

# *THE ST. LUKE LETTER*

*January 2024*



Dear Siblings in Christ,

What will this new calendar year bring? What do we still hope for in this season of Christmas? What do we hope for as we near Epiphany? – A season of light and hope. I appreciate that the church's new year is the start of Advent – it reminds me ahead of time that the calendar year will be changing and to think about what I hope for in the new year. This year I want peace – I hope for peace – I pray for peace. I want to work toward peace in our community. I hope to inspire peace in others and that God's peace will be experienced. This world is so full of suffering, sadness, heartbreak, and so much need. We have wars that continue to cause more harm than we can imagine. There are people who suffer with needs that we could provide for so easily. Yet in our world we tend to forget true need and instead fill our sight with pettiness and judgment. And so, I hope, pray, and even wish for peace. If we focus on God's peace, we will see the beauty in every person, in all of creation. If we strive to bring God's peace we will be tending to the needs of others. If we act with God's peace we will begin our year with love, hope, joy, and peace. What is your hope for this year? What is your prayer? What is your wish? And how will we together make these prayers come true for those most in need?

Yours In Christ,  
Pr. Becky Horn



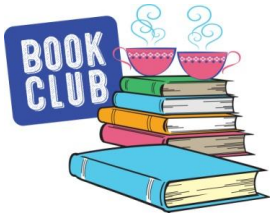
From Pr. Becky: Are you or a loved one desiring a visit from the pastor? Do you have questions on faith, your spiritual life, or wish for a time of prayer? Please contact Pastor Becky if you would like her to call or visit you at home, in the hospital, or another location. (office: 814-364-9154, cell: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



On Sunday, December 31st, St. Luke will have an 8am and 10:30am worship service where the congregation will enjoy seasonal scripture and sing carols.



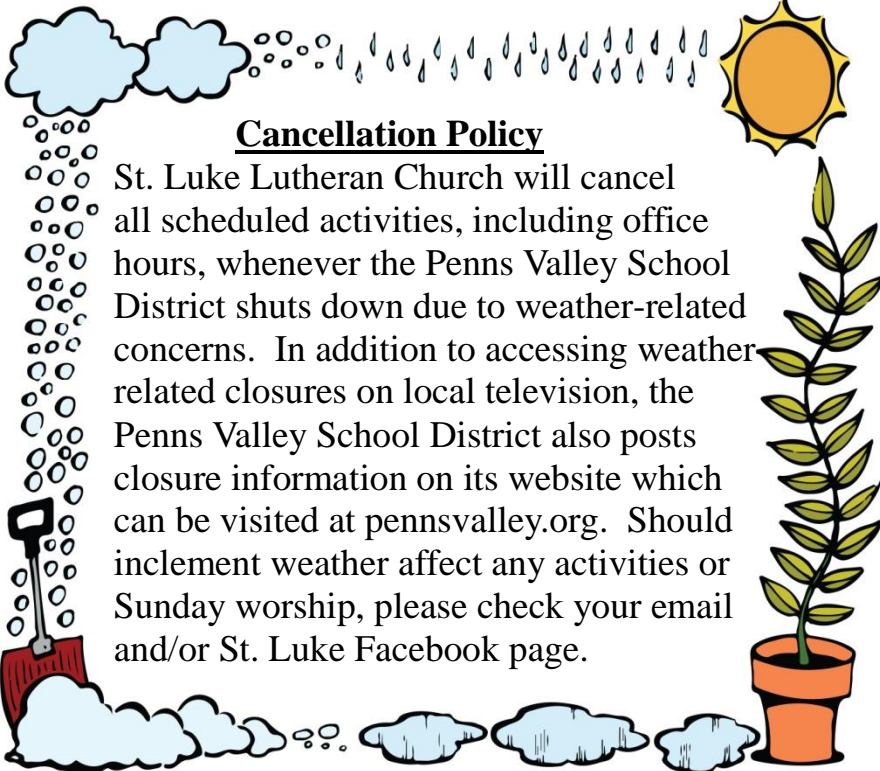
On Sunday, January 21, 2024, St. Luke will hold a Joint Worship Service at 9:30am followed by St. Luke's Annual Congregational Meeting. Annual Reports will be available in the narthex for member review by the Friday, January 19, 2024, prior to the meeting. Please note: Council members and Committee Chairs should have their reports to Patty by Thursday, January 11, 2024.



The next book will be *The Words we Whisper* by Mary Ellen Taylor. We will discuss January 24, 2024, at 9:00 am in the Pastor's Office. It's a great time of year to curl up with a good read that we can gather and tell of our favorite (and least favorite) parts.



Offering Envelopes for 2024 are available for pick up in the narthex.



**Cancellation Policy**

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 any activities or Sunday worship, please check your email and/or St. Luke Facebook page.

Lectionary Study & Prayer Group



The Lectionary Study and Prayer Group meets weekly on Wednesday mornings at 10:00am in the Social Hall. We discuss the week's lessons and pray for those on our prayer list and those in our hearts.



**FEED THE HUNGRY**

**FOOD PANTRY:** The Centre Hall/Potter Food & Fuel Pantry will have their next monthly food distribution on **Tuesday, December 19, 2023**, 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 - Kleenex & Soup   | July - Soap  |
| February - Canned Milk     | August - <u>Individually packaged</u> Toothbrushes |
| March - Toothpaste         | September - Shampoo                                |
| April - Cake Mixes         | October - Toilet Paper                             |
| May - Kitchen Garbage Bags | November - Sandwich Bags                           |
| June - Paper Towels        | December - Dish Detergent                          |

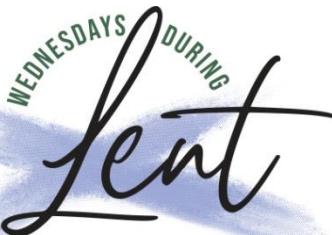
If you would like to make a donation, please place non-perishable items in the designated Food Pantry Box at St. Luke Lutheran Church on or before **Sunday, December 17, 2023**. The donation box is located in the Narthex (under the coat rack). Volunteers are always needed...to pack boxes at 8am on distribution 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 make a monetary donation to the Food Pantry, volunteer in any way, or if you have any questions, you may speak with **Bonnie Brown at 814-883-3589**.



**"SOUP" ER BOWL**

**Bring in cans of soup from now through Super Bowl Sunday, February 11th, 2024, for the Centre Hall/Potter Food Pantry.**

**Your generous donations will help Someone to enjoy a comforting meal.**



**Looking Ahead to Lent** – Lent starts early this year with Ash Wednesday on February 14<sup>th</sup>. Please plan to join with the Council of Churches for Lenten Wednesday evening worship. More information to follow!

## Prayer Concerns

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



Ken Cromwell...covid  
Fox Dietrich...recovery from pneumonia  
Adam Hanscom...health concerns  
Linda Murphy...health concerns  
Craig Weidensaul...brain cancer  
Monica Zimmerman...cancer  
Dotti Sauerwein...pain relief  
Nancy Hawn...lung transplant

Bob and Betty Ishler...covid  
Dave Ferree...recovering from fall  
Judy Swartz...health concerns  
Harry Koch...knee replacement  
Mike Moyer...health concerns  
Justin Ryan...health concerns  
Carolyn Wimer...recovery from knee surgery

### **Ongoing Prayer Concerns:**

Paul Dietrich...cancer  
Greg Bohn...kidney issues  
Paulette Smigo...life concerns  
Donna Brown...cancer  
Jean Bender...myelodysplastic syndrome  
Dave Ferree...health concerns  
Karen Willar...cancer  
Katrina Danley...cancer  
Paul & Sandy Larson...health concern  
Ed Dunkelberger...health concerns  
Those affected by natural disasters  
Peace for Israel and the Middle East

Robert Sauerwein...heart & health concerns  
Jim & Tanya Evans...health concerns  
Marvin Lehman, Jr...health concerns  
Eva Gill...kidney failure  
Gay Homan...health concerns  
Don Rudy...health concerns  
Darla Dunlap...cancer  
Silas Green...multiple health issues  
Nancy Boyle...respiratory issues  
Lee Kolos...health concerns  
Ukrainian People & the Ukrainian War

### **Please pray for the Health of our Homebound:**

Agnes Homan (448 S. Pennsylvania Ave, Centre Hall, PA 16828...814-364-9189)  
Phyllis Kerlin (Juniper Village Wellspring, 610 W Whitehall Rd - Rm 121, State College, PA 16801)  
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)  
Jean 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](mailto:StLuke364@gmail.com). **-Updated 12/24/23**

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

Church Office	814-364-9154 or email at <a href="mailto:StLuke364@gmail.com">StLuke364@gmail.com</a>
Pastor, Rev. Becky Horn	215-208-5535 or email <a href="mailto:StLuke364PastorBecky@gmail.com">StLuke364PastorBecky@gmail.com</a>
Church Secretary, Patty Lehman	814-933-6296 or email: <a href="mailto:StLuke364@gmail.com">StLuke364@gmail.com</a>
Council President, Scott McAllister	814-364-1285 (h); 814-280-7891(c) or email <a href="mailto:horsedr72@verizon.net">horsedr72@verizon.net</a>
Treasurer, Jack Sharer	814-364-1658 of email: <a href="mailto:StLuke16828TreasurerJack@gmail.com">StLuke16828TreasurerJack@gmail.com</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>

# THANKS BE TO GOD FOR OUR WORSHIP VOLUNTEERS

## December 31, 2023 - Lessons & Carols

Altar Care: **Open**  
Altar Flowers: Poinsettias  
Bell Ringer (10:30am): Scott McAllister  
Communion Bread: **Open**  
Counters: Sue Royer and Lois Albright  
Greeter (8am): Gary Zellers  
Greeter (10:30am): Patty Lehman  
Lay Reader (8am): Rick Homan  
Lay Reader (10:30am): Jack Sharer  
Offering Usher (10:30am): Patty Lehman  
Worship Assistant (10:30am): Shawn Lehman

## January 7, 2024 - Baptism of Our Lord

Altar Care: **Open**  
Altar Flowers: **Open**  
Bell Ringer (10:30am): Walt Schluter  
Communion Bread: **Open**  
Counters: Deb Frazier and Carol Sharpe  
Greeter (8am): Linda Decker-Reitz  
Greeter (10:30am): Nancy Shunk  
Lay Reader (8am): Michele Shawver  
Lay Reader (10:30am): Jack Sharer  
Offering Usher (10:30am): Shawn Lehman  
Worship Assistant (10:30am): Scott McAllister

## January 14, 2024 - 2nd Sunday after Epiphany

Altar Care: **Open**  
Altar Flowers: **Open**  
Bell Ringer (10:30am): Larry Frazier  
Communion Bread: **Open**  
Counters: Barb McAllister and Susan Stover  
Greeter (8am): Connie Zellers  
Greeter (10:30am): Patty Lehman  
Lay Reader (8am): Kathy Long  
Lay Reader (10:30am): Ken Cromwell  
Offering Usher (10:30am): Walt Schluter  
Worship Assistant (10:30am): Carol Sharpe

## January 21, 2024 - JOINT WORSHIP @9:30AM - 3rd Sunday after Epiphany

Altar Care: **Open**  
Altar Flowers: **Open**  
Bell Ringer: Walt Schluter  
Communion Bread: **Open**  
Counters: Lois Albright and Ken Cromwell  
Greeter: Gary Zellers  
Lay Reader: Linda Decker-Reitz  
Offering Usher: Scott McAllister  
Worship Assistant: Susan Stover

## January 28, 2024 - 4th Sunday after Epiphany

Altar Care: **Open**  
Altar Flowers: **Open**  
Bell Ringer (10:30am): Larry Frazier  
Communion Bread: **Open**  
Counters: Sue Royer and Shari Welch  
Greeter (8am): Connie Zellers  
Greeter (10:30am): Patty Lehman  
Lay Reader (8am): Kelly Moran  
Lay Reader (10:30am): Barb McAllister  
Offering Usher (10:30am): Walt Schluter  
Worship Assistant (10:30am): Shawn Lehman

## February 4, 2024 - 5th Sunday after Epiphany

Altar Care: **Open**  
Altar Flowers: **Open**  
Bell Ringer (10:30am): Walt Schluter  
Communion Bread: **Open**  
Counters: Deb Frazier and Barb McAllister  
Greeter (8am): Linda Decker-Reitz  
Greeter (10:30am): **Open**  
Lay Reader (8am): Michele Shawver  
Lay Reader (10:30am): Deb Frazier  
Offering Usher (10:30am): Shawn Lehman  
Worship Assistant (10:30am): Scott McAllister

# JANUARY

*Anniversaries*

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

# JANUARY

*Birthdays*

- 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 N. Roy Thompson  
 Derek Shaffer



## Thank You Notes

St. Luke Congregation,

I would like to express my thanks for all the birthday cards sent to me in honor of my 80th birthday. I truly appreciated each and every one.

Thank You!  
 Nancy Shunk



## Altar Flowers

Effective January 1, 2024, the rate for the altar flower arrangements we order from The Flower Basket will increase to \$50 which includes the \$5 delivery charge.



**St. Luke's next scheduled Council Meeting is January 8, 2024 at 7:00pm.** The regular meets are held 2<sup>nd</sup> Monday of the month at 7:00 pm, Zoom is available for those who are unable to attend in person. Council Executive Committee meets the 1<sup>st</sup> Thursday of the Month at 6:00 pm as needed. If you are interested in attending, please email Pr. Becky, Pres. Scott McAllister, V.P. Shawn Lehman, or Sec. Carol Sharpe for login information. Note: Council

Officer positions will change at our first Council Meeting of January. Updated positions will be in the Annual Report and future communications.

**Council Members for 2024:** Scott McAllister (24) President, Carol Sharpe (26), Secretary, Jack Sharer, Treasurer, Rick Homan (24), Shari Welch (24), Gary Zellers (24), Lois Albright (25), Todd Fetterolf (25), Larry Frazier (25), **Open** (25), Alice Cromwell (26), Evelyn Reeder (26) and Susan Stover (26) \*The numbers in parenthesis indicates the year their term is complete.

Thank you to our outgoing Council Members, Dawn Holsopple and Shawn Lehman, for your service on Council. We also thank our newly elected and re-elected Council Members, Evelyn Reeder, Susan Stover, Alice Cromwell and Carol Sharpe for serving a 4 year term on Council.

**Centre Hall Council of Churches** –The next meeting is scheduled for January 3, 2024 at 11:00 am at Grace UMC, in the Library.

**Cemetery Association Representatives**—Michele Brown, Brian Long and Walt Schluter



**Looking ahead...**Please note that if you have news or articles for the **February 2024** issue of the St. Luke Newsletter, please submit them to the church office **by Tuesday, January 23rd, due to the holiday schedule.**

Church Secretary office hours are normally Tuesdays and Thursdays 10am to 3pm. If you need to reach Patty outside of office hours, please call or text her at 814-933-6296.



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

[https://www.youtube.com/@StLukeLutheran\\_CentreHall/live](https://www.youtube.com/@StLukeLutheran_CentreHall/live)

# January 2024

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
	<b>1</b> 	<b>2</b> OFFICE HOURS 10am-3pm	<b>3</b> Prayer Group 10am  Council of Churches at Grace UMC 11am	<b>4</b> OFFICE HOURS 10am-3pm  Choir Rehearsal 7pm	<b>5</b>	<b>6</b> Epiphany   AA Meeting 7pm
<b>7</b> Baptism of Our Lord Worship 8am & 10:30am  Sunday School Classes 9:15-10am  Boy Scout Troop Meeting 4:30-6pm	<b>8</b>   Council Meeting 7pm	<b>9</b> OFFICE HOURS 10am-3pm  	<b>10</b> Prayer Group 10am	<b>11</b> OFFICE HOURS 10am-3pm *Annual Reports Due  Choir Rehearsal 7pm	<b>12</b>  	<b>13</b>   AA Meeting 7pm
<b>14</b> Worship 8am & 10:30am  Boy Scout Troop Meeting 4:30-6pm	<b>15</b> Martin Luther King Jr. Day	<b>16</b> OFFICE HOURS 10am-3pm  Food Pantry Distribution at Grace UMC 1:30-3pm	<b>17</b> Prayer Group 10am	<b>18</b> OFFICE HOURS 10am-3pm  Choir Rehearsal 7pm	<b>19</b>	<b>20</b>   AA Meeting 7pm
<b>21</b> <b>Joint Worship Service 9:30am followed by the Annual Congregational Meeting</b>  Boy Scout Troop Meeting 4:30-6pm  Cub Scout Committee Meeting 6:30-8pm	<b>22</b>  	<b>23</b> OFFICE HOURS 10am-3pm *Newsletter Deadline  Congregational Relations Meeting 11am	<b>24</b> Book Group 9am  Prayer Group 10am	<b>25</b> OFFICE HOURS 10am-3pm  Choir Rehearsal 7pm	<b>26</b>  Cub Scout Den Meetings 6-8pm	<b>27</b>   AA Meeting 7pm
<b>28</b> Worship 8am & 10:30am  Boy Scout Troop Meeting 4:30-6pm	<b>29</b>	<b>30</b> OFFICE HOURS 10am-3pm	<b>31</b> Prayer Group 10am  			



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