

THE ST. LUKE LETTER

February 2024



February 2024

Dear Siblings in Christ,

How do we expect the unexpected? As a parent we expect and don't expect for our children to get sick. We often have backup plans ready to go at a moment's notice for the just in case scenarios that are part of daily life. I am sure that this concept is one that you do not need to be a parent to understand. Many of our days have contingency plans even if we do not actively acknowledge their presence. And yet this idea of expecting the unexpected goes beyond our human understanding. When we make backup plans, we are still attempting to account for the unexpected. But with God the unexpected can be truly unexpected. With God we can and will be caught off guard and the truly unexpected will unfold.

With God's promise of love, grace, mercy, forgiveness, and so much more we can welcome the unexpected that God will undoubtedly provide. Rather than worry or fret over what might happen, we ask God to walk with us and guide us, leaving the worry to God. Sure, we will still make contingency plans, it is important to be prepared, but we cannot let the planning of the 'what if' to take over the possibility of sharing God's ministry here and now. What is God calling you to do beyond the expected and how can we do this unexpected ministry together?

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)

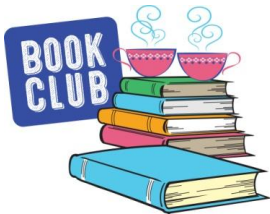




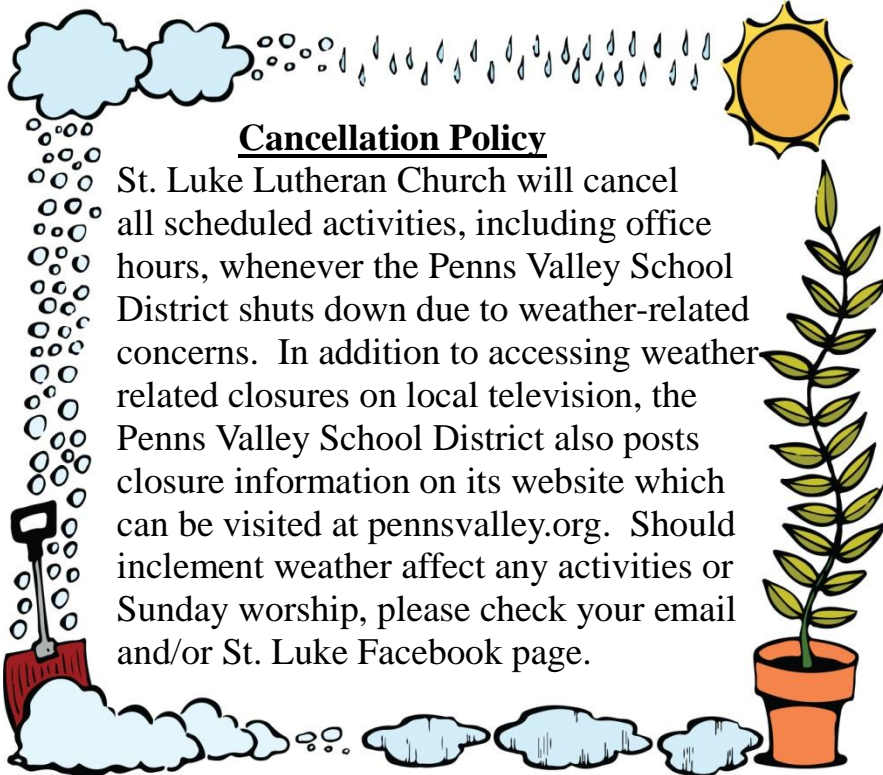
On Sunday, February 4, 2024, St. Luke will have a Winter Potluck Luncheon and Ice Cream Social following the 10:30am worship service, beginning at approximately 11:45am. We ask that you please bring a main dish or side dish to share, and we will provide the ice cream and toppings for dessert. Sunday, February 18th will be the snow date if needed.



Lent starts early this year with Ash Wednesday on February 14th. Please plan to join with the Council of Churches for Lenten Wednesday evening worship at 7:00 pm at Grace United Methodist Church. The book chosen to use for the sermon theme this Lent is: *Jesus' Vision for Your One Wild and Precious Life* by Mike Graves. Come to worship and be inspired to continue God's ministry in this world.



The book for February is *The Story Teller* by Jodi Picoult. We will gather on Wednesday, February 28th at 9:00 am in Pastor Becky's office.



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. 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, February 20, 2024**, 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 | 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, February 18, 2024**. 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

St. Luke continues our annual "Soup" er Bowl Collection to benefit the Food Pantry. Bring in cans of soup from now through Super Bowl Sunday, February 11, 2024. All donations will be given to the Centre Hall/Potter Food Pantry. Your generous donations will help someone in our community enjoy a comforting meal.



Prayer Concerns

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



Bette Bender...upcoming shoulder surgery
Don Miller...health concerns
Don Young...health concerns
Mike Burlew—ALS
James W. Korman...cancer
Adam Hanscom...health concerns
Craig Weidensaul...brain cancer
Justin Ryan...health concerns
Carolyn Wimer...recovery from knee surgery

Mike Moyer...upcoming surgery
James Ard...health concerns
Adre Fetterolf...health concerns
Jim Reese—recovery from accident
Betty Ishler...health concerns
Linda Murphy...health concerns
Monica Zimmerman...cancer
Dotti Sauerwein...pain relief
Nancy Hawn...lung transplant

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/recovery from fall
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
Judy Swartz...health concerns

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. -Updated 1/30/24

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: smsgmnastx48@aol.com
St. Luke Mailing Address	PO Box 331, Centre Hall, PA 16828
St. Luke Website	http://StLukeCentreHall.org

THANKS BE TO GOD FOR OUR WORSHIP VOLUNTEERS

February 4, 2024 - 5th Sunday after Epiphany

Altar Care: **Open**
Altar Flowers: **Open**
Bell Ringer (10:30am): Walt Schluter
Communion Bread: Dawn Holsopple
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

February 11, 2024 - Transfiguration of Our Lord

Altar Care: **Open**
Altar Flowers: **Open**
Bell Ringer (10:30am): Larry Frazier
Communion Bread: **Open**
Counters: Lois Albright and Susan Stover
Greeter (8am): Gary Zellers
Greeter (10:30am): Nancy Shunk
Lay Reader (8am): Rick Homan
Lay Reader (10:30am): Jack Sharer
Offering Usher (10:30am): Ken Cromwell
Worship Assistant (10:30am): Carol Sharpe

February 18, 2024 - First Sunday of Lent

Altar Care: **Open**
Bell Ringer (10:30am): Shawn Lehman
Communion Bread: **Open**
Counters: Sue Royer and Carol Sharpe
Greeter (8am): Connie Zellers
Greeter (10:30am): **Open**
Lay Reader (8am): Linda Decker-Reitz
Lay Reader (10:30am): Ken Cromwell
Offering Usher (10:30am): Larry Frazier
Worship Assistant (10:30am): Susan Stover

February 25, 2024 - Second Sunday in Lent

Altar Care: **Open**
Bell Ringer (10:30am): Walt Schluter
Communion Bread: **Open**
Counters: Shari Welch and Ken Cromwell
Greeter (8am): Gary Zellers
Greeter (10:30am): Patty Lehman
Lay Reader (8am): Kathy Long
Lay Reader (10:30am): Carol Sharpe
Offering Usher (10:30am): Scott McAllister
Worship Assistant (10:30am): Shawn Lehman

March 3, 2024 - Third Sunday in Lent

Altar Care: **Open**
Bell Ringer (10:30am): Shawn Lehman
Communion Bread: **Open**
Counters: Susan Stover and Sue Royer
Greeter (8am): Linda Decker-Reitz
Greeter (10:30am): **Open**
Lay Reader (8am): Kelly Moran
Lay Reader (10:30am): Susan Stover
Offering Usher (10:30am): Walt Schluter
Worship Assistant (10:30am): Scott McAllister

Spring training for Christians

The word Lent comes from Middle English and German words for springtime. In light of the start of baseball season, some people call the pre-Easter season "spring training for Christians." This fresh perspective moves away from the flawed understanding that Lent must be somber, or that giving something up for Lent is punishment for sin or a way to earn God's favor.

As people of faith, we should never take a season off. But every so often — at least once a year! — we do well to examine where we need to get back in shape spiritually. Perhaps we will indeed opt to give something up: that swearing habit, sleeping in on Sundays, or the cost of a weekly treat so we can donate the money instead. Or maybe we'll take on something new for Lent: a Bible study, prayer routine or service project.

Hebrews describes spiritual discipline as challenging in the moment but yielding righteousness later. The writer urges us, "Lift your drooping hands and strengthen your weak knees ... so that what is lame may not be put out of joint but rather be healed" (12:11-13, ESV). May the spring training of Lent strengthen and heal us all.

FEBRUARY

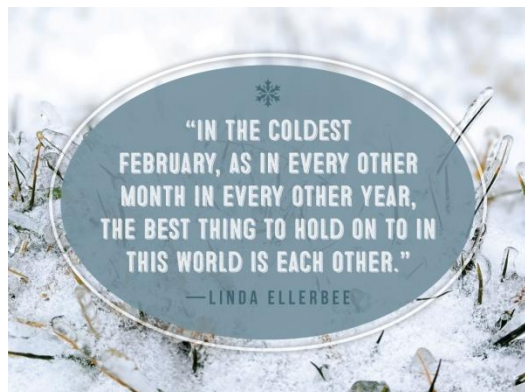
Anniversaries

- Feb. 9 Daniel and Polly Brooks
- 10 Ronald and Dawn Holsopple

FEBRUARY

Birthdays

- Feb. 3 Beth Araujo
- 4 Sue Chappell
- 6 Catherine Bierlein
- Donald Fetterolf, Jr.
- 8 Jack Sharer
- 9 Marshall Brooks
- David Ferree
- Sandra Ferree
- Robert Ishler
- 13 Nick Bair
- 15 George Murphy
- Julia Delaney
- 17 Ken Long
- 19 Kira Reeder
- 21 Jody Lair
- 22 Adam Herrold
- Baylor Shunk
- 27 Justin Herrold



St. Luke's Parish,

Thank you so much for the lovely flower bouquet and thank you to everyone who attended my birthday party and sent me cards. I've received over 130 cards now. I'm very blessed to have so many family and friends. Please also extend my thanks to the other area churches.

Very Truly Yours,
Agnes Homan



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 February 11, 2024 at 7:00pm. The regular meets are held 2nd 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 1st 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. Rick Homan, or Sec. Carol Sharpe for login information.

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

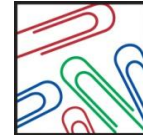
Centre Hall Council of Churches –The next meeting is scheduled for February 7, 2024 at 11:00 am at Grace UMC, in the Library.

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



Looking ahead...Please note that if you have news or articles for the **March 2024** issue of the St. Luke Newsletter, please submit them to the church office **by Thursday, February 22nd.**

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.



Office Hours

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

February 2024

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
				1 OFFICE HOURS 10am-3pm Choir Rehearsal 7pm	2  GROUNDHOG DAY	3 AA Meeting 7pm
4 Worship 8am & 10:30am Winter Potluck and Ice Cream Social will follow the 10:30am worship service. Sunday School Classes 9:15-10am Boy Scout Troop Meeting 4:30-6pm	5 	6 OFFICE HOURS 10am-3pm	7 Prayer Group 10am Council of Churches at Grace UMC 11am	8 OFFICE HOURS 10am-3pm  Choir Rehearsal 7pm	9 Cub Scout Den Meetings 6-8pm	10 AA Meeting 7pm
11 Transfiguration of Our Lord Sunday Worship 8am & 10:30am Boy Scout Troop Meeting 4:30-6pm	12	13 OFFICE HOURS 10am-3pm	14 Valentine's Day Prayer Group 10am  Ash Wednesday Worship Services at Grace UMC at 7:00pm	15 OFFICE HOURS 10am-3pm Choir Rehearsal 7pm	16	17 AA Meeting 7pm
18 Worship 8am & 10:30am Sunday School Classes 9:15-10am Boy Scout Troop Meeting 4:30-6pm Cub Scout Committee Meeting 6:30-8:00pm	19  PRESIDENTS DAY	20 OFFICE HOURS 10am-3pm Food Pantry Distribution at Grace UMC 1:30-3pm	21 Prayer Group 10am Lenten Wednesday Worship Services at Grace UMC at 7:00pm	22 OFFICE HOURS 10am-3pm Choir Rehearsal 7pm	23 Cub Scout Den Meetings 6-8pm	24 AA Meeting 7pm
25 Worship 8am & 10:30am Boy Scout Troop Meeting 4:30-6pm	26	27 OFFICE HOURS 10am-3pm	28 Book Group 9am Prayer Group 10am Lenten Wednesday Worship Services at Grace UMC at 7:00pm	29 OFFICE HOURS 10am-3pm  Leap Day Choir Rehearsal 7pm		

PUZZLE



CONNECTED BY LOVE

God's Word is filled with messages about love, which connects us to God and to one another.

Directions: Draw a line from the beginning of each Bible verse (on the left side) through the heart to the rest of the verse (on the right side). Use the Scripture references for help.

- a. We
- b. Above all,
- c. My command is this:
- d. And over all these virtues put on
- e. Greater
- f. See what great
- g. There is no fear in



- 1. each other as I have loved you. John 15:12
- 2. has no one than this: to lay down one's life for one's friends. John 15:13
- 3. But perfect love drives out fear. 1 John 4:18
- 4. each other deeply, because love covers over a multitude of sins. 1 Peter 4:8
- 5. the Father has lavished on us, that we should be called children of God! 1 John 3:1
- 6. because he first loved us. 1 John 4:19
- 7. which binds them all together in perfect unity. Colossians 3:14

Answers: a, b, c, d, e, f, g, 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9, 10, 11, 12, 13, 14, 15, 16, 17, 18, 19, 20, 21, 22, 23, 24, 25, 26

Valentine's Day jokes for animal lovers

What did one sheep say to the other?

I love ewe!

And how did the other sheep respond?

You're not so baaa-d yourself.

Why do skunks love Valentine's Day?

They are very scent-imental creatures.

What did one bee say to the other?

I love bee-ing with you, honey!

What did the enamored deer say?

I'm very fawn-ed of you!

Puzzle!

After solving the equations, write the words on the correct numbered lines below. Complete Ephesians 1:3 (NIV) to discover how God shows his great love for us.

- 14 - 7 = ___ Father
- 10 + 9 = ___ heavenly
- 9 + 9 = ___ the
- 12 + 12 = ___ blessing
- 2 - 1 = ___ Praise
- 7 + 7 = ___ has
- 11 + 11 = ___ every
- 13 + 13 = ___ Christ
- 8 + 8 = ___ us
- 10 + 10 = ___ realms
- 8 + 9 = ___ in
- 5 + 5 = ___ Lord
- 10 + 11 = ___ with

- 10 + 15 = ___ in
- 10 - 5 = ___ God
- 6 - 3 = ___ to
- 12 - 6 = ___ and
- 6 + 6 = ___ Christ
- 18 - 9 = ___ our
- 22 - 11 = ___ Jesus
- 1 + 1 = ___ be
- 7 + 6 = ___ who
- 2 + 2 = ___ the
- 10 + 5 = ___ blessed
- 4 + 4 = ___ of
- 10 + 13 = ___ spiritual

1	2	3	4	5	6
7	8	9	10	11	12
13	14	15	16	17	18
19	20	21	22		
23	24	25	26		

Ephesians 1:3, NIV

Answer: Praise be to the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, who has blessed us in the heavenly realms with every spiritual blessing in Christ. Ephesians 1:3, NIV

What do you call two birds in love?

Tweetharts!

What question did the penguin ask on February 14?

Waddle I do without you?

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