June 1, 2023 | Monthly Issue #24





St. Luke Church embodies a strong sense of mission to youth, young families, seniors, the homeless, and others in need of God's grace regardless of color, ethnicity, gender, and orientation through our open and affirming faith.

From the Pastor's Desk

Dear St. Luke Family,

By the time you read this, the summer season at St. Luke will have officially begun! While it's great to take a break from things like school and work, summer is an amazing time to focus on building your faith, because there are often fewer distractions. To that end, we will have two different teaching series on Sunday mornings during worship. The first is Pentecost 2.0, where together we will explore some of the great stories of Peter and Paul building the early church in the book of Acts. Following this series, we will launch into "The Walk...Getting Your Steps In Every Day!" During this series, we will take a deep dive into the life of Christian discipleship both as individuals and as a church. It is my prayer that together these series will both challenge and empower us to become all of who Jesus has called us to be.

So commit to being present in worship, to building and strengthening your relationship with Jesus and your siblings in faith, and heck...do something really radical and bring your Bible with you on Sundays. I look forward to spending time with you this summer!

Peace and blessings,

Pastor Holly



Summer musicians needed!

Calling all singers, instrumentalists, and pianists! St. Luke's Summer Music schedule begins on June 4 and runs through September 3. This is a wonderful opportunity to share your talent and love of music with the church family by performing your favorite pieces for our Sunday morning services. We are especially blessed with the many young musicians that play and sing for these summer services each year.

A sign-up sheet is on the large white board next to the nursery.

For those using an accompanist, we ask that you get your music to either Anne Curin or Lisa Boggess by Wednesday, prior to the Sunday you will be presenting your music. You will need to meet with either Anne or Lisa by 9:30 on Sunday morning to rehearse your piece. Anne plays for the first, third and fourth Sundays in June, with Lisa playing the second Sunday. In July and August, Anne plays the first two Sundays, and Lisa plays the third and fourth Sundays. Their e-mail addresses

are: anne.curin@gmail.com; Lisa@harpscape.com.

Your musical offerings are a great blessing and inspiration for our worship experience. We are most grateful for your participation.

Will Thomen, Director of Music

Youth Lounge remodeling begins

I want to share exciting news about one more step we are taking to realize our mission to youth. Our Session recently approved the renovation of our Youth Lounge and it just started.

It isn't pretty now.....but soon it will be! Aspects of the renovation include:

- Removing the wall that currently creates a hallway to make the room larger.
- Taking down the dropped ceiling to expose the roof line from the old sanctuary.
- Installing new flooring.
- Updating electrical
- Painting the space....and more.

In summary, this renovation will give us a blank canvas for our updated Youth Lounge. Once the main renovation is complete, we plan to fill the space with**NEW** furniture, cabinets for storage, a monitor, and other items.

It is time. It is time to give our youth a space they can be proud of -- a safe, welcoming space where they can gather, laugh, share stories, and grow in faith. A place that a visitor looks at and knows that St Luke highly values their youth.

Jim Collins, youth group leader



Christian Education/Youth Group News

Club Luke wrapped up for the year last month. It was a great time to see our youngest friends, learn about their weeks and engage in Bible stories and music. Many thanks to Fred for sharing his gifts of music with the kids!



Youth Sunday was an awesome worship service where the youth group led worship on the topic of community and community service. Many thanks to everyone who makes this community special for all of our students. As well, a special thank you to Jim Collins for his leadership with the youth group this year.



Tuesdays Together is scheduled for three Tuesdays in July again this year. Mark your calendars for those evenings for a meal, activity, Bible story, and game!! This is an intergenerational event and all are welcome to join us for fun and fellowship. Invite a friend or neighbor, too!

Please note, Ali Mulvoy will be on vacation June 4-10.

Questions? Contact Ali at amulvoy@stlukedg.org

Legacy Giving—what is it?

When you think about stewardship at St. Luke, annual estimates of giving and special capital campaigns probably come to mind. Stewardship is much more. Planned giving

or legacy giving through estate planning is another important part of stewardship. It's a faithful witness to sustain St. Luke's ministries and mission and preserve our church building for the future.

Please look at the brand-new section on the St. Luke website called "Planned Giving" for more information.

Elder Jim Collins, stewardship chair

Saturday Grab and Go Meals volunteers needed for June

Summer is a busy time with vacations and get-togethers. St. Luke Church continues to provide Grab and Go meals on Saturdays from 5:30 p.m. to 6:30 p.m. to feed homeless and food-insecure neighbors. Please check your calendar to see if you can be available to volunteer in June to prepare meals, distribute meals, set up and clean up, or register guests.

- To assist in the kitchen or with food preparation, use this form: https://bit.ly/3Y1d0Yd
- For registration, serving meals, or cleanup, use this Volunteer Calendar: https://bit.ly/3XS2e6w
- Or use the sign up link on the St. Luke Church website: https://www.stlukedg.org/missions
 "Community Kitchen" page.

Contact Vida (<u>vidajue@gmail.com</u>) or Fred (<u>mission@stlukedg.org</u>) for additional information or with questions.

Thank you for your service.



Book Group reads book on politics

The St. Luke Book Group will meet on Thursday June 22 at 7:00 p.m. to discuss *How Civil Wars Start: And How to Stop Them* by Barbara Walter. In it, Walter posits that the United States may be headed for another civil war,

discussing factors that have made countries susceptible to sectarian violence in the past two decades, and revealing the warning signs, which include a loss of status by a historically dominant ethnic group and the closing of political avenues for change. Are we really on the road to civil war?

Meetings are open to all. For more information, please contact Rick Roche at <u>ricklibrarian@yahoo.com</u> or 630-215-8616.





Worship is in the Sanctuary every Sunday at 10 a.m.

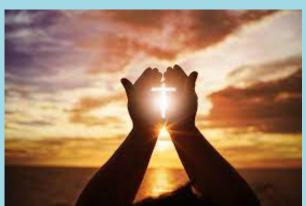
An email with a link to the livestream, along with links to the Order of Worship, Scripture, and Announcements (every other week) will be sent out prior to Sunday. Videos of the service will be available on our YouTube channel following the service.

Thursday, 6/1

The GALZ and Da Guys -- 9:30 a.m. (every Thursday)

Saturday, 6/3

Grab and Go Meals -- 2 p.m. preparation; 5:30 p.m. serving *(every Saturday)*



St. Luke Prayer List

Please continue to pray for all those on our prayer list. Click <u>here</u> to view our current Prayer List.

Good News & Gratitudes



Sunday, 6/4

Stewardship Team -- 9 a.m.

From Raina Gallt:

Thank you to everyone for their encouragement, support, cards, and other

Grab and Go food prep -- 11 a.m. *(every Sunday)*

Scandinavian Dancers -- 5:30 p.m. [outside group] (also 6/18)

expressions of caring for me while my father was in hospice and after his passing. I continue to feel very nurtured by this St. Luke community; you are all very much appreciated.

Monday, 6/5

Exercise Group -- 8:30 a.m. [outside group] (every Monday)

Big Book Group -- 8 p.m. [outside group] *(every Monday)*

Wednesday, 6/7

Exercise Group -- 8:30 a.m. [outside group] (every Wednesday)

Worship team -- 6 p.m.

Thursday, 6/8

Deacons -- 7 p.m.

Sunday, 6/11

Property team -- 11:15 a.m.

Monday, 6/12

P.E.O. -- 9:30 a.m. [outside group]

Tuesday, 6/13

Christian Education team -- 7 p.m.

Wednesday, 6/14

Mission team -- 7 p.m.



While setting up an apartment for a refugee family, Mission Elder Fred Moszur noticed this box of supplies in the moving truck. It contained a welcome kit with items donated by the St. Luke family. Thank you to all you who made donations. As you can see in the picture, your donations to World Relief are making their way to people whose lives will be improved by your thoughtfulness.





A big thank you to the ladies who attended the hanger party and helped organize HUNDREDS of hangers--one step closer to being organized for the Church Garage Sale Oct.13-14.



Session meeting -- 7 p.m.

Tuesday, 6/20

Thursday, 6/15

Justice Agitators -- 7 p.m.

Thursday, 6/22

St. Luke Book Group -- 7 p.m.

Saturday, 6/24

Rolling Tones Music Recital -- 8 a.m. to 2 p.m. [outside group]

Wednesday, 6/2

BURT (Building Use Request Team) -- 7 p.m.

From one of our outside groups:

I just wanted to compliment you and the board of St Luke's about the fabulous appearance of the landscaping, and your Memorial stone/ brick area. They have really done a nice job; a really nice job!

Do you have any news you would like to share? Please contact us at session@stlukedg.org with your good news or your thanks/gratitude for the St. Luke family. A photo is always welcome, too!

For a complete list of all events, visit the **Calendar** tab on our website.

*The deadline for the next Lukan Letter is **Sunday, June 25.** Please send submissions to **session@stlukedg.org**.

Visit us on the web: stlukedg.org







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