

# *THE ST. LUKE LETTER*

*May 2024*



Dear Siblings in Christ,

I am amazed at how fast time can go and find it hard to believe that I have been at St. Luke's for eight years. These have been formative, ministry filled, and at times challenging years and I am greatly blessed to have been walking with you in the faith. At a special meeting of the congregation Council, I had a 3-month sabbatical approved to begin June 16, 2024 – September 15, 2024. The office of the Bishop of the Allegheny Synod is very supportive of this endeavor and will be providing Sunday worship supply and other assistance as needed. You might not be familiar with a pastoral sabbatical so below I have some reasoning from the Allegheny Synod Guidelines for Sabbaticals. If you would like a copy of the full guidelines, they are available in the Narthex or upon request.

The Allegheny Synod Guidelines for Sabbaticals explains the vision for a sabbatical to emulate a time of rest, restoration, and renewal that God demonstrated in the first creation story in Genesis with a day of rest on the seventh day. As the Guidelines state, "In the lives of Rostered Ministers of the Allegheny Synod time apart from the regular responsibilities of ministry benefit both the ministry setting and the minister." Under the section of Purpose, Rationale, and Expectations the Guidelines state, "We are familiar with the Sabbath, the seventh day of creation, when God rested. The word "Sabbatical" is derived from Sabbath, and is defined as a time reserved for rest, research, renewal, enrichment, learning, spiritual growth, travel, and strengthening of ministry gifts. Sabbaticals provide opportunities to see new directions, renew relationships, to begin new pursuits. Nourishing one's soul and changing perspective requires a change in one's space and place. Jesus spent forty days in the wilderness, after which his ministry set off on a new course." The Guidelines go on to state, "Rostered Ministers of the church in the Allegheny Synod need Sabbath time, to break away from the stress and strain and the 24/7 nature of ministry. A Sabbatical gives a minister more than a time to study, learn, and rest. For to keep the Sabbath is to renew one's trust in God to provide, by abstaining from those activities that provide material resources. A Sabbatical provides ministers time to be nurtured by God [and] reflect on their relationship with God." There is, of course, more information in the Guidelines for Sabbaticals, but I hope you can see some of the reasoning behind this extended time of discernment and renewal with God.

As I mentioned above, I have been serving with you for eight years and am in need of renewal. By taking a three-month sabbatical I will have the opportunity to take more intentional time with God as I discern how God is calling me into further ministry. I plan to make a routine that helps me to utilize this time in discernment, prayer, and restoration. This routine will include designated times for prayer, journaling, exercising, time in creation and creation care, time with family and friends, and other ways to help strengthen and revitalize my faith in God and call to ministry. By including intentionality in exercising and being physically active, I hope to renew not just my faith and mind, but also my body to encourage wholeness and health. I plan to return to you energized to engage in ministry together.

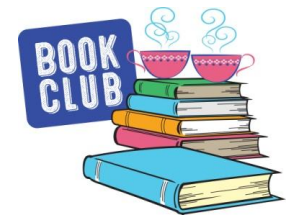
Included in the newsletter and available in the Narthex are copies of the Sabbatical Covenant that has been approved by the Congregation Council and the Office of the Bishop. We hope this will answer any questions you might have at this time, but please reach out if you have others. Thank you for your support and prayers during this time of renewal.

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) )

**Book Group and Prayer Group are changing** – We are going to move to a ‘monthly’ format for Book Group and Prayer Group with Lectionary Study this month. For May we will meet on Tuesday May 21<sup>st</sup> beginning at 9:00 am to discuss *The Echo of Lost Books* by Barbara Davis. Following our discussion we will transition into prayer group. Join us for this time of conversation and prayer! There will not be book group or prayer group over the summer.



May Sunday School Classes will be held on Sunday, May 5th and Sunday, May 19th from 9:15am-10am. Come a little early for a brief time of fellowship with coffee, juice and treats. Please note that May 19th will be our final Sunday School Class for the current school year 2023-2024.



St. Luke would like to recognize our 2024 members who are graduating from high school, college or advanced programs in the June newsletter. If you, or someone you know, is graduating, please contact Patty in the church office at 814-364-9154 or email a photo to [StLuke364@gmail.com](mailto:StLuke364@gmail.com).



On Sunday, July 14th, St. Luke will join the Community Worship Service at the People’s Choice Festival at 10:30 am. There will still be an 8:00am worship service at St. Luke for those who do not wish to worship at the People's Choice Festival.



St. Luke's Annual Outdoor Worship Service and Church Picnic will be taking place the 3rd Sunday in July on Sunday, July 21, 2024. More details coming soon.



The Centre Hall Community Vacation Bible School dates will be Sunday, July 28, 2024 to Thursday, August 1, 2024. Please share the dates with your children, grandchildren, neighbors and friends. More details to come.



**Salem Ice Cream Social—Save The Date**—We have invited Salem and St. John churches to our Outdoor Worship and Picnic in July and Salem Church has reciprocated by inviting St. Luke to their Ice Cream Social which will be held on Sunday, June 9th at 6:00pm. We had quite a nice time together at St. Luke's picnic last year and hope that you can attend their social in June. Additional details and a sign-up sheet will be provided in May.



**FEED THE HUNGRY**

**FOOD PANTRY:** The Centre Hall/Potter Food & Fuel Pantry will have their next monthly food distribution on **Tuesday, May 21, 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                             |
| <b>May - Kitchen Garbage Bags</b> | 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, May 19, 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 volunteer in any way, or if you have any questions, you may speak with the new Centre Hall/Potter 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.



The St. Luke Sewing Group meets to make quilts for Lutheran World Relief on the second Tuesday of each month from 9-11am at Bonnie Brown's home. There is a job available for everyone and we are in particular need of people to knot quilts. If you would like to attend and need additional information, please contact Bonnie Brown at 814-883-3589 or Connie Zellers at 814-364-1330.



**Congregational Relations Committee Meeting**—The Congregational Relations Committee will be meeting on Tuesday, May 7th at 10:30am in the kitchen if anyone would like to join us to discuss the Outdoor Worship and Picnic in July.



GALATIANS 5:13, NIV

### **Lutheran Day in the Capitol will take place Thursday, May 9, 2024**

Join Lutheran Advocacy Ministry in Pennsylvania (LAMPa) on Thursday, May 9, for a day of learning, inspiration, advocacy, and celebration!

We're also marking ELCA World Hunger's 50th anniversary in a celebratin of all the ways Lutherans show up to feed and care for our neighbors in Pennsylvania and around the world!

Registration is now taking place. Find out more and register by going to [www.lutheranadvocacy.org](http://www.lutheranadvocacy.org)



**Synod Assembly**—Allegheny Synod's Annual Assembly is scheduled for June 15th at the Blair County Convention Centre. The business meeting will begin at 8:30 am (with voting members arriving no later than 8:15 am) and is scheduled to end by 5:00 pm. **St. Luke's Council is looking for 1-2 people who are willing, interested, and able to attend. Please let a council member know if this might be you!** The Assembly Opening Worship will be held FRIDAY, June 14th at 6:00 pm at Zion Lutheran Church, Hollidaysburg (500 Allegheny St.). All are invited to attend worship with the people of the Allegheny Synod. If you have any questions, please let Pr. Becky know. Thank you for your support of our ministry here at St. Luke and in the larger church of the Synod.

## Prayer Concerns

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

Family and Friends of Don Young (Ellen Hug's father)

Phyllis Kerlin...recovery from fall

Robert Sauerwein...heart issues

The Family and Friends of Evan Homan

Bette Bender...reinjured shoulder

Bob Ishler...health concerns

Nancy Hawn...health concerns

Nancy Boerner...recov. double pneumonia

Bob Smeltzer...health concerns

Dave Ferree...health concerns/recov from falls

Adam Hanscom...recovery from surgery

Don Miller...health concerns

Justin Ryan...health concerns

**Ongoing Prayer Concerns:**

Paul Dietrich...cancer

Greg Bohn...kidney issues

Paulette Smigo...life concerns

Donna Brown...cancer

Jean Bender...myelodysplastic syndrome

Amy...health concerns

Karen Willar...cancer

Katrina Danley...cancer

Paul & Sandy Larson...health concern

Ed Dunkelberger...health concerns

Judy Swartz...health concerns

Those affected by natural disasters

Peace for Israel and the Middle East

**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, 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 5/2/24**

**St. Luke Contact Numbers:**

Church Office

814-364-9154 or email at [StLuke364@gmail.com](mailto:StLuke364@gmail.com)

Pastor, Rev. Becky Horn

215-208-5535 or email [StLuke364PastorBecky@gmail.com](mailto:StLuke364PastorBecky@gmail.com)

Church Secretary, Patty Lehman

814-933-6296 or email: [StLuke364@gmail.com](mailto:StLuke364@gmail.com)

Council President, Scott McAllister

814-364-1285 (h); 814-280-7891(c) or email [horsedr72@verizon.net](mailto:horsedr72@verizon.net)

Treasurer, Jack Sharer

814-364-1658 of email: [StLuke16828TreasurerJack@gmail.com](mailto:StLuke16828TreasurerJack@gmail.com)

Music Director, Susan Stover

814-349-5173 or email: [smsgmnastx48@aol.com](mailto:smsgmnastx48@aol.com)

St. Luke Mailing Address

PO Box 331, Centre Hall, PA 16828

St. Luke Website

<http://StLukeCentreHall.org>

Adre Fetterolf...recov. from surgery

The Haines Family...death of baby Mavis

Dixie McClenahan...health concerns

Betty Ishler...health concerns

Mike Moyer...health concerns

Sally Shermer...health concerns

Bruce Adams...recovery from back surgery

Mr. Walters (Mifflinburg)...health concerns

Brad Noll...recovery from car accident

Monica Zimmerman...cancer

Carolyn Wimer...recov. from knee surgery

Jim & Tanya Evans...health concerns

Marvin Lehman, Jr....health concerns

Marvin Lehman III...health concerns

Gay Homan...health concerns

Don Rudy...health concerns

Eva Gill...kidney failure

Silas Green...multiple health issues

Nancy Boyle...respiratory issues

Lee Kolos...health concerns

Dotti Sauerwein...pain relief

Ukrainian People & the Ukrainian War

Mike Burlew—ALS



## THANKS BE TO GOD FOR OUR WORSHIP VOLUNTEERS

### May 5, 2024 - 6th Sunday of Easter

Altar Care: **Open**  
Altar Flowers: Audrey Herrold  
Bell Ringer (10:30am): **Open**  
Communion Bread: Lois Albright  
Counters: Barb McAllister and Lois Albright  
Greeter (8am): Linda Decker-Reitz  
Greeter (10:30am): Patty Lehman  
Lay Reader (8am): **Open**  
Lay Reader (10:30am): Susan Stover  
Offering Usher (10:30am): Shawn Lehman  
Worship Assistant (10:30am): Carol Sharpe  
Lawn Mowing 5/5-5/11: Todd Fetterolf

### May 12, 2024 - 7th Sunday of Easter

Altar Care: **Open**  
Altar Flowers: **Open**  
Bell Ringer (10:30am): Walt Schluter  
Communion Bread: **Open**  
Counters: Susan Stover and Shari Welch  
Greeter (8am): Gary Zellers  
Greeter (10:30am): Nancy Shunk  
Lay Reader (8am): Rick Homan  
Lay Reader (10:30am): **Open**  
Offering Usher (10:30am): Larry Frazier  
Worship Assistant (10:30am): Scott McAllister  
Lawn Mowing 5/12-5/18: **Open**

### May 19, 2024 - Pentecost Sunday

Altar Care: **Open**  
Altar Flowers: **Open**  
Bell Ringer (10:30am): Larry Frazier  
Communion Bread: Betty Ishler  
Counters: Sue Royer and Deb Frazier  
Greeter (8am): Connie Zellers  
Greeter (10:30am): Patty Lehman  
Lay Reader (8am): Linda Decker-Reitz  
Lay Reader (10:30am): Barb McAllister  
Offering Usher (10:30am): Patty Lehman  
Worship Assistant (10:30am): Shawn Lehman  
Lawn Mowing 5/19-5/25: **Open**

### May 26, 2024 - Holy Trinity Sunday

Altar Care: **Open**  
Altar Flowers: **Open**  
Bell Ringer (10:30am): Scott McAllister  
Communion Bread: **Open**  
Counters: Susan Stover and Shari Welch  
Greeter (8am): Gary Zellers  
Greeter (10:30am): **Open**  
Lay Reader (8am): Kelly Moran  
Lay Reader (10:30am): Jack Sharer  
Offering Usher (10:30am): Scott McAllister  
Worship Assistant (10:30am): Susan Stover  
Lawn Mowing 5/26-6/1: **Open**

### June 2, 2024 - 2nd Sunday after Pentecost

Altar Care: **Open**  
Altar Flowers: Barb and Scott McAllister  
Bell Ringer (10:30am): Walt Schluter  
Communion Bread: **Open**  
Counters: Ken Cromwell and Carol Sharpe  
Greeter (8am): Connie Zellers  
Greeter (10:30am): Nancy Shunk  
Lay Reader (8am): Kathy Long  
Lay Reader (10:30am): Susan Stover  
Offering Usher (10:30am): Walt Schluter  
Worship Assistant (10:30am): Carol Sharpe  
Lawn Mowing 6/2-6/8: **Open**



If you are able to help with lawn mowing and/or weeding around the church, please sign up on the narthex bulletin board. You may sign-up for a week at a time (Sunday-Saturday) and you may sign up for as many weeks as you would like! Thank you!



**MAY**  
*Anniversaries*

- May 1 Corby and Nicole Shunk  
 2 Leroy and Linda Decker Reitz  
 6 Dwight and Eileen Barnes  
 James and Carol Ard  
 7 Van and Lisa Holsinger  
 14 Greg and Kira Reeder  
 19 Jan and Norma Crater  
 20 Don and Angela Anderson  
 22 Earl and Peg Leedy  
 Jeff and Sheila Lieb  
 24 Cliff and Charolette Waltz  
 Ted and Stephanie Delaney



**MAY**  
*Birthdays*

- May 1 Barb Fetterolf  
 2 Leroy Reitz  
 4 Bette Bender  
 Eric McAllister  
 5 Ashley Boob  
 8 Angela Anderson  
 Jeff O'Hara  
 9 Morgan Holsopple  
 10 Merlee Graybill  
 13 Brian McAllister  
 15 Gerald Korman  
 Taylor Noll  
 16 Kermit Long  
 Ethel Frazier  
 17 Mike Morrison  
 18 Corby Shunk  
 Derrick Parsons  
 Madison Roth  
 20 Lori Long  
 Sue Bryant  
 23 Eleanor Korkus  
 24 Don Young  
 25 Nicole Poorman  
 26 Kim Praskovich

May Birthdays Continued...

- 27 A. Robert Luse  
 28 Hope Wolfe  
 31 Janelle Welch  
 Michael Carper



St. Luke Congregation,  
 Thank you for everything.  
 Joe Hammaker

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 St. Luke Congregation,  
 Thank you for all the cards, calls and  
 food during our recovery.  
 Sincerely,  
 Bob and Jean Smeltzer

-----  
 Dear Members of St. Luke's Church,  
 I was sincerely moved that so many of  
 you remembered my 80th birthday on Easter  
 Sunday. Thank you all so much, your cards and  
 greetings were comforting. The greeting from  
 you that Robert recorded during the Easter  
 Breakfast brought joy to my heart.  
 May God's blessings be upon you all,  
 even as I most certainly felt your blessings  
 through your cards, cookies and balloons.  
 Yours in Christ,  
 Pastor Russ Sauerwein

-----  
 To Our Church Family,  
 We would like to thank you for your  
 prayers, cards, flowers, calls and Pastor Becky's  
 visits. They help to get us through some rough  
 times. We are so blessed.  
 Thank You.  
 Love,  
 Dave and Sandy Ferree



St. Luke's next scheduled Council Meeting is **May 13, 2024**, at **7:00 pm in the social hall**. The regular meetings 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 communicates by the 1<sup>st</sup> Thursday of the Month regarding agenda items and information 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 or come in person.

**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.

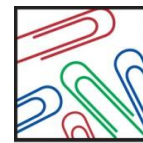
**Centre Hall Council of Churches** –The next meeting is scheduled for **June 5, 2024** at 11:00 am at Grace UMC, in the Library.

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



**Looking ahead...**Please note that if you have news or articles for the **June 2024** issue of the St. Luke Newsletter, please submit them to the church office **by Tuesday, May 21st**.

Church Secretary office hours are normally Tuesdays and Thursdays 10am to 3pm. To reach Patty outside of office hours, you may call or text her at 814-933-6296. **No Office Hours May 23rd or May 28th.**



**Office Hours**



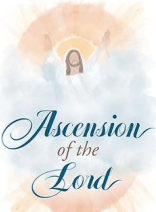



### YOU TUBE LIVE LINKS

**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](https://www.youtube.com/@StLukeLutheran_CentreHall/live)



# May 2024

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
			1	2 National Day of Prayer OFFICE HOURS 10am-3pm  Choir Rehearsal 7:00 pm	3	4 AA Meeting 7pm
5 Worship 8am & 10:30am  Sunday School Classes 9:15-10am    Boy Scout Troop Meeting 4:30-6pm	6 	7 OFFICE HOURS 10am-3pm  Congregational Relations Committee Meeting 10:30am	8	9 Ascension Day OFFICE HOURS 10am-3pm  Choir Rehearsal 7:00 pm	10 Cub Scout Den Meetings 6-8pm	11 AA Meeting 7pm
12 Mother's Day Worship 8am & 10:30am  Happy Mother's Day	13    Council Meeting 7:00pm	14 OFFICE HOURS 10am-3pm  Sewing Group 9-11am	15	16 OFFICE HOURS 10am-3pm   Choir Rehearsal 7:00 pm	17	18 Armed Forces Day  AA Meeting 7pm
19 Pentecost 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	20	21 Book Group 9am Prayer Group 10am OFFICE HOURS 10am-3pm *June Newsletter Deadline Food Pantry Distribution at Grace 1:30-3pm	22	23 NO OFFICE HOURS   Choir Rehearsal 7:00 pm	24 Cub Scout Den Meetings 6-8pm	25 AA Meeting 7pm
26 Holy Trinity Sunday Worship 8am & 10:30am    Boy Scout Troop Meeting 4:30-6pm	27 Memorial Day 	28 NO OFFICE HOURS	29	30 OFFICE HOURS 10am-3pm   Choir Rehearsal 7:00 pm	31	

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