



# ST. LUKE

## CHURCH



*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.*

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## From the Pastor's Desk

Dear St. Luke Family,

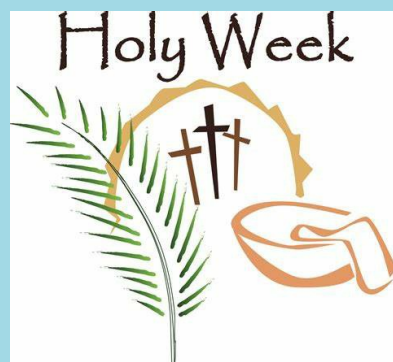
As a child, one of my favorite holidays was Easter. I simply marveled at Holy Week. I loved the mystery and awe of Maundy Thursday, especially the first year I was able to take communion. I remember taking part in different Good Friday activities, and while I was sad Jesus had to die, it was never scary, because so many wonderful saints helped me learn that Friday was 'Good' because Jesus beat death on Easter Sunday. On Holy Saturday, my family always dyed lots and lots of Easter eggs. Then came Easter Sunday when my mom would make all 5 of her girls matching Easter dresses and everyone would gather for worship and then join with extended family for a huge feast, egg hunt, and games. Some years we would have up to 75 family members in attendance! In all, it was a week of remembering, joy, and hope that I reflect upon each year with fondness and love.

This Holy Week, I would encourage you to help create an Easter memory for someone else. Start Holy Week off with a celebration as we lift our palms and sing 'Hosanna' on Palm Sunday, and pray for Jesus to place someone special on your heart to experience Holy Week with. Invite a friend or family member to come to church with you on Maundy Thursday and celebrate the Lord's Supper together. Ask a friend, relative, or co-worker to join you in experiencing the prayer and meditation stations we will be offering on Good Friday. Reach out to someone who could use the gift of hope and invite them to the Easter Sunday service. There are so many who are "Seeking." Seeking hope in a hurting world. So let's bring hope alive this Easter.

In the Peace and Joy of the Resurrection,

Pastor Holly

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## Holy Week services planned

### **Palm Sunday, April 2**

10 a.m. Worship Service  
Come wave palms and celebrate with us!

### **Maundy Thursday, April 6**

7 p.m.—These Hands  
Communion, Tenebrae

### **Good Friday, April 7**

1:30--6:30 p.m. Experience the Journey to the Cross  
Spend some time with Jesus on this holy day by journeying through a series of self-guided prayer/meditation stations. Come as you are able; stay as long as you like; bring a friend.

### **Easter Sunday, April 9**

10 a.m. Worship Service  
Celebrate the Resurrection with family and friends! Plan to join the choir for the annual singing of the Hallelujah Chorus!

*There will be a special gift for all of our children.*

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## Purchase flowers to celebrate Easter!

Once again, the Worship Committee is inviting the St. Luke family to assist in decorating the sanctuary for Easter through the purchase of Spring flowering plants.

This year, we're inviting you to purchase your own plants (daffodils, tulips, hyacinths, etc.) and drop them off at church no later than the Maundy Thursday service. Due to some severe allergies, we will not be using Easter lilies this year.



A flyer with more information can be found [here](#).

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## Christian Education/Youth Group News

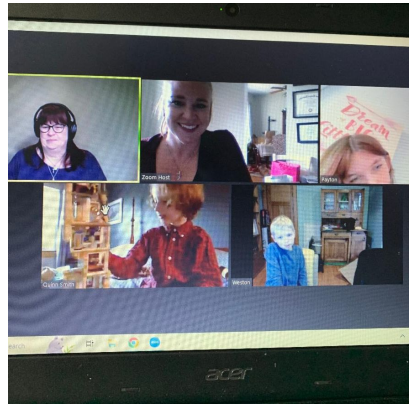
Happy spring!!!

I hope everyone is enjoying the nicer, slightly warmer weather.

**Club Luke** is meeting via Zoom during the month of April on 4/6



and 4/20. We are using the Seeking devotional during Lent and will be switching back to Growing in God's Love after Easter.



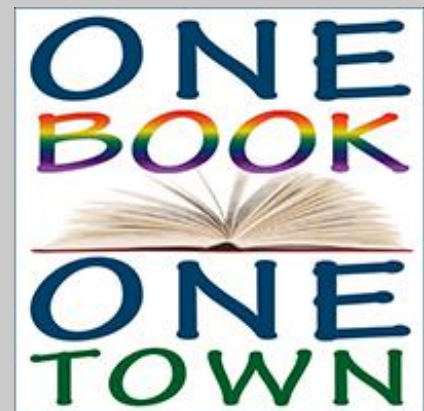
**Youth Group** will meet during April on 4/16 and 4/23. **PLEASE NOTE THE CHANGES FROM OUR REGULAR SCHEDULE.** Due to Easter, I wanted to make sure the students have enough time to work on their Youth Sunday Service.

Questions? Contact Ali Mulvoy, Director of Children and Youth Ministries, at [amulvoy@stlakedg.org](mailto:amulvoy@stlakedg.org)

## One Book, One Town event

EQDG (EQuality Downers Grove), in partnership with the Downers Grove Public Library, is excited to invite everyone to participate in a community-wide reading event and conversation, One Book, One Town.

At the recommendation of the St. Luke Justice Agitators, the session has agreed to promote the event to the St. Luke family, friends, and neighbors.



The book chosen for this initiative is *Answers in the Pages* by David Levithan, "a bold, fun, and timely story about taking action, being brave, and standing up for what's right." The goal is to inspire a productive dialogue around empathy and inclusion, and to discover the commonalities that unite us as a strong, caring, and dynamic community.

Get your copy from the library, from Amazon, from Anderson's Bookshop, or from your local bookstore. Read it and join us for a fun discussion group hosted by one of our wonderful downtown Downers Grove business establishments during the week of April 10-16, 2023. A calendar of events can be found on EQDG.org or [here](#).

Have questions about this community-wide reading initiative? Send them to [onebookonetown@eqdg.org](mailto:onebookonetown@eqdg.org).

## Volunteers needed to distribute Grab and Go Meals

St. Luke Church and a few area churches have begun a new meal program to feed our homeless and food-insecure neighbors. Weekly dinners are offered at each participating church on their specified day.

St. Luke Church provides Grab and Go meals on Saturdays from 5:30 p.m. to 6:30 p.m. Volunteers are needed to prepare meals, distribute meals, set up and cleanup, and register guests.

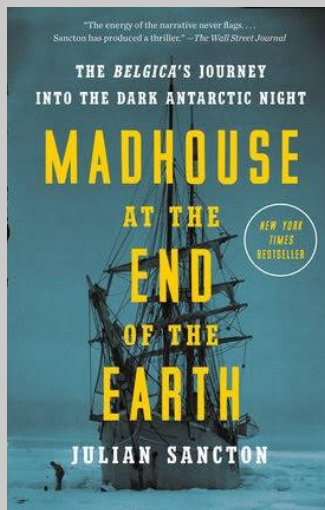
To indicate which dates you plan to help with **registration, serving meals, or cleanup**, use this Volunteer Calendar: <https://bit.ly/3XS2e6w>

To assist in the **kitchen** or with **food preparation** use this form: <https://bit.ly/3Y1d0Yd> or contact Vida ([vidajue@gmail.com](mailto:vidajue@gmail.com)) or Fred ([mission@stlukedg.org](mailto:mission@stlukedg.org)).

## St. Luke collects items for refugee Welcome Kits

World Relief Chicagoland is actively resettling refugees from Ukraine, Afghanistan, Burma, Rwanda, and other countries. The World Relief office in Carol Stream has provided a list of items for refugee Welcome Kits needed to furnish apartments.

You can participate and sign up to purchase needed items. Use the sign-up form at <https://www.signupgenius.com/go/805044fa8a622aaf49-refugee2#/> to indicate which items you intend to purchase. Please bring those items to church by Sunday, April 30, and place them at the designated location in the Gathering Space.



## Book Group reads nonfiction selection

The St. Luke Book Group will be meeting Thursday, April 27, at 7 p.m. to discuss *Madness at the End of the Earth* by Julian Sancton.

In 1897, the Belgian Antarctic Expedition was caught in the ice of Antarctica and became the first crew to spend the winter in the polar region. Sancton tells the fascinating story of planning gone awry as well as the effects of polar madness on the crew.

Meetings are open to all. For more information, please contact Rick Roche at [ricklibrarian@yahoo.com](mailto:ricklibrarian@yahoo.com) or 630-215-8616.

Save the Date...and Your Stuff!

St. Luke Sale  
FRI., OCT 13 & SAT., OCT 14



# Notes from Stewardship

It's not too late to contribute your per capita.

Per Capita is the major source of funding for the Presbytery of Chicago, and requested of every congregation. It is based on the total active membership of the church. As it is based on everyone, it provides a method for how Presbyterians equally and interdependently share the costs of running the church.

Per Capita provides support for the Presbyterian denomination. The 2023 Presbytery assessment is \$36.50 per member and covers expenses for:

- Presbytery of Chicago
- Synod of Lincoln Trails, and
- General Assembly

To submit your per capita you can write a check or pay electronically by using the QR code on a bulletin or click on the "Donate" button on the church website.



**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.



## St. Luke Prayer List

Please continue to pray for all those on our prayer list. Click [here](#) to view our current Prayer List.

## Good News & Gratitudes

**Saturday, 4/1**

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

**Sunday, 4/2**

**Palm Sunday worship -- 10 a.m.**

**Scandinavian Dancers -- 5:30 p.m. [outside group] *(also 4/16)***



## **Monday, 4/3**

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

**Election set up -- Noon--9 p.m.**

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

**Knitting Group -- 8 p.m. (*every Monday*)** via Zoom

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## **Tuesday, 4/4**

**Voting in Fellowship Hall**

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## **Wednesday, 4/5**

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

**Bible Study -- 11:30 a.m. in the Gathering Space** (*every Wednesday*)

**Chancel Choir -- 7:30 p.m. (*every Wednesday*)**

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## **Thursday, 4/6**

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

**Club Luke on Zoom -- 4:15 p.m. (*also 4/20*)**

**Maundy Thursday service -- 7 p.m.**

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## **Friday, 4/7**

**Good Friday self-guided meditation and prayer stations -- 1:30--6:30 p.m.**

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## **Sunday, 4/9**

The halls at St. Luke are quieter right now, since the Whittier School Reading Games team and the Variety Show practices are over. But the families wanted to share their gratitude with us:

*Dear Raina,*

*Thank you to you and the wonderful members at St Luke's for allowing our kids to utilize the church's fellowship hall!*

*My son's Reading Games team, Whittier Wild Warrior Readers, placed Top 3 against 50 teams in their level! ... If it weren't for the space we were able to practice at regularly, I'm not sure the team would have done so well! Woohoo!*

*And for my daughter's Variety Show act, the Roarsome Shakers, there is absolutely no way we could have pulled off a dance routine with 20 girls if it weren't for the large space provided to us.*

*Please forward our appreciation to the new pastor and everyone else on the board who approved these groups to use the space.*

*Thank you,  
Mandi Torello*





Easter worship -- 10 a.m.

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*Monday, 4/10*

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

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*Tuesday, 4/11*

Christian Education team -- 7 p.m.

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*Wednesday, 4/12*

Mission team -- 7 p.m.

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*Thursday, 4/13*

Deacon meeting -- 7 p.m.

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*Sunday, 4/16*

Stewardship Team -- 8:45 a.m.

Property Team -- 11:15 a.m.

Youth Group -- 11:15 a.m. *(also 4/23)*

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*Tuesday, 4/18*

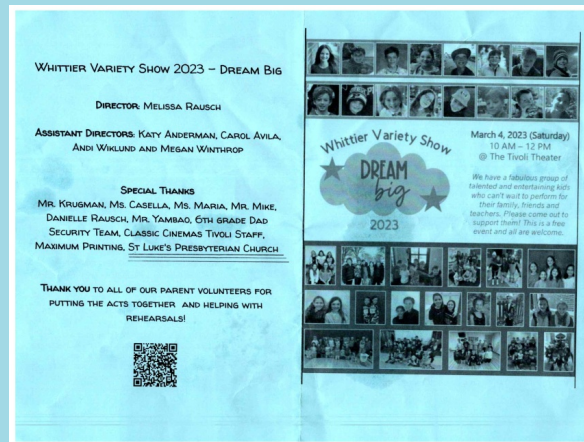
Justice Agitators -- 7 p.m.

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*Thursday, 4/20*

Session meeting -- 7 p.m.

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

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*Calendar continued...*

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*Wednesday, 4/26*

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

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*Thursday, 4/27*

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

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For a complete list of all events, visit the [Calendar](#) tab on our website.

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\*The deadline for the next Lukan Letter is **Saturday, March 25**. Please send submissions to [session@stlukedg.org](mailto:session@stlukedg.org).

Visit us on the web: [stlukedg.org](http://stlukedg.org)



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