



ST. LUKE LUTHERAN CHURCH
1400 MARKET ST, WILLIAMPORT, PA 17701
570-323-7309 * E-Mail: info@stlukeweb.com
St. Luke Online: www.stlukeweb.com



2025 Newsletter

From the Pastor's Desk November, 2025

"Do you not know that all of us who were baptized into Christ Jesus were baptized into his death? Therefore we were buried with him by baptism into death, so that, just as Christ was raised from the dead by the glory of the Father, so we also might walk in newness of life."

-Romans 6:3-4

A few Sundays ago, before the 8:00 am service began, I announced that a date had not yet been announced for the memorial service. And as I saw brows furrow in confusion, I completed the thought: "... the memorial service for the career of (PSU head football coach) James Franklin. To provide some context, the Nittany Lions had been upset the previous day by Northwestern, a team widely considered to be far inferior. My statement was intended as a joke, but it was clear even then that Franklin's job really was in jeopardy. The loss was their third in a row (and their second in a row to an unranked team) in a season in which they had been predicted to challenge for the national championship. Sure enough, later on that day, the announcement came from State College that Coach Franklin's tenure at Penn State was over.

Even though I knew it was going to happen, I was sorry to see Coach Franklin go through the difficult experience of losing a job. But as another Franklin (Benjamin) once said: "... in this world nothing can be said to be certain, except death and taxes." We live in a finite world. Whether it be a job, an institution, a civilization, or even life itself, everything has a lifespan. Everything eventually comes to an end. Everything dies.

But the promise of the gospel is that God's love for us is eternal.

This month at St. Luke, our worship will be filled with messages of that hope:

- Depending when you receive this newsletter, we may already have had All Saints Day on **November 2**. This is a day for us to remember and celebrate all baptized believers who have died with Christ and will rise with him.
- On **November 9**, we'll hear what Jesus has to say on the topic of resurrection.
- On **November 16**, Pastor Ted Cockley will offer a message on "The Coming Messiah".
- And on **November 23**, which is **Christ the King Sunday**, we'll look at how God brings life out of death.

Jobs, institutions, even congregations like ours, will one day come to an end. But when we embrace the promises of God, we can face any of those endings with confidence in the grace of God, and we can even live into those "deaths" in ways that bring new life.

I look forward to "Experiencing the JOY" with you this month as we explore the promises of the Gospel!

Peace,



Hello Members of St. Luke Church!

I am writing to let you know that there is yet another email scam making the rounds pretending to be me. Please know that I will never write to you making a vague request without explaining what it is. If you receive an email like that claiming to be from me, ignore and delete it. For this particular scam, I am told, that if you respond to it, it will request gift cards. Again, **that email is not from me**, so if you receive this message or something similar, ignore and delete. Peace,



REMEMBER Sunday, November 2nd
daylight saving time ends; set your
clocks back one hour before you go
to bed on Saturday!



30th Annual Dialysis Benefit Concert

SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 16, 2025, 4:00 PM

SAVE THE DATE! You are cordially invited to join us for a special concert to support the patients and families of the Independent Dialysis Clinics. This Dialysis Benefit Concert was begun by Richard “Dick” Lakey over 30 years ago. 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, November 16, 2025, at 4:00 pm in the sanctuary of St. Luke Lutheran Church. This year’s program features organist, David A. Jackson. A reception will follow the concert in the Bell hall.

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 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 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 30th Dialysis Benefit Concert at 4:00 pm on Sunday, November 16, 2025.

SERVING IN NOVEMBER WORSHIP SERVICES

8:00AM

Lector/Administrant: 2nd – Ed Kelly; 9th – Jeanne Yaggi; 16th – Jeanne Yaggi; 23rd – Ed Kelly; 30th – Nancy McCarty

10:30AM

Lector: 2nd – Dan Lamade; 9th – Cheryl Newberg; 16th – Sue Beidler; 23rd – Peggy Yohn; 30th – Wilma Reeder

Acolyte: 2nd – Daniel Taormina; 9th – Mac Harris; 16th – Lily Judge; 23rd – Luke Edmonds; 30th – Wyatt Judge

Altar Care: November – Charles Mahler; December – Nancy McCarty

Assisting Minister: 2nd – Marilyn Eshleman; 9th – Mark Bergren; 16th – Charles Mahler; 23rd – Mark Bergren; 30th – Marilyn Eshleman

Communion Assistant: 2nd – Janice Ogurcak; 9th – David Briggs; 16th – Becky Lewis; 23rd – Keith Wood; 30th – Patricia Durand

Greeters: 2nd – Marge Holland & Diane Kohler; 9th – Lynn & Dave Shade; 16th – Sue Beidler; 23rd – Ruth Croyle; 30th – Sandy & Rod Strother

Ushers: 2nd – Hanne Schuman; 9th – Richard Ogurcak; 16th – Chip Edmonds; 23rd – TBA; 30th – Rod Strother

Live Stream Assistant: 2nd – Daniel Taormina; 9th – Charles Mahler; 16th – Dan Taormina; 23rd – Brad Nason; 30th – Daniel Taormina

Offering Counters: 2nd – Sue Beidler & Jannine Monnes; 9th – Sondra Fisher & Terry Belles; 16th – Ray Schreckengast & Marilyn Eshleman; 23rd – Terry Belles & Janice Ogurcak; 30th – Nancy McCarty & Marilyn Eshleman

SERVICE MINISTRY All the support for Service Ministry projects are greatly appreciated. May everyone enjoy a blessed Thanksgiving, with their families!

- ❖ Service Ministry has delivered 52 LWR school kits in October for this annual project. Many thanks to Karen Baldys for taking them to Lewisburg.
- ❖ The Harvest Home food gathering in October was a huge success. Many families will have extra food items this month.
- ❖ In July we provided 46 Christmas Seafarer totes to our Synod office for the upcoming holiday season.

2025-26 TIME & TALENT

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. 2025).



2025 POINSETTIA ORDERS

Poinsettias are \$10 each and will be on a per-order basis. They can be placed as a memorial or honorarium using the coupon. Please pay with the coupon and place them in an envelope marked "Poinsettias" and return them via the offering plate or church office by the deadline of **Sunday, November 16th**. Thank you.

Order forms will also be available at the back of the nave and the church office.

Phone orders may also be placed. Please contact Karen Spencer at the church office at 570-323-7309. (order form is below).

2025 POINSETTIA ORDERS

The deadline to place an order is **Sunday, November 9th**

Thank you

.....
PLEASE PRINT

Given in memory of

Or

Given in honor of

From:

\$10 each

I would like:

Color choice: **Red** ____ quantity; **White** ____ quantity; **Pink** ____ quantity

(2nd color choice will be made by the office.)

____ Yes, I will donate to our home-bound members and friends of St. Luke.

Total Order _____ Flowers

Total Amount Paid \$_____





Lycoming County Helping Our Warriors

This Veteran's Day you will have the opportunity to honor those who are currently serving or who have served their country by sponsoring a 5-inch American Flag. **These flags will be placed in the flower beds from November 7th – 17th.** The cost for the sponsorship of each flag is \$5.00. The proceeds will be given to the Lycoming County Helping Our Warriors Charity.

The deadline for sponsoring a flag is November 5th - Please complete the form and return it with payment to the church office. Please make checks payable to: St. Luke Church and put "Flags for Veterans" in the memo.

PLEASE PRINT

In Honor of:

Name _____

Branch of service _____

Name _____

Branch of service _____

In Memory of:

Name _____

Branch of service _____

Name _____

Branch of service _____

Sponsored by:

Total Flags Ordered _____

Total Paid \$ _____



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: <https://elca.org/Resources/Bible-Studies> (we are in Lectionary Year B, Sundays after Epiphany). 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 570.323-7309 or Charles Mahler at Mahler@lycoming.edu.

YEAR-END REMINDERS - Please note all donations to be counted for **2025 MUST** be received in the Church office by end of business on Tuesday December 30, 2025. Any questions regarding your giving for 2025, please contact the Business Manager at businessmanager.stlukeluth@gmail.com.

OFFERING ENVELOPES - 2026 Envelopes will be available for pick up in the West Entrance starting December 1, 2025.

PARISH VISITATION CORP (PVC) – CHRISTMAS DONATIONS ARE NEEDED – for filling Christmas bags for our St. Luke shut-ins and friends. A box is located in the West Hall for your donations. **Suggested Items: Juice boxes, tissues, small notepads, puzzle books, hand lotion, chapstick, hard candies, individual packs of crackers or snack items, homemade cookies and treats, SUGAR FREE snacks for diabetics also needed.**

Anyone interested in helping to pack and helping to deliver the bags are invited to meet in the Bell Hall at 1:00 PM on Tuesday, December 9th. Any questions, please contact Cindy Belles.

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, November 4th from 9:00 am – 3:00 pm in Bell Hall**. Come and go as your time permits. No quilting experience is needed! ***BYOB – Bring Your Own BAG packed with a lunch – beverages will be provided by the church.***

USHERS Anyone interested in serving as an usher, please contact Nancy McCarty - nmac7149@gmail.com or 570- 419-7827 or the church office at 570-323-7309.

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 or crocheted at monthly meetings held on the 3rd Tuesday of the month (Sept.- May) or at home. **The next meeting is on Tuesday, November 18th from 9:30 am -12 noon in the Lounge. All are welcome! NOTE: There will be NO meeting in December.**



MIDWEEK SERIES

Join us for a contemplative Advent liturgy on Wednesday nights this Advent season! **Beginning Wednesday, December 3rd, at 7 pm.** We will meet on Wednesdays (3rd, 10th & 17th) for a brief prayer service.

ST. LUKE ANNUAL MEETING

Congregation, Part One will be held **Sunday, December 14th, following the 10:30am worship service.** A copy of the Agenda and 2025 Budget will be available in the back of the nave for pick up on Sunday, Dec. 7th and 14th.

SERVING (*Lectors, Assistant Minister, Communion Helper, or Live Stream Assistant*) 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.

GREETERS Anyone interested in serving as a greeter, please contact the church office at 570-323-7309.

PRAYER CHAIN UPDATE 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 call the church office at 570-323-7309.

FROM THE FELLOWSHIP MINISTRY Please consider volunteering for Coffee Hour! All coffee, tea, paper products, etc. are in the kitchen. Volunteers are asked to provide snacks, such as muffins, donuts, cookies, etc. Please contact Ruth Croyle at 570-433-3873 or Jeanne Yaggi at 570-329-6980 if you would like us to help you set up for Coffee Hour or if you have any questions.

ONGOING COLLECTIONS AT ST. LUKE

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.*

DANIEL'S CLOSET needs your help! Seasonal 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, 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.

THE FOOD PANTRY Your help is desperately needed! Food supplies are very low. *These items are collected in our West entryway.* After office hours' drop-offs - Bell Hall foyer entrance. Below is a list of items that the UCLC Food Pantry needs:

Flour , White Sugar & brown sugar
Pancake Mix and Syrup
Wide Egg Noodles
Spaghetti sauce and Alfredo Sauce
Canned Mandarin Oranges
Peanut Butter & Jelly
Coffee & Hot Chocolate
Boxed Potatoes & Stuffing

Canned Pumpkin & Canned Pineapple
Ketchup. Mustard & Mayonnaise
Pork & Beans and Canned Spam
Salt & Pepper
Canned Pie Filling
Cake mixes and Frosting
Ramon Noodles and Hearty Soups
Sauerkraut & Cranberry Sauce



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.



Williamsport Chamber Choir & Orchestra present

Refrains of the Reformation

Samuel Robinson, Artistic Director

featuring
CANTATA NO. 80
J.S. BACH

NOVEMBER 14, 2025
7:30 PM

ST. MARK'S LUTHERAN CHURCH
142 MARKET ST., WILLIAMSPORT

TICKETS AT DOOR
\$10 ADULT
\$5 STUDENT



WCCOWMSPT@GMAIL.COM



@WILLIAMSPORTCHAMBERCHOIR
ANDORCHESTRA

The Williamsport Chamber Choir & Orchestra will present a program of **music celebrating Martin Luther and the Reformation**. The concert will be Friday, November 14, 2025, at St. Mark's, Williamsport. Tickets are \$10 adults/\$5 students at the door. The centerpiece of the concert will be Johann Sebastian Bach's Cantata 80, *Ein feste Burg ist unser Gott* ("A Mighty Fortress Is Our God"), based on Luther's well-known hymn. The program will also include works by Felix Mendelssohn and feature a special collaboration by the Williamsport Youth Choir. We hope many from our synod will join us in celebrating this inspiring musical tradition.



UPPER
SUSQUEHANNA
SYNOD



SUN - November 2 @ 4:00 pm - 6:00 pm
Dinner Church (FCML)

Camp Mount Luther 355 Mt. Luther Lane,
Mifflinburg, PA, USA

Join us at Camp Mount Luther for a time of fellowship, food, and faith as part of Mount Luther's new faith community. Questions? Contact Jim at jim@campmountluther.org

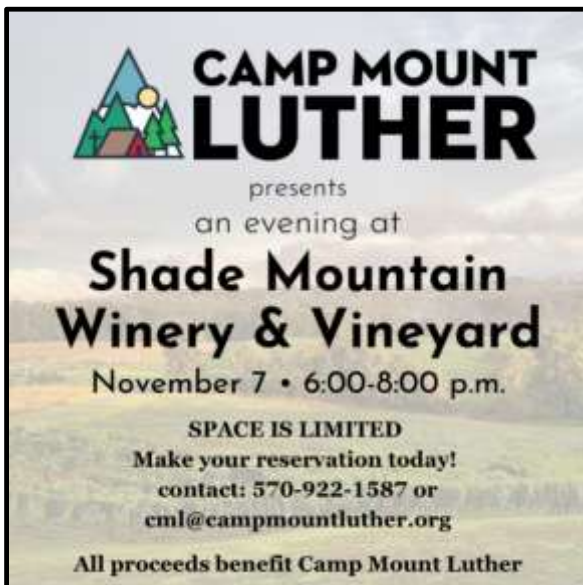


WED - November 5

Seafarer Bag Deadline

Since 2011, our synod has been providing "Christmas-at-Sea" gift bags to Seafarers and International House (SIH) in New York City. Lutheran port chaplains deliver these to East Coast ship crews during the Advent and Christmas

seasons. These hardworking, lonely freighter crews are responsible for 90 percent of the world's trade via merchant ships. Gift sacks to fill, with detailed instructions that must be followed, are available at the Synod Office. **Please bring completed bags into the synod office before November 5, 2025.**



FRI - November 7 @ 6:00 pm - 8:00 pm
An Evening at Shade Mountain benefits CML

Shade Mountain Winery 53 D and H Ave,
Danville, United States

Camp Mount Luther invites you to an Evening at Shade Mountain Winery, 16140 Route 104, Middleburg. The event will be held on Friday, November 7, 2025, from 6:00-8:00 p.m. Food served will include heavy appetizers, desserts, and a complementary glass of wine. Space is limited and reservations are required.

Contact cml@campmountluther.org or call

570-922-1587. Cost is by donation. All proceeds benefit Camp Mount Luther. Camp also receives a portion from all bottles of wine purchased that evening.



SAT - November 8 @ 10:00 pm – 11:30 pm
Preaching Training

Please save the date of November 8th from 10-11:30 am for a **special preaching training**

event held by Bishop Satterlee. This special Saturday training was intentionally set so that all of our Rostered and Lay Worship Leaders may be able to attend. Full details forthcoming!



TUE - November 11 @ 8:00 pm - 9:30 pm

Faith and Fellowship (FCML)

Join us on Discord for a time of fellowship focused on faith as part of Mount Luther's new faith community.

Questions? Contact Jim at jim@campmountluther.org



WED - November 12 @ 8:30 am - 3:00 pm

Quarterly Pericope Study

Lutheran Home 916 Hickory St, Hollidaysburg, PA, USA

United Lutheran Seminary's Dr. Allison DeForest will lead **Quarterly Pericope Studies** on November 12, February 11, and May 27 at The Lutheran Home in

Hollidaysburg, from 8:30- 3:00. Cost is \$20.00.

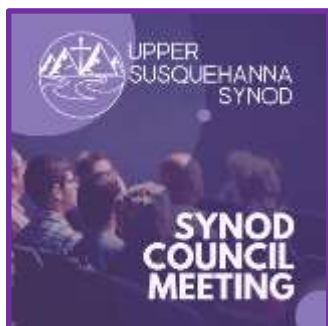


SAT - November 15

Service Project (FCML)

Camp Mount Luther 355 Mt. Luther Lane, Mifflinburg, PA, USA

Join us at Camp Mount Luther for a day of service as part of Mount Luther's new faith community. Questions? Contact Jim at jim@campmountluther.org



SAT - November 15 @ 9:00 am - 1:00 pm

Synod Council Meeting



SUN - November 16 @ 6:00 pm - 7:00 pm

GTIIM Update Meeting

As the Go Tell It IN the Mountains Initiative nears the end of year two or our six-year grant from the Lilly Endowment, we have set aside time to share...



MON - November 17 @ 1:00 pm - 2:00 pm

GTIIM Update Meeting

As the Go Tell It IN the Mountains Initiative nears the end of year two or our six-year grant from the Lilly Endowment, we have set aside time to share...



TUE - November 25 @ 8:00 pm - 9:30 pm

Game Night (FCML)

Join us on Discord for a time of fellowship and games as part of Mount Luther's new faith community. Questions? Contact Jim at jim@campmountluther.org



**CHURCH WOMEN UNITED
IN LYCOMING COUNTY**

CHRISTMAS STOCKING PROJECT



LOOKING FOR VOLUNTEERS: Church Women United in Lycoming County will be preparing gift items for 1,000 nursing home residents.

WORK DAY: We will be filling Christmas Stockings with items such as pens, tablets, tissue, combs, and emery boards on Monday, November 3, 2025 at FirstChurch, 604 Market St, Williamsport, PA at 9:00 AM, use fountain entrance. Any questions call Yvonne Shenuski, 570-546.7786



YOU ARE INVITED TO
UNITED CHURCHES OF
LYCOMING COUNTY'S

Annual Assembly

"For I was hungry, and you fed me..."
Matthew 25:35-36

REGISTRATION 5:45 PM	NOVEMBER 20	DINNER 6:30 PM
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The Beacon UMC
146 S. Main Street
Hughesville, PA 17737

TICKETS: \$35 PER PERSON

RSVP

BY NOVEMBER 7TH, 2025

☎ 570-322-1110

✉ office@uclc.org

🌐 uclc.org

Join us on **Wednesday, November 20th** at **The Beacon United Methodist Church (146 South Main Street Hughesville, PA 17737)** for a day of fellowship, reflection, and connection. This year's theme, "*For I was hungry, and you fed me...*" (Matthew 25:35–36), invites us to come together in the spirit of service and compassion. The cost to attend is \$35, and **RSVPs are due by November 7th**. Registration will begin at 5:45 PM with dinner starting at 6:30 PM. For questions or more information, please email **office@uclc.org**.



To our members celebrating a birthday in November -

Amanda DeLong	November 01
David DeLong	November 01
Jennifer Doane	November 04
Keith Shenberger	November 04
Catharine "Kay" Ertel	November 06
Chris Scampone	November 06
Jacob Edmonds	November 09
Andrea Clark	November 11
Cheryl Newburg	November 16
Oscar Knade Jr.	November 19
Melissa Eshleman	November 23
Shirley Knade	November 25
Frederick Lewis Sr.	November 26
Nancy Wood	November 26
Scarlett Young	November 29
Jack Yanosky	November 30

To our Members Celebrating an Anniversary

Brett & Andrea Clark	November 08
Micheal & Allison Smith	November 14



(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: pastor@stlukeluth.comcastbiz.net



Karen Spencer, Office Coordinator
Email: info@stlukeweb.com



Rebecca Ciabattari, Music Director
Email: beckyciab@gmail.com



Chris Knaur, Sexton
Email: info@stlukeweb.com



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



REMINDERS: Office hours – M - F 9:00AM-1:00PM
Bulletin **deadline** – WEDNESDAY 9:00AM
Spectrum **deadline** – 15th of each month
Council Pack **deadline** – FRIDAY 9:00AM before Mtg
Office E-mail – info@stlukeweb.com
Office Phone – 570-323-7309
tinyurl.com/StLW