

**ST. LUKE LUTHERAN
CHURCH**
*** 1400 MARKET ST.,
WILLIAMSPORT, PA 17701

570-323-7309



2021 NEWSLETTER

From the Pastor's Desk

*“For everything there is a season,
and a time for every matter under
heaven.” - Ecclesiastes 3:1*

As much as I love Autumn weather (well, *early* Autumn weather, anyway), it has a bittersweet quality to it. Whereas spring is a season of beginnings, Fall can be seen as a time when many things come to an end. By October, summer vacations are finished. The growing season is just about over. Even the end of the liturgical year is only a month or two away. As the weeks progress, our days will be getting shorter, the temperatures will be getting colder, and even the beauty of fall foliage will soon give way to barren trees and dreary skies.

It is against that seasonal backdrop, then, that we will officially celebrate your calling of me as your pastor with an installation this month. And just as with the calendar season, there is a bittersweet quality to life in our

church community these days. I'm excited to celebrate the beginning of this call and I look forward to what the future may bring. But just as fall brings winter, it would seem that we are entering into another challenging season. This will be our second winter dealing with pandemic, and we are fully aware of the difficulties that could bring.

But here's the beautiful thing about seasons: Every season ends, and the end of every season is the beginning of another. No matter how bleak the prospects of winter may appear, there will always be another spring, another summer. To borrow some imagery from the Ecclesiastes passage I quoted at the top of the page (I invite you to read the rest of the chapter on your own), harvest's end eventually leads to planting season, death occurs even as newborns are entering the world, and even war eventually gives way to peace.

In my time with you, there are bound to be ups and downs, seasons of difficulty and seasons of "harvest". May we continue to have faith in the God who gives all seasons.

Peace,

Handwritten signature of Jeff





BLANKET SUNDAY On display next **Sunday, Oct. 3rd** in the Nave and the Chapel will be some of the 107 quilts made this past year by the Sew Fine Quilters.

These quilts will be distributed as follows:

- 49 to Lutheran World Relief**
- 10 to Hospice - The Gatehouse**
- 2 to the Shepherd of the Streets**
- 39 to Project Linus**
- 7 to St. Luke Hospice**

THANK YOU to everyone who donated fabric and hours of volunteer time to make this possible. A special Thank You to St. Luke Thrivent members who provided financial support to purchase batting and other sewing needs.

SEW FINE QUITERS will meet **Monday, October 4th 9:00am-3:00pm.** Come and go as your time provides. If possible, join us for lunch at 12noon. Lunch will be provided.



Happy Autumn from the Pre-School at St. Luke!!

We have started our new school year with three classrooms and after a few bumps along the way, everyone seems to be settling in to the new routine.

Our September theme was “Welcome to Preschool” and “Apples”. We had a very successful fundraiser selling tickets for Mums from Simmer's Nursery. Thanks to everyone at St. Luke who purchased tickets. If you look around the church, you will see some of those mums

decorating our building for fall. We can feel your love and support every day. We also had our first Story Mobile visit. This was a big hit with all the children.

In October we will be taking our first field trip to Carpenter's Pumpkin Patch in keeping with our monthly theme of “Fantastic Fall”. We will also learn about fire safety. Our Picture Day will be October 5th.

Thank you to all who signed up for the Weis4schools program. We received a check for \$632 from Weis Markets for our pre-school program. If you have participated in the past, you will need to sign up again for this school year. More information on the Weis4schools program will be posted in future bulletins and newsletters.

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**THANK YOU.....***I would like to thank my St. Luke family for their prayers, phone calls and cards after my recent surgery. It was very much appreciated.*

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FOOD DONATION UPDATE
 St. Luke will be accepting food donations in the Bell Hall glass foyer area, across from the office entrance. Trish Whelan asks that you use this location, at this time. Look for the box marked “food donation”. Trish will still keep the church office updated with any new information from the pantry. Thank you.

****UPDATED****

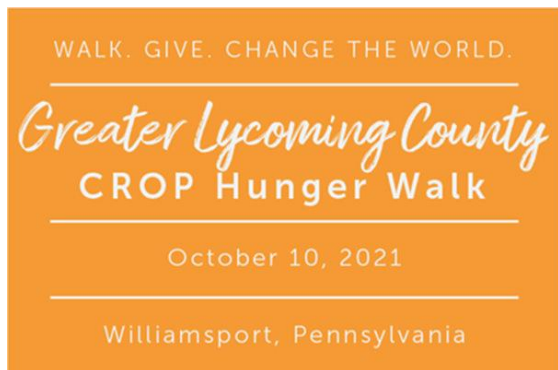
Products needed are:

- Coffee; Pop-Tarts; Rice
- Hamburger Helper; Pie Filling;
- Condiments; Boxed potatoes
- Jell-O and Pudding Mixes

We are still accepting donation for hygiene kits. These items may be dropped off in the Bell Hall glass foyer area, across from the office entrance.

Specific items currently needed

are: Kleenex; Paper Towels; Band Aids; Women's Deodorant; Feminine Hygiene Items; Conditioner; Shaving Cream



CROP WALK

Our community's annual walk to fight hunger, is scheduled for **Sunday, October 10, 2021**. Registration and Walk will begin at **1:00pm in front of St. Mark's Lutheran Church (142 Market St, Williamsport)**. Walkers can walk 3, 6 or 9 miles on the River Walk. This year is our 43rd Walk, and, to date, we have raised over 1 million dollars to help stop hunger! Last year we raised \$9,000. Please check the West Hall for the Crop Walk materials. You may contact Pastor Jeff or Sarah Young at the church office for more information.

Covid Update from the St. Luke Executive Committee:

According to the CDC, Lycoming County 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.



IN OUR COMMUNITY

Community information is from the September Edition of the UCLC Newsletter.

Wesley Forest Camp and Retreat November 12-14

Calvary Hill Retreat is offering the Experiencing the Silent retreat at Wesley Forest Camp and Retreat in Welkert, PA November 12-14. This retreat will give participants the opportunity to spend time in silent solitude communing with God. For more information contact Calvary Hill Retreat via email at calvaryhillretreat@yahoo.com, or by calling 607.432.4926. The \$40.00 fee includes your room and all meals. You will need to bring linen or a sleeping bag.

MUSIC ON CAMPUS!



An Opportunity for Church Musicians and All Who Sing or Play Hymns will be presented by Dr. Karl Moyer of Lancaster, organist and retired

professor, **on Saturday, October 30, 9:00-12:30, at Weber Chapel on the campus of Susquehanna University, Selinsgrove.** His topic is titled "Authenticity in Hymn Singing, Translating Theology into Organ Sound," addressing how different church bodies' hymnody reflects their theologies, citing Middle Ages, Moravian, Lutheran, Calvinist, Church of England, Lowell Mason, and Anabaptist hymnody. The event is sponsored by the Williamsport Chapter of the American Guild of Organists and is free for any Organ Guild members; there is a \$10 registration fee for others. For more information, contact Donna Elkin at 570-323-7367 or donnaelkin@gmail.com.

CAMP MOUNT LUTHER FALL FRISBEE FUNDAY OCT. 4, 3PM



CML will be hosting a Fall Frisbee Funday at CML. The director will be at the A-Center for anyone who would like to play a round of Frisbee Golf. No need to sign-up. Just show up to play.



CML invites you to be part of a fundraiser for camp that is sponsored by Lutheran Outdoor Ministries. You can run/walk/rollerblade/bike/wheelchair/skateboard or whatever!
On Saturday, Oct., 24, 2021 (or another date of your choosing.) Register fee is \$25 and then get at least 5 sponsors for your 5K proceeds going to CLM. To sign up and for more info go to: www.lomnetwork.org/run4camp.

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

FROM THE OFFICE Sarah Young will be out of the office the week of **Oct. 11th**. During office work hours Pastor Jeff will assist you.

AFTER hours: If you are in need of emergency pastoral care, please call Pastor LeCrone directly at 570-220-3631.



HAPPY BIRTHDAY.....

- 10/02 Taormina, Daniel
- 10/04 Whittaker, Charleen
- 10/05 Keller, C. Nicholas
- 10/06 Lamade, John
- 10/06 Matz, Janet
- 10/07 Durand, Brooks
- 10/09 Masden, Becky
- 10/10 Beck, Kristin
- 10/10 Dapp, Gladys
- 10/11 Hendricks, Krista
- 10/13 Pysher, Christine
- 10/14 Gardner, Wanda
- 10/16 Bernocco, Deb
- 10/16 Cowles, Howard
- 10/16 Taormina, Daniel
- 10/17 Borch, Robert
- 10/17 Hiller, Carl
- 10/18 Nau, Dawn
- 10/20 Lewis, Rebecca
- 10/20 Whelan, Patricia
- 10/22 Hutchison, Mary
- 10/24 Blair, Kaye
- 10/26 Harer, Margaret

Happy Anniversary.....

- 10/02/1981 McCullough, Barbara & Robert
- 10/02/1982 Masden, Becky & Dave
- 10/03/1959 Moyer, Sandy & Larry
- 10/04/1997 Wyland, Shelby & Roger
- 10/07/2006 Harris, Elizabeth & Andrew
- 10/12/1996 Beck, Jr., James & Kristin Beck
- 10/13/1962 Yohn, Chuck & Peggy
- 10/13/2001 Young, Sarah & Mike
- 10/21/1972 Witmer, Lottie & David

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

