



**ST. LUKE EVANGELICAL
LUTHERAN CHURCH**
1400 Market St.,
Williamsport, PA 17701

**The Fourth Sunday after Pentecost,
Sunday, June 21, 2026
8:00AM & 9:30AM**

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*God does not promise that the path of the disciple will be easy. Jeremiah feels the pain of rejection from those who do not want to hear what he has to say. Jesus declares that his words may bring stark division. Even so, we need not be afraid for God accounts for each hair on our heads. Though we may experience rejection, frustration, division, and death, God's grace and love make us a new creation each day. Marked with the cross and filled with holy food, we are sent from worship to witness to Christ in the world.*  
~~~~~

Please make sure your phone is silenced during the service.

GATHERING

GREETING AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

PRELUDE – (8:00) *Amazing Grace* – arr. by John Carter
(9:30) *Amazing Grace* – arr. by Emma Lou Diemer

Stand

CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

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

P Blessed be the holy Trinity, † one God,
whose compassion endures forever.

C **Amen.**

P Let us confess our sin to God.

Silence is kept for reflection.

P Compassionate God,

C we confess to you all our sins.

Our burden is heavy, and we cannot free ourselves.

In your mercy, call us back to you.

Your yoke is easy and your burden is light.

**Restore us to dwell in your peace.
In Christ's name we pray,
Amen.**

P Jesus says, "Come to me,
all you who are weary
and are carrying heavy burdens,
and I will give you rest."

In the name of God,
Father, † Son, and Holy Spirit,
your sins are forgiven.

Rest in God's love.

C Amen.

GATHERING HYMN – LBW 242 *Let the Whole Creation Cry*

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

Teach us, good Lord God, to serve you as you deserve, to give and not to count the cost, to fight and not to heed the wounds, to toil and not to seek for rest, to labor and not to ask for reward, except that of knowing that we do your will, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.

WORD

Sit

FIRST READING: JEREMIAH 20:7-13

Jeremiah accuses God of forcing him into a ministry that brings him only contempt and persecution. Yet Jeremiah is confident that God will be a strong protector against his enemies and commits his life into God's hands.

⁷ O Lord, you have enticed me,
and I was enticed;

you have overpowered me,
and you have prevailed.

I have become a laughingstock all day long;
everyone mocks me.

⁸ For whenever I speak, I must cry out;
I must shout, “Violence and destruction!”
For the word of the Lord has become for me
a reproach and derision all day long.
⁹ If I say, “I will not mention him
or speak any more in his name,”
then within me there is something like a burning fire
shut up in my bones;
I am weary with holding it in, and I cannot.
¹⁰ For I hear many whispering:
“Terror is all around!
Denounce him! Let us denounce him!”
All my close friends
are watching for me to stumble.
“Perhaps he can be enticed,
and we can prevail against him
and take our revenge on him.”
¹¹ But the Lord is with me like a terrifying warrior;
therefore my persecutors will stumble,
and they will not prevail.
They will be greatly shamed,
for they will not succeed.
Their eternal dishonor will never be forgotten.
¹² O Lord of hosts, you test the righteous;
you see the heart and the mind;
let me see your retribution upon them,
for to you I have committed my cause.
¹³ Sing to the Lord;
praise the Lord!
For he has delivered the life of the needy
from the hands of evildoers”

PSALM: PSALM 69:7-18 (read responsively: light *print-cantor*, dark *print-congregation*)

Answer me, O Lord, for your love is kind. (Ps. 69:16)

⁷ Surely, for your sake I have suf- | fered reproach,
and shame has cov- | ered my face.
⁸ **I have become a stranger to | my own kindred,
an alien to my | mother’s children.**

- ⁹ Zeal for your house has eat- | en me up;
the scorn of those who scorn you has fall- | en upon me.
- ¹⁰ **I humbled my- | self with fasting,
but that was turned to | my reproach.**
- ¹¹ I put on | sackcloth also,
and became a by- | word among them.
- ¹² **Those who sit at the gate mur- | mur against me,
and the drunkards make | songs about me.**
- ¹³ But as for me, this is my prayer to you, at the time you have | set,
O Lord:
“In your great mercy, O God, answer me with your un- | failing
help.
- ¹⁴ **Save me from the mire; do not | let me sink;
let me be rescued from those who hate me and out of | the
deep waters.**
- ¹⁵ Let not the torrent of waters wash over me, neither let the deep
swal- | low me up;
do not let the pit shut its | mouth upon me.
- ¹⁶ **Answer me, O Lord, for your | love is kind;
in your great compassion, | turn to me.**
- ¹⁷ Hide not your face | from your servant;
be swift and answer me, for I am | in distress.
- ¹⁸ **Draw near to me | and redeem me;
because of my enemies de- | liver me.**

SECOND READING: ROMANS 6:1b-11

In baptism we were incorporated into the reality of Christ's death and resurrection. We have been made new in Christ through his death and resurrection to live freed from sin.

^{1b} Should we continue in sin in order that grace may increase? ² By no means! How can we who died to sin go on living in it? ³ Do you not know that all of us who were baptized into Christ Jesus were baptized into his death? ⁴ 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.

⁵ For if we have been united with him in a death like his, we will certainly be united with him in a resurrection like his. ⁶ We know that our old self was crucified with him so that the body of sin might be destroyed, so we might no longer be enslaved to sin. ⁷ For whoever has died is freed from sin. ⁸ But if

we died with Christ, we believe that we will also live with him. ⁹ We know that Christ, being raised from the dead, will never die again; death no longer has dominion over him. ¹⁰ The death he died, he died to sin once for all, but the life he lives, he lives to God. ¹¹ So you also must consider yourselves dead to sin and alive to God in Christ Jesus.

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 Matthew, the 10th Chapter.

Glo - ry to you, O Lord.

GOSPEL: MATTHEW 10:24-39

Jesus warns his disciples that their ministry in his name will meet with opposition. However, he assures them that they need not fear for the truth will come to light. Life is found in Christ.

[Jesus said to the twelve:] ²⁴ “A disciple is not above the teacher nor a slave above the master; ²⁵ it is enough for the disciple to be like the teacher and the slave like the master. If they have called the master of the house Beelzebul, how much more will they malign those of his household!

²⁶ “So have no fear of them, for nothing is covered up that will not be uncovered and nothing secret that will not become known. ²⁷ What I say to you in the dark, tell in the light, and what you hear whispered, proclaim from the housetops. ²⁸ Do not fear those who kill the body but cannot kill the soul; rather, fear the one who can destroy both soul and body in hell. ²⁹ Are not two sparrows sold for a penny? Yet not one of them will fall to the ground apart from your Father. ³⁰ And even the hairs of your head are all

counted. ³¹ So do not be afraid; you are of more value than many sparrows.

³² “Everyone, therefore, who acknowledges me before others, I also will acknowledge before my Father in heaven, ³³ but whoever denies me before others, I also will deny before my Father in heaven.

³⁴ “Do not think that I have come to bring peace to the earth; I have not come to bring peace but a sword.

³⁵ For I have come to set a man against his father,
and a daughter against her mother,

and a daughter-in-law against her mother-in-law,

³⁶ and one’s foes will be members of one’s own household.

³⁷ “Whoever loves father or mother more than me is not worthy of me, and whoever loves son or daughter more than me is not worthy of me, ³⁸ and whoever does not take up the cross and follow me is not worthy of me. ³⁹ Those who find their life will lose it, and those who lose their life for my sake will find it.”

The Gospel of the Lord.



Sit

SERMON

Silence for reflection may follow.

Stand

HYMN OF THE DAY – LBW 390 *LBW 366 Lord of Our Life*

APOSTLES' CREED

**I believe in God, the Father almighty,
creator of heaven and earth.**

I believe in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord.

**He was conceived by the power of the Holy Spirit
and born of the virgin Mary.**

**He suffered under Pontius Pilate,
was crucified, died, and was buried.**

He descended into hell.

**On the third day he rose again.
He ascended into heaven,
and is seated at the right hand of the Father.
He will come again to judge the living and the dead.
I believe in the Holy Spirit,
the holy catholic Church,
the communion of saints,
the forgiveness of sins,
the resurrection of the body,
and the life everlasting. Amen**

PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION

A Gathered together by the Holy Spirit, let us pray for the church and the needs of the world.

A brief silence. After each portion of the prayers:

A God of grace,

C **hear our prayer.**

The prayers conclude:

P Trusting you receive all our prayers, we commend our spoken and unspoken prayers to you, O God, through Jesus our 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

SPECIAL MUSIC: (8:00) *That Priceless Grace*- Nancy Raabe

(9:30) *Take My Life and Let It Be*- Kristina Langlois

Stand

OFFERTORY HYMN



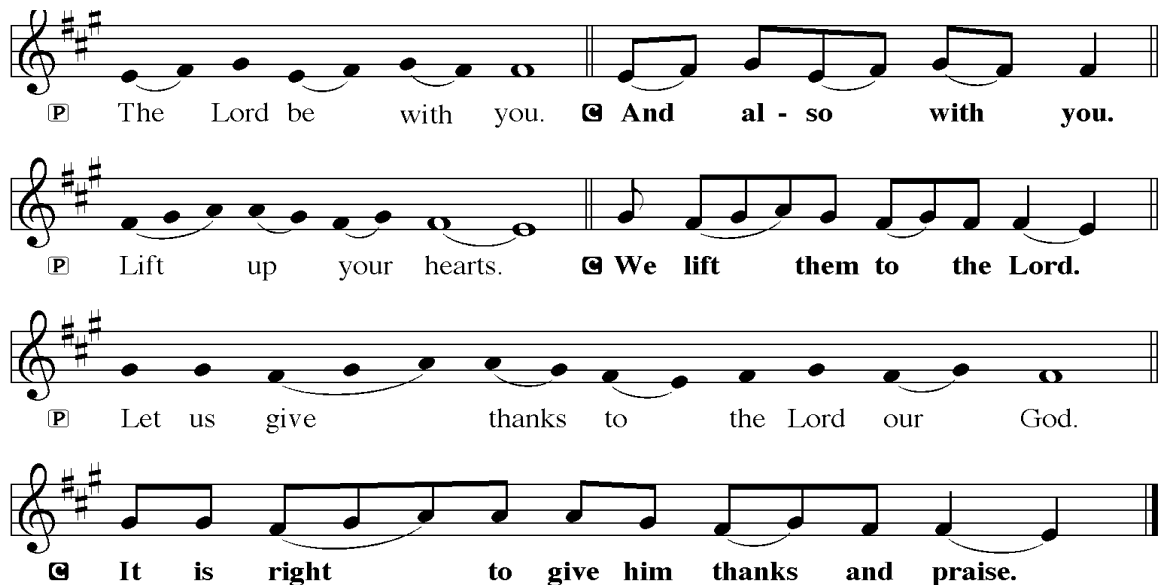
C Let the vine-yards be fruit-ful, Lord, and fill to the brim our cup of
bless-ing. Gath-er a har-vest from the seeds that were sown, that we may be
fed with the bread of life. Gath-er the hopes and dreams of all; u -
nite them with the prayers we of - fer. Grace our ta - ble with your
pres - ence, and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

OFFERTORY PRAYER

A Loving God,
we offer at your table the gifts of our hearts.
Help us take heart in you and share freely of your love,
so that all creation can taste your abundance.
We ask this in the name of Jesus,
through the Spirit abiding with us now and forever.

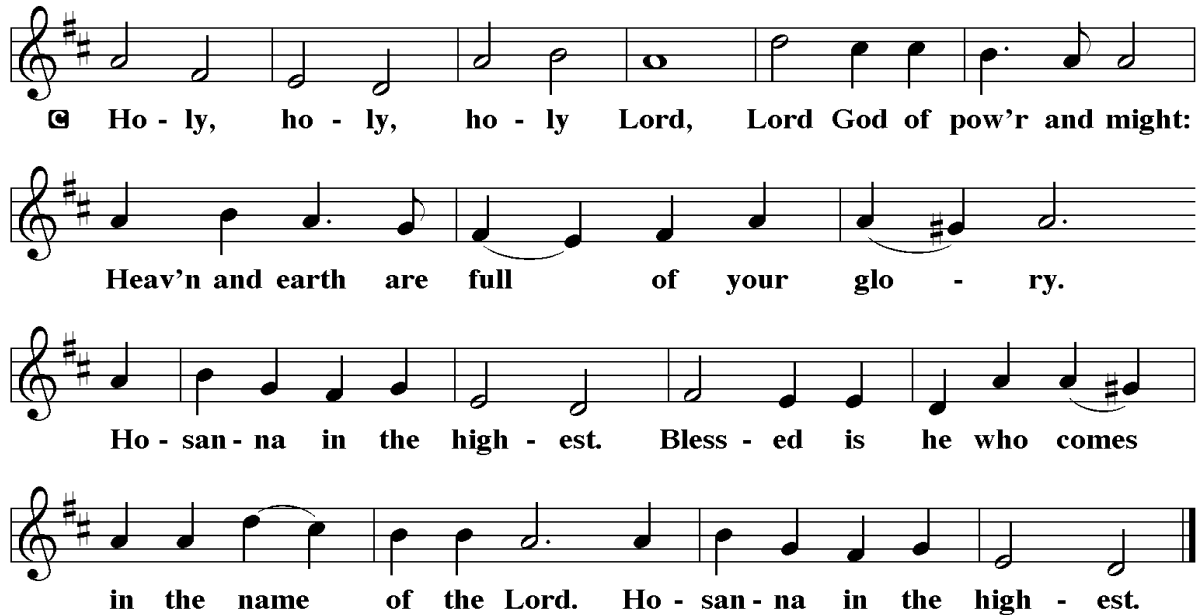
C Amen.

GREAT THANKSGIVING



P The Lord be with you. **C** And al - so with you.
P Lift up your hearts. **C** We lift them to the Lord.
P Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.
C It is right to give him thanks and praise.

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:



Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, Lord God of pow'r and might:
Heav'n and earth are full of your glo - ry.
Ho - san - na in the high - est. Bless - ed is he who comes
in the name of the Lord. Ho - san - na in the high - est.

THANKSGIVING AT THE TABLE

P Holy God,
our Maker, Redeemer, and Healer,
in the harmonious world of your creation,
the plants and animals,
the seas and stars
were whole and well in your praise.
When sin had scarred the world,
you sent your Son to heal our ills
and to form us again into one.

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

Remembering, therefore,
his acts of healing,
his body given up,
and his victory over death,
we await that day when all the peoples of the earth
will come to the river to enjoy the tree of life.
Send your Spirit upon us and this meal:
as grains scattered on the hillside become one bread,
so let your Church be gathered from the ends of the earth,
that all may be fed with the Bread of life, your Son.

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*)



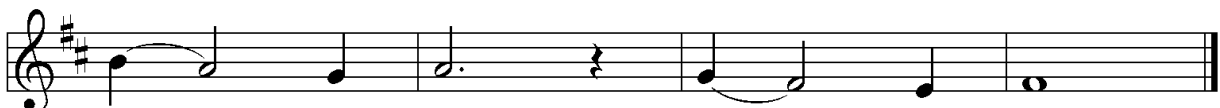
Lamb of God, you take a-way the sin of the world; have mer-cy on us.



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



☩ 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 Compassionate God,
through the gifts of bread and wine
our hearts are filled with the abundance of your love.
Strengthen us that we, through this holy meal,
may share your love freely, as you have shared with us.
We ask this in the name of Jesus,
through the Spirit nourishing us now and forever.

C **Amen.**

SENDING

BLESSING

P Creator, Redeemer, Sustainer,
‡ one God,
bless, heal, and hold you
today and always.

C Amen.

SENDING HYMN – LBW 503 *O Jesus, I Have Promised*

DISMISSAL

A Heaven has come near. Go, share the good news!

C Thanks be to God.

POSTLUDE – (8:00) *Blessed Assurance* - arr. by John Carter
(9:30) TRUMPET TUNE - arr. by William Boyce

ALTAR FLOWERS FOR WEEK OF JUNE 21, 2026

*The Altar flowers are given in memory of our wonderful father,
Tom, by Matt and Megan Croyle.*



Please welcome our guest pianist/organist – Carol Waltz

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PRAYER LIST

FROM OUR ST. LUKE FAMILY:

Maria Daigle; Tom Smith, David Horn; Samuel Mahler; Jeanne Marquardt;
and our homebound members.

FAMILY AND FRIENDS:

Dr. Yeh (*friend of Diane Kohler*) Betsy Rider (*friend of Nancy McCarty*);
Deb (Rhodes) Wertman (*Sister of Dwight Rhodes*); Sue Meyers (*friend of
Kirk & Sondra Fisher*); Kathy Eshleman (*friend of Hanne Schuman*).

Family and friends mourning:

‡ the loss of Leonard Bellott (*father of Lenny Bellott, father-in-law of Lee
Bellott and family*)

- † the loss of Mike Fogerty (*friend of Becky & Jim Donnell*)
- † the loss of Robert Fremberg (*brother of Kim Fremberg*)
- † the loss of Connie Rush (*sister of Pastor Ted Cockley*)

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: June 21st THE FOURTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

Happy Father's Day

8:00AM – In-person Service

9:30AM – In-person Service & Livestream

SERVING DURING WORSHIP

8:00 AM:

Lector/Administrant: *June 21st – Jeanne Yaggi; 28th – Ed Kelley*

9:30 AM:

Altar Care: *June – Jannine Monness ~ July – Cindy Belles*

Assisting Ministers: *June 21st – Marilyn Eshleman; 28th – Laura McNassor*

Lectors: *June 21st – Ray Schreckengast; 28th – Melanie Taormina*

Communion Helpers: *June 21st – Hanne Schuman; 28th – Patricia Durand*

Greeters: *June 21st – Hanne Schuman; 28th – Jan Matz*

Ushers: *June 21st – Richard Ogurcak; 28th – Rod & Sandy Strother*

Acolyte: *June 21st – Lily Judge; 28th – Luke Edmonds*

Live Stream Assistant: *June 21st – Brad Nason; 28th – Daniel Taormina*

Offering Counters: *June 21st – Sondra Fisher & Janice Ogurcak;*

28th – Sue Beidler & Susan Duchman

THIS CALENDAR WEEK: June 21st – June 27th

June 23rd – 9:30AM – Pericope

– 5:30PM – Personnel Meeting

NEXT SUNDAY: June 28th – THE FIFTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

8:00AM – In-person Service

9:30AM – In-person Service & Livestream

ANNOUNCEMENTS

PEACE LAMP The Peace Lamp on the altar was produced in the small Christian village of Taybeh, located northeast of Jerusalem. Out of the 3,400 inhabitants living there 30 years ago, only 1,500 remain today, largely because of the ongoing Israeli-Palestinian conflict. The lamps were created as an initiative of The Olive Branch Foundation to raise awareness of the unbearable conditions that Christian communities in the Holy Land are facing as well as a call to prayer for peace in the area. When used in worship, the lamp will be a reminder to pray for peace around the world, but especially in the Holy Land.

LUTHERAN WORLD RELIEF SCHOOL KITS

THE SERVICE MINISTRY is filling LWR school kits for this Fall. As we have in previous years. The school supply items needed are listed below: (At least 50 bags will be filled).

While summer sale shopping, please help us fulfill this goal by looking for these items needed to fill the school kits:

- Spiral notebooks -70-80 sheet – wide or college ruled paper, 8”x 10 ½” (4 notebooks per bag)
- Ruler (centimeters on one side and inches on the other)
- Pencil sharpeners
- Eraser 2 ½”
- Blunt scissors (safety scissors with embedded steel blades)
- **Unsharpened** #2 pencils with erasers
- Crayon Box of 16 or 24 count
- Blue or Black ballpoint pens (**no gel ink**)

Items may be dropped off at the church office. Many thanks for your continued support!

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.

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

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.

SERVING (*Lectors, Assistant Minister, Communion Helper, or Live Stream Assistants*) If you would like to help serve in our 8:00AM or 10:30AM (9:30AM during the Summer) 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 Nancy McCarty - nmac7149@gmail.com , 570- 419-7827 or church office at 570-323-7309.

ONGOING COLLECTIONS AT ST LUKE

DANIEL'S CLOSET - 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 (Women's), Toothbrushes & Toothpaste (adults/kids), Q-tips, Band-Aids, Tissues, Combs (men, women, children), Toilet Paper, Paper Towels, Laundry Pods, Sunscreen, Twin, Full & Queen Sheet Sets (new/slightly used), Pillow Cases (new/slightly used). *These hygiene items are collected in the West entryway.*

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	Ketchup, Mustard, Mayo
Ritz Type Crackers	Canned Pineapple
Alfredo Sauce, Canned Beets	In need of plastic bags & egg cartons
Tea Bags, Coffee	BBQ Sauce, Relish
Pork & Beans, SPAM	Wide egg noodles & Pasta

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

STAFF AT ST. LUKE



Pastor Jeffrey LeCrone, Pastor
Email: pastor@stlukeluth.comcastbiz.net



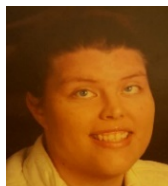
Karen Spencer, Office Coordinator
Email: info@stlukeweb.com



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





Evangelical
Lutheran Church
in America



St. Luke Lutheran has helped sponsor an ELCA missionary for several years. Our missionary, Stephen Deal, works in Central America and will be visiting St. Luke from August 14, 15, and 16, 2026. If anyone in the congregation would like to help with his visit, we are looking for people who are interested in:

- 1) letting Stephen Deal stay one or two nights with them (August 14 and 15);
- 2) hosting or going to a meal with him; and/or
- 3) participating in events with him at church or elsewhere.


The tentative plan is for members of the congregation to attend a Crosscutters game with him on August 15. If you are willing to help with any of these, please let the church office know. More details to follow 570-323-7309.


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!

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 Spittler and Pastor Jeff.

