



The Scroll

SUMMER 2024



"WE ARE A SPIRIT DRIVEN
CHRISTIAN COMMUNITY
OF ENGAGED DISCIPLES, CALLED TO
SERVE, LOVE AND FORGIVE."
WE ARE A RECONCILING IN
CHRIST CONGREGATION.



Pastor's Note

FROM PASTOR HEIDI

Dear St. Luke Siblings in Christ,

Summer Greetings to you all. Blessings upon you, whether you are working hard during these hot months, laying low, traveling, relaxing, or feeling the "heat" of everyday-life pressures. God promises to be with us in all things, all times, and all seasons. When Jesus was preparing his disciples for his eventual crucifixion, resurrection, and then ascension, he encouraged them that the Holy Spirit would be with them always. "The Advocate, the Holy Spirit, whom the Father will send in my name, will teach you everything, and remind you of all that I have said to you." No matter where you find yourself this summer, I pray that the Holy Spirit will fill you with a sense of wonder, joy, and nourishment through a variety of connections to your Triune God.



Inside:

Presidential Note	2
Ministry News.....	3-6
Grins & Giggles News.....	7
Music	8
Council Mtg Minutes	9-12
Treasurers' Report.....	13-15
Kids Page.....	16
Prayer Requests.....	17
Summer Celebrations.....	18
Summer Schedule to Serve	19-20
Summer Calendar.....	21-22

Follow Us! @stlukegf

continued pg. 2

Presidential Notes

BY FAWN DEMELLO, COUNCIL PRESIDENT



I was Blessed in attending the Synod Assembly in early June with Pastor Heidi and Jim Sammons. This experience was truly amazing to me in how much I thoroughly enjoyed my time. Meeting new people from the New England Synod, reconnecting with many people that I knew and hearing impact stories of churches in our own region.

The major feeling that I came out of the Synod Assembly is that the church is not dying, IT IS ALIVE! Yes, we have declining numbers, declining finances, and some churches have closed but what we have ahead of us is growing, GROWING THE CHURCH! I realized that nothing changes if YOU don't change. We can not live in the past or say we did it this way and it worked, so let's do it that way again. Things worked in the past, but we are in a new way of being a part of the church. We have to change to continue to grow.

At the Synod Assembly one area we talked about, was the youth. I attended a workshop about the youth and the ELCA Youth Gathering in July in New Orleans. What I learned from this workshop was actually outside of the workshop with Pastor Sara from Zion Lutheran, in Portland, CT who has a small group attending the gathering with us. We talked about collaboration.

Collaboration is what we felt was a great way to keep our youth active after the ELCA Youth Gathering. Many churches in our region have only a couple of youth that are active. We want to offer events for 6 different churches to bring all the youth together. We are blessed in having a larger number of youth that can participate, so let's keep them growing in getting to know each other better. We have collaborated with St. Mark's in Norwich with Easter and Advent Seasons, now we want to collaborate with the youth as well.

I felt energized even more after the Synod Assembly. Now I want to share that feeling in building St. Luke more. It was a pleasure to hear from the candidates for Bishop and that Bishop-Elect Nathan Pihlo was elected. He was very inspiring and I could feel his excitement in the growth he wants to share as well as the growth for our New England Synod Churches. I also learned a great deal of how our New England Synod is involved in so many areas. I hope and pray for our ministries here at St. Luke that they will continue to accept challenges in growing to build St. Luke and our community as well.

Peace

Fawn

continued from pg. 1

You can worship wherever you are on any given Sunday morning (or other day of the week). If you can't make it to church, the Spirit of God is upon you at the beach, on a kayak, with family, volunteering, and alone in your rocker. Post a picture of yourself or family on the St. Luke Facebook group, that we might rejoice together in the many ways God is accompanying us in our lives of faith. This photo is the view I had while visiting with a St. Luke parishioner who cannot often join us in person. We had a time of worship and conversation by the water, and communion in her living room. We could truly feel God's presence in that holy moment.



Of course, if you can make it to St. Luke Lutheran on Sunday mornings this summer, you will find a warm welcome, as we join together to be renewed in a sense of connection to God's Spirit - the Spirit that is with us, teaching us, reminding us of God's Word and will, empowering us, and sending us back out to be God's loving conduits for the good of this precious and hurting world.

Glad to walk with you in faith!

Pastor Heidi Johnston

ELAINE REMONDI-SIMPSON

CROP Walk is one of 550 walks throughout the USA coordinated by Church World Services. It stands for Communities Responding to Overcome Poverty. Together we help to educate other people and invite them to help us raise funds each year.

How long has it been around?

The first walk began in South Dakota in 1969, 55 years ago. Gales Ferry/Ledyard churches have been participating since 1989. This will be our 35 th year.

Why do we walk?

We join together to bring attention to the need for all people to have access to: nutritious food, clean water, healthy communities and opportunities to earn a living. We walk because they walk! Every day people, mostly girls, walk for miles to obtain water that is frequently dirtier than water we use to flush waste. That time could be used far more productively to: obtain an education, grow food and raise animals that would generate income for their families.

How are the funds distributed?

Twenty-five percent of the funds stay in southeastern CT. In 2023, Gemma Moran Food Center dispersed \$5,803.34 to various Food Pantries and meal centers to feed our hungry neighbors. Seventy-five percent of the 2023 funds raised, \$23,213.36, were dispersed by CWS globally. There are critical shortages of food due to: ongoing wars, displacement of people and difficulty transporting products.

What kinds of projects receive funds?

People learn how to grow food, raise bees, and raise animals to feed themselves and have something to sell. Hygiene projects such as: building wells to filter out impurities, irrigation projects and hand washing stations to improve health etc.

What are our 2024 fundraising goals? Total of \$25,000.00 \$4,000.00 from St. Luke

Why should I participate? Gemma Moran has seen a 20% increase in need, SNAP benefits have been reduced and inflation continues to raise costs. Improve your own health, while you enjoy being outside with other caring walkers on a lovely fall day.

How can I help? Visit the website: crophungerwalk.org to learn more and share that information with others. Make a commitment to make a difference.



SAVE THE DATE:
SUNDAY,
OCTOBER 20TH
1:00 PM

August 25, 2024 will be this congregation's World Hunger Sunday, to recognize and celebrate and contribute to the ongoing work of the ELCA World Hunger organization. There will be World Hunger envelopes in the pews, a chance to donate at our Free Veggies event after worship, and a button on the donations page of our website.

Because ELCA World Hunger partners with local churches and community organizations no new infrastructure is needed. ELCA World Hunger builds on what is already in the community.

Our donations support programs that are long term and sustainable. Micro-loans can help someone start their own business, and then repay the loan. Agriculture and nutrition programs supply seeds, animals and mentoring, so people eat for more than a day. Water and sanitation improvements boost disease prevention.

We celebrate and recognize the 50th anniversary of this global outreach program and pray for those giving and receiving assistance.

"You received without payment; give without payment." Matthew 10:8

Opportunities at St. Luke

BY LEIGH SAMMONS

Hello, You...Yes, YOU Remarkable Person who worships at St. Luke...

I know you've wondered how you can be more involved in this awesome community of faithful Christians, so I'd like to invite you to share your gifts and talents in these very simple but valuable ways:

Scheduling communion assistants, greeters, and assisting ministers is a great way to work "behind the scenes". The schedules are already formatted, can be created for several months at a time, AND it only takes about 30 minutes to complete all 3! Wow! Plus, the schedules are already completed through August. Leigh Sammons is happy to help you with this if you feel called to give it a try.

Kids' Corner is another simple and fulfilling way to become more involved. This opportunity happens every 3rd week for 30 minutes during the service. Yes, you'd miss the sermon but the return on working with kids is well worth it. The next one is scheduled for August 18. Mark Larson is happy to fill you in on this great way to help.

Be the friendly face of St. Luke...Wish you were more outgoing? Serving as a greeter is a great way to nudge yourself a bit by smiling and welcoming worshippers on Sunday mornings. Greeters are typically scheduled for a turn 1-2 times a month. Leigh Sammons is your point of contact.

So, Remarkable Person, are you feeling called to nurture your faith and build relationships with your St. Luke community? Please consider jumping in on one of these simple and valuable ways to be more involved. You'll be glad you did.

Update: St. Luke Community Garden and Flower Meadow Project

BY PENNY HELLER

Ministry News

Spring weather saw the annual planting of seedlings raised by the Ledyard High School VoAg students in the church's "giving garden." New this year are onions, as companion plants to the tomatoes to distract the bugs; and zucchini plants provided last fall by David Zitzkatz that amazingly overwintered! Also new are compost bins that everyone can add to – coffee grounds and tea bags are most welcome, please chop up veggie scraps as much as possible, thank you!

The "rehab project" converting the old parking area along Route 12 into a pollinator-friendly meadow started its second year. The initial cover-crop of white clover is evolving into mulch, which is needed to keep some moisture in the shallow soil through this coming hot summer. Several rabbits have enjoyed the clover as well. The flowers emerging so far include yellow coreopsis, blue coneflower, black eyed Susan, pink dianthus, red poppy, lemon thyme, money penny, and oilseed radish. The local deer have found the young sunflowers delicious! Hopefully enough flowers will remain for the bees while keeping the other animals away from going into the vegetable garden for their dinner.

Many thanks go to Mark Goddette, Jeanne and Steve Loomis, and Jim Sammons for helping with spring planting chores. Elaine Remondi-Simpson and Linda Martin stepped up again this year to help 'harden off' the delicate seedlings and will take over the vegetable harvesting tasks when they all mature. Penny and Ray Heller continue with maintenance tasks. New helpers are always welcome – no experience necessary.



WE'RE TIRED (BUT HAPPY!)

BY KAREN AND MIKE WUESTHOFF



THE TAG SALE WAS A LOT OF WORK, BUT IT WAS WORTH IT!

Thanks for all the good stuff! We sorted it, arranged it, priced it, sold it, and came away with \$4,819 - enough to pay our overhead expenses (about \$600) with a lot left over to augment the grant funds we use to buy beds for people in financial need.

Although rain had been predicted, the weather turned out to be beautiful (thank you, Lord!). Everything came in early enough in the week that we were able to sort, display, and price it before the start of the sale, and no unwanted items that would have been difficult to dispose of were delivered in the dead of night. And thanks to good sales and some wonderful people who loaded up their cars with leftovers to take to local charities at the end of the sale, the dumpster in the parking lot was less than half full!

We had lots of help during the sale and a small but efficient cleanup crew on Saturday. We brought in and set up tables, clothing racks, and bookcases from our storage shed on Sunday, arranged and priced sale items Monday through Friday, held the sale Friday from 6 to 8 pm and Saturday from 8 to 2, and had the place cleaned up by 6:00.

With apologies to anyone we may have left out (please sign in if you help!), thanks to: Allie, Sue Anderson, Mike and Cindy Arnold, Kristian Balinski, Sue and Eva Conley, Sue and Aiden Davis, Derjue family, Andy Eld, Dave and Suzanne Etris, Cathie Freamon, Noelle Hale, Kari Hammen, Diane Hansen, Cathy Hanson, Ray and Penny Heller, Marge Johnson, Pr. Heidi Johnston, Tim Kormos, Carolyn Kracke, Jacqueline and John Kremer, Joan Lambert, Louise and Mark Larson, Jeanne Loomis, Linda Martin, Andrew Oplinger, Kasey Peck, Tyler Palumbo, Mike and Rebecca Richardson, Melanie and Noah Savage, Kristen Smart, Janeese and Erica Watson, and Marty and Pat Wood. God bless you all!



The Friday evening crew poses for a quick photo before we open the doors.



Grins & Giggles Preschool News

BY NANCY RUPERT, DIRECTOR

June was another busy month for preschool. Our spring field trip to Waterford Country School on June 4th introduced the children to many animals up front and personally. The families enjoyed a relaxing picnic in Leary Park in Waterford after our time with the animals. Weather cooperated which was fantastic! We enjoyed 'Fun in the Sun' by running under the sprinkler and tossing water balloons and finished up our year by making Father's Day gifts and cards for our dads. Graduation Day was Friday, June 14th. There was excitement and anticipation in the air as twelve little graduates decked in little caps and gowns paraded into the sanctuary to Pomp and Circumstance. We sang two songs and the children tried to listen intently as the teachers gave little messages about each child. Cupcakes, popcorn and juice were their rewards for sitting so long and everyone went home with goodie bags, a CD of the year in photos, a gift from the teachers and balloons to commemorate the occasion.

It was bittersweet to see our little ones go but many will be returning to our summer camp! Yay!

If you would like to donate to our camp/school, we need napkins! We have snack and lunch and go through a lot of napkins! Thank you in advance!

Year in Review

BY GINA WILLIAMS

Music

The Music Program of St. Luke was quite busy this year! Rehearsals began at the end of August and continued until June. Senior Choir sang 21 anthems for a total of 16 services. JuBELLation Handbell Choir participated in a Sermon in Song with Pastor Heidi on September 17th. Bells played for twenty-four services (JuBELLation - 10; Concert HB - 5; Glory Ringers - 4; Joyful Noise - 4; and The Belles - 1). Due to the loss of ringers, The Belles was discontinued in January. Both Senior Choir and JuBELLation participated in our 5th annual Community Christmas Concert along with Ledyard High School Carolers and Tono Dolce Community Choir on December 8th. JuBELLation were guests of Tono Dolce on their Spring Concert on May 18th at St. David's. The 27th Hallelujah for Handbells took place on June 9th featuring all bell choirs. The theme this year was "Let's Dance" and the choirs presented different styles of dance music and the audience was further entertained by videos presenting the history of dance. Thank you to all who participated in the St. Luke music program!

If you missed Hallelujah for Handbells it is available on our YouTube channel at this link: bit.ly/handbellsstluke24



Minutes of the May Congregation Council Meeting

Congregation Council Agenda (May 21, 2024)

St. Luke Lutheran Church
5:30 P.M.

Call the Congregation Council Meeting to order 5:41pm

Attendees: Fawn DeMello, Pam Gray, Marty Wood, Kellie August, Leigh Sammons, John Perkins, Brad Dame, Pr. Heidi Johnston, Janis Vajdos, Al Nordquist; Pat Wood (member)
Excused Absences: Erica Sullivan

Devotions: May – Pam, June – Pastor Heidi, August – John

Approval of Agenda

Motion to approve: 1st Fawn; 2nd Leigh; passes 9-0

Approval of April 18, 2024 Minutes

Motion to approve: 1st Marty; 2nd Leigh; passes 8-0; Brad Abstain

President's Remarks

- Congregation Council Meetings
- Roberts Rules of Order
 - Training will be set up for everyone as an additional understanding of Robert's Rules of Order
 - Cheat sheet provided to council members
 - Reminder that only 1 person allowed to speak at a time
 - Speaker order when a motion is on the floor
 - person making the motion speaks first and last
- Congregation Council Retreat and Covenant
 - Positive feedback on Enders Island location
 - Reminder of covenant that began to develop during our retreat

Church members comments/concerns

Pat Wood: volunteered to be on the space utilization committee working with Nancy Rupert to assess how the space is being used.

Financial Reports

See reports. YTD offerings on budget. G&G income also on budget. Expenses are below budgeted YTD amounts— mostly due to facility expenses that have not yet been spent.

Al has been signing checks in Cash Disbursements Clerk's absence and also reconciling with bank statements and reviewing payroll.

Diane Hansen suggested we open a CD to generate interest income. Al to look into it further and will seek council approval before taking any action. Pr. Heidi recommended Ginny Sturm as a resource due to her experience with LICEAF.

Council Meeting Minutes (cont'd.)

Audit team has started forward momentum on the audit. Goal to complete in the first half of the year. Al to touch base with all team members.

New Business

- Pam Gray
 - will be stepping down from Council.
- Nominating Committee
 - The nominating committee has been contacted to identify a replacement for the Evangelism liaison
 - Replacement will be for the length of Pam's term and then can be voted in for a full 2 year term at the next annual meeting
- **Motion:** To approve the stripping and waxing of Fellowship Hall in the amount of \$905.97- Marty 1st; Brad 2nd;
 - Amount changed to include 1% fee for paying by check
 - United Methodist Church uses this company System 4 of Rhode Island
 - current janitor is unfamiliar with how to strip and wax floors; previous janitor plus 2 people would help . Messy job
 - Expected 3 years before needed to be done again
 - Just the main hall; does not include the kitchen or the closets (kitchen is not tile)
 - This expense is not in the current facilities budget plan; \$3100 budgeted for facility maintenance and repair
 - Motion passes 8-0; Marty abstains

Old Business

- Replacing 18 tables in the Fellowship Hall
 - Fawn to follow-up on a quote from Fellowship Team
- Space Utilization Ad-hoc committee
 - Cyndi Arnold interested in being part of this committee
 - Marty to follow-up with Cyndi
- Interfaith Organizing Leadership Training - Last Training date is May 23, 2024
 - more information to come after the final training
 -

Pastor's Report - Please note all reports will be accepted after the last report

See report. Note regarding Vacation Bible School. Partnership with United Methodist for Bible Bootcamp (content still to be reviewed by Pr. Heidi). Trying something different that would be for all ages. Sunday afternoon for 3 Sundays. Pr. Heidi to follow up with dates and more details United Way Alice Report Asset-limited, Income-constrained Report recently shared with Pr. Heidi. Highlighted the need to identify the needs of the community,

Council Meeting Minutes (cont'd)

Purpose Teams Reports

- Evangelism
 - Budget is spent; Ads for parade booklet and Easter ads
 - Traveling Queer Movie Night: complications with the other churches not being able to host; Removing August and possibly September dates to re-evaluate
 - Licenses have been purchased for the movie nights; other committees are encouraged to use this resource. Contact Pam for more information
- Fellowship
 - Coffee hour June 16 will be last before the summer
 - August 25 free vegetable give-away for Gods Work Our Hands.
 - Tables: John cannot find distributors who deal in heavy durable tables.
 - Pam to take action to share information on where her office recently bought tables that are sturdy
- Lifelong Learning
 - See report. Kids Corner taking a break in July. Would like more support in planning and implementing
- Outreach Ministry
 - See report. Prepare for Free Vegetable day in August. Kellie to follow-up on determining name for event.
- Worship
 - No meeting in May. See report from April meeting
 - Pr. Heidi committed to connecting families of acolyte-aged kids in the fall
 - Great feedback on the Justice and Peace service

Support Team Reports

- Communications
 - See report
 - all are encouraged to explore all the methods of communication available to us
- Facilities
 - see report.
 - Mike Wuestoff recommends removing the wood stripping and replacing around stain glass windows. This expense has already been budgeting it he facilities budget
 - Remaining 2 holes in the fellowship hall exterior wall expected to be completed in August after birds leave the nests

Council Meeting Minutes (cont'd)

- Parish
 - See report
- People
 - Pay for substitute organists needs to be revisited

Motion to Accept All Reports

Motion to accept: 1st Fawn; 2nd John; passed 9-0

Items to be followed up on for next meeting – June 20, 2024 at 6pm

- Pam: resource for licenses on future movies use
- Kellie: name for Produce event in August
- Fawn: tables for FH; quote from Louise
- Marty: contact Cyndi Arnold for space utilization team
- Al: touch base with audit team; attach balance sheet with financials
- Leigh: substitute policy for organist
- Pr. Heidi: schedule Robert's Rules of Order Training; confirm VBS dates: follow-up on salad Sunday with Cathy Freamon

Motion to Adjourn and Closing Prayer – Lord's Prayer

Motion to adjourn: Fawn 1st; Leigh 2nd; pass 9-0

Treasurer's Report for Month Ending May, 2024

St. Luke Lutheran Church Treasurer's Report for Month Ending May 31, 2024

June 16, 2024

Pledged offerings for the month of May were approximately \$14K above the monthly budget, making the YTD balance approximately \$10K greater than the budget. Grace Giving also exceeded the monthly budget, by approximately \$600, resulting in the YTD grace giving being approximately \$4700 above the YTD budget, making the total offerings income approximately \$15K greater than the budget.

Grins & Giggles income YTD is almost exactly the budgeted income, making the YTD total budgeted income \$44.50 greater than the budgeted income.

A summary of the YTD May 2024 budgeted income is provided in the table below:

Account Name	Period Activity	Monthly Budget	YTD Balance	Budget YTD	Annual Budget	Annual Budget Remaining
Pledges	40,485.90	26,186.00	171,746.25	161,744.00	348,859.00	177,112.75
Grace Giving	3,937.43	3,375.00	21,590.87	16,875.00	40,500.00	18,909.13
Loose Cash Offering	171.00	250.00	1,352.00	1,250.00	3,000.00	1,648.00
Special Envelopes	0.00	0.00	724.25	400.00	1,000.00	275.75
Offerings	\$44,594.33	\$29,811.00	\$195,413.37	\$180,269.00	\$393,359.00	\$197,945.63
Building Use	705.00	250.00	1,255.00	1,250.00	3,000.00	1,745.00
Structures Income	\$705.00	\$250.00	\$1,255.00	\$1,250.00	\$3,000.00	\$1,745.00
Grins & Giggles Income-Tuition	7,450.00	7,000.00	34,549.50	35,000.00	80,475.00	45,925.50
Grins & Giggles Income-Registration fees	245.00	0.00	595.00	100.00	500.00	(95.00)
Total Grins and Giggles Income	\$7,695.00	\$7,000.00	\$35,144.50	\$35,100.00	\$80,975.00	\$45,830.50
Total Budgeted Income	\$52,994.33	\$37,061.00	\$231,812.87	\$216,619.00	\$477,334.00	\$245,521.13

We also had an additional \$4329.70 in additional income during the month of May, the majority of which was income to the ELCA National Youth Gathering Fund, and the Pastor's Discretionary Fund.

Total Budgeted YTD Expenses of \$199,719.12 is less than the YTD budget of \$211,234.00 by \$11,514.88. The primary reasons for this difference are Facilities expenses which have not yet been realized, and staff salary spending

Grins & Giggles YTD Expenses of \$36,615.06 is greater than the Budget of \$34,360.00 by \$2255.06.

Net Results: As of the end of May 2024 we have an Actual YTD Total Income of \$258,494.08, and Expenses of \$216,444.96, resulting in a difference of \$42,092.12. A high-level year to date summary is in the table below:

Account Name	Period Activity	Monthly Budget	YTD Balance	Budget YTD	Annual Budget	Annual Budget Remaining
Total Budgeted Income	\$52,994.33	\$37,061.00	\$231,812.87	\$216,619.00	\$477,334.00	\$245,521.13
TOTAL Budgeted Expense	\$38,728.25	\$37,761.00	\$199,719.12	\$211,234.00	\$515,138.00	\$315,418.88
Budgeted Income/Expense Difference	\$14,266.08	(\$700.00)	\$32,093.75	\$5,385.00	(\$37,804.00)	(\$69,897.75)
Total Grins and Giggles Income	\$7,695.00	\$7,000.00	\$35,144.50	\$35,100.00	\$80,975.00	\$45,830.50
Total Grins & Giggles Expense	\$8,258.78	\$6,185.00	\$36,615.06	\$34,360.00	\$82,075.00	\$45,459.94

Treasurer 's Report for Month Ending May, 2024

Grins & Giggles Income/Expense Difference	(\$563.78)	\$815.00	(\$1,470.56)	\$740.00	(\$1,100.00)	\$370.56
Total Income	\$57,324.03	\$37,061.00	\$258,494.08	\$216,619.00	\$515,138.00	\$283,325.13
Total Expense	\$45,982.93	\$37,761.00	\$216,444.96	\$211,234.00	\$515,138.00	\$315,418.88
Total Income/Expense Difference	\$11,341.10	(\$700.00)	\$42,049.12	\$5,385.00	\$0.00	(\$32,093.75)

Respectfully Submitted,
Alan Nordquist
Treasurer

Consolidated Fund Activity Report May 2024

St Luke Lutheran Church - Gales Ferry CT Consolidated Fund Activity Report for May 2024

Account #	Account Name	Beg Balance	Receipts	Disbursements	Transfers/JE's	End Balance
3.1001.1001	General Operating Fund Balance	71,614.13	52,994.33	38,728.25	-	85,880.21
3.1050.1000	<i>Building Fund Balance</i>					
3.1050.1001	General Building Fund Balance	22,078.13	10.00	29.98	-	22,058.15
3.1050.1002	Sanctuary Renovations Balance	4,682.35	10.00	-	-	4,692.35
3.1056.1000	Wedding Facilities Fund Balance	397.80	-	-	-	397.80
3.1060.1000	Memorial Fund Balance	4,450.06	-	330.00	-	4,120.06
3.1070.1000	Long Term Contingency Fund Balance	4,022.68	-	-	-	4,022.68
3.1080.1000	Unrestricted Gifts Fund Balance	45,546.94	-	-	-	45,546.94
3.2001.1000	<i>Worship-Dedicated Balance</i>					
3.2001.1001	Special Music Balance	2,736.73	-	-	-	2,736.73
3.2001.1003	Handbell Program Fund Balance	1,480.31	-	58.53	-	1,421.78
3.2001.2020	Embellish (Bells of Fire) Fund Balance	908.52	370.00	-	-	1,278.52
3.2002.1000	<i>Administrative-Dedicated Balance</i>					
3.2002.1006	Staff Development Balance	4,438.15	-	-	-	4,438.15
3.2002.1012	Sabbatical Fund Balance	5,750.00	-	-	-	5,750.00
3.2002.1007	Flowers Balance	132.32	305.75	250.00	-	188.07
3.2004.1000	<i>Fellowship-Dedicated Balance</i>					
3.2004.1003	Adult Ski Trip Balance	50.00	-	-	-	50.00
3.2004.1005	Fellowship Special Events Balance	2,907.37	-	599.20	-	2,308.17
3.2005.1000	<i>Special Programs Balance</i>					
3.2005.1002	Great Lakes Scrip Program Balance	1,550.28	-	-	-	1,550.28
3.2006.1000	<i>Youth-Dedicated Balance</i>					
3.2006.1003	ELCA National Youth Gathering Balance	6,801.68	2,433.95	4,731.72	-	4,503.91
3.2006.1004	Youth Mission Trip Balance	522.15	-	-	-	522.15
3.2007.1000	<i>Family Ministry-Dedicated Balance</i>					
3.2007.1001	Family Ministry Activities Balance	208.00	-	-	-	208.00
3.2008.1000	<i>Life Long Learning-Dedicated Balance</i>					
3.2008.1001	Ecumenical VBS Balance	530.47	-	-	-	530.47
3.2008.1003	Women's Retreat Balance	236.12	-	-	-	236.12
3.2008.1004	Lutheran Study Bibles Balance	36.06	-	-	-	36.06
3.2009.1000	<i>Ministry-Dedicated Balance</i>					
3.2002.1005	Thrivent Choice Balance	799.00	-	-	-	799.00
3.2009.1011	World Hunger Balance	2,053.21	-	-	-	2,053.21
3.2010.1000	<i>Discretionary Gifts Balance</i>					
3.2010.1001	Pastors' Discretionary Balance	2,059.82	1,020.00	1,025.00	-	2,054.82
3.2010.1002	Good Samaritan Fund Balance	1,387.92	-	-	-	1,387.92
3.2010.1003	Council Discretionary Fund Balance	4,776.62	180.00	230.25	-	4,726.37
3.2010.1004	Camp Calumet Scholarships Balance	700.00	-	-	-	700.00
3.2011.1000	<i>Facilities Support-Dedicated Balance</i>					
3.2011.1001	Memorial Garden Balance	3,504.44	-	-	-	3,504.44
3.2011.1002	Playground Balance	37.11	-	-	-	37.11
3.9000.1000	Net Fixed Asset Fund Balance	1,918,224.00	-	-	-	1,918,224.00
Total		<u>\$2,114,622.37</u>	<u>\$57,324.03</u>	<u>\$45,982.93</u>	<u>\$0.00</u>	<u>\$2,125,963.47</u>

Kids' Page



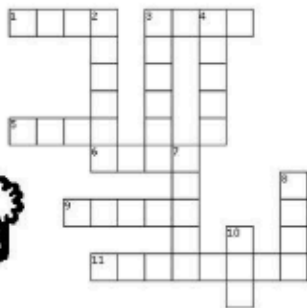
Foods of the Bible

P	A	S	T	R	I	E	S	N	C
U	A	R	S	A	F	I	G	S	B
L	V	E	N	I	S	O	N	S	M
S	T	B	O	S	E	D	S	B	A
E	A	M	L	I	P	A	G	R	N
T	O	U	E	N	A	E	S	E	N
A	G	C	M	S	R	R	C	H	A
E	R	U	X	F	G	B	A	S	B
M	Z	C	Q	U	A	I	L	I	N
F	J	E	M	I	L	K	F	F	U

bread	grapes	pastries
calf	herbs	pulse
cucumbers	manna	quail
figs	meat	raisins
fish	melons	venison
goat	milk	

The Good Shepherd

John 10:11-18 (NIV)



ACROSS

1. Wild animal that looks like a dog and hunts in packs
3. The period from birth to death
5. A strong feeling of affection
6. Goes faster than walking
9. What we use to speak
11. One who takes care of the sheep

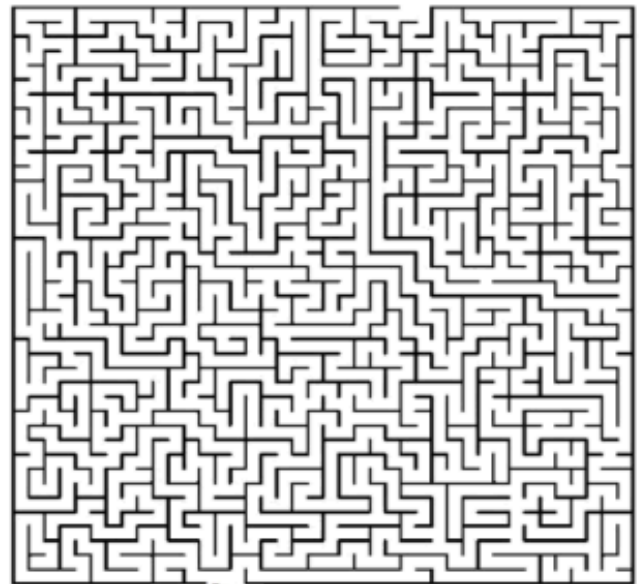
DOWN

2. The male parent
3. To hear or pay attention to something
4. A group of sheep herded together
7. Woolly animals which are similar to goats
8. The opposite of bad
10. A small place where animals are kept

Words Used

good	sheep	runs	listen
shepherd	wolf	father	pen
life	flock	voice	love

Help the Bee find
the flower



Prayer List

Pray for healing:

Chip & Sabina Moran
Joan Lambert
Randy Stevens
(brother of Fawn
DeMello)
Matteo Cristofaro
Liz Arnold
Ellie & Desi (family of
Susan Bibeau)
Doris Remondi (mother
of Elaine Remondi-
Simpson)
Donna (friend of Leigh
Sammons)
David Greenstein
(Owsley's son-in-law)
Kathy West
The Boggan Family

Roseanne Going
Mike Wuesthoff
Jim West
Julia Side
Geoff
Linda Wilkinson
Cori Mackey
Marie
Jonathan
Link
Stephanie Lucas

Pray for those who are Grieving:

Pray for active duty military:

Joshua Robeson
Daniel Walker
Christian Conrad
Adrian Estrella
Owen Lessing
Martin Wuesthoff
Andy Sammons
Derek Raymond
Patrick Wimmermark

Pray for homebound, those receiving long-term care, & their caregivers:

Bill Kracke
Fred Launer
Pauline Wanner
Bob Chernansky
Jenny Waller
Glenn Rupert
Lynn Minichino
Lynn Tarozzi

Pray for those with other concerns:

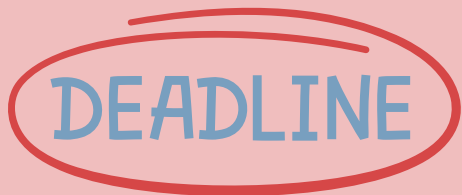
Saditha
Sandy
Paul Roman
Chikumbuso Project



Scroll Deadline: Third Monday of the Month

The deadline for the Scroll is the third
Monday of each month.

Articles may be submitted as hard-
copy or via e-mail to
communications@stlukegf.org.



Add a Prayer

If you would like to add a
prayer request to the
Weekly, please complete
the Prayer Request form
on the reverse side of the
yellow Connections form.

Leave the form in the
pew and the ushers will
collect them and turn
them in to the church
office. You can also add a
prayer request by calling
the office at 860-464- 7897

July & August Celebrations

Birthdays:

July:

Doug Bartkowski 07/05
Kirsten Holmstedt 07/24
Joanne Erickson 07/17
Carol Croteau 07/06
Marty Wood 07/27
Marie Tobiassen 07/04
Pat Wood 07/01
David Etris 07/08
Sharon Podojil 07/10
Elaine Remondi-Simpson 07/07
Diane Hansen 07/10
Marjorie Johnson 07/10
Betty Caruso 07/11
Diane Geer 07/17
Janis Vajdos 07/21
Heidi Johnston 07/30
Katie Johnson 07/04
Harlan Felty 07/26
Nathaniel Nicki 07/12

August:

Robert Simpson 08/25
Jim Sammons 08/29
Bonnie Fear 08/01
Dan Miller 08/23
Georganne Frase 08/28
Joan Lambert 08/06
Bill Kracke 08/18
Edna Johnson 08/06
Joan Heidisch 08/20
Kathy Dame 08/13
Mitchell Robinson 08/29
Dennis Sindel 08/15
Fawn DeMello 08/21
Michael Johnson 08/22
Daniel Lettiere 08/28
Bradley Dame 08/28
Peter Keefe 08/13
Hailey Salen 08/20

Wedding Anniversaries: (# of Years Married)

July:

Philip & Kari Hammen 07/31 (59)
Heidi & Ben Johnston 07/31 (13)
Bill & Carolyn Kracke 07/18 (54)
Daniel & Elaine Lettiere 07/21 (23)

August:

Curt & Cathy Frost 08/28 (53)
John & Jacqueline Kremer 08/22 (37)
Mike & Nancy Lembke 08/18 (45)
Robert & Robin Nelson 08/05 (35)
Gerald & Kathleen Swope 08/07 (59)

Baptismal Birthdays:

July:

Croteau, Carol 07/??/1936
Wood, Pat 07/01/1945
Schlepp, Sharon 07/01/1946
Kracke, Carolyn 07/31/1949
Rupert, Nancy 07/??/1951
Podojil, Sharon 07/27/1952
Hansen, Diane 07/??/1953
Gilletti, Jennifer 07/06/1958
Taylor, David 07/09/1961
Johnson, Katie 07/??/1992
Johnson, Olivia 07/15/2007
Salen, Hailey 07/09/2017
Balinski, Emilee 07/09/2017
Keefe, Elijah 07/15/2018
Keefe, Luke 07/28/2019

August:

Johnson, Margaret 08/06/1939
Heidisch, Joan 08/??/1949
Turner, Travis 08/31/1953
Robinson, Mary 08/01/1954
Caruso, Betty 08/19/1955
Portofee, Sue 08/19/1969
Lettiere, Daniel 08/28/1970
Johnston, Heidi 08/22/1982
Miller, Clara 08/07/2022

DID WE MISS YOUR CELEBRATION?
PLEASE CALL THE CHURCH OFFICE,
860-464-7897, OR E-MAIL
PARISHADMIN@STLUKEGF.ORG, SO WE CAN
BE SURE TO HONOR YOUR SPECIAL DAY.

ST. LUKE—SCHEDULE TO SERVE - July 2024

Date	Greeters	Ushers	Altar Guild	Lay Readers	Communion Deacons	Acolytes	Tech Team	Assisting Ministers
7/7								
9:30	Edna Johnson	John R. Mark L.		Katherine D L.,	Marty Wood & Kari Hammen	Camille Felty & Nathaniel Dame	Kristian Balinski & Brad Dame	Fawn DeMello
7/14								
9:30	Barb Candler	Ray H. John P.		Bob Nelson	Leigh Sammons & Charlie Anderson	Logan Enslow & Ian Enslow	Garret Miglin & Al Nordquist	Erica Aberle
7/21								
9:30	Katie Launer-Felty	Marty And Pat W.		Liese Z	Grace DeMarco & Dylan Baker	Carson Aberle & Everett Steele	Al Nordquist & Roni Rollinson	Katie Launer-Felty
7/28								
9:30	Leigh Sammons	Dennis S. Al N.			Kari Hammen & Nancy Rupert	Sam Aberle & Camille Felty	Roni Rollinson & Kristian Balinski	Felix Vajdos

This schedule compiled as of 6/25/2024; Please check the bulletin board by Fellowship Hall for updates.

ST. LUKE—SCHEDULE TO SERVE - August 2024

Date	Greeters	Ushers	Altar Guild	Lay Readers	Communion Deacons	Acolytes	Tech Team	Assisting Ministers
8/4								
9:30	Elaine Remondi-Simpson	Ray H. David Z.			Pat Robbins & Fawn DeMello	Raegan Aberle & Sam Aberle	Jim Sammons & Brad Dame	Fawn DeMello
8/11								
9:30	Grace DeMarco	Louise and Mark L.			Diane Hansen & Ray Heller	Everett Steele & Carson Aberle	Brad Dame & Al Nordquist	Erica Aberle
8/18								
9:30	Katie Johnson	Marty and Pat W.			Leigh Sammons & Jerry Swope	Nate Dame & Camille Felty	Kristian Balinski & Roni Rollinson	Katie Launer-Felty
8/25								
9:30	Joanne Erickson	John P. Al N.				Logan Enslow & Ian Enslow		

This schedule compiled as of 6/24/2024; Please check the bulletin board by Fellowship Hall for updates.

Church Calendar of Events

JULY 2024

*Community Group

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
30	1 7:00pm AA*	2 9:30am OA* 6:00pm CPR Training*	3 9:00am EmBellish 11:00am Picnic in the Park 12:15pm KIDSTEPS Sarah Inc.*	4	5	6 10:00am OA* 7:00pm AA*
7 9:30am In-person & Livestream Worship 2:30pm New London Meal Center	8 6:30pm: Fellowship Team Meeting 7:00pm AA*	9 9:30am OA* 6:00pm: Executive Planning Team	10 Diane Hansen, bookkeeper birthday 11:00am Picnic in the Park 12:15pm KIDSTEPS Sarah Inc.*	11 9:00am LICEAF*	12	13 10:00am OA* 10:30am Women's Group 7:00pm AA*
14 9:30am In-person Worship 9:30am Livestream worship	15 SCROLL DEADLINE 7:00pm AA*	16 Girl Scout Troop Meeting 9:30am OA*	17 9:00am EmBellish 11:00am Picnic in the Park 12:15pm KIDSTEPS Sarah Inc.*	18 6:00pm CONGREGATION COUCIL 6:30pm Girl Scout Leader meeting*	19	20 10:00am: OA* 7:00pm: AA* 7:00pm SE/CT Traveling Queer Movie Night
21 9:30am In-person & Livestream Worship	22 7:00pm AA*	23 9:30am OA*	24 11:00am Picnic in the Park 12:15pm KIDSTEPS Sarah Inc.*	25	26	27 10:00am: OA* 10:30am: Women's Group 7:00pm: AA*
28 9:30am: In-person & Livestream Worship	29 7:00pm AA*	30 Pastor Heidi's birthday 9:30am OA*	31 9:00am EmBellish 11:00am Picnic in the Park 12:15pm KIDSTEPS Sarah Inc.*	1	2	3

Church Calendar of Events

AUGUST 2024

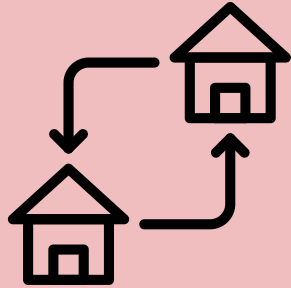
*Community Group

Music Rehearsals:

Mon., 4:45 PM – Glory Ringers
 Mon., 5:45 PM – Joyful Noise
 Tues., 7:00 PM – Senior Choir
 Wed., 9:00 AM – EmBellish
 Wed., 5:00 PM – Concert Handbells
 Wed., 7:00 PM – JuBELLation

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
28	29	30	31	1	2	3 10:00am OA* 7:00pm AA*
4 9:30am In-person & Livestream Worship 2:30pm New London Meal Center	5 7:00pm AA*	6 9:30am OA* 6:00pm CPR Training*	7 11:00am Picnic in the Park 12:15pm KIDSTEPS Sarah Inc.*	8 9:00am LICEAF*	9	10 10:00am OA* 10:30am Women's Group 7:00pm AA*
11 9:30am In-person Worship 9:30am Livestream worship	12 6:30pm: Fellowship Team Meeting 7:00pm AA*	13 9:30am OA* 6:00pm Executive Planning Team	14 9:00am: EmBellish 11:00am Picnic in the Park 12:15pm KIDSTEPS Sarah Inc.*	15 6:00pm: CONGREGATION COUNCIL	16	17 10:00am: OA* 7:00pm: AA*
18 9:30am In-person & Livestream Worship	19 SCROLL DEADLINE 4:00pm: AGO 7:00pm AA*	20 Girl Scout Troop Meeting 9:30am OA*	21 11:00am Picnic in the Park 12:15pm KIDSTEPS Sarah Inc.*	22	23	24 10:00am: OA* 10:30am: Women's Group 7:00pm: AA*
25 9:30am: In-person & Livestream Worship	26 7:00pm AA*	27 9:30am OA*	28 9:00am EmBellish 11:00am Picnic in the Park 12:15pm KIDSTEPS Sarah Inc.*	29	30	31 10:00am: OA* 7:00pm: AA*

*Please inform the Church
Office of any address,
telephone number, or email
changes. Email changes to
parishadmin@stlukegf.org or
call 860-464-7897.*

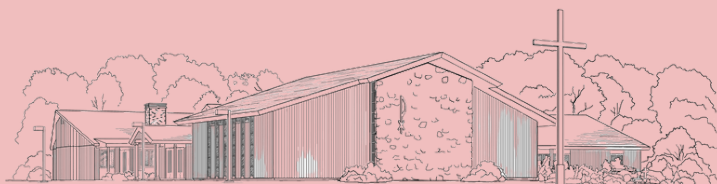


St. Luke Lutheran Church

1830 Route 12
Gales Ferry, CT 06335
Phone: 860-464-7897
Fax: 860-464-7742
Website: stlukegf.org

*A member of the Evangelical Lutheran
Church in America*

*A Spirit Driven Christian
Community of Engaged
Disciples, Called to Serve,
Love and Forgive.*



St. Luke Lutheran Church

1830 Route 12
Gales Ferry, CT 06335
Ph. 860-464-7897
Fax: 860-464-7742
Emergency #: 860-617-9343
www.stlukegf.org

Office Hours:

Monday— Thursday
9 am to 2:30 pm
Friday
CLOSED

LEADERSHIP TEAM

Pastor Heidi Johnston
pastorheidi@stlukegf.org
Emergency #: 860-381-0884
www.stlukegf.org
Lead Pastor

Gina Marie Williams
gina@stlukegf.org
*Director of Music and
Worship Technology*

Diane Hansen
diane@stlukegf.org
Bookkeeper

Rachel Goodman
parishadmin@stlukegf.org
Parish Administrator

Kathleen Bartkowski
Organist/Accompanist

Katie Kenney
communications@stlukegf.org
Communications Coordinator

Melissa Spera
Custodian

OFFICERS OF THE CONGREGATION

Fawn DeMello
fdemello@comcast.net
President

Leigh Sammons
l.e.sammons@gmail.com
Vice-President

Alan Nordquist
treasurer@stlukegf.org
Treasurer