



St. Luke Names William D. "Bill" Shelnutt Next Headmaster

COLUMBUS, Ga., February 5, 2015 /PRNewswire/ -- St. Luke School, K-8 Christian School and ministry of St. Luke United Methodist Church in Columbus, GA, announced today that Bill Shelnutt, 43, has been named Headmaster/Principal, St. Luke School. In his role as headmaster Mr. Shelnutt will also oversee the St. Luke Early Learning Center and St. Luke Preschool programs. Shelnutt will succeed Headmaster, Ann McDuffie, who is retiring at the end of the 2014-2015 school year. Bill will assume his duties as new Headmaster this summer, and will be joined by his wife, Susan, and twins, Annie and Will, who will begin 1st grade at SLS in the Fall of 2015.

Bill Shelnutt currently serves as *Head of School at Wildwood Christian Academy in Marble Hill, Georgia*. He is a dynamic leader who has over twenty years' experience in education including eight years as Head of the Preparatory School at Mount Pisgah Christian School in Johns Creek, Georgia. He also held positions as Assistant Headmaster at Brandon Hall School and Dean of Students at Holy Spirit Preparatory Schools, both in Atlanta, GA. Bill enjoys teaching and has taught students while serving as administrator. Bill started his teaching career at The Highlands School in Dallas, TX. Bill holds a B. A. in History from State University of New York, Buffalo. He earned a Master of Middle Grades Education from Oglethorpe University in Atlanta, an Educational Leadership Certificate from Georgia State University and an MBA from Reinhardt University in Waleska, Ga. He is a sought after presenter at the ISM Summer Institute.

"My family is very excited to be joining the St. Luke Family. Our time and visits to the school have felt like we were already home. These passionate educators understand that it is not enough to fill the minds of our young people, but we also fill their hearts with God's love. I am humbled to follow such capable leadership in Ann McDuffie, who has built and nurtured a school of excellence. With God's help we will continue to build on this success and help realize His plans for the future of St. Luke School," said Shelnutt.

Regarding the announcement about Shelnutt, Sr. Pastor, Reverend Robert Beckham said, *"I am excited to have Bill Shelnutt join our St. Luke leadership team as Headmaster of St. Luke School. Bill brings a remarkable record of effective leadership, a passion for faith-based education, and a compelling vision for the future of St. Luke School. I look forward to working with Bill in the continued pursuit of excellence that has characterized every year of St. Luke School's history under our current Headmaster, Ann McDuffie."*

McDuffie added, *"We are so fortunate to have Bill Shelnutt coming to lead our wonderful school. He brings experience as a headmaster and principal as well as a successful accreditation background. Bill is well equipped to lead St. Luke School in fulfilling our mission and to take our school to even greater accomplishments in the years ahead. I look forward to working with Bill to guarantee a smooth transition of leadership."*

About St. Luke School

St. Luke School, founded in 1998, has an enrollment in grades K-8 of over 550 students. St. Luke School is an educational ministry of St. Luke United Methodist Church located in Columbus, Georgia. The mission of St. Luke School is to provide each student with an excellent academic education that is faith-based, by challenging and nurturing the mind, body and spirit, and by developing responsible servant leadership. To find out more about St. Luke School, visit school.stlukeum.com.

All media inquiries should be directed to Reverend Robert Beckum at (706) 327-4343. Photographs of Bill Shelnutt are attached.

St. Luke United Methodist Church

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