



Luke Lines

Comic Lily Tomlin once joked, "I've always wanted to be somebody, but I see now that I should have been more specific." Something similar could be said for the way we as Christians should give witness to our faith. We all know that a major part of following Jesus is sharing our faith with others. Still a big part of that sharing depends on being 'specific' about who we are to begin with. If our witness as Christians is vague or unclear it will also be ineffective – whether to our friends, family, or even our children.

As we celebrate our 75th anniversary as a congregation this year it's good to remind ourselves how specifically committed St. Luke's has been to the message of the Gospel throughout our history. Despite the changes we've experienced, this has been a Spirit-led constant for us over the years – and we should continue to embrace it. St. Luke's has a strong tradition of being specific about what we preach and how we live out the Gospel, while being open and friendly to whoever wishes to join us.

This tradition is important to build upon in a time when fewer and fewer people even seem to know what Christians believe. It's especially important in a time when being 'spiritual' in vague self-chosen ways tends to trump the confession of biblically-grounded truths. In other words, it's cool to be uncommitted. These social pressures can force us into being vague about our own beliefs, even to ourselves. Yes, as Christians we're certainly called to respect others we don't agree with as fellow human being created in God's image. At the same time, we should never play down our commitment to Jesus and his teaching just to be popular or comfortable.

Being a Christian, and being a church, means following Jesus. Jesus himself came to us as a specific person in a specific time and place – 2000 years ago when the land of Israel was occupied by the Roman Empire. He was also, specifically, the eternal Son of God who rose from the dead on Easter Day for the salvation of the world. Who we are as Christians, and again as St. Luke's, depends upon believing and proclaiming these and other specific things.

It might be encouraging to know that Jesus' first followers also lived in a time when being specific about what one believed wasn't acceptable. During the first several centuries of Christianity, many people thought Christians were strange because they believed in more than one God. But this didn't stop them from telling the story how it actually was. In fact,

Christianity spread rapidly because of it.

To be 'somebody' for the faith, we need to stay specific in our beliefs as Christians, and as a congregation as well. As we do, the witness of St. Luke's should be good for another 75 years at least.

Pastor Carlton

ASCENSION DAY SERVICE May 9, 2024 at 6:00pm

This year's Ascension Day service will be held at St. Luke's.

Join us as we come together with Immanuel Lutheran, Trinity in Port Edwards and St. John's of Kellner to celebrate our Lord's glorious ascension into heaven 40 days after Easter. Pastors from each congregation will share in the worship leadership. A reception will follow the service downstairs in the fellowship hall.

Please mark your calendars and feel free to invite others to this special opportunity to worship our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ!



INCLEMENT WEATHER

In the event there would be a tornado warning or severe enough weather that would warrant going to a safe place during a time you are here at St. Luke's, please go to the lower level of the church. According to Emergency Government the lower level hallway/classroom area is the area most safe with the fellowship hall and restrooms in the lower level the next best.

If you are in the education building and can't get to the lower level areas, you are advised to go to the restrooms or east hallway. The elder and ushers do have access to a weather alarm alert during service time. If a warning is received during service time, the congregation will be directed to the lower level. You are asked NOT to leave the building during an active warning.



St. Luke's is looking for a self-starter, dependable individual to maintain our Facebook account, keeping it fresh and up-to-date with St. Luke's information. This is an extremely important volunteer position you can do on your own time with your own equipment in your pajamas if you wish!! Contact Paula, Parish Administrator, at 715-423-5990 for more information.

WOMEN'S MINISTRY CORNER

We hope you had a blessed Easter. Ascension Day services will be held this month. In May we have the Women's Ministry Pie Sale. Order forms and money needed to be turned in by April 21 with pies picked up May 4-5. Women's Ministry members attended our Zone Spring Rally on April 13 at Immanuel Lutheran Church. Our guest speaker was Vicar Joseph Eggeman and his topic was The Key to a Thankful Worshiping Heart. Our Christian Life topic was "Forgiving When You Have Been Hurt". Many items were brought in for First Choice Pregnancy Resource Center as well as beverage can tabs, eyeglasses and stamps for missions.



Upcoming Dates:

May 4-5: Pie Sale

June 13-15: LWML NWD Convention; Appleton

***Senior Women will meet Monday, May 6th
at 11:30am at Perkins Restaurant.***



WOMEN'S MINISTRY MAY CIRCLE MEETINGS

Anna Circle	Thursday, May 9	10:00 a.m.	Bookstore
Dorcas Circle	Mondays and Tuesday, May 13, 14, 28	9:00 a.m.	Fellowship Hall
Eunice Circle	Thursday, May 9	1:30 p.m.	Renaissance
Eve Circle	Tuesday, May 21	9:00 a.m.	Room 102
Lois Circle	Monday, May 13	6:00 p.m.	Room 103
Rebekah Circle	Tuesday, May 28	8:30 a.m.	Room 105

NOTICE FROM STUDENT FUND COMMITTEE

If you will be attending a Lutheran College this fall or will be going into full time ministry or church work, you may be eligible for financial assistance through the **St. Luke's Student Fund**. Applications are available in the church office.

If you have questions, please contact the church office or one of the trustees of the Student Fund, Deb Alft, Sandy Christman, or Holly Johnson.

Application deadline is July 1, 2024.



Our kick off celebration for the 75th anniversary of St. Luke's Lutheran Church was wonderful. So many people came together to make this a perfect celebratory day. Thank you to all who came to worship and give thanks for the Lord's bountiful blessings on our St. Luke's family.

We specifically thank the following:

The 75th planning committee consisting of Karen Peters, Sharon Koch, Sandy Sanger, Sally Heinzen, Ellen Sachs, Gerry Pierce, Elaine Herman, Sandy Christman, Pam Hilke, Cheryl Klingforth and all those who they recruited to assist them on their sub committees to provide for the weekend activities, receptions, decorations, publicity, etc. Each of these

ladies not only have donated much time & work, but in many cases, items needed for the event. Greatest committee ever & still actively planning for the August 11th event! AND, we also thank:

- Pastor Ryan Clark and Pastor Carlton Andersen for the beautiful service
- Our choir, soloists and organists who provided the praiseful & beautiful music arranged for by Bill Siepel, Music Director.
- Dorothy Oleson, Marie Austin and Pam Shaw who were so helpful in assisting with the historical display
- Katie Johnson for designing the logo
- Sandy Christman for the 75th banner
- Chuck & Carol Wunrow in donating towards the altar flowers
- Rebekah Circle for their donations towards the reception and other anniversary expenses
- Danita Denne'e for providing the 75th cookies
- Gerry Pierce for making & donating the 75th cake
- Office staff and volunteers for the printing and preparing mailings, preparing power points, press releases, etc.
- Our St. Luke's Youth and Youth Director Elaine Herman who hosted and served the Saturday evening reception. What a great group of young people!
- City Times for running the very nice article on our 75th
- Winterspring Studio for updating our beautifully done 60th anniversary video to incorporate photos from the last 15 years. If you didn't see it, we will make it available again in coming weeks.
- Dave & Nancy Mancuso for providing the placemats & much help with a variety of technology needs.
- ALL who have donated funds for the 75th celebration expenses and in support of our ministry through ALMS, Focus Food Pantry and Compassion International. Such a Great Response!!

To God be the Glory!

PICTORIAL DIRECTORY

Harmann Studios will be coming to our church for a week in June to take photos for the church pictorial book. We encourage you to sign up if you are able! Below are the directions on how to sign up.

Church Pictorial is coming June 4th-8th! Sign up today!

Thank you to all who have already signed up for your photograph sessions. If you have not done so, please take a few minutes and sign up today. Available time slots are getting fewer.

- June 4th-6th are 1:00pm-8:00pm.
- June 7th is from 11:00am-6:00pm
- June 8th from 9:00am-3:00pm.

4 WAYS TO SCHEDULE YOUR SESSION:

1. Online on our website at: www.stlukeslutheran.com And look for the directory scheduling link at the top of the opening page.
2. Sign ups will be done before or after church services the next week or 2 (narthex)
3. Call the Church Office at 715.423.5990



4. Scan the QR Code Below:



IMPORTANT! *Please allow for up to an hour from your check in time to be photographed and view your portraits! Thank you.

LOVE, INC.

Please stay informed about Love INC and their wonderful ministry in the central Wisconsin area by reading their monthly newsletter and following their web site and Facebook. A few printed copies of the monthly Love INC newsletter are provided for you in the St. Luke's narthex and office lobby as well.

Call and have them place you on their mailing list to receive their newsletter by email.



Love INC
Love In the Name of Christ

<https://loveincswc.org> · 715-424-LOVE · <https://www.facebook.com/loveINCswc/>

THE PROCESS OF OUR PASTORAL CALL...

WHY ARE WE LOOKING FOR A SENIOR PASTOR?

- At their September 12th meeting, the Church Council commissioned Worship to form an Exploratory Committee to define the pastoral needs for St Luke's
- Members of this Committee were:
 - Pastor Carlton Andersen – Congregational Advisor
 - Pastor Dave Ficken – Circuit Visitation Advisor
 - Holly Johnson
 - Jodi Lubeck
 - Jeff Rieckenberg
 - Jim Nooyen
 - Ron Herman
 - Elaine Herman
 - Katie Johnson
 - Chuck Gibbons
- The first meeting was held on October 17th. Discussion included the following:
 - ***There are things to consider in our discussions. Pastor Carlton does plan to retire in the next few years. Is it time to evaluate and think about a combination of LCMS churches in the area – Immanuel, St. John, St. Luke's? Each of us needs to do a prayerful self-evaluation of St. Luke's strengths, weaknesses, and where we want to go/who do we want to be as a congregation.***
- A six-question survey was sent to the congregation. The answers were summarized and follow each question (shown below):

XIII. Congregational Goals

- 1. How would you summarize the purpose for which your congregation exists?**
 - We at St. Luke's dedicate ourselves to grow in faith and love, to serve together, and to reach out with the Gospel of Jesus Christ. Worship, Prayer, Education, Service, Support, Fellowship, Evangelism, and Missions are among our priorities.
- 2. What opportunities is God opening for the congregation to explore?**
 - A realistic expenditure with a greater focus on facility use, technology, staff expectations, and increasing volunteers in all areas. Engage younger inactive groups (ages 30-50), expand fellowship with other LCMS groups, and expand studies.
- 3. List at least 3 areas in which you feel the congregation is strong (things the congregation does well by God's blessing).**
 - Meeting spiritual needs by offering a variety of support through worship, music, technology use, Bible studies and Youth groups.
 - Connected to others in care ministries, Lutheran school partnerships, great Preschool staff, and missionary support and disadvantaged members.
 - Providing tradition and seeking growth for the future.
- 4. Are there any new things God wants your congregation to be doing which it is not doing now?**
 - Get younger people involved, engage in change, evangelism, stewardship, discipleship, and the ways of communication through our ministry opportunities. Interact with Christian counseling office, work with international students, strengthen connections to partnership and preschool families.

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5. What things the congregation is now doing do you believe God is calling to be done better?

- Enhance receptiveness/welcomeness towards guests and all members, encourage Sunday school involvement, evangelism, better men's group opportunities, increase use of technology.

6. What are two things that you believe your congregation needs more than anything else right now, to be most effective?

- Leadership, encouragement to guide congregation to grow and connect.
- Younger involvement and volunteering consistently.
- The second meeting was held on November 2nd. The major points coming from that meeting were:
- **Pastor Carlton shared with the group that he is looking to retire in the summer of 2025, no exact date established at this time. He will remain flexible in the transition process. Discussion then included the call process, Associate Pastor with some experience, proven Senior Pastor, Vicar support during this transition process. The committee concluded that the best path forward was to call a Senior Pastor and to get our name on the list to consider a Vicar.**
- The third and final meeting was held on December 5th.
- Final discussion was held and concluded that our recommendation at this time is to form a **Call Committee to find a Senior Pastor**. Worship sent this recommendation to the Church Council for their December meeting. At the December 12th Church Council meeting the formation of a **Call Committee for a new Senior Pastor was approved.**

NOTE:

- We were **unsuccessful in our application for a Vicar**; as we were not selected to receive one.
- It is important to have a Senior Pastor in place prior to considering a call for an Associate Pastor. Once we have found and secured our new Senior Pastor, and with his input, we will proceed to hire any additional staff that is deemed necessary for St. Luke's.
- **Remember, Our Father already has a pastoral plan in place for St. Luke's, he just has not revealed all of it to us yet: His will be done!**
- Additional information from the Call Committee will be shared in upcoming monthly newsletters.

(Update by Ron Herman and the Call Committee. If there are questions/concerns, please contact us)



THANK YOU to Tom & Ellen Sachs for the beautiful picture placed in the narthex. Next time you come to church take note of this at the top of the stairs.

A beautiful reminder to all of us that we are each so important to our Lord that He would literally run after us to save us for harm or danger.

"I Am Jesus' Little Lamb"

PLAYGROUND EQUIPMENT UPGRADE

St. Luke's playground provides outside play space for Preschool/4K students as well as children in the community. Preschool has been raising funds for this project. We welcome your donations for support for the upgrading of equipment of the playground to improve safety.



St. Luke's Lutheran Church Congregational Meeting, March 17, 2024

There were 29 members in attendance.

Chairman Jim Noyan called the meeting to order at noon.

Pastor Carlton opened the meeting with prayer.

Minutes from the December 10, 2023 meeting were reviewed.

- Motion made by Steve Duranleau with a second by Bobby Dilley to approve the December 10, 2023 minutes with minor spelling corrections. Motion carried.
- Motion made by Ron Stowell with a second by Richard Koch to approve the revised constitution. Motion carried. Now it will go to District for approval.

A call committee update was shared at this time. Ron Herman listed the 10 committee members with Pastor Carlton as the advisor. They have had 2 meetings to date. The committee will be working on the self study from the congregation. Forms will be available for submissions of possible candidates for Pastor from the congregation. This form will also be found in the monthly newsletter. The application for a Vicar has been mailed and now we wait to hear whether or not we have been approved to receive a vicar

Thank you for your attendance.

- Motion made by Richard Koch with a second by Gerry Pierce to adjourn. Motion carried.

Pastor Carlton closed with prayer at 12:33 p.m.

A Note of Thanks.

Dear St. Lukes Family,

Thank you so much for your continued support through the financial gift you gave to help me get to India as well as all the support over the years.

I have recently connected with an organization called Bible Faith Lutheran Ministries to India. I'm now part of their organization and during my time in India I got to see what they do and how their organization works plus do some mission work. Their ministry has three main focuses. The first being the Moriah School where they educate over 200 kids through a Gospel focused approach. They have about 10-20 kids who come from less fortunate homes who stay there full time during the school year. The next ministry focus is Bible Faith Lutheran Churches which are about 40 congregations within 70 miles of Guntar, India. They also have a seminary to help train Indians who desire to serve God in the pastoral office and then do continuing ed and pre seminary training. The last ministry focus is Indian Bible Study Project which is working on translating the Lutheran Study Bible into the 15 main languages of India. The first translation will be done in Telegu and hopefully done by October/November of this year.

I hope to continue this work with Bible Faith Lutheran Ministries to India and to go back in January.

Thanks

Adam Urban

St. Luke's Lutheran Church Council Meeting

March 12, 2024 @ 6:30 pm

Members Present:

Jim Nooyen, Chairman

Jody Cook, Secretary

Nancy Koch, Missions

Heather Stainbrook, Director, Family Ministry

Jeff Rieckenberg, Treasurer

John Klingforth, Property Care

Dave Mancusi, Vice Chairman

Joel Jensen, Lay Representative

Holly Johnson, Social Concerns

Ron Herman, Worship

Judy Haas, Financial Secretary

Absent:

Chuck Gibbons, Director of Discipleship

Others Present

Pastor Carlton Andersen Paula Heil, Parish Administrator

There were 11 members present including the vice chairman, enough for a quorum.

Chairman, Jim Nooyen opened the meeting with prayer at 6:30 p.m.

- Motion made by Heather Stainbrook with a second by Jeff Rieckenberg to accept the meeting minutes February 13, 2024. Motion carried.

Treasurer's Report:

February income vs. expense = (927.59), year to date income vs. expense = (2769.59). 12 month CD's came due in January with .25% earnings. These were cashed out and redeposited at US Bank for 9mo at 4.93%.

- Motion by Heather Stainbrook with a second by John Klingforth to accept the February 2024 treasurer's report. Motion carried.

Pastor's Report

- Motion made by Judy Haas with a second by John Klingforth to approve pastors' statistical report of gains and losses. Motion carried.
- Midweek Lenten services continue.
- Good Friday service will be a Tenebrae service the basic outline of GF 2022 – we had a 'narrative service' last year.
- There will be no Easter Vigil service on Saturday night before Easter this year.
- An application to LCMS for a Vicar beginning service this upcoming summer is complete.
- Paper Reading night for confirmands will be April 21st.
- Confirmation ceremony for our 5 young people will be at the 10:30 service on May 5th.
- Pastor would like to take a week of vacation during late April or mid-May as it can be arranged.

Parish Administrator Report:

- 75th Anniversary committee has met; they are going to meet with the pictorial directory rep.
- The vision and philosophy statements for preschool were read to the council.

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- Each ministry should incorporate the 75th anniversary into their meetings and gatherings.

Property Care:

- Working on the summer work agenda, it is rather long.
- The bid on the security doors for the preschool has dropped.
- The fire alarm, security doors will be listed on the grant paperwork.
- Insurance quotes from our carrier are rising, will be seeking other bids.

Worship:

- There will be no Saturday Easter Vigil Service, there has been declining attendance.
- A grant was requested from the Endowment fund to put in a sink that is used for the disposal of the blessed elements. It is not connected to the sewer, the drain goes directly to ground for the disposal of the elements.
- Testimonials will need to be discussed with Worship before scheduling.
- Looking into more help in the way of a vacancy pastor.

Missions:

- Ashley Leaher, TIM ministry, hopefully to see in August
- King vet's memorial garden spruce up to include a visit to Pastor Tim's grave. Possibly invite the youth group to attend.
- We plan to put a sign out explaining the significance of the Palm crosses and where they come from.
- A note also on how the ashes we use on Ash Wednesday come from

Family Ministry:

- St. Luke's and Immanuel to host VBS this year June 9-14th. Materials have been ordered. The photograph areas (pictorial directory) will be set up in 2 classrooms making the VBS set up time delayed until the photography sessions are finished on Saturday evening.
- VBS this year has no crafts.
- The ILS day school families attending church and Sunday school are to attend twice a month. This is being kept track of to see if this continues in the right direction.

Social Concerns:

- The Health and Hygiene collection was well received. There were many heavy boxes of items, also \$500 in cash donations.

Discipleship: no report

Lay Representative:

- There are 10 shooting lanes and 10 kids for Bibles and Bows, just a couple of sessions left.

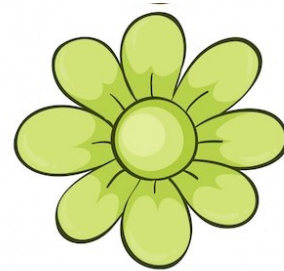
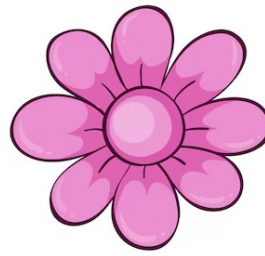
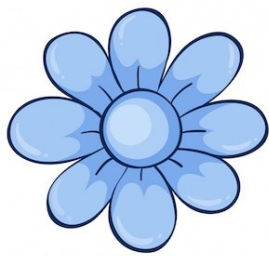
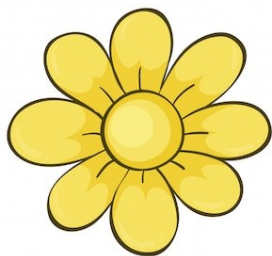
Other Business:

- The QR code has become a problem. Only 2 people use it. Vanco takes a processing fee. Dave & Jim will take further action.
- The Call committee has met twice. They are working on the congregational study report. Paperwork is

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out for nominations from the congregation.

- The Congregation meeting is March 17th at noon to approve minutes of 12-10-23 meeting and approve revised constitution. A brief update from the call committee will be shared.
- Motion made by John Klingforth and seconded by Heather Stainbrook to adjourn meeting at 7:30 pm. Motion carried.



Spring work has begun. Some of the normal “fall” work is being completed and the area is looking a bit neater. Soon it will be warm enough to start up the water feature. Last year electricity was run directly to the feature so we were finally able to hook it up to a timer and have it running most of the day and evening. It is so beautiful when the water is trickling and that sound fills the air.



Goals this summer include finishing a small planting area of shrubs on the east side of the path, installing the memorial bricks received last summer, incorporating the flag into the planting area to the south of it and keeping up with the weeding and mulching. We had prayed for more help from the gardeners in our congregation, possibly even starting a couple smaller beds along the path but that has not happened yet. Our small committee of 3 active worker bees just cannot add more beds and maintain the ones we have, so we will keep the area as is for this year and see what happens in 2025.

Property Care will also be installing a water pump closer to the planting areas to make it easier to keep plants watered and looking nice. A good share of the plants we put in are heat and drought resistant but there are those which just need some fresh water a couple times a week to keep their color and longevity.

As always, we welcome help with ongoing maintenance, weeding and watering. If you wish to purchase a memory brick, orders are being taken now for a limited time in May. General donations are always appreciated, as well as donations for specific trees or shrubs in memory of loved ones or in celebration of a special event. These donations should be directed to the “Landscaping Fund”.

We thank those who have donated to the development of this Memorial Garden. It’s been a long time coming but is finally really establishing itself. We have people who walk the path each day as they have incorporated it into their daily walk. We love that!

Feel free to call one of the committee members for more information about the St. Luke’s Memorial Garden:

Dave Urban, Holly Johnson, Kim Marth, Carol & Chuck Brody, Ron Bohn

Hello to May from the Library!

Classics! Everyone has their favorite. We have more than a few in our library. These can be found in section 1 or the DVDs.

I like In His Steps by Charles M. Sheldon. It was written over a hundred years ago. The phrase "What would Jesus do" came from it. Charles' great-grandson wrote What Would Jesus Do as a sequel to In His Steps. Both are very good reading and are found in the same book. A two-in-one.

The Robe by Lloyd Douglas is another good one. It is long but worth the read. Published in 1942. I hate to admit it, but I have not read it. I did like the movie though.

John Bunyan's The Pilgrim's Progress was first published in 1678 and had been written while he was in prison as a Baptist preacher. We also have a version in the Youth section (17).

We also have DVD classics. Snow White and the Seven Dwarfs, Bambi, Jungle Book, Cinderella, and others. I know I enjoyed them as a child and still do today.

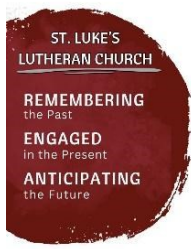
The room is open for use. So, come check out our new location and check out a book or two.



THANK YOU!

The Ministry on Property Care would like to thank the men who took care of the parking lots and sidewalks, making them safe for everyone this past winter: Ron Bohn for plowing our parking lots; Tom Sachs who volunteered his time to shovel, plow, and salt our side walks; Ron Herman, Jim Nooyen, Jerry Klingforth, and John Klingforth who volunteered their time to salt our parking lots. Thank you again! Please share your appreciation with these faithful volunteers as you see them.

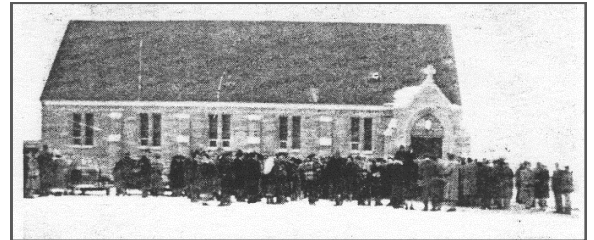
We also thank those who came to participate in our annual church cleaning. Many areas were cleaned, a few rooms remain to be cleaned. If you have some time please consider spending a bit of it addressing the areas that weren't done. Check in the office for a list of those cleaning needs. Also, thank you to Gerry Pierce and committee who prepared and served the delicious lunch for all who came. As we were reminded by Pastor Ryan Clark on Anniversary Sunday, St. Luke's is God's church - what an honor it is to maintain it and take responsibility for keeping it looking good.



EARLY ST. LUKE'S MEMORIES

On February 4, 1950 our first church was dedicated to God's glory. The day was full of activities, including a dedication ceremony conducted by our first Pastor, L. F. Schneider, sermon by the vice-president of the North Wisconsin District, the mayor brought a congratulatory message on behalf of the city, an afternoon service was held with Pastor Kuechle who spoke on

behalf of Immanuel Lutheran Church. An evening informal gathering included Pastor Ludwig, Correspondent of Missions, who was zealous in assisting St. Luke's in the early stages. Members were encouraged to continue working and praying for St. Luke's in this work of Christ and "victory will be yours"! 715 worshippers attended the services on this day.



By 1952, the small church had become so crowded that the balcony was enlarged to allow more seating. It was at this time that another service would be held on Sundays to alleviate the crowding. The September 30, 1956 with dedication on February 3, 1957. Our church was known at this time and for many years forward as "the children's church" because we had so many children. In 1969 it was decided that we needed



FIRST FAMILIES

more teaching and activity space so ground was broken for the Schneider Education Center. This building included a gymnasium which saw many basketball games of church teams around the central WI area, new church offices, and classroom areas for Sunday School and eventually St. Luke's Preschool.

Over the years an addition was built onto the east end of the Schneider Center which added the four large classrooms for confirmation classes and more Sunday School space. The narthex was increased in size in 1986, eliminating the outdoor stairway to the church entrance and adding a chair lift. The sanctuary was renovated at this time. By this time St. Luke's had grown in 50 years from 23 families to 700 units and from a baptized membership of 102 to over 1650.

For any of us here during most of those years, there are so many memories of inspiring and uplifting services and sermons, special moments of weddings, baptisms, confirmations, and yes, even funerals of many of the wonderful, dedicated people that worked so hard to start and grow St. Luke's. Twelve pastors have served, four vicars, three D.C.E's and one Deacon. Countless men and women have answered God's call to do serve on the church council, serve as teachers and helpers, as youth leaders, Bible study leaders, in funeral committees, Ladies Aid (now Women's Ministry), Men's Group, Veterans of the Cross, choirs, etc. At one time we determined it took over 70 individuals to prepare for and participate in some service need each and every weekend! More importantly, it was never difficult to find willing people to do those needed things.

God's plan to have another Lutheran Church Missouri Synod in the Wisconsin Rapids area was completed with brick and mortar but His real plan continues as we grow in faith and love, serve together, and reach out with the Gospel of Jesus Christ. We thank God for His enduring love and faithfulness to His church on earth, St. Luke's.

MISSIONS WORKDAY OPPORTUNITY

Join the Ministry on Missions on Saturday, May 18 for a workday at King Veterans' Home in Waupaca, WI as we freshen up the gardens we planted a couple of years ago. We will carpool from church, leaving at 8:00am. Lunch will be served.



Sign up sheets will be posted on the office lobby bulletin board soon.

Contact Nany Koch or Ray Jacob for more information. Hope to see you there.

OPEN TO ALL!

HEALTH KITS NEEDED!

In talking with people from Orphan Grain Train we recently learned that there is a immediate need for Health Kits around the world. There are so many areas of the world in conflict and so many needs. Senior Women of St. Luke's is requesting items to meet the need: 52" x 27" Bath towels (darker colors preferred), Bath size soap bars (4-5 oz) and sturdy combs.

If you are able to help donations of any of these items, we truly appreciate it. Kits will be assembled and delivered to Orphan Grain Train in May. There will be totes available in both the narthex and office lobby to receive your donations.

MAY ANNIVERSARIES

Ronald and Elaine Herman	May 1	48 years	Sharon and James Mahoney	May 21	58 years
Leland and Janet Fisher	May 5	51 years	James and Pamela Nooyen	May 22	48 years
Kurt and Annette Wussow	May 7	31 years	Don and Heather Kich	May 24	44 years
James and Mary Doescher	May 8	31 years	Jerry and Carolyn Rohm	May 27	57 years
Dale and Donna Scholze	May 8	59 years	John Caves and Barb Hunt-Caves	May 29	19 years
Scott and Pamela Dieringer	May 13	24 years	Ross and Lisa Schulz	May 30	43 years
Wendy and Brian Young	May 13	24 years	Daniel and Jody Cook	May 30	44 years
Mike and Tina Huber	May 13	25 years			
David and Jerri Haferman	May 14	47 years			
Phil and Holly Johnson	May 19	51 years			
Becky and Roy Diver	May 20	24 years			
Jeffrey and Judy Niemann	May 21	30 years			





St. Luke's Preschool / 4K

Registration night is Thursday May 2 from 6 to 7:30, in room 103.

Pre-registration forms are available in the church office, Facebook, and online www.stlukeslutheran.com.

TEACHER APPRECIATION WEEK MAY 6th to 10th:

What a wonderful blessing we have to thank our fantastic teachers. Amy Jansen has been with us for 24 years. Paula Heil has been with us 17 years. Susan Van Asten has been with us for 2 years. Kim Young and Jodi Lubeck are finishing their 1st year as assistants.

MAY ACTIVITIES IN THE PRESCHOOL:

MAY 2: REGISTRATION NIGHT 6-7:30 PM Room 103

MAY 20: CLOSING PROGRAM: 3 M/W 10:30 AM CHURCH

MAY 20: 4K PROGRAM 6:30 PM CHURCH

MAY 21: CLOSING PROGRAM: 3K T/TH 10:30 AM CHURCH

MAY 22: PICNIC/LAST DAY 4K 10-noon (OUTSIDE, if rain in GYM)

MAY 23: PICNIC/LAST DAY all 3K 10-noon (OUTSIDE, if rain in GYM)

The Lord continues to bless our Preschool/4K program as we close out another school year.

Thank you to all who have supported the staff and students with their prayers and gifts.

COME JOIN US FOR VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL

JUNE 9-14, 2024

5:45 – 7:45pm

**LOCATION IS ST. LUKE'S
LUTHERAN CHURCH**

**IF YOU WOULD LIKE TO SIGN UP YOUR CHILDREN PLEASE
CONTACT HEATHER STAINBROOK**

**PLEASE CONTACT HEATHER STAINBROOK IF YOU WOULD LIKE TO FIND
OUT MORE DETAILS ON VOLUTEERING FOR THIS OPPORTUNITY!**



SUNDAY SCHOOL NEWS

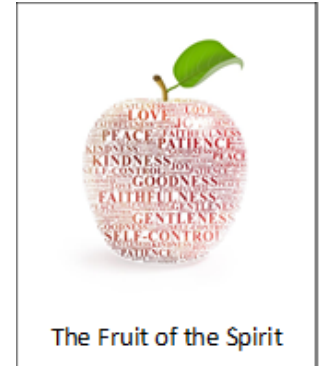
2023 – 2024 Sunday School

Theme for this year is the Fruit of the Spirit

Verse for the year: Galatians 5:22-23: But the fruit of the spirit is love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, gentleness, self-control.

The seventh fruit that we are looking at is Faithfulness! Here is a couple of definitions of faithfulness.

1. Church members in full communion and good standing.
2. The body of believers in Islam



Faithfulness? What does that word mean to you. When I look at my life try to be faithful to Lord by reading his

word every day, going to church weekly, and to be Christ like daily to other people. God is faithful to us when we decide that we are going to do our own things, our own way and not his way. Even though it is hard to be faithful with out doing it perfect is because we are not able to do that because we live in a broken world. Here are some steps that we can take to be faithful to God (Christian Today July 6, 2016, 5 Ways to Show Faithfulness to the Lord):

1. Be unwavering in your belief in Him.

- *But the one who endures to the end will be saved. Matthew 24:13*

2. Separate yourself from the world's thought patterns and practices.

- Romans 12: 1-2

3. Choosing to do what is right all of the time.

- Matthew 10:22-33

4. Obey what God says in His word.

- *If you love me you will keep my commandments John 14:15*

5. Love your neighbors in obedience to God.

- *And the King will answer them, "Truly I say to you, as you did it to one of the least of these, my brother, you did it to me." Matthew 25:40*

These items are hard to do all the time. If we don't equip ourselves by knowing his word, asking for his guidance, follow his leading, and being in the body of Christ.

There are many more scriptures on faithfulness. As we read these scriptures and think about them here are couple of questions that come to mind:

1. What do we believe about the scriptures that are listed above?
2. How am I showing that in storms that Jesus is faithful to me?

MAY BIRTHDAYS

Susanne Juenemann	May 2	Phyllis Lehman	May 11	Jerri Haferman	May 23
Sherry Marzofka	May 3	Donn Krenz	May 11	Jinalle Hansmann	May 23
La Vonne Goodwin	May 3	Mike Huber	May 11	Emily Young	May 23
Ileana Martens	May 4	Delores Doescher	May 12	Carla Brizzee	May 24
Debra Alft	May 5	Richard Clasen	May 13	Tammy Klingforth	May 24
Kathryn Luecht	May 5	Dale Vilbaum	May 13	Doris Drescher	May 25
Judy Niemann	May 5	Sheila Walloch	May 15	Lois Rogney	May 25
Carol Weier	May 5	Raymond Onesti	May 16	Rick Koplien	May 27
Hudson Gaulke	May 5	Suzanne Schoff	May 16	Wayne Kronstedt	May 27
Linda Reinolt	May 6	Kylie Ellis	May 16	Ned Kubisiak	May 27
Diana Hillstead	May 6	Emily Andres	May 17	Mathew Kehrberg	May 28
Sharon Kobishop	May 7	Bea Henke	May 17	Deanna Johnson	May 29
Kevin Lubeck	May 7	Caitlin Stainbrook	May 17	Saphiera Bungert	May 29
Jeffery Grosbier	May 8	Sandra Hett	May 19	Michael Roby	May 31
Kim Young	May 8	Tracy Shaw	May 20		
Mary Doescher	May 9	Karen Easterson	May 21		
Holly Ihrcke	May 9	Randal Anderson	May 22		
Gina Globke	May 10	Deborah Anderson	May 22		
Bonnie Rendmeister	May 10	Laurie Scheunemann	May 23		

HAPPY
BIRTHDAY

You are invited to participate in the **National Day of Prayer on Thursday, May 2, 11:30 a.m. - 12:30 p.m. at the Court House** in Wisconsin Rapids. The theme this year is *"For you are my lamp, O Lord, and my God lightens my darkness. For by You I can run against a troop, and by my God I can leap over a wall. This God—his way is perfect; the word of the Lord proves true; He is a shield for all those who take refuge in Him."* 2 Samuel 22:29-31

The National Day of Prayer is an annual day of observance designated by the United States Congress and held on the first Thursday of May, when people are asked "to turn to God in prayer and meditation". The president is required by law to sign a proclamation each year, encouraging all Americans to pray on this day. If you are unable to join others in the community at the courthouse, please take some time on May 2 in prayer for our church family, community, country and world events and leadership.

OFFICE STAFF E-MAILS

Pastor Carlton Andersen , Senior Pastor	candersen@stlukeslutheran.com
Deacon Jim Johnston, Pastoral Assistant	jjohnston@stlukeslutheran.com
Richard Casper, Visitation Assistant	rcasper@stlukeslutheran.com
Elaine Herman, Youth Director	eherman@stlukeslutheran.com
Parish Administrator	admin@stlukeslutheran.com
Alexis Johnson-McNaughton, Staff Assistant	mail@stlukeslutheran.com
St. Luke's Preschool/4K	preschool@stlukeslutheran.com
Newsletter Items, Wendy Young	lukelinesnews@gmail.com
Jim Nooyen, Congregation Chairman	jiipano@charter.net

MAY HELPERS TO WORSHIP

Elders: 6:00 Bruce Schoff 8:15 Richard Koch 10:30 Jeff Rieckenberg

Ushers: 6:00 Lori, Mark, & Dexter Schoff; LouAnne Pufall; Douglas & Lucas Van Natta

8:15 Sharon Kobishop, Tom Winkler, Rick Merk

10:30 Kim & Pat Young, Pam Hilke

Altar Guild: May 4 & 5: Lori Hansen

May 9: Jenny Damrau

May 11 & 12: Bonnie Rendmeister

May 18 & 19: Annette Wussow

May 25 & 26: Lori Hansen



Pew Maintenance: Jeff & Judy Niemann

Saturday/Sunday, May 4 & 5, 2024

Communion Helpers: 6:00 Dave Urban 8:15 Richard Casper

Readers: 6:00 Jim Tellekson 8:15 Jody Cook 10:30 Herb Kronholm

Greeters: 6:00 Sandy Sanger 8:15 Emily Hansen 10:30 Carla Brizzee

Thursday, May 9, 2024 Ascension

Elder: Dr. Richard Clasen

Ushers: Blake & Randy Balko, John Klingforth

Communion Helpers: 6:00 Dave Urban

Readers: 6:00 LouAnne Pufall

Saturday/Sunday, May 11 & 12, 2024

Communion Helpers: 10:30 Herb Kronholm

Readers: 6:00 Bill Seipel 8:15 Jan Langholff 10:30 Herb Kronholm

Greeters: 6:00 Pam & Virgel Berndt 8:15 Tina & Bob Kubisiak 10:30 Pam Hilke

Saturday/Sunday, May 18 & 19, 2024 Pentecost

Communion Helpers: 6:00 Dave Urban 8:15 Richard Casper 10:30 Herb Kronholm

Readers: 6:00 Connie Sherd 8:15 Jody Cook 10:30 Bill Seipel

Greeters: 6:00 Jan Deitz 8:15 Bonnie Rendmeister 10:30 Arlene Van Duser

Saturday/Sunday, May 25 & 26, 2024 Holy Trinity

Communion Helpers: 6:00 Dave Urban 8:15 Richard Casper 10:30 Herb Kronholm

Readers: 6:00 Barb Hunt-Caves 8:15 Nancy Koch 10:30 Dave Urban

Greeters: 6:00 Jean Grimm 8:15 Sandy Christman 10:30 Shirley Wagner

Ron Herman schedules the Elders, Communion Helpers, & Ushers; Ron Stowell schedules the Greeters;

Barb Hunt-Caves schedules the Readers; Jenny Damrau schedules Altar Guild

AUGUST 11, 2024

75TH ANNIVERSARY

FESTIVAL SUNDAY



Guest Preacher:

Pastor Dave Albers

shares the message

Worship Outdoors

beneath Shelter or

Tent for Shade

Bring a lawn chair or

blanket, if you'd like

Dress comfortably
for the weather and
activities!

Please be responsible
for setting your food
out & taking
container/serving
utensil with you when
you leave!

Ice Baths available
for Salads

Brats, burgers, potato
salad, baked beans
and beverages
provided!



9:30 a.m. Reception/Fellowship

10:30 a.m. Outdoor Worship Service / Holy Communion

12:00 noon Potluck - Please bring a salad or dessert to
compliment the food being prepared.

Sign up on Food Sheets in office lobby/narthex

Afternoon fun - Bounce House, Improved Playground, Face
Painting, Bingo, Entertainment, Corn hole Tournament

Members, former members, friends, neighbors are ALL
welcome. Invite someone to attend with you!!

harmony & laughter



GOLD CITY
 is an American southern gospel quartet based in Gadsden, Alabama and is one of the most awarded quartets in Christian Music.



COMEDIAN
MICKEY BELL
 is quickly becoming one of the most sought after entertainers with his quick wit and his ability to entertain crowds of all ages.

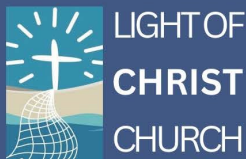


PRESENTED BY: LOVE INC OF SOUTH WOOD COUNTY

june 19, 2024

7:00 PM – 9:30 PM
PERFORMING ARTS CENTER
 1801 16TH ST S
 WISCONSIN RAPIDS, WI 54494

RESERVE YOUR TICKETS AT
WWW.SAVORTHEARTS.COM
 OR



CAMP LUTHER UPDATES

GOLF CLASSIC

June 4, 2024

Registration opens at 8:15am; Tee off at 9:00am | Pinewood Country Club -
9000 Pinewood Valley Rd, Harshaw, WI 54529



Join us for our 20th annual Golf Classic! This event is held to fund our Every Kid to Camp program, which covers registration fees for first time campers. Help us build up all people in Christ for service and witness to the world by attending this year's event. Find all the event details online at: <https://campluther.com/golf>

THRIVENT CHOICE DOLLARS

Thrivent Financial for Lutherans has given you a choice to help kids with its charitable giving program — Thrivent Choice. Thrivent members can now decide which qualifying organization(s) should receive a portion, or all of their allocated "Choice Dollars." Choice Dollars are the funds that an eligible member (depends on which policies/investments you have with Thrivent) can choose to designate and generally range between \$25 and \$500 for each member. The great news about this is that Thrivent will write the check for you. It's free money! *Camp Luther is one of the eligible organizations, and we would appreciate it if you would consider giving your CHOICE DOLLARS to Camp Luther.*

To learn more and find out if you're eligible or go to www.thrivent.com/choice and click "Get Started," or call Thrivent at 800-847-4836 and state "Thrivent Choice."

\$100,000 MATCH OPPORTUNITY: NEW COTTAGE DUPLEX

Several years ago a committee gathered to find and present to Camp Luther a growth opportunity in the form of housing for Family Camp and Retreat cottages. Through this committee the project of a Cottage Duplex was presented and approved by the Staff and Board of Directors. The Camp Luther Family Camp program has been growing exponentially since it started in 1979. We believe there is a huge need for more families to be able to experience this unique program. This housing will allow that to happen as well as use for retreat groups in the Spring, Winter, and Fall seasons.

For the first time in over 20 years Camp Luther is adding bedrooms!

This project has an anticipated cost of \$500,000. Here is what is incredible. Camp Luther has already received over \$300,000 from wonderful supporters who know and understand Camp's value and mission. This has allowed us to begin the build so we can be ready to use this space for the summer of 2025. They have also just committed to another \$100,000 to be matched so we can finish up this project!

We are now looking to you, those who also know and understand Camp Luther's mission, with this opportunity to expand our ministry. Whether you give \$5 or \$10,000 you will be supporting our mission of, Building up all people in Christ for service and witness to the world. Help us reach \$100,000 by March 31, 2025! Visit <https://campluther.com/give#100K> to donate today.

Camp Luther | 715-546-3647 | info@campluther.com | www.campluther.com

1889 Koubenec Road Three Lakes, WI 54562-9206

MAY 2024

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
5 8:15 Worship/HC 9:15 Sunday School 9:15 Youth Bible Study 9:20 Adult Bible Study 9:20 S.S. Parents Group 10:30 Worship 6:00 Game Group	6 8:30 Veterans of the Cross 10:00 Hope Support 11:30 Senior Women 6:30 Walking with Jesus Bible Study	7 11:00 Ministry on Missions 1:00 Pastor Carlton Bible Study 6:00 WM Meeting	1 9:45 Women in the Word 1:00 Relationship SG 6:00 Relationship SG 6:00 Youth Group 6:00 Choir Practice 6:00 Confirmation	2 10:00 GriefShare 6:30 GriefShare 6:30 Life Love & Jesus 7:00 The Bible Small Group	3 10:00 Bible Study	4 6:00 Worship/HC
12 8:15 Worship 9:15 Sunday School 9:15 Youth Bible Study 9:20 Adult Bible Study 9:20 S.S. Parents Group 10:30 Worship/HC 6:00 Game Group 6:00 Stephen Ministry CE	13 9:00 Dorcas Circle 10:00 Hope Support 6:00 Lois Circle 6:30 Walking with Jesus Bible Study	14 9:00 Dorcas Circle 6:30 Church Council	15 NEWS ITEMS DUE 9:45 Women in the Word 1:00 Relationship SG 6:00 Relationship SG 6:00 Youth Group 6:00 Choir Practice 6:00 Confirmation	16 10:00 GriefShare 6:30 GriefShare 6:30 Life Love & Jesus 7:00 The Bible Small Group	17 10:00 Bible Study	18 6:00 Worship/HC
26 8:15 Worship/HC 9:15 Sunday School 9:15 Youth Bible Study 9:20 Adult Bible Study 9:20 S.S. Parents Group 10:30 Worship/HC 6:00 Game Group 6:00 Stephen Ministry CE	27 MEMORIAL DAY OFFICE CLOSED	28 8:30 Rebekah Circle 9:00 Dorcas Circle 6:15 Ministry of Worship 6:15 Caring Leaders	29 9:45 Women in the Word 1:00 Relationship SG 6:00 Relationship SG 6:00 Youth Group 6:00 Choir Practice 6:00 Confirmation	30 10:00 GriefShare 6:30 GriefShare 6:30 Life Love & Jesus 7:00 The Bible Small Group	31 10:00 Bible Study	

Please call the office to schedule meetings, activities and events. If you have items you would like included on the calendar, contact the church office.
 715-423-5990 | mail@stlukeslutheran.com



Christ be Our Leader April/May 2024

St. Luke's youth seek to be united in Christ, share His love and celebrate our growth in faith.



Looks like spring may finally be here to stay? Either way the Youth took the opportunity of a nice day to make their first fire of the year. And what celebratory fire would be without hot dogs and smores over the fire with chips and soda on the side...it felt great to be outside and enjoy the beautiful day that our Father provided for us! Games, food, and fellowship, combined with just a little goofing around made the evening complete! Earlier in the month the Youth spent an indoor evening eating pizza while playing basketball and some board games. Every Youth night, whether inside, outside, or off-site always includes an evening devotion, a short time to pause and reflect on all the blessings that we have been given! Having just celebrated Easter a couple of weeks ago, we have a great visual of the price that our Savior, Jesus Christ, had to pay for our sins. We know how much it hurts to prick our finger with a pin, just imagine what it must have felt like for Jesus to have spikes driven through his hands and feet! But neither Satan or death could defeat Our Lord and keep him in the grave...

He is Risen...He is Risen Indeed!!!

7 KEYS TO LIFE

1. Put God first.
2. Love one another.
3. Never hate.
4. Give generously.
5. Live simple.
6. Forgive quickly.
7. Pray everyday.

There are all kinds of lists in our very busy lives; shopping lists, check lists, inventory lists, things to do lists, "honey do" lists, the bucket list...but the small list shown to the left is a pretty good list to follow for a happy and full life! Try it, you'll like it!

The lil dude shown here has the right idea, one that all us share: Back off devil, I belong to Jesus...and I'm glad I do!





St. Luke's Youth Activities

May 2024



Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
			1  Youth Group! This is our turn to help at the SPECIAL NEEDS DANCE 5—8 p.m.	2	3	4  Ileana Martens
5  Bible Study 9:15—10:15	6	7  Caitlin Stainbrook	8  Youth Group 6-8 p.m.	9 	10	11
12  Bible Study 9:15—10:15 	13	14	15  Youth Group 6-8 p.m.	16	17	18
19  Bible Study 9:15—10:15	20	21	22  Youth Group 6-8 p.m.	23	24	25
26  Bible Study 9:15—10:15	27 	28	29  Youth Group 6-8 p.m.	30	31	