

## Service Hours

8:00am:

With Holy  
Communion in  
Chapel

&

10:30am:

With Holy  
Communion

*9:15am Sunday  
school/Confirmation /  
Youth Ministry*

## **OFFICE HOURS:**

M & T – 9-12, 1-3;

W, Th, F – 9-12

*The Church office  
will be closed Friday,  
January 1st for the New  
Year's holiday.*



*Please notify us of changes of  
e-mail address*

# The Spectrum

## January 2016

St. Luke Lutheran Church \* 1400 Market Street Williamsport, PA 17701

(570) 323-7309

[stlukeluth@verizon.net](mailto:stlukeluth@verizon.net) \* [www.stlukeweb.com](http://www.stlukeweb.com)

### SERVICES OF WORSHIP

#### Sunday 3rd, Second Sunday of Christmas

8:00am - Holy Communion in Chapel

*9:15am Sunday school/Confirmation /Youth Ministry*

10:30am - Holy Communion, followed by coffee hour

\*\*\*

#### Sunday 10th, Baptism of our Lord

##### Affirmation of Baptism & First Communion

8:00am - Holy Communion in Chapel

*9:15am Sunday school/Confirmation /Youth Ministry*

10:30am - Holy Communion

\*\*\*

#### Sunday 17th, II Sunday of Epiphany, Of the Lands and Seasons,

##### Rev Bruce Amme, presiding and preaching

8:00am - Holy Communion in Chapel

*9:15am Sunday school /Youth Ministry*

10:30am - Holy Communion /Hunger appeal offering  
followed by coffee hour

\*\*\*

#### Sunday 24th, III Sunday of Epiphany

##### Rev. Walt Edmonds, presiding and preaching

8:00am - Holy Communion in Chapel

*9:15am Sunday school /Youth Ministry*

10:30am - Holy Communion

\*\*\*

#### Sunday 31st, IV Sunday of Epiphany

##### Rev. Jeff LeCrone, presiding and preaching

8:00am - Holy Communion in Chapel

*9:15am Sunday school /Youth Ministry*

10:30am - Holy Communion

# January 2016 - St. Luke Church Calendar

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
					1 New Year's Day OFFICE IS CLOSED HAPPY NEW YEAR!	2
3 II SUNDAY OF CHRISTMAS PROPERTY MEETING COFFEE HOUR YWCA PARTY	4 QUILTERS 9A-3P BH ALL STAFF MEETING 10:00A PERSONNEL 7P OUTREACH 7P	5 PVC 2P SERVICE 4:15P WORSHIP & MUSIC 7P	6 ADMIN MEETING 5P	7 BIBLE STUDY 1P AT THE WILLIAMSPORT HOME FOR THE LOVE BOOK CLUB 7P AT THE EDMONDS HOME CHOIR 7P	8	9 9A-2P CONFIRMATION RETREAT AT ST. MARKS
10 BAPTISM OF OUR LORD AFFIRMATION OF BAPTISM & 1ST COMMUNION	11 BOOK CLUB 12NOON AT JULIE'S COFFEE ST. LUKE FUND 6:30P COUNCIL 7:30P	12	13	14 BIBLE STUDY 1P AT THE WILLIAMSPORT HOME FELLOWSHIP MEETING 6P CHOIR 7P	15	16
17 II SUNDAY OF EPIPHANY OF THE LANDS AND SEASONS REV. BRUCE AMME, PRESIDING & PREACHING PASTOR LAURENCE VACATION NOW UNTIL FEB 15TH	18 Martin Luther King Day PRE-SCHOOL MEETING 7P	19	20 LUNCH WITH "A" PASTOR 12NOON AT JOHNSON'S CAFE	21 CHOIR 7P	22 CUB SCOUTS MEETING 7PM SET FOR PINEWOOD BH	23 CUB SCOUTS PINEWOOD 8A-12NOON BH
24 III SUNDAY OF EPIPHANY REV. WALT EDMONDS, PRESIDING & PREACHING PASTOR ANDREW AND TOM VACA	25	26 SHAWL MINISTRY 9A	27	28 CHOIR 7P COIN CLUB 7P BH	29	30
31 IV SUNDAY OF EPIPHANY REV. JEFF LECHRONE, PRESIDING & PREACHING PASTOR ANDREW AND TOM VACA						

## FROM THE PASTOR

### Winter and God's Great Creation

Most of you know that my husband and I take special joy in winter. I never took joy in it, particularly, before I learned to ski. Since then, though, having learned how to keep warm and investing in all the protective clothing needed to do that, I have come to appreciate winter's special beauty. I was thrilled to take a call at a church in a city above Pennsylvania's reputed "snow line," that is, above Interstate 80. I researched ski slopes available in Central Pennsylvania long before I arrived in Williamsport. Yet now our local paper says, curtesy of the National Weather Service in State College, *Don't expect to see snow in the near future!* And while 2015-6 could be a particularly mild winter, with even a record-setting 60 degree Christmas Eve, the news, combined with trends that have long been noted, sounds ominous, instead.

Thus it has been with trepidation that I have downloaded Pope Francis' statement on climate change (*Laudato Si*, downloadable at <http://www.papalencyclicals.net/>) In the first ten pages, it sets forth its premise: *It is true that there are other factors (such as volcanic activity, variations in the earth's orbit and axis, the solar cycle), yet a number of scientific studies indicate that most global warming in recent decades is due to the great concentration of greenhouse gases (carbon dioxide, methane, nitrogen oxides and others) released mainly as a result of human activity. As these gases build up in the atmosphere, they hamper the escape of heat produced by sunlight at the earth's surface. The problem is aggravated by a model of development based on the intensive use of fossil fuels, which is at the heart of the worldwide energy system. Another determining factor has been an increase in changed uses of the soil, principally deforestation for agricultural purposes.*

It is time for us to reckon with our Christian responsibility to the earth – the planet on which we live.

In the past, Christian voices have often overlooked the earth, seeing our major concerns as those things "not of this world." Our goal was the afterlife, and the role of the church was to be a sort of ship in which we might weather the storms of this world and safely reach the heavenly shore at the end of life. It is still true that, as Christians, we, like Abraham, *look forward to the city that has foundations, whose architect and builder is God.* (Hebrews 11:10) *If for this life only we have hoped in Christ, we are of all people most to be pitied.* (1 Cor. 15:19)

But we are also keen these days to recognize that *the Resurrection* means, as well, God's power to make all things new; that this power has gone out into all the world. What follows, then, is that we, as the church, hope to respond as the people God called us to be, the Adam who was put in the garden of Eden to till it and keep it (Gen 2:15). We, created from the dust of the earth, and have no license to "live above it," rather are to recognize our place in and amidst the web of the Creation. Most of us, indeed, enjoy the beauty of the Creation and some of us love recreating it – however all of us have a duty to it and its well-being. It is the same compassionate that we are to have as Good Samaritans to a person in need.

This 2016 may we take special pains to recognize *brother wind* and *sister water* (in Francis of Assisi's words) and to care for them and the planet which is our home. This 2016 may we learn more about our role as stewards of Creation, alongside being stewards of the mysteries of God.

While pastor Aurand is out of the office Jan. 17<sup>th</sup> – 31<sup>st</sup> the Rev. Ted Cockley is on call for pastoral emergencies. He can be reached at Home: 570-326-2734 or by calling Sarah Young at the Church Office. 570-323-7309

## THE SEW-FINE QUILTERS

Will meet Monday, Jan. 4th in Bell Hall  
from 9:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m.



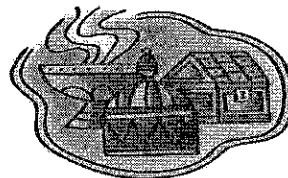
## THE SHAWL

### MINISTRY

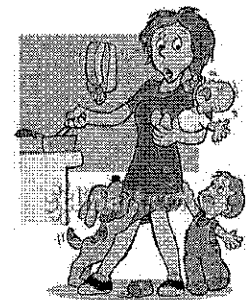
The next meeting will be held  
Tuesday, January 26th at 9:00AM.

## EPIPHANY PARTY AT THE "Y"

Due to a generous "Thrivent Action Team" grant, the junior high youth group and the *Coordinator for Families in Mission*, Erin Edmonds, will team up to throw an "Epiphany Party" at the YWCA on January 3<sup>rd</sup>, following worship at St. Luke. The grant covers decorations, food and any program material to be used at the "Y". Junior high youth will decorate the room in use and deliver the socks and slippers collected at St. Luke this Advent and Christmas. We thank all the generous donors who have carefully chosen socks and slippers to give and have made this delivery possible. We thank those of you baking cookies for this event. It may not be on the order of delivering gold, frankincense and myrrh, however should be a delivery of pretty useful presents and a joyous celebration in the Christmas season.



**FOR THE LOVE** A new women's book club and small group geared towards busy moms will begin meeting in January. Add *For the Love: Fighting for Grace in a World of Impossible Standards* by Jen Hatmaker to your Christmas list this year. Jen is an author, speaker, mom to five children, and pastors Austin New Church with her husband Brandon. *For the Love* is a funny, witty, series of essays about life. Our first meeting will be Thursday, January 7th from 7:30 - 9 pm at Erin Edmonds' home. For the address and more information, please call Sarah in the church office. **Please read section one for our first meeting.**



**WOMEN'S BOOK CLUB** meets at 12:15 January 11<sup>th</sup> the second Monday of the month for food, fellowship, and discussion of good books at Julie's Coffee Shop (on the southeast corner of Third & Pine). The book for the month of January is *About Grace* by Anthony Doerr.

**PLEASE REMEMBER TO PICK UP YOUR 2016 ENVELOPES ....They can be found in the back of the Nave.**

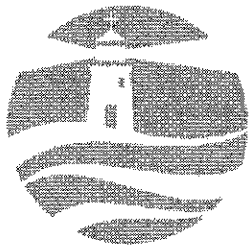
## OUTREACH MINISTRY

**THANK YOU!** For all the gifts you purchased on our Advent Tree. Not only will women and their children who temporarily live at the YWCA, people whose only meal is at a soup kitchen and those world-wide who have many needs benefit from your generosity. Your caring and sharing sends the love of Jesus' birth both locally and globally.

**COLLEGE CARE PACKAGES-** This year again we will be sending **Care Packages** loaded with goodies to our college students and military men and women. Beginning January 3<sup>rd</sup>, a box will be located in the West Hall for your donations of candy, cookies, cough drops, lip ice, granola bars, etc.

**PLEASE NOTE-** If you have a son or daughter who is a college student, or serving in the military, please call, email, or text the address to Sarah in the church office.

**LUNCH WITH PASTOR-** We will begin the new year with lunch at Johnson's Café in Montoursville. All are invited to join us on Wednesday, January 20, 12:30 p.m. for good food, stimulating conversation and a chance to enjoy fellowship with Pastor Elisabeth. Please call the church office for your reservation.



## SERVICE MINISTRY UPDATES

**SEAFARERS BAGS:** Twenty-two Seafarers bags were taken to the pick-up location for distribution Christmas 2015. Also, approximately 50 knitted seafarer's scarves were made by our own Dropped Stitches and the knitters from Christ Episcopal Church, and sent to the New York City distribution center. **THANK YOU**

This January look for the lighthouse at the rear of the church. We will be collecting for Christmas 2016. It may seem early but January is the time for great after Christmas bargains in winter sweat-shirts, t-shirts, and tube socks. Please plan to help fill 30 Seafarers Bags for 2016.

\*\*\*\*

**YOUTH** are holding a fundraiser to help raise money for an upcoming Mission Trip. To help defer expenses they are offering a beautifully inspirational 2016 photo wall calendar, printed by God's Creation. The sale will be in the west hall before and after 10:30AM worship. Each calendar is \$10.00. The youth are very excited about this mission opportunity and your help in sponsoring this trip.....Look for more information in the Sunday Bulletin.

# SERVING IN JANUARY

<u>DATE</u>	<u>GREETERS</u>	<u>USHERS</u>	<u>ACOLYTE</u>	<u>LECTOR</u>	<u>ADMIN</u>	<u>ASST. MINISTER</u>	<u>COMM HELPER</u>
3rd 8:00		Chris Knaur		Becky Masden	David Keating		
10:30	Mabel & Ken Welsh	Bill Merkel Rod Strother Keith Wood Ken Welsh	TBA	Ann Jackson	Mark Bergren/ Patty Durand	Linda Herbst	Taormina/Harris Family
10th 8:00		Chris Knaur		Nancy McCarty	David Keating		
10:30	Mahler Family	Same	TBA	Brad Nason	Margot Briggs/ Dan Lamade	Mark Bergren	Patty Durand/ Dave & Becky Masden
17th 8:00		Chris Knaur		Sondra Fisher	Nancy McCarty		
10:30	Joanne Harner	Same	TBA	Hanne Schuman	Marilyn Eshleman/ Carol Steck	George Schuman	Ethan & Olivia Strother/Cyle Hiller
24th 8:00		Chris Knaur		Sue Beidler	Nancy McCarty		
10:30	Shirley & Oscar Knade	Same	TBA	Bill Liptak	Nancy Wood/ Charles Mahler	Melanie Taormina	Clark Family
31st 8:00		Chris Knaur		Nancy McCarty	Nancy McCarty		
10:30	Larry & Sandy Moyer	Same	TBA	Cherly Newburg	Bill & Linda Liptak	Charles Mahler	Larson Family
<u>DATE</u>	<u>COFFEE HOUR</u>	<u>FLOWER DELV.</u>	<u>COUNTERS</u>	<u>LAY CALLER</u>	<u>COMM. CLEAN-UP</u>	<u>NURSERY</u>	<u>ALTAR CARE</u>
3rd	Aurand & Keating	Welsh	McCarty/ Hiller	Mahler/Bergren	Websters	Erin Edmonds/ Allie Wyland	TBA
10th		J.Wolfe/ N. McCarty	Herbst/ Labenberg	Masdens	Kathy Borch	TBA	
17th	TBA	Baileys	Paris'	Liptaks	Linda Herbst/ Linda Wolfe	TBA	Hunger Offering TBA
24th		Bergrens	Lewis/McCarty	Belles'	TBA	TBA	
31st		Merkels	TBA	Lamades		TBA	

**OTHER**  
**OPPORTUNITIES IN OUR AREA**

**Sunday, January 24, 2016**

**4:00-6:00 p.m.**

**Evergreen Center at  
Mount Luther**



**MENU:** Turkey and all the trimmings.

**PRICE:** Cost for the meal is \$14 per person.

**TO ORDER TICKETS:** Reservations are required and can be made by contacting the camp office at (570) 922-1587 or [cml@campmountluther.org](mailto:cml@campmountluther.org).  
Deadline for ordering is Tuesday, January 19, 2016, at 9:00 a.m.

*Proceeds benefit the 2016*

*Annual Fund Appeal*

**FOOD PANTRY** As we go forward into the Fall & Winter seasons we have some other projects 'cooking' that we'll share with you. It's all good and such a relief to finally be settled in where we can plan and grow our programs.

As the cooler weather is right around the corner, there are some food items that we are in need of this month:

oodles of noodles  
chunky soups jelly  
tuna fish  
powdered drink mix  
(i.e.: kool aid)  
canned veggies  
saltine crackers  
canned fruits  
sugar & flour  
macaroni & cheese  
cookies

Hours are: 9:30am-12noon on Mondays for delivery.  
Tuesday/Thursdays from 10am-3pm  
clients by appointment only 570-322-1657  
Castellano Center  
320 Park Ave.,  
Williamsport, PA

---

***Thank you from our members ...***

---

11/30/15

Dear St. Luke's,

We would like to thank you, from the bottom of our hearts, for hosting Abel along with the Lycoming Choir and for your very generous gift to Hope In Harm. This gesture makes a huge impact on our ability to continue our programming - not only financially, but also through the inspiration that your acknowledgement gives. Thank you so much! - *Lee + HH*

Was great to receive Christmas Blessings from my St. Luke friends. I have fond memories of my years at St. Luke Church.

All settle in and my family are keeping me busy. They enjoy stopping in for coffee while they are in town. If any of you are in the Bloomsburg area you too must stop in for a coffee break.

Happy Holidays  
Ann Seidel

Dear St Luke Family,

Thank you very much for all of your caring thoughts, prayers, calls and cards. They provided me with much comfort as I recover from my recent surgery. I have been dealing with this health issue for a while, so your continued support has meant a great deal to me. Thank you for all that you have done.

Sincerely,  
Becky Lewis



Dec. 12, 2015

Dear Friends at St. Luke,

Thank you for the bag of goodies Karen Bergen delivered to us on Tuesday. We are enjoying the candy, cookies, snacks, Clementines & we will use the tissues and napkins. We appreciate the thoughtfulness and love included. The ingredients will last a long time. Thanks again for your Christmas goodies.

In Christian Love,  
Charlie & Betty Paris

December 10, 2015

Many thanks to  
Cindy Belk who  
delivered the wonderful  
Christmas Bag with  
so many special items  
from Friends at St.  
Luke.

It shall be enjoyed  
knowing the work put  
into it by fellow parishioners

Sincerely,  
Marian

12/28/2015  
1:54:59 PM

St. Luke Evangelical Lutheran Church  
Birthdates  
1/1 - 1/31

Page: 1

Begin name: A  
End Name: Zzzz

Name	Birthdate	Name	Birthdate
Wolfe, Linda	01/01	Confer, Addison	01/02
Eshleman, Audrey	01/02	Jean, Trent	01/02
Ogurcak, Janice	01/04	Scampone, Karen	01/04
Heaps, Charles	01/05	Keller, Judith	01/05
Fisher, Sondra	01/06	Welsh, Kenneth	01/06
Baldys, Karen	01/08	Lewandowski, Doris	01/10
Gardner, Michael	01/11	Heaps, Jada	01/11
Borch, Andrew	01/12	McMullen, Benjamin	01/13
Rhodes, Dwight	01/13	Tignor, Lore	01/16
McCullough, Barbara	01/17	Larson, Matthew	01/19
Merkel, William	01/19	Young, Sarah	01/20
Croyle, Ruth	01/23	Liptak, Linda	01/23
Baldys, Alice	01/24	Bobst, Nancy	01/24
Karnes, Constance	01/24	Harris, Andrew	01/26
Reeder, Wilma	01/26	Tomasella, Marissa	01/26
Harris, Juliet	01/27	Borch, Jennifer	01/29
Hershey, Theoron	01/29	Kelsey, John	01/31

St. Luke Evangelical Lutheran Church  
Anniversaries  
1/1 - 1/31

Date of Marriage

Mr. & Mrs. David Shade

01/22/1977

# Ministry News

## Summary Report of the Pastor – December

We have “watched and waited and prayed” this Advent and we come to Christmas Eve with new voices and song at the early service. The holiday will be celebrated nearly all 12 days: I head to Baltimore with the Senior High youth on December 27<sup>th</sup> for a holiday mission trip. Then, on January 3<sup>rd</sup>, the Junior High Youth Group will be delivering socks and slippers and home-baked cookies to the YWCA. There will be a party/luncheon as part of the delivery, with a “3 Kings flourish.” The Christmas season then ends with the major church holiday of Epiphany, which is always January 6<sup>th</sup>. I spread the cycle of the holiday with both the Preschool at chapel, and in my visits to the homebound.

We have passed the 2016 budget, with the new position of “Coordinator for Families in Mission.” We also hope to keep St. Luke’s traditional generosity towards the wider church and community. We will now be working under more standard governance with the new constitution and we are blessed at St. Luke to have those who are willing to be engaged in leadership. We look forward at January Church Council to see who will be the new officers of the church.

The financial review by George Armstrong has been completed and everything at St. Luke is in order. There were recommendations *going forward* to make for a better system, and these recommendations are being implemented.

### Fellowship Summary:

- **Make purchases for Hanging of the Greens Coffee Hour.**
- **Make purchases for Children’s Creche Service Reception.**
- **Make phone calls to those who chose food prep on Time and Talent for 2016 Coffee Hours.**
- **Assign dates for each 2016 Coffee Hour to different ministries.**
- **Think of ideas for both Talent Show and Anniversary Party.**