

**St. Luke Evangelical
Lutheran Church**

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

Pastor

Rev. Angela Hammer

Minister of Music

(Organist/Sr. Choir Director)
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

Sunday Worship:

8:30 AM

(Holy Communion, bi-weekly)

Ministers:

The people of St. Luke
and St. Paul

Newsletter
of
St. Luke
and
St. Paul
Evangelical
Lutheran Church

March—April
2024

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**St. Paul Evangelical
Lutheran Church**

1258 Newport Road
Penryn, PA 17564
717-665-6093
www.stpaulpenryn.org
stpaulpen@gmail.com

Pastor

Rev. Angela Hammer

Organist/Music Director

JP Welliver

Secretary

Sheri Witmer

Treasurer

Gil Welliver

Financial Secretary

Eldon Witmer

Sexton

Donna Shenberger

Sunday Worship:

10:30 AM

(Holy Communion, weekly)

Ministers:

The people of St. Luke and
St. Paul



**We are the
Church
Together!**

Together we are doing God's work!

From our Pastor:

“We wait in hope for the LORD; he is our help and our shield. In him our hearts rejoice, for we trust in his holy name. May your unfailing love be with us, LORD, even as we put our hope in you.” – Psalm 33:20-22

I often myself in a “non-typical” moment when I write my newsletter message. Last time I wrote from my office at Penryn that was without heat. Now, I am writing from the hospital as I sit bedside with my mom who is about to have surgery to fix a broken bone.

As I sit here, I find myself thinking about how easily and quickly something can become broken, and on the other side, how much time and intentional work it takes for healing to occur.

A lot of us have experienced broken bones, broken hearts, broken relationships. Healing takes time, patience, and trust. There needs to be a willingness to allow breaks and hurts to heal. When we follow medical advice, we usually recover in good time. When we give ourselves some distance from the situation or person that hurt us and remain open to the prospect of love, our hearts tend to mend in time. When we put our hope and trust in God, our hearts rejoice.

During this time of Lent, we are called to lament our sin and guilt, our broken nature and how we often fall short. However, I don’t want us to obsess about lamenting, bewailing, or bemoaning our wretchedness, sinfulness, or whatever it is we think somehow makes us bad, defective, or not enough. Lent has never been about going to those places, it’s always been about growing out of and leaving those places. And when I think of growth - personal, spiritual, emotional – I think of love. Love of self, love of another, and most importantly, the love of God that we experience through Jesus. I believe that through love we’re able to grow and move beyond ourselves at any point in time. Through love, God has given us his son so that we might be forgiven and saved. It is through love in which Jesus begins his journey to the cross.

Every doubt, hurt, broken place within me has always been healed and filled by God’s love. Sometimes that comes through prayer. Sometimes it comes through the words of absolution, **“Your sins are forgiven.”** Sometimes we wait for what seems like an eternity to feel whole and healed. Sometimes it’s a slow process that we don’t even recognize until one day we notice the pain is gone. Regardless of the time or situation, the Psalmist tells us; **“We wait in hope for the LORD; he is our help and our shield. In him our hearts rejoice, for we trust in his holy name. May your unfailing love be with us, LORD, even as we put our hope in you.”**

In Lent we wait in our sorrow and brokenness for the celebration of Christ’s victory over the grave on Easter morning. We wait in hope that Christ will liberate us from our pain and suffering and trust that healing and wholeness will come to be.

In Christ’s Service,
Pastor Angie +

From the desk of JP Welliver:

I was never a procrastinator in school (well I don't think I was), but for some reason, newsletter articles are a different story.

I have to feel motivated, stay focused, and have that light bulb moment like Thomas Edison and every other inventor in this world has had.

So, here I am. Trying to find words to inspire and hopefully bring some good vibes to your life.

Currently, I'm sitting on the couch with the Price is Right playing in the background and the sound of rain falling on the roof of the apartment complex.
The sound of rain. What a beautiful and calming noise.

And would you believe that it was my light bulb moment?! Yes, that's right.

I'm going to write about rain.

And with the arrival of Spring just around the corner, it is the perfect entity to explore in this edition of the newsletter, which I have so thoughtfully procrastinated writing.

Have you ever just watched videos or a movie that makes you cry?

And I'm not talking like little sniffles.

I'm talking LEGIT bawling your eyes out. Like...waterworks.

Doesn't it feel good? We all need a good cry from time to time.

Kind of like a Spring cleaning of our eyes, our bodies, our lives.

Crying out the crap that decides to work its way into our lives around every nook and cranny.

Speaking of nook and cranny, don't forget to do a Spring cleaning of every nook and cranny in your home.

But I digress. Typical and on-brand for me to be honest.

Also...not spell checking or editing my articles is also on-brand for me, so if you see some in this article, well then...I guess you just have to deal with it.

Jesus died on a cross for our sins.

That alone should give you a good cry. A good weep.

So, as we each continue our very own journey to the cross, let us find the moments of life that give us a good cry to renew our very own spirits.

Kindness to all,
JP

Worship and Arts

Worship and Sunday School

Sunday, March 3—Lent 3
8:30 AM Holy Communion—St. Luke
9:30 AM Sunday School
10:30 AM Holy Communion—St. Paul

Sunday, March 10—Lent 4
8:30 AM Service of the Word—St. Luke
9:30 AM Sunday School
10:30 AM Holy Communion—St. Paul

Sunday, March 17—Lent 5
8:30 AM Holy Communion—St. Luke
9:30 AM Sunday School
10:30 AM Holy Communion—St. Paul

Sunday, March 24—Palm/Passion
8:30 AM Service of Word and Music St. Luke
9:30 AM Sunday School / Palm Parade
10:30 AM Holy Communion—St. Paul

Sunday, March 31—Resurrection Day
6:45 AM—Sunrise Service—St. Paul
7:00 AM—Sunrise Service—St. Luke
8:00 AM Holy Communion—St. Luke
9:30 AM Sunday School
10:30 AM Holy Communion—St. Paul

Sunday, April 7—Easter 2
8:30 AM Holy Communion—St. Luke
9:30 AM Sunday School
10:30 AM Holy Communion—St. Paul

Sunday, April 14—Easter 3
8:30 AM Service of the Word—St. Luke
9:30 AM Sunday School
10:30 AM Holy Communion—St. Paul

Sunday, April 21—Easter 4
8:30 AM Holy Communion—St. Luke
9:30 AM Sunday School
10:30 AM Holy Communion—St. Paul

Sunday, April 28—Easter 5
8:30 AM Service of Word and Music St. Luke
9:30 AM Sunday School
10:30 AM Holy Communion—St. Paul

Worship with us in person or online

St. Luke

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 emailed weekly.

St. Paul

Sunday morning worship is available online through ZOOM every week. The ZOOM link is sent via email and posted on the Facebook page—[https://www.facebook.com/St. Paul Penryn](https://www.facebook.com/St.PaulPenryn).

St. Luke Service of Word and Music: In January, the “contemporary service” took on a new format. A new liturgy was developed along with new music. We hope that enhancing the service will make our time together more meaningful. Your feedback is important! As we experiment and try new things, it is important to know how you feel about the service. You are encouraged to speak with Pastor Angie or any member of the worship and music committee to share your thoughts! If you or someone you know plays an instrument and would like to join the musicians, please contact Linda Holt at St. Luke.

Worship Assistant Schedule / Notes of Thanks

St. Paul Lectors

3/3 Eldon Witmer
3/10 Dawn Subyak
3/17 Sheri Garman
3/24 Palm Sunday—TBD
3/28 Maundy Thursday—TBD
3/31 Gil Welliver

4/7 Anne Beegle
4/14 Eli Rothenberger
4/21 Chanda Galebach
4/28 Scott Reed

5/5 Sheri Garman
5/12 Gil Welliver

If you would like to be a Lector,
please contact the St. Paul Office.

St. Luke Lay Readers

3/3 Nicholas Kneller
3/10 Richelle Deysher
3/17 Steffi Gettler
3/24 Palm Sunday—TBD
3/31 Donna Moyer

4/7 Elaine Matternas
4/14 Richelle Deysher
4/21 Faith Thunberg
4/28 Sue DeLong

5/5 Dolly Fasnacht
5/12 Richelle Deysher

If you would like to be a Lay Reader,
please contact the St. Paul Office.

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

Committees and Council

Gardeners

Lay Readers/Lectors

Backyard Staff

Acolytes Sunday School Teachers

Community Meal Volunteers

Musicians

Quilters

Food Pantry donators

Worship Assistants

Newsletter Update:

Welcome to the second edition of the new joint newsletter. We are trying something new by combining the St. Luke and St. Paul newsletters. The once-a-month publication will now be prepared and printed every other month, making each newsletter two months' worth of information. You can still get your newsletter the same way – it will just have more news! We hope this helps to keep the two congregations better informed of what each community is doing and how we can be involved with more ministries.

Christian Education for Adults and Children

Sunday School at St. Luke

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

BEER & BIBLE: meets once a month at the Franklin House in Schaefferstown. If you have not participated in this social gathering/text study, give it a try. We meet for dinner, drinks, and conversation at the Franklin House in Schaefferstown. Join us and bring a friend on Thursday, March 21 and April 18.

ZOOM BIBLE STUDY: Meet online at 10:00 AM 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. Upcoming dates are: March 14, March 29, April 5, April 18

SATURDAY MORNING BIBLE STUDY: Meets once a month at 9:00 AM on the first Saturday alternating between St. Paul and St. Luke. This is a combined time of learning and discussion with members of both congregations.



2024
Synod Assembly

Saturday, May 18: Choose an educational forum of your choice for a ZOOM session. This is a morning session that you can connect to from the comfort of your own home.

Friday, May 31: Evening business meeting, via ZOOM.

Saturday, June 1: All day in person assembly at St. Matthew in York. Lunch is included. Registration opens March 1st, with an early-bird discount. Please see Pastor Angie or a council member if you are interested in attending. Ideally, one male and one female from each congregation should attend.

Events and Ministries



St. Luke Book Club

Please check the church website and bulletins for the next book and the date the Book Club is meeting.



St. Luke Band Together

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

St. Luke History Books

Available for \$20.00

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

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 PM.

St. Luke Coffee Hour

You are invited to join us on the on the 2nd and 4th Sunday at 9:30 AM. Please sign-up sheet in the narthex if you would be willing to host.



National Quilting Day: March 16th is National Quilting Day. The quilters at St. Luke make between 70 and 100 quilts every year for Lutheran World Relief. Unfortunately, batting prices are going up and one roll of batting is over \$100. During the upcoming month of March, donations for batting will be collected. If you are interested in donating, please make your checks out to St. Luke Women of the ELCA.

St. Paul Prayer Shawl Ministry

The prayer shawl group meets on the third Monday of each month at 1:30PM at Pleasant View. If you would like to come and be part of the prayer shawl community and to learn more about this ministry, contact Dolly Bomberger at 717-664-6661. The group always welcomes new people. No experience is necessary!



KNIT. CROCHET. PRAY.



St. Paul Family Ministry

Once a month families gather for a time of fellowship, prayer, and dinner. We play games, we pray, we take walks, we share where we see and experience God in our lives. We meet the last Tuesday of the month at 5:30 PM in the church kitchen.

Mission and Ministry

St. Luke 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. Paul Food Ministry:

Donations can be dropped off
anytime that the church is open.
Please call the church office to
make sure someone is available
to receive your donations.

St. Paul Mission Statement:

As a Reconciled in Christ
Congregation, Saint Paul Lutheran
Church, Penryn, welcomes ALL God's
people, embracing differences of age,
race, ethnicity, physical or mental
abilities, marital status, sexual
orientation, gender identity, or
economic status. We recognize that
we are all children of God, whose
differences are Reconciled in Christ.



St. Luke Food Ministry:

Food Bank Sunday is held the first Sunday of
each month. Please provide: Canned
Vegetables, Spaghetti and Sauce, Pasta/
Stuffing and Rice, Canned Fruits, Canned
Soups, Peanut Butter and Jelly, New reusable
Plastic Containers.

St. Luke Monthly Ministry Emphasis:

March—Lutheran World Mission/Batting for Quilts (checks payable to WELCA)
April—Lutheran Camping Corporation/Tanzania

Camping Events



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

Quilting Weekend—March 15—7:00 PM - March 17 2:00 PM—Kirchenwald 1 Cut Off Rd, Lebanon. Bring your own projects or learn techniques from experienced quilters. Enjoy a weekend apart. \$180

Summer Camp Open Houses: March 17 and April 14 2:00-4:30 PM

You are invited to visit Kirchenwald or Nawakwa on March 17 or April 14, anytime between 2-4:30pm. 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!

Earth Day Celebration—April 21—9:00 AM-5:00 PM—Kichenwald.

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 in the \$15 fee. All ages welcome.

Nawakwa Work Day—April 27 - 9:00 -5:00 PM.

Help us get our sites ready for the summer season. Jobs available for all skill levels. Complimentary lunch for all volunteers.

Kichenwald Work Day—May 4—9:00 -5:00 PM.

Help us get our sites ready for the summer season. Jobs available for all skill levels. Complimentary lunch for all volunteers.

Lutheran Camping Night—May 17

The Lutheran Camping Corporation and the Harrisburg Senators invite your church family to a night of fun and fellowship at FNB Field for our annual Lutheran Camping Night!

Summer Camp Kick-Off Worship and Picnic—May 19—3:30-6:00 at Kichenwald

Join friends, volunteers, and staff of The Lutheran Camping Corporation to celebrate the opening of the 2024 Summer Camping Season.

For more information: Phone: 717-677-8211 lcc@lutherancamping.org

Penryn Food Pantry Reports

Penryn Food Pantry Update:

The food pantry at Penryn continues to grow and serve many members of our community twice a week. After distributing over 120 Christmas dinners, January continued seeing new families and many, many returning faces gratefully shopping for food items to maintain their families. In January, the pantry served 452 total families, which accounted for a total of 1525 individuals being fed. Eighty-eight new families visited the pantry in January. We have seen an increase in families with young children throughout the beginning of the year, as well as continued steady service to the older folks in our community. In January, we served 512 youth (ages 0 – 17) and 281 seniors (ages 60+). As the need continues to increase, we encourage you to prayerfully consider volunteering an hour or so of your time to help distribute food, carry bags of food for older folks, restock shelves and build relationships with the folks who visit our pantry. The pantry is open on Wednesdays from 5 – 8 and Saturdays from 9 – 12. Additionally, donations are always needed. Financial donations go a long way, as the majority of our food is purchased very cheaply in bulk through the PA Food Bank. Donations of adult pull up diapers (preferably without the tabs) sizes large and extra-large, children's diapers sizes 3 – 5, and woman's hygiene products are highly in need at this time. Finally, a huge thank you continues to go out to Lititz Chooses Love whose partnership, leadership and devoted volunteers allow our pantry to thrive.

Did you know ...

- *Local churches and youth groups have been volunteering and donating food?
- *Some weeks we see more than 100 families?
- *The Backyard ministry brings people together and all proceeds benefit the Pantry?
- *That many people visiting the pantry also take clothing?

There are many ways to be involved:

- Staff the pantry on Saturday mornings and Wednesday evening
- Shop for the pantry
- Help at a Backyard event (we collect LOTS of canned goods at these)
- Have your own event and ask your guests to bring food items
- Consider donating fresh meat, eggs, milk, bread

If you would like to be part of our growing food ministry, contact Pastor Angie or Alice Spencer.

Notes of Thanks from the Community:

"Thank you, generous church people for everyday supplies. The eggs, milk, butter, and met help with meals. The canned soup, veggies, peanut butter, cereal, are added staples. Thank you!"

"Thanks for all the food my friend can get for me. I have very little resources, so it is a blessing to get supplies."

St. Paul the Backyard

THE BACKAYRD @ ST. PAUL PENRYN

The Backyard ministry is a way in which we can gather safely as community. Our events are all family friendly, dog friendly, and welcoming to all. Donations of food and money that are collected at events 100% support our food ministry program.

Plans for the spring and summer are under way and we could use some more people on the committee to help with new ideas as well as help with all of the details that go into making an event successful.

Upcoming events:

Easter Egg Hunt – Saturday, March 30, 10:00 AM

4th Annual Cornhole Tournament – Saturday, May 18

Plan to join us throughout the spring and summer for live music on the lawn, some beer from Craft local Breweries, and food from various local food trucks.



Prayer Page

Prayer Circle: St. Luke and St. Paul are working together as one to lift up the community in prayer. If you have need for prayer, please contact Betsy Nolt (St. Luke) or Shelly Gochenaur (St. Paul) with your prayer request and they will share it within the prayer circle composed of folks from both congregations. If you would like to be part of the prayer circle, please let Pastor Angie know.

Please remember to pray for those*....

that are ill, recovering, or shut-in.

who are serving in the military

The Vision to Mission Team

Congregations and ministries with whom we share mutual ministry:

The congregations and pastors of the Heidelberg Ministerium and Lebanon Conference, Agape House, Lebanon Co. Christian Ministries, Women's Shelter, Lancaster/Lebanon Habitat for Humanity, Lebanon Rescue Mission, Support Connections of Lebanon County, St. Paul's Penryn, Penryn Food Bank, Our Bishops: James S. Dunlop and Elizabeth Eaton and their staff.

For pastoral care & emergencies, please contact either church office.

*Names are not listed above for the purpose of confidentiality.

If you would like a list of the names published in the weekly bulletin at St. Luke, please contact the church offices.

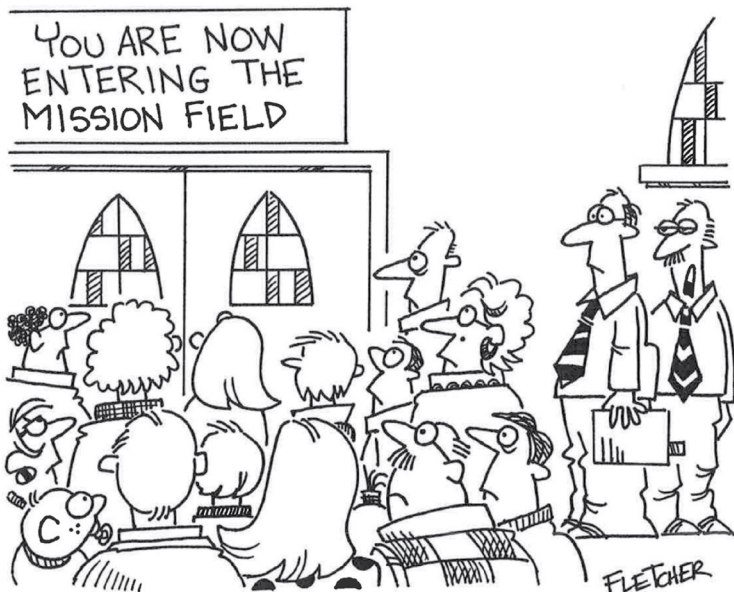
Prayer Ventures for each month can be accessed at: elca.org/resources/prayer-ventures



Great
are the
works
of the
Lord.



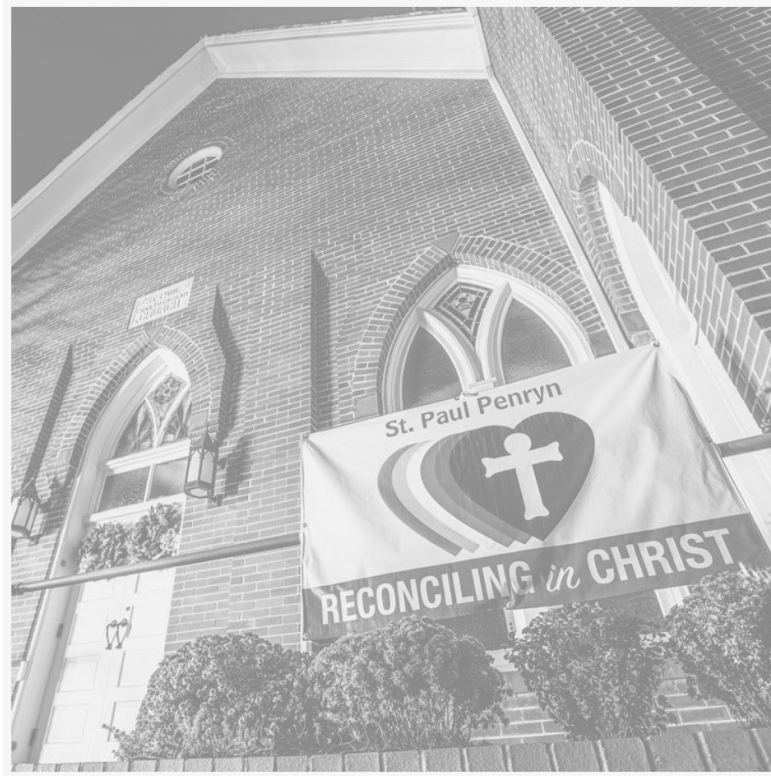
Lutheran Laughter



"What do we do if they NEVER leave the building?"

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Welcome

