



A Word from Minister Bobbie



A Season of Love

“For God so loved the world that He gave His one and only Son, that whoever believes in Him shall not perish but have eternal life.” John 3:16

February is often wrapped in images of love—cards, flowers, and heartfelt words—but at the heart of this season is a love far deeper and more enduring: God's love for us. A love that gives. A love that sacrifices. A love that meets us exactly where we are and invites us into new life through Jesus Christ.

As February unfolds, we also begin the sacred journey of Lent—a season of reflection, repentance, and renewal. Lent is an invitation to prepare our hearts, to slow down, and to turn our attention again to Jesus: His life, His ministry, His compassion, and His saving grace. It is a time to remember that we are deeply loved, and to respond by drawing closer to God.

You are warmly invited to begin this Lenten journey with us at our **Ash Wednesday service on February 18 at 7:00 p.m.** This meaningful service marks the beginning of Lent and offers space for prayer, reflection, and the reminder that we are formed by God's hands and redeemed by His love.

Following Ash Wednesday, we will gather **each Wednesday evening at 7:00 p.m.** for five weeks, from **February 25 through March 25**. Each service will include:

- A message focused on Jesus, His life, and His ministry
- **Holden Evening Prayer**, offering beautiful, meditative worship music
- A time of **light refreshments and fellowship** following the service

Whether you are able to attend one service or all five, you are welcome. Come as you are, and allow this season to shape your heart and deepen your faith.

Gracious and loving God, as we enter this season of Lent, quiet our hearts and draw us closer to You. Help us to remember Your great love shown through Jesus Christ, and to prepare our hearts to receive all You desire to do in us. Renew our spirits, strengthen our faith, and guide our steps as we walk with You. May this season be one of grace, growth, and deeper trust in Your unfailing love. Amen.

In Christ's Love

Minister Bobbie



Sponsors

There are open slots for sponsoring the Flowers, Communion Elements, Sanctuary Lamp and Bulletins for our weekly worship services in 2026.

Communion Elements, Sanctuary Lamp and Bulletins are a \$10 donation.

Flowers are purchased and brought to the sanctuary. Please call the church office if you would like to sponsor a date or put a note in Christine's mailbox in the library.

February Birthdays

Feb. 3	Nancy Toothaker
Feb. 5	Layken Ramus
Feb. 12	Sharon Smith
Feb. 14	Michael Gregory
Feb. 16	Belle Shalaway
	Livia Tabakalis
Feb. 18	Christine Harvey
	Michelle Rhoads
	Ted Schlegel
Feb. 23	Carter Ramus
Feb. 25	Dusty Rhoads
Feb. 28	Kathy Cole

Ways to Give Monetary Donations to St. Luke Lutheran

You can donate 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 key STLUKE
- ◊ Scan the QR below and follow the prompts.



St. Luke Calendar

Feb. 3	Boy Scouts 7:00 pm
Feb. 4	CCR Donations 1:00-4:00 pm
	Worship & Music 2:00 pm
Feb. 5	Girl Scouts 6:30 pm
Feb. 6	AA 8:30 pm
Feb. 10	Boy Scouts 7:00 pm
Feb. 11	CCR Shopping 1:00-4:00 pm
Feb. 12	Council Meeting 6:00 pm
	CCR Shopping 6:00-8:00 pm
Feb. 13	AA 8:30 pm
Feb. 17	Boy Scouts 7:00 pm
Feb. 18	CCR Shopping 1:00-4:00 pm
Feb. 19	Girl Scouts 6:30 pm
Feb. 20	AA 8:30 pm
Feb. 22	Girls Scouts Pancake Breakfast
Feb. 24	Boy Scouts 7:00 pm
Feb. 25	CCR Shopping 1:00-4:00 pm
Feb. 27	AA 8:30 pm

God's Work, Our Hands

One hundred and fourteen (114) baby and youth hats, plus one blanket are going to Shriners Hospital and a family shelter. Ruth Nice's granddaughter will make the delivery. Thank you to all of our knitters!



The Scouts (Troop 36) Pancake Breakfast

The event will be on February 22, from 10:30am-12:30pm. Scouts will begin showing up at 9:30am to set up and be there until 1:30pm to clean up. The cost will be \$12/adult and \$7/kids 10 and under, (free for 3 and under). If you bring in a canned good, you will receive \$2 off your admission. The canned goods will be donated to Preston's

Pantry. The menu will be pancakes, sausage, toppings, coffee, hot chocolate, and water. Hope everyone can stay after service to help support this great event!

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.

In **2025**, we received **Forty-Six (46)** prayer requests. Jesus said, 'in all things what so ever you ask in my



St. Luke Evangelical Lutheran Church

35 Wilson Ave. PO Box 338

Gilbertsville, PA 19525

Council Meeting minutes

Date: December 11, 2025

The meeting was called to order at 6:50 pm by Leslie Romasco President. The motion passed. Our meeting was held in person.

Attendance: Pam Reifsnyder, Donna Biehl, SAM Bobbie Hoffman, Leslie Romasco, Joe Vendetti, Dave Girton, John Bealer, Scott Moyer, Pete Huber, Bonnie Kuser, Mike Ferraro and Vince Harris

Excused: Tom Undercuffler

Adoption of Current Agenda

The agenda for the meeting was adopted as is with a motion by Vince Harris and second by Mike Ferraro. The motion passed.

Minutes of the Previous Meeting of November 13, 2025, were approved with motion by Donna Biehl and second by Pete Huber. The motion passed.

Devotions were by Donna Biehl

Sharing was held.

Correspondence: None.

❖ **Unfinished/Old Business**

➤ **Stewardship**

➤ **Updating the Church directory** – Leslie is reviewing the membership list and will email current list.

➤ **Budget** – Pete went through the proposed budget a 3% overall increase. John Bealer made a motion to accept and Dave Girton second. The motion was passed.

➤ **Congregational meetings Dec. 21/Jan 25** – Committee reports need to be in by 12/31. Moyers food will be served on Jan 25.

➤ **Organist/Music Director** – John reported he had a couple candidates. Supply organists are set up through March.

➤ **Water** – Boil water advisory has been removed. Water was tested and approved.



➤ **New Council Members** – Donna Conrad, Connie Hukari and Dave Durante.

❖ **Pastor's Report** – Youth made cookies on 11/29 and discussion was started about forming a youth group. Bobbie and Christine worked on the website.

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

➤ Bonnie Kuser made a motion to accept the report and Vince Harris made a second. The motion passed.

Committees

❖ **Standing Committees**

➤ **Worship & Music** – There was an email vote to approve the refurbish of the handbells for an additional \$2700. It was approved and money will be taken from the donation made by Denis O'Connell.

➤ **Stewardship** – Some cards have come back.

➤ **Finance** – Working on budget.

➤ **Evangelism** – Cookie trays will be put together on 12/14 for the elementary schools and St Luke Knolls.

➤ **Social Ministry** – See Report

➤ **Property Committee** – Fuel pump replaced on heater.

➤ **Endowment**

➤ **Youth Group**

➤ **Christian Ed**

➤ **Parish Life**

➤ **Mutual Ministry**

➤ **Audit**

➤ **Technology**

❖ **Organizations**

➤ **Clothing Rack**

➤ **Boy Scouts/Girl Scouts**

➤ **Community Connections/St Luke Knolls**

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New Business –

AED Management – The service is going away so
Vince is looking into alternatives.

Adjournment

- ❖ Bonnie Kuser moved to adjourn the meeting at 9:05pm.
Pete HuberukariH seconded the motion and the motion
passed.
- ❖ Donna Biehl concluded with a prayer.
- ❖ Our next meeting is Thursday, January 8, 2026, at 6:45
pm.
- ❖ will lead devotions at the next meeting.
- ❖ will provide refreshments.

Respectfully submitted,

Pam Reifsnyder
Secretary of Church Council

January Attendance

January 4	52
January 11	51
January 18	0
January 25	0
2026 Yearly Average	51.5
2025 Yearly Average	48.6

Wedding Anniversaries

Feb. 9 Tim & Carol Prout
Feb. 14 John & Cindy Bealer
Feb. 19 Bill & Jean Christy
Feb. 21 Jake and Meghan
Girton



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

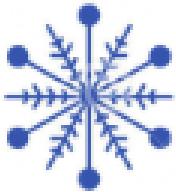
"No winter lasts forever; no spring skips its turn" by Hal Borland.

Worship Leader Schedule					
Date	Worship Leader	Lector	Ushers	Audio Visual	Office Volunteer
Feb. 1	Minster Bobbie Hoffman	Connie Hukari	Gary Fronheiser Ron Hukari	Ron Hukari	Pat Hallman (Jan. 29)
Feb. 8	Min. Bobbie Hoffman	Joe Vendetti	Dave Girton Pete Huber	Ron Ball	Donna Biehl (February 5)
Feb. 15	Min. Bobbie Hoffman	Leslie Romasco	Larry Billger Terry Conrad	Mike Ferraro	Cindy Bealer (Feb. 12)
Feb. 22	Min. Bobbie Hoffman	Emily Geiger	Dave Girton Pete Huber	Ron Ball	Donna Biehl (February 19)

Sacristan for February - Val Schlegel(Feb. 1) , Donna Conrad, & Donna Biehl

Inclement Weather

If we have inclement weather affecting Sunday's worship, a message will be left on the church phone at 610-367-9738 and an email blast will be sent out. You can also go to WFMZ.com or WFMZ on your television for St. Luke's inclement weather message.



ST. LUKE LUTHERAN CHURCH

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