



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



2024 NEWSLETTER

From the Pastor's Desk

"But you are a chosen race, a royal priesthood, a holy nation, God's own people, in order that you may proclaim the mighty acts of him who called you out of darkness into his marvelous light."

-1 Peter 2:9

I recently did something that does not happen all that often these days. I attended a funeral that I did not officiate. The person who sat beside me, knowing I was a pastor, asked me if it was strange to sit in the pews for a service of worship. I suppose it *was* different. Sitting in the pews instead of up front, listening to the sermon instead of giving it, and wearing a tie instead of a clerical collar are all rare occasions for me these days. But strange? Not really.

The ten years that I spent working as a chaplain at a college saw me sitting in the pews on Sundays, something I did for three times that amount of time before becoming a pastor. So, on those rare occasions that I do it these days, it still feels familiar.

Still, I was glad to be asked the question, because it gave me the opportunity to reflect on the fact that pastors, for all our training, and for all the roles we play, are no less worshippers than any other church member. Anyone who has ever interacted with one for a significant period of time knows all too well that pastors are human. We have been given the privilege of sharing the Gospel in sermon form and of overseeing the administration of the sacraments of baptism and communion, but we are just as in need of the messages we preach and the means of grace we preside over as anyone else.

It works the other way, too, you know: the people who sit in the pews are just as capable of sharing the Gospel - in word and/or in deed - as are pastors. How we all do it might vary based on the individual and their gifts, but we are *all* called to some form of ministry, no matter where we sit on Sunday mornings. I am reminded of the bulletin cover of my home church, which listed those who were instrumental in that morning's worship service. The names of the first two would occasionally change over the years, but the third one remained constant:

Pastor: Rev. So-and-So
Organist/Choir Director: Mr. or Mrs. Such-and-Such
Ministers: *The members of Fairview Church*

So remember: wherever *you* sit, you are a called minister of St. Luke Church, sharing God's love with the world.

Peace,



Serving in May at the 10:30 am worship service

Altar care: Charles Mahler

Greeters: 5th Melissa & Charles Mahler; 12th Peggy & Chuck Yohn; 19th Nancy & Keith Wood; 26th Marjorie Holland & Diane Kohler

Ushers: 5th Diane Gonzalez; 12th & 19th Terry Belles; 26th Jere Eshleman

May 5th Sixth Sunday of Easter (Pre-School Sunday)

10:30 am Lector – Becky Lewis

Assisting Minister – Deb Smith

Communion Assistant – Hanne Schuman

May 12th Seventh Sunday of Easter

10:30 am Lector – Jay Nau

Assisting Minister – Allan Husband

Communion Assistant – Patty Durand

May 19th Pentecost

10:30 am Lector – Charles Mahler

Assisting Minister – Deb Smith

Communion Assistant – Marilyn Eshleman

May 26th Holy Trinity

10:30 am Lector – Sue Beidler

Assisting Minister – Melanie Taormina

Communion Assistant – Janice Ogurcak



Live Stream Assistant

5th Bob McCullough

12th Brad Nason

19th Bob McCullough

26th Charles Mahler

Offering Counters

5th Marilyn Eshleman & Sue Beidler

12th Sondra Fisher & Janice Ogurcak

19th Terry Belles & Ray Schreckengast

26th TBA & Sue Beidler



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.



PRE-SCHOOL SUNDAY

Please join us on **Sunday, May 5th** at the **10:30 am** worship service in celebrating the Pre-School at St. Luke Graduating Class of 2024. Worship will be followed by coffee hour hosted by the Pre-School board. All are welcome!

SEW FINE QUILTERS will meet on **Monday, May 6th** from **9:00AM - 3:00 PM** in Bell Hall with lunch provided at noon.

COUNCIL MEETING

MEMBERS Just a reminder, we will be having a relaxed and enjoyable dinner, open discussion, and fellowship before our next council meeting on May 13th at 5:30 pm which will be led by Nancy Wood followed by our regular meeting. (*please note the time change) Food and drinks will be provided.

2024 GRADUATING CLASS



Please join us for the 2024 High School Seniors Recognition on **Sunday, May 19th** at our 10:30 am worship service. Worship will be followed by a special coffee hour. All are welcome!
CONGRATULATIONS *Oliva Ciabattari, Ross Mahler, and Scarlett Young!*

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, May 21st** from **9:30 am -12 noon** in the Lounge. All are welcome!

MARK YOUR CALENDAR

* **SUMMER WORSHIP** times are: 8:00 am and 9:30 am starting **June 2nd**. The late service will be held outdoors to kick off the summer season!
(Extra chairs will be available, but please bring one if you can.)



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 Tammey 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 winter clothing at this time and please NO hangers*) for infants, children, and adults, as well as accessories (belts, ties, shoes, 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.



**THERE ARE A MILLION SUMMER JOBS OUT THERE,
BUT YOU'RE NOT LOOKING FOR JUST ANY BORING JOB.**
You want an exciting job, a job that matters. You want a job where you can make a difference, where you can make life-long friends, and of course, where you can make some money.

We're here to help. For over 60 years Camp Mount Luther has been helping young adults just like you find meaningful summer jobs that impact the lives of youth in positive and powerful ways. Because everyone deserves a job they can be passionate about. For more information go to <https://www.campmountluther.org/about/join-our-team>



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!


Bishop's Open Golf Classic May 13, 2024 @ 11:30 am – 6:00 pm

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 13, 2024, 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 (<https://www.campmountluther.org/golf-registration/>), or for more information, go to the camp's website at www.campmountluther.org or contact the camp office at (570) 922-1587.


COMMUNITY BULLETIN BOARD

ITEMS NEEDED at Sojourner Truth Ministries are: **rolls of TP and paper towels, plastic wrap, aluminum foil, and 9 oz. plastic cups.** Also needed are healthy snacks for use in their after-school program.

Please drop off donations at 501 High St. Williamsport, PA.
For more information, please call 570-323-1797 or email sojournertruthministries@gmail.com






UNITED CHURCHES of
LYCOMING COUNTY



Volunteers Needed to Lead Worship Services in Area Nursing Homes

- Most Nursing Home services are on Sunday afternoons and last less than an hour.
- This is an opportunity to focus on God's Word and sing His praises with residents that are unable to visit their home church.
- As a brother or sister in Christ, you may be the only family that visit with them.
- You do not need to be a pastor of a church to lead service; just have a heart to serve God.



More information :  570.322.1110  director@uclc.org

OLD IMMANUEL



The Rev. Ben Lander, currently serving at St. Andrew Lutheran Church in Muncy, will be preaching at the Annual Memorial Service at Old Immanuel Lutheran Church, 2633 Lime Bluff Road, Muncy. **The service will take place on Sunday, June 2, 2023, at 2:30pm.** Mrs. Joy Barto will accompany the service on the church's antique pump organ.

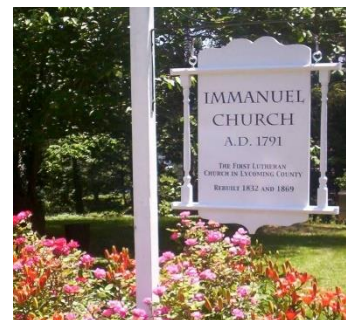
Old Immanuel is considered to be the mother church of Lutheranism in Lycoming County. Founded in 1791, it lived until its doors shut permanently in 1920. The first structure built on the property was of log; the second and third (the current) structures were of brick. The current building was dedicated in 1869, and contains two cornerstones, one in German dated 1832, and one in English dated 1869. At least 9 Revolutionary Soldiers and 5 Civil War Soldiers are buried in the historic cemetery. The church was built on land donated by Henry and Barbara Shoemaker, of "Shoemaker Mills" at the Routes 442/405 intersection.

At one time, there was a school associated with Old Immanuel, and the church contained a gallery, a wine-glass pulpit, and enough straight-backed pews to seat 600 people.

Old Immanuel closed its doors for regular services in 1920, after giving rise to 19 other Lutheran congregations. Some of these have also closed their doors, such as Trinity (Huntersville), St. Paul's (Millville), Germany Church (at one time known as St. John's), Katy's Church (at one time known as Immanuel Lutheran), Christ Lutheran (Montgomery), Messiah (Alvira), the Stone Church in Elimsport, and Zion's, also in Elimsport. Others, such as Moreland Lutheran (at one time known as St. John's) and St. Mark's Lutheran (Lairdsville) have taken on new identities as they have become home to other congregations.

Churches that have sprung up from Old Immanuel that continue with the Lutheran tradition include Trinity and Mount Zion, Hughesville; St. Andrew, Muncy; St. James, Muncy; Messiah, Clarkstown; St. John's, Gordner's Grove; St. John's (Brick), Montgomery; and Bethany, Montoursville.

The public is invited to attend this service as well as to tour the historic church. Light refreshments will be served on the church lawn after the service. Please note that the church does not have running water or electricity. For more information, or to follow Old Immanuel more closely, "Like" us on FaceBook!!!





REMINDER:

Newsletter deadline - **The 15th of each month at 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 May

David Briggs	May 02
Pamela Shenberger	May 02
Allison Smith	May 02
Elizabeth Harris	May 06
Richard Tignor	May 06
Jack Fortin	May 08
James Labenberg	May 09
Gerda LeCrone	May 10
Sandy Lentz Strother	May 11
Alice Good	May 13
Keith Wood	May 19
Carol Metzger	May 20
Jocelyn Jean	May 25
Debra Smith	May 25
John III Good III	May 30
Gavin Briggs	May 31
Sally Labenberg	May 31

Happy Anniversary.....

Keith & Nancy Wood	May 11
Jay & Dawn Nau	May 11
Dr. & Mrs. Robert Larson	May 15
Eric & Stephanie Fortin	May 16
Bill & Linda Liptak	May 20
Tom & Karen Morrison	May 28
William & Jeanne Yaggi	May 29



(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 Knaur, Sexton
Email: info@stlukeweb.com



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

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