

the Epistle

September 2019



Ministry WITH & FOR People of All Ages

St. Luke's has a variety of ministries that engage people across the many ages of life. This community is proud of the mission to which God calls us: *Helping people make a life-changing connection with Jesus Christ, St. Luke's is a faith community committed to Connecting, Growing and Serving.* No matter a person's age, there are a variety of ways for people to become involved. No matter who you are or the age of life in which you find yourself, there are many ways to engage in ministry or to be ministered to in and through St. Luke's.

Think of the variety of ages present in our community every week. On a typical weekend, for example, people of many of ages are present in worship. We regularly worship among people carrying infants and folks who share the wisdom of the years. Ministry groups active in worship leadership show the variety of ages present and active at St. Luke's. Assisting Ministers are usually from among our elders, though there is room (and an open invitation) for younger folk to lead, too. Music ensembles engage the young (such as Angel Choir and Saints & Sinners) and those who are beyond high school by a few or many years (such as the Voices of Faith and Godsbells). While acolytes are typically young, communion servers and lectors are a variety of ages.

Mondays, the Amigos (a group of retired men) serve among us, caring for the building by using the gifts they have learned through the years. Tuesdays, Needle & Thimble quilt for Lutheran World Relief. They are usually people who are retired. No matter your age, there's a ministry group in which you can become active.

Thank you, to all who are retired, who share your gifts in ministry and participate in so much of what happens at St. Luke's. You are an important part of this community. I think of ministries related to funerals – often it is retired folk who are present and serving, to make sure we set a table of hospitality and healing. I think of those who gather weekly for Search Bible Study, which is, generally, an older group, though there is room for those who are younger. Theology on Tap and Theology Uncorked are other examples of ministries that engage our seniors (and some who are younger) in important ways.

If you are among the seniors in our congregation, I encourage you to keep your eyes open for St. Luke's Potluck Luncheons & Programs. You can find the monthly schedule of activities in a blue flyer at the Welcome Station. Information about outings sponsored by our Forever Forty group is posted regularly in this newsletter and bulletin. This is another important ministry to seniors.

Serving families is important to St. Luke's, as well. Child Life Ministries continues to be a cornerstone ministry of St. Luke's. Each day we serve more than a hundred families by providing them with childcare, preschool and a four-year-old Kindergarten program. St. Luke's Youth Ministry, Vacation Bible School, Holy Communion Classes, and Sunday School opportunities reach families and their children/youth in a variety of ways.

No matter your age, there are a variety of ways you can be involved. You can engage in ministries with your peers around service opportunities, such as Mission Possible opportunities, Holiday Ministries, volunteering at the Waukesha Food Pantry, supporting the Women's Center, pounding nails on a Habitat for Humanity build, traveling on an Adult Mission Trip, tutoring at Whittier Elementary and more.

Jesus calls us to be disciples engaged in ministry, no matter our age, so we serve in a variety of ways. There is a place in and through this community to share your gifts for ministry. All ages are important and welcome!

Honoring God and serving Jesus Christ,

...we share Jesus Christ and make disciples.

...we worship God together.

...we are curious, courageous, and open to the Holy Spirit.

...we celebrate children and lift up families as they are.

...we practice kindness and uphold the dignity of each individual.

...we are committed to being an inclusive community of grace.

...we stand ready to serve and advocate for our neighbors.

...we honor our past and look to God's future for us.

In Our Church Family

Baptisms

Claire Elizabeth Weiss	August 10
Leonardo Olin Uribe	August 11
Annika Rae Benoit	August 25
Cayson Lee Mittelsteadt	August 25

Deaths

Paul Sussek	July 25
Dan Hanson	July 26

Marriages

Kristin Schmidt & Kevin Heinz	July 27
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September Council Contact

Tim Grove

262-308-5222

tpgrove@yahoo.com

The deadline is Tuesday, September 17
to turn in items for the October issue of

the **Epistle**



Staff News

The ministry of St. Luke's is strong and effective because of our staff. We have more than 30 people working with us to provide a variety of ministries in the community. Please remember to pray for them as they do God's work through St. Luke's. Here's the latest news:

- Pastor Jordan served as co-chair of the Local Area Committee for the ELCA's Churchwide Assembly being held in Milwaukee, August 5-10. He and Susan Cyr of St. John's Lutheran, Brookfield, coordinated 600 volunteers who hosted about 2,400 people from across the United States and the Caribbean.
- Mr. Schaner attended the biannual national convention of the Association of Lutheran Church Musicians in Portland, OR at the end of June along with over 300 other Lutheran Church musicians. He also attended the composer's residency with composer Shawn Kirchner and conductor John Hughes at Ripon College in August. Thank you for your support so we can attend continuing education events!

Call Committee Update

The Call Committee asks that the Congregation continue to hold us in your prayers as we continue to move through this very important step in the ministry and life of St. Luke's. Pray for the guidance of the Holy Spirit for the Call Committee and for the pastors who will consider our call.

We have finalized our interview questions and completed our practice interview. We are ready for the next steps in the process and look forward to receiving the names of potential candidates from the Greater Milwaukee Synod and beginning the interview process in the coming weeks.

In our quest to consider the best fit and most highly qualified candidates available for St. Luke's, the Congregation Council once again directed that the search not be limited. Therefore, consideration will be given to all, regardless of age, race, gender and LGBTQIA+.

As always, please feel free to share your thoughts with Council or the Call Committee.

Call committee members are Dayna Bjerke (Chair – dayna.bjerke@gmail.com or 262-424-7135)), Harold Bloch, Jill Larson, Dan Persells, Maddie Thorstad, Dennis Voit, Sharon Wood and Pastor Jordan.

Council Bullets

from the August 20 Congregation Council Meeting

- Another great week of VBS was provided by Laurie Rohrwasser and the wonderful crew of teachers, helpers and volunteers. Thank you for bringing joy and sharing God's love with over 100 smiling faces. The council truly appreciates all the hours of pre-planning, setup, preparation and activities that make for a great week. It was awesome. GOD IS GOOD – ALL THE TIME!!!
- As a kick-off to the new school year, the CLM Board has scheduled a CLM Staff Appreciation event. A cookout will be held at St. Luke's on the evening of September 11 at 5:45 p.m. It's another opportunity to thank the teachers and staff who provide such special care for over 100 families. The Hospitality Team is assisting with the logistics. If you would like to help with food, setup or cleanup, check in with Bill Oliver.

- Mark your calendars! Another reminder of the worship time changes beginning on Sunday, September 8. Services will be at 8:15 am and 10:00 am. This 15 minute adjustment is being made to improve traffic patterns (auto and foot), increase access to handicap slots and generally improve parking availability. It will also ease some of the time constraints on our worship leaders and provide them with additional preparation time.
- **“God’s work. Our hands.” Sunday** is September 8. This day is set aside to celebrate who we are as Lutherans and members of the ELCA. We ask you to ponder and pray about ways you can be Christ in the world. Let us continue to work and serve, reaching out and making our community a better place every day.

Finance Committee Update

Summer is about over and on the weekend of September 7/8, 2019, we move into our fall worship schedule along with Sunday School and Discipleship Training (Confirmation) classes.

We had a busy summer, programing wise, with a very successful Music Camp, the Silent Auction, Spaghetti Dinner and Youth trip to Clendenin, WV, CLM Preschool Fun Days, serving meals for kids and teens at Roberta Park from June 10 to July 3, the Habitat, Waukesha Work Days, Vacation Bible School with 114 children attending the week-long program, the Call Committee’s activity with the process of calling a permanent Associate Pastor, and the every Monday project work day for the Amigos.

Our current three-year debt reduction program continues, and we are very thankful for the contributions, both pledged and non-pledged received to date, which totals \$363,194 towards our goal of \$750,000.

As of July 31,2019, the church continues to experience a significant downturn in giving year to date. The Finance Committee wishes to remind all our congregational members and friends that funding of our usual and ordinary expenses as well as programs for our community and abroad, urgently need your regular support.

If you are not able to attend weekly services, please mail your monthly envelopes to the church office. Or even better, sign up for electronic on-line giving by visiting the church’s website www.stlukeslutheran.org.

Blast OFF!

On Thursday, September 5 from 4:30-5:30 p.m. we will have our BLAST OFF! for our fall programming. We will kick off our year with a pizza party in the Hospitality Area and have a time for registration forms to be turned in for Joyful Noise, Saints and Sinners and Sunday School. Even if you are not going to be in one of our choirs, we still encourage families and children to attend!



Blessing of the Backpacks

Sunday, September 8, we will bless backpacks and other totes for those who are engaged in education. Students, teachers and other education folk are invited to come and have their backpacks, computer bags, and other totes blessed. We will have special tags for your totes, packs and bags. The backpack blessing will happen at the 8:15 and 10:00 services on Sunday.



Thank You!

The 114 kids, Crew Volunteers, CLM & St. Luke's staff thanks you for your generous support of VBS! Every donation was greatly appreciated and put to good use!

Our Giving Tree collection to date will provide for the care of 40+ women and babies including pre- and post-natal care for mom, medical care for mom & baby and food for both for two years. We have a large basket of baby food for the Waukesha Food Pantry as well.

Thank You St. Luke's and Child Life Ministries for all you do!!!



The Churchwide Assembly of the ELCA met in Milwaukee in August. The ELCA Churchwide Assembly is the primary decision-making body of the church. It is a process of communal spiritual discernment. It gathers as the living body of Christ guided by the Spirit and conformed to God's will to discuss and make decisions about how to go about God's work as a church. This year the assembly gathered under the theme *We Are Church*.

When an ELCA Churchwide Assembly convenes, its voting members meet with confidence in God's grace around word and water, wine and bread, to carry on their work on behalf the entire church. Over the course of an assembly, voting members:

- Hear reports and review the work of churchwide officers, leaders and units;
- Receive and consider proposals from synod assemblies;
- Elect officers, board members and other leaders as specified by the constitution or bylaws;
- Establish ELCA churchwide policy;
- Worship together;
- Adopt a budget; and
- Conduct other business related to the ELCA churchwide organization.

The voting members of the 2019 Churchwide Assembly of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America (ELCA) made a number of key decisions to further the mission and ministry of this church.

More than 900 voting members:

- Reelected the Rev. Elizabeth A. Eaton to a six-year term as ELCA Presiding Bishop.
- Elected Deacon Sue Rothmeyer to a six-year term as ELCA secretary.
- Approved the social statement "Faith, Sexism and Justice: A Call to Action" and its implementing resolutions. The social statement, in part, names patriarchy and sexism as sins and calls the church to action on a range of issues, including gender-based violence, workplace discrimination and economic inequality.
- Adopted "A Declaration of Inter-Religious Commitment," which will serve as church policy for inter-religious relations. The policy statement was adopted with the witness of 39 ecumenical and inter-religious guests in attendance.
- Approved the triennium budget for 2020-2022, which includes a current fund spending authorization of \$68,378,325 for 2020, a current fund income proposal of \$68,442,034 for 2021 and \$68,507,018 for 2022; and an ELCA World Hunger spending authorization of \$21.5 million 2020, and an income proposal of \$21.5 million for 2021 and for 2022.
- Adopted the "Strategy Toward Authentic Diversity in the ELCA," which consists of a report and recommendations on how the ELCA exhibits authentic diversity and formulates goals for racial diversity and inclusion.
- Witnessed the presentation of the "Declaration of the ELCA to People of African Descent," which was accepted by the Rev. Lamont A. Wells, president of the African Descent Lutheran Association (ADLA), and members of ADLA.
- Adopted 26 memorials en bloc, ranging in topics from gun violence to engagement in the Holy Land and gender identity to seminary tuition.
- Adopted a memorial that affirms the ELCA's long-standing commitment to migrants and refugees and declares the ELCA a sanctuary church body.
- Adopted a memorial that calls for the development of a social statement and social message on the relationship of church and state.
- Adopted a memorial to encourage all synods and congregations to commemorate the 50th anniversary of the ELCA's ordination of women in 2020, the 40th anniversary of the ordination of women of color in the Lutheran tradition and the 10th anniversary of the ELCA's decision to remove barriers to ordination for people in same-gender relationships.
- Adopted a memorial to support the vision and goals of the Poor People's Campaign that align with the ELCA's social teachings.
- Adopted a series of amendments to the "Constitutions, Bylaws and Continuing Resolutions of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America," including one that makes ordination the entrance rite for ministers of Word and Service, and an amendment to no longer count deacons as laypeople for representational principles.
- Adopted a resolution that committed the ELCA to support the World Council of Church's "Thursdays in Black" campaign toward a world without rape and violence.

- Adopted a resolution to commemorate June 17 as a day of repentance in the ELCA for the martyrdom of the Emanuel 9—the nine people who were shot and killed June 17, 2015, during a Bible study at Emanuel African Methodist Episcopal Church in Charleston, S.C.
- Adopted a resolution to condemn white supremacy, calling all ELCA congregations to engage in a "study of the structures and rhetoric that empower and fuel racism and white supremacy and to take to heart the teaching of Scriptures, so we may all be better equipped to speak boldly about the equal dignity of all persons in the eyes of God."
- Celebrated the end of Always Being Made New: The Campaign for the ELCA, which concluded June 30 with nearly \$250 million raised in cash, multiyear commitments and planned gift commitments.
- Elected members to serve on the ELCA Church Council, churchwide committees and churchwide boards, including Portico Benefit Services, the Mission Investment Fund and 1517 Media.

Additional information about these items and videos from the Assembly can be found at:

<https://elca.org/churchwideassembly>.

ELCA Churchwide Assembly declares the ELCA a sanctuary church

The 2019 ELCA Churchwide Assembly voted August 7 to approve a memorial that affirms the denomination's long-standing commitment to migrants and refugees and declares the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America (ELCA) a sanctuary church body. The ELCA is the first North American denomination to declare itself a sanctuary church body. As a sanctuary church, the ELCA publicly declares that walking alongside immigrants and refugees is a matter of faith. This declaration does not call for any person, congregation or synod to engage in illegal activity.

The ELCA has developed talking points to address what it means for this church to become a sanctuary denomination. In defining what this means for its congregations, the ELCA states that a sanctuary church will look different in the different contexts across the ELCA. The church cannot mandate or direct ELCA congregations and ministries to respond in certain ways.

You can read the talking points by visiting:

https://download.elca.org/ELCA%20Resource%20Repository/ELCA_SanctuaryDenomination_TalkingPoints.pdf?_ga=2.254350479.601805309.1566240434-1781843096.1564263279

The 2016 ELCA Churchwide Assembly passed the strategy to Accompany Migrant Minors with Protection, Advocacy, Representation and Opportunities (AMMPARO). Through the strategy, the ELCA invites its churches to become "welcoming congregations," which means to commit to spiritually and physically accompanying migrants in their communities, pray for migrant children and families, and advocate for a just and humane immigration system. More than 100 congregations and five synods across the ELCA identify as sanctuary.

Care & Prayer Ministries

Shut-Ins

Please help our shut-ins and the St. Luke's community stay connected! Many times staff is unaware of those hospitalized or those who have been transferred to rehab. Even if a patient requests to be put on the hospital's list for pastors, that doesn't always happen. Perhaps someone is confined to their home due to illness or injury and they have no ability to come to church, unless we are contacted, we remain unaware. As a community of faith we are called to care for one another. If you come to know of someone in any of these situations, please let us know by contacting Laurie Rohrwasser. In the near future we will have several ways that you may contact us with information. As soon as those are ready, we'll get the information out via the bulletin and Epistle.



Prayer

All prayer requests are welcome! For prayer requests please feel free to use our web site www.stlukeslutheran.org , email Laurie at lrohrwasser@stlukeslutheran.org, email Katie at kwoodford@stlukeslutheran.org Please be assured that confidentiality is respected and your request will be kept as private as you so choose.

Pray-ers: We need you!

We are in need of many people to pray for the needs of others! You will receive prayer requests via email or, if so desired, a direct phone call from a designated person. You are asked to pray daily for that request. No specific time or type of prayer. Simply ask God to guide you as you pray. Did you know you can pray anywhere and at any time? How about in the shower or while brushing your teeth? What about when you're at one of your children's practices or games? How about while waiting for an appointment? All are acceptable places to pray. Prayer time can be as long or as short as you choose. All we ask is that you lift these people up daily in prayer. Please consider this vital ministry - I can promise you, you will never regret it!

Care Team

Our Care Team would very much like for you to join us! The Care Team's responsibilities varies. For some, it means visiting and taking communion to our shut-ins or hospitalized. For others, it's visits during a difficult time in someone's life. Training is provided and you choose whom to visit and when. Ideally, we like for visits to happen monthly. There are several ways to serve in this ministry. For more information, please contact Laurie at lrohrwasser@stlukeslutheran.org.

CONNECTING



Thank you to everyone involved with Music Camp this year! Thank you to Anna Kate Morris as we started a new morning session for younger campers. She did a fantastic job with the campers! Thank you to the numerous volunteers who helped make the camp a huge success! The campers did an outstanding job in worship as well during the entire week!

Advent Planning Meeting

Tuesday, September 24 ~ 7:00 p.m.

Anyone who is interested in helping with the Advent and Christmas season planning is welcome to join us. Any questions, contact Michael Schaner, Director of Music Ministries.

Christmas Eve Music

Even though it's the middle of August as I type this, Christmas Eve is only four and a half months away. On Christmas Eve, as we have done for the last few years, we will have the prelude at the 4:00 service played by the youth of the congregation. If you have a private teacher, please talk to them about this possibility so music can be learned. If you are interested, please contact Mr. Schaner.

<p style="text-align: center;">Contact Michael Schaner <i>Director of Music Ministries</i> mschaner@stlukeslutheran.org (262) 542-2545, ext. 103</p>
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Ensemble Start Dates

Our fall ensembles are soon starting, and all are welcome to attend! We love having new members join us, and we have a good time. If you have any questions, please contact Michael Schaner.

- ♪ **Godsbells & Voices of Faith:** August 28
- ♪ **Men's Chorus:** September 8 - 11:15 a.m.
- ♪ **Joyful Noise – Angel Choir, Sing for Joy, Lord's Chimes, Joyful Ringers:** September 12
- ♪ **Saints & Sinners:** September 12



Theology on Tap

Join men as they dig into scripture and faith topics with a "cold one" (or two) in hand. Theology on Tap begins again Monday, September 9. We regularly meet at La Estacion on the second Mondays of the month at 7:00 p.m. No experience necessary! Bring a friend!

Theology UnCorked!

All women are invited for an evening of food, fellowship and fun on Tuesday, September 10 beginning at 6:30 p.m. at La Estacion (319 Williams St., Waukesha). Please RSVP at *Sign Up Central*. Contact Anne Erke with questions, erkme@att.net or 262-544-4754

Potluck Luncheon

Our first Potluck Luncheon for the season will be held on Tuesday, September 17 at noon. We meet every third Tuesday of the month, September – May, and we have a great list of entertainment for the year! Bring a main dish, salad or dessert to share. Sign up at *Sign Up Central!* Each month we celebrate those who have a birthday that month, we have the item exchange table, and we welcome friends. Invite your family and friends to join you each month and any age is welcome to participate!

In September we have *Drumming with Tim!* For thousands of years, cultures around the world have drummed their songs and prayers. The drum has been an instrument of Healing and Connection in every ancient culture. Join us as Tim Dancing Redhawk, of Eastern Cherokee descent, comes to share with us how Native American cultures have used the drum for healing. You will hear some songs that were sung as prayers long before the time of Christ, and have an opportunity to join in and share in the drumming as Tim brings a large pow-wow drum. Sing along, drum on the big drum, re-connect with the Spirit, and lift up your prayers as we share this experience together!



Brochures for the full season are available at the Welcome Station and on our website, www.stlukeslutheran.org.

St. Luke's Calendar ~ September 2019

EVERY SUNDAY

8:15/10:00am Worship
9:15am Fellowship Time
10:00am Sunday School
6:00pm Men's AA
(unless otherwise noted)

Sunday, September 1

NO Sunday School

8:30/10:00 Worship
11:30am Executive Committee

Monday, September 2

Happy Labor Day!

Church Office Closed

CLM Child Care Closed

6:45pm Al-Anon
8:00pm Women's AA

Tuesday, September 3

8:30am Needle & Thimble
9:30am 1st Tuesday Book Club
1:00pm Staff Meeting

Wednesday, September 4

6:00pm Godsbells
7:00pm NA
7:15pm Voices of Faith

Thursday, September 5

9:30am Prayer Shawl
4:30pm Blast OFF!

Friday, September 6

Saturday, September 7

5:00pm Worship
9:00pm HS Youth Group Lock-In begins

Sunday, September 8

Mt. Meru Coffee Sales

Blessing of the Backpacks

9:00am HS Youth Group Lock-In ends
11:15am Men's Chorus
11:30am DT 7/8 Parent Meeting

Monday, September 9

Church Office opens at 9:00am

8:00am Amigos
6:45pm Al-Anon
7:00pm Theology on Tap
8:00pm Women's AA

Tuesday, September 10

8:30am Needle & Thimble
1:00pm Staff Meeting
6:30pm Theology UnCorked!

Wednesday, September 11

9:30am Search Bible Study
1:00pm Waukesha MS Self-Help Group
5:45pm CLM & Sunday School Teachers Appreciation
6:00pm Godsbells
6:15pm CLM Board
6:30pm DT 9 Parent Meeting
7:00pm NA
7:15pm Voices of Faith

Thursday, September 12

4:30pm Joyful Noise
6:00pm Saints & Sinners

Friday, September 13

Saturday, September 14

Healing Service

Sundae Saturday

8:30am Habitat Work Day
5:00pm Worship

Sunday, September 15

Cinnamon Roll Sunday

DT Blessing @ 10:00

11:15am DT 7/8
11:30am HS Youth Group
Parent Meeting
6:30pm HS Youth Group Bible
Study

Monday, September 16

8:00am Amigos
1:00pm Sarah Circle
6:45pm Al-Anon
8:00pm Women's AA

Tuesday, September 17

8:30am Needle & Thimble
12:00pm Potluck Luncheon
1:00pm Staff Meeting
6:00pm CLM Staff
6:00pm Finance Committee
6:30pm Congregation Council

Wednesday, September 18

9:30am Search Bible Study
5:30pm Facilities/Maintenance
6:00pm Godsbells
6:30pm DT 9
6:30pm Personnel Committee
7:00pm NA
7:15pm Voices of Faith

Thursday, September 19

9:30am Prayer Shawl
4:30pm Joyful Noise
6:00pm Saints & Sinners

Friday, September 20

Saturday, September 21

5:00pm Worship

Sunday, September 22

Mt. Meru Coffee Sales

11:15am DT 7/8
6:30pm HS Youth Group
Service Project

Monday, September 23

St. Luke's Night @ Culver's by

Woodman's 5:00 -8:00pm

8:00am Amigos
6:45pm Al-Anon
8:00pm Women's AA

Tuesday, September 24

8:30am Needle & Thimble
8:30am Holy Stuffers
1:00pm Staff Meeting
7:00pm Advent Planning

Wednesday, September 25

9:30am Search Bible Study
6:00pm Godsbells
6:30pm DT 9
7:00pm NA
7:15pm Voices of Faith

Thursday, September 26

11:00am Meru Partners
4:30pm Joyful Noise
5:30pm Stewardship
6:00pm Saints & Sinners

Friday, September 27

Saturday, September 28

5:00pm Worship

Sunday, September 29

Common Day of Prayer

11:15am DT 7/8
6:30pm HS Youth Group Game
Night

Monday, September 30

8:00am Amigos
6:45pm Al-Anon
8:00pm Women's AA

EVERY SUNDAY

8:15/10:00am Worship
9:15am Fellowship Time
10:00am Sunday School
6:00pm Men's AA
(unless otherwise noted)

CLM Child Care

6:30am-6:00pm

Monday-Friday

(unless otherwise noted)

CLM Preschool

9:00am-12:00pm

(follows school district calendar)

Church Office Hours

8:00am-4:00pm

(unless otherwise noted)

St. Luke's Calendar ~ September 2019

SERVING



Mt. Meru Coffee Hospitality Hour

Thank you to Bill and Tammie Oliver for sponsoring Mt. Meru Coffee Hour during September to honor our 9th grade Confirmation students finishing Discipleship Training for their Affirmation of Baptism on October 27. Also during September join in celebrating Art and Pam Olson's 40th wedding anniversary. Sponsoring a bag of premium coffee for fellowship is a great way to honor someone or something special. Best of all, 40% of the purchase price is returned to the farmers of Mt. Meru Diocese. Sign up at *Sign Up Central* or stop by the coffee sales cart for more information.

Food Pantry: During September, consider a "Back to School" item for the Waukesha Food Pantry. Add breakfast items (cereal, breakfast bars), lunch items (peanut butter, jelly, canned tuna or chicken) or healthy snack items to your donation.

Mission Envelopes for September go to support Healing Hearts of Waukesha County, a program that offers a peer-to-peer support program for children and teens, ages 4 through 18, who are grieving the loss of a loved one due to death, divorce, separation, incarceration, military deployment or immigration. For more information on this program, visit their website here: <http://www.healingheartsofwaukeshaco.org>.



St. Luke's Habitat Saturday!

St. Luke's volunteers will be able to help Habitat, Waukesha give "a hand up, not a hand out" and help families achieve their dream of home ownership. We have a spot for 10 volunteers on the remaining Saturday, September 14. The sign-up sheet for September is up at *Sign Up Central*. For more information, contact Don French, 262-896-0225 or d-french@sbcglobal.net.

2019-2020 Whittier Elementary Partnership

There are plenty of opportunities for **you** to help the kids and families at Whittier Elementary. The Whittier faculty and staff are waiting for **you**. Please consider the following options

Backpack68 Weekend Food Program

- Fill backpacks with food at the Salvation Army on Thursdays at 2:00 p.m. Takes less than 1/2 hour for a group of 7 or 8 people.
- Distribute full food backpacks at Whittier Elementary on Fridays beginning at 3:00 p.m. Takes 30-40 minutes for a group of 5 or 6 people.
- Plus, if you have experience, you can become a Salvation Army Box Truck driver on Fridays.
- A weekly schedule is developed each month according to volunteer availability.

In Classroom Work with Students -

Volunteers schedule the times and day(s) of the week they can help in the classroom directly with assigned teacher. You can volunteer from 1 hour per week to working all five weekdays. Volunteers have their choice of grade level (K - 5th) according to availability, and the assigned teachers will work with volunteers to define support activities that best fit student needs and volunteer capabilities. Most often it will be reading and/or math assistance in a 1-on-1 pairing with a single student. No experience necessary. The kids and teachers will love you, and that's a promise!

Sign up at *Sign Up Central*. Contact is Don French.



Tanzania Partnership Corner

Maroroni & Kilima Moja Parishes

Samaria Parish & Ascension Lutheran Church



September 29 is Common Day of Prayer

In worship the weekend of September 29, the people of the Diocese of Meru in Tanzania and the people of the Greater Milwaukee Synod will be engaged in a **common day of prayer** — symbolic of our daily mutual prayers for one another.

The foundation of our partnership with the Diocese of Meru lies in our shared faith in the saving grace of Jesus Christ. Standing on that rock, we walk together as sisters and brothers, sharing our joys and sorrows, fears and dreams.

One of our prayers is for the trip plans and visa application process, since we have invited our Tanzanian Partnership Rafikis (friends), Pastor Nathan Makenge and Baraka Melitha, Partnership Committee leader, to visit on October 8-22. In St. Luke's style, we will provide them with a warm Karibu (welcome) October 12-13 during the three services. Following the 10:00 a.m. service, plan to join us for a Welcome Luncheon.



Along with prayers for our partners, we are looking to assist our traveling partners with a "vortex of financial support." For as little as 25 cents per mile, St. Luke's will visually move our Rafikis from Kilimanjaro International Airport to Waukesha. As the crow flies 16,252 miles round trip. Look for a special collection "vortex" along with envelopes for greater donations/checks.

As details are worked out with the Greater Milwaukee Synod, there will be other opportunities to interact with Bishop Elias Kitoi and hopefully 15 others from the Diocese of Meru in October. Keep an eye on the Epistle and weekly bulletins.

Thank You, St. Luke's!

Last September, we shared the concept of the purchase and installation of a grain mill in the Maroroni Parish. The Endowment Committee issued a check to make that a reality. In response Baraka wrote:

Glory to God. We thank our Almighty that we have already bought the machines as we planned. We placed them at Maroroni Parish . . . and we are preparing the expected house where we will connect to electricity. On behalf of the congregants of Maroroni/Kilimamoja Parishes, we thank you, our friends from St Luke's, and may our almighty God bless you all.

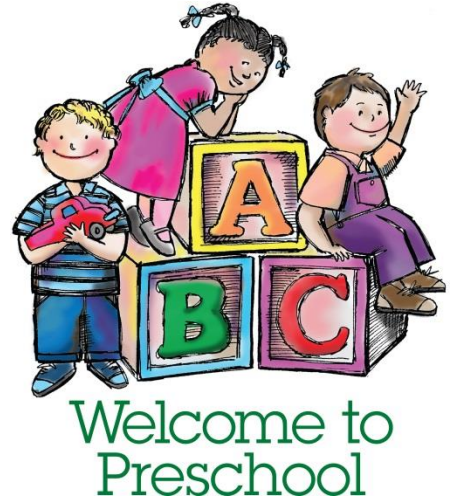


GROWING

Child Life Ministries

A reminder from ST. LUKE'S PRESCHOOL:

This fall marks the 23rd year that St. Luke's Preschool has been in operation! Hurry! There are only a few *limited* openings remaining for families with **3 and 4-year-old** children seeking half-day preschool programming. Preschool classes meet from 9:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m. during the school year and feature a faith-based Pre-K curriculum, small class sizes, professional early childhood staff, "chapel chats" with our pastor, music classes, loving personalized attention and so much more. Remember wrap-around childcare is also available for families who need childcare before and/or after preschool hours. Children must be toilet trained and must meet the age requirement by September 1.

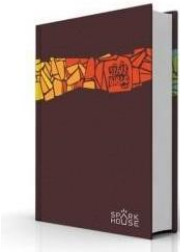


For **2-year-olds**, our "First Steps to Preschool" program is a unique child-and-adult offering designed to provide your child with a fun variety of educational, faith-based and social experiences. We have just a few spots available in the weekly (9:00 a.m. – 11:00 a.m.) Monday class. Call today!

Contact Liz Anderson at 262-522-6747 or landerson@stlukeslutheran.org for more information. You can also find more details at www.stlukeslutheran.org. St. Luke's Child Life Ministries welcomes all children regardless of race, color, sex, differing abilities, religion, national, or ethnic origin. Please tell others about us! Brochures are at the Welcome Station.

Families of 2nd Graders

Mark your calendar! Save the dates!



We are excited to present all our 2nd graders with their own Bible as their next milestone along their journey of faith. Please join Laurie Rohrwasser on Saturday morning, October 5 from 9:00-12:00 as we explore the Bible, make personalized Bible covers, play a game or two and take home some great lessons!

On Sunday, October 6 during our 10:00 worship service, Bibles will be blessed and presented to children who have attended the Saturday workshop.

Please note, workshop attendance is necessary prior to receiving Bible. A RSVP is requested (attending or not) by September 15 so materials can be ordered and prepared for your child.

To RSVP or for more information contact Laurie at lrohrwasser@stlukeslutheran.org. 262-542-2545, ext. 110.

Adult Study Opportunities

Women of Faith Bible Study

We will begin Thursday, October 10 and will meet the 2nd & 4th Thursday of the month. Please watch the Epistle and Weekly Blast for more information.

Search Bible Study Begins

We will open the scriptures and let the Holy Spirit lead us into deeper encounters with Jesus in our weekly Bible Study. A new session begins Wednesday, September 11. Each week the study group meets in the Hospitality Area on Wednesday mornings at 9:30 a.m. This fall's theme is *Beginning with Jesus*. We will be taking a fresh look at who Jesus is by reading the gospel of Luke together. Our goal is to dig deeper and ask what his mission is all about in order to know more about how that mission impacts us. No experience necessary! Bring a friend!



In order to better meet the needs of the youth at St. Luke's, we will be separating the middle school and high school youth groups starting in September.

The middle school youth group (7th & 8th grades) will be combined with Discipleship Training (DT). DT will incorporate both the former confirmation program and the social aspects of youth group.

The high school youth group (9th -12th grades) - new name still pending - will meet weekly on Sunday evenings from 6:30-8:00 p.m. and will incorporate Bible study/devotionals, service and social activities.

Parent & Youth meeting for HS Youth Group

All parents and youth in 9th-12th grade are invited to a meeting September 15th at 11:30 a.m. in the Chapel. Please plan to attend.

Recurring Fundraising Opportunities

- Surprise Treat Saturday (Saturday before 3rd Sunday of the month)
- Cinnamon Roll Sunday (3rd Sunday of the month)
- Culvers Night (4th Monday of the month 5:00 p.m. – 8:00 p.m.)

September schedule – HS Youth Group

- 1st – No Youth Group (Labor Day weekend)
- 7th-8th, 9:00 p.m. - 9:30 a.m. Lock-In (RSVP REQUIRED to Cari by September 5th)
- 14th Sundae Saturday Fundraiser (4:00 p.m. - 6:30 p.m.)
- 15th Cinnamon Roll Sunday (7:00 a.m. - 11:30a.m.)
- 15th Bible Study
- 22nd Service Project
- 23rd Culver's Night (5pm-8pm)
- 29th Game Night

Any questions or concerns, please contact Cari - 262-312-0505 or cbuskel72@gmail.com.

Discipleship Training

(Confirmation & Social Events)

- 7th & 8th Grades begin September 8 with a Parent & Youth Meeting at 11:30 a.m.
- 9th Grade begins September 11 with a Parent & Youth Meeting at 6:30 p.m.
- Students in Grades 7 & 8 regularly meet Sundays, 11:15 a.m. – 1:15 p.m.
- Monthly social events for Grades 7 & 8 will be offered, as well!



Confirmation Update

Our confirmation ministry continues under a new name: Discipleship Training. Our new name helps us remember our focus: growing as disciples of Jesus Christ. Here are basics about Discipleship Training you need to know:

- There will be a parent/youth meeting for those entering Grades 7 & 8, Sunday, September 8.
- Those in Grades 7 & 8 will normally meet regularly on Sundays, 11:15 a.m. to 1:15 p.m.
- Third year DT students will meet Wednesdays, 6:30 to 8:00 p.m. beginning September 11, until the Wednesday before Affirmation of Baptism, which is on October 27, 2019. *Parents, please attend on September 11.*
- DT will have occasional road trips, allowing youth opportunities to grow through a variety of experiences. We will utilize parents to help us get to and from these events.
- Our pastors will be regularly involved in Discipleship Training.
- We are incorporating Host Parents into the Discipleship Ministry. Host Parents will have two roles: 1) to provide meals for the group and 2) to participate as guides/mentors for the group.
- This year's theme will focus on Old Testament stories, providing an overview of important narratives that shape the Faith. Later in the DT season, we'll look at Luther's Small Catechism.
- During the Lenten season we will continue with Sunday gatherings while also pairing youth with mentors and mid-week Lenten worship as we've done before.

DT Blessing in Worship

Youth engaged in our Discipleship Training (Confirmation) Ministry will be blessed for learning at the late service on Sunday, September 15. We will pray for the Holy Spirit to guide them in their exploration of the faith and remind one another that this is an important ministry in which we are engaged.



the Epistle

St. Luke's Lutheran Church
300 Carroll Street
Waukesha, WI 53186-4787

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RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED

Worship Services: Saturday 5:00pm
Sunday 8:15 (8:30 on September 1) & 10:00am

Holy Communion: Every week at all services

Pastors: Lindsay Jordan, Betty Baires

Church Office Phone: 262-542-2545

E-Mail: office@stlukeslutheran.org

Website: www.stlukeslutheran.org

Facebook: www.facebook.com/sllcwauc



Fall Worship Schedule

Beginning after Labor Day – September 7/8

Saturday – 5:00 p.m.

Sunday – 8:15 a.m.

Sunday – 10:00 a.m.