



THE ST. LUKE LETTER

January 2025

January 1, 2025

Dear Siblings in Christ,

Merry Christmas and Happy New Year! Over the weeks of preparing for Christmas, the season of Advent, we brought our fears, our confusions, doubts, wonder, and hopes to God as we gathered for Wednesday morning prayer. For those who were gathered Wednesday morning in time set apart for God we experienced God's love, peace, comfort, and joy. We prayed for you and for all the world. We prayed for God's peace to be made real. We prayed for God's love to be poured out and known to all. Though the season of preparation is past, we still prepare our hearts each day for God to speak to us, to bring us hope, to let God's love be known and realized.

This new year we will continue to gather most Wednesday mornings for prayer at 10:30 am, with our first Wednesday back January 8th. We will begin the new year with a service of healing and hope for the year ahead. During the service we will gather prayer concerns, prayers of celebration, prayers of hope to be prayed for the duration of the week ahead. Each week we will gather new prayers and have a time of reflection to reground us and refocus us on God's love for us and the world. I pray you will be blessed in this new year and that you will truly know the love God has for you. Join us as you are able for prayer Wednesdays at 10:30 am in the sanctuary.

Yours In Christ,
Pr. Becky Horn



A Note from Pr. Becky: Are you or a loved one desiring a visit from the pastor? Do you have questions on faith, your spiritual life, or wish for a time of prayer? Please contact Pastor Becky if you would like her to call or visit you at home, in the hospital, or another location. (office: 814-364-9154, cell: 215-208-5535, email: stluke364pastorbecky@gmail.com)



Coffee with the Pastor – I would like to visit with each person who is actively participating at St. Luke and others who would like to sit and chat. For those who prefer to just drop in, I will plan to be in the office Tuesday and Wednesday mornings at least from 9:00 - 11:00 am. We can also schedule a time to visit at a coffee shop or restaurant if you prefer. Send me a message on my cell (215-208-5535) or email (stluke362pastorbecky@gmail.com). I look forward to our conversations.



YOU TUBE LIVE LINKS - Sunday Morning Worship via YouTube Live

– the 10:30 worship service is available via YouTube Live Stream. Please use the link below from your favorite web browser. The service is also recorded if you are away and would like to watch at a later time.

(either click on the link below, or copy and paste into the search bar)

https://www.youtube.com/@StLukeLutheran_CentreHall/live

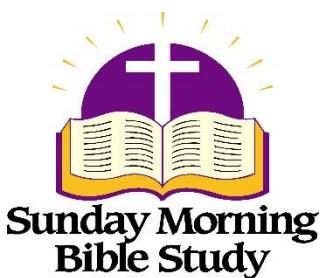


St. Luke Lutheran Church will cancel all scheduled activities, including office hours, whenever the Penns Valley School District shuts down due to weather-related concerns. In addition to accessing weather-related closures on local television, the Penns Valley School District also posts closure information on its website which can be visited at pennsvalley.org. Should inclement weather affect any activities or Sunday worship, please check your email and/or St. Luke Facebook page.



Dear Members of St. Luke Congregation— It has been suggested that we have a love offering to help support the Sauerwein family with their expenses in traveling back and forth to Hershey. I would like to designate Sundays, January 5th and 12th for this to occur. Donations could also be sent to the church office at PO Box 331, Centre Hall, during this time. Your cards and prayer support would also be most appreciated. This family has been an integral part of our congregation for 38 years and certainly deserves our support at this time. Sincerely, Scott McAllister, Council President

Get Well/Thinking of You Cards—If you would like to send an uplifting card to Robert Sauerwein during his extended hospital stay, cards can be sent to: Robert Sauerwein— Room 1120, Milton S. Hershey Medical Center, 500 University Dr, Hershey, PA 17033.



The Adult Sunday School Class will meet on **January 5th and January 19th from 9:15-10am**. Marty and Ellen Hug will be conducting a Bible Study on January 5th titled “Moses and the Israelites travel through the Martian dessert.” The second Bible study on January 19th is titled “A Palestinian perspective on Mary and Jesus birth.” Marty and Ellen will be sharing pictures of their travels.



Many thanks to the “hale and hearty” folks who rang the bells for IHS on December 20th: Tom and Sue McCool, Betty Dietrich, Nancy Shunk, Deb and Larry Frazier, Lois Albright, Linda Arble, Shari Welch, Evelyn Reeder, Scott and Barb McAllister, Carol Sharpe and Camilla Sharpe. Your efforts are much appreciated and are a blessing to those in need.



Wednesday Morning Prayer – Wednesday mornings at 10:30 am beginning January 8th we will gather in the sanctuary for a morning prayer service for about thirty minutes. The first week will include a healing service. Other Wednesdays will use various prayer services. Each Wednesday music will be provided through our sound system. We hope you will join us as we gather mid-week to refocus our lives on the gift of Christ and the love of God for all the world.



The Book Group's next book is *We Are All Completely Beside Ourselves: a Novel* by Karen Joy Fowler. We will gather to discuss on **January 15, 2025** at 12:00 pm at Seven Mountains Winery if anyone would like to join us.



FOOD PANTRY: The Centre Hall/Penns Valley & Fuel Pantry will have their next monthly food distribution on **Tuesday, January 21, 2025**, at Grace United Methodist Church, Centre Hall. Volunteers are packing boxes from **8:00am-10:00 am** and Food Distribution will be from **1:30-3:00 pm**.

Suggested Monthly Donation List for the Food Pantry:

January - Tissues

February - Canned Milk

March - Toothpaste

April - Cake Mixes

May - Kitchen Garbage Bags

June - Paper Towels

July - Soap

August - Individual Toothbrushes

September - Shampoo

October - Toilet Paper

November - Sandwich Bags

December - Dish Detergent

If you would like to make a donation, please place non-perishable items in the designated Food Pantry Box at St. Luke Lutheran Church on or before **Sunday, January 19, 2025**. The donation box is located in the Narthex (under the coat rack). Volunteers are always needed...to pack boxes at 8am on distribution days or to sign up to unload food when it arrives at Grace Church. If you can help unload food, you will be called the day before the truck arrives. **If you would like to volunteer in any way, or if you have any questions, you may speak with Food Pantry Coordinators, Anne Gaddis and Page Gaddis. If you have any questions about Food Pantry, please reach out to them. Anne's phone number is 814-404-4693 and Page's number is 814-571-8110.**



ST LUKE'S ANNUAL "SOUP" BOWL SOUP COLLECTION—
Bring in cans of soup from now through Super Bowl Sunday, February 9, 2025, to benefit the Centre Hall/Penns Valley Food Pantry. Your generous donations will help your neighbors enjoy a warm & comforting meal this winter and will remind them of God's love.



St. Luke's Annual Congregational Meeting will take place on Sunday, January 26th, following both the 8am and 10:30am worship services. Annual Reports will be available in the narthex for member review by Sunday, January 19, 2025, the week prior to the meeting. Please note: Council members and Committee Chairs should have their reports to Patty by Tuesday, January 14, 2025.



2025 Directory Update—It's that time of year to begin work on updates to the 2025 St. Luke Directory. If you or a loved one has made a change in their email, telephone number or address, please notify the Church Office by calling 814-364-9154 or emailing StLuke364@gmail.com as soon as possible. Thank you for keeping us up-to-date! New directories will be handed out at the Annual Congregational Meeting in January.



2025 Offering Envelopes—Offering Envelopes for 2025 are available for pick up in the narthex. If you are a St. Luke member who would like to begin receiving offering envelopes in 2025, please contact Patty Lehman in the Church Office at 814-364-9154 or email Patty at StLuke364@gmail.com

PRAYER CONCERNS

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

Donald Hosterman...health concerns
Carol Jean Lehman...health concerns
Family and Friends of Jean Smeltzer
Pr. Russ Sauerwein...health concerns
Melody Green...health concerns
Bev Haines...anxiety issues
Robert Sauerwein...hospitalization
Greg Garner...health concerns
Brad Way...health concerns
Terry Brown...cancer
Sally Shermer...health issues
Nancy Wintersteen...recovery from fall
Sherri Ard...cancer

Darlene Fultz...health concerns
Jim Rearick...health concerns
Jordan Holsopple...health concerns
Carol Smith...cancer
Joan Glaser...health concerns
Shirley Sharer...health concerns
Kenzie Jones...kidney function/health
Ron Holsopple...health concerns
Freda Schluter...health concerns
Gary Homan...Parkinson's
Ernie Kirsch...Parkinson's
Dotti Sauerwein...recov. from surgery
Jim Sheaffer...health concerns

Ongoing Prayer Concerns:

Greg Bohn...kidney issues
Jim & Tanya Evans...health concerns
Jean Bender...myelodysplastic syndrome
Karen Willar...cancer
Silas Green...multiple health issues
Nancy Boyle...respiratory issues
Bob & Betty Ishler...health concerns
Mike Moyer...health concerns
Dan Berkowitz...recovery from heart surgery

Dave Ferree...health concerns
Paulette Smigo...life concerns
Don Rudy...health concerns
Eva Gill...kidney failure
Paul & Sandy Larson...health concern
Lee Kolos...health concerns
Mike Burlew—ALS
Paul "Fox" Dietrich...health concerns
Tara Homan...recovery from stroke

Please pray for the Health of our Homebound:

Agnes Homan (464 S. Pennsylvania Ave, Centre Hall, PA 16828...814-364-9189)
Fred Lohr Jr. (244 S. Pennsylvania Ave., Centre Hall, PA 16828...814-364-9368)
Barbara Mark (4178 Penns Valley Rd, Spring Mills, PA 16875)
Gladys Sampsel (c/o Randy & Julia Long, 165 Reeder Rd, Spring Mills, PA 16875)
Bob Smeltzer (Wynwood House, 122 Wynwood Dr, Centre Hall, PA 16828)

***If You Would Like to Add, Update or Remove a Prayer Concern: Please notify the Church Office by calling 814-364-9154 or emailing StLuke364@gmail.com.**

-Updated 12/24/24



Congratulations to Morgan Holsopple Wagner and Ethan Wagner on the birth of their baby girl, Lily Mae. She joins big sister, Louisa. Grandparents are Ron and Dawn Holsopple.

**THANKS BE TO GOD FOR OUR
WORSHIP VOLUNTEERS**

January 5, 2025 – Epiphany of Our Lord

Altar Care: **Open**
Altar Flowers: Poinsettias
Bell Ringer (10:30am): **Open**
Communion Bread: **Open**
Counters: Sue Royer and Ken Cromwell
Greeter (8am): Connie Zellers
Greeter (10:30am): **Open**
Lay Reader (8am): Michele Shawver
Lay Reader (10:30am): Barb McAllister
Offering Usher (10:30am): Ken Cromwell
Worship Assistant (10:30am): Scott McAllister

January 12, 2025 – Baptism of Our Lord

Altar Care: **Open**
Altar Flowers: Nancy Shunk
Bell Ringer (10:30am): Larry Frazier
Communion Bread: **Open**
Counters: Susan Stover and Deb Frazier
Greeter (8am): Gary Zellers
Greeter (10:30am): Patty Lehman
Lay Reader (8am): Kelly Moran
Lay Reader (10:30am): Deb Frazier
Offering Usher (10:30am): Walt Schluter
Worship Assistant (10:30am): Shawn Lehman

January 19, 2025 – 2nd Sunday after

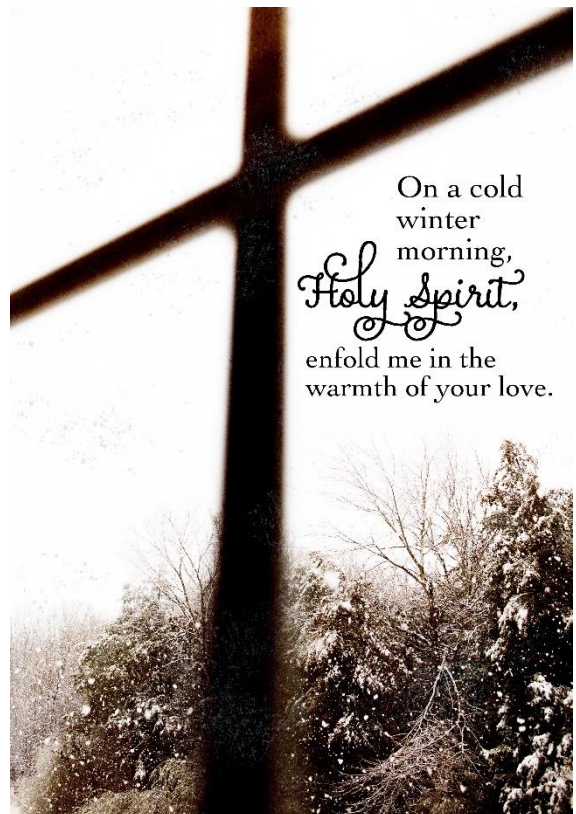
Epiphany
Altar Care: **Open**
Altar Flowers: **Open**
Bell Ringer (10:30am): Shawn Lehman
Communion Bread: **Open**
Counters: Shari Welch and Carol Sharpe
Greeter (8am): Linda Decker Reitz
Greeter (10:30am): **Open**
Lay Reader (8am): Rick Homan
Lay Reader (10:30am): Jack Sharer
Offering Usher (10:30am): Scott McAllister
Worship Assistant (10:30am): Susan Stover

January 26, 2025 – 3rd Sunday after
Epiphany

Altar Care: **Open**
Altar Flowers: **Open**
Bell Ringer (10:30am): Scott McAllister
Communion Bread: **Open**
Counters: Barb McAllister and Sue Royer
Greeter (8am): Connie Zellers
Greeter (10:30am): Nancy Shunk
Lay Reader (8am): Kathy Long
Lay Reader (10:30am): Ken Cromwell
Offering Usher (10:30am): Walt Schluter
Worship Assistant (10:30am): Carol Sharpe

February 2, 2025 – 4th Sunday after
Epiphany

Altar Care: **Open**
Altar Flowers: **Open**
Bell Ringer (10:30am): Walt Schluter
Communion Bread: **Open**
Counters: Susan Stover and Lois Albright
Greeter (8am): Gary Zellers
Greeter (10:30am): **Open**
Lay Reader (8am): Linda Decker Reitz
Lay Reader (10:30am): Susan Stover
Offering Usher (10:30am): Shawn Lehman
Worship Assistant (10:30am): Scott McAllister



On a cold
winter
morning,
Holy Spirit,
enfold me in the
warmth of your love.



- Jan. 4 Sue and Tom McCool
- 31 Kerry and Tina O'Hara



- Jan. 1 Paul Dietrich
Fred Lohr
- 2 Marjorie Korman
- 3 Russ Judy
- 6 Paige Kubalak
- 7 Virginia Struble
- 9 Scott McAllister
- 10 Cohen Rishel
- 12 Cindy Foust
Seth Decker
- 15 Donald Rudy
- 16 Linda Decker-Reitz
Raelynd Packer
- 17 Lucas Homan
- 19 Colten Shunk
Karen Myers
- 20 Ava Kresovich
- 22 Becky Schluter
- 24 Don Anderson
- 25 Taelyn Corl
- 30 Roy Thompson
Derek Shaffer



Thank you so much for all the birthday cards in honor of my birthday. They are very appreciated. -Dorothy Rudy

Thank you to everyone for the lovely birthday wishes. It was so nice of you to think of me during this busy time of year. -Agnes Homan



To my St. Luke Church Family, May the true spirit of Christmas fill your heart with joy this season. Merry Christmas. I want to thank everyone for your kindness in all your cards, visits, phone calls and prayers. I pray that your New Year will be a healthy and happy year. May God bless all of you. I think of all of you often with love in my heart. -Fondly, Betty and Bob Ishler

St. Luke Congregation,

Wishing you Peace, Hope and Love this Christmas Season. Thanks everyone for sticking with me. Don Derr

To the Members and Staff of St. Luke's Lutheran Church, Thank you so much for your generous donation to the Centre Hall/Penns Valley Food Pantry! Your gift will make such an impact on the expanding operation of our Food Pantry as our client numbers increase.

Thank you for helping us care for our community! With Gratitude – Beth Powell, Secretary of the Centre Hall/Penns Valley Food Pantry

Dear Centre Hall St. Luke's Lutheran Church,

As we approach the close of another year, I wanted to take a moment to reflect on the incredible work made possible by supporters like you. This year has been one of growth, resilience, and hope at Out of the Cold, and we are deeply grateful for your continued partnership in our mission to support those facing homelessness in our community.

In 2024, Out of the Cold provided vital shelter and services to over 200 unique individuals, offering them safety, compassion, and the resources they need to rebuild their lives. This achievement was not just a number; it represented over 200 stories of perseverance, dignity, and transformation.

With heartfelt gratitude,
Jordan Veneziano, Executive
Director, Out of the Cold

(This is just a small excerpt from this letter from Out of the Cold. You can read the entire letter on the Narthex bulletin board)



The regular meetings are held 2nd Monday of the month at 7:00 pm. The next meeting is January 13th and Zoom is available. Council Executive Committee communicates by the 1st Thursday of the Month regarding agenda items and information as needed. Please contact the Council Executive Committee if you have questions, Scott McAllister (President), Rick Homan (Vice President), Carol Sharpe (Secretary), Jack Sharer (Treasurer) and Pr. Becky Horn. At January's meeting we will elect the executive committee for 2025.

Council Members for 2025: Scott McAllister (27), Rick Homan(27), Carol Sharpe (26), Jack Sharer, Gary Zellers (27), Lois Albright (25), Todd Fetterolf (25), Larry Frazier(25), **Open(25)**, Alice Cromwell(26), Evelyn Reeder(26), Susan Stover(26) and Jerry Homan (27)
***The numbers in parenthesis indicates the year their term is complete.**



Those elected to Council for 2025 are Jerry Homan, Rick Homan, Scott McAllister and Gary Zellers for 3-year terms. Thank you for agreeing to serve on Council. We also give thanks to Shari Welch who completed her second term on Council in 2024.

Centre Hall Council of Churches –The next meeting is scheduled for January 8, at 11:15 am at Trinity UCC.

St. Luke Cemetery Association Representatives—Michele Brown, Brian Long and Walt Schluter








Looking ahead...Please note that if you have news or articles for the **FEBRUARY 2025** issue of the St. Luke Newsletter, please submit them to the church office **by Thursday, January 23rd.**

Church Office Hours—**Pastor Becky will be available for any Pastoral Care emergencies throughout the week at 1-215-208-5535.** Church Office Hours will be varied due to the Christmas and New Year holidays from now through Tuesday, January 7, 2025. Please leave phone messages or emails for Pr. Becky and Patty as needed, and we will return your call or email as soon as possible. Patty may also be reached at 814-933-6296. Normal Office Hours, meetings and events will resume the week of January 5th. May you have a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year!

St. Luke Contact Numbers:

Church Office	814-364-9154 or email at StLuke364@gmail.com
Pastor, Rev. Becky Horn	215-208-5535 or email StLuke364PastorBecky@gmail.com
Church Secretary, Patty Lehman	814-933-6296 or email: StLuke364@gmail.com
Council President, Scott McAllister	814-364-1285 (h); 814-280-7891(c) or email horsedr72@verizon.net
Treasurer, Jack Sharer	814-364-1658 of email: StLuke16828TreasurerJack@gmail.com
Music Director, Susan Stover	814-349-5173 or email: msgmnastx48@aol.com
St. Luke Mailing Address	PO Box 331, Centre Hall, PA 16828
St. Luke Website	http://StLukeCentreHall.org

January 2025

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
			<u>1</u> 	<u>2</u> NO SET OFFICE HOURS	<u>3</u>	<u>4</u> AA Meeting 7pm
<u>5</u> Worship 8am & 10:30am Adult Sunday School 9:15 -10am in Fellowship Hall Boy Scout Troop Meeting 4:30-6pm	<u>6</u> Epiphany 	<u>7</u> OFFICE HOURS 10am-2pm	<u>8</u> Centre Hall Council of Churches Meeting 11am at Trinity UCC	<u>9</u> OFFICE HOURS 10am-2pm Choir Rehearsal 7:00pm	<u>10</u> Cub Scout Den Meetings 6:30-8:30pm	<u>11</u> AA Meeting 7pm
<u>12</u> Baptism of Our Lord Worship 8am & 10:30am Boy Scout Troop Meeting 4:30-6pm	<u>13</u> Finance Committee Meeting 6:30pm Council Meeting 7pm	<u>14</u> OFFICE HOURS 10am-2pm Congregational Relations Committee Meeting 11am	<u>15</u>	<u>16</u> OFFICE HOURS 10am-2pm Choir Rehearsal 7:00pm	<u>17</u> 	<u>18</u> AA Meeting 7pm
<u>19</u> Worship 8am & 10:30am Adult Sunday School 9:15 -10am in Fellowship Hall Boy Scout Troop Meeting 4:30-6pm Cub Scout Committee Meeting 6:30-8pm	<u>20</u> Martin Luther King Jr. Day 	<u>21</u> Pastor Becky at Training from Jan 21 to Jan 22 nd OFFICE HOURS 10am-2pm Food Pantry at Grace UMC Packing boxes begins at 8:00am and Distribution takes place from 1:30-3pm	<u>22</u> Pastor Becky at Training from Jan 21 to Jan 22 nd	<u>23</u> OFFICE HOURS 10am-2pm *Newsletter Deadline Choir Rehearsal 7:00pm	<u>24</u> Cub Scout Den Meetings 6:30-8:30pm	<u>25</u> AA Meeting 7pm
<u>26</u> Worship 8am & 10:30am followed by the Joint Annual Congregational Meeting after both worship services Boy Scout Troop Meeting 4:30-6pm	<u>27</u>	<u>28</u> OFFICE HOURS 10am-2pm	<u>29</u>	<u>30</u> OFFICE HOURS 10am-2pm Choir Rehearsal 7:00pm	<u>31</u> 	

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