southern Disability Foundation
February 9	Diocesan Convention Report
February 16	Preaching the Word—Exegesis
February 23	Pulpit Musings

In March we began a Lenten Series on Walking the Way of Love but were interrupted by the pandemic. Lent also began with a Wednesday evening partnership with Cumberland Presbyterian Church. We shared Evening prayer, followed by a simple soup and salad supper, and a reflection time of study. Micaiah and Bryan Tanck joined Polly in teaching about spiritual practices. Unfortunately, we had to cut the series short when church meetings were shut down. Once the rector found her grounding, Christian formation classes moved online via zoom. Sunday morning classes on Zoom were sparse in attendance, but rich in discussion:

In Fall of 2020 we used a platform of the Episcopal Church called ChurchNext with the classes: “Getting More out of the Bible” with Justin Welby and “Reading the Bible through the lens of Conflict” with Padraig O’Tuama

In Advent the Sunday morning class shared reflections from *Miracle on 10<sup>th</sup> Street*

The parish book study groups thrived, growing in attendance this past year, with both Wednesday morning groups and Tuesday evening. We enjoyed many books:

January	<i>Wearing God</i> Lauren Winner (continued)
March	<i>Almost Everything</i> Anne Lamott via Zoom
June	<i>Learning to Walk in the Dark</i> Barbara Brown Taylor via zoom <i>The River Runs Through It</i> Norman Maclean
August	<i>The Road Back to You</i> Ian Cron and Suzanne Stabile via zoom
December	<i>Miracle On 10<sup>th</sup> Street</i> Madeline L’Engle via zoom

Inquiry Classes began in November with three persons working toward Confirmation and two persons desiring to reaffirm their baptismal vows. We met on Zoom, studied the catechism, the sacraments, and we met in person for an instructed Eucharist. The two young persons joined another confirmation class in a weekend retreat at Camp McDowell in November, which Polly hoped to teach. While the bishop was unable to be here for confirmation, she will schedule a time in 2021 to come to St. Luke’s and make this happen.

While we were uncertain how to proceed with formation, we found lots of opportunity. Teaching and learning is a complete joy of mine, part of who God created me to be. So, when I read the canon above on the duty of the rector, I see this “duty” as a wonder and delight and am looking forward to continuing in whatever ways we can.

~ The Rev. Polly H. Robb



## NURSERY

The nursery was another program as affected by the pandemic. When we were no longer able to meet, the nursery also closed and remains so now. However, we have retained our nursery worker, and thanks to the federal paycheck protection are able to continue her pay for now. We plan to open the nursery up again when the church begins meeting consistently.

~ Polly Robb

## MEALS ON WHEELS

St. Luke's has participated in the county Meals on Wheels program for at least the past 15 years. The MOW program is run by the Scottsboro/Jackson County Senior Center. There are currently four routes with from 10 to 12 recipients on each route. Meals are delivered every weekday except for holidays. The recipients (clients) of MOW are adults who are homebound (i.e., disabled and unable to leave their homes except perhaps for medical appointments).

Of course, like other aspects of our lives, MOW has been different in 2020 due to COVID limitations. We have not been called on to deliver regularly. Volunteers were not utilized at all for several months during this year. Most recently, boxes of ready-to-eat food were delivered biweekly by either the Senior Center staff or volunteers.

In "ordinary times," St. Luke's is responsible for one of the four routes, approximately one week out of every month. It takes about one hour to pick up meals from the Senior Center, deliver them, and return the empty containers to the Center. Volunteers are welcome!

During 2020, our volunteers were: Danny Bridges, Deborah Butler (new volunteer!!), Nancy Gauldin, Marilyn and Richard Olcott, Shirley and Jerry Rossano, and Charles and Barbara Heath. Thanks to our team for their cooperation and faithfulness!!

If you are able and willing to participate in this ministry to the homebound in our community, please contact Barbara Heath, who serves as coordinator.

~ Barbara Heath

## THE ORDER OF THE DAUGHTERS OF THE KING

The mission of the Order is the extension of Christ's kingdom through prayer, Service, and evangelism. We have had several projects of outreach over the Years. We assist the Priest upon request.

We meet every second Thursday at 10 a.m. Most of this past year we have met on Zoom. If anyone would like to go through discernment to join the Daughters group, please contact any member of Daughters.

Members: Becky Bridges, Jean Duke, Deb McBride, Deb Miller, Ann Moody, Marilyn Olcott, and Janet Sage.

~ Jean Duke, President

## CLERK OF THE VESTRY REPORT

As clerk of the vestry, during 2020, I attended all regular meetings and took minutes of the proceedings. Meetings moved to the Zoom platform in March because of the pandemic and remain on Zoom for the time being.

In addition to regular meetings of the vestry, I also attended any special or called meetings as needed to take minutes, such as the annual parish meeting. Printouts of the minutes, including vestry attendance records, were retained as part of the parish's permanent record in the clerk's notebook, kept in the church office.

Minutes for the prior month's meeting were distributed via email to vestry members, as well as the rector, parish administrator, Margie Ford, and bookkeeper, Deborah Miller, well in advance of the upcoming meeting. As clerk, I also signed or attested to required certain reports, such as the parochial report, submitted to the diocese.

I appreciate the opportunity to serve the vestry and St. Luke's as clerk and am willing to assist the vestry or the rector, as I can.

~ Ann Moody

### MEMORIAL COMMITTEE

St. Luke's Memorial Committee has had limited activity this year. Our balance in the Memorial Fund as of January 1, 2020, was \$10,928.23.

During 2020, we had memorial donations of \$525.00, which were acknowledged appropriately at the time of donation. New cards were printed which are sent to the donor, and to the family representative if the donation is for a specific person (cost of printing \$98.10).

Our priest noted that a green stole, matching other green vestments, was quite worn and needed to be replaced. Ann Moody offered to donate this stole from the Memorial Funds given in memory of her husband Donald Moody, and this purchase was carried out (cost of \$272.80).

Our balance as of 12-31-2020 is \$10,782.33.

Nancy Gauldin has agreed to serve as a member of the Memorial Committee, to replace Rhonda Hess. The Memorial Committee hopes to meet regularly in 2021, once the COVID restrictions are removed.

~ Barbara Heath, Chair

### FINANCE COMMITTEE

Finance Committee members are Danny Bridges, Charles Heath, Janet Sage and Polly Robb.

Unfortunately, we lost long-time member Henry Cannon. The Committee meets periodically to review the monthly parish financial reports prepared by Deb Miller. Each month the Vestry is given a status briefing with charts which illustrate trends in giving and spending. This process is intended to help the Vestry understand both individual income and expense items and our overall financial condition so they can anticipate problems and take advantage of opportunities. In November the Committee prepares a draft budget for the next year derived from current year spending and anticipated giving (pledges, Sunday plate, donations, rental income, etc.). This budget is discussed and updated by the Vestry and presented for approval at the annual meeting. Committee members are glad to assist any parishioner in understanding our financial procedures and status.

Financially 2020 was a solid year with our assets (cash and investments) rising from \$328,422 to \$357,073 (\$28,651). Our income included \$26,200 of COVID relief funds. Due to reduced

utility bills and other activity-related expenses we underspend by \$11,022 our \$185,391 budget. The Committee has recommended a deficit budget of \$183,926 versus estimated \$144,500 income (which does not include investment growth or receiving applied-for COVID grants). As in past years, we anticipate growth in parish membership, attendance and commitment.

~ Charles Heath, Chair

## FOOD PANTRY

First of all, thank you for the opportunity to serve through the pantry.

It took many hands and generous donors to make the pantry operate smoothly this year. St. Luke's designated 4K of the budget for the 2020 pantry year. Due to the great need arising from the economic fallout of the pandemic, we asked and were gifted additional donations of over \$8,500 from those in and outside the parish. In addition, St. Luke's applied for and received a CARES grant late in the year (\$8,000 of which goes directly to our pantry), allowing us to continue the increase to our pantry offerings in the coming year.

Typically, we hold our pantry on the first Saturday of the month. On average the monthly cost is now \$900, up from \$333 planned before the pandemic. The increased amount purchases 5-7 bags per household and we serve on average 50 families a month; in December 2020, we were able to serve 60 families. That means we packed over 400 bags of groceries! In between pantry dates, guests can seek the office for help with groceries and we stock the blue hutch to serve folks after hours as well.

I am hugely grateful for all the volunteers that make this happen. With the closing of CASA earlier this year and the economic hardships related to Covid Scottsboro has needed you to step up and you did. We had 36 volunteers in total this year from in & outside of St. Luke's. In June while Polly and other ministers connected through the prayer walk, we had opportunity to reach out to the AME church and expanded our clientele. We also had free ads printed in the Clarion that got the word out about our pantry. We continue to seek ways to improve advertising. We have applied to the North Alabama Food Bank to be a donation site of theirs, and are awaiting inspection and approval. This past year we received harvest donations from local farmers, had farm fresh eggs donated, gladly accepted donations from Patrick's meat market and discounted packaging from Bruce's Foodland. The manager at Walmart is now coordinating a special curbside pickup for us to keep our parishioners safer. We've included special seasonal items each month and all our newcomers get a flyer inviting them to join us online. The addition this fall of the ARC of Jackson county's assistance with packing has been a Godsend. I am extremely grateful for their work. It is on point!

The EYC assisted with November and December pantry distribution and we plan for their quarterly participation in 2021. If you are seeking ways to work out your faith and can offer up a Saturday morning contact me Melody Reed 410-980-0615. We mask and sanitize. If you would like to make a donation, please contact Polly.

Special thanks to my faithful Volunteers: Stan, Phil, Shirley, Nicole, Bill & Carol, Tonya & son, Mary, Deb B., Joe G., Tim S., Eli, Barbara, Charles, Todd, Patty, Lou, Harrison, Olyvia, Elijah, Nancy, Alicia, Ava, Jacob, Carly & Riley, EYC, Darla, Natasha, Becky, Hunter, Blake, Martha, Rob, & of course Polly.

~ Melody Reed

## MISSIONS & OUTREACH

The past year has been a challenge for our outreach programs. With Melody taking the lead and Stan doing much of the purchasing the Food Pantry has had a banner year.

Donations of cash and food have made it possible to provide food and necessary non-food for approximately fifty families each month. Volunteers were there to assemble the nine grocery bags provided. Recently we have had a group of volunteers from the ARC of Jackson County to assist in packaging the food.

When not packaging food Saint Luke's has provided a venue for people from The ARC to gather and make cards for people in nursing homes, currently they are making valentines.

In the next year I hope we can find the resources to support the Jackson County Children's Advocacy Center. Further I would hope we can find help to alleviate the problem of recidivism.

With the pandemic, any world missions trips were postponed. We hope to once again be able to join in the TEC's commitment to serving those in need outside our own community once we are able to travel.

~ Phil Kimmel

## COLUMBARIUM COMMITTEE

*Mission: The Columbarium at St. Luke's Episcopal Church shall be on hallowed ground, sacred to the memory of those who have departed from our midst. This peaceful, welcoming place provides a final earthly resting place and a quiet respite for visitation and meditation.*

In 2014, after careful consideration and a generous parishioner donation, the decision was made by St. Luke's Vestry, to prepare and build a Columbarium to fit our needs and benefit parish members.

St. Luke's Columbarium is one of our ministries. There is a Charter, a committee, a cost of maintenance, and an expense to the parish member for the niches of the interment. Every member of St. Luke's has an opportunity to be involved in this ministry and we welcome anyone to take part.

At a minimum the Charter states that the committee should be comprised of at least four members. At this time they are:

Chairperson: J.P. Parsons  
Senior Warden: Melody Reed (will rollover with new senior warden in Feb. 2021)  
Parish Members: Janet Sage  
Danny Bridges

Total Columbarium Niches	<u>16</u>
Present Parish Subscriptions/Commitments:	<u>5</u>
Cost to purchase a niche:	<u>\$1,000</u>
Donation to perpetuate the natural beauty	to be determined

In the coming year the committee has decided to:

- 1) Update the Columbarium guidelines and subscription agreement.
- 2) Educate parishioners regarding the use and benefits of the Columbarium.
- 3) Communicate this to St. Luke's Parishioners.
- 4) Most importantly, we are planning to assure this beautiful space is maintained and cared for.

~ JP Parsons