

The Angel

St. Luke's Evangelical Lutheran Church
310 Main St.
P O Box 187
Saxonburg, PA 16056

www.stlks.com

St. Luke's Vision Statement: Guided by the Holy Spirit to share God's loving grace through discipleship; strengthening faith through the Word, family, fellowship and giving.

Worship Times: 8:15 & 10:45 with communion on the 1st, 3rd & 5th Sundays

Office Hours: Monday through Thursday from 9-3

Dear Brothers and Sisters in Christ,

I'm sure that many of you, like myself, have longed for the day when we can unite as a congregation in worship at our own facility. I have missed all of you more than I can express. Butler County, as well as all of Western Pennsylvania, has been moved into a partial opening mode. The powers that be call it the "yellow phase". That means it is time to plan, prepare and begin worshipping again at St. Luke's. With that in mind, the council met on May 20th to discuss reopening and is beginning to make it happen. That is what this letter is about.

Now, I know I can be as wordy as any preacher or politician, but before I get into the details there are a few things I must say. One is a heartfelt "Thank You" to Pastor Shawn Smith and our sisters and brothers at St. Paul's Lutheran Church for welcoming us into their ongoing live-streaming of worship. I have no idea what we might have done otherwise and I thank God for them over and over again.

Another heartfelt "Thank You" goes to the staff, leadership and members of St. Luke's. The staff has been fantastic dealing with everything from forced inactivity to forced over-activity. With all the other responsibilities in their lives being more complicated because of the situation, they have been able to stay active as needed. The council continued to do its important work despite the difficulties of communication. The call committee continued to function in this time of social distancing. Other administrative functions have been covered. Cleaning, maintenance, and repair all managed to take place. And finally, there has been tremendous support, patience and faithfulness from the members. I am impressed with how many folks have tuned into the on-line worship services and kept abreast of what was on our website. You have been faithful with your financial support and, I am confident, with your prayers. I'm sure you will continue to be patient and supportive as we go through the process of opening up.

Pastor's Page

With all that said, here is what we plan to do. The council moved to do the following:

WORSHIP WILL BEGIN AGAIN ON JUNE 7th
WITH TWO SERVICES (8:15 and 10:45)
IN CENTENNIAL HALL

Worship will continue to be in Centennial Hall until Butler County enters the "green phase" of recovery. I will miss worshipping in our beautiful sanctuary, but there is no way to do so and keep responsible distancing.

A record will be kept of who is present at each worship service so that worshippers can be contacted if anyone attending finds that they may have been put at risk without knowing it. The greeter will be taking attendance on the way in.

At St. Luke's, we are committed to guarding the health and safety of our brothers and sisters (members, friends and visitors). Any changes during this time are for that reason only. For your information, additional safety protocols are listed on the attached sheet. When this is all over, we will go back to the way we were doing things before this current crisis. Until then, let us be overly cautious. If conditions concerning the virus become worse in Butler County, we will immediately put the brakes on reopening and wait until it is safe. And even after we begin the opening process, please use your best judgment concerning coming to worship. If you feel ill, have been around someone ill or have any conditions that might make you vulnerable, please stay home. We will do all we can to provide safe conditions at worship but nothing is foolproof. Your responsible decision making is so very important.

My cell phone number is 412-916-0122. If there is any way I can explain or answer a question or if I can be helpful in any way, please call or text me. My email address is bfshirey@gmail.com. I will commit myself during this time to check my email daily, but the phone is faster.

And, of course, keep praying for St. Luke's and for our neighboring congregations as we begin to open up. If we trust in our Lord and Savior, He will bring us through. Let me remind you of the words of St. Paul in 1 Corinthians 10:13: "*No temptation has overtaken you that is not common to man. God is faithful, and he will not let you be tempted beyond your ability, but with the temptation he will also provide the way of escape, that you may be able to endure it.*" That includes COVID-19.

United with you in Christ's love and service,

Pastor Brian Shirey

Welcome Back

Safety Protocols for St. Luke's Church - Saxonburg

- If you have a fever or any of the symptoms and signs of illness, please wait until you are healthy to come back to church. We kindly ask you not to attend.
- Responsible distancing will be maintained with designated seating areas marked out on the floor. Those who come together, or live in close contact, will be able to sit together.
- We will refrain from handshaking and hugging for now. Be mindful of others please!
- Please wear a face mask. If you do not have one, we will provide one. Clean cloth and disposable masks will be available.
- All common areas and restrooms will be cleaned and sanitized thoroughly before each church service according to the cleaning procedures adapted from the CDC.
- There will be one-way entrance and exit doors available to prevent crowding. Enter in the front set of doors and exit to the rear set.
- Greeters assisting with seating, traffic control, attendance, etc. will be asked to wear a face mask and gloves, if needed. Please cooperate with them as they seek to seat everyone safely.
- Restrooms will be available, but we request a 1-person maximum occupancy. This is for both the upstairs and downstairs restrooms.
- The water fountains will not be available. You may bring your own water if you desire.
- There will be no Sunday school classes, choir practices or other group events for now.
- Hymnals will not be used for now. Worship bulletins will be complete including hymns. Bulletins may be taken home or will be dropped into receptacles on your way out. Please do not bring hymnals or bibles with you. Hymns will be sung but the liturgy will be spoken. There will be no touching, such as sharing the peace, during the service.
- Contributions can be placed in a designated offering plate on the way in. All previous online giving options still exists. We will not pass the offering plates during this time.
- Observance of Communion will utilize pre-filled, sealed, disposable Communion cups that includes the wafer. We will use the "pick-up method", rather than serving it to you personally. You may pick your elements up when you enter and discard it as you exit in the designated trash receptacles. Our regular communion schedule of communion on the first, third and fifth Sundays, and holidays will continue.

St. Luke's Updates

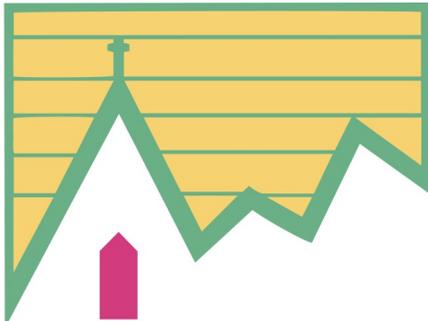
Pastoral Call Process Update



We have completed our Congregational Profile and it has been posted to the NALC website for interested pastors to review. A big thank you to all who helped with that project!

Please pray for our church, our call committee and interested pastors as we continue through this process.

Respectfully submitted,
Amy Amadee



April 2020

Income needed: 14,684
Income received: 11,853
Short by: 2,831

Year to Date

YTD Income needed: 58,735
YTD Income received: 52,099
YTD Short by: 6,636

Church FINANCES

St. Luke's has been richly blessed by faithful givers during the pandemic crisis. Even without gathering for weekly worship our members have continued to send in their offerings.

Thanks be to God.

From the Treasurer....

Under the leadership of Bill Gordon and Judy Moser, St. Luke's has applied for and received a low interest loan from the Small Business Administration (SBA). This payroll protection loan will allow St. Luke's to fulfill its payroll obligations for a two month period during the pandemic. If all goes as planned by the federal government, and the SBA, this loan may be forgiven!

St. Luke's Updates

Summer Music



In anticipation of a return to regular worship, the Summer Music program would like to be prepared. The Summer Music program gives you an opportunity to share your talents with the congregation at any summer service and praise God in the process. If you would like to sing or play a song as special music some Sunday during the summer, please contact Holly Puett: 412-605-3399 or hpuett@gmail.com

As Luther would say, Soli Deo Gloria:
All to the glory of God!

St. Luke's Memorials

Memorial money was given to St. Luke's Church

In Memory of Mrs. Evelyn Fusing (March 23, 2020)

Robert and Colleen Cook

Kenneth and Mary Ann Dietrich

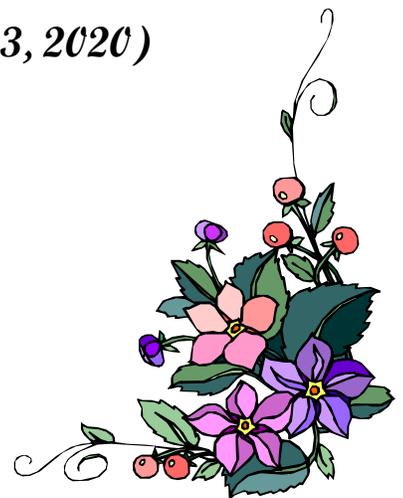
Linda Heade

Diane Meyer

Ronald and Margaret Morrison

Deborah and Carl Ritter

Russell and Sharlene White



Mission Support

NALC - June and July

The North American Lutheran Church (NALC) national organization and district are the monthly recipients of the June and July mission support funds. The NALC is a fast-growing Christian church in the Lutheran tradition, uniting more than 141,000 Lutherans in more than 420 congregations across North America. The NALC embodies the theological center of Lutheranism in North America and stands firmly within the global Lutheran mainstream.

NALC is committed to the authority of the Bible as the inspired Word of God. In keeping with the Lutheran Confessions, NALC believes that all doctrines should and must be judged by the teaching of Scripture. The NALC has embraced four core values which shape our common life: Christ Centered, Mission Driven, Traditionally Grounded, and Congregationally Focused. NALC is a church centered on the Gospel of Jesus Christ, animated by missions and evangelism, grounded in the 2,000-year tradition of Christian faith, and organized chiefly to serve the congregations. A renewed Lutheran community moving forward in faith, the NALC is focused on living out Christ's Great Commission to go and make disciples in North America and around the globe.

At the time of the constituting Convocation in August 2010, 17 congregations had voted to join the NALC. Of the more than 420 NALC congregations now, about 70 are mission congregations, reflecting the priority placed on missions and evangelism by the NALC.

St. Luke's is a member of the Mid-Northeast Mission District, which encompasses western Pennsylvania, western Maryland, western New York and West Virginia. The Rev. Carl Johnson of Kittanning serves as district dean. St. Luke's has participated in mission and national events, including disaster relief mission work.

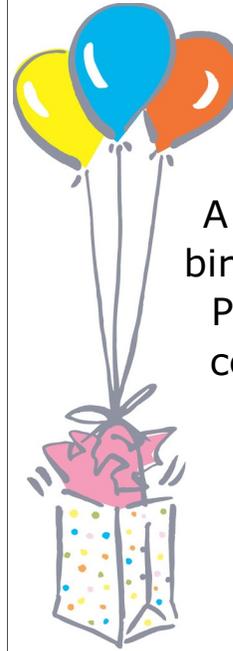
The 2020 Convocation will be held during Lutheran Week August 3 through 7 in Pittsburgh, PA. The theme is "God the Father Creates."

At St. Luke's



Birthdays

| | | | |
|------------------|------|------------------|------|
| Bonnie Ekas | 6/1 | Cole Edwards | 6/14 |
| Pat Ross | 6/1 | Karen Pivni | 6/14 |
| Francis Byers | 6/3 | Patricia Perkins | 6/16 |
| Cristie Crytzer | 6/6 | Grace Bracken | 6/17 |
| Jeffrey Markwell | 6/6 | Donna Bowman | 6/18 |
| Mary Zellhart | 6/6 | Noah Steiner | 6/19 |
| John Nuti | 6/7 | Lindsey Burtner | 6/22 |
| Marilyn Merbach | 6/8 | Jewell Yohe | 6/22 |
| Edna Weckerly | 6/8 | Larry Parsons | 6/23 |
| Garrett Weston | 6/8 | Jim Wetzel | 6/23 |
| Frank Burk | 6/9 | Rachel Boltz | 6/26 |
| KiKi Gordon | 6/9 | Rhoda Shoaf | 6/27 |
| Nick Gordon | 6/9 | Mihkayla Perkins | 6/28 |
| Tancie Plutyk | 6/10 | Bexton Ross | 6/28 |
| Sarah Edder | 6/11 | Kathryn Hartzell | 6/29 |
| Marge Reinhart | 6/11 | Dixie Cypher | 6/30 |
| Erika Schuelke | 6/11 | Margot Frederick | 6/30 |
| Lynn Fox | 6/13 | | |



A special 90th birthday wish to Pat Ross who celebrates on June 1st.



| | |
|---------------------------|------|
| Joyce and Justin Perkins | 6/8 |
| Dale and Chris Arthurs | 6/10 |
| Dean and Tracy Gilliland | 6/10 |
| John and Gayle Gundlach | 6/12 |
| Ron and Marie Riggs | 6/13 |
| Craig and Rachel Trimble | 6/15 |
| Walter and Audrey Gerlach | 6/21 |
| Paul and Sonia Markwell | 6/22 |
| Mary and Francis Byers | 6/27 |
| Chuck and Elva Weston | 6/28 |

At St. Luke's

★ ★ ★ ★ JULY

Birthdays



| | | | |
|-----------------|------|--------------------|------|
| Emery Bubb | 7/1 | Dale Arthurs | 7/19 |
| Susan Beatty | 7/3 | Martha Champion | 7/20 |
| Brady Lunn | 7/3 | Carl Bowman | 7/21 |
| Ethel Kristofic | 7/6 | Bill Sweeney | 7/21 |
| TJ Weston | 7/8 | Katie Drennen | 7/22 |
| Angelo Natili | 7/11 | Michelle Freehling | 7/23 |
| Edward Cypher | 7/12 | Callie Drennen | 7/23 |
| Robert Bicker | 7/14 | Mary Elder | 7/25 |
| Amaya Gayle | 7/16 | Carol Pefferman | 7/25 |
| Clarence Wagner | 7/17 | Ronald Perkins | 7/25 |
| Ron Riggs | 7/17 | Kelsey Miller | 7/25 |
| Jacqueline Bice | 7/17 | Audrey Gerlach | 7/28 |
| Jacob Fox | 7/18 | Kimberly Buss | 7/31 |
| Evan Haas | 7/18 | Krystle Ekas | 7/31 |

| | |
|--------------------------------|------|
| Carl and Amy Smith | 7/3 |
| David and Kerri Hay | 7/8 |
| Clinton and Lindsay Cunningham | 7/9 |
| Edward and Dixie Cypher | 7/12 |
| Jesse and Alicia Haas | 7/15 |
| Amanda and Christopher Jockel | 7/16 |
| George and Barbara Reuning | 7/18 |
| James and Ronna Drennen | 7/20 |
| Andy and Dusty Olczak | 7/22 |
| John and Laura Logan | 7/25 |
| Albert and Shirley Kobert | 7/25 |
| Dylan and Leah Plutyk | 7/28 |



At St. Luke's



Congratulations!
Class of
2020

St. Luke's Congratulates the Graduating Class of 2020

With many of the traditional ceremonies being postponed and cancelled, this year's seniors are approaching graduation without much ado. To show our support and excitement for the impressive accomplishments these young men have achieved, the following pages feature profiles of each of our graduates.

Congratulations William, Cole, and Alex!
We are so proud of you.



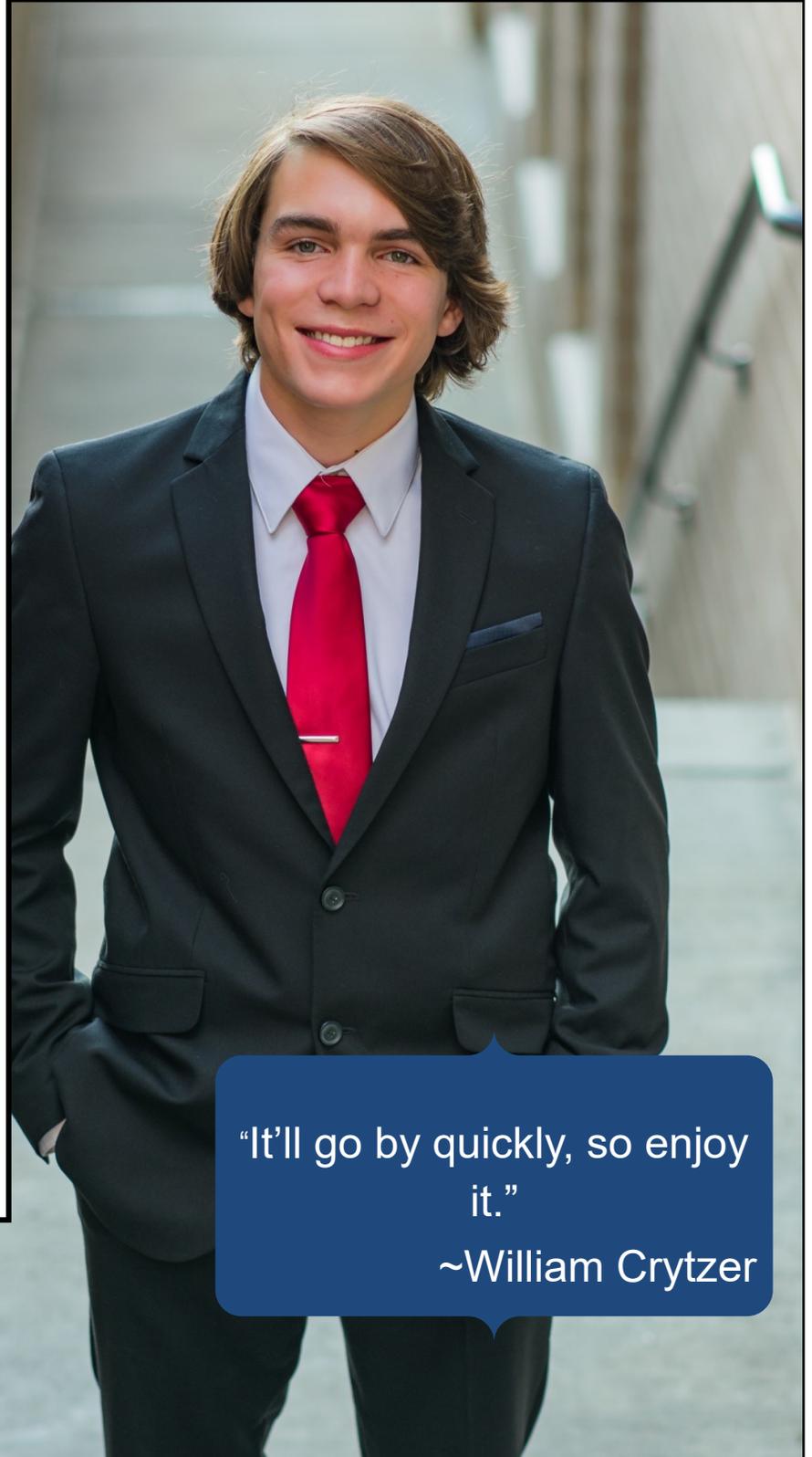
William Crytzer

William Crytzer is the son of Mike and Cristie Crytzer. During his time at Knoch High School, William was a member of the Cross Country team, Track and Field team, National Honors Society, Chemistry Club, Science Club, Spanish Club, and History Club.

Outside of school he is an avid reader, enjoys time with his friends, and watching movies.

William's favorite memory from high school is all the "Wing Nights," going to Buffalo Wild Wings with the Cross Country Team.

William will be attending the College of Science at Purdue University this fall. He will be majoring in Actuarial Science and Statistics with a minor in Business Management.



"It'll go by quickly, so enjoy it."

~William Crytzer

Cole Edwards

Cole Edwards is the son of Kimberly (Buss) and Rick Edwards. While at Knoch High School, Cole was busy with Golf, Basketball, and Baseball.

When Cole has free time, he enjoys hanging out with his friends, playing video games, golfing, attending sporting events, watching Netflix / YouTube, and hitting “dingers” (homerun derby at baseball).

Cole’s favorite memory from high school is making dance videos with his friends to post on Instagram every week after they went out to eat.

After graduation, Cole will be attending Slippery Rock University to study Graphic Design.



Cole’s favorite quote:
“Time has a way of
changing things ...”

Alexander Kadunce

Alexander Kadunce is the son of Lisa Brunner and Charles Kadunce. During his time at Knoch High School, Alex belonged to the German Club, Robotics Club, National Honors Society, and was a member of the Track and Field team, Soccer team, and Esports team.

When Alex is outside of school he prefers to spend time reading and meeting with friends.

Staying after school with friends to participate in clubs is Alex's favorite memory from high school.

Following graduation, Alex will be joining the Air Force ROTC at Penn State University, Main Campus, while studying Cybersecurity.



“Prepare for everything you can, but there are some things you just cannot prepare for.”

~Alex Kadunce



If you are aware of someone in the hospital or in need of pastoral care, please call the church office and let us know.

HOMEBOUND/UNABLE TO WORSHIP:

Georgetta Burk, 211 Murray Dr., Valencia, PA 16059
Fred Crux, 223 Pittsburgh Street, Saxonburg, PA 16056 (friend)
Ruth Cypher, 223 Pittsburgh Street, Room 33, Saxonburg, PA 16056
Margo Frederick, Magnolia Place, 100 Bella Court, Room 313, Saxonburg, PA 16056
Audrey Gerlach, 148 Marwood Road, Apt 1205 Cabot PA 16023
Dorothy Kane 134 Marwood Road, Room 2169, Cabot, PA 16023 (friend),
Allen Knappenberger, 134 Marwood Road, Room 2036, Cabot, PA 16023
Jim McLafferty, 134 Marwood Road, Room 2254, Cabot, PA 16023
John Nuti, 121 Deer Creek Road, Saxonburg, PA 16056 (Fairwinds)
Herb Richards, 130 Edgewood Drive, Sarver, PA 16055
Pat Ross, 104 Old Pike Lane, Cabot, PA 16023
Pearl Parnell, 330 High Street, Saxonburg, PA 16056
Ned Ziegler, 129 Dingel Road, West Sunbury, PA 16061 (associate member)

MEMBERS AND FRIENDS WE HAVE LIFTED IN PRAYER DURING JUNE:

Praise and Thanksgiving: for the birth of Jayce Paul, Jeannine Sanford's nephew, for answered prayers, for faith that overcomes fear, for love, joy, prayer, and praise that cannot be quarantined.

Healing, Cares & Concerns: Gail, Paul Brewer, David Whitlinger, Beryl Mottern, Jackie, Sherry Goodman, Carole McRandal, Prudy Juran, Harold Carey, Trey, Wes Wetzel, John Gundlach, Wendy Burk Fancetta, Georgetta Burk, Frank Burk (caring for Georgie & Wendy), Frank Ekas, Tancie Plutyk, Bobbi Jo Meso, Marie Grossman, Clayton, Harry Kuni, Alexis Gurnard, Ford Bartle, J.J., Katie & Chad, Rob, Rick, Jean Brackett, Douglas Bowman, Leo, Medical personnel (especially Amy Amadee, Callie Drennen, Jenny Hartzell, Katie Hartzell, Peggy Crawford, Tracy Lark, Tavia Lynch, Vanessa McRandal, Callie Drennen, Melea Cranmer, Jen Brose), Mary Zellhart (nurse in Covid-19 ward), first responders, food and medical supply (farmers, harvesters, factory workers, drivers, distributors, grocery workers, & Food Bank volunteers), educators, parents, students, St. Luke's staff, leadership, and volunteers

Bereaved: Family & Friends of Pat Cooper, Evenly Tusing, Olin Lee, Ken Wharrey, Jackie Anthony, Bill Sutton, Gary Bachman

Outreach/Evangelism



The Covid-19 pandemic cannot stop the love of Jesus Christ being expressed! On Mother's Day, a caravan of St. Luke's vehicles went through the Saxonburg neighborhoods offering prayer and fellowship social distance style.

Led by Pastor Shirey, 10 vehicles filled with St. Luke's members traveled to Concordia Lund, the Havens, Magnolia Place, The Orchards, neighborhood stops, the school, the fire hall, the health clinic and other locations. Signs were made with Mother's Day greetings, thinking of you and praying for you thoughts. Specific prayers were geared for each stop (i.e. educators and students at the school, fire, emergency responders and health care/residents at those stops). In most cases, there was opportunity to say hi or wave to St. Luke family and friends from at least six feet away. Appreciation/thinking of you cards also were addressed and sent to homebound members, teachers, emergency responders and health care workers.



Christian Education

UNSEEN BUT *active*

This experiment illustrates that although God is invisible, we can see his work all around us.



What you need:

- Drinking glass
- Water
- Index card

What you do:

1. Practicing over a sink, fill the glass halfway with water. Then press the index card snugly atop the glass with one hand.
2. With the other hand, hold the base of the glass and carefully flip it over.
3. Remove your hand from the card. It should stay on the glass, without spilling the water! The invisible air in the glass creates a suction with the card, preventing the water from spilling out. Research air pressure to learn more.
4. After perfecting the trick, amaze others with it. Then talk about how God, like the air in the glass, is unseen but active.



Vacation Bible School

Due to the continuously changing COVID-19 situation **ROAR!** originally scheduled for July 19th - 23rd has been postponed. New dates will be announced as soon as we are comfortable that a safe environment is available for our children.

FCS



Students enrolled in the FCS program, please remember to keep your earning and deposit documentation. 2020 distribution will happen as scheduled this fall. The submittal paperwork will be sent soon.



Sunday School Teacher Apprecia- tion



**Thank you to all who shared the teachings of
Jesus this school year.**

Mandy Jockel—Pre-K and K
Julie Edder—1st-2nd
Kim Lunn—3rd-4th
Bill Gordon - 5th
Pastor Shirey & Jeannine Sanford—Confirmation
Cristie Crytzer - Sr. High Youth
Sue Beatty —Adult Sunday school

ST. LUKE'S EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH
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RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED



June 7, 2020
8:15 and 10:45
Centennial Hall

Please see the letter from
Pastor Shirey and the
welcome back information
inside for details.