

# *THE ST. LUKE LETTER*

## *December 2020*



Dear Siblings in Christ,

Throughout the ages God has always been a presence and in our year of struggle and multi-demic (more than just the global pandemic of Covid-19, but also the political divide, the exposure of hate, racism, agism, gender and LGTBQIA discrimination and many other issues that have cause many areas of distrust, anxiety and suffering) God has been and continues to be perpetually present. I have seen countless memes and jokes about how the year 2020 is a “dumpster fire” and just “the worst year ever” in living memory. And yet there is hope. There is hope through God and the promises God makes to all the world through our Lord and Savior who is named Emmanuel – God With Us.

God is with us and we await Christ coming again, but that doesn't mean that God isn't also with us throughout our lives, amid this time of pain, suffering, loss and struggle. God is here. God's love is pouring out for and with the whole world. God's tears flow. God's love and inspiration are calling for us to acknowledge and see the brokenness around us and to move forward to the changes needed for love to be known, experienced and realized for all people, all of creation, for all the world. We seek the joy of the season and smile for the early sight of Christmas lights that have already been glowing for a few weeks. We look to the smiles of hope on innocent children's faces who see the pure love in one another and seem to adapt in ways we envy and attempt to copy. We find the hope of God's light in our neighbors, all of our neighbors, from those who look and act the least like us to those who have been our closest friends, and the light of Jesus that shines forth glows with warmth and promise. May we all reflect upon God with us this season of Advent and look to the coming of Christ. May we enjoy the celebration of Christ's birth and see the joy evident in God's continued presence among us.

Yours In Christ,  
*Pr. Becky Horn*



Are you or a loved one desiring a visit from the pastor? Please contact Pastor Becky if you would like her to call or visit you at home, in the hospital, or another location. (office: 364-9154, cell: 215-208-5535, email: [stluke364pastor@verizon.net](mailto:stluke364pastor@verizon.net)) \*Also, if you desire Communion at home, please contact Pr. Becky so that arrangements can be made.

**Pastor Becky is on Vacation December 7, December 14 and December 26 thru December 31.** Please contact Pr. Becky only with emergencies on these days.



**PLEASE NOTE:** As we continue in global pandemic, the St. Luke Council continues to monitor community spread of Covid-19. Please watch your weekly church email for any updates regarding in person worship. If you do not have email, you may call the church office at 814-364-9154 and listen to the recorded church message regarding any changes to worship services.

**Advent Worship** - St. Luke will hold mid-week advent worship services on Wednesday, December 2, 9 & 16 at 7:00pm. We will use the Holden Evening Prayer Service.

### **Christmas Eve – Tentative Worship in Person Worship**

Thank you to those who have called into the office or filled out the online survey to reserve your Christmas Eve in Person Worship Service preference. If you have not yet done so, please do so before December 2<sup>nd</sup>. The online survey will be closed at midnight December 2<sup>nd</sup> and we will begin finalizing the service times. Link to Online Survey: <https://forms.gle/VdwiYMXUff4pJMvR8>

If you have not filled out the online survey, please **CALL** St. Luke with the following information for Christmas Eve Worship at 814-364-9154 **by Nov. 25<sup>th</sup> (extended to Dec. 2<sup>nd</sup>)**

1. Would you plan to attend In Person Christmas Eve Worship?
2. If yes, which time or time frame?
  - a. 1:00-3:00 pm
  - b. 4:00-6:00 pm
  - c. 9:00 pm
3. How many people would be attending with you?

Once the In Person Worship Schedule is made for Christmas Eve you will be contacted with your scheduled time. Should the St. Luke Council need to cancel in person worship due to Covid-19 we will also contact those who have pre-registered. There will be a **very limited** number of unreserved seats per service available on a first-come, first-served basis on Christmas Eve.

On Christmas Eve for in Person Worship, all in attendance will need to follow all in person worship guidelines including wearing a mask, having your temperature taken and answering Covid-19 health and safety questions. Thank you for your understanding as we do our best to mitigate and reduce the exposure and risk of community spread of the new coronavirus as we welcome Emmanuel, God with us!

### **Christmas Eve – Worship at Home**

We will be posting and sending a Worship Service for you to celebrate in the comfort and safety of your own home via St. Luke's YouTube channel <https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCndvYdWpi7qSKld6Y8cnHMg>. For those without internet or computer, we will have bulletins printed like we do for Sunday Worship At Home. If you already receive Worship at Home via USPS, you will receive a copy this way. If you would like to receive Christmas Eve's Worship at Home Bulletin via USPS, please contact the church office by Tuesday, December 15th with your name, telephone number and the statement that you would like to receive the Christmas Worship At Home service. We of course would love to be able to be together with a full in person gathering, but we know with a global pandemic this would put all at unnecessary risk. We pray that as we worship in our own gatherings using the same order of service, we feel united to the body of Christ and feel the celebration of God with us, the Joy of Christmas, the birth of our Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ. May you have a Very Merry Christmas and a Blessed New Year!

**Lessons and Carols** - On Sunday, December 27, 2020, St. Luke will hold a Lessons and Carols worship service at 10:30am.



At this time, St. Luke will not resume Sunday School classes until January 2021. Watch your January newsletter.

**Worship At Home**— For those who do not feel comfortable with In House Worship at this time, the Worship At Home service will continue to be posted on the St. Luke Centre Hall YouTube Channel for the foreseeable future. If you desire Communion at home, please contact Pr. Becky so that arrangements can be made.

**IMPORTANT - Please Note**—If you do not have email or online access and would like to receive the printed Worship At Home Mailing, please speak with Pastor Becky or Patty or leave a message at the Church Office at 814-364-9154.

**Groups in St. Luke** - Groups that wish to resume using the building must schedule through the Church office and follow the protocols established for worship including wearing masks, remaining physically distant, answering health questions, and taking attendance for contact tracing. Groups must also designate a person to be the 'Cleaning Person.' Prior to the group's use of the building, the Cleaning Person must contact Pastor Becky, Derek Shaffer or Larry Frazier to set up a time to meet and discuss where the cleaning supplies are and learn the cleaning protocols. Once this meeting has occurred, the group may proceed with in person meetings that abide by current St. Luke policy. Currently the limit is up to 10% capacity for indoor events and gatherings.

## **QUESTIONS TO PONDER**

Called Forward  Together in Christ

### **Goal 3**

**An inviting and welcoming church that reflects and embraces the diversity of our communities and the gifts and opportunities that diversity brings.**

#### **Priority areas for action**

**An outwardly focused church** – Support congregations and worship communities in actively reaching out to people in their neighborhoods through relationships, in service and with an openness for mutual learning.

**Theological and cultural competence of leaders** – Build confidence and competence among lay leaders and rostered ministers to provide an authentic welcome to people from different cultures and circumstances and embrace the ideas and experience they bring.

**Church leadership profile** – Pursue a leadership profile that reflects the diversity to which the ELCA aspires and endeavor to match the gifts and experience of leaders to communities and ministries where those gifts are needed.

**Addressing discrimination and oppression** – Equip and support leaders at all levels of the church to understand, speak out and act against discrimination based on race, gender, disability, sexual orientation and social status.

Scripture: 1 Corinthians 12, Ephesians 2:14-20, Acts 10, Galatians 3:26-28

<https://elca.org/Resources/Future-Directions>

### **St. Luke In Person Worship Plan:**

Worship in person is at 10:30 am. 8:00 am has been temporarily suspended while we wait for a back ordered cleaning item. There are several required procedures that we are instituting in order to provide the least risk for gathering as a group. We ask that those who plan to attend any gatherings, including worship, at the church agree to abide by the recommendations for the health of all. **Currently, Gov. Wolf has recommended 10% capacity for indoor events and gatherings** and Council has agreed to follow the recommendations from the governor's office.

#### **Procedure for In House Worship:**

- A. Entry to the building will be limited to the main front doors. Doors will open approximately 15 minutes before the start of the service. Requirements will include: temperature check via an infrared thermometer, answering a few questions about any symptoms or exposure to Covid-19, a mask covering the nose and mouth, and having their name recorded for the potential of contact tracing. If a person has a fever over 100.4F, we will ask them to not join us inside for worship. If a person answers 'Yes' to any of the following questions, they will be asked to not join us inside for worship. They may be given a copy of the bulletin and reminded that virtual worship is available on St. Luke's YouTube channel.
  - a. Do you have any new or worsening onset of any of the following symptoms: fever, cough, shortness of breath, runny nose, sore throat, chills, body aches, fatigue, headache, loss of taste/smell, eye drainage, congestion?
  - b. In the last 14 days have you traveled outside your normal, daily routine?
  - c. Have you or someone in your household been exposed to someone being tested for COVID-19 or who has symptoms compatible with COVID-19?
- B. If a person meets the temperature and question requirements, but does not have a mask, one will be provided.
- C. Once in the sanctuary, households will be asked to fill from the front of the church to the back in designated, space out areas. Once seated, people may choose to remove their masks; however it is recommended that they remain on throughout the service. Bulletins will be placed in the approved pews prior to the worship service; households may need to share. If a person has reason to get up during the service and when they go to leave, it is requested that masks be put back on.
- D. The worship service will be modified to limit time, congregational responses, and singing. We will have some music. People are welcome to hum along, or if so called, to sing 'lightly', but they are requested to wear their mask over their nose and mouth. Communion will be offered as the final part of the service. Elements will be pre-packaged, individual servings of wafer and grape juice. As people are leaving the sanctuary via the front door, they may pick up their Communion elements and partake in their car.
- E. Pastor Becky will wear a mask ~~and use a face shield~~ throughout the entirety of the worship service. She will lead all of her parts of the service from the pulpit. If we have lectors or worship assistants, we will only have one per service. He or She will be asked to sit near the lectern, either in the transept or the choir loft for the entirety of the service and they will only use the lectern for their speaking parts. When speaking at the lectern they will be asked to wear a mask. If they would like a face shield, one will be available.
- F. During the worship service, Air Conditioning will remain off. Prior to the worship service we can pre-cool the sanctuary. Sanctuary and external doors will be propped open to increase airflow and dissipation of potential covid-19 particles.
- G. Exiting the building: if people would like to share in Communion, they can pick up the elements on their way out of the main entry doors. Otherwise, people may leave by the West or South doorways.
- H. In the parking lot, gathering is discouraged. However, should people want to converse, we ask that they continue to wear their masks. We cannot require them to do so outside of the building.

## **Worship Volunteer Schedule - Thank you for your service to St. Luke!**

### **First Sunday of Advent - November 29, 2020 at 10:30am**

Worship Assistant and Lector: Evelyn Reeder  
Offering Counters: Deb Frazier and Jim Shunk  
Altar Flowers: Betty Ishler  
Snow Shoveling 11/29-12/5: **Open**  
Head Usher (November): Jazmyne Shaffer

### **Second Sunday of Advent - December 6, 2020 at 10:30am**

Worship Assistant and Lector: Jim Shunk  
Offering Counters: **Open and Open**  
Altar Flowers: Virginia Struble  
Snow Shoveling 12/6-12/12: **Open**  
Head Usher (December): Larry Frazier

### **Third Sunday of Advent - December 13, 2020 at 10:30am**

Worship Assistant and Lector: Scott McAllister  
Offering Counters: Barb McAllister and Sue Royer  
Altar Flowers: Jack Sharer  
Snow Shoveling 12/13-12/19: **Open**  
Head Usher (December): Larry Frazier

### **Fourth Sunday of Advent - December 20, 2020 at 10:30am**

Worship Assistant and Lector: Susan Stover  
Offering Counters: Deb Frazier and **Open**  
Altar Flowers: Poinsettias  
Snow Shoveling 12/20-12/26: **Open**  
Head Usher (December): Larry Frazier

### **First Sunday of Christmas - December 27, 2020 at 10:30am**

Worship Assistant and Lector: Peg Leedy  
Offering Counters: **Open** and Jim Shunk  
Altar Flowers: Poinsettias  
Snow Shoveling 12/27-1/2: **Open**  
Head Usher (December): Larry Frazier

### **Second Sunday of Christmas - January 3, 2021 at 10:30am**

Worship Assistant and Lector: Jim Shunk  
Offering Counters: Barb McAllister and Jim Shunk  
Altar Flowers: Poinsettias  
Snow Shoveling 12/27-1/2: **Open**  
Head Usher (January): Earl Leedy

**If you are unable to attend the worship service you are scheduled for, please try to find a replacement and make the church office (814-364-9154) or the Head Usher aware of the change. Thank you!**





## MATERIAL MIRACLES

For over 40 years, the sewing group of St. Luke Lutheran Church in Centre Hall, Pennsylvania has been making quilts (known as haps) for people around the world who are in great need for even the simplest of life's requirements. A "hap" is a quilt that is not stitched (or quilted), but knotted together for durability. Besides blankets these haps become coats, shelters, or whatever will enable the recipients to survive. Year in and year out, month after month, hands, machines, needles,

threads, and love have created these miracles which are sent to Lutheran World Relief for distribution around the world. Over the 40 plus years, St. Luke has sent approximately 150 to 175 haps per year to be delivered world-wide.

This year, 2020, two things occurred that have put families in poor countries in danger. First, Covid-19 interrupted the sewing group's ability to meet. Knowing the impact of not being able to meet, another solution was needed...but these ladies would not give up easily. They literally created a "cottage industry". The quilt tops and backings continued to be made in homes. A small group met in a garage to adhere to social distancing requirements and assembled the quilts. The quilts were given to women to sew the bindings and then were transported from house to house to be knotted. During this time a call was put out on social media for material, and the response was amazing! Without the support of donations this ministry would not be possible. THANK YOU! Finally, the haps were boxed and shipped.

During all this, on August 4<sup>th</sup>, there was an explosion in Beirut, Lebanon, that killed 202 people, and destroyed a large number of buildings, homes, and warehouses. Amongst the buildings was a warehouse where Lutheran World Relief stored items for the country's needy. Among the items 22,000 quilts and 100 cartons of school kits were destroyed. This news put St. Luke's sewing group, less than a dozen ladies, into high gear.

There remain 2 miracles that will be able to be seen and touched by many. This year, the year of pandemic and explosions, (1) the ladies have sent 81 school bags and completed and delivered 414 haps; and (2) the shipping containers, thought to have been destroyed, have been found in the rubble. We learned that "the three containers were stored behind a concrete block building, protecting them from the blast". The quilts and school kits will be distributed as planned. We are thankful that we are able to be servants to others.

There are several ways to be a part of this Ministry. Listed below are several ways to get involved:

Donate cotton fabric, new and used sheets, and crochet thread.

Sew quilt tops at home. (Fabric is provided)

Cut fabric into squares.

Layer quilts and pin borders. (Done at our monthly meetings)

Sew borders.

Knot finished quilts. (Done both at our monthly meetings as well as individually at home)

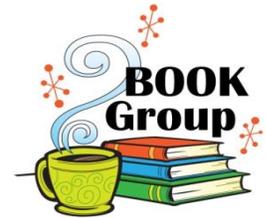
Join us! We'd be happy to have you. We usually meet the 2<sup>nd</sup> Tuesday of each month, except during summer months, in the church social hall. Even though during the pandemic we are meeting remotely, there are ways you can help. If you would like to support this ministry, please contact Marjorie Korman 364-9189 or Connie Zellers 364-1330.

Thank you, ladies. Thank You, Lord, for Your strength and talents.



**Prayer Group and Lectionary Study** - We will gather in person in the social hall on December 2,9,16 and 23 at 10:00 am. Please wear a mask and bring a Bible so we can read through the upcoming lectionary texts before praying for those on our prayer list.

Our next selection is *Ellie and the Harpmaker* by Hazel Prior. We will gather at St. Luke in the social hall to discuss this book on Wednesday, January 13<sup>th</sup> at 8:30 am.



**Centre Hall/Potter Township Food Pantry** - Food Pantry Distribution will be held on **Tuesday, December 15, 2020** from 12:30-4pm at Grace United Methodist Church. If you, or someone you know, has lost their job due to COVID-19, you are welcome to attend the Food Pantry Distribution. If you have any questions, you may call the Food Pantry at 814-531-6151.

**FEED THE HUNGRY**

**Donations of Toilet Paper and Paper Towels are currently needed.** You may place donations in the bin in the narthex by **Sunday, December 13th.**

COVID-19 has required changes to the way the Food Pantry has traditionally worked. The orders will be prepared by a limited number of individuals to fulfill the social distancing requirement. This will remain in effect for future months until COVID-19 restrictions are lifted. We look forward to the day when we can gather as a family of community volunteers to serve those in need. God bless and stay healthy. - Erskine Cash



**Interfaith**  
Human Services

**IHS Furniture Needs**—Interfaith Human Services Furniture Coordinator, Harry Miller, is looking for donations to fill IHS's nearly empty storage space. He is currently in need of beds, dressers, sofas and dining room sets. Appliances are always needed. If you would like to make a donation of furniture, please call Interfaith Human Services at 814-234-7731 to make arrangements for pick-up. You may learn more about IHS at <https://www.interfaithhumanservices.org/>

**Office Space Needed** - Interfaith Human Services is looking for space to house their offices and furniture recycling program. We are looking for at least 3,500 square feet with easy access for loading, unloading, and storing furniture and appliances as well as office /meeting space. While we would be thankful for a space donation, we are also exploring renting or purchasing a location. If you have any questions, or if you or someone you know might be able to help please contact [\(Curt 814-234-7731\)](tel:814-234-7731). The lower our costs, the more help we can be to our neighbors here in Centre county. Thank you for your ongoing partnership with Interfaith Human Services.

**BELL-RINGING at MEYER DAIRY IS ON!** Thank you to those folks who have signed up for Bell-Ringing at Meyer Dairy on December 23rd. Your support of this annual IHS fundraiser is truly appreciated. The following time slots are still OPEN: **10am-11am 1pm-2pm 3pm-4pm 4pm-5pm.** Please consider signing up if you find that any of these times work for your schedule. Sign up on the sheet on the bulletin board in the Narthex or by contacting Alice Cromwell at 814-531-4174.

## ***Prayer Concerns***

*Pray for the recovery and the Lord's healing and peace on our brothers and sisters.*

Pr. Curt Wingert and Family...death of his mother, Sharen  
Randy Vavrick...hospitalized due to Covid-19  
Linda Murphy...hospitalized  
Dean Crater...recov. from heart attack  
Silas Green...multiple health issues  
Robert Wendt...multiple falls/health concerns  
Roxane Vermillion...recov. from surgery  
Dorothy Rudy...broken leg  
Family and Friends of Chuck Murphy  
Dan Schluter...non hodgkin's lymphoma  
Melody Green...multiple health concerns  
The Family and Friends of Emma Zimmerman  
Leigh McDonah...death of spouse, Phil  
Lee Kolos...back issues  
Dr. Post...diabetes issues

### **Ongoing Prayer Concerns:**

Paul Dietrich...cancer  
Jen Parsons...recov. from brain tumor  
Bryn Cashell...leukemia  
Greg Bohn...kidney issues  
Charlotte Miller...cancer  
Ginger...stager 4 colon cancer  
Don Brown...health concerns  
Vicki Garvin...kidney disease  
Jim Evans...health concerns  
Pat Krisch...cancer  
Ronnie Ticknor...leukemia  
Dave Ferree...continued healing  
Mike Moyer...bladder cancer  
Patti Bramson...health concerns  
Linda Beiler...stage 4 colon cancer  
Michele Peese...melanoma  
Eddie...homelessness  
Staff & Residents of Care Facilities  
Tom Dutrow...recov. brain surgery  
Dorothy Chambers...brain tumor  
Belize Children...Susie Westby, Myrtle Tracy, Ashanti Obrien, Orlando Jackson, Stephanie Logan  
Marvin Lehman, Jr....MS & kidney disease  
Robert Sauerwein...heart and health concerns  
Audrey Oakes...cancer  
Gordon Yearich...cancer  
Rycen Musser...leukemia  
Beverly Haines...recov. surgery  
Tanya Evens...health concerns  
TJ Coursen...cancer  
Mae Judy...health concerns  
Will Wise...cancer  
Susie Wicker...breast cancer  
Eileen Barnes...recov. hip replacement  
Susan Hale...recov. hip replacement  
Brenda Stover...cancer/stroke  
All affected by Covid-19  
Heather Korman...recov. brain surgery  
Jackie Bouer...stage 4 pancreatic cancer  
Bob Ishler...cancer  
Melvin and Jeanne Dutrow...strength and hope  
Rosemary Wherry...bladder cancer

### **Please Pray for the health of our Homebound:**

Dorothy Chambers (Foxdale Village, 500 E. Marylyn Ave. State College, PA 16801—Rm 317 (814)954-8317)  
Donna Fetterolf (Wynwood House, Room 19, 122 Wynwood Dr, Centre Hall, PA 16828)  
Phyllis Kerlin (The Inn at Juniper Village, 1930 Cliffside Dr., Room 136, State College, PA 16801)  
Fred Lohr, Jr. (244 S. Pennsylvania Ave, Centre Hall, PA 16828 (814)364-9368)

**IF YOU WOULD LIKE TO ADD OR REMOVE A PRAYER CONCERN:** You may fill out a prayer concern card located in the Narthex and place in the offering plate. You may also notify the church office of your prayer concerns by calling 814-364-9154 or emailing the church office at StLuke364@verizon.net. Please remember that a prayer request will remain on the prayer list for three weeks unless otherwise noted as an ongoing concern. Ongoing prayer concerns will remain on the prayer list for three months. Also, please remember to notify the church office when someone is able to be removed from the prayer list. You may renew a prayer request as often as you wish. **Updated 11/19/2020**



Emma M. Zimmerman joined the Church Triumphant on November 6, 2020 and Charles E. Murphy joined the Church Triumphant on November 14, 2020. We give thanks for their lives, and we ask that you continue to keep their families and friends in your prayers.

# DECEMBER

## Anniversaries

- Dec. 1 Steve and Tammy Harter
- 2 Paul and Betty Deitrich
- 3 Shawn and Patty Lehman  
Robert and Betty Ishler
- 12 Denny and Cindy Grove
- 17 Gary and Connie Zellers
- 26 Terry and Sherri Corl

# DECEMBER

## Birthdays

- Dec. 1 Kathy Mothersbaugh  
Pat Strouse
- 2 George Garman  
Peter Theodoros
- 4 Nancy Shunk
- 6 Jillian Anderson  
Marilyn Kubalak
- 7 Evelyn Reeder  
Jodi Denger
- 8 Janelle Bobb  
Jessica Roth
- 9 Virginia Homan  
Raymond Luse  
Maggie Delaney  
Shawn Kurtz  
Brad Noll
- 10 Tyler McClenahan
- 12 Lisa Bierlein  
Eryn Dutrow
- 13 Brandie O'Hara
- 14 Ken Strouse
- 15 Agnes Homan
- 16 Linda Dutrow  
Amy Homan
- 17 Shirley Sharer  
Kane Parsons
- 18 Nora Reeder  
Pastor Becky Horn
- 19 Gerry Ilgen  
Vincent Nicosia, Jr.
- 21 Ian Brown  
Emily Eddinger
- 22 Sumner Kessinger  
Jessica McClenahan
- 23 Judy Bowles
- 25 **JESUS**

## December Birthdays Continued...

- 26 Charlotte Delaney
- 27 Danette Strouse  
Lizzy Horn
- 28 Barb Bierlein  
Brandilyn Heckman  
Todd Fetterolf
- 29 Charles Musser  
Ashton Taylor  
Jackson Roth
- 30 Brian Auman
- 31 Cali Stover



St. Luke Congregation,  
Thank you for your generous donation. It is greatly appreciated.

Penns Valley EMS



St. Luke Congregation,  
Wow, it is great to see you all giving to those in need, especially during this challenging year. Thank you for your effort in the community!

Kerry A. Benninghoff  
State Representative  
171st District



Thank you for all the love you have shown to Tom Dutrow and his family. There was \$650 raised from the Bake Sale in October and \$1,000 raised through the Love Offering held in November. Thank you so much for all your kindness and generosity!



## **Our next Council Meeting is Monday, December 14, 2020 at 7:00pm**

-Regular council Meetings are held in person on the 2<sup>nd</sup> Monday of the month at **7:00 pm**. Zoom is available for those who are unable to attend in person. The Council Executive Committee meets the 1<sup>st</sup> Thursday of the Month (December 3) at 6:30 pm over Zoom. If you are interested in attending a Council Meeting, please email Pr. Becky or Pres. Shari Welch for the Zoom login information.

**Council Members:** Shari Welch (21), President; Susan Stover (21), Vice-President, Jack Sharer, Treasurer, Don Anderson (21), Larry Frazier (21), Carla Cipro (22), Krystal Josephson (22), Jazmyne Shaffer (22), Pat Strouse (22), Alice Cromwell (23), Dawn Holsopple (23), Open (23), Open (23).

Thank you to our outgoing Council Members: Kerry O'Hara (20), Secretary, Earl Leedy (20), Shawn Lehman (20), Evelyn Reeder (20). We also give thanks for our incoming Council Members beginning their term on January 1, 2021: Alice Cromwell (23) and Dawn Holsopple (23).

**Cemetery Association Board Representatives:** Bob Long (21), Joe Hammaker (22) and Michele Brown (23) Thank you to our Cemetery Association Representatives.

\*The numbers in parenthesis indicates the year their term is complete.

### **St. Luke Contact Numbers:**

Church Office	814-364-9154 or email at <a href="mailto:StLuke364@verizon.net">StLuke364@verizon.net</a>
Pastor, Rev. Becky Horn	215-208-5535 or email <a href="mailto:StLuke364Pastor@verizon.net">StLuke364Pastor@verizon.net</a>
Church Secretary, Patty Lehman	814-933-6296 or email: <a href="mailto:StLuke364@verizon.net">StLuke364@verizon.net</a>
Council President, Shari Welch	814-574-7009 or email: <a href="mailto:slg1@psu.edu">slg1@psu.edu</a>
Music Director, Susan Stover	814-349-5173 or email: <a href="mailto:smsgmnastx48@aol.com">smsgmnastx48@aol.com</a>
St. Luke Mailing Address	PO Box 331, Centre Hall, PA 16828
St. Luke Website	<a href="http://StLukeCentreHall.org">http://StLukeCentreHall.org</a>



**Looking ahead...** Please note that if you have news or articles for the **January 2021** issue of the St. Luke Newsletter, please submit them to the church office no later than **Thursday, December 17, 2020 due to the Christmas holiday.**

**Patty will be on vacation from Christmas through the New Year.**

### **ST LUKE TREASURER'S REPORT**

St. Luke's approved 2020 Budget: \$168,845.00

Income as of 11/22/2020: \$169,877.07 (100% of budget)

Expenses as of 11/22/2020: \$132,360.06 (78% of budget)

The income includes a CARES Act Paycheck Protection (forgivable) loan of \$22,182.00.



**Thank You** - Thank you for your continued contributions to our ministry at St. Luke. Pr. Becky continues to try to find different ways to serve the ministry needs. Council continues to find ways to meet the needs of the people in our congregation and our communities. Thank you for your financial support of our ministry together. You may continue to mail in your contributions to **St. Luke (PO Box 331, Centre Hall,**

**PA 16828)** or use the Vanco website by clicking the donate button on our St. Luke website

([stlukecentrehall.org](http://stlukecentrehall.org)). If you prefer to donate using your cell phone, see <https://www.vancopayments.com/giving/church-app> to download the mobile app. Thank you so much for your support and sharing of your gifts.

**\*If mailing, it is very important to use our PO Box 331 and NOT the street address. Thank you!**

**Christmas of HOPE**—Supporting Christmas for Hope in Penns Valley through offering gift bags with oven mitts and a gift card to help purchase the necessities of their Christmas meal. The Community Relations Committee is providing this gift for 30 families this year and they are using money that was raised last year along with their budget to cover the costs. Christmas of Hope families will receive their gifts on December 13<sup>th</sup> with the other items coordinated through this amazing ministry of the community. Thank you for your continued love, support and prayers as we reach out to care for and with one another.



### POINSETTIA ORDERS

Christmas Poinsettias will decorate the church beginning on Sunday, December 20, and may be taken home following Christmas Eve Candlelight Services. Poinsettias will be \$10 each and orders may be turned in through Sunday, December 13. Order forms are available in the narthex. Please fill out the form, place along with your payment in the specially marked poinsettia envelope, and place in the offering plate or turn in to the church office. Any questions, please speak with Nancy Shunk at 814-364-2693.

If you are not receiving Offering Envelopes and would like to receive them for 2021, please contact the Church Office at 814-364-9154 or [StLuke364@verizon.net](mailto:StLuke364@verizon.net)



## THRIVENT CHOICE DOLLARS PROGRAM

### *-Support What Matters Most To You*

By participating in the Thrivent Choice charitable outreach program, eligible Thrivent members have helped make good things happen for many congregations and nonprofit organizations nationwide by directing Choice Dollars since the program's launch in 2010. Eligible Thrivent members are designated Choice Dollars throughout the year, based on their insurance and annuity premiums, contract values and standing as a Thrivent volunteer leader. They can direct Choice Dollars to thousands of nonprofit organizations nationwide. Members are reminded that they have until March 31<sup>st</sup>, 2021 to designate their Thrivent Choice dollars that accumulated in 2020. This can be accomplished by logging in to your account at [thrivent.com](http://thrivent.com), or by calling 1-800-thrivent (1-800-847-4836) and saying 'Thrivent Choice' when prompted. It's a very simple procedure. Other organizations available are also listed there and are most easily found by entering their zip code. Any questions, speak to Barbara McAllister or call her at 364-1285.

**There are many community needs this year and you may wish to designate your Thrivent Choice Dollars early.**

### IT'S THAT TIME OF YEAR AGAIN...



St. Luke Lutheran Church will cancel all scheduled activities, including office hours, whenever the Penns Valley School District shuts down due to weather-related concerns. In addition to accessing weather-related closures on local television, the Penns Valley School District also posts closure information on its website which can be visited at [pennsvalley.org](http://pennsvalley.org). Should inclement weather

affect Sunday worship, please check your email and Facebook page.

**Snow Shoveling**—If you are able to help with shoveling the church sidewalks when it snows, please sign up in the narthex on the sign up sheets. Sign-ups are for a week at a time; from Sunday through Saturday. Any questions, please speak with Larry Frazier or Pastor Becky.



# 2021 Synod Assembly Nominations

## Where is the Holy Spirit calling you?

Prayerfully consider how you can serve your Synod

### **Synod Council**

2 year Terms: 1 Lay Female, 1 Lay Male, 1 Clergy, 1 Youth (under 30)  
3 Year Terms: 1 Synod Vice President, 1 Synod Secretary, 2 Lay Female, 1 Lay Male, 3 Clergy

### **Discipline Committee**

4 Year Term: 1 Lay Female  
5 Year Terms: 1 Lay Male, 2 Clergy Male  
6 Year Term: 1 Clergy Male

### **Consultation Committee**

4 Year Term: 1 Lay Female  
5 Year Terms: 1 Lay Female, 1 Lay Male, 1 Clergy Female  
6 Year Term: 1 Clergy Male

### **Mission Endowment Committee**

3 Yr. Term: 2 Clergy/Lay, Male or Female  
2 Yr. Term: 2 Clergy/Lay, Male or Female  
1 Yr. Term: 2 Clergy/Lay, Male or Female

### **Delegates for the 2022 ELCA General Assembly (August 8-13, 2022 in Columbus, OH)**

1 Lay Female, 1 Lay Male, 1 Person of Color/ESL  
1 Youth (under 30), 1 Female Clergy, 1 Male Clergy

**For further questions or information about the various positions, please contact Pastor Drew McCaffery [blcpastor@atlanticbbn.net](mailto:blcpastor@atlanticbbn.net)**

## **Duties of respective committees**

### **Synod Council** (3 Yr. Term by Assembly Vote, Youth-2 Yr Term)

*Each person elected to the Synod Council shall be a voting member of a congregation of this synod, with the exception of ordained ministers on the roster of this synod who reside outside the territory of this synod. The process for election and the term of office when not otherwise provided shall be specified in the bylaws. A member of the Church Council of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America, unless otherwise elected as a voting member of the Synod Council, may serve as an advisory member of the Synod Council with voice but not vote. Meetings are held Bi-Monthly (every other month) or if a special meeting is called by Bishop and/or council members.*

**Consultation Committee** (6 Yr. Term by Assembly Vote) *The Consultation Committee of this synod shall consist of at least six persons and not more than 12 persons, of whom half shall be ordained ministers and half shall be laypersons, who shall each be elected by the Synod Assembly for a term of six years without consecutive reelection. The functions of the Consultation Committee are set forth in Chapter 20 of the Constitution, Bylaws, and Continuing Resolutions of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America and in Chapter 17 of this Constitution. The size of the Consultation Committee, in accord with this provision, shall be defined in this synod's bylaws. Committee is on call at the request of the Bishop.*

### **Discipline Committee** (6 Yr Term by Assembly Vote)

*From the ELCA Constitution: There shall be set forth in the bylaws a process of discipline governing officers, ministers of Word and Sacrament, ministers of Word and Service, congregations, and members of congregations. Except as provided in 20.18. or 20.19., such process shall assure due process and due protection for the accused, other parties, and this church. Since synods have responsibility for admittance of persons into the rostered ministries of this church and have oversight of pastoral and congregational relationships, the disciplinary process shall be a responsibility of the synod on behalf of this church. Committee is on call at the request of the Bishop.*

# December 2020

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
		<b>1</b> 	<b>2</b> Prayer Group & Lectionary Study Meeting 10am in the Social Hall.  Mid-Week Advent Worship 7pm	<b>3</b>  Zoom Council Executive Committee Meeting 6:30pm	<b>4</b> 	<b>5</b>  AA Meeting 7pm in Social Hall
<b>6</b>	<b>7</b>	<b>8</b>	<b>9</b> Prayer Group & Lectionary Study Meeting 10am in the Social Hall.  Mid-Week Advent Worship 7pm	<b>10</b> 	<b>11</b>	<b>12</b>  AA Meeting 7pm in Social Hall
<b>13</b>	<b>14</b>  Council Meeting 7:00pm in the Social Hall. (Zoom Available)	<b>15</b>  Food Pantry Distribution 12:30-4pm at Grace UMC	<b>16</b> Prayer Group & Lectionary Study Meeting 10am in the Social Hall.  Mid-Week Advent Worship 7pm	<b>17</b> January 2021 Newsletter Deadline	<b>18</b>	<b>19</b>  AA Meeting 7pm in Social Hall
<b>20</b>  Pack 20 Committee Meeting 6:30-8pm Social Hall	<b>21</b>  First Day of Winter	<b>22</b>	<b>23</b> IHS Wishing Well Event 9am-8pm at Meyers Dairy  Prayer Group & Lectionary Study Meeting 10am in the Social Hall.	<b>24</b>  Christmas Eve Worship Service Times TBA	<b>25</b> 	<b>26</b>  AA Meeting 7pm in Social Hall
<b>27</b>  Lessons & Carols service at 10:30am	<b>28</b>	<b>29</b>	<b>30</b>	<b>31</b> 	<b>Worship Services held each Sunday at 10:30am</b>  <b>Sunday School Classes will resume in January.</b>	

St. Luke Evangelical Lutheran Church  
301 North Pennsylvania Ave.  
P. O. Box 331  
Centre Hall, PA 16828

Return Service Requested

*The*  
*St. Luke*  
*Letter*



Mission Statement: Inviting all into relationship with Christ, Church and Community

St. Luke Evangelical Lutheran Church

Centre Hall, Pennsylvania