



# St. Luke's Lutheran Church

July 2025

*Helping people make  
life-changing connections  
with God through  
Jesus Christ.*

## Called to Care for Creation: A Summer of Stewardship

As summer bursts into full bloom around us, with gardens growing, lakes glistening, and birdsong greeting the morning, we are reminded that **creation is not a backdrop—it is a blessing**. And it is not ours to own—it is ours to **tend**.

From the very first chapter of Genesis, we hear it: *"God saw everything that he had made, and indeed, it was very good."* (Genesis 1:31) Creation is God's handiwork, a masterpiece of interconnection and abundance. And from the beginning, humans were placed in the garden not to dominate it, but to **serve and preserve it**—to be caretakers, not consumers (Genesis 2:15).



In Lutheran theology, stewardship is about **trust**—receiving all that we have as a gift from God, and living in grateful response. That includes our time, our talents, our resources—and yes, the earth itself.

To care for creation is not a political stance, but a **spiritual vocation**. It is how we love our neighbor—those who are most vulnerable to environmental harm. It is how we worship—by honoring what God has made. And it is how we live into our baptismal calling—to strive for justice and peace in all the earth.

Summer gives us more daylight, more freedom in our routines, and more opportunity to reconnect with God's good earth. Here are ways individuals and families can practice stewardship this season:

### In the Home and Garden:

- **Start a pollinator-friendly garden** with native plants. Even a few pots on a porch can feed the bees and butterflies.
- **Compost food scraps** and yard waste to reduce landfill impact and build healthy soil.
- Involve children in **gathering rainwater** or caring for plants—helping them grow gratitude and awareness.

### In Daily Life:

- Choose one **car-free day a week**—walk, bike, or take public transit as a way to reduce emissions.
- Bring **reusable bags, bottles, and containers** when shopping or picnicking.
- Clean up a local park or trail. Make it a prayer walk—thanking God for each creature and plant you encounter.

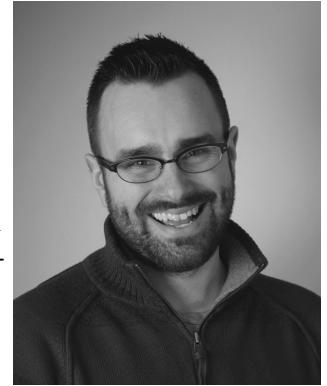
### In Spirit and Worship

- Create a **sacred outdoor space** for family devotions—a bench in the yard, a rock by the water, a quiet trail.
- Include **creation-focused prayers** in mealtimes or bedtime routines: "Thank you, God, for sun and soil, for fruit and field, for the breath of every living thing."
- Encourage a **church-wide green initiatives**—recycling programs, energy audits, or advocacy efforts for clean water and air.

Psalm 24 proclaims, *"The earth is the Lord's, and all that is in it."* We are not owners—we are stewards. And every act of care, no matter how small, becomes a form of praise. This summer, let's worship not only with our voices but with our **hands in the soil, our footprints on the trail, and our hearts tuned to the song of creation**. What might God be calling you to tend this season?

## 2025 Summer Music Camp

We are looking forward to our summer music camp this year with the theme of *Once Upon a Parable*. We still have some openings in our full day session for students entering second to seventh grade. Music Camp is July 28 to August 1, with our full day and morning session campers presenting what they learn in worship on Sunday, August 3. The full day session goes from 9:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m. each day, with our days filled with singing, musical instruments, ringing bells, adventures, and so much more! More information and registration can be found here: <https://stlukeslutheran.org/music-camp/>



## Summer Pick-up Choir

Our first summer pick-up choir in June went really well! We have two more times to come and sing with our summer pick-up choir at the 10:30 a.m. service on July 27 and August 24. We gather at 9:45 a.m. to learn something easy for worship that day. All ages are welcome to come and sing!

## Abbey Atwater Clarinet Recital

Abbey Atwater returns this summer for a solo clarinet recital on Tuesday, August 12 at 7:00 p.m. She always does a fantastic job; you do not want to miss this recital!

## Praying for St. Luke's

During this time of transition, be sure to be praying for the Holy Spirit to guide us in the deliberations underway among us. God has placed this congregation in the center of Waukesha for mission and ministry. As we enter dialogue and consider our future, we need all our members to be praying that we will see God's future for us and have the courage and strength to step into it.

## Wild Church Worship

Are you a nature lover? Or just looking to experience worship in a different way and unique setting? Mark your calendars for the official launch of the Greater Milwaukee Wild Church! It will be a nature spirituality based Christian community that worships outside when possible and focuses on how the sacred speaks to us through creation. Wild Church is team-led, under the direction of local ELCA Pastor Larry Harpster. On Sunday, August 3 at 2:00 p.m. we will be kicking off our adventure with a celebration service at Ascension Lutheran church in Waukesha, 1415 Dopp St. Come ready to engage with all your senses, and bring a friend or two!

## Prayer Shawl for Taking and Making

Prayer shawl will follow the Waukesha School System schedule, in that we will not have summer meetings. We will meet in person starting September 18, 2025, to May 21, 2026, on the third Thursdays. Please continue to make and contribute prayer patches while we are on summer, in person break. We are always extremely happy to receive all work you do.

## Congregation Council News

1. We celebrated Pastor Jordan and Pastor Kimberly's 30th ordination anniversary. There was wonderful fellowship.
2. We send our youth off with many prayers for meaningful and blessed service at Pine Ridge Indian Reservation, South Dakota.
3. Council began discussion on the Call Committee. This is the next step after the MET process.

## Prayer Ministry

How can our Prayer Team pray for you, a friend or loved one? We are ready to lift up prayers for you during the joys and trials of your life. If you or someone you know needs prayer for any reason, please contact Laurie Rohrwasser, [irohrwasser@stlukeslutheran.org](mailto:irohrwasser@stlukeslutheran.org) Perhaps you know of someone who could use a note of encouragement or well wishes, please let her know.

## Welcome Our New Members

We welcomed our new members at the Sunday, June 1, service. They are Eric and Alison Blickley, Zachary, and Amanda Eschenburg with their son Ezra, Tim Ewing, Lori Mocco, Nora Robinson, and Suzanne Schuenemann. We are so excited they've chosen to join St. Luke's Lutheran Church! If you would like to join St. Luke's as a new member, please contact Shari Higgins at [shigs@stlukesletheran.org](mailto:shigs@stlukesletheran.org).

## Hadfield News

School is out for the summer, but Hadfield School wanted to thank the congregation for their continued support. From the volunteers to all the donations and financial help, everything is appreciated. Watch in the future for new ways to assist the teachers!

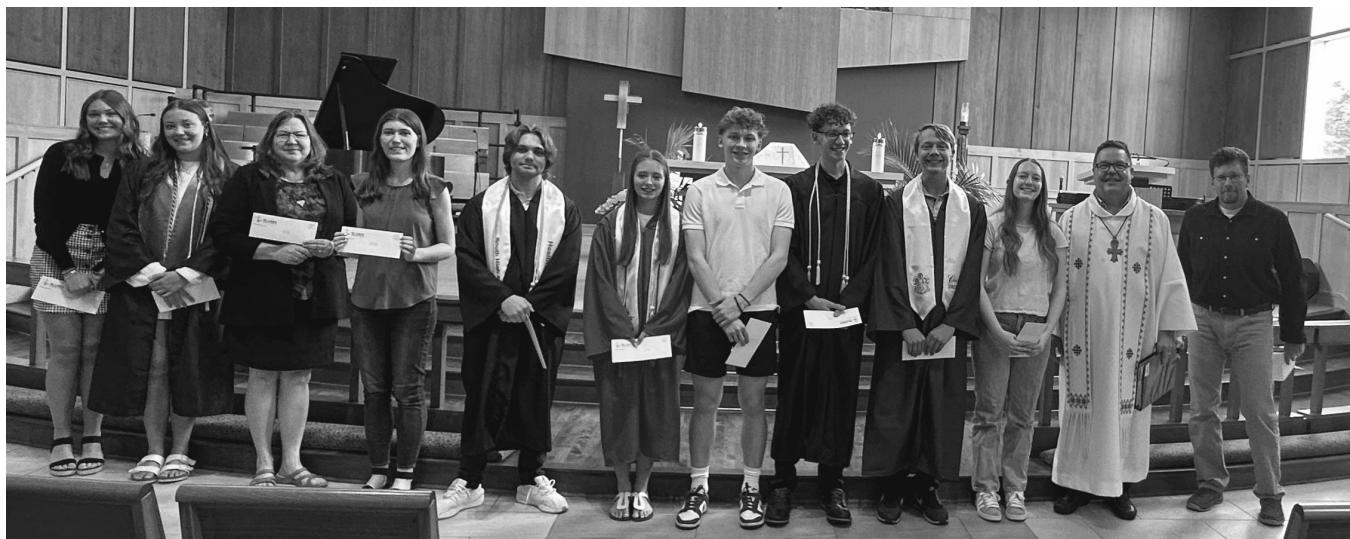
## Congratulations to St. Luke's 2025 Scholarship Recipients

On June 1, at the 10:30 a.m. service, Pastor Jordan and Mark Bjerke, the Chairperson of the St. Luke's Endowment Committee, presented the six annual St. Luke's Lutheran Church Endowment Fund Centennial Scholarships. Thanks to the generosity of the congregation donors, seven additional awards were presented using gifts from the Memorial Fund designated for scholarships.

Each of the thirteen applicants were asked to list the St. Luke's activities that they have been involved in. Their responses included Preschool at CLM, Sunday School and Confirmation, Music Camp, Vacation Bible School, and participation in the music ministry of St. Luke's. Many stories were shared about the influence of Youth Group activities and their life-changing mission trip experiences.

Scholarship recipients pictured left to right: Emily Ketter will continue her studies at Iowa State University majoring in Genetics and General Business; Natalie Ketter will be majoring in Pre-Nursing at UW-Madison; Kacey Kotvis (mother pictured) will continue majoring in Elementary Education with minors in Dance and Theatre Performance at UW-LaCrosse; Alison Mehling will continue her studies majoring in History and Social Studies Education at UW-Stevens Point; Grant Snider will be attending Concordia majoring in Public Health; Lauren Snider will be attending UW-Madison majoring in Engineering Mechanics; Alex Tank will continue at UW-LaCrosse with the goal of becoming a Doctor of Physical Therapy; Connor Tank will be attending UW-Madison majoring in Actuarial Science; Matthew Warnes will be attending UW-Madison majoring in Electrical Engineering, and Natalie Warnes will continue her studies at UW-Madison with majors in Finance and Risk Management.

Not pictured: Maddie Thorstad studying at Medical College of Wisconsin – Green Bay to become a family medicine physician, Alex Houle starting the four-year program at the Medical College of Wisconsin Milwaukee, and Elizabeth Shelley-Bregantini who will continue her studies at UW-Milwaukee for Architecture.



## Kwik Trip Cards Fundraiser

This is an on-going year-round fundraiser for the youth. If you frequent Kwik Trip on a regular basis, please consider purchasing gift cards through St. Luke's to use for your regular gas and grocery purchases. The youth will get a portion of your everyday purchases. In addition to the gift, gas and grocery cards, we also have 5-count car wash cards available. Cards are available for purchase either via an order form, available on the Welcome Station or directly from the stock Sunday mornings. The next order will be placed July 20, if you have any specific requests. Cards are typically received 10 to 14 days from the time the order is placed. Estimated available weekend of Aug 2 and 3. We plan to place an orders periodically to replenish on-hand stock and fulfill any special orders. Contact Cari ([youth@stlukeslutheran.org](mailto:youth@stlukeslutheran.org)) with any questions or to order cards.

## Youth & Family Life Committee Volunteers

Over the years, the Youth Committee and the Family Life Committee at St. Luke's faded into the background and ceased to exist as active committees. The functions of the committees have continued and have been performed by St. Luke's staff and interested adults. We are looking to re-start both committees formally in late summer/early fall as we begin the new programming year. The Youth Committee will focus on supporting the middle school and high school youth programming events and help to plan the future of these programs at St. Luke's.

The Family Life will support programming and events for families and younger children at St. Luke's as well as multi-generational programming and events. We are looking for adults of all ages that are interested in serving on these committees. Which are you signing up for? Active participation in a meeting once a month that lasts about one hour.

We want to be respectful of your time so we will commit to the one hour length and provide an agenda prior to the meeting. If you are interested in serving on either committee, please contact Cari Thompson ([youth@stlukeslutheran.org](mailto:youth@stlukeslutheran.org)) or Pastor Jordan ([pj@stlukeslutheran.org](mailto:pj@stlukeslutheran.org))

## Discipleship Training and Youth Group Updates

Discipleship Training (DT) is St. Luke's middle school youth ministry. Open to all 6<sup>th</sup> grade and older youth who wish to affirm their baptism. DT will resume Wednesday nights in September. Youth Group (YG) is St. Luke's high school youth ministry. Open to all 9<sup>th</sup>-12<sup>th</sup> grade youth. Friends always welcome. We would love to have you join us in the Youth Room for faith and fellowship.

7/5-Youth Mission Trip returns from Pine Ridge, South Dakota

7/12 & 7/13-Youth Mission Trip presentation at all services

7/20-Adult Youth Group Takeover - Cookout/Potluck 5:00 to 9:00 p.m.

2007 Capella Court, Waukesha bring a dish to share

RSVP to Cari [youth@stlukeslutheran.org](mailto:youth@stlukeslutheran.org) or 262.312.0505 by 7/15

### Looking Ahead:

8/8-Lock-In for all Youth 6<sup>th</sup>-12<sup>th</sup> grades) 7:00 p.m. - 7:00 a.m.

RSVP to Cari by 8/3

8/30-Hot Dogs & Ice Cream after the Saturday Service 6:15-8:00 p.m.

Bring a chair and join us in the parking lot ... ALL ages welcome

Please RSVP on Sign-Up Central

## St. Luke's Lutheran Church Core Values

Honoring God and serving Jesus Christ:

1. We share Jesus Christ and make disciples.
2. We worship God together.
3. We are curious, courageous, and open to the Holy Spirit.
4. We celebrate children and lift up families as they are.
5. We practice kindness and uphold the dignity of each individual.
6. We are committed to being an inclusive community of grace.
7. We stand ready to serve and advocate for our neighbors.
8. We honor our past and look to God's future for us.

## Communication is Key

Communicating when, where, what, why, and how is key. If there is something you would like communicated in the weekly bulletin, weekly *Connections* email, or the monthly Epistle newsletter, it's as easy as writing up the announcement and emailing it to Tonia at [office@stlukeslutheran.org](mailto:office@stlukeslutheran.org) or stopping by the office with your article by the deadlines. The deadlines for the bulletin and *Connections* is by 12:00 p.m. the Tuesday before the Thursday or weekend you would want the information in *Connections* or the bulletin. The deadline for the monthly Epistle newsletter is the 15<sup>th</sup> of the month unless the 15<sup>th</sup> falls on a weekend or holiday; then, the deadline is the Friday before. If you have any questions, please reach out either by email or call Tonia at (262) 542-2545.

## Online Giving

To start giving electronically or make changes to your on-line giving, please log on to our website and click on "Online Giving" on the far right. You can also fill out the paper authorization form and return it to the church office. Paper authorization forms are available at the Welcome Center.

## Welcome to the Font: A Baptismal Gathering

Pre-baptismal gathering, *Welcome to the Font*, is scheduled quarterly in our church. *Welcome to the Font* is a time for parents preparing for baptism to join together with other parents while learning about God's work for them and their children in Holy Baptism. *Welcome to the Font* is scheduled for Tuesday, September 9, at 6:30 p.m. in the Hospitality Center. Baptisms are scheduled only after attending a *Welcome to the Font* gathering. To attend "Welcome to the Font" call the church office at (262) 542-2545.

## Planning a Wedding?

Our website has information about getting married at or through St. Luke's Lutheran Church. Download the *Preparing for a Wedding* booklet from the weddings page of our website and you can learn about ceremonies in our sanctuary, chapel, or offsite. Visit [www.stlukeslutheran.org](http://www.stlukeslutheran.org) for information.

## Preparing for a Funeral

Our ministry of walking with people at times of death is an important work of this church. To help families prepare for a funeral, we've developed a booklet entitled, *Preparing for a Funeral*. You can download this resource from the funerals page of our website. Our pastors are available for any who would like to prepare for a funeral.

## July Mission: Lutheran Social Services

### Wisconsin and Upper Michigan

LSS empowers people to live their best lives by offering a path to recovery from addiction or mental illness, a home that's safe and affordable, a family to thrive in, independence and a life that is truly their own.

## Receiving Our Weekly *Connections* Email?

Each week we send out an email called *Connections*. It includes announcements, links, information about worship schedules, community events, and so much more. If you are not receiving it, email the office ([office@stlukeslutheran.org](mailto:office@stlukeslutheran.org)) to be added to the email list.

## Welcome Bishop Erickson

Bishop Paul Erickson of the Greater Milwaukee Synod will join us in worship the weekend of July 12 and 13. He will be preaching on the day's texts and challenging us to grow in faith.

## Town Hall Forum

Bishop Paul Erickson will lead a town hall forum, Sunday, July 13, between services. The forum is an important step in the process to call an Associate Pastor. All members of the congregation are invited to participate in the Town Hall Forum, to pray together, to give input, and to learn about the next steps. The session will be held in the Sanctuary.

## Update on Calling of An Associate Pastor

We continue to move forward with plans to call a permanent Associate Pastor. The Church Council has received and approved the work of the Mission Exploration Team. Leadership agrees that we continue to be a congregation best served by two full-time pastors and that this should be our priority moving forward. Our Ministry Site Profile (MSP) has been completed. The MSP is a lengthy document that describes the congregation and the sort of Pastor we hope to call. It has been submitted to the Greater Milwaukee Synod and a Call Committee is being assembled. Bishop Paul Erickson will conduct a town hall meeting, between services, Sunday, July 13, to hear more about our hopes and dreams. He will (again) ask us if we are open to calling qualified and talented candidates who are LGBTQ. Potential candidates will then be forwarded to us for consideration. Calling a pastor takes time and patience. During this time, we continue to invite you into prayer – asking the Holy Spirit to help us discern who to call as Associate Pastor.

## Flat Jesus on the Move

Have you picked up your Flat Jesus yet? There's still time to pick one up from the Welcome Center or print one off from the St. Luke's website. Take Flat Jesus with you on your adventures, no matter how big or small, and send the photos to Shari Higgins, Assistant for Engagement at [shigs@stlukeslutheran.org](mailto:shigs@stlukeslutheran.org). It's been great to see the photos start to come in as people travel all over!

## Memorials

In gratitude, we received memorials supporting the ongoing ministry of St. Luke's. You, too, can memorialize others with gifts to St. Luke's. You can also honor loved ones with honorariums given to St. Luke's. Memorials and honorariums are listed here each month.

During MAY, the following memorials and honorariums were made:

<b>In Memory of</b>	<b>Given by</b>	<b>Designation</b>
Brother, Jim (50 years gone)	Lori Mocco	Undesignated
Judy Jurkowski	Brian & Nancy Ferrell	Good Samaritan
Dick Krueger	Anonymous	Paraments
Dick & Jean Krueger	Anonymous	Paraments
Dick & Jean Krueger	Ron & Kathy Pederson	Paraments
Jim Krueger	Anonymous	Youth
Jim Krueger	Sue Bangle	Youth
Jim Krueger	Ginny Dietzler	Youth
Jim Krueger	Brian & Nancy Farrell	Youth
Jim Krueger	RJ & Cheryl Hildebran	Youth
Jim Krueger	Karen Hoeppner/Julie Lute	Youth
Jim Krueger	Jim & Gwen Kieso	Youth
Jim Krueger	Kevin & Tracy Jochims	Youth
Jim Krueger	Ron & Kathy Pederson	Paraments
Jim Krueger	Kevin & Jenny Thorstad	Youth
Jim Krueger	Sharon Wood	Youth
Travis Soto (Son)	Holly & Hector Soto	Undesignated
Travis Soto (Grandson)	Marianne Gilpatrick	Sunday School

<b>In Honor of</b>	<b>Given By</b>	<b>Designation</b>
Friend & New Member, Sue S.	Lori Mocco	Undesignated
Baptism of Hannah Gies	Jeph & Adrianna Gies	Youth

## Tee Up for Hope

Join the Hope Center for their annual *Tee Up for Hope* golf outing at the Broadlands Golf Club on Monday, July 14. There will be team scramble events with prizes, hole events, raffles, auctions, lunch buffet and post-golf heavy hors de oeuvres social. For tickets go to <https://hopecenterwi.org/event/register-now-tee-up-for-hope-golf-outing-2025/>

## Outdoor Worship

Don't forget to join us for outdoor worship on the third Sunday of July and August at our 10:30 a.m. Ignite service. Diverse Harvest will lead the music in Cutler Park on those days.

## CLM Scrip Fundraiser

Our St. Luke's Child Life Ministries Scrip Account through RaiseRight is now active! What is Scrip? It's a place where you can purchase gift cards and CLM will get a portion of your purchase kicked back! Going shopping? Get a gift card to pay for your purchase and donate to CLM at the same time, it's that easy! You can order your gift card and have it instantly available to use, right from your phone. There are two easy ways to sign up, follow this link OR scan the QR code. Share with your friends and relatives by sending them a text or email! There's no cost or upcharge, just purchasing gift cards that helps CLM.



### Church Office Hours:

8:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.

Monday - Friday

**Phone:** (262) 542-2545

**Fax:** (262) 542-1254

**Website:** [www.stlukeslutheran.org](http://www.stlukeslutheran.org)

**Facebook:** [facebook.com/sllcwaauk](https://facebook.com/sllcwaauk)

### Pastor Lindsay Jordan

#### Senior Pastor

[pj@stlukeslutheran.org](mailto:pj@stlukeslutheran.org)

### Pastor Maren Hooper

#### Interim Pastor

[pastormaren@stlukeslutheran.org](mailto:pastormaren@stlukeslutheran.org)

### Michael Schaner

#### Director of Music Ministries

[mschaner@stlukeslutheran.org](mailto:mschaner@stlukeslutheran.org)

### Cari Thompson

#### Youth Director

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### Shari Higgins

#### Assistant for Engagement

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### Laurie Rohrwasser

#### Care and Prayer Ministries Coord.

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### Courtney Stangl

#### Director of Child Life Ministries

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[cstangl@stlukeslutheran.org](mailto:cstangl@stlukeslutheran.org)

### Liz Anderson

#### Preschool Administrator

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### Mikey Schubert

#### Head Custodian

[mschubert@stlukeslutheran.org](mailto:mschubert@stlukeslutheran.org)

### Tonia Rice

#### Administrative Assistant

[office@stlukeslutheran.org](mailto:office@stlukeslutheran.org)

# St. Luke's Calendar for July 2025

## Tuesday, July 1

9:30 a.m. 1st Tuesday Book Club

## Wednesday, July 2

7:00 p.m. N.A.

## Thursday, July 3

7:00 p.m. Broad Hwy. A.A.

## Friday, July 4

Office Closed for Holiday

## Saturday, July 5

5:00 p.m. Worship

## Sunday, July 6

8:15 & 10:30 a.m. Worship

11:30 a.m. Executive Committee

6:00 p.m. Men's A.A.

## Monday, July 7

8:00 a.m. Amigos!

6:30 p.m. Al-Anon

## Tuesday, July 8

6:00 p.m. Summer Gathering

Cutler Park

The Journey Experience

## Wednesday, July 9

7:00 p.m. N.A.

7:00 p.m. Square Dancers

## Thursday, July 10

6:00 p.m. Diverse Harvest Practice

7:00 p.m. Broad Hwy. A.A.

## Saturday, July 12

5:00 p.m. Worship with  
Bishop Erickson &  
Youth Mission Trip  
Presentation

## Sunday, July 13

8:15 & 10:30 a.m. Worship with  
Bishop Erickson &  
Youth Mission Trip  
Presentation  
9:30 a.m. Mt. Meru Coffee  
9:30 a.m. Town Hall Forum with  
Bishop Erickson  
6:00 p.m. Men's A.A.

## Monday, July 14

8:00 a.m. Amigos!

1:00 p.m. Facilities Committee

6:30 p.m. Al-Anon

## Tuesday, July 15

5:30 p.m. Finance Committee

6:30 p.m. Church Council

## Wednesday, July 16

7:00 p.m. N.A.

## Thursday, July 17

7:00 p.m. Broad Hwy. A.A.

## Saturday, July 19

5:00 p.m. Worship

## Sunday, July 20

8:15 a.m. Worship

10:30 a.m. Worship in Cutler Park  
(weather permitting)

5:00 p.m. Adult Takeover  
Youth Group Cookout  
6:00 p.m. Men's A.A.

## Monday, July 21

8:00 a.m. Amigos!

6:30 p.m. Al-Anon

## Tuesday, July 22

5:30 p.m. Personnel Committee

## Wednesday, July 23

7:00 p.m. N.A.

7:00 p.m. Square Dancers

## Thursday, July 24

6:00 p.m. Diverse Harvest Practice

7:00 p.m. Broad Hwy. A.A.

## Saturday, July 26

5:00 p.m. Worship

## Sunday, July 27

8:15 & 10:30 a.m. Worship

9:30 a.m. Mt. Meru Coffee Sales

9:45 a.m. Summer Pick Up Choir

6:00 p.m. Men's A.A.

## Monday, July 28

8:00 a.m. Amigos!

9:00 a.m. Music Camp

6:30 p.m. Al-Anon

## Tuesday, July 29

9:00 a.m. Music Camp

## Wednesday, July 30

9:00 a.m. Music Camp

7:00 p.m. N.A.

7:00 p.m. Square Dancers

## Thursday, July 31

9:00 a.m. Music Camp

7:00 p.m. Broad Hwy. A.A.

## Please Remember

All calendar dates and times are  
subject to change as needed.  
Check for updates on the online  
calendar [www.stlukeslutheran.org](http://www.stlukeslutheran.org).

## July Council Contact

**Gloria Brechlin**

denglor522@gmail.com  
(262) 547-8096

**The deadline for the next issue  
of the Epistle is  
Tuesday, July 15.**

## Epistle Online

Are you still receiving a paper copy  
of The Epistle in the mail? Reading  
The Epistle online saves paper and  
postage, allows you to print only the  
pages you want, and includes live  
links. If you would like to receive  
our weekly **Connections** email and  
our monthly newsletter, The Epistle,  
by email please contact the church  
office at (262) 542-2545 or  
[office@stlukeslutheran.org](mailto:office@stlukeslutheran.org).

## Use Your Phone to Give.

Point your camera at the QR code to  
use Omella to make an online gift.  
Your gifts will be counted  
as offerings and will  
support the ministry of  
St. Luke's Lutheran.





# St. Luke's Lutheran Church

300 Carroll Street, Waukesha, WI 53186

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RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED

## 30 Years Celebrated

On Sunday, June 22, there was a celebration for PJ and his wife Kimberly's 30 years in ordained ministry.

The event took place between services and included fellowship and refreshments.

The Serving Life committee organized gifts as a token of appreciation for PJ's dedication.

Thank you to all that contributed and showed love to the Pastors Jordan; PJ and Kimberly.

