



A Word from Minister Bobbie “The light shines in the darkness, and the darkness has not overcome it.”



John 1:5

As we enter the season of Advent, we step once again into a time of holy expectation. Advent invites us to pause, to breathe,

and to look for the subtle glow of God's presence breaking into our ordinary days. In a world that often feels hurried, uncertain, or

heavy, Advent whispers a different truth: *Hope is on the way. Light is already dawning. Christ is near.* Each candle we light on Sunday morning is not just a symbol; it is a declaration. We proclaim that God's

promises are trustworthy, that peace is possible, that joy can take root in weary hearts, and that love ultimately holds all things together. Advent teaches us to watch for God in small things—quiet moments, gentle gestures, unexpected kindness, the joy family and friends give—because that is often how Christ first appears. May this season of both preparing and waiting help us slow our pace, lift our eyes, and open our hearts. For even now, *the Light shines, and no darkness can overcome it.*

Gracious God, as we journey through Advent, awaken in us a renewed sense of hope. Shine Your light into our lives and guide our steps toward peace, joy, and love. Prepare our hearts to receive and share the love of Christ with wonder and gratitude. Amen.

With the love of Christ,
Minister Bobbie



Christmas Eve Worship – Join Us in Celebrating the Joy of Christ's Birth!

We warmly invite you to our **Christmas Eve services at 2:00 PM and 7:00 PM** as we gather to celebrate the hope and promise of Jesus' birth. Each service will include a **special children's message**, making this a wonderful opportunity for families to worship together and experience the wonder of Christmas. Christmas is a season of sharing God's love, and one of the most meaningful ways to do that is by offering an invitation. We encourage each person in our congregation to **invite a friend, neighbor, coworker, or family member** to join you. A simple invitation could be the gift that brings someone comfort, connection, and joy this season. Come and worship with us—bring those you love—and let's celebrate Christmas with warmth, music, and the good news of Christ's coming.

We look forward to seeing you there!

God's Work, Our Hands

A Veteran's Day Salute

St. Luke honored veterans during the service on November 9th. Minister Bobbie gave a special blessing. Celeste Ball and Pat Hallman gave each veteran a hat and a pin to thank them for their service. People took the extra hats for other veterans and we served cookies and other snacks after the service. Ron Ball's Thrivent grant was used to sponsor this project.



Calling All Knitters!

Yes, we still need you!

Shriner's Hospital and a local family shelter are in need of cozy hats—newborn sizes, children's hats of all kinds, and even adult styles. If you'd like to help, please visit the small room near the kitchen to find yarn and supplies. Every stitch brings warmth and comfort to someone in need!

The Community Clothing Rack

Continuing its support for our Community, the awesome volunteers at the Community Clothing Rack provided winter clothing for two families in the Boyertown Area School District. They also provided donated pillows, twin sheets and comforters to the Pottstown Salvation Army Family Shelter and professional clothing was provided to PA Workwear. In addition to all of that, eleven more suitcases were taken to Safe Berks. They would like more suitcases, but unfortunately they do not have the storage. They are grateful for the support from our church.

As a reminder CCR is open every 2nd, 3rd, and 4th Wednesday of the month for shopping.





2025 Craft Show



Our craft show was held on **November 22 from 9:00 – 2:00**. That's just the craft show itself. Many, many hours, and many people help both before and after the show. This year's show was a "record breaker," in several ways.

1. All our crafters were those who returned from last year's show.
2. Grandma's Attic had numerous people help bring many, many items upstairs to set up in all four classrooms upstairs!! (A HUGE thank you to four of Grandma's helpers, who moved EVERYTHING for Grandma's Attic into place in ONE day!)
3. We've sold soup many times at the show. This year, we sold Chicken Corn Noodle, Vegetable Beef, Butternut Squash, Ham and Bean, Mild Chili, Split Pea, and this year, Barbeque! The big news is that we completely sold out of soup and barbeque!
4. We also sold out of hoagies!
5. Baked Goods: When the show started, we had two, eight-foot tables filled with baked goods AND you guessed it, we sold out of them!!
6. Basket raffle: This year, we had **17** baskets, we've NEVER had 17 baskets! There were so many baskets, furniture in the library/lounge was moved OUT of the room to put more tables in for basket displays! They were beautiful!!!

Thrivent helped by giving us financial help to get hoagies! Endowment granted us money for new numbers for the signs, and for advertising. Area businesses, like Dairy Queen, Glocker and Company, AD Moyer Lumber, and the Gilbertsville Fire Company, helped by advertising our show on their electronic signs!!

Evangelism Committee gave us cards with the picture of St. Luke on one side, and a welcome message and invitation to Christmas services on the other to hand out. Numerous people took the cards, said how nice the church is, which in turn started discussions of relatives who attended St. Luke, where people live in relation to St. Luke. One lady came to St. Luke to pick up the basket she was thrilled to have one and said she might come to worship with us!!

Thank you to all who helped with the show, setting up, taking down, helping with Grandma's Attic, Basket Raffle, Kitchen Crew, Baked Goods, and Clean Up, and those who quickly signed out signs to put in their yards to help advertise the show!! A special Thank you to the Girl Scouts and Sales Staff, Basket Makers, and our Bakers, and those who made sure everything was ready to go for the "Big Day!", all who visited the show, and readying our building for worship the next day! Our building's cleaners were super helpful in making sure things were ready when some of us came in on Friday night to get ready. There were so many involved – and we're thankful for all of them!!! This year's show was a record-breaker, in many ways. We are so blessed by so many at St. Luke who are willing to

help by going above and beyond. **Most of all, we are blessed by God, as we work together in his World!**





Poinsettia Orders

Yes – it's that time again! We'll be ordering poinsettias from Levensgood's Flowers to place in the sanctuary on Christmas Eve. They will be in place for the 2:00 and 7:00, p.m. services. You are welcome to take them home with you that night after the 7:00 service, or following the 9:30, a.m. service on Dec. 28.

Please fill out the form below. If paying by check, the checks need to be made payable to **St. Luke Lutheran Church.**

Tentative orders are due November 30. The final date for orders is December 7.

Name: _____

_____ **Red** _____ **White**

Plants are sponsored in memory of: _____

Plants are sponsored in honor of: _____

Amount of cash/check enclosed in envelope (\$11.00 per plant) : _____

| | |
|---------|-----------------------|
| Dec. 1 | Michaela Smith |
| Dec. 3 | Travis Jacob |
| Dec. 5 | Lori Fitzgerald |
| | Derrick Siefke |
| Dec. 6 | Kathy Haring |
| Dec. 7 | Emily Janzow |
| Dec. 12 | Kathy Billger |
| Dec. 13 | Taylor Murphy |
| Dec. 16 | Kimberlee Shankweiler |
| Dec. 19 | Nancy Vendetti |
| Dec. 20 | Irene Segletes |
| Dec. 21 | Jovanna Schoch |
| Dec. 24 | Pat Conrad |
| | Kathy Undercuffler |
| | Stephanie White |
| Dec. 25 | Carol King |
| Dec. 30 | Julian Schneider |
| Dec. 31 | Faye Cutting |

Wedding Anniversaries

Dec. 20 Ronald & Ginny Nelson

Dec. 31 Ronald & Dorothy Girton

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



Christmas Gift Tags

There are gift tags in the Narthex for Christmas gifts for children. Please select a tag and return the gift to church next week. The Boyertown Area Multi Service has a program for low-income parents to help make Christmas morning special for their children.



Ways to Give Monetary Donations to St. Luke

You can donate or give an offering to St. Luke by using several methods. Here are some suggestions to make your contribution easier to give.

Church envelopes - If you don't currently have envelopes, please contact the church office and a box of envelopes will be provided.

There are generic envelopes by the offering plate on the table in the lobby at the entrance to the sacristy.

Mail your donations to St. Luke, PO Box 388, Gilbertsville, PA 19525

Go to <https://stlukegilbertsville.org/generosity> and click on the "Generosity" page.

From your smartphone, text 73256, in the message area type STLUKE

Scan the QR below and follow the prompts.



St. Luke Calendar

| | |
|---------|---|
| Dec. 2 | Boy Scouts 7:00 pm |
| Dec. 3 | CCR donations 1:00 - 4:00 pm Worship & Music 3:00 pm |
| Dec. 4 | Girl Scouts 6:30 pm |
| Dec. 5 | AA 8:30 pm |
| Dec. 7 | 2nd Sunday of Advent 9:30 am |
| Dec. 9 | Boy Scouts 7:00 pm |
| Dec. 10 | CCR Shopping 1:00 - 4:00 pm |
| Dec. 11 | CCR Shopping 6:00 - 8:00 pm Council Meeting 6:45 pm |
| Dec. 12 | AA 8:30 pm |
| Dec. 14 | 3rd Sunday of Advent 9:30 am |
| Dec. 16 | Boy Scouts 7:00 pm |
| Dec. 17 | CCR Shopping 1:00 - 4:00 pm |
| Dec. 18 | Girl Scouts 6:30 pm |
| Dec. 19 | AA 8:30 pm |
| Dec. 21 | 4th Sunday of Advent 9:30 am |
| Dec. 23 | Scouts 7:00 pm |
| Dec. 24 | Christmas Eve at 2:00 & 7:00 pm CCR Closed |
| Dec. 26 | AA 8:30 pm |
| Dec. 28 | 1st Sunday of Christmas 9:30 am |
| Dec. 30 | Boy Scouts 7:00 pm |

CONGREGATION MEETING

A Congregation Meeting for all members of St. Luke is scheduled on Sunday, December 21st following our 9:30 am worship service. The purpose of the meeting is to elect congregation council leaders. Please mark this on your calendar and try to attend this important meeting.

We will be accepting nominations for council members from the floor. We ask that you prayerfully consider serving St. Luke in the capacity of a council member. We conduct our business meetings on the second Thursday of the month at 6:45 pm. Should you have any questions regarding the responsibilities of a council member, please ask any current council member.



What kind of photos doe Elves take? Elf-ies!



St. Luke Women's Retreat 2026

ABIDE WITH ME... A Journey of Dwelling with Jesus"

- January 30 – February 1, 2026

For over 20 years, a core group of women from St. Luke have gathered for a special off-site weekend retreat — a time to step away from the everyday and draw closer to God and one another.

Through **active Bible study**, we explore our spirituality and share our life's journey with **Jesus Christ**. Together we **worship, laugh (and sometimes cry), create, play, and enjoy delicious meals**. There's time for reflection, fellowship, crafts, games, and exploring the beauty of the outdoors.

Each year, we return home **refreshed, renewed, and spiritually recharged** — already looking forward to the next time we'll gather.

✦ We'd love for you to join us!

Bring a friend and come experience a weekend of faith, friendship, and fun as we learn to truly *abide with Him*.

ABIDE WITH ME
A journey of dwelling with Jesus

A RETREAT FOR WOMAN
JANUARY 30TH TO FEBRUARY 1ST
FRIDAY, 5:30 PM TO SUNDAY, NOON
DAYLESFORD ABBEY
220 S. VALLEY RD.
PAOLI, PA 19301

*\$300 / person
\$100 deposit
due November 15th
'Checks made payable'
to St. Luke*

*Amenities include:
single room, bed linens,
towels, 6 meals,
devotional book, crafts,
fellowship, fun, and
laughter.*

Contact for more information:
LESLIE ROMASCO (ST. LUKE)
SHARON SMITH (ST. JAMES)

Women's Retreat Registration

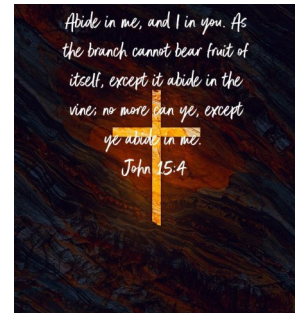
Retreat date: January 30-February 1, 2026

Theme: Abide With Me

Please register by November 15th

Please complete the form

Give form to Leslie with \$100 deposit



| | |
|----------------------|--|
| Name | |
| Email | |
| Cell Phone | |
| Allergies | |
| Any Special Requests | |



On December 21st we will bless **Linc Noecker** in our worship service and have a time of fellowship after the service. Please plan to be here to honor and thank Linc for his faithful service to The Lord and this congregation!

WISHING YOU
ALL THE BEST

farewell!





**St. Luke Evangelical
Lutheran Church
Council Meeting Minutes**
Date: October 9, 2025

The meeting was called to order at 6:55 pm by Leslie Romasco President. The motion passed. Our meeting was held in person.

Attendance: Pam Reifsnnyder, Donna Biehl, SAM Bobbie Hoffman, Leslie Romasco, Joe Vendetti, Dave Girton, John Bealer, Scott Moyer, Tom Undercuffler, Pete Huber and Vince Harris

Excused: Bonnie Kuser and Mike Ferraro

Adoption of Current Agenda

The agenda for the meeting was adopted as is with a motion by Tom Undercuffler and second by Dave Girton. The motion passed.

Minutes of the Previous Meeting of September 17, 2025, were approved with motion by Tom Undercuffler and second by Vince Harris. The motion passed.

Devotions were by Dave Girton

Sharing was held.

Correspondence: None.

❖ **Unfinished/Old Business**

≥ **Stewardship** – Met on Oct. 1. November 9 is Stewardship Sunday theme is thankfulness and generosity. Promise of giving card will be sent out.

➤ **Updating the Church directory** – Font size was too small, Leslie will try to fix.

➤ **Administrative Assistant Search Team** – We have a new secretary, Chritine Winsor.

➤ **Organist/Music Director** – Job posted on the sign.

❖ **Pastor's Report** – Picnic was a success. St. Luke Knolls were invited and several attended. Pastor went to several committee meetings. Made 32 calls and texts to check in with people.

❖ **Treasurer's Reports (see report)**

≥ Vince Harris made a motion to accept the report and Dave Girton made a second. The motion passed.

Committees

❖ **Standing Committees**

≥ **Worship & Music** – See report

➤ **Stewardship**

≥ **Finance** – Working on budget.

➤ **Evangelism** – Boscov's event on 10/22.

➤ **Social Ministry** – See Report

➤ **Property Committee**

➤ **Endowment**

➤ **Youth Group**

➤ **Christian Ed**

➤ **Parish Life** – Oct. 19 will be a celebration for Marsha.

➤ **Mutual Ministry**

➤ **Audit**

➤ **Technology** – Need to find a home for the old carillon. The new phone system is set up. Bobbie's laptop is up and running.

❖ **Organizations**

≥ **Clothing Rack**

➤ **Boy Scouts/Girl Scouts** – 13 kids in the troop. They had a work weekend the cabin and they did an awesome job.

➤ **Community Connections/St Luke Knolls**

New Business –

Committee Reports of the Budget – Reports due so the year end congregational report can be generated

Adjournment

❖ Tom Undercuffler moved to adjourn the meeting at 8:30pm. Vince HarrisukariH seconded the motion and the motion passed.

❖ Dave Girton concluded with a prayer.

❖ Our next meeting is Thursday, November 13, 2025, at 6:45 pm.

❖ John Bealer will lead devotions at the next meeting.

❖ Donna Biehl will provide refreshments.

Respectfully submitted,

Pam Reifsnnyder
Secretary of Church Council



| November Attendance | |
|---------------------|------|
| November 2 | 67 |
| November 9 | 55 |
| November 16 | 43 |
| November 23 | 43 |
| November 30 | 48 |
| 2025 Yearly Average | 48.4 |
| 2024 Yearly Average | 50.8 |

| Worship Leader Schedule | | | | | |
|--|------------------------|----------------|-------------------------------|--------------|---------------------------|
| Date | Worship Leader | Lector | Ushers | Audio Visual | Office Volunteer |
| Dec. 7 | Pastor Kim Truebenbach | Leslie Romasco | Larry Billger Terry Conrad | Ron Ball | Cindy Bealer (Dec. 4) |
| Dec. 14 | Min. Bobbie Hoffman | Joe Vendetti | Gary Fronheiser Ron Hukari | Ron Hukari | Pat Hallman (Dec. 11) |
| Dec. 21 | Min. Bobbie Hoffman | Pat Hallman | Dave Girton Pete Huber | Ron Ball | Donna Biehl (Dec. 18) |
| Dec. 24 2:00 pm | Min. Bobbie Hoffman | Mike Romasco | Larry Billger Terry Conrad | Mike Ferraro | Cindy Bealer (Dec. 23) |
| Dec. 24 7:00 pm | Min. Bobbie Hoffman | Connie Hukari | Gary Fronheiser Ron Hukari | Ron Hukari | Pat Hallman (Dec. 23) |
| Dec. 28 | Min. Bobbie Hoffman | Ron Ball | Dave Girton Pete Huber | Ron Ball | Donna Biehl (Dec. 23) |
| Sacristan for December - Sandi Quicksell | | | | | |



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