

The Spectrum

August 2019

St. Luke Lutheran Church * 1400 Market Street Williamsport, PA 17701
(570) 323-7309

info@stlukeweb.com * www.stlukeweb.com

Service Hours

*8:00am and 9:30am
Spring /Summer service
hours*

OFFICE HOURS:

M & T – 9-12, 1-3;
W, Th, F – 9-12

Office Hours for Pastor LeCrone:

Monday & Tuesday
10:00AM- 2:00PM
And
Thursday
10:00AM-12noon



SERVICES OF WORSHIP

Sunday, Aug. 4th The Eighth Sunday after Pentecost

8:00am - Holy Communion in Chapel

9:30am - Holy Communion

Blueberry Coffee hour

Sunday, Aug. 11th The Ninth Sunday after Pentecost

8:00am - Holy Communion in Chapel

9:30am - Holy Communion

Sunday, Aug. 18th The Tenth Sunday after Pentecost

8:00am - Holy Communion in Chapel

9:30am - Holy Communion

Hunger Offering

Coffee Hour

Sunday, Aug. 25th The Eleventh Sunday after Pentecost

8:00am - Holy Communion in Chapel

9:30am - Holy Communion

“I am about to do a new thing; now it springs forth, do you not perceive it?”

- God (as found in Isaiah 43:19)

At one of the churches I used to be associated with, someone once asked me why another church in the community seemed to attract so many more people than our church did. While I wasn't extremely familiar with that church, I ventured a few guesses: The church in question had altered their worship style to one that was more accessible to unchurched people. They offered strong volunteer-led ministries, most notably offering programming for children and youth. They had a strong small groups network that helped to strengthen both fellowship and personal faith growth. In general, they were willing to change their status quo – the “way we've always done it” – in order to reach more people.



My questioner stood silent for a moment, appearing to mull my answers. Finally, the response came: “Yeah, but how come their church attracts so many people and ours doesn't?” It was as if my thoughts on the matter had never been spoken. Like the council in the above cartoon, that person had a paradoxical desire for transformation without change.

You might recognize that I told that story in my sermon on July 21 (print copies are available in the office). In short, my main point in that sermon was this: while we often hope for God to give birth to something new in our midst, we aren't always ready to experience the “labor pains” that come with that birth.

There is no magic bullet to promise automatic growth. Any of the ideas I mentioned above can easily fail, especially if there's no accompanying effort to build relationship or truly engage with the community. Nonetheless, churches who desire to grow need to be open to changes that allow them to make new connections with people.

For some, that type of change might mean letting go of some of the ways things used to be done. For others, it might mean making a greater investment in the ministry of the church, whether that be through gifts, time, or talent. As your interim pastor, I'm not about to cast a specific vision in which this might happen, but I **do** feel comfortable telling you that it probably **should** happen on some level.

So, as the time and talent sheets are distributed in the coming months, I hope that you'll consider the following questions as you review them. Of course, I'll hope you'll consider whether God is calling you to join one of our existing ministries, but I hope you'll pray on these as well.

- Might any of our existing ministries be changed to better meet the needs of the community?
- Might there be new ministries to meet new needs?

May God continue to bless your summer season as we head into the fall!

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Jeff".



**American
Red Cross**

CALL COMMITTEE

It will soon be time to form the Call Committee, which is the committee that screens, interviews, and recommends candidates to the Congregation Council. **If you would like to be considered for the Call Committee, please submit a written request for consideration to Sarah Young, Office Manager.**

BLOOD DRIVE HOSTED BY ST. LUKE LUTHERAN CHURCH

Friday, August 16th

1pm- 6pm

For more information, go to

<https://www.redcross.org/>



SAVE THE DATE FOR A SERVICE OPPORTUNITY

On **Saturday, August 24**, St. Luke Church will demonstrate the love of Christ at Sojourner Truth Ministries as part of their "Dinner Church", a mid-day worship service and meal. Named after the famed abolitionist, Sojourner Truth Ministries serves the "troubled, anxious, alienated, and disenfranchised." members of our community. Volunteers will be needed to cook and serve the meal, as well as to simply come and learn more about the ministry and to get to know some of those who are served. More details will be shared in the coming weeks, **but a sign up for food donations is already available in the West Hall.**

The Pre-School at St. Luke

THANK YOU The Board of Directors of The Pre-School at St. Luke would like to thank the members of St. Luke for helping to make our Pre-School Yard Sale such a big success. We are grateful for all the support that this congregation gives to us. Thank you very much to all of you who donated items for the sale, to those of you who volunteered your time to help with the event and especially to those who came to shop or just have lunch. We would also like to thank Ron and Deb Derr, from Perfect-2-Perfect, who volunteered their time and knowledge to us as a donation to the Pre-School. We are very proud that The Pre-School is a successful and thriving outreach program of our church, and as in the past, all items that were not sold were donated to Daniel's Closet, James V Brown Library and the American Rescue Workers. We couldn't do it without the support of the members here at St. Luke. Thank you very much for all that you do for The Pre-School.

SCHOOL KITS NEEDED

As Lutheran World Relief describes it: “Access to education is a critical piece of helping children break the chain of chronic poverty. That’s why requests for LWR School Kits are on the rise. Take advantage of summer sales to make School Kits, and help provide hope and a future to children around the world.”

This year Outreach Ministry has set a goal of 50 Kits. We are fortunate to have volunteers who this summer, have been sewing back packs to reach our goal.

We need the following:

- (200) 70-sheet notebooks of ruled paper, 8'x 10 ½ ”
- (5) 30 centimeter ruler or a ruler with centimeters on one side and inches on the other.
- (50) Pencil sharpeners
- (42) Blunt scissors (safety scissors with embed steel blades)
- (200) Black or blue ballpoint pens (no gel ink)
- (25) Box of 16 or 24 crayons
- (30) 2 ½” eraser



*** SEE THE DISPLAY IN WEST HALL FOR SPECIFIC ITEMS**

IN OUR AREA

Free Summer Meals for Kids

Concerned about kids who are going hungry over the summer? Meals are available free in our county for children and teens 18 years of age and younger

who can get food while school is out. Check it out at <https://www.fns.usda.gov/summerfoodrocks> .

Be A Heart works Volunteer

New volunteers are needed for Heartworks, the grief support program of UPMC Susquehanna for children, teens and their families. A 20+ hour volunteer training program is scheduled to begin late August.

This rewarding volunteer opportunity does require a one year commitment to our bi-monthly Tuesday evening (5:15-8:15 pm) meetings September through May. You can check out the Heartworks website at www.UPMCsusquehanna.org/Heartworks to learn more about the program. For more information, call or e-mail Linda Bryant, Heartworks coordinator 570-220-8472 or bryantl3@upmc.edu.

*Happy Birthday
to our members celebrating in August:*

Kara Hershey August 01
William Hutchison August 01
Macie Confer August 03
Shirley Collins August 05
Joseph Desisto August 05
Emily Wood August 05
Anna Griffith August 06
Scott Wicks August 08
Patricia Coulter August 09
Becky Donnell August 09
Carol Steck August 09
Eva Belle Sweitzer August 09
Bella Young August 11
David Shade August 12
Ann Jackson August 14
Ann Swope August 15
Sarah Robbins August 17
Barbara Coates August 18
Braden Beck August 19
Philip Harvey August 21
Gabrielle Sims August 24
Dillan Read August 27
Franciska Seyler August 27
Roseann Husband August 30
Joan Knaus August 30
Barbara Lamade August 30
Theodore Cockley August 31



Happy Anniversary.....

Dr. & Mrs. David Briggs 8/02
Mr. & Mrs. Christopher Scampone 8/02
Mr. & Mrs. Kirk Fisher 8/13
Mr. & Mrs. Douglas Durand 8/18
Mr. & Mrs. David Bailey 8/24
Mr. & Mrs. Richard Ogurcak 8/27
Mr. & Mrs. Stephanie Confer 8/31



(We're sorry if we missed any one. If we did, please contact the office so we can add you to our computer records.)

| Date | Greeters | Usher | Acolyte | Lector | Asst. Min. | Administrant | Comm. Helpers |
|--------------|-------------------------------|--|--|---------------------------------|--|------------------------------------|---|
| 4th 8:00 | | Chris Knaur | | John McNassor | | John McNassor | |
| 9:30 | Barbara Coates | Mark Bergren Bob Larsson Dan Erhar Ray Schreckengast | Dillan Read | David Bailey | Charles Mahler | Linda & Bill Liptak | Fortin Family |
| 11th 8:00 | | Chris Knaur | | Jim Donnell | | Jim Donnell | |
| 9:30 | Carol Steck | Same | Same Mahler | TBA | Marilyn Eshleman | Nancy Wood/ Dan Lamade | Susan Horn/ Ali Wyland & Karen Scampone |
| 18th 8:00 | | Chris Knaur | | Nancy McCarty | | Nancy McCarty | |
| 9:30 | Jere & Marilyn Eshleman | Same | Ethan Strother | Jay Nau | Melanie Taormina | Charles Mahler/ Patty Durand | Carole Harris & The Taormina Family |
| 25th 8:00 | | Chris Knaur | | TBA | | TBA | |
| 9:30 | Scampone Family | Same | Janna Seyler | Scott Seyler | Carol Steck | David & Margot Briggs | Hanne Schuman, Keith & Nancy Wood |
| Date | Coffee Hour | Flower Delv. | Counters | Lay Callers | Comm. Clean-up | Nursery | Altar Care |
| 4th | Blueberry Coffee Hour | Richard & Loir Tignor | Linda Wolfe/ David | Bill & Linda Liptak | Kathy Borch | Open if Needed | |
| 11th | | David & Diana Bailey | Nancy McCarty/ Dan Wolfe | Mark Bergren/ Charles Mahler | MJ Webster | Open if Needed | |
| 18th | Coffee Hour | Mark & Karen Bergren | Terry Belles/ Ray Schrecken- gast | Hanne & George Schuman | MJ Webster | Open if Needed | |
| 25th | | Rick & Diane Gonzalez | Hank & Joan Knaus | Terry & Cindy Belles | Carole Harris/ Melanie Taormina | Open if Needed | |