



**ST. LUKE LUTHERAN CHURCH**  
 1400 MARKET ST., WILLIAMSPORT, PA 17701  
 E-Mail: [info@stlukeweb.com](mailto:info@stlukeweb.com)  
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From the Pastor's Desk:

**August 2023**  
**Experiencing Summer J.O.Y.**

The official mission statement of St. Luke Church is “Experience the J.O.Y.: Come and worship, Go and Serve”. Experiencing the “J.O.Y.” means that **J**esus is at the center of your life, impacting your relationship with **O**thers and the world around you, and bringing personal growth to **Y**ou as a disciple of Christ.

As I look ahead to the month of August, it occurs to me that we are most definitely not taking the summer off from this mission.

***Keeping Jesus at the center:*** A key (but not the only) way to keep Jesus at the center of our lives is to maintain a healthy worship life. Summer is a great time for relaxation, but that’s all the more reason to be more intentional about worship, whether that be on Sunday morning or through devotional times throughout the day. And when those summer vacations lead to travel, they are a great opportunity to visit other faith communities as a reminder to ourselves that the table of Christian fellowship and community is truly a worldwide one.

***Loving others and the world around us:*** August is a busy month for our Outreach and Service ministries. On August 12, Service is organizing a meal for Sojourner Truth Ministries, and Outreach is taking the lead on our Blueberry Festival, which will take place on August 26. Both of these events will provide opportunities to

connect to others in our wider community of Williamsport and maybe even invite some people to be a part of our church community!

***Growing in discipleship:*** There aren't any studies or classes going on this month, but I have received multiple inquiries about reviving "Faith Matters", an informal and open-ended time of fellowship and discussion on the intersections of faith and life. I plan on holding sessions at ***New Trail Brewing at 6 p.m. on July 30, and August 13 and 27.*** You can eat before you come or you can take advantage of the food truck on the premises to have your evening meal as we talk! And please know that non-alcoholic options are available! I have found these times to be a wonderful way not only for us to get to know each other better but to explore real life topics from a disciple's perspective.

The opportunities are plentiful, so come and experience the J.O.Y. at St. Luke this summer!



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**SUMMER WORSHIP** times are held at 8:00 am and 9:30 am until September 10<sup>th</sup>.

**Serving in August at the 9:30 am worship services**

**Altar care** – Sun Flower

**Ushers** – Allan Husband

**Aug. 6<sup>th</sup>**

9:30 am **Lector** – Susan Duchman

**Communion Assistants** – Mark Bergren & Marilyn Eshleman

**Aug. 13<sup>th</sup>**

9:30am **Lector** – Wilma Reeder

**Communion Assistants** – Charles Mahler & Patty Durand

**Aug. 20<sup>th</sup>**

9:30 am **Lector** – Ray Schreckengast

**Communion Assistants** – Eric & Stephanie Fortin

**Aug. 27<sup>th</sup>**

9:30 am **Lector** – Diana Bailey

**Communion Assistants** – Nancy Wood & Becky Lewis

**FROM THE OFFICE** Sarah Young will be out of the office July 31<sup>st</sup> through the week of August 1<sup>st</sup>. During office work hours Pastor Jeff and a volunteer will assist you. ***AFTER hours:*** If you are in need of emergency pastoral care, please call Pastor LeCrone directly at 570-220-3631.

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**TIME CHANGE** Please mark your calendar for **Sunday, September 10<sup>th</sup>**. Our 8:00 am service time will remain the same; however, the 9:30 am service time is changing back to 10:30 am.

**OUTDOOR SERVICE (Sept. 10 and Oct. 8)** Our next outdoor service will be **Sunday, Sept. 10<sup>th</sup> at 10:30 am weather permitting**, in the front courtyard and live streamed. Due to inclement weather, the service will be held in the nave. (please bring a chair) The 8:00 am service will remain indoors.

**SERVING** If you would like to help serve in our 8:00 am or 10:30 am worship service(s), please contact Diane Kohler at 570-419-7085 or email [kohlerdede@gmail.com](mailto:kohlerdede@gmail.com) or Pastor Jeff at 570-323-7309.

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

**VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITY** The Outreach committee is looking for volunteers to be greeters at the late service. If you are interested in this ministry, please contact Deb Smith at 570-762-3308.

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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 [info@stlukeweb.com](mailto:info@stlukeweb.com). *Thank you.*

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**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 on the bulletin prayer list, please call the church office.

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PVC will meet next on **Tuesday, Aug. 8<sup>th</sup> at 2:00 pm** in the Library.

**CHURCH COUNCIL** next meeting is **August 14<sup>th</sup> at 7:00 pm** in Bell Hall.

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**FELLOWSHIP HOUR** Please join members in Bell Hall for a between-service opportunity for coffee, donuts, and fellowship. This hour will be held on non-scheduled coffee hour Sundays and concludes at the start of the late service. **Coffee Hour** will be immediately following the 9:30 AM service on the first Sunday of each month during summer. *For more information, please see the bulletin board in the West Hall.*



**COMMUNITY BLOOD DRIVE HOSTED BY  
ST. LUKE LUTHERAN CHURCH**

**Social Hall (Bell Hall)  
1400 Market St., Williamsport, PA 17701  
Friday, August 11, 2023  
12:00 pm to 5:00 pm**

**Let's get together over the summer!**

We have received several inquiries about reviving our "Faith Matters" sessions at New Trail Brewing this summer, so here are some dates (all at 6:00 p.m.): **July 30, August 13 & 20.**



Faith Matters is a time of informal and open-ended discussion on issues of life and faith. There's no agenda (topics are usually chosen when we get there), and all opinions are welcomed. A food truck is available for those who would like to eat their evening meal while we talk, and non-alcoholic options are available. Join us this summer for great fellowship and conversation!

**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 and 80 lunch bags. Many different snack items are appreciated. A display of items will be located in the West Hall. Your support is greatly appreciated.

If you have any questions, please contact Marilyn Eshleman at 570-322-5202.

**BLUEBERRY PICKING** A sign-up sheet is located on the Church Council bulletin board in the West Hall. For more information, please contact Jere Eshleman at 570-322-5202. *(Now through August 5<sup>th</sup>)*

The St. Luke Blueberry Festival is **August 26<sup>th</sup>, from 1:00 pm to 5:00 pm.** Come join us for a free family fun-filled afternoon. All proceeds will go to Sojourner Truth Ministry. A representative from Sojourner Truth will be there to answer any questions about their mission. We will also be having a pie-tasting contest. If you wish to participate, please call Dawn Nau at 503-686-4968 (*entries will be accepted until Noon on the 26<sup>th</sup>*). We need volunteers to make this happen. If you would like to help, please use the sign-up sheet in the West Hall.

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

# ANNUAL BLUEBERRY FESTIVAL

Join us in helping the homeless  
and feeding the hungry in our  
community!

Free event - Accepting donations for  
Sojourner Truth Ministries

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**SATURDAY, AUGUST 26TH 2023**  
**1PM-5PM**

FREE FOOD - BLUEBERRY DESSERTS  
- VOTING FOR THE BEST PIE - KIDS  
GAMES - BLUES BAND

**FUN FOR THE WHOLE FAMILY**

This event is free to attend. We are accepting donations for  
Sojourner Truth Ministries in Williamsport this year.

SEW FINE QUILTERS Come join us for a fun day starting our new year of making quilts for Lutheran World Relief, the Gate House, Shepherd of the Streets, and Project Linus. Please join us on **Monday, August 28<sup>th</sup> from 9:00 am -3:00 pm in Bell Hall.** Lunch will be provided at noon. Come and go as your time permits. No quilting experience is needed!



Greetings! I wanted to take a moment to thank you for welcoming me into the fold of the St. Luke's family over the past few weeks as your new Music Director. It has been lovely to revisit some "old" friendships and to begin new ones thus far. In addition, I have to say how impressed I have been hearing your singing as a congregation; it is obvious that this group loves to sing!

A brief history, my husband Bill and I moved to this area in 2006 from Cleveland, Ohio, and soon found the Pre-school at St. Luke for our kids to attend. We spent 5 consecutive years in and out of that car line while all three of our kids (now ages 20, 17 and 15) developed under the loving care found at this place. So, first and foremost, thank you all for the ministry of your Pre-school which continues to encourage so many children in our area to thrive!

Looking to the future, I am thankful to be given the opportunity to encourage musical development at St. Luke Lutheran Church through worship, both instrumental and through song. Our first rehearsal for Chancel choir will take place **Thursday, September 7 at 7:00pm** and our first Bell practice will be **Sunday September 10 between services.** In the meantime, if you have an interest to join either ensemble and may NOT be on my lists, please catch me at church or send me a note at [beckyciab@gmail.com](mailto:beckyciab@gmail.com).

Lastly, all folks interested in choir and bell choir are invited to attend a social hour meet and greet to be held **Thursday, August 31 at 7:00pm in the Chapel.** No need to RSVP, just come!



I look forward to getting started.

Becky



KNIT. CROCHET. PRAY.

When members or friends of the congregation experience trying times or milestones of great joy, we present them with a prayer shawl as a visible sign of our prayers for them. Shawls can be knitted at monthly meetings held on the 3<sup>rd</sup> Tuesday of the month (Sept.- May) or any time at home. The first meeting is on **Tuesday, September 19<sup>th</sup> from 9:30 am -12 noon** in the Lounge. All are welcome!



The Third Annual Project Linus Make a Blanket Day will be held at St. Luke Lutheran Church on **Saturday, September 23<sup>rd</sup>, from 9:00 am - 2:00 pm** with lunch and snacks provided. Help is needed to assemble and tie quilts, hand-tie fleece blankets, and assemble granny square blankets. We will also be a drop-off point that day for donations of completed blankets, or blanket-making supplies like batting, fabric, yarn, and fleece blanket kits. For more information, please call Dawn Nau at 503-686-4968.

**SHEPHERD OF THE STREETS (updated 6/20/23)** Listed below are a few things that are currently needed: **Adult:** Combs, shampoo, conditioner, large bars of soap, and deodorant. **Children and Infants:** Children’s toothbrushes and toothpaste, hair ties, baby lotion, baby wash, and power.

**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



*Please wish our members a belated birthday!*  
*Hanne Schuman's Birthday was 7/2 and Melanie Taormina's birthday was 7/24*

*To our members celebrating a birthday in August ....*

|                    |           |
|--------------------|-----------|
| Kara Hershey       | August 01 |
| William Hutchison  | August 01 |
| Macie Confer       | August 03 |
| Joseph Desisto     | August 05 |
| Emily Wood         | August 05 |
| Becky Donnell      | August 09 |
| Patricia Kelley    | August 09 |
| Carol Steck        | August 09 |
| Eva Belle Sweitzer | August 09 |
| Bella Young        | August 11 |
| David Shade        | August 12 |
| Ann Jackson        | August 14 |
| Sally Robbins      | August 17 |
| Barbara Coates     | August 18 |
| Quinn Smith        | August 18 |
| Braden Beck        | August 19 |
| Phil Harvey        | August 21 |
| Mary Lou Byerly    | August 22 |
| 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.....*

|                           |           |
|---------------------------|-----------|
| David & Margot Briggs     | August 02 |
| Chris & Karen Scampone    | August 02 |
| James & Becky Donnell     | August 09 |
| Douglas & Patricia Durand | August 18 |
| David & Diana Bailey      | August 24 |
| Richard & Janice Ogurcak  | August 27 |

*(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**



**Pastor Jeffrey LeCrone, Pastor**  
Email: [info@stlukeweb.com](mailto:info@stlukeweb.com)



**Sarah M. Young, Church Office Manager**  
Email: [info@stlukeweb.com](mailto:info@stlukeweb.com)



**Rebecca Ciabattari, Organist/Choir Director**  
Email: [beckyciab@gmail.com](mailto:beckyciab@gmail.com)



**Chris Knaur, Sexton**  
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**Melissa Eshleman, Business Manager**  
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