



# St. Luke's Lutheran Church

January 2026

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

## Before the Year Names You

January arrives without much ceremony. It comes not with hymns or fireworks, but with budgets, calendars, and unanswered emails. We open new planners and old worries. We make quiet promises to ourselves and carry old disappointments into yet another year. This is the season that tells us to begin again, to do better, to plan more carefully, to measure our lives against fresh expectations.

And yet before the year gets the chance to define you, the church pauses to remind you who you already are.



Early in January, the church celebrates the Baptism of Our Lord. We remember the moment when Jesus steps into the Jordan, when the waters close around him, and the voice of God speaks from heaven, calling him beloved before he has preached a sermon, healed a wound, or carried a cross. Jesus is named before he is tested. He is claimed before he is proven. The heart of our faith is revealed in that moment, because the same promise spoken over Christ is spoken over us.

Baptism is the church's way of telling the truth about you before the world tries to tell its own story. It is God's declaration that you belong, not because you succeeded last year and not because you have resolved to do better this year, but simply because God is faithful. Baptism is not a symbol of our commitment to God. It is a proclamation of God's commitment to us. It is not God keeping track of your growth. It is God holding on to you when you grow tired.

We are often tempted at the beginning of the year to measure ourselves by productivity or progress. We wonder what we achieved, what we failed to do, what we ought to do differently this time around. But faith begins somewhere else. It begins with the simple truth that before you make a plan, God has already made a promise. Before you list a goal, God has already given you grace. Before you question your worth, God has already spoken your name.

The water of baptism does not evaporate when life becomes complicated. The promise does not shrink when faith feels small. God does not step away when we struggle or wander or doubt. What God has claimed, God does not abandon. What God has named, God does not forget. You are not released from belonging when life becomes difficult or when belief feels fragile.

The world will do its best this year to tell you who you are. Some days it will praise you. Other days it will ignore you. Sometimes it will value you for what you produce. Sometimes it will make you feel as though you are only as good as your last success or failure. It will invite you to believe that you are defined by what you earn, what you manage, or what you cannot quite fix.

Baptism tells a different story.

**(Continued on page 3)**

## A “Reintroduction of Sorts” - Part II!

If you missed my “Part I Bio” make sure to go back to the December Epistle and read that! The “cliffhanger” was that I came back from an impactful study abroad trip my junior year of college, thinking about enrolling in seminary but still not sure. Given that I’m now a pastor, suffice it to say that I *did* follow those nudges to enroll in seminary!

I knew I needed a little break from the books though and wanted some hands-on life experience before starting my studies at the Lutheran School of Theology at Chicago (LSTC). So, in the Fall of 2001, I traded the college dorms for a different sort of communal living. I spent a year in El Paso, Texas with three other housemates while we all participated in Border Servant Corps (kind of like AmeriCorps, but faith-based).



My volunteer placement was at *Iglesia Luterana Cristo Rey*, an ELCA congregation comprised mostly of Mexican immigrants. My role with the church was to coordinate Border Immersion Experiences, where we’d host week-long learning excursions with all sorts of groups – church groups, college kids over Spring Break and more. But before I could be a coordinator, I had my own Border Immersion experience of sorts: hearing the stories and migration journeys of members, and learning from the larger community – everything from legal advocates, shelters, pro-bono doctors and dentists serving in Juarez, and more.

I learned how to drive a 12-passenger van and how to navigate border crossings (as we’d also travel to Juarez to meet with partners.), which got especially long and tricky that year after 9/11. That didn’t stop us though!

I had the good fortune to spend the year leading groups through the same eye-opening and heart-expanding experiences I had come to know. It was a year I’ll always treasure – being an “outsider,” yet entrusted with guiding and sharing stories that help us all come to a larger awareness of the presence of God in all people and cultures.

In the Fall of 2002, I packed up the bags again and began seminary in Chicago. I loved taking classes in the Windy City, on the south side within a mile’s walk of Lake Michigan. I lived with three other seminarians in campus-owned brownstones, as we all learned more about the Bible, church history, worship and preaching, pastoral care and more.

Then I met this guy Brian Hooper in one of my classes. We began running together, and not too long after that started dating. By the end of that first year, we were talking marriage, but there was just one little hiccup – he was a graduating senior and would soon be assigned to his first call! We’d figure it out, somehow: he got a call-in small town Le Sueur, Minnesota, (about ½ hour south of the Twin Cities), I finished up my second year at LSTC, got married that summer and moved. I was able to finish seminary by commuting up to Luther in St. Paul and taking online classes.

The next few years were a bit of a blur as I did an internship in Mankato, finished courses, graduated, and our first child Norah was born in February 2007. In September 2007 Brian accepted a new call in New Berlin, and we moved to Wisconsin. Brian now serves at St. Stephen the Martyr ELCA in Greendale, where he has served the last 11 years.

I spent a few years doing pulpit supply and other church work and was ordained at Mount Carmel Lutheran in Milwaukee in 2010. Our son Ben was also born in 2010 – so more busy years! In the years between now and then, interim ministry has found me serving churches of various sizes including in West Allis, Pewaukee, Hartland, Wauwatosa, Muskego and West Milwaukee.

Interim ministry was good... but let’s just say I am THRILLED to now be settling into one place here at St. Lukes! I am grateful for your warm welcome and support of my ministry among you all; and I’m excited to see how God will lead us all and guide our service in the coming years!

God’s blessings to you in this New Year,  
Pastor Maren Hooper

## Music & Fine Arts at St. Luke's updates

Thank you to everyone who attended our concerts in November and December. We had fantastic music by the Milwaukee Handbell Ensemble, the Wisconsin Wind Orchestra, the Milwaukee Festival Brass, Waukesha Choral Union, and Cream City Silver Band.

On January 25, we welcome back the Wisconsin Philharmonic for their annual Jamboree family concert. Tickets are available at the door, with an instrument petting zoo at 1:00 p.m. and the concert at 2:00 p.m.

Thank you to all our musicians who helped lead worship during Advent and Christmas. Your hard work is appreciated by the congregation, and especially myself. I look forward to our continued time making music together!



## Before the Year Names You (Continued)

It says that you are already held. It says that you are known more fully than you could ever manage to be on your own. It says that the love of God is not transactional and does not adjust to your performance. You do not start each year trying to earn your place with God. You begin each year standing firmly inside a grace that was given long before you were aware you needed it.

So perhaps January does not need to be the season when you reinvent yourself. Perhaps it is simply the season when you remember whose you are. The year ahead will hold ordinary days and unexpected turning points. It will offer moments that will fill your heart and others that will test it. There will be days when gratitude comes easily and days when showing up will feel like a holy act all by itself. Whatever this year brings, you will not walk into it unmarked or unnoticed.

You go into it baptized, and that is not a small thing.

## Angel Tree Program – A Big THANK YOU!

On December 15, the Angel Tree Team, with the help of several Amigos, delivered 40 cartons of gifts to both Hadfield Elementary and other Waukesha families who were supported through our 2025 Angel Tree project. The principal and staff at Hadfield, as well as other key administrative personnel at our other recipient location, were overwhelmed with the colorfully wrapped, abundant gifts.

To recap the congregation's efforts for this, it took only 12 days for all 158 gift wishes to be claimed from the Angel Tree. More than 225 gifts, not just 158, were actually returned, including over \$2,500 in gift cards. 12 wonderful volunteers wrapped each and every gift.

We applied for one Thrivent grant for the Hadfield families and another grant for the other Waukesha families we served. Both grants were received and used for supplies, wrapping, and other necessities.

Additionally, our Good Samaritan Fund provided each of the 23 families with a food gift card.

Your generosity abounded in so many ways. Thank you is not a sufficient expression for this experience. We are truly blessed to have love for so many people we do not know.



## Discipleship Training Updates

Discipleship Training (DT) is St. Luke's middle school youth ministry and is open to all 6<sup>th</sup> grade and older youth who wish to affirm their baptism. Pastor Jordan, Pastor Jim and Cari look forward each week to walking beside our youth on their faith journey with our middle school and older youth who wish to affirm their baptism through stories, service projects, conversation, food, silly games, fun and laughter. It is not too late to join us in the Youth Room on Wednesday nights. DT will generally meet on Wednesday evenings from 6:00-8:00 p.m. with additional learning, service and community time outside the normal class time.

Contact Cari ([youth@stlukeslutheran.org](mailto:youth@stlukeslutheran.org)) for additional information.

**January Activities:** meetings from 6:00-8:00 p.m. in the Youth Room In addition to Wednesday nights in January, DT meets Sundays along with the High School Youth to plan the Youth Led Weekend services.

1/4 Youth Led Weekend Planning & Prep in Youth Room 9:15-10:15a.m.

1/7 DT in Youth Room 6:00-8:00 p.m.

Theme: The Book of Acts: Ascension & Pentecost

1/11 Youth Led Weekend Planning & Prep in Youth Room 9:15-10:15a.m.

Cinnamon Roll Sunday 7:30-11:30a.m.

1/14 DT in Youth Room 6:00-8:00 p.m.

Theme: The Book of Acts: The First Martyr

1/21 DT in Youth Room 6:00-8:00 p.m.

Theme: The Book of Acts: Philip and the Ethiopian Eunuch

1/25 Youth Led Weekend Planning & Prep in Youth Room 9:15-10:15a.m.

1/28 DT in Youth Room 6:00-8:00 p.m.

Theme: The Book of Acts: Saul becomes Paul

1/31 Final Prep and Practice for Youth Led Weekend 2:00-4:00p.m.

4:00-4:45p.m. Break and Snack provided

5:00p.m. Youth Run Worship service

6:15p.m. Dinner / Saturday Social in Hospitality/Cloninger Hall

2/1 7:30-11:45a.m. Youth takeover and run both Sunday Worship services breakfast provided in between services in the youth room

### Looking ahead:

February 17, Shrove Tuesday Pancake Supper

March 20-21 Lutherdale Retreat

Lent is just around the corner. All DT Youth: Reminder to please ask the adult that you would like to be your mentor if they are willing.

Lenten Mentorship starts on Ash Wednesday, February 18. Please turn in the name of your mentor to Cari by February 1.

## Youth Group

Youth Group is open to all in 9<sup>th</sup>-12<sup>th</sup> grade. Friends always welcome.

### January Activities:

YG meets Sundays with DT to plan Youth Led Weekend services.

1/4 Youth Led Weekend Planning & Prep in Youth Room 9:15-10:15a.m.

1/11 Youth Led Weekend Planning & Prep in Youth Room 9:15-10:15a.m.

Cinnamon Roll Sunday 7:30-11:30a.m.

1/17 GMS Youth Event, American Black Holocaust Museum 12:00-

4:30p.m. Meet at St. Luke's

1/25 Youth Led Weekend Planning & Prep in Youth Room 9:15-10:15a.m.

(Continued in next column)

## Youth Group (Continued)

1/31 Final Prep and Practice for Youth Led Weekend 2:00-4:00p.m.

4:00-4:45p.m. Break and Snack provided

5:00p.m. Youth Run

Worship service

6:15p.m. Dinner / Saturday

Social in Hospitality/

Cloninger Hall

2/1 7:30-11:45a.m. Youth takeover and run both Sunday Worship services breakfast provided in between services in the youth room

### Looking ahead:

February 17, Shrove Tuesday

Pancake Supper

## Kwik Trip 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 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 order form, available on the Welcome Station or directly from the stock Sunday mornings. Additional denominations are available upon request, usually within 2 weeks of the order.

Contact Cari

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

with questions or to order cards.

## Saturday Social

Join the Youth on Saturday, January 31, for dinner, conversation and a little laughter after the 5:00 p.m. service. Menu for January is pulled pork and shredded chicken plus all the fixings.

**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.

**CLM Preschool  
Scholarship**

Did you know that you can make an offering towards the CLM Preschool Scholarship Fund? This fund is set aside specifically for families within our half-day Preschool program that need financial assistance, or for families that wish to enroll in Preschool but cannot afford full tuition. Offerings to the CLM Preschool Scholarship Fund can be made through your regular giving envelope or through on-line giving. Thank you!

**January Council Contact**  
**Chris Jackson**  
jacksoch246@gmail.com  
(262) 894-5585

**The deadline for the next  
Issue of the Epistle is  
Thursday, January 15.**

**Discipleship Training Lenten Mentors/Subs Needed**

We are looking for adult volunteers to be Lenten mentors and subs for our awesome youth. Qualification are a willingness to meet with one of our St Luke's youths on Wednesday evenings 6:00-8:00 p.m. during Lent, March 5-April 9, for supper and guided conversation. Then, attend the Lenten service with the youth. If you would be willing to be a mentor or substitute mentor in case of absences, please contact Cari via email at [youth@stlukeslutheran.org](mailto:youth@stlukeslutheran.org).

**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.



**Fall 2025 Preschool Enrollment Time**

It may be chilly outside, but January is the hottest month for preschool registration! If your child/grandchild will be 2, 3, or 4 years of age by 9/1/25, this information is for you! Now is the time to call with your questions and to arrange a visit before the registration process begins. All classes will be filled on a first-come, first-served basis. Preschool enrollment dates are as follows:

**January 20:** Priority registration for families with children currently enrolled in the Preschool Program.

**January 26:** Registration for St. Luke's church members, families with children currently enrolled in the Child Care program at St. Luke's and families who have had children in our Preschool Program in past years

**February 1:** Enrollment is open to the community. Spread the word!

**Save the Dates and Tell Your Friend**

St. Luke's Preschool features small class sizes, weekly music classes, Bible stories and songs, Chapel Chats with a pastor, service projects, Pre-K readiness, field trips, and much more. More details can be found at [www.stlukeslutheran.org](http://www.stlukeslutheran.org). Children entering the 3-and 4-Year classes must be toilet trained. Classes follow the school year calendar, and the following options will be available for fall 2025:

**2 Years Old (by 9/1/25):** First Steps to Preschool—Classes meet 1 morning a week-9:00 to 11:00 a.m. (child must be accompanied by an adult).

**3 Years Old (by 9/1/25):** Classes meet 2 mornings a week-9:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m.

**4 Years Old (by 9/1/25):** Classes meet 2 or 3 mornings a week-9:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m.

Many families choose to attend our Preschool in the morning and our School District of Waukesha 4K in the afternoon!

Contact Liz at (262) 522-6747 or [landerson@stlukeslutheran.org](mailto:landerson@stlukeslutheran.org) to learn how your child or grandchild can be a part of the St. Luke's Preschool experience!

## 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 **NOVEMBER**, the following memorials and honorariums were made:

<u>In Memory of</u>	<u>Given By</u>	<u>Designation</u>
Pr. Douglas Buck, Member		
Under Pr. Cloniger	Janet Buck	Undesignated
Anita Huntington	Dennis & Diane Voit	Centennial Scholarships
Randy Kieck	Jim & Gwen Kieso	Food Pantry
Randy Kieck	Ron & Kathy Pederson	Paraments
Richard Wood	Sharon Wood	Christmas
Bernice Manske		Decorations

## Needle & Thimble

Please join Needle and Thimble on Tuesdays at 8:30 a.m. They meet every week unless there is no school. Everyone is welcome. You don't need to be able to sew. There are other things that can be done. Please call Marilyn Olson if you have questions, (262) 844-2519.

## Needle & Thimble Needs Your Fabric and Thread

Needle and Thimble is our church sewing group that makes quilts for Lutheran World Relief. We rely on fabric and thread donations; our stash is getting low at this time. If you have fabric (please no little scraps) and / or thread, that you will not need, please consider donating to Needle and Thimble. We especially welcome gently used bedsheets. You may drop off these items anytime at the church office, 8:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. Monday through Friday. For more information, please contact Gwen Kieso (262) 442-1749 or Marilyn Olson (262) 844-2519.

## Prayer Shawl, There is Still a Need

Busy knitter and crocheters, please do not stop! The items you donate will still be blessed and packaged. Lap robes and prayer shawls are available in the display cabinet located in Veterans' Hall. If you know someone who needs a hug from God, feel free to choose an appropriate one from the display. There is a clipboard to record the recipient's name. Share the LOVE! Also, thank you for keeping our prayer patches full! Please feel free to take yarn from the shelves by the History Hall. Please call Gloria for dimensions of what you make and with any questions at (262) 547-8096.

## Committing to Worship

We are encouraging each other all year long to commit/recommit to deeper engagement in worship. Perhaps you've drifted away from regular worship attendance. Come back and let God feed you in the Word and at the table of Holy Communion. Maybe while you're here, you might be called to participate more fully in the liturgies we speak and sing together. Commit yourself/yourselves to deeper engagement in worship.. The more you engage God in worship, the deeper your relationship with him grows.

## 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/sllcwauk](https://facebook.com/sllcwauk)

## Pastor Lindsay Jordan

### Senior Pastor

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

## Pastor Maren Hooper

### 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

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

## Shari Higgins

### Assistant for Engagement

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

## Laurie Rohrwasser

### Care and Prayer Ministries

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

## Cindy Maigatter

### Financial Administrator

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

## Courtney Stangl

### Director of Child Life Ministries

(262) 522-6738

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

## Liz Anderson

### Preschool Administrator

(262) 522-6747

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

## Mikey Schubert

### Head Custodian

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

## Tonia Rice

### Administrative Assistant

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



## 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, March 3, 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.

## Prayer Team

Scripture encourages us to bear one another's burdens. Lifting others up in prayer is a way to do that. The need for prayer and for people to pray grows daily! Please consider becoming a member of our Prayer Team. There are no meetings or phone calls. You will receive prayer requests via email and are asked to pray daily. No specific prayer, but suggestions are given. Simply ask God to guide you. Did you know you can pray any time and any place? How about while brushing your teeth or showering, during your kids' practices or games, while waiting for appointments? All that is asked is that you pray daily. Please consider joining this vital ministry. For information, contact Laurie Rohrwasser.

## 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, [lrohrwasser@stlukeslutheran.org](mailto:lrohrwasser@stlukeslutheran.org). Perhaps you know of someone who could use a note of encouragement or well wishes, please let her know.

## Extending Care for You

Our pastors make visits and calls to people in need of pastoral care. If you would like pastoral care, please call the church office at (262) 542-2545. This is especially important if you are going through life-transitions, illness, or trauma. If you change your address or enter a care facility or rehab center, please update the church office.

## 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).

## Are You 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.

## Christmas Cookie Sale - THANK YOU

Thank you to all who supported the cookie sale by baking, frosting, purchasing and eating cookies in December! We raised over \$1,000 for youth programming. WOW!!! Without your support this would not have happened. THANK YOU!

## January Mission: Lutheran Disaster Response: This

organization of the ELCA brings God's hope, healing, and renewal to people whose lives have been disrupted by disasters in the United States and the world.

## Flower and Coffee Hour Sponsorship

We are very blessed to see so many participating in sponsoring Coffee Hour and Ambo Flowers to honor or celebrate a loved one or a special occasion! If you have signed up on the poster or the Coffee Hour board, please drop off your offerings to cover the sponsorship at the church office, offering plate, or via mail. Please include which sponsorship you are paying in the memo line, envelope detail, or a simple note. The cost of the sponsorships are as follows: Flowers: \$50 per weekend, Coffee Hour: \$30 for 2 weekends or \$55 for a month. If you have any questions, please contact Cindy in the church office. Many thanks!

## 2026 Monthly Coffee Hour Sponsorship

The 2025 Monthly Coffee Hour Sponsorship is now available at Sign Up Central. The fee for the coffee hour is \$30 for 2 weekends or \$55 for the whole month. With the sponsorship, you receive the **option** to have displayed up to 12 pictures on the high tables in the narthex and Hospitality area. The picture(s) must be received in the office no later than the 15<sup>th</sup> of the month prior to your sponsorship month. If no pictures are received, a written acknowledgement of your sponsorship will be displayed. If you have any questions, please contact Sandy Hendrickson (262) 542-5940 or Tonia in the church office with questions.

## Communication is Important

Communicating when, where, what, why, and how is important. 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 the announcement and emailing it to [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* are 12:00 p.m. the Tuesday before the Thursday or the weekend you would want the information in *Connections* or 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 the church office at (262) 542-2545.

## Serving in Worship

There are a variety of ways to serve the community whenever we worship. Each of the ways are equally important to our weekly experience of God's grace. You can serve as a lector, an usher, a member of the altar guild, a communion assistant and more. We use "Ministry Scheduler Pro," an online tool, to help people schedule their worship ministry involvement. If you have an account on Ministry Scheduler Pro, you received an email inviting you to update your profile and involvement. That email also contained your credentials to log in. The spotlight section of our website's homepage also has a link to our Ministry Scheduler that you can follow. Our goal is to develop schedules that use the many gifts and talents present in our congregation.

## Support the Food Pantry

You can make monetary donations to the pantry through their website. Leaders of the pantry want us to know that canned fruits and veggies along with soups have been limited the last few months. When shopping for yourself, pick up some for our neighbors and drop them in the food pantry barrels as you leave the grocery store, or bring to church to drop in the cart by door.

## Help For the Hope Center

There are many ways to help the Hope Center. Sorters are needed in the Clothing Shop, prep and serve breakfast and lunch, dates can vary. You can volunteer by contacting (262) 549-8726. Check out their website for their weekly donation request list at <https://hopecenterwi.org/donate-now/>. Hope Center address is 101 W Broadway, Waukesha 53186.

## The Gathering

The Gathering is a group open to all. We will meet on the first Thursday of the month at 1:00 p.m. in the hospitality area. Come share your hobbies, interests and talents, or just listen. Get to know your fellow church members and even make new friends. If you would like to participate and this day and time doesn't work for you, let us know by calling Gloria Brechlin (262) 547-8096

## Search Bible Study

Join PJ for Search Bible Study on Wednesdays at 1:00 p.m. Grow in faith and engage in great conversations.





## St. Luke's Calendar for January 2026

<b>Thursday</b> Office Closed 7:00 p.m.	<b>January 1</b> Broad Hwy. A.A.	<b>Monday</b> 8:00 a.m. 6:30 p.m.	<b>January 12</b> Amigos! Al-Anon	7:00 p.m.	Broad Hwy. A.A.
<b>Friday</b> Office Closed	<b>January 2</b>	<b>Tuesday</b> 8:30 a.m. 4:30 p.m. 7:00 p.m.	<b>January 13</b> Needle and Thimble Worship Life Committee W.C.U. Rehearsal	<b>Saturday</b> 5:00 p.m.	<b>January 24</b> Worship
<b>Saturday</b> 5:00 p.m.	<b>January 3</b> Worship	<b>Wednesday</b> 1:00 p.m. 6:00 p.m. 6:00 p.m. 7:00 p.m. 7:00 p.m. 7:15 p.m.	<b>January 14</b> Search Bible Study CLM Board Meeting Discipleship Training Godsbells N.A. SquareDancers Voices of Faith	<b>Sunday</b> 8:15 & 10:30 a.m. 9:15 a.m. 9:20 a.m. 9:30 a.m. 1:00 p.m. 6:00 p.m.	<b>January 25</b> Worship Discipleship Training & Youth Group Sunday School Mt. Meru Coffee M&FAS Wis Phil JanBoree Concert Men's A.A.
<b>Sunday</b> 8:15 & 10:30 a.m. 9:15 a.m. 11:30 a.m. 6:00 p.m.	<b>January 4</b> Worship Discipleship Training & Youth Group Executive Committee Men's A.A.	<b>Thursday</b> 4:30 p.m. 5:00 p.m. 6:30 p.m. 7:00 p.m.	<b>January 15</b> Joyful Noise Community Meal Women Bible Study Broad Hwy. A.A.	<b>Monday</b> 8:00 a.m. 6:30 p.m.	<b>January 26</b> Amigos! Al-Anon
<b>Monday</b> 8:00 a.m. 6:30 p.m.	<b>January 5</b> Amigos! Al-Anon	<b>Saturday</b> No Service	<b>January 17</b>	<b>Tuesday</b> 8:30 a.m. 7:00 p.m. 7:00 p.m.	<b>January 27</b> Needle and Thimble W.C.U. Rehearsal Personnel Committee
<b>Tuesday</b> 8:30 a.m. 9:30 a.m. 7:00 p.m.	<b>January 6</b> Needle and Thimble 1st Tuesday Book Club W.C.U. Rehearsal	<b>Wednesday</b> 1:00 p.m. 6:00 p.m. 6:00 p.m. 7:00 p.m. 7:00 p.m. 7:15 p.m.	<b>January 18</b> Worship Pastor Hoopers Installation Men's A.A.	<b>Thursday</b> 4:30 p.m. 5:00 p.m. 7:00 p.m.	<b>January 28</b> Search Bible Study Discipleship Training Godsbells N.A. SquareDancers Voices of Faith
<b>Wednesday</b> 1:00 p.m. 6:00 p.m. 6:00 p.m. 7:00 p.m. 7:00 p.m. 7:15 p.m.	<b>January 7</b> Search Bible Study Discipleship Training Godsbells N.A. Square Dancers Voices of Faith	<b>Monday</b> 8:00 a.m. 1:00 p.m. 6:30 p.m.	<b>January 19</b> Amigos! Sarah Circle Al-Anon	<b>Saturday</b> 2:00 p.m.	<b>January 29</b> Joyful Noise Community Meal Broad Hwy. A.A.
<b>Thursday</b> 4:30 p.m. 5:00 p.m. 7:00 p.m.	<b>January 8</b> Joyful Noise Community Meal Broad Hwy. A.A.	<b>Tuesday</b> 8:30 a.m. 5:30 p.m. 6:30 p.m. 7:00 p.m.	<b>January 20</b> Needle and Thimble Finance Committee Church Council W.C.U. Rehearsal	<b>Sunday</b> 8:15 & 10:30 a.m. 9:15 a.m. 9:15 a.m. 9:20 a.m. 9:30 a.m. 9:30 a.m. 6:00 p.m.	<b>January 31</b> Discipleship Training & Youth Group Final Prep & Practice for Youth Led Weekend Worship
<b>Saturday</b> 5:00 p.m.	<b>January 10</b> Worship	<b>Wednesday</b> 1:00 p.m. 6:00 p.m. 6:00 p.m. 7:00 p.m. 7:15 p.m.	<b>January 21</b> Search Bible Study Discipleship Training Godsbells N.A. Voices of Faith		
<b>Sunday</b> 8:15 & 10:30 a.m. 9:15 a.m. 9:15 a.m. 9:20 a.m. 9:30 a.m. 9:30 a.m. 6:00 p.m.	<b>January 11</b> Worship Cinnamon Roll Sunday Discipleship Training & Youth Group Sunday School Mt. Meru Coffee Men's Chorus Rehearsals Men's A.A.	<b>Thursday</b> 4:30 p.m. 5:00 p.m.	<b>January 22</b> Joyful Noise Community Meal		

**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)**



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RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED

*Happy New Year* ♥ *Happy New Year* ♥ *Happy New Year*

## Installation Service Scheduled

Bishop Paul Erickson of the Greater Milwaukee Synod of the ELCA will install Pastor Maren Hooper as Associate Pastor of St. Luke's, Sunday, January 18. To celebrate, the congregation will hold one service that weekend: Sunday, January 18 at 9:15 a.m. There will be no Saturday night service that weekend. A meal and time of hospitality will follow.

## What's Our Spending Plan?

Learn more about what your gifts to St. Luke's makes possible. Discover more about the finances of the church. The finance committee will present information about the church's spending plan at a listening session on Sunday, February 1, at 9:30 a.m. This session will be held in the chapel.

## Annual Meeting

St. Luke's Lutheran will gather for its Annual Meeting, Sunday, February 8, following the completion of the first service, around 9:15 a.m. At the annual meeting we'll hold elections, approve the budget, and more. See the Annual Report for the complete agenda, available late January 2026.

*Happy New Year* ♥ *Happy New Year* ♥ *Happy New Year*

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## 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.

