



ST. LUKE LUTHERAN CHURCH
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St. Luke Online: www.stlukeweb.com

October

2024 NEWSLETTER

FROM THE PASTOR'S DESK

“Serve the Lord with gladness! Come into his presence with singing!”

Psalm 100:2

I hope that you had the opportunity to spend some time at our Blueberry Festival last month! Our end-of-summer/fall kick-off event was extremely well attended and was a great time! This event is one of my favorites of the year, for several reasons:

- It was a time to focus on us: it was a fantastic opportunity to both work with and fellowship with members of the St. Luke community!
- It was also a time to focus our neighbors: as much fun as it was spending time with our own folks, it also gave us the opportunity to invite the community through advertising and personal invitations. Lots of fresh faces were introduced to the St. Luke Family that day. The free-will donation for the event also raised money for a worthy cause: Sojourner Truth Ministries, who had several folks in attendance. As I write, the exact amount has not yet been reported, but I know that we will be able to make a gift of well over \$1000 to Sojourner Truth because of the donations received!
- Lastly, it was a collaborative effort. It was a group effort of several church ministries. Fellowship coordinated the food. Property set up tables and tents. Outreach promoted the event with advertisements and door hangings for the neighborhood. Worship and Music provided music. Members of the service ministry coordinated with Sojourner Truth. Education had games and activities

for kids. Our Boy Scout Troop had a table. Several individuals made contributions as well. Everyone was involved.

It was a microcosm of ministry at its best, with an inward and an outward focus, and involvement from a wide variety of people. On the heels of such a tremendous event, October will be a time for us to consider our participation in the larger ministry of the church. Members of the church will be receiving a letter from Council President Nancy Wood, on behalf of the Support and Finance Ministry, inviting us all to consider our commitment to both giving and service in 2025, with Commitment Sunday planned for Sunday, October 20. I invite you to take some time to prayerfully consider how God may be calling you in the coming year.

It's a great time to EXPERIENCE THE JOY!



BLANKET SUNDAY

On display, on **Sunday, October 6th** in the Nave and the Chapel will be some of the 150 quilts made by the Sew Fine Quilters this past year. These quilts will be distributed as follows:

- 60 to Lutheran World Relief**
- 8 to our local hospice, The Gatehouse**
- 27 to our local Family Promise**
- 55 to Project Linus (also 10 knitted/crocheted blankets)**



Thank you to everyone who donated fabric, thread, and hours to make this possible.

A special thank you to Thrivent for providing monetary donations for the purchase of batting and other items necessary to complete these quilts.



This year's quilts are offered in memory of one of our faithful long-term Sew Fine Quilters, Joann Wolfe.

Serving in October at the 10:30 am worship service

Altar Care: Charles Mahler

Greeters: 6th Edmonds Family; 13th Linda Updegraff; 20th Cindy & Terry Belles; 27th Sandy Lentz Strother & Rod Strother

Ushers: 6th Brad Nason, 13th Bob Borch; 20th Keith Wood; 27th Chip Edmonds

Live Stream Assistant: 6th Charles Mahler; 13th & 27th Bob McCullough; 20th Brad Nason

Oct. 6th Twentieth Sunday after Pentecost

9:30 am Lector – Deb Smith

Assisting Minister – Melina Taormina

Communion Assistant – Kathleen Borch

Oct. 13th Twenty-first Sunday after Pentecost

10:30 am Lector – Charles Mahler

Assisting Minister – Marilyn Eshleman

Communion Assistant – David Briggs

Oct. 20th Twenty-second Sunday after Pentecost

10:30 am Lector – Jay Nau

Assisting Minister – Deb Smith

Communion Assistant – Susan Horn

Oct. 27th Reformation Sunday

10:30 am Lector – Sue Beidler

Assisting Minister – Mark Bergren

Communion Assistant – Janice Ogurcak

Offering Counters in September

6th Nancy McCarty & Sondra Fisher

13th Ray Schreckengast & Janice Ogurcak

20th Terry Belles & Marilyn Eshleman

27th Sue Beidler & Ray Schreckengast



Commitment Sunday

COMMITMENT SUNDAY

We will present our *Estimate of Giving Cards* and *Time & Talent Forms* along with our regular offering on **Sunday, October 27, 2024.**

Extra *Estimates of Giving Cards* and *Time & Talent Forms* may be found at the back of the nave and the church office. Please feel free to take one, fill it out after the services, and return it via the red collection box (through Dec. 2024).



The Adult Sunday School class at St. Luke Lutheran Church meets in the church library at 9:15 AM on Sunday mornings. We will look at the lessons from the ELCA, based on the Year B lectionary. I hope to see you there!

If you want to look at our course materials, all of the Lessons are available here (we are in Lectionary Year B, Sundays after Epiphany):

<https://elca.org/Resources/Bible-Studies>

If you would like to receive weekly lesson emails, please let me know and I will add you to the list. Please contact the church office or Charles Mahler at

Mahler@lycoming.edu .

SEW FINE QUILTERS

Please join us on **Monday, October 7th from 9:00AM to 3:00PM in Bell Hall.** Come and go as your time permits. If possible join us for lunch at noon, lunch will be provided. No quilting experience is needed, come join the FUN!

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 at home. **The first meeting is on Tuesday, October 15th from 9:30 am -12 noon in the Lounge. All are welcome!**

WEIS MEMBERS



The Pre-School at St. Luke is again partnering with Weis Markets in the annual **Weis 4 School program.** Informational flyers are located in the West Hall. Please register your Weis Rewards card online at weis4school.com.

ST. LUKE PRE-SCHOOL

Thank you to everyone who purchased mums from our fundraiser!

MUM PICK-UP at Tebbs Farms & Greenhouse, 1620 Four Mile Dr., through Oct. 5th.



A new school year has started with 28 happy faces! We look forward to a fun-filled and enriching year.



October:

- Chapel time with Pastor Jeff will be every Wednesday beginning Oct. 2nd.
- Pumpkin Patch field trip will be on Oct. 4th
- Carving Night with Dad will be on Oct. 10th in Bell Hall.
- Join us for our annual Halloween Parade and Celebration on Oct. 31st in Bell Hall.

SERVING

(Lectors, Assistant Minister, or Communion Helper) If you would like to help serve in our 8:00AM or 10:30AM 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

ONGOING COLLECTIONS AT ST. LUKE

THE FOOD PANTRY Below is a list of items the UCLC Food Pantry is in need of. *Updated 9/11 - These items are collected in our West entryway.* After office hours' drop-offs: Office foyer entrance.

All Canned Veggies & Fruit
All Canned Soups & Stocks
Juice, coffee, tea
Ramen Noodles (all sizes)
Canned Tuna, Canned Chicken

Potato Flakes, Pasta, Rice
Mac & Cheese (all sizes)
Stuffing, Gravy, Cooking Spices
Snacks, crackers,
PB & Jelly, Jell-O, Pudding

DANIEL'S CLOSET is in need of **winter clothing** (*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.

SHEPHERD OF THE STREETS

Items needed are of regular sizes: Deodorant, Diapers, Wipes, Shampoo, Powder, Oil, Q-tips, Soap, Shaving Cream and Razor, Tissues, Shampoo and Conditioner, Toilet Paper, Women's Hygiene Products, etc. *These hygiene items are collected in the West entryway.*



Bulletin Announcement Deadline - Wednesday at 9:00 am
All article information and materials for the bulletin or newsletter must be submitted using WORD or PDF format. Please email to info@stlukeweb.com.

Newsletter Deadline - The 15th of each month at 9:00 am

Ministry Meeting Minutes for Church Council -

Thursday at 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.



**The St. Luke Lutheran Church
BSA Troop & Pack 12 Fundraiser**



**German Brat Dinner
October 5, 2024 from 4:00pm - 6:30pm**

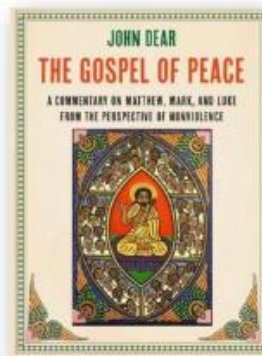
2 German Bratwurst
Red Cabbage, and German Egg Pasta (Spaetzle) with mushroom brown gravy
German Apple Cake for dessert

Eat In or Take Out
Adults - \$12
Children - \$8 (ages 10 & under)

Join us at St. Luke Lutheran Church 1400 Market St. Williamsport
Call 570-971-9231 for tickets
Walk-ins are welcome!

An Evening with JOHN DEAR

on his new book:
“THE GOSPEL OF PEACE”



DATE /TIME: Thursday, October 3, 2024 at 7pm

LOCATION: New Covenant UCC, 202 E. Third St., Williamsport, PA

CONTACT: United Churches of Lycoming County, 570-322-1110

For further information, visit www.johndear.org and www.beatitudescenter.org
where he is the executive director and offers online programs.

2024 CROP WALK



Our community's annual walk to fight hunger, the **CROP Walk**, is scheduled for **Sunday, October 13, 2024**. Registration and Walk will begin at 1 p.m. in front of St. Mark's Lutheran Church (142 Market Street). Walkers can walk 3, 6, or 9 miles on the River Walk.

This year is our 46th Walk, and to date, we have raised over 1 million dollars to help stop hunger! Last year we raised almost \$6,000. We hope we can count on your congregation's participation.

Thank you for doing your part to fight hunger both locally and globally. Of the money we raise, 25% goes to our community and is distributed equally among the Jersey Shore Care and Share, the Sonlight House of Muncy, the United Churches of Lycoming County's Food Pantry, and the West End Christian Community Center. The other 75% is distributed by Church World Service nationally and internationally to help hungry people.

Questions? Contact Tammy L. Edkin (570-322-1110 or at director@uclc.org).

46th Annual
CROP WALK
TO FIGHT HUNGER
OCT. 13TH | 1 PM Starts at St. Mark's Lutheran Church

Walk Benefits:
Church World Service
Jersey Shore Care and Share
Sonlight House of Muncy
United Churches of Lycoming County- Food Pantry

Crophungerwalk.org/williamsportpa
For Promotional Materials Contact:
Tammy Edkin
(570) 322-1110

The poster features a blue background with white and orange text. At the top, it says "46th Annual" in small white text. Below that, "CROP WALK" is written in large, bold, white letters. Underneath, "TO FIGHT HUNGER" is written in smaller white letters. A blue graphic of footprints leads from the top left towards the text. An orange banner contains the date and time "OCT. 13TH | 1 PM". To the right of the banner, it says "Starts at St. Mark's Lutheran Church". In the center, there is an illustration of five diverse people of various ages and ethnicities walking hand-in-hand. At the bottom, there are two columns of text: "Walk Benefits:" followed by a list of organizations, and contact information for promotional materials.



FROM BISHOP EATON:

You shall also love the stranger, for you were strangers in the land of Egypt (Deuteronomy 10:19).

Dear church,

The recent national spotlight on Haitian immigrants in Springfield, Ohio, clearly has fanned flames of hate and stoked threats of violence. The rhetoric has created discord and mistrust of people who have already suffered civil unrest in their nation and been granted legal protection in the United States. History shows us that this kind of hatred often carries negative national and global consequences. Our church teaches that immigrants are children of God, made in God's image and worthy of respect and lives of dignity. God calls us to witness boldly to this truth when people tell dehumanizing lies that perpetuate racist tropes and support white supremacist narratives.

As people of faith, we and others look to God's command to "not bear false witness against your neighbor" (Exodus 20:16). Martin Luther explains: "We are to fear and love God, so that we do not tell lies about our neighbors, betray or slander them, or destroy their reputations. Instead we are to come to their defense, speak well of them, and interpret everything they do in the best possible light" (Martin Luther, Small Catechism, Eighth Commandment; *Book of Concord*, page 353).

Recognizing historic discriminatory policies and treatment of African descent immigrants, the ELCA has specific commitments to strengthen advocacy, protection and accompaniment of Black migrants. The ELCA participates in and promotes the United Nations International Decade for People of African Descent. We stand in solidarity with the Haitian community in the United States. We pray alongside Bishop Suzanne Darcy Dillahunt and the Southern Ohio Synod, Wittenberg University and Springfield area

congregations responding to hateful speech and threats of violence in their communities.

Please pray and take action to stop the spread of hate. As followers of Christ, we are called to love neighbors. Below are resources to support this call.

In peace,

The Rev. Elizabeth A. Eaton

Presiding Bishop, ELCA

For more information and resources see:

[Explanation of the Declaration of the ELCA to People of African Descent Advocate For and Protect Black Migrants - Social Policy Resolution CA22.01.09](#)
[A Message to the Southern Ohio Synod | Southern Ohio Synod](#)
[AMMPARO Migrant Ministry](#)
[ELCA Social Message on Immigration](#)



From Bishop Miller (Sep 2024)

- September 12, 2024

On September 5, nearly 100 leaders from faith communities across Pennsylvania gathered in Harrisburg to call for peace and civility during this election season. At a press conference in the Capitol rotunda led off by Bishop Christopher DeForest (Northeast Pennsylvania Synod), speakers from Christian, Jewish, and Muslim communities spoke words of unity, peace, and common concern for our neighbors.

We spoke as one body as we gathered on the steps behind the speakers to say that our government leaders and those who seek elected office must take responsibility for their rhetoric and seek to reduce the possibility for violence as we enter this contentious election season. Our presence that day carried with it the presence of over 330 leaders and members of our religious communities who had signed on to a statement, drafted by the bishops of our seven ELCA synods in Pennsylvania, entitled Choices and Voices for Peace. Even as we spoke that day, more were joining us in our statement.

https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLSeQn_hf6s6qemaPw18qx06b2BdcNSkuQw_h3_Vv5Vs9GrePwx/viewform

This groundswell of those calling for calm dialogue over violent, divisive language continues today as more and more individuals add their names to the statement. We continue to call on members of our congregations to add their voices to ours in hope that the violence many fear will mar this election will be overcome with love. You can add your name to the statement by signing on at . If you would like to go further, you might write to your elected leaders to ask them to read and sign the statement as well. Finally, I encourage our congregations to engage in conversations about peaceful dialogue in times of division. The [LAMPA website](#) has many resources for use in groups and individually. Let us pray fervently for peace in our nation, our communities, and among our neighbors.

Fall Frisbee Fun Day!

Ready to enjoy a fall day outdoors and get some exercise? Everyone is invited to come to Camp Mount Luther on **Sunday, November 3, 2024, at 2:30 p.m.** to play a round of disc golf. Please meet us at the A-Center. There is no need to sign up. Just show up ready to play!



Youth musicians are invited to Lutheran Summer Music Enrollment for LSM 2025 is open now!

Lutheran Summer Music (LSM) is a faith-based residential music academy for high school students who come together to immerse themselves in musical excellence and build a supportive and fun community. Musical experiences include large ensembles (band, choir, orchestra), chamber music, private lessons, and electives like handbells, jazz, musical theatre, composition, conducting, church music and more. Priority enrollment deadline: December 1. Standard enrollment deadline: March 1. Learn more at LSMacademy.org.





CAMP MOUNT LUTHER

presents
an evening at



November 1, 2024 • 6:00-8:00 p.m.

16140 Route 104, Middleburg, PA 17842

Menu to include heavy appetizers, desserts,
and a complementary glass of wine.

SPACE IS LIMITED • reservations required
contact: 570-922-1587 or cml@campmountluther.org.

Cost is by donation.

All proceeds benefit Camp Mount Luther.

Camp also receives a portion of profits from all bottles of wine
purchased that evening.





To our members celebrating a birthday in October

Dan Taormina	October 02
Charleen Whittaker	October 04
Jan Matz	October 06
Brooks Durand	October 07
Kristin Beck	October 10
Margot Briggs	October 12
Christine Pyscher	October 13
Wanda Gardner	October 14
Judi Yanosky	October 14
Deb Bernocco	October 16
Daniel Taormina	October 16
Bob Borch	October 17
Carl Hiller	October 17
Dawn Nau	October 18
Mary Beth Kibbe	October 20
Becky Lewis	October 20
Trish Whelan	October 20
Mary Hutchison	October 22
Kaye Blair	October 24

Happy Wedding Anniversary.....

Lenny & Mary Lee Bellott	October 04
Roger & Shelby Wyland	October 04
Andrew & Elizabeth Harris	October 07
James & Kristin Beck, Jr.	October 12
Chuck & Peggy Yohn	October 13
Mike & Sarah Young	October 13
Allan & Roseann Husband	October 24

(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
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Rebecca Ciabattari, Organist/Choir Director
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