

St. Luke Evangelical Lutheran Church Newsletter

July-August
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

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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:

William and Beverly Hoffman

Ministers:

All the people of St. Luke



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From our Pastor:

Dear St. Luke Community,

“For everything there is a season and a time for every matter under heaven”

Ecclesiastes 3:1

We all experience different seasons in our lives. Since my time serving first as your stated pulpit supply, then in a more defined pastoral context manner, we are slowly creating new partnerships, friendships, and new ministries. St. Luke and Penryn have enjoyed some shared worship experiences, and many have come better acquainted through beer and bible and morning Zoom bible studies. We’re planting seeds for a shared global ministry partner with Tree4Hope in Guatemala, and I’m looking forward to sharing our global partner church in Tanzania with any who think an African adventure would fun! We have been living in a fruitful season, **“a time to plant and a time to pluck up what is planted.”**

We’re now entering into a new season which is exciting and hopeful. Our pending vote on the Articles of Agreement on July 9 with Penryn offers a long-term, sustainable future for both congregations to call a full-time pastor, whenever that season should arrive. This is a season of hope and **“a time to seek.”**

Personally, I am coming through a very long and difficult season, a season that has left me feeling exhausted in every sense of the word. This past year has brought many challenges within my family; challenges that have been demanding on me and fraught with emotion. Challenges that necessitate my time, my attention, my energy. It’s been **“a time to weep, a time to embrace.”**

After some time in discernment and conversations with our Bishop’s office and our church council, I have come to recognize that I need some time apart for my personal wellbeing. I am entering a new season, a needed season of rest and renewal. With the blessing of the bishop and our church council, I will be taking a short leave of absence for family and self-care beginning July 9, after our combined worship service and Articles of Agreement vote with St. Luke. I will return to my pastoral duties beginning Sunday, August 27.

Pulpit supply and emergency pastoral care has been arranged. For pastoral emergencies, please call the church office directly. Sunday worship will be combined with Penryn with a **9:00am** worship time. Services will alternate between Penryn and St. Luke. The weekly Sunday worship schedule is below.

July 16: Penryn, July 23: St. Luke, July 30: Penryn,
August 6: St. Luke, August 13: Penryn, August 20: St. Luke

I am confident and hopeful that both congregations will vote positively to move forward with the Articles of Agreement. During my leave, the six weeks of combined worship services is a natural time for members from both churches to get to know one another, worship in each other’s sanctuaries, and simply to become better acquainted.

Know that my need for time apart is **NOT** a reflection of my workload. I love the work that I am called to do. It is a privilege to serve both Penryn and St. Luke and it is a blessing to be so well supported by church leadership and church members. Taking this time for myself and family will allow me to serve you to the best of my ability.

Your support and understanding are deeply appreciated. I continue to be blessed and humbled to be called your pastor.

In Christ’s Service, Pastor Angie

Sharon Reber, St. Luke Council President

Congregational updates

July 9—9:00 AM - St. Luke will be hosting a combined church service & a special congregational meeting with St. Paul's (Penryn) for the purpose of voting on the new agreement. Each congregation will vote separately before adjournment of the meeting. A brunch will follow the service. More information to follow. Please plan on attending this very important meeting.

Worshiping together on these Sundays in July and August Service time is 9:00 AM

July 16: St. Paul (1258 Newport Road, Penryn)
July 23: St. Luke
July 30: St. Paul
August 6: St. Luke
August 13: St. Paul
August 20: St. Luke



Great
are the
works
of the
Lord.

Community Ministries

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 July and August:
July: TEFAP Emergency Food Assistance
August: HOINA (Homes of Indian Nations)

Worship Calendar and Volunteers

Lay Readers for July and August:

July Worship Assistant: Sue DeLong
7/2 Anna Mae Grubb
7/9 St Paul/St. Luke
7/16 Service at St. Paul—Penryn
7/23 Linda Holt
7/30 Service at St. Paul—Penryn

August Worship Assistant: Mike DeLong
8/6 Faith Thunberg
8/13 Service at St. Paul—Penryn
8/20 Nicholas Kneller
8/27 Donna Moyer

Our worship attendance:

	In person	Online
4/30	38	49
5/7	41	48
5/14	37	37
5/21	42	33
5/28	35	38
6/4	37	41
6/11	37	36
6/18	30	28

Summer Music at St. Luke

If you are interested in sharing your musical gifts over the summer, please contact Betsy Nolt or Linda Holt.



Carpool to St. Paul Penryn:

If you would like to carpool to St. Paul on Sundays when the service is there, please meet at St. Luke 30 minutes before the service.

Sunday Worship

July 2—Pentecost 5

8:30 AM Service of the Word

July 9—Pentecost 6

9:00 AM—Combined Service of Holy Communion at St. Luke; meeting; breakfast

July 16—Pentecost 7

9:00 AM—Hymn Sing at St. Paul, Penryn

July 23—Pentecost 8

9:00 AM—Contemporary Service at St. Luke

July 30—Pentecost 9

9:00 AM—Holy Communion at St. Paul, Penryn

August 6—Pentecost 10

9:00 AM—Holy Communion at St. Luke

August 13—Pentecost 11

9:00 AM—Holy Communion at St. Paul, Penryn

August 20—Pentecost 12

9:00 AM—Holy Communion at St. Luke

August 27—Pentecost 13

8:30 AM Contemporary Service

9:30 AM Coffee Hour

Join us in person or online: 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. Bulletins are emails weekly.

Birthdays and Events

Happy Birthday to our "Golden Aged" members

July 2—Susan DeLong
July 12—Lois Moch
July 16—Douglas Stump
July 21—Steven Bord
July 28—Ronald Flory
July 28—John Zartman
July 29—Debra Eisenhauer
August 2— Phyllis Bakke
August 2—Jake Werner
August 4—John Zimmerman
August 7—Scott Rights
August 9—Bonito Boyer
August 10—Richelle Deysher
August 12—Gary Simmers
August 13—Karen Stump
August 15—Constance Davis
August 19—Brenda Boyer
August 19 — Suzanne Kimm
August 21—Edward Miller
August 21—Steven Bord
August 27—Dan Donmoyer
August 29—Linda Hollinger

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.

St. Luke History Books

Available for \$20.00
Please contact Anna Mae Grubb:
717-273-7035 mrgrubby@comcast.net

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



Bethany Childrens Home

Anniversary Day—August 19
11:00-9:00PM
Raffles/Concerts/
Carnival Games/Rides
\$5/for each car

Fountain Park Services

7:00 PM
7/16—Brothers in Grace
7/23 Teen Challenge
rain location is St. Paul's UCC.

Stellar Vacation Bible School
Friedens Lutheran in Myerstown



July 9-12—6-8PM
rsvp: vbspro/p/flcstellar

Book Club

Next meeting is on Thursday, July 20th at 7:00pm in the Chapel. We will be discussing *Lessons In Chemistry* by Bonnie Garmus. All are welcome, please contact Richelle Deysher for additional information.



Camping Events

Elder Camp at Nawakwa—July 9-15—\$395

This week is specially designed for adults 55 and older. It runs alongside, and sometimes runs circles around, our youth camp. Elder Campers live in single or double occupancy rooms in comfortable Zinn-Tozer Lodge. The EC's have their very own counselors and chaplain who base daily Bible study and worship on the summer camp curriculum used by the rest of the camp. Crafts, Skit Night, and meals are in the dining hall.

Kids at Heart Camp at Kirchenwald —July 9-15—\$395

Campers age 18 and older can experience a mix of activities and relaxation. Make time for socializing, play, and/or working on personal projects, all while strengthening your faith and sleeping in the comfort of the SchreiberHaus Lodge.

Family Camp 1 at Nawakwa —July 16-22 or August 6-12

For two weeks each summer, family units move into Nawakwa's cabins and lodges and create a unique community indeed! Many adults spend the morning hours in Bible study with a pastor-in-residence while the kid-size campers are divided by age group to attend to all sorts of campy activities with the Nawakwa counseling staff. Afternoons feature a full schedule of swimming, crafts, hikes, bike rides, tournament games, book discussions, playground time, and championship napping. Evenings always feature worship for the community and some sort of festivity.

Dinner Church—July 30 and August 27 at the Wittel Farm—6:00 PM

Camp-K-tion (Family Camp) at Kirchenwald - August 6-12

Celebrate your family (whatever its form – grandparents, children, niece, second cousin twice removed...) in this unique camp experience. Grow closer together and closer to God through inter-generational Bible study, worship, swimming, crafts, canoeing, Capture the Flag, and more. Strengthen the bonds of family by working together at the challenge course and through games in the field. Plus, have some time to engage as distinct adult and child groups. Accommodations are available in rustic shelters and in the SchreiberHaus Lodge, to best suit your needs. Partial week participation is also an option.

For more information on these events:

Email: lcc@lutherancamping.org

Phone: 717-677-8211



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



“God’s work. Our hands.” Sunday



It has been 10 years since the ELCA introduced “God’s Work – Our Hands” on the second Sunday in September to encourage congregations to focus on outreach in the communities we serve. For nine of those ten years here at St. Luke, we have used that Sunday to kick off our annual **Diaper Drive** and **Warmth for Winter**.

So, mark your calendar for **September 10th**, and stock up on some packages of diapers to bring to church that Sunday. These will be distributed through Lebanon County Christian Ministries. **God’s Work Our Hands** Sunday also marks the kickoff of our **Warmth for Winter** program to provide clothing, blankets, etc. where needed in the community. Details to follow as we gather information in the fall season. If you know of a family in need of extra warmth this winter, please provide their contact information to the church office.

We will also be placing an order for God’s Work Our Hands T-shirts if you don’t have one or need a new one. Forms with the size options to indicate your preference will be available in the church in July.

Warmth for winter and warmth from the heart.

Thank you for your support and for helping to do God’s Work with Your Hands!

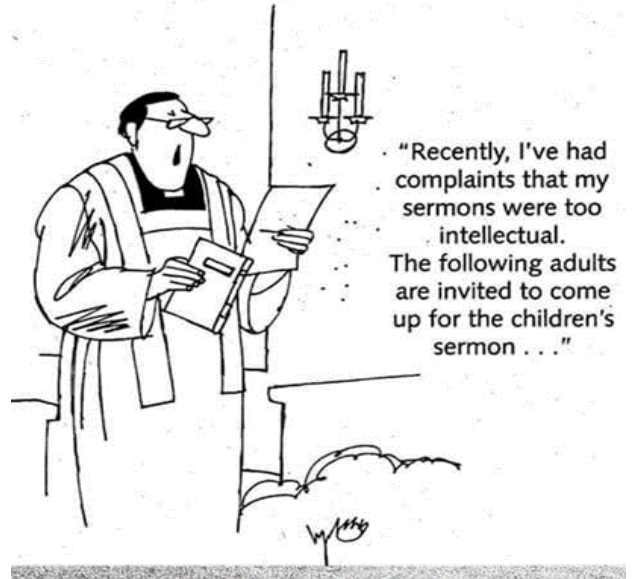


Lutheran Laughter

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"Wireless communication is nothing new.
I've been praying for 75 years!"



"COME TO ME, ALL YOU WHO ARE WEARY AND I WILL GIVE YOU REST" DOES NOT MEAN IT'S OK TO SLEEP DURING CHURCH!



FRANK

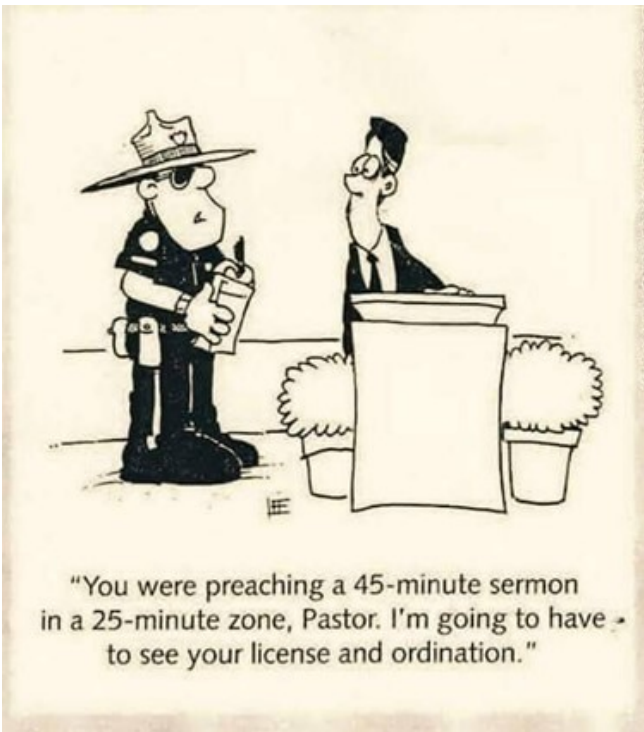
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"Wait a minute! ... I distinctly remember ignoring this same sermon two years ago!"

FIEKER

rayjarts@aol.com



"You were preaching a 45-minute sermon in a 25-minute zone. I'm going to have to see your license and ordination."



rayjarts@aol.com

RAY JARTS