



THE ST. LUKE LETTER

April 2026

Dear Siblings in Christ,

As we enter a new month in this Easter season, we continue to live in the joy of resurrection—a season filled with praise and gratitude for all that God has made. From budding trees to longer days, from birdsong to the greening of fields, creation itself joins in proclaiming new life. And that includes the very land on which we live, work, and worship.

In that spirit of gratitude and faithfulness, our congregation will begin including a land acknowledgment in our printed materials and, at times, in worship. A land acknowledgment is a simple statement that recognizes the Indigenous peoples who first lived on and cared for this land long before European settlement.

For us, this is not about making a political statement. It is about telling the truth as people of faith.

As part of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America, we are shaped by a tradition that values confession, repentance, and grace. We believe the earth is God's good creation, entrusted to our care—not our possession. At the same time, we recognize that the history of this land includes the displacement of Indigenous peoples, and that Christian churches, including Lutheran bodies, were often part of that story. In 2016, the ELCA formally repudiated the Doctrine of Discovery, rejecting the theological ideas that helped justify that harm.

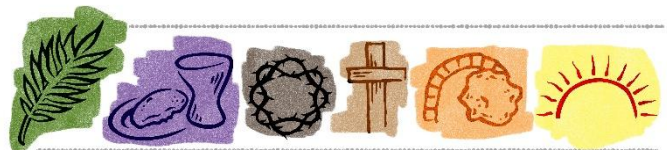
A land acknowledgment is one small way we live more honestly into that history and more faithfully into our calling.

It is also important to say what this is not. It is not about assigning personal guilt or diminishing our gratitude for the place we call home. Instead, it invites us into a fuller story—one that holds both thanksgiving and truth together. It reminds us that we are part of something larger than ourselves and calls us to humility, stewardship, and love of neighbor.

Words alone are not the end of the journey—but they matter. Just as the words we speak in worship shape our faith, so too these words can shape our awareness and open the door to deeper learning, relationship, and care.

In this Easter season of new life, we give thanks not only for the gift of resurrection, but also for the land beneath our feet—and for the call to live on it more faithfully, more justly, and more humbly.

Yours In Christ,
Pr. Becky Horn



Holy Week

The Nittany Conference Pre-Assembly Meeting is scheduled for April 28, 2026 at 7:00 pm at St. Paul Lutheran Church, Pine Grove Mills.

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)

Lutheran Day at the Capitol – April 20, 2026 gather with Lutherans from across the state to learn and worship in the morning and meet with legislators in the afternoon. For all the details and to register, please go to: <https://www.lutheranadvocacy.org/about/citizens-with-the-saints/>

Land Acknowledgment – St. Luke is located on the original and ancestral homelands of the Conestoga-Susquehannock people, where we gather. We also acknowledge the Seneca, Cayuga, and Lenape, as well as all our Indigenous siblings who have and continue to care for this place, this land, and call it their home. Find out more about the Conestoga-Susquehannock at <http://www.conestogasusquehannocktribe.com/>



YOU TUBE LIVE LINK - 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



Worship Schedule:

March 29, 2026—Palm Sunday—Worship at 8:00am

March 29, 2026—Palm Sunday—Worship at 10:30am

April 2, 2026—Maundy Thursday—Worship at 7:00pm

April 3, 2026—Good Friday—Worship at 7:00pm

April 5, 2026—Easter Sunday—Sunrise Worship at 7:00am

April 5, 2026—Easter Sunday—Worship at 10:30am



Easter Sunday
Breakfast

Easter Breakfast— St. Luke will hold an Easter Breakfast on Easter Sunday immediately following the 7:00am Sunrise Worship service. The menu will be ham, eggs, home fries, fruit cup and toast. If you plan to attend the Easter Breakfast, please sign up in the narthex **by Sunday, March 29th.**

Forty Days
OF LENT

The Community Relations Committee Lent and Easter Project in 2026 is collecting items for Out of the Cold. There is a collection box located in the narthex from now until Easter Sunday. The needed items are:

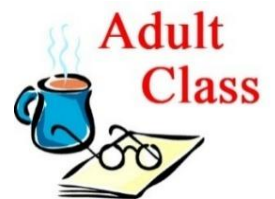
- Socks (most needed item)
- Underwear (varied sizes)
- Basic Hygiene Products (toothbrush, toothpaste, bar soap, brush or comb)

Join us for a short service of Word and Prayer in Pastor Becky's office on Wednesday Mornings from 10:30-11am as we pray for all on our prayer list and others whom we know. Let Pastor Becky know if you have any questions or know of a prayer concern (private or public). The Prayer Group meets in the Sanctuary.



Our next book group meeting is on Wednesday, April 8th. We will meet to discuss *This is Happiness* by Niall Williams at 12:00 pm at Seven Mountains Winery. Join us for discussion, conversation, and fellowship!

In April, the Adult Sunday School Class will meet on **April 19th** only from 9:15am-10:00am in the basement Fellowship Hall. This is a video and discussion-based class led by Shawn Lehman. Please join us in enriching discussions about our faith. Class will not be held on Easter Sunday, April 5th.



St. Luke's Annual Outdoor Worship and Picnic at the Centre Hall Lion's Club Pavilion is scheduled for Sunday, June 28th. Save the Date so you can join in the picnic fun!



Safety & Security Training— On Sunday, April 19th, the Congregational Relations Committee has invited Sheriff Bryan Sampsell to come in for a Safety & Security Training on active shooter situations called “Run, Hide, Fight”. Sheriff Sampsell has done many of these important trainings, and we hope you will choose to attend. A light lunch will be held immediately following 10:30am worship, beginning at approximately 11:45am in the basement Fellowship Hall. The presentation will begin at 12:30pm and will last approximately 90 minutes, followed by a Question & Answer period.

We do ask that you sign up in the narthex by April 12th if you plan to attend so we have a general idea of how many to prepare for. Thank you.



FOOD PANTRY: The Centre Hall/Penns Valley Food Pantry is located in the lower level of Grace United Methodist Church. The monthly distribution day is the Third Tuesday of each month from 1:30-3pm except for August when it is held the second Tuesday. In case of an emergency, a coordinator can always be contacted for a food distribution. The next monthly food distribution will be held on **Tuesday, April 21, 2026**, at Grace United Methodist Church, Centre Hall. Volunteers are needed to pack and distribute boxes from **8:00am-4:00 pm**.

Now that the Food Pantry is serving all of Penns Valley, the monthly need more than doubled. We are now serving over 110 families so any help you could provide would be greatly appreciated. The most needed items typically remain shelf stable items like canned goods, cereals, pastas, etc.; however, there is an emphasis item each month that is listed below. If you would like to make a donation, please place non-perishable items in the designated Food Pantry Box located in the narthex at St. Luke Lutheran Church on or before **Sunday, April 19, 2026**. You may also make a monetary donation by specifying a designated amount on your offering envelope, by making a check payable to St. Luke with “Food Pantry” in the memo line and placing it in the offering plate, or by placing a cash donation in an envelope in the offering plate that is specially marked for Food Pantry.

NEW LIST - Suggested Monthly Donation List for the Food Pantry:

January – Tissues

February -Toilet Paper

March – Toothpaste & Individual Toothbrushes

April – Household Cleaners

May - Kitchen Garbage Bags

June - Paper Towels

July – Liquid Hand Soap

August – Laundry Detergent

September - Shampoo

October - Toilet Paper

November - Sandwich Bags

December - Dish Detergent

We are Blessed by our volunteers who order and shop for food, unload delivery trucks, sort donated food, pack orders, register clients and deliver to a few clients who have no transportation. If you would like to volunteer in any way or if you would like more information about the Food Pantry, you can contact Anne Gaddis at 814-404-4693, annegad58@gmail.com or Page Gaddis at 814-571-8110, paggad@protonmail.com. You may also speak to Gary Zellers who is the St. Luke Food Pantry representative in 2026. Thank you so much for any assistance you can give to this important outreach in our community.



- 7 Kenneth and Ruth Long
- 11 Kermit and Lori Long
- 17 Michael and Linda Sheaffer
- 23 Jeff and Lisa O'Hara
- 26 George and Barb Garman
- 27 Marshal and Linda Brooks
- 28 Kurt and Kimberly Brooks

April Birthdays Continued....

- 21 Don Derr
 - Brian Long
 - Linzy Fetterolf
- 22 Kimberly Brooks
 - Bonnie Brown
- 23 Joe Hammaker
- 26 Ty Corl
- 30 Lois Albright
 - Joshua Carper
 - Sydney Shawver



- 1 Curtis Decker
- 2 Lewis Delaney
- 3 Jerry Homan
 - Johnathan Seiler
- 5 Kimberly Johnson
 - Kaleb Wolfe
- 6 Patty Lehman
- 8 Dulcie Hollobaugh
 - Rachel Lieb
- 9 Daniel McAllister
- 10 Crew Riggle
- 13 Betty Ishler
- 16 Ted Dutrow
- 19 Owen Carper
 - Dave Corl
 - Andy Long
- 20 Jazmyne Shaffer

THANK YOU!—

Dear Church Family,

Thank you for making Martha's 90th birthday so special. All the beautiful, adorable, and funny cards truly made her day. She kept asking where they all came from, and when I told her they were from the people who love her and miss her at church, she smiled and said, "That was very nice!"

We are both deeply grateful for the love and support you continue to show us.

Blessings to you,
Martha and Shari



PRAYER CONCERNS

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

Michael Richard...recov kidney surgery	Mackenzie McCafferty..recov broken femur
Betty Dietrich...upcoming surgery 4/1	Tami Lehman...recov. hip replacement
Josh Johnson...cancer	Dick Delaney...health concerns
Paul Hatton...health concerns	Andy Campbell...hospice
Brian...broken leg/surgery	Pat Brett...CML
Melinda Farhenbach...cancer	Jeff Reeder...multiple myeloma
Tshana Myers...health concerns	Gay Homan...recov. from fall
Amy Homan...health concerns	Tara Homan...health concerns
Louise Miller...health concerns	Heather Korman...health concerns
Jane Kurzinger...recov. from stroke	Tim...health concerns
Cindy Foust...cancer	Ellie Marooney...cancer
Ron Holsopple...health concerns	Cathy Brunner...health concerns
Greg Garner...health concerns	

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	Silas Green...multiple health issues
Paul & Sandy Larson...health concern	Dotti Sauerwein...healing and strength
Nancy Boyle...respiratory issues	Sabrina Wert...remission and healing
Bob & Betty Ishler...health concerns	Gary Homan...Parkinson's
Mike Moyer...health concerns	Paul "Fox" Dietrich...health concerns
Lisa Moir...cancer	Sherri Taylor...cancer
Joan Glaser...health concerns	Bev Haines...health concerns
Barbara & Ernie Kirsch...health concerns	Nancy Wintersteen...health concerns
Freda Schluter...health concerns	Marilyn Wendt...dementia
Pr. Russ Sauerwein...health concerns	Jordan Holsopple...health concerns
Ellen Coffman...cancer	Sam Rudy...recov. kidney transplant
Melody Green...health concerns	Kyle Lehman...Army National Guard Boot Camp
Sarah G...health concerns during pregnancy	

Please pray for the Health of our Homebound:

Fred Lohr Jr. (244 S. Pennsylvania Ave., Centre Hall, PA 16828...814-364-9368)
Barbara Mark (Wynwood House, 122 Wynwood Dr, Centre Hall, PA 16828)
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 3/24/26

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

March 29, 2026 –Palm Sunday

Altar Care: Barb McAllister
Communion Bread: Deb Frazier
Counters: Deb Frazier and Evelyn Reeder
Greeter (8am): Gary Zellers
Greeter (10:30am): Patty Lehman
Lay Reader (8am): Kelly Moran
Lay Reader (10:30am): Scott McAllister
Bell Ringer (10:30am): Walt Schluter
Offering Usher (10:30am): Ken Cromwell
Worship Assistant (10:30am): Shawn Lehman

April 5, 2026 –Easter Sunday

Altar Care: Barb McAllister
Communion Bread: **Open**
Counters: Barb McAllister and Sue Royer
Greeter (7am): Linda Decker Reitz
Greeter (10:30am): Patty Lehman
Lay Reader (7am): Michele Shawver
Lay Reader (10:30am): Deb Frazier
Bell Ringer (10:30am): **Open**
Offering Usher (7am): **Open**
Offering Usher (10:30am): Patty Lehman
Worship Assistant (7am): Susan Stover
Worship Assistant (10:30am): Carol Sharpe

April 12, 2026 –2nd Sunday of Easter

Altar Care: **Open**
Altar Flowers: **Open**
Communion Bread: **Open**
Counters: Lois Albright
Greeter (8am): Connie Zellers
Greeter (10:30am): Nancy Shunk
Lay Reader (8am): Rick Homan
Lay Reader (10:30am): Jack Sharer
Bell Ringer (10:30am): Walt Schluter
Offering Usher (10:30am): Larry Frazier
Worship Assistant (10:30am): Scott McAllister

April 19, 2026 –3rd Sunday of Easter

Altar Care: **Open**
Altar Flowers: Jack Sharer
Communion Bread: **Open**
Counters: Carol Sharpe and Deb Frazier
Greeter (8am): Linda Decker Reitz
Greeter (10:30am): Jerry Homan
Lay Reader (8am): Linda Decker Reitz
Lay Reader (10:30am): Ken Cromwell
Bell Ringer (10:30am): Scott McAllister
Offering Usher (10:30am): Larry Frazier
Worship Assistant (10:30am): Shawn Lehman

April 26, 2026 –4th Sunday of Easter

Altar Care: **Open**
Altar Flowers: **Open**
Communion Bread: **Open**
Counters: Ellen Hug and Ken Cromwell
Greeter (8am): Gary Zellers
Greeter (10:30am): Nancy Shunk
Lay Reader (8am): Kathy Long
Lay Reader (10:30am): Carol Sharpe
Bell Ringer (10:30am): Jerry Homan
Offering Usher (10:30am): Ken Cromwell
Worship Assistant (10:30am): Susan Stover

May 3, 2026 –5th Sunday of Easter

Altar Care: **Open**
Altar Flowers: Linda Decker Reitz
Communion Bread: **Open**
Counters: Evelyn Reeder and Carol Sharpe
Greeter (8am): Linda Decker Reitz
Greeter (10:30am): Patty Lehman
Lay Reader (8am): Kelly Moran
Lay Reader (10:30am): Barb McAllister
Bell Ringer (10:30am): Scott McAllister
Offering Usher (10:30am): Shawn Lehman
Worship Assistant (10:30am): Carol Sharpe





The regular meetings are held 2nd Monday of the month at 7:00 pm. The next meeting is **April 13th**, a Zoom link is available if needed. 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.

Elected Council Members & Officers for 2026: Scott McAllister, President (27), Rick Homan, Vice-President (27), Carol Sharpe, Secretary (26), Jack Sharer, Treasurer, Alice Cromwell (26), Evelyn Reeder (26), Susan Stover (26), Jerry Homan (27), Gary Zellers (27), Lois Albright (28), Todd Fetterolf (28), Dawn Holsopple (28), and Marty Hug (28). ***The numbers in parenthesis indicates the year their term is complete.**

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

Centre Hall Council of Churches – The next meeting is scheduled for **April 1st** at 11:15 am at St. Luke Lutheran Church.



Looking ahead...Please note that if you have news or articles for the **MAY 2026** issue of the St. Luke Newsletter, please submit them to the church office **by TUESDAY, APRIL 23, 2026.**



Pastor's Office Hours – Pastor Becky is normally in the church office on **Tuesday and Wednesday mornings from 9-11am**, but these hours may vary as needed. If you need to reach Pr. Becky outside of the office, please feel free to call or text her at 215-208-5535 and please leave your name and a message. She will return your call or text as soon as possible. You may also email her at StLuke364PastorBecky@gmail.com.

Secretary Office Hours - The Church Secretary's office hours are normally **Tuesdays and Thursdays from 10am to Noon**, but these hours may vary as needed. If you need to reach Patty outside of the office, please feel free to call or text her at 814-933-6296 and please leave your name and a message. She will return your call or text as soon as possible. All emails for the secretary should continue to be sent to StLuke364@gmail.com. **No Office Hours on April 7 & 9 and April 28 & 30.**

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

April 2026

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
			1 Prayer Service 10:30-11am in Sanctuary Centre Hall Council of Churches Meeting 11:15am-Noon at St. Luke	2 Maundy Thursday Worship 7pm	3  Good Friday Worship 7pm	4 AA Meeting 7pm
5 EASTER Worship 7am & 10:30am followed by Easter Breakfast 			8 Prayer Service 10:30-11am in Sanctuary Book Group at Seven Mountains Winery at Noon	9  Choir Rehearsal 7pm	10 Cub Scout Den Meetings 6-8pm	11 AA Meeting 7pm
12 Worship 8am & 10:30am Boy Scout Troop Meeting 4:30-6p	13 Council Meeting 7pm	14 	15 Prayer Service 10:30-11am in Sanctuary	16 Choir Rehearsal 7pm	17 	18 AA Meeting 7pm
19 Worship 8am & 10:30am Adult Sunday School Class 9:15-10am Lunch & Learn immediately following 10:30am worship Boy Scout Troop Meeting 4:30-6p Cub Scout Committee Meeting 6:30- 8pm	20 Lutheran Day at the Capitol	21 Food Pantry Distribution 1:30-3pm at Grace UMC	22 Prayer Service 10:30-11am in Sanctuary 	23 *May Newsletter Deadline Choir Rehearsal 7pm	24 Cub Scout Den Meetings 6-8pm	25 AA Meeting 7pm
26 Worship 8am & 10:30am Boy Scout Troop Meeting 4:30-6p	27	28 Nittany Conference Pre- Assembly Meeting at St. Paul, Pine Grove Mills at 7:00pm	29 Prayer Service 10:30-11am in Sanctuary 	30 Choir Rehearsal 7pm		

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