



**ST. LUKE EVANGELICAL
LUTHERAN CHURCH**

**1400 Market St.,
Williamsport, PA 17701**

**GOOD SHEPHERD SUNDAY
Fourth Sunday of Easter,
Sunday, April 26, 2026
8:00AM & 10:30AM**

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*Today is sometimes called “Good Shepherd Sunday.” Jesus is called the “gate” of the sheep in today’s gospel. The risen Christ opens the way to abundant life. He anoints our heads with oil and guides us beside the still waters of our baptism. Each Sunday he spreads a feast before us amid the world’s violence and war. We go forth to be signs of the resurrection and extend God’s tender care to all creation.*  
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Please make sure your phone is silenced during the service.

GATHERING

GREETING AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

PRELUDE – *I Know that My Redeemer Lives!* arr. by Wilbur Held

Stand

THANKSGIVING FOR BAPTISM

All may make the sign of the cross, the sign that is marked at baptism, as the presiding minister begins.

P Alleluia! Christ is risen.

C **Christ is risen indeed. Alleluia!**

P Salvation belongs to our God who is seated on the throne
and to the Lamb!

C **Amen.**

P Let us give thanks for the gifts of baptism.

Merciful God,

you are the one who was, who is, and who is to come.

You lead us beside still waters.

We thank you for the waters of creation:

morning dew, gentle rain, roaring waves.

We thank you for the waters that nourish us.

Blessed are you.

C You guide us to springs of the water of life.

P Jesus Christ, you are the faithful witness who accompanies us on our journeys.

We give you thanks for your life-giving death and resurrection.

We praise you for joining us in joy and sorrow.

Blessed are you.

C You guide us to springs of the water of life.

P Holy Spirit, you anoint our head with oil and our cup overflows.

Break down barriers that divide us.

Fill us with the breath of peace.

Blessed are you.

C You guide us to springs of the water of life.

P Holy One, we thank you for the gifts and grace of baptism, and for making us a new creation.

We join with saints and angels, giving you honor and praise, now and forever.

C Amen.

GATHERING HYMN – LBW 499 Come, Thou Fount of Every Blessing

GREETING

P The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all.

C And also with you.

PRAYER OF THE DAY

O God our shepherd, you know your sheep by name and lead us to safety through the valleys of death. Guide us by your voice, that we may walk in certainty and security to the joyous feast prepared in your house, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

Amen.

WORD

Sit

FIRST READING: ACTS 2:42-47

Today's reading is a description of life in the community following Peter's sermon on the day of Pentecost, when the Spirit was poured out on God's

people. The new community is sustained in worship and fellowship, shares what they have, and ensures that everyone has enough.

⁴² [The baptized] devoted themselves to the apostles' teaching and fellowship, to the breaking of bread and the prayers.

⁴³ Awe came upon everyone because many wonders and signs were being done through the apostles. ⁴⁴ All who believed were together and had all things in common; ⁴⁵ they would sell their possessions and goods and distribute the proceeds to all, as any had need. ⁴⁶ Day by day, as they spent much time together in the temple, they broke bread at home and ate their food with glad and generous hearts, ⁴⁷ praising God and having the goodwill of all the people. And day by day the Lord added to their number those who were being saved.

PSALM: PSALM 23

(sung responsively: light *print-cantor*, dark *print-congregation*)

The Lord is my shepherd; I shall not be in want. (Ps. 23:1)

¹ The Lord [|] is my shepherd;
I shall not [|] be in want.

² **The Lord makes me lie down [|] in green pastures
and leads me be- [|] side still waters.**

³ You restore my [|] soul, O Lord,
and guide me along right pathways [|] for your name's sake.

⁴ **Though I walk through the valley of the shadow of death, I
shall [|] fear no evil;
for you are with me; your rod and your staff, they [|] comfort me.**

⁵ You prepare a table before me in the presence [|] of my enemies;
you anoint my head with oil, and my cup is [|] running over.

⁶ **Surely goodness and mercy shall follow me all the days [|] of my life,
and I will dwell in the house of the [|] Lord forever.**

SECOND READING: 1 PETER 2:19-25

Doing the right things does not guarantee that one will not experience difficulties, hardships, rejection, or even suffering. Here Christ is presented as the model for our path of endurance and loyalty to God, particularly amid adversity.

¹⁹ It is a commendable thing if, being aware of God, a person endures pain while suffering unjustly. ²⁰ If you endure when you are beaten for doing wrong, what credit is that? But if you endure when you do good and suffer

for it, this is a commendable thing before God. ²¹ For to this you have been called, because Christ also suffered for you, leaving you an example, so that you should follow in his steps.

²² “He committed no sin,
and no deceit was found in his mouth.”

²³ When he was abused, he did not return abuse; when he suffered, he did not threaten, but he entrusted himself to the one who judges justly. ²⁴ He himself bore our sins in his body on the cross, so that, having died to sins, we might live for righteousness; by his wounds you have been healed. ²⁵ For you were going astray like sheep, but now you have returned to the shepherd and guardian of your souls.

Stand

ALLELUIA

Al - le - lu - ia. Lord, to whom shall we go?
You have the words of e - ter - nal life. Al - le - lu - ia.

The Holy Gospel according to John, the 10th Chapter.

Glo - ry to you, O Lord.

GOSPEL: JOHN 10:1-10

Jesus uses an image familiar to the people of his day to make a point about spiritual leadership. Those who listen to Jesus are led to abundant life.

[Jesus said:] ¹ “Very truly, I tell you, anyone who does not enter the sheepfold by the gate but climbs in by another way is a thief and a bandit. ² The one who enters by the gate is the shepherd of the sheep. ³ The gatekeeper opens the gate for him, and the sheep hear his voice. He calls his own sheep by name and leads them out. ⁴ When he has brought out all his own, he goes ahead of them, and the sheep follow him because they know his voice. ⁵ They will not follow a stranger, but they will run from him because they do not know the voice of strangers.” ⁶ Jesus used this

figure of speech with them, but they did not understand what he was saying to them.

⁷ So again Jesus said to them, “Very truly, I tell you, I am the gate for the sheep. ⁸ All who came before me are thieves and bandits, but the sheep did not listen to them. ⁹ I am the gate. Whoever enters by me will be saved and will come in and go out and find pasture. ¹⁰ The thief comes only to steal and kill and destroy. I came that they may have life and have it abundantly.”

The Gospel of the Lord.



Sit

SERMON

Silence for reflection may follow.

Stand

HYMN OF THE DAY – LBW 451 The Lord's My Shepherd

NICENE CREED

**We believe in one God,
the Father, the Almighty,
maker of heaven and earth,
of all that is, seen and unseen.**

**We believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ,
the only Son of God,
eternally begotten of the Father,
God from God, Light from Light,
true God from true God,
begotten, not made,
of one Being with the Father.**

Through him all things were made.

**For us and for our salvation
he came down from heaven;
by the power of the Holy Spirit
he became incarnate from the virgin Mary,**

and was made man.
For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate;
he suffered death and was buried.
On the third day he rose again
in accordance with the Scriptures;
he ascended into heaven
and is seated at the right hand of the Father.
He will come again in glory to judge the living and the dead,
and his kingdom will have no end.
We believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver of life,
who proceeds from the Father and the Son.
With the Father and the Son he is worshiped and glorified.
He has spoken through the prophets.
We believe in one holy catholic and apostolic Church.
We acknowledge one Baptism for the forgiveness of sins.
We look for the resurrection of the dead,
and the life of the world to come. Amen.

PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION

A Trusting in the power of Christ's resurrection to heal and redeem our broken world, let us pray for the needs of all creation.

A brief silence. After each portion of the prayers:

A Merciful God,

C **receive our prayer.**

The prayers conclude:

P God of resurrection power, use us and these prayers to proclaim the good news of new life to all the world, through Jesus Christ, our risen Savior.

C **Amen.**

SHARING THE PEACE

P The peace of the Lord be with you always.

C **And also with you.**

The ministers & congregation may greet one another in the name of the Lord.

Peace be with you

R

Peace be with you


MEAL

Sit

CHORAL ANTHEM: *When I Survey the Wondrous Cross*, by Gilbert M. Martin

Stand

OFFERTORY HYMN

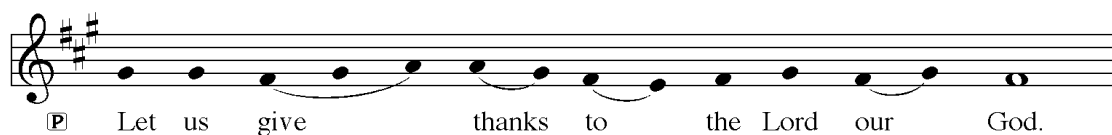
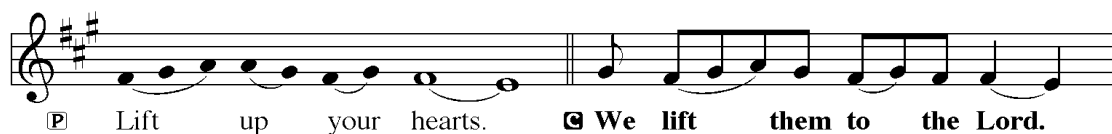


Let the vine-yards be fruit-ful, Lord, and fill to the brim our cup of
bless-ing. Gath-er a har-vest from the seeds that were sown, that we may be
fed with the bread of life. Gath-er the hopes and dreams of all; u -
nite them with the prayers we of - fer. Grace our ta - ble with your
pres - ence, and give us a fore - taste of the feast to come.

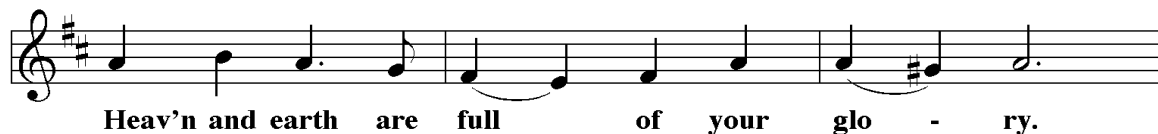
OFFERTORY PRAYER

A Merciful God,
accept the fruits of our labor, gathered to give you glory.
You have set a table before us, a glimpse of that great day
when we will hunger and thirst no more.
Nourish us with the body and blood of Jesus,
that goodness and mercy may follow us
and bless the world you love.
In the name of Jesus,
C Amen.

GREAT THANKSGIVING



P It is indeed right. . . *(The preface appropriate to the day or season is said, concluding. . .)* we praise your name and join their unending hymn:



THANKSGIVING AT THE TABLE

P Holy, living, and loving God,
we praise you for creating the heavens and the earth.
We bless you for bringing Noah and his family through the waters of
the flood,
for freeing your people Israel from the bonds of slavery,
and for sending your Son to be our Redeemer.
We give you thanks for Jesus

who, living among us,
healed the sick,
fed the hungry,
and with a love stronger than death,
gave his life for others.

*In the night... (The pastor proclaims the Words of Institution,
concluding)...Do this for the remembrance of me.*

Remembering, therefore,
his life-giving death and glorious resurrection,
we await your promised life for all this dying world.
Breathe your Spirit on us and on this bread and cup:
carry us in your arms from death to life,
that we may live as your chosen ones,
clothed in the righteousness of Christ.
Through him all glory and honor is yours,
Almighty Father, with the Holy Spirit,
in your holy Church,
both now and forever.

C Amen.

LORD'S PRAYER

**Our Father in heaven,
hallowed be your name,
your kingdom come,
your will be done,
on earth as in heaven.
Give us today our daily bread.
Forgive us our sins as we forgive those who sin against us.
Save us from the time of trial and deliver us from evil.
For the kingdom, the power, and the glory are yours,
now and forever.**

Amen

Sit

LAMB OF GOD (*Administrants commune*)



C Lamb of God, you take a-way the sin of the world; have mer-cy on us.



Lamb of God, you take a-way the sin of the world; have mer-cy on us.



Lamb of God, you take a-way the sin of the world;



grant us peace, grant us peace.

COMMUNION (*Congregation Communes*)

All are invited forward. If you do not normally take communion, please cross your arms and you will be given a blessing. Children who do not take communion will receive a piece of bread with the words "Take and Eat." Visitors, if you commune in your home congregation you are welcome to commune here. (If you prefer juice rather than wine, please take one of the pre-filled glasses.)

As the ministers give the bread and wine, they say these words to each communicant:

The body of Christ, given for you. The blood of Christ, shed for you.

The communicant may say: Amen

Stand

P The body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ strengthen you and keep you in his grace.

C **Amen**

CANTICLE



C Thank the Lord and sing his praise; tell ev-'ry-one what he has done.



Let ev-'ry-one who seeks the Lord re-joice and proud-ly bear his name.



He re-calls his prom-is-es and leads his peo-ple forth in joy



with shouts of thanks-giv-ing. Al-le-lu-ia. Al-le-lu-ia.

POST-COMMUNION PRAYER

A Holy One,
through this meal you have made your home among us
and are making all things new.

Send us now to speak peace to anxious hearts,
to love our enemies,
and to bring your healing to the nations.

In the name of Jesus,

C Amen.

SENDING

BLESSING

P God Almighty, who is the beginning and the end,
Jesus Christ, the firstborn of the dead,
and the Spirit, our advocate and peace,
✠ bless you now and forever.

C Amen.

SENDING HYMN – LBW 245 All People That on Earth do Dwell

DISMISSAL

P Go in peace. Praise the Lord. Alleluia!

C Thanks be to God. Alleluia!

POSTLUDE – *That Easter Day with Joy Was Bright*, by Thomas Gieschen

ALTAR FLOWERS FOR WEEK OF APRIL 26, 2026

The Altar flowers are given to the Glory of God in memory of my husband, Bob Matz, by Jan Matz.

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PRAYER LIST

FROM OUR ST. LUKE FAMILY:

Samuel Mahler; Fred Lewis; Jeanne Marquardt; Glenda Merkel; Shirley Knade; and our homebound members.

FAMILY AND FRIENDS:

*Kathy Eshleman (friend of Hanne Schuman); Mary Ann Smith (*sister of Karen Bergren*); Peggy McClain (*friends of Sandy Lentz Strother*); Peri Snyderman (*friends of Kirt & Sondra Fisher*); Dr. Yeh, Kenny Teague (*brother-in-law of Charlie & Susan Duchman*); Jill Baker (*Daughter of Cousin of Nancy McCarty*); Nathan Avery & Lisa Bricker (*Cousins of Sandra Lentz*); Deb (Rhodes) Wertman (*sister of Dwight Rhodes*).

Family and friends mourning the loss of Tommy Cockrum (*Friend of the Strother Family*)

For servicemen & women serving in posts far from home, and our women & servicemen readjusting to their lives here in the States.

For persistence and strength for those going through all types of recovery.

After 4 weeks' names will automatically rotate off, you may call the Church Office at 570-323-7309 to have them put back on the Prayer list.

SUNDAY WORSHIP SCHEDULE

TODAY: April 26th THE FOURTH SUNDAY OF EASTER

GOOD SHEPHERD SUNDAY

8:00AM – In-person Service

9:15AM – Adult Sunday School, Bell practice

10:30AM – In-person Service & Livestream

SERVING DURING WORSHIP

8:00 AM:

Lector/Administrant: 26th – *Ed Kelley*, May 3rd – Ed Kelley, 10th – Nancy McCarty, 17th – Jeanne Yaggi, 24th – Jeanne Yaggi, 31st – Nancy McCarty

10:30 AM:

Altar Care: April – *Charles Mahler* ~ May – *Sondra Fisher*

Assisting Ministers: 26th – *Laura McNassor*, May 3rd – Mark Bergren, 10th – Marilyn Eshleman, 17th – Charles Mahler, 24th – Laura McNassor, 31st – John McNassor

Lectors: 26th – *Jim Donnell*, May 3rd – David Bailey, 10th – Melanie Taormina, 17th – Sandy Lentz, 24th – David Bailey, 31st – Dan Lamade

Communion Helpers: 26th – *David Briggs*, May 3rd – Sandy Lentz, 10th – Hanne Schuman, 17th – Nancy Wood, 24th – Janice Ogurcak, 31st – Rod Strother

Greeters: 26th – *Cindy & Terry Belles*, May 3rd – Marge Holland & Diane Kohler, 10th – Lynn & Dave Shade, 17th – Sue Beidler, 24th – Ruth Croyle, 31st – Sandy & Rod Strother

Ushers: 26th – *Chip Edmonds*, May 3rd – Terry Belles, 10th – Jere Eshleman, 17th – Terry Belles, 24th – Dan & Daniel Taormina, 31st – Hanne Schuman

Acolyte: 26th – *Wyatt Judge*, May 3rd – Daniel Taormina, 10th – Wyatt Judge, 17th – Luke Edmonds, 24th – Jacob Edmonds, 31st – Mac Harris

Live Stream Assistant: 26th – *Daniel Taormina*, May 3rd – Charles Mahler, 10th – Dan Taormina, 17th – Brad Nason, 24th – Daniel Taormina, 31st – Charles Mahler

Offering Counters: 26th – *Sondra Fisher & Pat Kelly*, May 3rd – Nancy McCarty & Marilyn Eshleman, 10th – Sondra Fisher & Pat Kelley, 17th – Ray Schreckengast & Janice Ogurcak, 24th – Sue Beidler & Jannine Monness, 31st – Terry Belles & Charles Duchman

THIS CALENDAR WEEK: Apr 27th – May 2nd

Apr 28th – 9:30AM – Pericope in Library

Apr 30th – 7.00PM – Choir Practice

NEXT SUNDAY: May 3rd – THE FIFTH SUNDAY OF EASTER

8:00AM – In-person Service

9:15AM – Adult Sunday School, Bells

10:30AM – In-person Service & Livestream

5:00PM – Cub Scout Meeting

ANNOUNCEMENTS

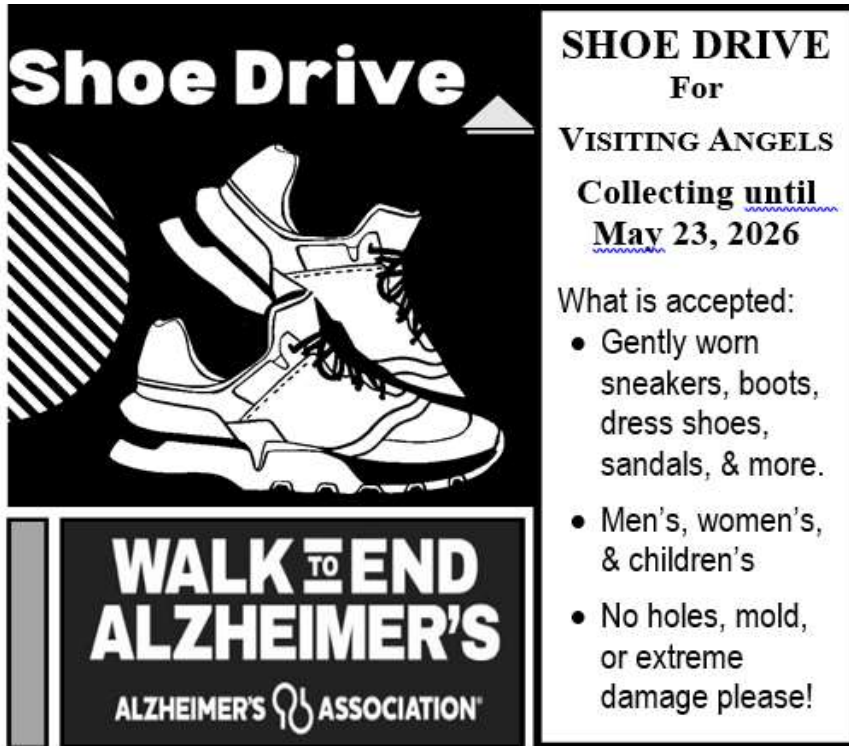
CHURCH EMAIL PROBLEMS – It has come to our attention some members are NOT receiving their weekly Bulletins & Monthly Newsletters OR some members are sending emails to the church and we are NOT receiving them. In the future if you send something to the Church Office (info@stlukeweb.com) and you do not receive a reply it has been received, *please call the Church Office at 570-323-7309 to verify we have received your email.* Thank you for your help and patience. Karen Spencer, Office Coordinator.

SEAFARERS – Christmas totes for 2026 – Service Ministry is collecting men's hoodies/ sweatshirt- (no zippers) sizes L & XL—any color - **EXCEPT WHITE** please. For cargo ship crew members, we have the t-shirts- L- 22 ct. and XL- 38ct. Men's crew work socks are needed- 3 prs. for each tote. Colors- white/ grey/ black. The hats/ cowls are hand knitted/ crocheted. Busy hands are working on 50 sets for 2026!! Sweatshirts- hooded or not, drop off at the church office. The Committee plans to assemble Seafarer Christmas tote bags in July. Any donations are greatly appreciated. Times have changed- no white elephant sales in January!!

ATTENDANCE – Please remember to register your attendance online using the **QR code on the back of the bulletin or fill out an attendance card** located in the back of the pew. It's important to our bean counters. Thank You!

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 call the church office at 570-323-7309.

SHOE DRIVE - As last Fall, The Williamsport Home is helping to collect new or gently used shoes for the Visiting Angels of Lewisburg for *Walk to End Alzheimer's!*



SHOE DRIVE
For
VISITING ANGELS
Collecting until
May 23, 2026

What is accepted:

- Gently worn sneakers, boots, dress shoes, sandals, & more.
- Men's, women's, & children's
- No holes, mold, or extreme damage please!

Donation tote in the West Hall way!

Many thanks –

The Service Ministry.

SEW FINE QUILTERS *Come join the fun for our Quilt Day* making quilts for Lutheran World Relief, the Gate House, Shepherd of the Streets, and Project Linus. Please join us on **Monday, May 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.* Any questions, call Cindy Belles at 570-419-1363.

PARISH VISITATION CORP (PVC) meets next on **Tuesday, May 5th, 2026 in the Library at 2:00PM.** Any questions, please contact Cindy Belles at 570-419-1363.

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 any time at home. **The next meeting is on Tuesday, May 21st from 9:30 am -12 noon in the Lounge. All are welcome!** Any questions, call Nancy McCarty 570-419-7827.

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

USHERS Anyone interested in serving as an usher, please contact Nancy McCarty - nmac7149@gmail.com , 570- 419-7827 or 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

THE FOOD PANTRY Your help is desperately needed! Food supplies are very low. Below is a list of items that the UCLC Food Pantry needs:

Granulated White Sugar	Sm bottles of Ketchup
Ritz Type & Saltine Crackers	Au Gratin Potatoes
Mavo	In need of plastic grocery bags
Boxed Scalloped Potatoes	In need of egg cartons
Canned Pineapple	Mustard
Tea Bags. Coffee	Canned beets
Honey	BBO Sauce
Alfredo Sauce	Relish

These items are collected in our West entryway. After office hours' drop-offs: Bell Hall foyer entrance.

DANIEL'S CLOSET needs your help! Seasonal 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.

SHEPHERD OF THE STREETS Items needed are of regular sizes not trial size: Deodorant (men/women), Toothbrushes & Toothpaste (adults/kids), Baby Wipes, Baby Powder, Baby Oil, Band-Aids, Hand Lotion, Sanitary Napkins, Tissues, Shampoo and Conditioner, Toilet Paper, Paper Towels, Laundry Pods, Bath Towels & Wash Cloths (new/slight used), Full & Queen Sheet Sets (new/slightly used), *These hygiene items are collected in the West entryway.*

**STEP UP TO THE PLATE!
CHURCH NIGHT AT THE BALLPARK + PICNIC IN THE COVE**



Get ready for a summer highlight! The Ministry of Outreach is planning a fun-filled evening of baseball, food, and fellowship at a Williamsport Crosscutters game August 15th – And you're invited!

This year is extra special as the team celebrates 100 years of baseball at historic Journey Bank Ballpark at Historic Bowman Field—one of the oldest active ballparks in the country.

🕒 **Date:** August 15th

🍴 **Picnic in Cutters Cove:** Starts at 6 p.m. before the game

Enjoy a delicious all-you-can-eat picnic featuring a build-your-own burger and hot dog bar, classic sides like mac & cheese, baked beans, desserts, and refreshing drinks. Then sit back and enjoy the game—either from the picnic area or from reserved stadium seating.

More than 25 St. Luke friends joined us last year—let's make it even bigger this time!

Outreach will cover part of the cost:

- \$16 per person (kids 5 and under are free)
- Optional stadium seating: \$9 or \$6

Add August 15 to your calendar and let an Outreach member know if you're interested so we can reserve our group space. Final details and payment information will be shared in June (**deadline July 24**).

Come enjoy a classic summer evening filled with great food, exciting baseball, and even better company!

Ministry members include Jan Ogurcak, Ray Schreckengast, Charlie Duchman, Bill Yaggi, Tom Spitler and Pastor Jeff.



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 Newsletter **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

