



ST. LUKE LUTHERAN CHURCH
 1400 MARKET ST., WILLIAMSPORT, PA 17701
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 St. Luke Online: www.stlukeweb.com

APRIL



2024 NEWSLETTER

From the Pastor's Desk

Let your light shine before others, so that they may see your good works and give glory to your father in heaven.

-Matthew 5:16

Spring has sprung!

One of my favorite aspects of the season is that the days get progressively longer. That means more sunlight. Several studies show that sunlight has a variety of benefits. It can:

- Help your body to produce Vitamin D, which in turn supports bone and muscle health, regulate your blood pressure, blood sugar, and immune system, and help keep your brain working well.
- Kills bacteria.
- Improve sleep quality.
- Boosts your mood.

Sunlight can help us live healthier, happier lives. And I don't know about you, but when I am happy and healthy, I have more energy to give to others. And it seems to me that a community can only get stronger when its members are happier and

healthier. So, even though I'm not aware of any studies that make the case, it seems to me that we can add even one more thing to the list of benefits of sunlight: stronger communities.

Something similar happens when we absorb the light of Christ. But beyond mere happiness, it increases our joy.

Now, keep in mind that Joy is different from happiness. The latter depends on circumstances, but the former is internal. The more we expose ourselves to that light, whether it be scripture, worship, prayer, or anything in which we find God (and that's a long list), the more our joy increases, and the more we share it with others, strengthening not only our church community, but the communities around us.

So, as the weather improves, be sure to get out into the sun... and into the Son.

Peace,



FROM THE OFFICE

The Church Office will be closed on Friday, March 29th and Monday, April 1st for all staff. If you require emergency pastoral care during this time, please call Pastor LeCrone at 570-220-3631.

Serving in April at the 10:30 am worship service

Altar care: Cindy Belles

Greeters: 7th Jere Eshleman; 14th Lynn & Dave Shad; 21st Linda Updegraff; 28th Ruth Croyle

Ushers: 7th Bill Merkel; 14th Chip Edmonds; 21st Rod Strother; 28th Richard Ogurcak

April 7th Second Sunday of Easter

10:30 am Lector – Raymond Schreckengast

Assisting Minister – Deb Smith

Communion Assistant – Karen Baldys

April 14th Third Sunday of Easter

10:30 am Lector –Melanie Taormina

Assisting Minister – Charles Mahler

Communion Assistant – Becky Lewis

April 21st Fourth Sunday of Easter

10:30 am Lector – Sandy Lentz

Assisting Minister – Marilyn Eshleman

Communion Assistant – Rod Strother



April 28th Fifth Sunday of Easter
10:30 am Lector – Wilma Reeder
Assisting Minister – Deb Smith
Communion Assistant – Nancy Wood



Live Stream Assistant
7th & 21st Bob McCullough
14th Brad Nason
28th Charles Mahler

Offering Counters
7th Sue Beidler & Richelle Jones
14th Nancy McCarty & Marilyn Eshleman
21st Terry Belles & Ray Schreckengast
28th Sondra Fisher & Janice Ogurcak

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 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; (570) 419-7827).

GREETERS Anyone interested in serving as a greeter, please contact the church office or Debra Smith at 570-762-3308 or email at: mdtmom4@gmail.com

ST. LUKE ADULT SUNDAY SCHOOL is offered at 9:15 AM in the Library and led by Charles Mahler. If you would like more information, please get in touch with the church office or Charles Mahler at Mahler@lycoming.edu



CHILDREN'S SUNDAY SCHOOL for elementary school-aged kids is held during the 10:30 AM worship service. Each Sunday, Cheryl Newburg will lead the kids out of the service at the beginning of the readings and bring them back at the beginning of the choir anthem.

The kids will watch videos, read the Bible, and do some simple story-related activities that follow the lectionary; learning the same stories that are being covered in the service. **We are looking for leaders and volunteers to alternate weeks with Cheryl.** If you would like to volunteer, please contact the church office. *(clearances are needed for this program)*

FIRST SUNDAY ST. LUKE YOUTH GROUP meets on the “First Sunday” of each month from 4:00 pm -6:00 pm at Doug and Patty Durand's home. Grades 9-12 are welcome! For more information or directions, please contact Doug at 570-220-3656 or Patty at 570-220-36-58.

SEW FINE QUILTERS will meet on **Monday, April 1st from 9:00AM - 3:00 PM** AND on **Tuesday, April 2nd from 9:00AM- 2:00PM** in Bell Hall with lunch provided at noon.

SHAWL MINISTRY

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 3rd Tuesday of the month (Sept.- May) or any time at home. We meet next on **Tuesday, April 16th from 9:30 am -12 noon** in the Lounge. All are welcome!



OUTSIDE CHURCH WORK DAY

Saturday, April 13th from 9:00 am – Noon

Come out and give a hand in sprucing up the church! Please come dressed comfortably for the tasks you choose, and bring tools or equipment that you think might be helpful.

COLLEGE AND HIGH SCHOOL STUDENTS

The Richard E. Swartz Memorial Scholarship Fund applications are available for pickup. The applications are located outside the office, on the wall rack.



ONGOING COLLECTIONS AT ST. LUKE

SHEPHERD OF THE STREETS

Needed for men, women & children: Shampoo and Conditioner, Shaving Cream, Razors, Toothbrushes, Toothpaste, Body Wash, Deodorant, Feminine Hygiene Items, and Soap, especially Dove. Paper Towels and Toilet Tissue are also needed.

THE FOOD PANTRY

Your help is desperately needed! The shelves are empty! Below is a list of items that the UCLC Food Pantry needs (see next page). If you would like to join the volunteer team at the Pantry, please contact Tammy at 570-322-1110 for an orientation.

Peanut Butter
Boxed Macaroni and Cheese
Canned Beef Stew
Canned Chicken Noodle Soup
Canned Chicken Breast
Canned Mandarin Oranges
Large (shelf-stable) Fruit Juices

Food Pantry Donation: drop-offs are Monday from 9:00-11:00 a.m.

DANIEL'S CLOSET

Daniel's Closet needs your help! Now more than ever, warm winter clothing and accessories are needed for all ages, from infant through adult. **Seasonal clothing** (*no summer clothing at this time and please NO hangers*) for infants, children, and adults, as well as accessories (belts, ties, shoes, boots, scarves, hats, gloves, purses, backpacks/bags, suitcases, etc.). All clothing must be bagged, no loose clothing, please. A collection box is located in our West Hall or items can be taken directly to Redeemer Lutheran Church at 1101 Washington Blvd., Williamsport.





Dear Friends,

You are cordially invited to join us for a special concert to support dialysis patients and their families of the Independent Dialysis Clinics. This Dialysis Benefit Concert will also celebrate the life of Richard “Dick” Lakey. For over 28 years, Dick organized, facilitated and provided glorious music at concerts that raised funds to provide direct support to dialysis patients. The concert will be held on **Sunday, April 28, 2024, at 4:00 pm in the sanctuary of St. Luke Lutheran Church. A reception will follow the concert in the fellowship hall.**

This year’s program features a quintet of brass musicians to perform selections from jazz and classical repertoire. As our central highlight, we are excited to welcome professional organist, Karen Lakey Buckwalter, to perform works from Frescobaldi to Bach.

Concert proceeds support the patients of the Susquehanna Valley. Dialysis is a life-sustaining treatment which, despite technological and clinical advances, requires patients to spend four hours a day, three days a week, connected to a machine that cleans their blood and removes excess fluid. The treatment is rigorous for both the patients and their families. The concert proceeds help provide unique individual assistance to the patients: 1) through a cookbook designed to help maintain the special diet that is required; 2) through a nutrition supplement such as “Nepro,” a high calorie, high protein drink which helps meet the increased daily protein and calorie needs of dialysis patients and gift cards to grocery stores; 3) through materials to augment the educational and psychological needs of patients and their families; 4) and through support for transportation and physiological needs.

Donations will be accepted as a free will offering at the concert. If you would like to write a check, please make it out to “Memorial Dialysis Fund.” If you are unable to attend the concert but would like to make a donation in memory of Dick Lakey or to support the dialysis patients, please send your donation to:

Memorial Dialysis Fund
C/O Amy Gallagher
1660 Sycamore Road
Montoursville PA 17754

We hope that you will plan to attend the 29th Dialysis Benefit Concert at 4 pm on Sunday, April 28, 2024. Please accept our sincere appreciation for your support of the concert.

With our very best wishes,

Rebecca Ciabattari, Music Director, St. Luke Lutheran Church,
Along with the Lycoming College music department, and Members of the
Dialysis Staff



THE POTTING BENCH
GREENHOUSE & WORKSHOP

THE PRE-SCHOOL AT ST. LUKE

COUPON BOOK FUNDRAISER

Beginning on April 5, the Pre-School will be taking orders for coupon books from the Potting Bench Green House!

Proceeds benefit The Pre-School at St. Luke

Each coupon book is \$10 and includes:

- Two 10% off a greenhouse purchase
- One free slush
- One free float
- One free small soft serve cone

The Potting Bench offers flowers, plants, planters, hanging baskets, ice cream, sundaes, banana splits, milkshakes, slushies, homemade crafts and more.

324 Matthews Blvd. South Williamsport, PA
570-914-9664



2024 GRADUATING CLASS SAVE THE DATE

Please join us for the 2024 High School Seniors Recognition on
Sunday, May 19th at our 10:30 am worship service.

COMMUNITY BULLETIN BOARD

CAMP MOUNT LUTHER

The summer camp early registration deadline is **April 15th**. Register by midnight online or have your registration postmarked by that date to get an exclusive T-shirt. You can register online at campmountluther.org. Information is also available for pick up at St. Luke Church in the West Hall.



19th annual
**BISHOP'S
OPEN
GOLF
CLASSIC**
to benefit

**CAMP MOUNT
LUTHER**
May 13, 2024
Susquehanna Valley
Country Club
*See the link in the
description for more details!*

Registrations are being accepted for the 19th Annual Bishop's Open Golf Classic, which benefits Camp Mount Luther of Mifflinburg. Golfers are invited to participate in the tournament to be held on Monday, May 8, 2023, at the Susquehanna Valley Country Club in Shamokin Dam. Last year, over \$15,000 was raised because of this event. Shotgun start time is 12:30 p.m. Registration with lunch begins at 11:30 a.m. Sponsorships as well as individual registrations are currently being solicited. To get a registration form or [register online](http://registeronline), or for more information, go to the camp's website at www.campmountluther.org or contact the camp office at (570) 922-1587.



United Campus Ministry Student Organization at the Pennsylvania College of Technology is a student led group that seeks to provide opportunities to the members of the college community for: Christian fellowship, pastoral care, spiritual growth, faith discussion and volunteer service. We work to build ecumenical partnerships between local congregations and students.

Our link to the campus and the United Campus Ministry Student Organization is Ms. Shelley Litz, who encourages the students to continue their faith journey during their college years.

Monday evening bible studies bring in an area pastor to lead the study. Wednesday mornings students meet Shelley outside the cafeteria to host a Jesus and Java table where many students and staff stop by for a cup of coffee, morning munchie, and devotional card to help them get through the rest of the week, along with an encouraging word. There are also opportunities for regular mission projects, retreats and other activities.

How can you help?

One of the rules in ministry is that if you feed them they will come. That is certainly true on campus. During the spring and fall semesters we use lots of:

- Individually wrapped snacks
- Coffee and insulated cups with lids
- Bottles of water and juice
- Cakes and cookies and goodies for snacking
- Bags of goodies to be given to students studying for finals each semester
- Prayers for the students and staff

Rummage Sale

What: Rummage and Bake Sale with Marine Corps League holding hot dog sale in parking lot.

When: April 13th, Saturday, 8:00 a.m. - 2:00 p.m.

Where: St. Paul Calvary United Methodist Church
1427 Memorial Avenue, Williamsport
Please enter by the back corner door.



The Williamsport Music Club

presents a

Gala Concert

featuring:

2024 Budd Memorial Scholarship Winner

— WILLIAMSPORT —
MUSIC CLUB

Williamsport, Pennsylvania

KEEPING MUSIC ALIVE FOR THE FUTURE!

Organized and Federated
February 17, 1937
Member NFMC and PFMC

Tuesday, April 23, 2024 7:30 PM

St. Luke Lutheran Church

1400 Market Street Williamsport, PA

www.williamsportmusicclub.com



REMINDER:

Newsletter deadline - **The 15th of each month 9:00 am**
.....**AND:** Bulletin deadline - **Wednesday 9:00 am**
Council Ministry meeting minutes due - **Thursday 9:00 am**
before Mtg. *Council meetings are held on the second Monday of each month.*

If you would like to receive the newsletter (in color!) via email, please contact the church office at 570-323-7309 or by email at info@stlukeweb.com. Thank you.

To our members celebrating a birthday in April



Chelsey Wood	April 02
Justin Wood	April 02
Jessie Young	April 04
Nancy Long	April 07
Gayle Peters-Coates	April 07
Halle Clark	April 09
Brett Clark	April 10
Eddie Good	April 10
Laura Good	April 10
Terry Belles	April 12
Lucas Seyler	April 13
Mary Jane Webster	April 18
Marilyn Eshleman	April 21
Ed Kelley	April 25
Brad Nason	April 25
Chuck Yohn	April 26
Karen Bergren	April 27
Hank Knaus	April 28

Happy Anniversary.....

Bob & Kathy Borch	April 04
Richard & Lore Tignor	April 10
Terry & Cynthia Belles	April 19
Daniel & Barbara Lamade	April 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



Sarah M. Young, Church Office Manager
Email: info@stlukeweb.com



Rebecca Ciabattari, Organist/Choir Director
Email: beckyciab@gmail.com



Chris Knauer, Sexton
Email: info@stlukeweb.com



Melissa Eshleman, Business Manager
Email: businessmanager.stlukeluth@gmail.com

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