

A Word from Minister Bobbie



After a Long Winter: The Promise of Spring

"For behold, the winter is past; the rain is over and gone. The flowers appear on the earth, the time of singing has come, and the voice of the turtledove is heard in our land." — Song of Solomon 2:11–12

Dear Friends,

This year, the words of this beautiful passage feel especially close to our hearts. Many among us have walked through a long and heavy "winter"—not only the cold of the season, but the deeper chill of illness, grief, uncertainty, and the weight of troubling news in our world. Some have sat at hospital bedsides. Others have said goodbye to loved ones. Still others have quietly carried burdens known only to God.

Winter, in all its forms, can feel endless when we are in it.

And yet, the Word reminds us: *the winter is past*. Spring does not rush, but it always comes. Slowly, faithfully, the earth begins to stir again. Tiny buds push through hardened ground. Trees that once seemed lifeless soften with new growth. Birds return with songs that break the long silence. These are not just changes in weather—they are signs of renewal, whispers of hope woven into creation itself.

In the same way, God works renewal in us.

Through Jesus, we are reminded that no season of darkness has the final word. The cross itself looked like the deepest winter—a moment of loss, pain, and apparent defeat. But through the resurrection, God revealed a greater truth: life rises, hope returns, and love endures.

Spring teaches us to look for these small but certain signs of grace.

Perhaps renewal looks like strength returning after illness, one day at a time.

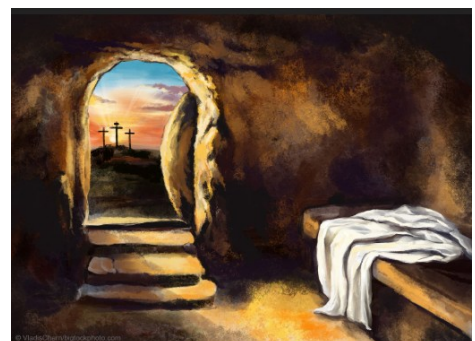
Perhaps it is comfort that gently settles into a grieving heart.

Perhaps it is the quiet assurance that, even in a troubled world, God is still present and at work. The "time of singing" may not always feel loud or joyful right away. Sometimes it begins as a faint melody—fragile, hesitant—but growing stronger with each passing day. Even the soft call of the turtledove reminds us that life continues, that God has not forgotten His people.

So, as we step into this new season, may we open our eyes to the signs of God's renewing presence all around us—and within us. May we trust that the same God who brings flowers from the earth is bringing new life to our hearts. Let us hold onto hope, not because our circumstances are easy, but because our Savior is faithful.

Gracious and loving God, We thank You for the promise of new beginnings. After a cold difficult season, remind us that You are always at work, bringing renewal and hope. Comfort those who grieve, strengthen those who are weary, and bring healing to those who are ill. Help us to see the signs of Your love in the changing seasons and to trust in the new life we have through Jesus Christ. Fill our hearts with peace, and teach us to sing again. In Jesus' name we pray, Amen.

In His Love,
Minister Bobbie



Bursting Butterflies

God's Work, Our Hands

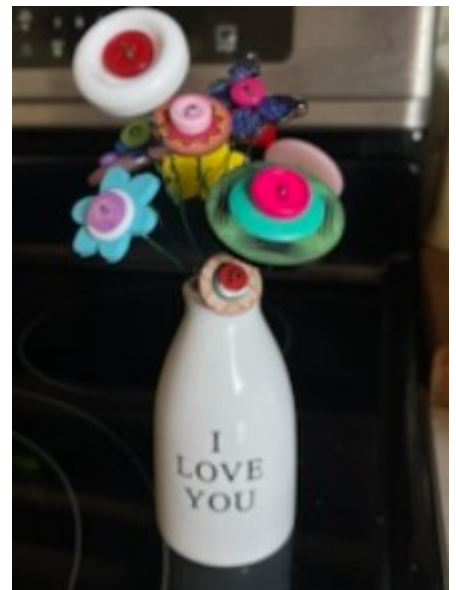
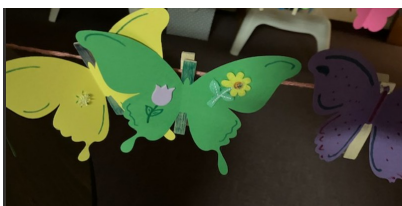
Thank you to everyone who filled emergency bags for the Boyertown Salvation Army. They were grateful and surprised by the number of items in each bag. This was Ruth Ann Shaner's Thrivent Action Team project.

As part of the Bible Study Class, led by Sharon Smith, over 120 butterfly clips were constructed to be handed out after the Easter Sunday service. Along with the butterflies for church members, butterflies were sent down to the St. Luke Knolls, and others will be given out to the homebound members of our church.

The butterflies are just one of the small arts and craft projects of a Thrivent Grant that Celeste Ball wrote called Christians Crafting.

The next crafting project will be a Button Bonanza! We will be making button flowers for Mother's Day. These little flowers make a cute gift for friends or family too.

We will be constructing the button flowers after church on April 26th and May 3rd. Bring friends and family to make a small bouquet. Supplies will be provided. However, if you have some extra buttons, bring them along and have your own unique flowers. Also, bring a small, narrow necked vase or jar that will help to hold your creations! (you can get some unique and pretty containers at any of the Thrift or Good Will shops if you do not have one or two at home!) Hope to see you there.



St. Luke Calendar

Apr. 1	CCR Shopping 1:00-4:00 pm Worship & Music 2:00 pm
Apr. 2	Scouts 6:30 pm Maundy Thursday 7:00 pm
Apr. 3	Good Friday 7:00 pm AA Meeting 8:30 PM
Apr. 5	Resurrection of our Lord 9:30 am
Apr. 7	Scouts 7:00 pm
Apr. 8	CCR Shopping 1:00-4:00 pm
Apr. 9	CCR Shopping 6:00-8:00 pm Council Meeting 6:45 pm
Apr. 10	AA Meeting 8:30 PM
Apr. 12	Second Sunday of Easter 9:30 am
Apr. 14	Scouts 7:00 pm Women's Bible Study 7:00 pm
Apr. 15	CCR Shopping 1:00-4:00 pm
Apr. 16	Scouts 6:30 pm
Apr. 17	AA Meeting 8:30 PM
Apr. 19	Third Sunday of Easter 9:30 am
Apr. 21	Scouts 7:00 pm
Apr. 22	CCR Shopping 1:00-4:00 pm
Apr. 24	AA Meeting 8:30PM
Apr. 26	Fourth Sunday of Easter 9:30 am
Apr. 28	Scouts 7:00 pm
Apr. 29	CCR Closed (5th Wednesday)



Wedding Anniversaries

April 7	Jim & Donna Biehl	
April 10	Scott & Martyne Moyer	
April 21	Ted & Valerie Schlegel	
April 24	Richard & Carol King	

If you celebrate an anniversary but it is not listed or have any other corrections, please contact the church office.



April Birthdays

April 1	Ross Geiger
April 2	Joyce Evans Connie Hukari Adalyn Taylor
April 4	Lindsay White
April 5	Melinda Conrad
April 6	Alexandra Dreyman David Durante Jeffrey Taylor
April 7	Dan Harris
April 8	Owen Tabakalis
April 9	Brooke Kenna
April 12	Donna Biehl Matt Wambold
April 13	Tyler Jacob Simone Penney Maxwell Shalaway
April 14	Landon Wenger
April 16	William Vendetti
April 19	Giuliana Gregory
April 21	Makenna Hess
April 23	Brenda Butcher
April 25	Lori Lyons
April 28	Jordon Treichler Kyle Weller
April 30	Jenna Albright

March Attendance

March 1	47
March 8	49
March 15	73
March 22	51
March 29	60
2026 Yearly Average	46.8
2025 Yearly Average	45.2

St. Luke Prayer Chain Ministry



As a reminder, St. Luke has an active prayer chain ministry. If you have a life event or health concern that you would like to have aided by prayer, please call the church office. We have a group of prayer warriors lead by Ruth Nice who are here for your needs.

Anyone can place a request for prayers by calling Ruth Nice, Christine Winsor, or any member of the Prayer Chain. We will receive your prayer request: determine how you want it worded, and proceed.

We are incredibly careful about confidentiality and present the request as you desire.

Jesus said, 'in all things what so ever you ask in my name, you shall receive.'

"To be a Christian without prayer is no more possible than to be alive without breathing."

—Martin Luther



Welcome All Adults!

For a fun night of Trivia!

Saturday April 11 at 6:00 PM

Please bring a snack to share.

Questions, please talk to Kathy

Undercuffler or Bonnie Kuser.

Holy Week & Easter Schedule

We joyfully invite you to gather with our church family as we celebrate the resurrection of Jesus Christ through worship, Scripture, and song. We will have a special children's message. These services offer a meaningful time of renewal, hope, and celebrating the promise of eternal life. Please invite a friend, neighbor, coworker, or family member to come with you. We hope you will join us for these meaningful services.

Maunder Thursday Service

April 2 at 7 pm

Good Friday Service

April 3 at 7 pm.

Easter Sunday

April 5th at 9:30 am



May Easter fill your heart with courage to embrace change and the faith to believe in the impossible.



St. Luke Evangelical Lutheran Church
 36 Wilson Ave., PO Box 338
 Gilbertsville, PA 19525

Council Meeting Minutes
St. Luke Lutheran Church
Congregational Council Meeting
Minutes
March 12, 2026

The meeting was called to order at 6:58 pm by Council President Leslie Romasco.
 Attendance: Minister Bobbie Hoffman, Leslie Romasco, Scott Moyer, John Bealer, Donna Conrad, Dave Durante, Vince Harris, Connie Hukari, Pete Huber and Tom Undercuffler.
 Excused: Donna Biehl, Dave Girton.

Adoption of Current Agenda

The agenda for the meeting was approved with a motion by Vince Harris and seconded by Donna Conrad. The motion passed.

Approval of Minutes from Previous Council Meeting

Minutes of the previous meeting of February 12, 2026 were approved with a motion by Dave Durante and seconded by Tom Undercuffler. The motion passed.

Devotions were led by Connie Hukari.

Sharing was held.

Unfinished/Old Business

Organist/Music Director – John Bealer informed council of music director search committee meeting with Bruce Tonkin. (1) On recommendation from search team, council approved raising compensation for Mr. Tonkin to \$225.00 per Sunday performance. (2) Council authorized Minister Bobbie to engage Mr. Tonkin to discuss possibility of having a trumpet player for our Easter Sunday service at a cost of \$200.00 for this performance.

Reports

Pastor’s Report – Minister Bobbie mentioned the movie matinee to be held on March 21, 2026. We are looking for volunteers to help set up and greet attendees on that day. She also noted Sharon Smith and the scout troops

will be holding an Egg Hunt on Saturday, April 4, 2026 at St. Luke. Wednesday evening Lenten prayer services have been well attended and enjoyed by all. Butterflies have been crafted to be given to youth and all attendees of our Easter Service. Minister Bobbie is hopeful we will be able to convince more members of the community to join as recognized members of St. Luke, Gilbertsville. The Evangelism Committee is planning to participate in the Boyertown Street Fair again this year. Minister Bobbie thanked council for their continued good efforts to support St. Luke. She is grateful to all for making her job enjoyable.

Treasurer’s Report – Scott presented and reviewed the report with Council. A motion was made by Connie Hukari to accept the report, seconded by Tom Undercuffler. The motion passed.

Committees

Worship & Music – A written report was submitted.

Evangelism – A suggestion was discussed for additional information pertaining to St. Luke be made available to the Clothing Rack.

Social Ministry – No report.

Stewardship – No report.

Mutual Ministry – No report.

Property Committee – No report.

Finance – Meeting scheduled on March 20, 2026 with Thrivent representative to investigate options for a retirement account for Minister Bobbie.

Audit – No report.

Endowment – Two applications received to date.

Parish Life – No report.

Youth Group – Minister Bobbie will be working on events to come in 2026.

Christian Ed – No report.

St. Luke Evangelical Lutheran Church

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Organizations

The Community Clothing Rack – Provide additional St. Luke information.

Scouts/Girl Scouts – Reported a fun visit to Intrepid and looking forward to the egg hunt.

Community Connections/St. Luke Knolls – John Bealer reported the Director's meeting was held on Monday, March 9, 2026. The financial report is in line with the projected budget year-to-date. Work is continuing on designing additional units to be constructed in the future.

New Business

Brainstorm property refresh – Investigating hiring someone to paint various areas of the church.

Christine's 120-day review – As recommended by the hiring committee, council agrees to raise Christine's hourly salary to \$18.00/hour.

Finance committee is authorized to create a retirement account for Minister Bobbie.

Council voted to provide monetary funds to the scouts for the purchase of a small box trailer not to exceed the sum of \$3,000.00. A motion was made by Pete Huber, seconded by Dave Durante. The motion passed.

Adjournment – Tom Undercuffler moved to adjourn the meeting. Donna Conrad seconded the motion, and the motion passed.

We concluded with prayer by Connie Hukari.

Our next meeting is Thursday, April 9, 2026

Respectfully submitted,

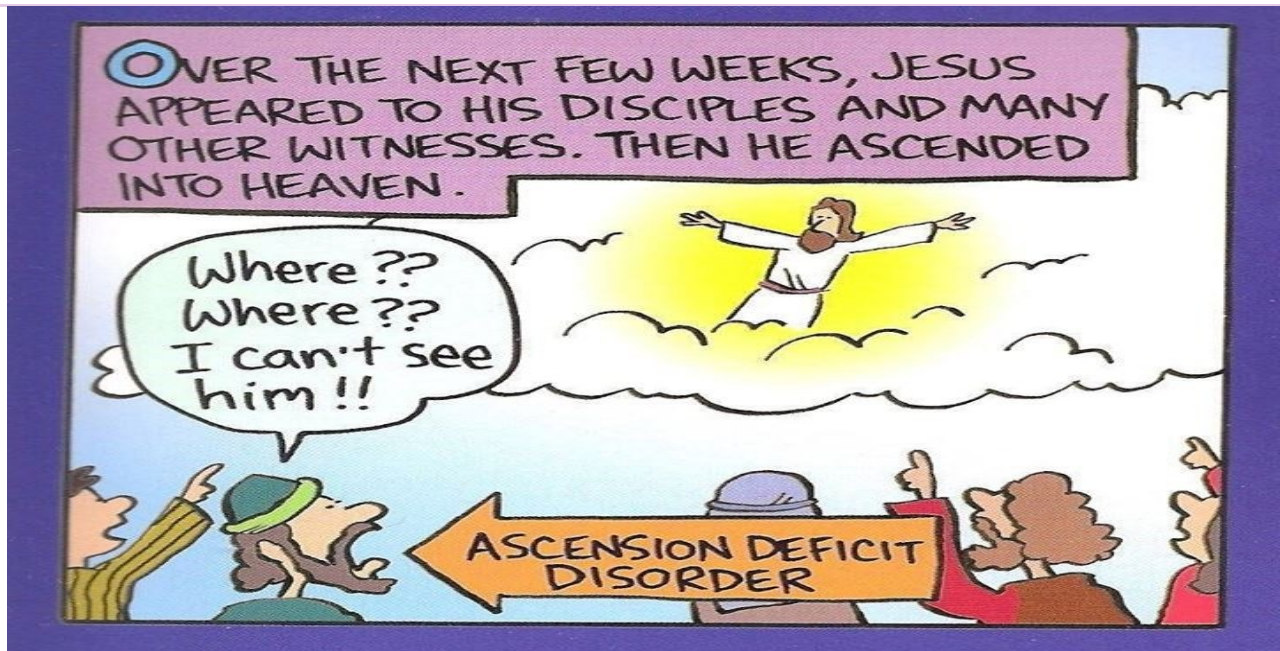
John Bealer
Acting Secretary of Church Council



Worship Leader Schedule

Date	Worship Leader	Lector	Ushers	Audio Visual	Office Volunteer
Apr. 5	Min. Bobbie Hoffman	Mike Romasco	Larry Billger Terry Conrad	Mike Ferraro	Cindy Bealer (April 9)
Apr. 12	Rev. Burlington Latshaw	Carol Geiger	Gary Fronheiser Ron Hukari	Ron Hukari	Pat Hallman (April 16)
Apr. 19	Min. Bobbie Hoffman	Pat Hallman	Dave Girton Pete Huber	Ron Ball	Donna Biehl (April 23)
Apr. 26	Min. Bobbie Hoffman	Emily Geiger	Larry Billger Terry Conrad	Mike Ferraro	Cindy Bealer (April 30)

Sacristan for April - Kathy Billger



Easter reminds us that love always triumphs over hate and that light always overcomes darkness.



ST. LUKE LUTHERAN CHURCH

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