

**ST. LUKE LUTHERAN
CHURCH**
*** 1400 MARKET ST.,
WILLIAMSPORT, PA 17701 ***
570-323-7309



2021 NEWSLETTER

From the Pastor's Desk

I am confident of this, that the one who began a good work among you will bring it to completion by the day of Jesus Christ. –

Philippians 1:6

What a day! It took a little longer than usual to happen, but it was wonderful to celebrate with you last month as I was officially installed as your pastor (finally!). It was energizing to see so many people at the church. It was encouraging to feel the support and congratulations of brothers and sisters in Christ. And it was gratifying to finally reach the end of what has been a very long process.

I am beyond thankful for all of those who helped put together any part of that day, and for all of you who stand beside me in ministry.

As we were preparing for the service, it occurred to me that the day itself was not unlike a wedding, albeit on a much smaller

scale. It was a celebration of a union between pastor and congregation. In the context of worship, there were promises made by both parties. And we even shared a meal afterwards.

And just as is the case with any wedding, when the special day is over, there is a shift of focus to the question of “Now what?” Because as wonderful as a wedding is, the marriage that comes next is exponentially more important and challenging.

There may be perfect weddings, but there are no perfect marriages. The same is true of pastoral calls. In both cases there will always be misunderstandings and mistakes, disagreements and difficulties. But there will also be opportunities to grow deeper in our relationships with each other and with God. And, most importantly, opportunities for ministry together.

And so, now that we are “on the other side”, I invite you to join me in turning to God and asking, “What’s next?”

Peace,



Covid Update from the St. Luke Executive

Committee: According to the CDC, Lycoming County has had crossed the threshold into "substantial transmission". The CDC now *recommends* universal indoor masking in Lycoming County regardless of vaccination status, and as the St. Luke executive committee, we continue to recommend following the

CDC guidelines. More information on the CDC recommendation for fully vaccinated people can be found at <https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/vaccines/fully-vaccinated.html>.

We continue to gather for in-person worship and encourage all who are able, to join us on Sunday mornings. Finally, we are committed to the needs of all members of our congregation, therefore virtual worship will continue until further notice.

ST. LUKE'S HANDBELLS Are you interested in playing handbells? Anyone is invited to join the handbell choir. No experience is necessary, but knowledge of music is helpful. All that is required is a desire to have fun, a willingness to make a joyful noise to the Lord and the ability to attend weekly rehearsals. Rehearsals will be held **Thursday evenings at 6:30pm in the nave.**

SEW FINE QUITERS will meet **Monday, November 1st at 9:00am-3:00pm.** Come and go as your time provides. If possible, join us for lunch at 12noon. Lunch will be provided.



BELL HALL will be closed for member use on Nov. 2nd, due to the upcoming Municipal Election. St. Luke is a polling location between the hours of 6am-8pm. Thank you.

SHAWL MINISTRY

The Shawl Ministry meet for knitting and crocheting on **Tuesday, Nov. 16th from 9:30am-12noon, in the Chapel.** All are welcome. No December meeting. See you next year!



FROM THE PRE-SCHOOL AT ST. LUKE

We're having a wonderful, busy fall at the Pre-School at St. Luke. In October, we made a trip to Carpenters Pumpkin Patch, had our pictures taken, & a visit from the Williamsport Fire Co. The children started chapel time with Pastor Jeff & had chance to eat lunch at school for their first "Lunch Bunch" day, it was so **EXCITING!** We will be "Waddling into November" & celebrating our Feast of Favorites on Nov. 23. There will be no school Nov 25 & 26. The Preschool wishes everyone a Happy Thanksgiving!

WEIS 4 SCHOOL PROGRAM

By participating in this program, you can earn money for the Pre-School at St. Luke simply by shopping as you do every day. Please pick up a flyer in the West Hall for more information. Take one for a friend!

The church office will be closed Thursday, Nov. 25th & Friday, Nov. 26th while staff celebrates the Thanksgiving holiday with family.





ADVENT MIDWEEK SERVICES

In continuation from last year, the current plan is to hold the Advent Midweek Services online again this year. This is not so much a pandemic precaution as much as it is an anticipation of attendance. If you would like to attend in-person services, please reach out to Pastor Jeff. With a sufficient response, the decision may be reversed. As it is, we will broadcast an **Advent Midweek Prayer Service every Wednesday during the season at 7:00PM on the Facebook page, starting Wednesday, December 1.**

SAVE THE DATE FOR THE CONGREGATIONAL MEETING SESSION I

We will vote on the 2022 Budget; and elect members to Congregation Council, St. Luke Fund, and the Nominating Committee. **The meeting will follow the 10:30AM Service on Dec. 12th.**

PRE-SCHOOL YARD SALE ITEMS

Available to church members and friends: Adjustable hospital bed; air mattress for hospital bed or home bed. If you are interested in these items, please contact the Pre-School at St. Luke at 570-323-2705.

REMINDERS:

Office hours – M & T 9-12, 1-3; W, TH, F 9-12
Bulletin deadline – WEDNESDAY 9:00AM
Spectrum deadline – 20th of each month
Council Packet info due – Friday 9:00AM prior to Mtg.
Office e-mail – info@stlukeweb.com



REDEEMER LUTHERAN CHURCH is pleased to announce the formation of a new GrifShare site that began meeting on Monday, Oct, 18 at 2:00pm for a 13- week journey. Redeemer is offering this program to anyone who is having difficulty dealing with the death of a loved one.

CONFIDENTIALITY is expected of those who attend. We are here to support each other. We will gather each week to share a Christian- based video, workbook ideas and, perhaps, offer comfort to others who might be in a different place in their grieving process. Please contact Barb Horn at horn@lycoming.edu or 570-974-3744, if you would like more information. Blessings from your co- facilitator, Barb Horn & Deb Sanders

EVENING AT SHADE MOUNTAIN - BENEFIT CAMP MOUNT LUTHER

NOVEMBER 5th at 6:00pm - 8:00pm. This is a fundraising opportunity to share fellowship, entertainment, and locally produced wine, all to benefit Camp Mount Luther. It's held at Shade Mountain Winery, 16140 Route 104, Middleburg, PA. There will be a limit of 50 people for this year's event, which will run from 6:00 to 8:00 p.m. on Friday, November 5, 2021. Entertainment will be provided by KJ Reimensnyder-Wager, a local folk musician. Menu to include heavy appetizers, desserts, and a complementary glass of wine. Reservations required. Call 570-922-1587 or email cml@campmountluther.org. Cost is a donation. Consider a donation equal or greater to the food and entertainment provided. If you choose to purchase any bottles of wine that evening, camp receives a portion of the proceeds.



*Happy Birthday to our members
celebrating in November:*

11/06 Ertel, Catharine
11/06 Griffith, Evelyn
11/06 Scampone, Christopher
11/09 Edmonds, Jacob
11/11 Clark, Andrea
11/11 Lewis, Leah
11/16 Newburg, Cheryl
11/19 Knade Jr., Oscar
11/19 Witmer, Lottie
11/23 Eshleman, Melissa
11/25 Knade, Shirley
11/26 Lewis Sr., Frederick
11/26 Wood, Nancy
11/27 Coulter, Nathan
11/29 Young, Angus

Happy Anniversary.....

Mr. & Mrs. Chris Knaur	November 07
Clark, Brett & Andrea	November 08
Smith, Michael & Allison	November 14
Snyder, Sr., Jack & Deloris	November 22

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





2021 POINSETTIA ORDER

Poinsettias this year will be on a per-order basis. They can be placed as a memorial or honorarium using the coupon below. White, red, and a few pink poinsettias will be placed in the chancel, parlor and chapel for Christmas Eve. All will remain in place until after the Dec. 24th service(s), after which time donors may take a plant.

Poinsettias are \$10 each. Pay with the coupon and place in an envelope marked "Poinsettias" and return them via the offering plate or church office until **Monday, November 29th.**



PLEASE PRINT

Given in memory of

Or
Given in honor of

By

\$10 each

I would like:

1st color choice: ____ RED ____ WHITE ____ PINK

2nd color choice only: ____ RED ____ WHITE ____ PINK

____ Yes, I will take my plant after the December 24h service.

____ No, I will donate to the church.

(Your 2nd color choice will only be placed if the green house is out of your 1st color choice or poor flower quality.)