

St. Luke Evangelical Lutheran Church Newsletter

October
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
pastorafshammer@gmail.com

Minister of Music
(Organist/Sr. Choir Dir)

Linda Holt

Contemporary Worship Team

Linda Holt, Todd Snyder, and
Sarah Kneller

Second Sunday Musicians:

David Deysher and Sarah Kneller

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 our Pastor:

“Jesus Christ is the same yesterday and today and forever.” -Hebrews 13:8

Fall has always been my favorite season. I’m not the kind of person who gets excited over pumpkin spice everything. I’m not a fall decorator, apple orchard kind of person. I do love the colors, the smells, the sounds of fall. Friday night football games, Sunday afternoons in my sweats eating soup, mums on the front porch of my house, fires, the early evenings, and dark mornings... I appreciate that the fall (to me) represents change. Fall is a season of preparation, a season of eager anticipation.

We all have “seasons” in our lives; times for preparing, times for knowing that a change is coming but not knowing exactly what that change is or when it will occur. We all have seasons of a bountiful harvest and times of scarcity, seasons of gratitude and seasons of uncertainty. There is a tension between looking back and the gratitude for everything you have walked through before and the anticipation for what’s coming next, looking forward to what lies ahead.

Though change is good and needed, we sometimes tend to get stuck in that place between the known and unknown. It’s easy to let ourselves get caught up in the stress and anxiety of the unknown, of the changes we all experience. And when that happens, pause, take a deep breath, and remind yourself of the unchanging love of God. **“Jesus Christ is the same yesterday and today and forever.” -Hebrews 13:8**

There is great comfort in knowing the love of God, the companionship of Christ, the power of the Holy Spirit that accompanies us through all of life’s seasons and changes. Actually, it’s more than comfort; it’s assurance. It’s peace. It’s truth.

I’ve had many conversations and experiences with people that inform me that change really gets people rattled. We don’t like change for a myriad of reasons. Change can be both good and bad. I think it’s the “HOW” we embrace change that is important. I believe that our faith is revealed in some ways in that “HOW”. And like the seasons, our faith does change, but what remains constant – regardless of seasons, life circumstances, harvest, or scarcity, **“Jesus Christ is the same yesterday and today and forever.”**

With the promise of God’s love and mercy, I leave you with this quote from Henry David Thoreau: **“Live each season as it passes; breathe the air, drink the drink, taste the fruit, and resign yourself to the influences of each.”**

**In Christ’s Service,
Pastor Angie +**

October is

Pastor Appreciation

Month



Worship and Sunday School Information

October 1 - Pentecost 18

10:00 Joint Service and Pet Blessing at St. Paul in Penryn.
(Brunch to follow)

October 8 - Pentecost 19 (Food Bank Sunday)

8:30 AM Service of the Word
9:30 AM Sunday School (Children)
9:30 AM Coffee Time

October 15 - Pentecost 20

8:30 AM Holy Communion
9:30 AM Sunday School (Children and Adults)

October 22 - Pentecost 21

8:30 AM Contemporary Service
Temple Talk and adult forum about the ministries in Guatemala.
Our guest presenter will be Alice Spencer, Penryn congregant.
9:30 AM Sunday School (Children/Adult Forum)

October 29 - Reformation Sunday

8:30 AM Holy Communion
9:30 AM Sunday School (Children and Adults)



Join us in person or online: The service is live-streamed:

Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/StLukeEvangelicalLutheran>

YouTube: <https://www.youtube.com/@stlukeschaefferstownpa>

Bulletins: emailed weekly or found online at <https://www.stlukelutheran.org/Worship>

Looking ahead:

November 5: All Saints Sunday, guest musician JP Welliver

November 12: Veterans Litany

November 26: Christ the King Sunday

December 3: Advent begins

December 24: Advent 4—no morning service

Christmas Eve Candlelight Service: 11:00 PM

December 31: Joint service: Lessons and Carols with Penryn at St. Luke



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

Committees and Council

Lay Readers

Staff Members

Community Meal Volunteers

Musicians

Sunday School Teachers

Gardeners

Quilters

Worship Assistants

All of our St. Luke Family

Worship and Council Volunteers



Special Upcoming Service:

Sunday, October 1—10:00
Joint Service and Pet Blessing at
St. Paul in Penryn. Brunch to follow

Bring a lawn chair, your pets for a special blessing, and food to share for a meal after the service.

The Penryn Church Grove is located behind the church in Penryn. Look for the "Church Grove" sign at the intersection of Penryn Road and Newport Road. Follow the lane all the way to the very end. The lane ends in the grove.

Recent worship attendance:

	In person	Online
8/20	52	53 combined at St. Luke
8/27	29	51
9/3	28	49
9/10	35	36
9/17	35	42



Musical Arts at St. Luke

If you are interested in becoming involved in the musical arts at St. Luke, please see Linda Holt. Choir rehearsals are held on Wednesday evening at 7:00.

Lay Readers and Worship Assistant for October:

10/1	Service at Penryn
10/8	Richelle Deysher
10/15	Faith Thunberg
10/22	Dolores Fasnacht
10/29	Nicholas Kneller
October Worship Assistant: Donna Rhodes	



Church members needed to fill positions on church council for the next 2 years - 2024 & 2025.

Please prayerfully consider serving on council. The terms of 4 members of council are concluding at the annual congregation meeting in January. One of those 4 has consented to another term and at this time 2 other church members have agreed to serve. Council needs 3 more people to serve. If interested or would like more information, please talk to a current council member or notify the church office.

Thank you for your consideration.



"I know we're trying not to be stuffy around here, but let's not refer to 'A Mighty Fortress' as 'Martin Luther's Greatest Hit.' "

Birthdays and Events

Happy October Birthday to our "Golden Aged" members

October 1 - Judy Plummer

October 3 - Carole Gundrum

October 3 - Joyce Moore

October 6 - Anna Mae Grubb

October 16 - Rebecca Snyder

October 17 - Sandy Smith

October 19 - Tim Reedy

October 21 - Glenn Hibshman



BAND TOGETHER

Bands exercise classes are held every Tuesday and Thursday from 10 AM-11 AM in the chapel. Please contact Sue DeLong for additional information.

Band Together is a strength training program led by trained volunteers in churches and in other community locations. Participants get stronger, feel better, make some new friends and – most of all – have fun doing it.

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

St. Luke History Books—\$20.00

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

Book Club

Book Club will be meeting on Thursday, November 9th at 7:00pm in the Chapel. We will be discussing *Leonard and Hungry Paul* by Ronan Hession. Everyone is invited for a great discussion.



**We are the
Church
Together!**

WELCA White Christmas

The Women of the ELCA is sponsoring a night to see ELCO High School's performance of *White Christmas* on Friday, December 15th at 7:00 PM. More information will be included in upcoming newsletters.



Free Meal Volunteers Needed:

October continues as St. Luke's turn to staff the Thursday Free Noon Meals. Volunteers are needed, whether you can serve for one time or for all of them. There is a sign-up sheet on the bulletin board in the chapel with dates and times noted.

Thanks to all who are able to participate in this community outreach!

Camp Events for all ages

For more information on any of these events:

Phone: 717-677-8211 Email: lcc@lutherancamping.org

Capture the Flag Spectacular October 1, 3:00-5:30 PM

Kirchenwald 1 Cut Off Rd, Lebanon

Review your camp map, paint your face, and practice your cone zone celebration dance. Invite your friends and family (parents, too) to join you in this CTF summer reunion event. Play alongside familiar faces from your week at camp, plus campers from every other week of the summer. Campfire worship to follow.

Adult Study Retreat October 3, 10:00 AM to October 5 2:00 PM

Nawakwa 1033 Nawakwa Rd, Biglerville

A Book Study Retreat at Nawakwa. Books can be found on the website. All meals (7) are included in the price and served at the Dining Hall. This mid-week retreat begins Tuesday morning and ends with lunch on Thursday. \$170

Fall Foliage Day at Nawakwa October 22, 1:00-6:00 PM

Nawakwa 1033 Nawakwa Rd, Biglerville

Return to camp for the afternoon to enjoy fall activities, worship, and a picnic supper. This is a wonderful opportunity to meet up with old friends or introduce new folks to camp. An evening meal is included. \$15

Fall Foliage Day at Kirchenwald October 29, 1:00-6:00 PM

Kirchenwald 1 Cut Off Rd, Lebanon

Return to camp for the afternoon to enjoy fall activities, worship, and a picnic supper. This is a wonderful opportunity to meet up with old friends or introduce new folks to camp. An evening meal is included. \$15

Campfire Worship October 29, 7:00 PM The Wittel Farm 1753 Mill Rd, Elizabethtown

Annual Quilt Auction November 5, 2:00-6:00 PM

Nawakwa 1033 Nawakwa Rd, Biglerville, PA,

Join us for this year's Quilt Auction, November 5, at Nawakwa. This fun-filled day of bidding raises money for the LCC Endowment Fund, which helps to financially sustain our fine ministry activities.

Women's Craft Retreat November 10, 5:00 PM to November 12 1:00 PM

Nawakwa 1033 Nawakwa Rd, Biglerville

Try new techniques, share your latest creations, work on UFO's, and enjoy the relaxed atmosphere of camp in the fall. Worship led by Rev. Cindy Brommer. All meals provided. Please register by November 1.



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

Christian Education for Children and Adults

Children's Class:

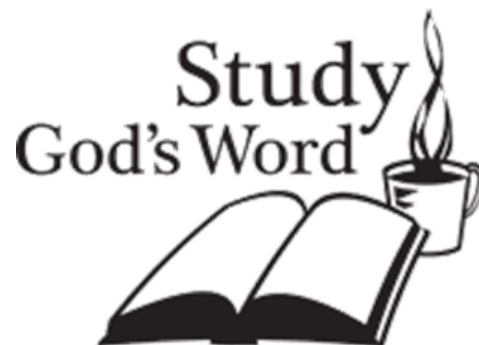
Led by Faith Thunberg, Richelle Deysher, & Sarah Kneller and meets every Sunday at 9:30.

Adult Class:

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



Sunday School
MAKES A DIFFERENCE



Bible Study Opportunities

THURSDAY MORNING BIBLE STUDY ON ZOOM:

Meet at 10:00 AM 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 dates are:

October 12 (Matthew 22:1-14) & 26 (Matthew 22:34-46)

November 9 (Matthew 25:1-13) & 30 (Mark 13:24-37)

December 14 (John 1:6-8, 19-28)

BEER & BIBLE:

A Thursday evening monthly meeting at the Franklin House for dinner, drinks, and conversation. Join us at 6:30 PM on October 19, November 16, December 14.

SATURDAY MORNING BIBLE STUDY:

October 7 – Penryn – The importance of Holy Communion

November 4 – St. Luke – Greif and faith

December 2 – Penryn – Why waiting is difficult, yet important

Mission and Ministry



Food Bank Sunday—Sunday, October 8

Please provide: Canned Vegetables, Spaghetti and Sauce, Pasta/Stuffing and Rice, Canned Fruits, Canned Soups, Peanut Butter and Jelly, New Reusable Plastic Containers (not used).



LUTHERAN WORLD RELIEF



**God's work.
Our hands.**

Lutheran World Relief Ingathering:

Volunteers are needed on these dates to ensure that our quilts and others get to those most in need in the United States and abroad.

Please consider helping us load the truck with quilts, school and fabric kits for Lutheran World Relief. One hour of your time on either day would be most appreciated. Contact Sue DeLong.

Friday, October 6

12:00 PM at St. Luke Lutheran Church—Schaefferstown

12:30 PM at Salem Lutheran Church—119 North 8th St—Lebanon

1:00 PM at St. Mark Lutheran Church—200 E. Main St—Annville

Saturday, October 7

7:15 AM—Leave *Plain and Fancy* for Bergstrasse Evangelical Lutheran Church (8:00 AM arrival) - 9 Hahnstown Road—Ephrata

Warmth for Winter:

In conjunction with Warmth for Winter, the Women of the ELCA will be collecting new pillows and new blankets for those in need locally.

Ministry Emphasis for October

Lutheran World Relief

Thank you for your support!

Lutheran Laughter!

**Happy Reformation Day
October 31**

