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From the Pastor's Desk:

"And let us not neglect our meeting together, as some people do, but encourage one another, especially now that the day of his return is drawing near."

- Hebrews 10:25

The Public Health Emergency related to the COVID-19 pandemic officially came to an end last month. I was somewhat surprised when I saw that headline, because for the most part, it feels kind of like the mitigations and practices that surrounded it mostly subsided much earlier than that.

Over the last year we've done many things that we hadn't done for at least two years (and in some cases longer). For one thing, we ate together. We saw the return of fellowship hours, the preschool pancake breakfast, soup suppers, and Easter Sunday breakfast. The physical barriers we had put in place between each other have diminished and in some cases disappeared, with masks no longer being required and social distancing becoming less of a concern. And we are seeing each other more in person, without the help of Facetime or Zoom.

These things have been happening for quite some time now, but the announcement gave me an opportunity to reflect on how wonderful it is that we no longer have to regulate our time together as a church family so strictly.

This is not to say that the pandemic is without lasting effects. Worship attendance continues to rise, but it has yet to reach pre-pandemic levels. Also we're seeing fewer people volunteer during the service, especially as greeters.

Greeters represent a particular need, as they provide the most intentional outreach to visitors, whose numbers are also on the rise. If you would be interested in signing up to be (or in resuming as) a greeter, contact the church office.

Just as the temperature rises leading into summer, our opportunities to fellowship and worship together continue to increase, as we share the J.O.Y. of Jesus continue to grow! See you in worship (and maybe elsewhere too)!



Serving in June at the 10:30/9:30 am worship & Holy Week services

Altar care – Nancy McCarty Ushers - Charles Mahler, Chip Edmonds

June 4th Confirmation Sunday 10:30 am Lector – Cheryl Newburg **Communion Assistant**s – Patty Durand & Mark Bergren

June 11th Summer worship time change *9:30am 9:30am Lector – Wilma Reeder <u>Communion Assistants – Charles Mahler & Becky Lewis</u>

June 18th 9:30 am Lector – Ray Schreckengast Communion Assistants - Marilyn Eshleman & Hanne Schuman

June 25th 9:30 am Lector – Melanie Taormina **Communion Assistants** – Rod & Sandy Strother ******

USHERS Anyone interested in serving as an usher, please contact the office or email or call Nancy McCarty at: <u>nmac7149@gmail.com</u>; (570) 419-7827).

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CHURCH DIRECTORY INFORMATION

Our membership directory will be available for pickup at the back of the nave. If something in the membership directory is incorrect or to update your information, please contact Sarah Young at 570-323-7309 or email <u>info@stlukeweb.com</u>. *Thank you*.

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THANK YOU

Sunday, May 28th marked Susan Horn's last day as interim organist/choir director. Over the last few years, Susan's tireless service has been a great help during two transitional periods for the position, much of which occurred at the height of the pandemic. We are thankful to have had such a wonderful servant during this time. THANK YOU, SUSAN!

CONFIRMATION SUNDAY is **Sunday, June 4**th at the 10:30 am worship service. Coffee hour will follow the service in Bell Hall, please join us. All are welcome!

SEW FINE QUILTERS will meet on **Monday, June 5th at noon** in Bell Hall for a provided lunch at noon.

FROM THE OFFICE

- While pastor Jeff is out of the office on vacation from June 6th 13th, Carol Johnson is on call for pastoral emergencies. Carol Johnson may be reached at 570-772-6674 or by email carolandshuman@verizon.net.
- We will welcome The Rev. David Byerly to the pulpit on Sunday, June 11th.

SUMMER WORSHIP times are: 8 am and 9:30 am starting June 11th.

PRAYER CHAIN

If you or someone you know needs prayer, please call Cindy Belles at 570-419-1363 or Karen Bergren at 570-220-3201 to start the prayer chain. If you want the name to be <u>on the bulletin prayer list</u>, please call the church office.





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 کُ اُ *REMINDER* – If you purchased a hanging basket, they are available for pick up at Fairfield Greenhouse (*formerly Simmers Nursery*) in Montoursville until **June 20**.

IMMEDIATE OPENING: A Pre-School teacher is needed for our Tues. - Fri. morning program during the school year. Early Childhood or Elementary Education degree and clearances are required. Please send your resume to: The Pre-School at St. Luke, 1400 Market Street, Williamsport PA 17701 ATTN: Pre-school Personnel Committee.



KARS FOR KAMP

The second annual **Kars for Kamp** to benefit Camp Mount Luther will be held on **Saturday, June 10, 2023, from 9:00-3:00 p.m.** Rain date is June 11. All cars, streetrods, trucks, jeeps, and bikes are welcome. Registration is 9-12 the day of the event. Pre-enter by 6/4/22 for \$15. To register email <u>dbrobst@dejazzd.com</u>. Day of show entry is \$20.

Spectators are free. Awards will be presented at 2:30 p.m. There will be music, a 50/50 drawing, basket auction, food, and fun.



SIGHT AND SOUND BUS TRIP Join United Churches of Lycoming County on **June 13th** for our annual Sight and Sound Bus Trip! This year, we will be enjoying Moses and a delicious lunch at Bird in Hand Restaurant. The bus will leave from First Church, Williamsport at 6:30 a.m. and will return at 7:30 p.m. The cost per person is \$140. Save your spot as soon as possible. The deadline is May 1st or when the bus is full, whichever comes first. Don't miss out! Call the office with any questions at 570-322-1110. *St. Mark's will be making the same* trip in October 2023. More info about that trip coming late summer.

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STRAWBERRY FESTIVAL

Trinity Episcopal Pro-Cathedral, 844 West Fourth Street, Williamsport, will hold a Strawberry Festival on **Sunday, June 11th from 11:30 a.m. to 3:30 p.m.** BBQ sandwiches, hot dogs, baked beans, cold drinks, and strawberries with shortcake and ice cream will be available. Tours of the church will be offered. The Bald Eagle Art Show will take place at Way's Garden from 11:00 a.m.-4:00 p.m.

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AMP MOUNT LUTHER

This year's camping season at Camp Mount Luther will begin on **June 18, 2023.** Resident and Day Camps run until August 8. There are programs for all ages from kindergarten to senior high, adults, and families. Most sessions run for one week, but there are also half-week and day-only sessions, including a Pick-A-Day Camp and Pick Your Adventure. For more information on this summer's programs, call the camp office at (570) 922-1587 or visit the camp's website at http://www.campmountluther.org.

This year, the camp is offering more traditional programs throughout the summer. The Mount Luther experience is a blend of small and large group activities. Campers spend most of their time in a cabin group with peer campers and their counselors. A Family Camp will be held during the week of **July 4** and there is also a Servant And Leadership Training camp for senior high. A junior high Pedal, Pack, and Paddle camp will allow campers to bike, backpack, and canoe for three days. Tracks allows elementary and middle schoolers to spend more time in a specialty area during their week.

The camp is also accepting applications for Summer Staff positions. Candidates must possess a commitment to Christ, a passion for the outdoors, and strong leadership and teamwork skills. We are looking for people who can put the needs of others ahead of themselves. The camp is accredited by the American Camp Association. If you or someone you know might be interested, please contact chad@campmountluther.org or submit an application online at www.campmountluther.org/jobs

THE SERVICE MINISTRY will be making 80 To-Go lunch bags for the Sojourners Truth Ministry on **Saturday, August 12**. As in the past, lunch bags will be assembled in Bell Hall. Volunteers are needed to make sandwiches starting at 9:00 am – finishing by 11:00 am.

• Donations of food items: any snack item, individually wrapped (granola bars, fruit bars, gummy packs, potato chip bags, etc.; homemade cookies (4 cookies to a bag) or store-bought cookies; sliced bread. We will be making at least 30 PB & J sandwiches.

We are making 80 lunch bags, so any number of snacks is appreciated. There will be a display of snack items in the West Hall, starting in June. Your support is greatly appreciated. If you have any questions, please contact Marilyn Eshleman at 570-322-5202.



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 کُ اُ **SAVE THE DATE** The Annual St. Luke Blueberry Festival will be held on **August 26th from 1-5 pm.** Games, music, and everything Blueberry! <u>Blueberry</u> <u>picking will be held from July 15th - August 5th.</u> A signup sheet is located on the Church Council bulletin board in the West Hall. For more information, please contact Ť

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Jere Eshleman at 570-322-5202.

THE UNITED CHURCHES FOOD PANTRY (updated 5/10/23) is currently in need of: • Canned Goods (meats, vegetables, and fruits) • Cereals (any size) • Boxed Mixes (cakes, brownies, baking items) • Microwavable items • Condiments • Peanut Butter and Jelly • Puddings and Jell-O's

> Located at the rear of 202 East Third St., Williamsport Pantry Days and Hours: Monday: 9 a.m.-11 a.m. for donations/stocking/deliveries Tuesday: 10:15 a.m. – 2 p.m. Thursday: 10:15 a.m.-12 p.m. Closed the 5th Tuesday/Thursday

SHEPHERD OF THE STREETS (updated 5/10/23) Please remember us while you enjoy the summer. When shopping for your personal needs, consider purchasing a few additional items for the Hygiene Kit ministry. Our kits help recipients to stretch their monthly budgets. Listed below are a few things that we currently need: • Disposable Razors and Shaving Cream • Toilet Paper and Paper Towels • Men's and Women's Shampoo and Conditioner • Adult/Children's Toothbrushes and Toothpaste • Men's and Women's Body Wash and Deodorant • Wash Cloths and Bath Towels • Laundry pods (small packs – check at Dollar Tree) • Dish Detergent

To our members celebrating a birthday in June

David Bailey	June 01	Judith Collins	June 16
Kirk Fisher	June 02	Jocelyn Fisher	June 16
Charles Lamade	June 02	Olivia Strother	June 16
Raymond Schreckengast	June 04	Kay Creveling	June 18
Jennifer Johnson	June 05	Gianna Backner	June 21
Lee Bellott	June 07	Diane Gonzalez	June 21
Tom Morrison	June 10	Jon Jean	June 21
Rod Strother	June 10	Ethan Clark	June 23
Diane Kohler	June 11	Linda DeLong	June 23
Michael Eshleman	June 12	Diana Bailey	June 25
Stephanie Fortin	June 12	Kylie Beck	June 25
Ashleigh Schuler	June 12	Joann Wolfe	June 25
Robert McCullough III	June 14	Susan Duchman	June 27
Mackenzie Bloom	June 15	Ethan Strother	June 27
Celina Hasko	June 15	Cynthia Belles	June 30

Happy Anniversary.....

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Hannelore & George Schuman Chip & Erin Edmonds Charles & Melissa Mahler Oscar & Shirley Knade Jr. William & Glenda Merkel Rod & Sandy Strother David & Linda DeLong Dan & Melanie Taormina Daniel & Linda Wolfe Jere & Marilyn Eshleman John & Trish Whelan John & Wendy Kelsey Brad & Cheryl Nason

June 04 June 07 June 12 June 15 June 15 June 19 June 20 June 22 June 22 June 23 June 23 June 29 June 30 ******

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

STAFF AT ST. LUKE

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Pastor Jeffrey LeCrone, Pastor Email: <u>info@stlukeweb.com</u>



Sarah M. Young, Church Office Manager Email: <u>info@stlukeweb.com</u>



Susan Horn, Organist/Choir Director Email: <u>info@stlukeweb.com</u>



Chris Knaur, Sexton Email: <u>info@stlukeweb.com</u>



Melissa Eshleman, Business Manager Email: <u>info@stlukeweb.com</u>

ST. LUKE EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH 1400 Market Street, Williamsport, PA, (570) 323-7309 E-Mail: info@stlukeweb.com St. Luke Online: www.stlukeweb.com

