

# St. Luke Evangelical Lutheran Church Newsletter

April  
2023

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

## **St. Luke Evangelical Lutheran Church**

1432 Heidelberg Ave; PO Box 278  
Schaefferstown, PA 17088  
www.stlukelutheran.org  
office@stlukelutheran.org  
717-949-3375

### **Together we are doing God's work with our hands:**

#### Pastor

Rev. Angela Hammer

#### Minister of Music

(Organist/Sr. Choir Dir)

Linda Holt

#### Contemporary Worship Team

Linda Holt, Todd Snyder, and  
Sarah Kneller

#### Second Sunday Musician:

David Deysher

#### Secretary and Bookkeeper

John C. Brewster

#### Treasurer/Financial Secretary

Michael DeLong/Richelle Deysher

#### Sextons:

Kit and Lori Ahnert

#### Live Streaming Assistant:

William Hoffman

#### Ministers:

All the people of St. Luke



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## From the Pastor:

“Early on the first day of the week, while it was still dark, Mary Magdalene came to the tomb and saw that the stone had been removed from the tomb.” – John 20:1

Upon writing this message for the April newsletter, we are still sitting in the darkness of the 40-day Lenten journey. A lot of things can happen between today and Easter Sunday. As I consider my personal Lenten journey this year (which has consisted of daily fasting, daily mediation, and time in silence), I look with anticipation for our celebratory traditions on Easter Sunday. And not because my fasting is done or Wednesday evening services conclude, but because we are reminded again of Jesus’ victory over death! A victory that we can never fully grasp, nor the mystery of the depth of God’s love for humanity.

God’s mystery and love comes to us in the most creative and unsuspecting ways. God relates to each and every one of us in unique ways. The event of the resurrection alone is described differently throughout the gospels. “The Synoptics describe the stone as having been rolled away, and Matthew says that an angel rolled it away (Matthew 28:2). In Matthew 28, an angel tells the women that Jesus has risen. In Mark 16, the messenger is a young man dressed in white. In Luke 24, the women enter the tomb, but do not find the body. John doesn’t speak of a messenger or of Mary going inside the tomb. “(Sermon Writer)

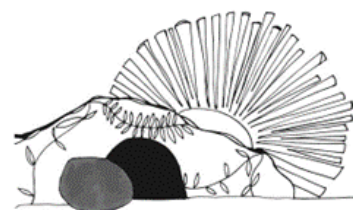
The stone rolled away from the tomb is such a powerful image, emotionally and spiritually. As we journey to the cross over the 40 days of Lent, we are reminded through scripture, music, prayer, Wednesday evening community devotions the depth of which God so loved the world that he gave His only Son for the forgiveness of YOUR sins! The rolled away stone shows the power of God’s love. The emptiness of the tomb is both a deep mystery and a promise of hope. What that empty tomb means to you, to me, to Mary and Peter and all of the witnesses of the resurrection is Christ’s victory of death. Death is defeated! Hope is alive!

“Early on the first day of the week, while it was still dark, Mary Magdalene came to the tomb and saw that the stone had been removed from the tomb.”

The empty tomb means the same today as it did on that first Easter morning. As a resurrection people, we experience the living Christ daily in ways that are unique, mysterious, profound, and rooted in deep love. Though our experiences with Christ are different, the reality and truth of that empty tomb remain steadfast. Christ was born for you. Christ died for you. Christ has risen from the dead for you. Christ will come again and fulfill the creation story for you.

The darkness of the 40 day journey to the cross differs for all of us. What is sure and certain is that God loves you. That you are God’s beloved.

In Christ’s Service,  
Pastor Angie +



# Worship & Christian Education Calendar and Information

## Lay Readers for April:

4/2 Donna Moyer  
 4/9 Richelle Deysher  
 4/16 Faith Thunberg  
 4/23 Linda Holt  
 4/30 Melissa Gettler  
 April Worship Assistant: Michael DeLong

## Our worship attendance:

	In person	Online	Total
Ash Wed	32	—	32
2/26	36	40	76
3/5	43	37	80
3/12	34	27	61
3/19	45	32	77

### Maundy Thursday Service

#### Options:

April 6, 2023

Schaefferstown Mennonite High School  
 "The One Story"—7:00 PM

#### Holy Communion

St. Paul Penryn—7:00 PM  
 1258 Newport Road, Penryn  
 Combined Service of both St. Luke and St. Paul with music provided by both church musicians.



### Musical Arts at St. Luke

If you are interested in becoming involved in the musical arts at St. Luke, please see Linda Holt.

Reminder that choir rehearsals are held on Wednesday evening at 7:00.



## Worship and Christian Education

Sunday, April 2—Palm/Passion Sunday  
 8:30 AM Service of the Passion  
 9:30 AM Sunday School (Children and Adults)

Thursday, March 6—Maundy Thursday  
 Holy Communion—7:00 PM at St. Paul Penryn

Sunday, April 9—Resurrection of Our Lord  
 7:00 AM Sunrise Service in the Cemetery  
 8:30 AM Holy Communion  
 9:30 AM Coffee Hour  
 9:30 AM Sunday School (Children)

Sunday, April 16—Easter 2  
 8:30 AM Holy Communion  
 9:30 AM Sunday School (Children and Adults)

Sunday, April 23—Easter 3  
 8:30 AM Contemporary Service  
 9:30 AM Coffee Hour  
 9:30 AM Sunday School (Children)



Sunday, April 23—Easter 4  
 8:30 AM Service of the Word  
 9:30 AM Sunday School (Children and Adults)

The service is livestreamed weekly on our Facebook page: at <https://www.facebook.com/StLukeEvangelicalLutheran>, or on YouTube using the following link: [www.youtube.com/@stlukeschaefferstownpa](http://www.youtube.com/@stlukeschaefferstownpa)

If you do not have internet access, you are welcome to attend in person. Bulletins are emailed weekly.

# Birthdays and Events

## Happy Birthday to our April "Golden Aged" members

April 2 - Ann Pearson

April 22 - Dale Zartman

April 29 - Dr. David Deysher



## Mother and Child Breakfast Buffet

Saturday, May 6 at 9:30

Country Fare Restaurant in  
Myerstown.

Adults \$12.50/Age 4-12 \$8.00

Menu: Fruit, eggs, muffins,  
home fries, pancakes, pastries,  
bacon, sausage and drinks.

Order tickets by April 21 by  
contacting Faith Thunberg

717-949-2869/717-202-9860

## Band Together

Bands exercise classes are held every Tuesday and Thursday from 10 AM-11 AM in the chapel. Social distancing is normal and masking as needed. Please contact Sue DeLong for information.



Coffee Hour is held on the 2nd and 4th Sunday at 9:30 AM. Sign-up sheet in the narthex.



## Pastor Angie Vacation

Pastor Angie will be on vacation from April 17-April 24. During this time, all pastoral emergencies can be directed to The Rev. Scott Paradise, 540-335-1693. The Rev. Cliff Eshbach will be leading worship on April 23.

Pastor Angie will be in Chicago April 27-April 29 for an ELCA meeting. Again, pastoral emergencies can be directed to The Rev. Scott Paradise.

Upcoming WELCA meeting  
7:00 PM in the Chapel - April 10



*Great  
are the  
works  
of the  
Lord.*

## St. Luke History Books

Available for \$20.00

Please contact Anna Mae Grubb:  
717-273-7035 mrgrubby@comcast.net

## Many Thanks to all who are doing God's work!

Committees and Council

Community Meal Volunteers

Gardeners

Lay Readers

Musicians

Quilters

Staff Members

Acolytes

Sunday School Teachers

Worship Assistants

All of our St. Luke Family

## Christian Education and Mission

### Children's Class:

Led by Faith Thunberg, Richelle Deyscher, & Sarah Kneller and meets every Sunday at 9:30.

### Adult Class:

Led by Scott Rights and meets the 1st, 3rd, & 5th Sundays at 9:30.



## Bible Study Opportunities

THURSDAY MORNING BIBLE STUDY ON ZOOM: Meet online with Pastor Angie to take a look at the texts coming up for the Sunday lectionary. A ZOOM link will be emailed out the week of each study. Contact the church office to be added to the email invitation. Upcoming date is April 13 at 10:00 AM.

BEER & BIBLE: meets once a month at a local pub. If you have not participated in this social gathering/text study, give it a try. We meet at 6:30 for dinner, drinks, and conversation. Upcoming date is April 20 at the Franklin House.

## Mission and Ministry



### Food Bank Donations

Please provide: Canned Vegetables, Spaghetti and Sauce, Pasta/Stuffing and Rice, Canned Fruits, Canned Soups, Peanut Butter and Jelly, Reusable Plastic Containers.

### Ministry Emphasis for April: Lutheran Camping Corporation

The Lutheran Camping Corporation carries out its mission as a gracious expression of God's love. The heart of that mission is to:

Strengthen the faith of children, youth, adults, and families; Offer opportunities for children and youth to grow in Christian leadership; Provide outdoor ministry experiences to all, regardless of their financial capacity; Foster Christian fellowship; Nurture God's children of all ages as good stewards of all God's good gifts.

The Lutheran Camping Corporation provides a creative, Christ-centered ministry for people in all stages of life, in partnership and cooperation with congregations and individuals, for the service and proclamation of the Gospel.

# Camping Events

Summer Camp Open House—Sunday, April 16 2:00-4:30 PM

Kirchenwald or Nawakwa or Wittell Farm Growing Project

You are invited to visit on April 16. Take a tour of camp with members of our summer staff and see what camp is all about. As a bonus, we will give a \$10 gift certificate for the camp store to every brand new camper! This event is free.

Earth Day Celebration at Kirchenwald—Sunday, April 23—2:00-6:00 PM \$15

Enjoy an afternoon of environmental activities, games, and crafts at one of your favorites places within God's creation: CAMP! An evening meal is included. All ages welcome.

Nawakwa Work Day—Saturday, April 29 9:00 AM - 5:00 PM

Help us get our sites ready for the summer season by joining us for Work Day! Jobs available for all skill levels. Complimentary lunch for all volunteers.

Please RSVP so that enough projects & food can be prepared for the day.

Kirchenwald Work Day—Saturday, May 6 9:00 AM-5:00 PM

Help us get our sites ready for the summer season by joining us for Work Day! Jobs available for all skill levels. Complimentary lunch for all volunteers.

Please RSVP so that enough projects & food can be prepared for the day.

Lutheran Camping Night at Harrisburg Senators at FNB Park—Friday, May 12—7:00PM

The Lutheran Camping Corporation and the Harrisburg Senators Baseball Team invite your church family to a night of fun and fellowship at FNB Field for our annual Lutheran Camping Night! A portion of each Advance Sale Ticket will benefit the Lutheran Camping Corporation's Campership Fund. Harrisburg Senators vs Bowie Baysox.

The Wittell Farm Growing Project Planting Day— Saturday, May 13 and May 20

9:00 AM -12:00 PM Volunteers needed to help prepare for The Wittell Farm Growing Project by planting the garden. The Growing Project is dedicated to growing fresh vegetables to help feed hungry people in Lancaster County. Free Event

Summer Camp Kick-off Worship and Picnic—Sunday, May 21—3:30 -6:00 PM

Join friends, volunteers, and staff of The Lutheran Camping Corporation (Kirchenwald, Nawakwa, and The Wittell Farm) to celebrate the opening of the 2023 Summer Camping Season with worship, fellowship, and fabulous food. For 2023, this event will take place at Nawakwa.

For more information on these events:

Email: [lcc@lutherancamping.org](mailto:lcc@lutherancamping.org)

Phone: 717-677-8211



**The Lutheran Camping Corporation  
of Central Pennsylvania**  
Kirchenwald, Nawakwa, & The Wittell Farm

## Synod Assembly



# CREATED FOR COMMUNITY

This is Christ's Church. There is a Place for You Here.

## The 2023 Lower Susquehanna Synod Assembly

St. Luke is still in need of a male member to participate in the 2023 Assembly of the Lower Susquehanna Synod of the ELCA under the theme "Created for Community". The Assembly will be held on Friday June 2 by Zoom and Saturday, June 3rd in person at Trinity Lutheran in Camp Hill. The Day of Edification will be held on Saturday, May 20th by Zoom. Final registration closes on May 15. All costs to attend including mileage to Camp Hill on June 3rd will be covered by St. Luke. Thank you for your consideration to attend this very important event. More information will follow to those attending. Please contact a member of church council if you are interested.



## The Lutheran Camping Corporation of Central Pennsylvania

Kirchenwald, Nawakwa, & The Wittel Farm

## Cornhole Tournament

Fundraiser benefitting the Lutheran Camping Corporation  
and The Penryn Food Pantry

Saturday, May 20 at 4:00 PM  
St. Paul Church—1258 Newport Road—Penryn

\$30 registration fee per team

Food truck and beer / Dogs welcome

Call 717-665-6093 or email [stpaulpen@gmail.com](mailto:stpaulpen@gmail.com)