

NEWS

JULY

2025

A Word from Minister Bobbie



Endowed By Our Creator

1 Chronicles 29:11-12

Blessed are you, God of Israel, our father from of old and forever. To you, O God, belong the greatness and the might, the glory,

the victory, the majesty, the splendor; Yes! Everything in heaven, everything on earth; the kingdom all yours! You've raised yourself high over all. Riches and glory come from you, you're ruler over all; You hold strength and power in the palm of your hand to build up and strengthen all. (The Message)

"We hold these truths to be self-evident, that all men are created equal, that they are endowed by their Creator with certain unalienable rights, that among these are Life, Liberty and the pursuit of Happiness."— Thomas Jefferson, The Declaration of Independence

Heavenly Father, You are sovereign over all nations and peoples. We give You praise and glory for Your great and marvelous works.

God, thank You for these inspired words and the values they reflect. Since they were written over 200 years ago, they have held out a wonderful vision of what this country has strived for. Lord may we continue to work together as a nation to live more fully into the truths that they convey. Give us the courage, strength, humility and compassion

to make these ideals a reality for all people. May all Your people continue to pray that Your will for this nation be accomplished through the power of Your Holy Spirit.

With all of the conflicts that are happening in this world that You created and love, we pray for peace. This peace is only something You can achieve, good and gracious Father. In the name of Jesus we pray. Amen.

*In Christ,
Minister Bobbie*



"What do the angels say to God when He sneezes?"

God's Work, Our Hands

Calling All Knitters

Shriner's Hospital and a family shelter need all sizes of hats. If you prefer making lap blankets or prayer shawls, those are also requested. Yarn is available in the room across from Minister Bobbie's office as well as a loom to make the hats.

Wendy Gilbert, a CCR volunteer, recently took two large bags (about 50 newly crocheted hats) to the Children's Hospital of Philadelphia. These were made by the women of St. Luke. Thank you, Knitters.



Father's Day

On June 15, all amazing men in our congregation received a candy bar with a message on it. They are our heroes for their faithful presence.



Community Clothing Rack News

Our wonderful volunteers are hard at work rearranging clothing for the warmer weather. Needed items were again shared with Opportunity House and PA Workwear.



New Members

On Sunday, June 8, we joyfully welcomed five new members into the St. Luke community. The service was officiated by Minister Bobbie Hoffman, SAM, marking a meaningful moment of faith and fellowship.

We welcomed **Azlyn and Carter Ramus** into the St. Luke community through the sacrament of the Affirmation of Baptism (Confirmation). Their parents, Ashley and Matthew, along with their sister Layken, joined in this meaningful celebration of faith.

We also welcomed new members into our church family: **Jim Biehl**, husband of Donna Biehl; **Dave Prout**, a friend of John and Cindy Bealer; and **Jeffrey Schmoyer**, fiancé of Joanne Rissell. The people of St. Luke gladly promised to support and pray for them as they embark on their faith journey through baptism. What a blessing to see our community grow in Christ!



Stewardship Corner

The Philadelphia Avenue Street Fair was held on Saturday June 7th. The St. Luke team did a great job even though Mother Nature tried to scare us away. Kids enjoyed the Lollipop Ring Toss and our Make a Fish activity! Not to mention the free drinks and t-shirts! Thanks to everyone who supported the effort in one way or another.



How do we know Peter was a rich fisherman?

By his net income.

What kind of cell phone did Delilah use?

Samson

What kind of man was Boaz before he got married?

He was Ruthless.



Endowments

Each year St. Luke awards grants to support various needs and causes that align with the mission of the Endowment Fund, utilizing a congregation member grant application process. We are honored to announce that this year's endowment funds have been awarded to the following organizations.

- Gilbertsville Fire Rescue
- Humane Pennsylvania Spike's Pet Pantry Program
- Natick Community Organic Farm
- New Hanover Lutheran Loaves and Fishes
- Upper Perkiomen YMCA
- ELCA World Relief—Lutheran Disaster Response
- St. Luke FUNdraising

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, Marsha Staub, 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.'

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.



Hymns for Summer Worship

Do you have a favorite hymn that you'd love to sing this summer? We'd love to hear your selections! In the Narthex, you'll find slips of paper where you can write down your favorite hymn and drop it in the designated basket. Our Music Director will choose some of these beloved hymns to include in our worship services. Stay "tuned"—we may be singing your favorites soon!



**St. Luke Evangelical Lutheran
Church**

36 Wilson Ave., PO Box 338
Gilbertsville, PA 19525
Council Meeting Minutes
Date: May 8, 2025

The meeting was called to order at 6:50 pm by Leslie Romasco.

Donna Biehl was appointed by the council president to record the minutes of the meeting due to the absence of the secretary.

Attendance: Minister Bobbie Hoffman, Leslie Romasco, Scott Moyer, John Bealer, Donna Biehl, Mike Ferraro, David Girton, Vince Harris, Dave Janzow, Bonnie Kuser, and Joe Vendetti.

Excused: Pam Reifsnnyder, Tom Undercuffler and Pete Huber.

Adoption of Current Agenda

The agenda for the meeting was approved with a motion by Dave Janzow and seconded by Dave Girton. The motion passed.

Minutes of the previous meeting of April 10, 2025 were approved with a motion by Vince Harris and seconded by Bonnie Kuser. The motion passed.

Devotions were led by Vince Harris.
Sharing was held.

Unfinished/Old Business

Stewardship – Stewardship Committee met and discussed ideas to present to Council. The committee plans to include a letter to congregation members with the 2025 giving statements. They will meet again in June.

Church Rental Agreement – Ongoing project.

Updating Church Directory – Leslie has contacted Everything Printing for a cost and timeline.

Administrative Assistant Search Team – Team members are Minister Bobbie, Donna Biehl, Dave Durante, Connie Hukari and Leslie Romasco. Team met to review job description and prepare questions to ask Marsha during her exit interview, which is scheduled for May 9.

Carillon – Scott reported that a deposit was sent and a confirmation of receipt was received. Should be completed in June or July.

Synod response to Pastor's contract – Leslie reported that the Synod has approved Bobbie's contract for another year. No changes were made. We will need to send a request to the Synod annually to approve and renew the contract. Leslie has a reminder set for March of 2026.

Reports

Pastor's Report - Bobbie Hoffman reported she has made 27 pastoral phone calls, and conducted 2 funerals (Diane Moore and Sherwood Hallman). Bobbie is working with the Christian Ed team to have Children's messages on a regular basis.

Treasurer's Report – Scott reviewed the report with Council. A motion was made by Dave Janzow to accept the report, seconded by Vince Harris. The motion passed.

Committees

Worship & Music – A written report was submitted.

Evangelism – Dave Girton reported that the Little Library will be installed by himself and Tom Undercuffler when a post hole digger is found. Book donations are being received and organized. Pam Ferraro will handle the registration. Dave also reported that St. Luke has been registered for the Philadelphia Avenue Street Fair scheduled for June 7, 2026. There will be a sign-up sheet in the Narthex for volunteers. A St. Luke banner has been purchased for use at the Street Fair and any other opportunities that arise.

Social Ministry – A written report was submitted. Mike Ferraro reminded Council to review the report to see all that St. Luke is doing to help the church and the community.

Property Committee – No report.

Finance – Scott Moyer reported that Pam Ferraro has recommended that the Thrivent Choice dollars be used at St. Luke.

Audit – Scott reported that the Audit was completed for the years 2023 & 2024. No issues were found.

Endowment – The committee received 7 grant requests totaling \$6,500. The organizations were Loaves & Fishes-NHLC Meal Ministry, Upper Perk YMCA, NADIC Community Organic Farm, Humane Pennsylvania, Gilbertsville Fire Company, SLLC advertising for Craft Fair, and Lutheran World Relief-US Disasters. More details to follow with Pete



St. Luke Evangelical Lutheran Church

36 Wilson Ave., PO Box 338
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Council Meeting Minutes

Date: May 8, 2025 **Continued**

St. Luke Calendar

Huber's Endowment Committee Report.

Christian Ed – No report.

Organizations

The Community Clothing Rack – Leslie Romasco recommended a sign be created to direct visitors to the back parking lot for Clothing Rack customers and donations.

Scouts/Girl Scouts – Scott Moyer shared that we currently have 5 girls and 5 boys with a great group of adult leaders.

Community Connections/St. Luke Knolls – Scott reported that a request for a grant has been submitted.

Adjournment – Dave Janzow moved to adjourn the meeting at 8:50 pm. Bonnie Kuser seconded the motion, and the motion passed.

We concluded with prayer by Vince Harris.
Our next meeting is Thursday, June 12, 2025

Respectfully submitted,
Donna Biehl
Acting Secretary of Church Council

July 1	Scouts 7:00 pm
July 2	CCR Donations 9:00 am to Noon
July 4	AA 8:30 pm
July 6	6th Sun. after Pentecost 9:30 a
July 8	Scouts 7:00 pm
July 9	CCR Shopping 9:00 am to Noon
July 10	CCR Shopping 6:00 to 8:00 pm
July 11	AA 8:30 pm
July 13	5th Sun. after Pentecost 9:30 am
July 15	Scouts 7:00 pm
July 16	CCR Shopping 9:00 am to Noon
July 18	AA 8:30 pm
July 20	6th Sun. after Pentecost 9:30 am
July 22	Scouts 7:00 pm
July 23	CCR Shopping 9:00 am to Noon
July 25	AA 8:30 pm
July 27	7th Sun. after Pentecost 9:30 am
July 29	Scouts 7:00 pm
July 30	CCR Closed (5th Wed. of month)

Why did the hawk sit on the church steeple?

Because it was a bird of pray.

What sort of lights were on Noah's Ark?

Flood lights.

When is medicine first mentioned in the bible?

When God gave Moses two tablets.

Wedding Anniversaries



July 14	Mark & Lori Fitzgerald
July 23	Scott & Marsha Staub
July 28	Beth & Brad Boyer
	Doug & Donna Trout

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

July Birthdays

July 1	Kathrynne Thomas
	Philip Huber
July 3	Jack Ingram
July 7	Richard King
July 8	Jean Rome
July 11	Lisa Smoyer
July 14	Patricia Hallman
July 16	Cayden Burkhart
July 17	Pauline Blackwell
	Krystle Hess
	Madison Stern
July 25	Martyne Moyer
July 26	Asher Casas
July 29	Richard Steffie
July 31	Amelia Chalifoux
	Larry Kuser

Worship Leader Schedule					
Date	Worship Leader	Lector	Ushers	Audio Visual	Office Volunteer
July 6	Min. Bobbie Hoffman	Connie Hukari	Dave Girton Pete Huber	Ron Hukari	Donna Biehl (July 3)
July 13	Min. Bobbie Hoffman	Kathy Billger	Larry Billger Terry Conrad	Ron Hukari	Cindy Bealer (July 10)
July 20	Min. Bobbie Hoffman	Pat Hallman	Gary Fronheiser Ron Hukari	Mike Ferraro	Pat Hallman (July 17)
July 27	Min. Bobbie Hoffman	Ron Ball	Dave Girton Pete Huber	Ron Hukari	Donna Biehl (July 24)
Sacristan for July — Sandi Quicksell					

June Attendance	
June 1	44
June 8	50
June 15	51
June 22	41
June 29	No Count
2025 Yearly Average	48.5
2024 Yearly Average	50.8



“God loves each of us as if there were only one of us.” - St. Augustine of Hippo



ST. LUKE LUTHERAN CHURCH

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