



THE ST. LUKE LETTER

December 2024

Dear Siblings in Christ,

Merry Christmas! Happy Advent! We are in a season of preparations, a season of business. All of us are busy. Most of us will say we are fine. But I wonder how we really are doing and how we are truly spending our time.

When asked how we are doing, many will say that we are fine. But what is “fine?” Imagine if this four-letter word were really an acronym. FINE can mean: Feelings In Need of Expression; Frustrated, Insecure, Neurotic, and Emotional; Feeling Inadequate, Needing Encouragement; Faithful, Involved, Knowledgeable and Experienced. Some of these acronyms come from Alcoholics Anonymous, others are ones you can find with an internet search. Which FINE are you in this season of hope and God’s love poured out?

I encourage all of us to think about which version of FINE we are experiencing each day, and perhaps each moment of every day. It is okay to go through various emotions and feelings as we draw near to the joy of God’s gift of Christ in our lives. It is okay to ask for help. It is okay to need to express our emotions. It is okay for us to strive for faithfulness found through God’s love. Wherever you find yourself if this holiday season know that God is with you, God’s peace is with you, and God’s love is with you.

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 (stluke364pastorbecky@gmail.com). I look forward to our conversations.



The Adult Sunday School Class will meet on **December 1st and December 15th from 9:15-10am.** Our goal is to continue to learn and grow in our faith together. We hope you will consider joining us in discussion.



In December, the St. Luke's Choir will rehearse on Thursday evenings at 7:00 pm in the Sanctuary.



FOOD PANTRY NEEDS

FOOD PANTRY: The Centre Hall/Penns Valley & Fuel Pantry will have their next monthly food distribution on **Tuesday, December 17, 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 - Individual 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 15, 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 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 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.



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



December 4, 11 & 18 - Advent Wednesday Worship - During the season of Advent, we will have Wednesday **morning** worship at St. Luke at **10:30am**. The theme for worship will be Comfort and Joy.

Holiday Potluck - On **Sunday, December 15th**, there will be a Holiday Potluck following the 10:30am worship service beginning at approximately 11:45am. All are welcome to attend. Please bring your favorite potluck dish to share. Dessert will be provided.



Christmas Eve Candlelight Worship services will take place at 3:00pm and 5:30pm. The 3pm service will also be available live online and recorded.

On Sunday, December 29th St. Luke will have a service of Lessons & Carols at both worship services.



Order forms and special envelopes for poinsettias are available in the narthex. Red and white poinsettias are available to order and the cost is \$9.00 each. The order deadline is Sunday, December 15th. Poinsettias will be displayed beginning on December 22nd and may be taken home following Christmas Eve worship services on December 24th. Checks may be made payable to St. Luke with "Poinsettia" in the memo line. When completed, order forms and payment may be placed in the special poinsettia envelope and placed in the offering plate.



Interfaith Human Services Bell Ringing— St. Luke is ringing the bells at Meyer Dairy on **FRIDAY, Dec 20** for Interfaith Human Services (IHS). A sign-up sheet is located in the narthex. Contact Alice Cromwell (814-531-4174) if you have questions.



Centre Hall Community Christmas Events

Centre Hall Community Christmas Events are planned for the weekend of **December 21-22**, including a Pour & Paint event to be held at St. Luke on Saturday, December 21st from 2-4pm. A detailed listing of all the events that will be happening is now located in the narthex.



St. Luke will host a Pour & Paint event on Saturday, **December 21st** from 2-4pm in the Fellowship Hall. This is part of the Centre Hall Community Christmas. Please sign up in the narthex if you plan to attend. There will be a \$10 fee for materials. Light snacks will be provided.



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.



2025 Offering Envelopes—Offering Envelopes for 2025 will be ready for pick up on Sunday, December 22, 2024. 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 by Tuesday, December 17th.

*Just a reminder that you are considered a voting member if you have officially joined the membership of St. Luke, communed and made a contribution of record since January 1st of the prior year by using offering envelopes, writing a check, writing your name on an envelope with your offering inside, or donating online through VANCO from our church website at <http://StLukeCentreHall.org>. Also, please note that a tax statement is only prepared for those who use offering envelopes or donate online through VANCO. If you have any questions, please speak with Patty Lehman, Financial Secretary.

PRAYER CONCERNS

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

Pr. Russ Sauerwein...health concerns	Jordan Holsopple...hospitalized
Carol Smith...cancer	Melody Green...health concerns
Family & Friends of Tom Schaub	Joan Glaser...health concerns
Bev Haines...anxiety issues	Shirley Sharer...health concerns
Robert Sauerwein...hospitalization	Kenzie Jones...kidney function/health
Greg Garner...health concerns	Ron Holsopple...health concerns
Marilyn Wendt...recovery from fall	Brad Way...health concerns
Freda Schluter...health concerns	Terry Brown...cancer
Gary Homan...Parkinson's	Sally Shermer...health issues
Ernie Kirsch...Parkinson's	Nancy Wintersteen...recovery from fall
Dotti Sauerwein...recov. from surgery	Sherri Ard...cancer
Jim Sheaffer...health concerns	Tara Homan...recovery from stroke

Ongoing Prayer Concerns:

Greg Bohn...kidney issues	Dave Ferree...health concerns
Jim & Tanya Evans...health concerns	Paulette Smigo...life concerns
Jean Bender...myelodysplastic syndrome	Don Rudy...health concerns
Karen Willar..cancer	Eva Gill...kidney failure
Silas Green...multiple health issues	Paul & Sandy Larson...health concern
Nancy Boyle...respiratory issues	Lee Kolos...health concerns
Bob & Betty Ishler...health concerns	Mike Burlew—ALS
Mike Moyer...health concerns	Paul "Fox" Dietrich...health concerns
Dan Berkowitz..recov. from heart surgery	Mindy Fultz Wagner...chemotherapy

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)
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 11/26/24



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.

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

December 1, 2024 - First Sunday of Advent

Altar Care: Barb McAllister
Altar Flowers: Jim and Nancy Shunk
Bell Ringer (10:30am): Shawn Lehman
Communion Bread: Judy Homan
Counters: Sue Royer and Lois Albright
Greeter (8am): Linda Decker-Reitz
Greeter (10:30am): Nancy Shunk
Lay Reader (8am): Kelly Moran
Lay Reader (10:30am): Barb McAllister
Offering Usher (10:30am): Walt Schluter
Worship Assistant (10:30am): Carol Sharpe

December 8, 2024 – 2nd Sunday of Advent

Altar Care: Todd and Annette Fetterolf
Altar Flowers: Jack Sharer
Bell Ringer (10:30am): Scott McAllister
Communion Bread: Annette Fetterolf
Counters: Ken Cromwell and Shari Welch
Greeter (8am): Gary Zellers
Greeter (10:30am): Patty Lehman
Lay Reader (8am): Rick Homan
Lay Reader (10:30am): Susan Stover
Offering Usher (10:30am): Larry Frazier
Worship Assistant (10:30am): Shawn Lehman

December 15, 2024 – 3rd Sunday of Advent

Altar Care: Todd and Annette Fetterolf
Altar Flowers: **Open**
Bell Ringer (10:30am): Walt Schluter
Communion Bread: Annette Fetterolf
Counters: Carol Sharpe and Susan Stover
Greeter (8am): Connie Zellers
Greeter (10:30am): **Open**
Lay Reader (8am): Linda Decker-Reitz
Lay Reader (10:30am): Scott McAllister
Offering Usher (10:30am): Shawn Lehman
Worship Assistant (10:30am): Susan Stover

December 22, 2024 – 4th Sunday of Advent

Altar Care: **Open**
Altar Flowers: Poinsettias
Bell Ringer (10:30am): Larry Frazier
Communion Bread: **Open**
Counters: Deb Frazier and Shari Welch
Greeter (8am): Linda Decker-Reitz
Greeter (10:30am): Nancy Shunk

**December 22, 2024 – 4th Sunday of Advent
continued...**

Lay Reader (8am): Kathy Long
Lay Reader (10:30am): Jack Sharer
Offering Usher (10:30am): Walt Schluter
Worship Assistant (10:30am): Scott McAllister

**December 24, 2024 – Christmas Eve 3pm &
5:30pm**

Altar Care: **Open**
Altar Flowers: Poinsettias
Bell Ringer (3pm): Larry Frazier
Bell Ringer (5:30pm): Walt Schluter
Communion Bread: **Open**
Counters: Barb McAllister and Ken Cromwell
Greeter (3pm): Nancy Shunk
Greeter (5:30pm): Patty Lehman
Lay Reader (3pm): Linda Decker-Reitz
Lay Reader (5:30pm): Deb Frazier
Offering Usher (3pm): Ken Cromwell
Offering Usher (5:30pm): Scott McAllister
Worship Assistant (3pm): Carol Sharpe
Worship Assistant (5:30pm): Shawn Lehman

December 29, 2024 – Lessons & Carols

Altar Care: **Open**
Altar Flowers: Poinsettias
Bell Ringer (10:30am): Shawn Lehman
Communion Bread: **Open**
Counters: Lois Albright and Carol Sharpe
Greeter (8am): Gary Zellers
Greeter (10:30am): **Open**
Lay Reader (8am): Kelly Moran
Lay Reader (10:30am): Scott McAllister
Offering Usher (10:30am): Shawn Lehman
Worship Assistant (10:30am): Susan Stover

January 5, 2025 – 2nd Sunday of Christmas

Altar Care: **Open**
Altar Flowers: Poinsettias
Bell Ringer (10:30am): Shawn Lehman
Communion Bread: **Open**
Counters: Lois Albright and Carol Sharpe
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

DECEMBER

Anniversaries

- Dec. 2 Paul and Betty Deitrich
- 3 Shawn and Patty Lehman
Robert and Betty Ishler
- 17 Gary and Connie Zellers
- 26 Terry and Sherri Corl

DECEMBER

Birthdays

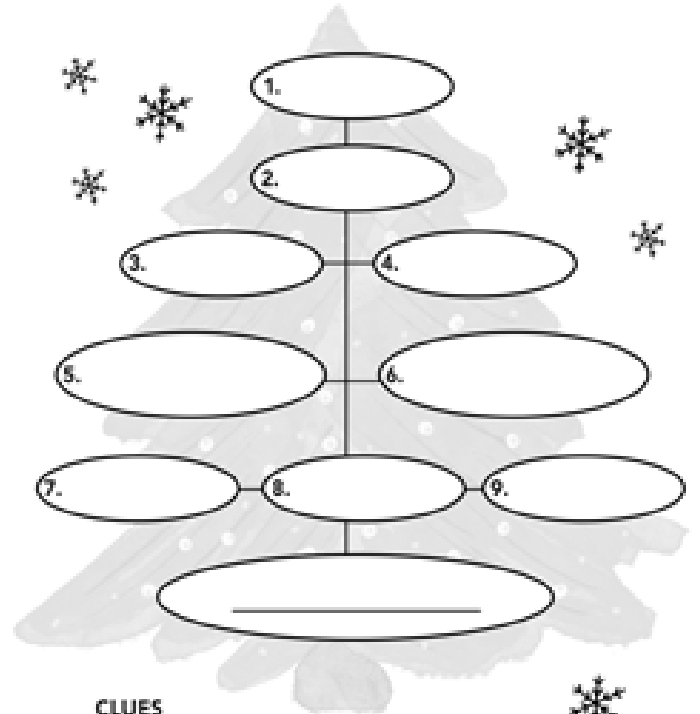
- Dec. 1 Kathy Mothersbaugh
Pat Strouse
- 2 George Garman
Peter Theodorou
- 4 Nancy Shunk
- 6 Jillian Anderson
- 7 Evelyn Reeder
- 8 Jessica Roth
- 9 Maggie Delaney
Shawn Kurtz
Brad Noll
- 12 Eryn Dutrow
- 13 Brandie O'Hara
- 14 Ken Strouse
- 15 Agnes Homan
- 16 Linda Dutrow
Amy Homan
- 17 Shirley Sharer
Kane Parsons
- 18 Nora Reeder
Pastor Becky Horn
- 19 Piper Crater
- 21 Ian Brown
- 22 Sumner Kessinger
- 23 Judy Bowles
- 25 **JESUS**

December Birthdays Continued...

- 26 Charlotte Delaney
- 27 Lizzy Horn
- 28 Todd Fetterolf
- 29 Charles Musser
Jackson Roth

Puzzle!

Write the answer to each clue in the correct circle.
Then jot down the first letter of each answer
and unscramble those letters to form a word about this
season. Write that answer at the bottom of the tree.



CLUES

- 1. You trim this at Christmas.
- 2. One who governs
- 3. The first word of a popular carol, it means "Listen!"
- 4. You burn this to make the air sweet.
- 5. "For unto us is born this day a _____ ..."
- 6. She was betrothed to Joseph.
- 7. Shepherds heard them sing.
- 8. A Christmas song
- 9. 'Tis the _____ to be jolly!"

Church COUNCIL

The regular meetings are held 2nd Monday of the month at 7:00 pm. The next meeting is **December 9** 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 or concerns, Scott McAllister (President), Rick Homan (Vice President), Carol Sharpe (Secretary), Jack Sharer (Treasurer) and Pastor Becky Horn.

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.**

Church Elections



St. Luke will hold Council Elections on Sunday, **December 8th** following both worship services. If you are willing to serve a term on Council, please speak with Scott McAllister, Pastor Becky or another member of Council. There are four 3-year terms and one 2-year term available.

Centre Hall Council of Churches –The next meeting is scheduled for **December 4**, 2024 at 11:00 am at Grace UMC, in the Library.

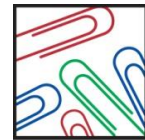
Cemetery Association Representatives—Michele Brown, Brian Long and Walt Schluter



Looking ahead...Please note that if you have news or articles for the **JANUARY 2025** issue of the St. Luke Newsletter, please submit them to the church office **by Thursday, December 19.**

OFFICE HOURS - Church Secretary office hours are **Tuesdays and Thursdays from 10am to 2pm.** To reach Patty outside of office hours, you may call or text her at 814-933-6296.

***Please note** - Patty will not have office hours on Tuesday, December 3rd and will not have set office hours the week of December 22nd or the week of December 29th. Hours will return to normal on Tuesday, January 7th. Patty can be reached by email or at 814-933-6296 if needed.










Office Hours

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

December 2024

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
<p>1 Worship 8am & 10:30am</p> <p>Adult Sunday School 9:15 -10am in Fellowship Hall</p> <p>Boy Scout Troop Meeting 4:30-6pm</p>	<p>2</p> 	<p>3 NO OFFICE HOURS</p>	<p>4 Midweek Advent Worship 10:30am</p> <p>Centre Hall Council of Churches Meeting 11am at Grace UMC</p>	<p>5 OFFICE HOURS 10am-2pm</p> <p>Choir Rehearsal 7:00pm</p>	<p>6</p> 	<p>7 AA Meeting 7pm</p>
<p>8 Worship 8am & 10:30am</p> <p>Boy Scout Troop Meeting 4:30-6pm</p>	<p>9 Council Meeting 7:00pm</p>	<p>10 OFFICE HOURS 10am-2pm</p>	<p>11 Midweek Advent Worship 10:30am</p>	<p>12 OFFICE HOURS 10am-2pm</p> <p>Choir Rehearsal 7:00pm</p>	<p>13 Cub Scout Den Meetings 6:30-8:30pm</p>	<p>14 AA Meeting 7pm</p>
<p>15 Worship 8am & 10:30am</p> <p>Adult Sunday School 9:15 -10am in Fellowship Hall</p> <p>Holiday Potluck Begins approximately 11:45am</p> <p>Boy Scout Troop Meeting 4:30-6pm Cub Scout Committee Meeting 6:30-8pm</p>	<p>16</p> 	<p>17 OFFICE HOURS 10am-2pm</p> <p>Food Pantry Distribution at Grace UMC 1:30-3pm</p>	<p>18 Midweek Advent Worship 10:30am</p>	<p>19 OFFICE HOURS 10am-2pm *Newsletter Deadline</p> <p>Choir Rehearsal 7:00pm</p>	<p>20 IHS Bell Ringing at Meyer Dairy</p> 	<p>21 Community Christmas Events</p> <p>St. Luke Paint & Pour 2-4pm</p> <p>AA Meeting 7pm</p>
<p>22 Community Christmas Events</p> <p>Worship 8am & 10:30am</p> <p>Boy Scout Troop Meeting 4:30-6pm</p>	<p>23</p>	<p>24 Christmas Eve Christmas Eve</p>  <p>Candlelight Worship 3pm & 5:30pm</p>	<p>25 Christmas Day</p> 	<p>26</p>	<p>27 Cub Scout Den Meetings 6:30-8:30pm</p>	<p>28 AA Meeting 7pm</p>
<p>29 Lessons & Carols at 8am and 10:30am</p>	<p>30</p>	<p>31 New Year's Eve</p> 				

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