







History of St. Luke's

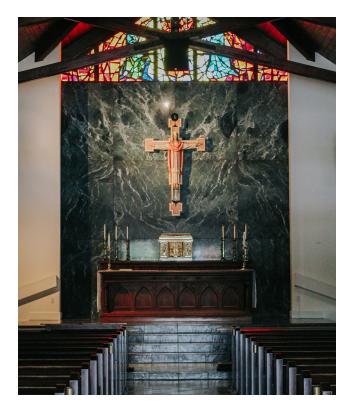
St. Luke's Episcopal Church in Baton Rouge, Louisiana was founded in 1956 by a handful of worshipers who first met in a private home, then at Goodwood Elementary School, and next in temporary buildings erected by parishioners. With the gift of seven acres of land from Mrs. Eleanor Witter, the owner of the former Goodwood Plantation, St. Luke's members realized their dream of a permanent church home at what is now 8833 Goodwood Boulevard. The first permanent building, our present church, was completed in July of 1964. Our temporary buildings were moved and refurbished on the Goodwood location. Since the 1960s, St. Luke's members have supported the construction of many other buildings on the campus.

The following year in 1957, St. Luke's Episcopal School was founded and has become the largest ministry of our church, offering grades Pre-K3 through 8. Through support from school families and church members, St. Luke's School campus now includes classroom space in buildings constructed by the church.

Rectors and priests who have led St. Luke's parish through the years include the late Rt. Rev'd Clarence C. Pope, Jr., who went on to become Bishop of Fort Worth; the late Rt. Rev'd Charles E. Jenkins who served as rector of St. Luke's from 1985 until his consecration as Bishop of the Diocese of Louisiana in 1997; the late Rev. Eric B. Williams and the Rev. Canon R. Brien Koehler; followed by interim rector Rev. Canon David L. Seger. The Rev. Bryan Owen is our current rector.











St. Luke's Episcopal Church

For more than 60 years, St. Luke's Episcopal Church in Baton Rouge, Louisiana has lived out Christ's call to love and serve Him and our fellow human beings. Starting with just eighty confirmed Episcopalians who said "yes" to God's call to establish St. Luke's in 1956, today's congregation now includes more than 1,500 baptized members.

The church has maintained the Anglican tradition of our founding. We are an Episcopal community of believers united by generations of families committed to passing on their faith, through ministries that reach out to our members and our community at large, and through the abiding guidance of the Holy Spirit.

Worship Services

St. Luke's Episcopal Church offers two in-person worship services on Sunday mornings in the sanctuary at 8:45am and 11:00am. The 8:45 am service is a more contemporary service, while the 11:00am service is a Rite I service with traditional choir music.

In addition to Sunday's church services, St. Luke's hosts a Healing Prayer Service on Wednesday nights. This special service is for anyone in need of healing of any type, such as when one is anticipating surgery, recovering from an illness or surgery, needing healing for the soul, needing soothing for feelings, anticipating the birth of a baby, and times when healing prayers, community, and touch are wanted. The service includes special prayers, Holy Unction and Communion.

Youth Opportunities

Sunday School St. Luke's has an extensive weekly Sunday School program for all ages at 10:15am. From our Play and Pray group (ages 2-3) through high school, kids learn to apply the teachings of Jesus to their lives with family and friends. Customized curriculums are taught in a laid back setting with fun games and activities for hands on learning.

The Youth Ministry of St. Luke's partners with nearby Trinity Episcopal Church, and the result is so much more than just a "youth group." We engage middle and high school students and their families in all aspects of church life, in addition to providing service projects, programs, and retreats specifically for youth.

Vacation Bible School is a fun-filled week of living in the times of Christ. Children can expect tribes and tents, shekels and sandals, music and crafts, art and animals, stories, bread baking, and candlestick making.









St. Luke's Episcopal School

Since 1957, St. Luke's Episcopal School has been recognized as one of the finest schools in Baton Rouge. Our busy campus, with its graceful mixture of old and new buildings and beautiful trees and flowers, provides the ideal setting for learning and discovery. The atmosphere at St. Luke's is warm and friendly. We believe when students feel secure and accepted. there is no limit to what they can achieve. The early school years set the stage for a child's lifelong love of learning, and our small class sizes allow teachers to quickly recognize each child's special gifts and needs. We offer a wide variety of enrichment classes including liberal, visual and performing arts, foreign language, and technology. We also offer after-school activities and clubs. Our athletic program offers various fall, winter and spring sports to students in grades 5-8.

QUICK FACTS

School Mission

Challenging and nurturing Mind, Body, and Spirit, our community inspires students to lead lives of purpose, faith, and integrity.

2020-2021 Enrollment

225 students

Grades Served

Pre-K3 through 8th Grade

St. Luke's is the only school in Baton Rouge with a K-8 Model.

Student-Teacher Ratio 11:1

> **Average Tuition** \$10,000/year

Accreditation

St. Luke's Episcopal School is approved by the Louisiana Department of Education and accredited by the Southwestern Association of Episcopal Schools.

The school and faculty holds memberships and/or affiliations with the following organizations:

> **Southwestern Association** of Episcopal Schools

Association for Supervision and Curriculum Development

The National Association for the **Education of Young Children**

> **National Council for Teachers of Mathematics**

National Science Teachers Association

Louisiana Association of Independent Schools



Benefits

Numerous national studies demonstrate the advantage of a Pre-K through eighth grade education enhances academic, social and emotional development while bringing about improved self-esteem and confidence.

Source: Rand Study and National Middle School Association Study



Environment

PK-8 schools are places where everyone knows everyone else's name. Cross grade-level buddy systems ensure that students of different ages come to know one another in an authentic way. St. Luke's elementary and middle school allows students to experience age-appropriate activities and events without the influence and pressure of older students. Sixth, seventh and eighth graders are not "caught in the middle," but rather take on the leadership role of "seniors." At the same time, they can be themselves, often remaining "younger" a bit longer and not as directly influenced by the social pressures common in high school. Furthermore, our emerging adolescents are given the nurturing support they need for a healthy, confident transition to the high school years.







Opportunities for Leadership

The oldest students on campus assume the mantle of leadership and act as role models for the entire student body. Through carefully designed buddy programs, older students create a personal connection with younger students by working as a team on school and community projects. This provides the younger students with a positive role model, while encouraging empathy in the older students.

The positive achievements of early adolescents are recognized as culminating events and traditions at St. Luke's. Enjoying the privilege of being in middle school better prepares students for opportunities in high school and beyond.

Predicting Success

A two-year study by American College Testing (ACT) found that eighth grade academic achievement in an appropriate eighth grade curriculum was more significant in determining future success in high school and college than any high school academic experience.

National studies show that eighth graders in PK-8 schools attain higher academic achievement and score significantly higher than their middle school counterparts on standardized testing.

Source: Rockoff and Lockwood, Columbia University; Schwerdt and West, Harvard University

The achievements of our alumni indicate that St. Luke's provides powerful, long-lasting experiences that position students for success in high school and college.







Transitioning to High School

A family choice, involving your eighth grader along with the support of the school, is a satisfying and personalized way to choose a high school In turn, this experience better prepares students for making college choices. St. Luke's students are sought after as high school freshmen because they are well-prepared, self-assured, well-rounded and possess strong moral standards.

From Pre-K through eighth grade, parents and teachers garner invaluable insight about the child's interests, strengths and learning styles. This provides parents more confidence in making the "right" high school decision at the end of eighth grade, rather than the beginning of Pre-K.



Keeping children in a consistent and familial educational environment through the elementary and middle school years is ideal, however, a change at ninth grade is good! Students will be eager to experience new friendships and challenges that support their individual interests. They are well-prepared to make a smooth transition from middle to high school.

The "St. Luke's Family" is a community of relationships that last a lifetime. Students experiencing St. Luke's throughout the middle school years have values and friendships that will benefit them throughout their lives.



stlukesbr.org

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