



CONNECTIONS

**ST. LUKE'S LUTHERAN
CHURCH
APRIL 2025**

*Members of St. Luke's Lutheran Church, in response to Christ's love,
reach out in service to each other, the community, and the world.*

HOLY WEEK

**Looking for hope in a chaotic world?
Asking big questions about purpose and
meaning and what's it all for?
Join us as we observe Holy Week and
explore timeless questions and truths.**

Palm Sunday, April 13 9:00 AM "Behold the Lamb"
Featuring Voices of St. Luke's, Narrators and Chamber Orchestra

Maundy Thursday, April 17 6:00 PM Agape Supper and Worship
Remembering the gift of communion in the context of a meal.
Families welcome!

Good Friday, April 18
2:00 PM Cross Walk
A community-wide procession through Greendale, carrying a cross
and stopping for readings and prayers

3:00 PM Ecumenical Service at St. Alphonsus
6:30 PM Worship at St. Luke's

Easter Worship, April 20 9:00 AM Celebratory Worship
With Choir and Instruments
Followed by Easter Egg Hunt for all ages

GREETINGS FROM PASTOR MONTE

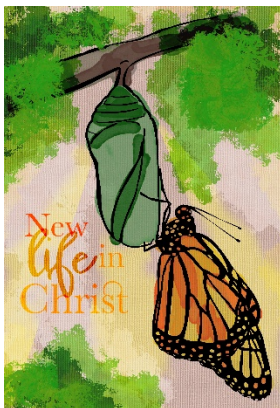
Did you know that Lent actually means Spring? It comes from the same root as lengthen, which refers to the lengthening of days. While many traditions focus on Lent as a somber and serious time, it really is all about coming to life again.

I have lived in states bordering Canada for much of my adult life, but I am still not quite used to the start-and-stop-again quality of spring here in these northern states. 60° and sunny one day and wind and ice the next! I would much prefer a constant, gradual warming that I can predict and count on.

But up-and-down is much more the pattern of our lives, not least of our spiritual lives. Sometimes we are tossed about on the seas of life, just clinging to hope, sometimes we can barely see any growth at all, and sometimes every day we feel closer to God. Thank God we can trust that God is always at work in us, whether we feel it or see it or not!

I pray that your Lenten practices—whether you tried out the prayer practices offered each week or used your own, helped your soul come back to life again. And may your Easter be a celebration of the Great Good News that Christ has conquered death and all the powers of fear and darkness. Alleluia, Amen!

Blessings,
Pastor Monte





June 16-20, from 9 a.m. to 12:00, will be our annual Music Camp for students. Kids who have completed K4 through grade 5 may register. They do not have to be members of St. Luke's to attend. Older students will be present to help along with our excellent teachers.

The curriculum for our camp includes singing, drama, art, instrument instruction, including guitars and ukuleles, liturgical dance, outdoor play and snack-time. The musical chosen for this year's presentation is: "The Life of the Party", which is the story of Mary, Martha, Lazarus and Jesus.



There have been many studies recently regarding the importance of music and the brain. Music therapy has become an integral part of helping people with dementia activate memory whereas other treatments have not been effective. In worship, music is an extremely important element, adding powerful emotions to the spoken word.

This promises to be a wonderful week of learning for kids. Along with other programs which we offer at St. Luke's such as Vacation Bible School, Sunday School and Confirmation, we all know that helping our children find community and experience God's love and grace is of utmost importance as they navigate growing up.

Registration will begin April 13 online or at the Welcome Center.

Peace and blessings,
Carol Peterson, Music Director

THURSDAY APRIL 3 – CARPETS BEING CLEANED

Sanctuary, Classrooms and Upper Fellowship Hall. Help get the spaces ready on **Wednesday, April 2 @ 5pm**, and put back together on **Friday, April 4 @ 3pm**. Many hands make light work! Those who use these spaces regularly are especially welcomed to help.

FINAL SOUP SUPPERS



Looking for a place to connect, and enjoy a delicious bowl of soup in the middle of a busy week? Soup Suppers for the Soul are a chance to eat, share stories, pray and light candles together. These meals are hosted by the confirmation students and families, as a fundraiser and service to the wider community. **Join us for the final two—April 2 and April 9. 6:00 PM-7:00 PM**

Old St. Luke's had a farm, ee-i-ee-i—o!

This year we are **fighting world hunger** through “God’s Global Barnyard,” part of ELCA’s “Good Gifts” Program. Families (and adults!) have collect monies to purchase 2 complete farms, and are over half way to our overall goal. Monies collected as of March 23 are \$1823.39. **WELL DONE.** Children can continue to bring their coins **each Sunday!** Week of April 6, collect a coin (or a dollar!) for every time you eat an egg or drink a glass of milk.



Easter Egg Hunt – This year, the egg hunt will be **AFTER** Easter worship! Plan to stay for around 30 minutes, enjoying coffee and a treat while the littles (and not so littles!) hunt for eggs!

MAKE YOUR OWN EASTER GARDEN Sunday, APRIL 6 following Worship



This miniature garden is a visual reminder for kids (and adults!) of what Easter is all about. Watch the grass sprout as the days of Lent pass and roll the stone away to reveal an empty tomb on Easter morning! \$6 per garden. Bring money to the class,



and sign up here:

PALM SUNDAY CANTATA

April 13, 2025 9:00 a.m.

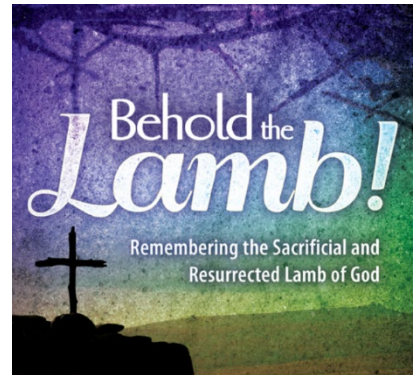
Directed by Carol Peterson.

Accompanied by Andrea Clark.

Voices of St. Luke's Chamber Orchestra and Narrators.

A reception will take place after worship.

Please join us for this inspirational walk-through Holy Week. All are welcome! Invite a friend!



Voices of St. Luke's Special Rehearsal – Saturday, April 12, 9:30am

Easter Sunday Instrumental Rehearsal – Saturday, April 19, 9:30am

AGAPE SUPPER and WORSHIP Thursday, April 17, 6:00pm

On Maundy Thursday we recall that Jesus gave the gift of communion during a meal. On April 17th, join us as we share a simple, Middle-Eastern style dinner and remember Jesus' last supper, worshipping around tables in the Lower Fellowship Hall. The service will conclude with the burning of the prayer chain. A children's meal will be provided.



Sign-up here:



After a break for Soup Suppers, we're back to our regular schedule on **April 23**.
CONFIRMATION CLASS at 6PM.
SYNERGY—High School (grades 9-12) at 7:15 PM

MUSIC CAMP

June 16-June 20th, Mon-Fri, 9AM – Noon

- **ALL children** who have completed kindergarten through 5th grade are invited to attend.



- Enjoy a morning filled with fun and learning! Participants will learn about music, learn how to play a few instruments, and act out the story of Mary and Martha.
- **Sign-ups will begin APRIL 13, save the date and invite your friends!**

NEXT Planning Meeting will be April 29 at 11AM

VBS 2025 True North: Trusting Jesus in a Wild World

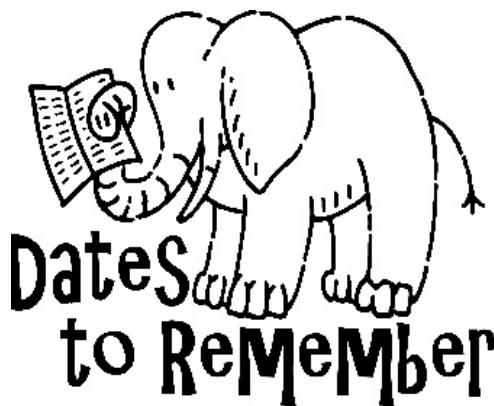
July 28-July 31, Mon-Thurs 9AM-3PM

- **ALL children** who have completed kindergarten through 5th grade are invited to attend.
- **We have the BEST teenage guides for our VBS, so 6th-12th graders, save the week to help!**
- **Lots of volunteer opportunities for adults, too!**



First planning meeting is **Sunday, April 6**, after making Easter Gardens

Sunday School Children will be singing on MOTHER'S DAY, May 11. Mark your calendar for this wonderful expression of LOVE from our children.



Jeopardy – During Education Hour on Sunday, May 4. Stay for the Annual All-church Jeopardy Game! Questions about the Bible, St. Luke's and General Knowledge.

Spring Cleaning – Saturday May 10, Help us spruce up the outside and the inside of our church.

Mother's Day, May 11 Sunday School Children are singing 😊

Kite Fest—Memorial Day Sunday, May 25, weather-permitting, we'll meet up for a picnic and to enjoy the kites at Veterans Park along the lakefront.

Golf Outing—Golf, Mini-golf, and food! Sunday, June 22.

Milkmen Game – July 12, 2025, 6:00 More information coming soon.



The Caregiver Support Group meeting is ***moving back to 4:30 pm*** in the Upper Fellowship Hall ***starting April 14.***



APRIL 2025 OUTREACH
Lutheran Social Services
Wisconsin and Upper Michigan, Inc.
“LSS”

Over the past year I have gotten involved with LSS and currently serve on the Finance and Investment Committees. During my initial investigation I had no idea as to the depth and breadth of the services and programs offered by LSS. For 141 years, LSS has been the social ministry of the Lutheran Church in Wisconsin and Upper Michigan. Nearly 30,000 children and families have been served by current programs. The organization is dedicated to supporting healthy communities filled with people using their God-given gifts to serve. The goal is to empower people to live their best lives providing a path to recovery from addiction or mental illness; a home that's safe and affordable; a family to thrive in; independence and a life that is truly their own.

Through our annual benevolence St. Luke's has been a participating congregation in support of LSS for many years. I look forward to sharing more about the impact of LSS during the month of April. Dick Hensley, Council President

"Behold, I make all things new."
This Bible verse is one of the favorites from scripture,
and as we celebrate this glorious Easter season,
we are aware of all of the joy and hope that we have
from the risen Christ and of the beauty
and newness of spring.

PRAYING FOR EACH OTHER

Did you know St. Luke's has a prayer chain group, who receive prayer requests via email and then lift them up in prayer? If you would like something or someone prayed for, submit your prayer request via the website (<https://www.slchurch.org/welcome/prayer-requests>) or by sending an email (pastor@slchurch.org) or text (262-631-9453) to pastor. If you would like to be part of this prayer ministry and commit to praying for the needs of our congregation and community, let Pastor Monte know. You can also submit prayer requests via the colorful prayer slips in the pews and at the Welcome Center. These prayer requests are prayed for at the staff meeting, and you can indicate if you would like the prayer added to the prayer chain.

In addition, if you would like a name lifted up during the Prayers of the People, write it on the Prayer List Clipboard as you enter the sanctuary. Once worship begins, this list will be given to Pastor.

Do not be anxious about anything, but in everything by prayer and supplication with thanksgiving let your requests be made known to God. Philippians 4:6

NEXT Lunch & Learn will be Thursday, May 8 at 11:45 a.m. in the Upper Fellowship Hall.

Join us as the Metro Milwaukee Audubon Society's Colleen Resendiz shares information about birds at Wehr and about the Audubon Society in general. After the presentation, Colleen will host a walk through Daffodil Park to go birding. (Bring binoculars) If you need a ride to church, we'll provide one! Simply call the Church Office.



GIVING REPORT

Feb. 2025	Offering: \$35,350 Total: \$35,720	\$38,939 \$39,412	Surplus \$3,589	\$70,700 \$71,620	\$75,474 \$76,442	Surplus \$4,822
--------------	---	--------------------------	--------------------	--------------------------	--------------------------	--------------------

See Mark Ohlert, Rob Kegel, or John Noggle with any questions

You can GIVE ONLINE, by scanning the QR code.



Caught Big Hearted:

- +Pat Larsen, who takes pictures and documents our many events, big and little.
- +Tim Shiroda, who helped install our new cabinets in the UFH. They look great!
- +Dennis Miller, who shared his knowledge about AI and explained it in a way we could (mostly) understand!
- +Mark Hanson and Dave Jensen, who continue to oversee our tech needs and keep us moving forward
- +Vicki Jensen and Autumn Johnson, who helped out with the First Communion Class
- +Confirmation Students, assisted by Guides (Kathy Aguirre, Lisa Dettlaff and Alex Sneed) and families, who have helped host and serve the Soup Suppers for the Soul
- +Steve Palecek, Dave Jensen, Bishop Paul Erickson, Lisa Dettlaff and Liz Keller who have shared their stories at the Soup Suppers
- +Judy Hassman who has stepped up as a new counter.
- +Janet Wunrow, Karen Feucht, Lukas Stelzle and Andy Clark, who are joining the Mutual Ministry Team
- +Steve Palecek, Dan Dordel, Melissa Binder, Janette Mittag, Steve Roberts, and John and Lisa Epping, who are joining the newly formed Fellowship Team.