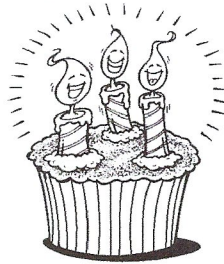


St. Luke Evangelical Lutheran Church

July/August 2021

Connecting the Church to the Family

PEOPLE



Happy *Senior* July Birthday wishes are extended to:

- July 2 - Susan DeLong
- July 16 - Douglas Stump
- July 28 - Ronald Flory
- July 28 - John Zartman
- July 29 - Debra Eisenhauer

* * * * *

Happy *Senior* August Birthday wishes are extended to:

- August 2 - Phyllis Bakke
- August 2 - Jake Werner
- August 4 - John Zimmerman
- August 9 - Bonita Boyer
- August 12 - Gary Simmers
- August 13 - Karen Stump
- August 15 - Constance Davis
- August 19 - Brenda Boyer
- August 21 - Edward Miller
- August 29 - Linda Hollinger

FOUNTAIN PARK

July 11 - Brothers in Grace

July 18 - Teen Challenge Choir

(Services will be at 7:00 PM).

Each congregation should bring 1 gallon of drink and 4 dozen cookies.

In case of rain, the services will be held at St. Paul's U.C.C.



St. Luke Evangelical Lutheran Church
 P. O. Box 278
 Schaefferstown, Pa.
 17088

Website

www.stlukelutheran.org

E-Mail Address

churchoffice@stlukelutheran.com
castbiz.net

Minister of Music

Organist,

Sr. Choir Director,

Contemporary Worship

Mrs. Linda Holt

Church Office Secretary,

Jeanie Trimble

Phone: 717-949-3375

SUNDAY SCHOOL

Summer Vacation

WORSHIP SERVICE

8:30 A.M.



St. Luke Monthly Emphasis

For the month of July the monthly emphasis will go towards "TEFAP" (*The Emergency Food Asst. Program*) (held the first Friday of the month).

And for the month of August the monthly emphasis will be for "HOINA" (*Homes of the Indian Nation*). Thank you again for your continued support.



St. Luke History Books are available for \$20.00. Call Anna Mae Grubb 717-273-7035 or email at mrgrubby@comcast.net.

The following benevolence checks were issued for the first 6 months of 2021 offerings:

Domestic Violence - \$112.00
Lebanon County
Christian Ministry - \$100.00
Leb. Rescue Mission - \$240.00

Thank you for all your support.

LAY READERS

July 4 - Rosemary Sanders

July 11 - Richelle Deysher

July 18 - Mike DeLong

July 25 - Contemporary Wor.

* * * * *

August 1 - Donna Moyer

August 8 - Richelle Deysher

August 15 - Elaine Matternas

August 22 - Contemporary Wor.

August 29 - Anna Mae Grubb

September 5 - Dolly Fasnacht

Food Bank Sundays are Sunday,
July 4 and Aug. 1, 2021.

The items needed are: Pastas, Spaghetti and Marinara Sauce, Canned Fruits, Canned Soups, Juices of all kinds - grape, apple, orange juice, granulated sugar and, Reusable Plastic Containers.



BAND TOGETHER

Band Together is a free strength training program using resistance bands. The goal is to build strength and offer socialization to men and women of all ages and primarily adults over 50.

We meet Tuesday and Thursday at 10:00 AM at St. Luke. For more information please contact Sue DeLong or drop in and observe a class.

Hope to see you there!!

Build A Bridge

If you build a wall
around yourself,
How lonely you will be.
You cannot live your life
that way,
at least not happily.

*A bridge, instead, bids welcome
To the folks who would befriend.
So build a bridge,
then come halfway
Towards the other end.*

—Dorothy Kimball

OUR MISSION STATEMENT



"As the Body of Christ we proclaim the Gospel by serving and doing God's will in a manner that meets the needs of our changing world."

Prayer Ventures for July 2021

1 Give thanks that God is attentive to our prayers, hearing our cries for help, comfort and renewal and our expressions of joy, mourning, praise and thanksgiving.

2 Pray for the adults and young adults applying to volunteer for the 2022 ELCA Youth Gathering; give thanks for their eagerness to serve in this ministry, sharing their faith, gifts and time with youth and the adults who work with youth.

3 Ask God to bless and equip newly elected synod bishops as they live into their leadership and ministry responsibilities; give thanks for the help and encouragement they receive from leaders and members of their synods, who have also responded to God's call.

4 Give thanks to God for the gift of freedom we enjoy in our nation. Pray that we will use that freedom thoughtfully and responsibly, working for justice and equity to liberate our neighbors—here and around the world—who are oppressed or excluded.

5 Praise God for calling, equipping and entrusting us to do God's work in the world. Pray for strength, boldness and wisdom to proclaim the gospel, overcome obstacles and hesitance, engage others in conversations and questions about faith, and serve our neighbors in need.

6 Pray for individuals and families who are traveling this summer, that God will protect them; that they will be immersed in the wonders of creation and be renewed; that they will meet people who enrich their faith and worldview; and that they will bear the good news of Jesus Christ wherever they go.

7 Ask God for mercy and forgiveness when weakness and imperfection tangle our daily life; give thanks that God's enduring mercy and grace renew our faith, no matter what is happening in our lives.

8 Ask the Spirit to grant us wisdom and insight as we help children and youth recover and learn from the pandemic and its social isolation. Pray that they will experience healing and wholeness through interacting with peers and adults; enjoying play, school and community activities; and returning to their faith communities to rejoin their siblings in Christ.

9 Pray that we will be humble, but also bold and confident, knowing that the power and grace of Christ energize and sustain us throughout our baptismal journey.

10 Remember in prayer the summer staff serving in ELCA outdoor ministries across the country; ask God to renew their spirit, faith and energy at this point in the summer and for the duration of their service.

11 Give thanks to God for our siblings in Christ throughout history who have sacrificed their lives to proclaim the word of God and the gospel, so that all might believe, experience the saving grace of Jesus Christ, know true freedom and have eternal life.

12 Pray for those affected by the Middle East crisis, especially for refugees, people returning to their countries and those internally displaced. Pray that God's healing presence will give them peace, hope and strength in their time of need.

13 Thank God for our special relationship with the Moravian Church in America, a full communion partner with the ELCA since 1999. Pray for the church, its members and its leaders, and pray that together we will find strength and new resources for the work of sharing the gospel and serving our neighbor, especially in these uncertain and challenging times.

14 Give thanks that, through Jesus Christ, we have been chosen, adopted as children of God and immersed in grace, blessings and the truth of God's intent for humanity and creation.

15 Ask God to nourish and strengthen the church's relationships with global companions during this time of transition, as we assess how best to work together while continuing to respond to the impact of COVID-19.

16 Pray that our senses will be tuned to God so that we "hear what God the Lord will speak," and will be obedient and faithful in following God's word, commandments and ways for the sake of the world.

17 Ask the Spirit to help us greet our neighbors with hospitality, empathy, concern and hope as we maneuver the uncertainty of reopening public places and holding events where people once again gather in person.

18 Pray that we will respond to God's call to serve our neighbors in need and share the gospel wherever we go with those unique gifts, skills and passions the Spirit has cultivated in us through our education, life experiences and communities of faith.

19 Remember in prayer those congregational leaders and volunteers planning and creating fall programs and ministries for all ages that will offer education, service and spiritual growth.

20 Pray for the Building Resilient Communities team, a collaboration of ELCA World Hunger and Lutheran Disaster Response, and for our work together across all expressions of our church as we accompany communities from disaster through recovery, ensuring that we and our neighbors can thrive today and tomorrow.

21 Ask God to remind us daily that we live in hope and unity, drawn together as "citizens with the saints and also members of the household of God," with Christ at the center.

22 Give thanks for synod and churchwide organization staff, neighboring congregations and ecumenical partners who, during the pandemic, have supported and assisted congregations and leaders through the challenges of adapting to changing circumstances and opportunities, and of continuing to learn and work together to help the church grow and thrive.

23 The work of a shepherd is unfamiliar to most of us, but we all know how it feels to be guided and assisted through dark and difficult times, to have our spirit restored when we are weary and

to be reassured that we are not alone in life. Give thanks and praise to God for being our ever-present, loving and good shepherd and for equipping our communities of faith and siblings in Christ to shepherd one another and our neighbors.

24 Pray for a just, respectful and lasting solution to the long-standing conflict between Palestine and Israel; pray for those most vulnerable to the violence, unjust laws, displacement and schisms that stir fear, suspicion, abuse and despair; and ask God to bless and sustain those working for peace, justice and healing in the Holy Land.

25 Pray that when we hear stories of Jesus performing miracles, the Spirit will deepen our understanding of God's ways, power, compassion, justice and activity in the world, and that these will guide and influence how we live and serve as followers of Jesus, children of God.

26 Give thanks that our contributions to Mission Support help fund global mission work in leadership development, evangelism, ministry support, education, sustainable development, in-country scholarships and interfaith relations.

27 Ask God to strengthen our commitment and guide our efforts to end hunger in our nation and throughout the world. We ask for the faith to believe that there will be enough food and resources for all if we let God's justice and generosity influence our own, listen closely to our neighbors in need, deal with the root causes of hunger and poverty, and work together to create sustainable solutions.

28 Who in your community, congregation or family concerns you right now? Pray for their needs and well-being, and ask the Spirit to guide you in responding to, caring for and accompanying them.

29 Pray that with Christ in our hearts and the Spirit in our midst, we will grow in our understanding of God's boundless love and broaden our vision of what we can accomplish as we do God's work in the world.

30 Give thanks for volunteers, congregational leaders and professionals who serve older adults in a variety of circumstances and settings; care for their spiritual, physical, emotional and social needs; encourage their gifts and involvement in congregations; and help them stay connected with life-giving relationships and communities.

31 Give thanks and praise to God for being kind, just, understanding of our complexities, responsive to our prayers and needs, and trustworthy in word and deed.

"God's work. Our hands." Sunday



Sept. 12
2021

Save the Date!

Launching **Warmth for Winter** with a **Diaper Drive** on **Sunday, September 12**. With the cost of all consumer goods on the rise and putting a strain on family budgets, let's reach out to help local families with young children with a generous donation of diapers (all sizes) to be distributed through Lebanon County Christian Ministries.

God's Work Our Hands Sunday also marks the kickoff of our **Warmth for Winter** program to provide clothing, blankets, etc. where needed in the community. Details to follow as we gather information. If you know of a family in need of extra warmth this winter, please provide details to the church office.

PS—and don't forget to wear your **God's Work Our Hands** T-shirt that Sunday. If you don't have one (or need a new one), please contact the church office by July 15th with your name and size.

Warmth for winter and warmth from the heart – Thank you for your support and for helping to do God's Work with Your Hands!



St. Luke Lutheran Church • 717-949-3375 • www.stlukelutheran.org

**FAMILY CAMP AT
KIRCHENWALD**

Known as Family Camp-K-tion

August 8-14, 2021

Camp Kirchenwald proudly presents the family vacation everyone can enjoy! Celebrate your family (whatever its form – grandparents, children, niece, second cousin twice removed...) in this unique camp experience. Grow closer together and closer to God through inter-generational Bible study, worship, swimming, crafts, canoeing, Capture the Flag, and more. Strengthen the bonds of family by working together at the challenge course and through games in the field. Plus, have some time to engage as distinct adult and child groups. Create memories that will be told over Thanksgiving dinners for years.

Accommodations are available in rustic shelters and in the SchreiberHaus Lodge, to best suit your needs. Partial week participation is also an option.

Go to LutheranCamping.org for additional information.

THE LUTHERAN CAMPING CORPORATION

is in need of

Kirchenwald: Counselors & Program Staff

**Nawakwa: Summer Program Director, Program Staff, Counselors, Lifeguard,
Maintenance, Kitchen, Craft Director Crafts Staff**

Hiring, Hours, & Re-compense:

High school, college-age, and adult summer staff are hired for positions based on experience and ability. The camp is an equal opportunity employer. Room and board are provided as well. Employment time lasts from early June (training period) through mid-August. Most weeks run from Sunday at 2:00 p.m. through Saturday at 10:00 a.m.

Personal Qualifications:

A personal commitment to Jesus Christ.

A desire to serve God through the synod's camps.

A willingness to give a Christian witness in spontaneous situations as well as during worship.

An understanding and agreement with the central objectives of the educational ministry program of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America and of the Lutheran Camping Corporation of Central Pennsylvania. Emotional stability and mature judgment.

A love and understanding of youth and children. Good health and stamina.

All staff are expected to live on-site throughout the summer season. More details and application information are available at www.lutherancamping.org or by calling the Camping Office at 717-677-8211.

The Hazy (but not so Lazy) Days of Summer at St. Luke

No time for laziness here at St. Luke as we progress through the summer months, because at last, we are able to experience more of the in-person worship that many have missed over the past 15 or more months!

In mid-June, the mask requirement was removed for all who are fully vaccinated, while still maintaining social distancing and other mitigation protocols. This was followed by congregational singing of hymns in late June. And starting the first Sunday in July, we will be resuming communion with wafer *and* wine, bringing us back together in sharing the Lord's Supper.

In-person worship continues at 8:30 am every Sunday through the summer months. Sunday school is on vacation until September, but leaders are busy preparing for the fall, with Richelle Deysher and Faith Thunberg teaching the children's class, and Scott Rights leading the adult class.

Of course, if you are not able to attend in person, you can livestream the worship service via Facebook (<https://www.facebook.com/StLukeEvangelicalLutheran>) or YouTube (<https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCWKROL7HVJEgtCMksioZwoA>), or view the worship via one of these links later in the day or during the week. (Volunteers are still needed to support our livestreaming efforts; please contact the church office if you are able to assist.)

Taize Service resumed in May and June, is off for the month of July, but will return at 7 pm on **Sunday, August 1**. If you have not experienced a Taize service, now is a good time to check it out. A quiet, reflective, and peaceful service that provides a true respite from the busy-ness of our daily lives.

This is also no time for laziness in our ministries and outreach! Quilting continues on a weekly basis (led by Anna Mae Grubb), along with Band Together on Tuesday and Thursday mornings at 10 (led by Sue DeLong). Elsewhere in this newsletter you will find information on the kickoff of Warmth for Winter when we celebrate **God's Work Our Hands** Sunday on **September 12**. And we are working to determine when we will be able to resume at least some aspects of our food ministry.

Our Communications and Technology Committee is working with our in-house tech guru Bill Hoffman to further develop our capabilities of spreading the Word of God and promote St. Luke's ministries using all forms of media. Our updated website is a work in progress.

We are in a time of transition here at St. Luke, dealing with the external forces that govern how we continue to respond to COVID, as well as the internal void created by Pastor Dan's retirement and determining a path forward for pastoral leadership for the congregation. In all of this, your church leaders need your feedback and input on an ongoing basis, as well as your prayers and support. Please contact any member of the Church Council or Vision to Mission team with your concerns or leave a message at the church office and one of us will contact you.