

# St Luke UMC

501 E 19th Street N  
Newton, IA 50208  
641-792-5736

January 1, 2022



# THE BI-WEEKLY Flame CATCH THE FIRE!

## 2021 Apportionments

**\$16,499**



## Financial Update



Thank you for your prayerful and generous giving to St Luke. These are the numbers for our 2021 giving as of Dec. 30, 2021.

### \$16,499 Apportionments

\$962	RP District Askings
\$100	World Communion Day
\$10	Methodist Student Day
\$147	Human Relations Sunday
\$80	Peace with Justice
\$85	Native Am. Awareness Day
\$13	Disabilities Awareness Day
\$40	Golden Cross Sunday
\$397	Rural Life Sunday
\$236	Heifer Intl—Living Gifts
\$362	Heifer Proj International
\$300	Jane Kies Spt-Africa Univ.
\$104	St Andrew Potato Proj-VA
\$210	UMCOR General Fund
\$317	CWS Blanket/Tool Fund Wrld
\$15	UMCOR Disaster Resp-USA

## Where to Find Us

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## 5th Sunday

# WORSHIP-IN-SERVICE

## Food Insecurity Event

### Sunday, January 30, 2022

### January WORSHIP-IN-SERVICE Event

We hope you can join us on January 30 for our upcoming WORSHIP-IN-SERVICE Food Insecurity Event. This is an opportunity to share God's love through acts of service as an act of worship.

On the morning of January 30, our worship will be packing meals for Take Away Hunger and turning some of those meals into burritos that Robyn Taylor will take to the homeless in Newton throughout the winter. This is an opportunity for us to really dig into something that affects our community and to do something about it. For your part, Give \$30 or more for the ingredients of the meal packets we will pack, Pack the ingredients during worship on January 30 or Cook the burritos for the community, and Pray that God will lead us to the next ministry in our community to address the issue of food and housing insecurity.

Thank you for all you do, and for your participating in this exciting ministry opportunity at St Luke UMC.

### Upcoming Guest Speakers

#### Part of our WORSHIP-IN-SERVICE Event:

January 9: Bill Bennett - Jasper County Take Away Hunger

January 16: Robyn Taylor - Homeless in the Newton Area

# THANK YOU

**Many Thanks for the Love Offering  
You have given to the staff of St Luke!  
From Pastor Chad, Jennifer & Jenny**



## My Story

You walk through the door and the smells, the sounds, the sights make you relax. You're HOME. You are in that space where your life feels comforting. You can be yourself when you are truly home.

It is possible that your "home" space is a different location than where you live. Perhaps it is the woods you love to hike in. Maybe "home" for you is in the barn with your horses. Or, perhaps, "home" is a person or people whose presence is all you need to experience that feeling of comfort and peace.

<sup>19-20</sup> Later, when Herod died, God's angel appeared in a dream to Joseph in Egypt: "Up, take the child and his mother and return to Israel. All those out to murder the child are dead." <sup>21-23</sup> Joseph obeyed. He got up, took the child and his mother, and reentered Israel.



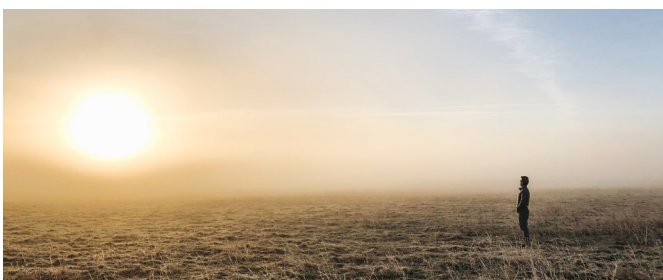
When he heard, though, that Archelaus had succeeded his father, Herod, as king in Judea, he was afraid to go there. But then Joseph was directed in a dream to go to the hills of Galilee. On arrival,

he settled in the village of Nazareth. This move was a fulfillment of the prophetic words, "He shall be called a Nazarene." Matthew 2:19-23

When they returned and settled in Nazareth, did Joseph and Mary feel they were finally home? During their time in Egypt, did they find a sense of "home" in the land of Egypt itself, or only within the presence of one another? Was the region of Galilee the place they felt that sense of "home"? Or, was it Mary's face and the sound of her voice that gave Joseph the feeling of "home"? Maybe it they found "home" every time they stopped to pray and listen to the call of God on their journey. Perhaps it was all of these.

As we begin a new year, seek out the places that make you feel calm and peaceful, those places you call home. Thank God for the comfort you find when you reach "home"; each time you reach it. Remember, the road may not always be straight, so take time to pray for those who are searching for a "home" in Christ's presence.

Corinne Kleppe



## Pilgrims on the Road

MATTHEW 2:1-12

*Hearing and celebrating the story of the visit of the magi*

Shortly after Jesus was born in Bethlehem at the time King Herod reigned, wise men, or priests, likely from the area of western Iran traveled to Jerusalem. Making inquiries, they asked *Where is this newborn, who is the King of the Jews?... We have followed (His star's) glisten and gleam all this way to worship him.*

Herod heard of their search and became worried. Accordingly, King Herod beseeched his leading Jewish teachers, priests, and scribes inquiring as to **where** the Hebrew tradition of the long-awaited One would be born. Micah 5:2 provided the answer: Bethlehem.

Calling the wise men to meet with him, Herod inquired as to the exact time the guiding star had appeared to them. He then directed them to the city. "As soon as you know where He is, report it to me so that I may go and worship him."



The star reappeared and led them to the house where they found Mary, Joseph, and Jesus. Bowing and worshipping Him, they gave Jesus gifts of gold, frankincense, and myrrh. (**Gold** was what was given to a king, **incense** to a priest, and **myrrh** ointment used to heal and embalm corpses.)

Similarly to Joseph, the wise men experienced their own "warning dream." In that dream they were directed to not go back to Herod. The wise men eventually returned to their homes in the East by a different route.

The Seasons of the Spirit Bible Study Class meets Sunday mornings, after the 9:30 church service. To honor all present we are immunized and wear face masks. The class's emphasis is on the weekly lectionary readings.

∞ **Lectionary Readings for January 2022** ∞

• **January 2:** Matthew 2:1-12 | Pilgrims on the Road

*To hear and celebrate the story of the visit of the magi*

• **January 9:** Luke 3:15-17, 21-22 | Beloved

*To explore the role of God's promises and love in our lives*

• **January 16:** John 2:1-11 | Abundant Love

*To explore what new "ways" God might be calling to us*

• **January 23:** Luke 4:14-21 | Spirited Voice

*To be inspired by Jesus' bold word about the ways of the Spirit*

• **January 30:** Luke 4:21-30 | Speaking Out

*To discern the prophetic ways of Good, which may not be our ways*

WORSHIP ASSISTANTS	
Jan. 2	9:30 AM
Ushers (2)	
Greeters (2)	
Reader	
Acolyte	
Keyboard	Bev Thomas
Projection	
Care Core	Barb Swihart, Amy Murphy
Coffee Time	
Counters (2)	

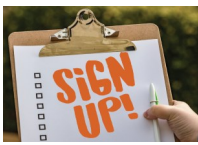
Jan. 9	9:30 AM
Ushers (2)	Amy Murphy
Greeters (2)	
Reader	Jenni Patty
Acolyte	
Keyboard	Bev Thomas
Projection	
Care Core	Jenni Patty, Lisa Marston
Coffee Time	
Counters (2)	

Jan. 16	9:30 AM
Ushers (2)	Corinne Kleppe
Greeters (2)	
Reader	Amy Murphy
Acolyte	
Keyboard	Jan Lewis
Projection	
Care Core	Joyce Stonehocker, Karen Clark
Coffee Time	
Counters (2)	

Jan. 23	9:30 AM
Ushers (2)	Doug & Jenna McIntyre
Greeters (2)	
Reader	Rose Evans
Acolyte	
Keyboard	Jan Lewis
Projection	
Care Core	Barb Kaldenberg
Coffee Time	
Counters (2)	

### January Worship Assistants

We are looking for volunteers to be worship assistants for the month of January. If you would like to volunteer you can email the church office at: [worship@stlukenewton.com](mailto:worship@stlukenewton.com), use the sign-up sheets on the coffee counter or you can add your name to our new online sign-up sheet. Here is the link to sign up online:



<https://docs.google.com/document/d/1LV73f571kMBVLyocfiFvS7GsvYM03YPBSzoXUhXQL7s/edit?usp=sharing>

We still have quite a few openings so please sign up if you are able. If we continue to have a lot of unfilled positions we may have to return to assigning worship assistants. We appreciate all those who have so willingly volunteered to help. Thank you!

Jan. 30	9:30 AM
Ushers (2)	
Greeters (2)	
Reader	
Acolyte	
Keyboard	Bev Thomas
Projection	
Care Core	Tamara Lloyd, Jenni Patty
Coffee Time	
Counters (2)	



**Thank You!** To all of the volunteers at St Luke UMC. Whether you teach a VBS or Sunday School class, donate food for a meal, make a casserole for someone recovering from surgery, donate your time for a project at the church, visit a member that needs a friend or send a greeting card, you are making a difference. Thank You!

**Worship Assistants**

Please find a sub or trade if you cannot do it as scheduled. Then contact the church office so we can print correct names.

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
						1 
2 9:30 am Worship - Communion Sunday School to Follow 	3	4	5 7:15 pm Choir Practice	6	7	8 9am-4pm Quilt Guild FH Rsrvd
9 9:30 am Worship Sunday School to Follow Guest Speaker: Bill Bennett	10	11	12 7 pm Page Turners Book Club FH Rsrvd 7:15 pm Choir Practice	13 	14	15
16 9:30 am Worship Sunday School to Follow Guest Speaker: Robyn Taylor Human Relations Sunday	17 Martin Luther King Jr. Day	18 7:30 pm Ad Council Meeting	19 7:15 pm Choir Practice	20 6:30 pm Quilt Guild FH Rsrvd	21	22
23 9:30 am Worship Sunday School to Follow	24	25	26	27	28	29
						
30 9:30 am Worship WORSHIP-IN-SERVICE EVENT			7:15 pm Choir Practice			

Read Calendar closely for events not appearing elsewhere in Newsletter. Thank you.



## United Methodist Women

January  
No Meeting

*Do not let your hearts be troubled.  
Trust in God, trust also in me.*  
John 14:1

### Human Relations Day January 16<sup>th</sup>

*"What does the Lord require of you but to do justice, and to love kindness, and to walk humbly with your God?" - Micah 6:8b*

Human Relations Day is an opportunity for United Methodists to share in seeking justice for our neighbors. On this day, congregations are given the unique opportunity to join with individuals, groups, businesses, community organizations and residents to heal the wounds of social inequality. The special offering supports neighborhood ministries, community advocacy and work with at-risk youth.

Human Relations Day encourages us to be the hands and feet of Jesus and to stay on the side of those whom others choose to forget.



### Congratulations St. Luke

The donations to our redemption corral located in the northwest corner of the parking lot are continuing to add money to the apportionment giving. Remember, we sort and count each can and bottle. When the donations are not bagged it is easier to process them since we scoop them out, sort and count each piece. The donations for the first half of 2021 were \$227.10 and \$181.55 for the last half of the year. The total, \$408.65, was given to apportionments in 2021. If anyone is willing to help with this project, let us know.



Roy and Pat Patty

### Sunday School Offerings January 2022

The first Sunday of January, our Sunday school offering will go toward administrative costs of our Sunday school program.

This year our Sunday School offering for the 2<sup>nd</sup> through 5<sup>th</sup> Sundays of January 2022 will go toward the purchase of meal packing supplies for our "Worship-In-Service" event on January 30<sup>th</sup>.

Beginning in February 2022, the 2<sup>nd</sup> through 5<sup>th</sup> Sunday, Sunday School offerings will go toward our \$300 covenant with Jane Kies – a missionary at Africa University.

Missions - NOW Committee

## St Luke News

Dear St Luke Family,

Thank you all for thinking of me with the wonderful gifts. Hope you all have a Merry Christmas.

Gatlin Chambers

Dear St. Luke UMW,

Thank you so much for your gift made in Corinne Kleppe's honor. Your gift will bring God's love to those in need through education, health or disaster relief supplies.

In His Service,  
Midwest Mission Team

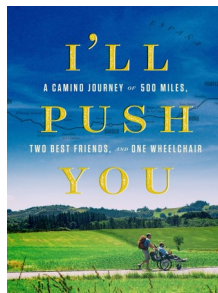
Our deepest sympathies and prayers to Larry and Darlene Howard on the passing of Darlene's sister.

Thank you everyone for praying for my mom, Marilyn Brubaker, and step dad, Richard Grosshauser, over the last month. We had a graveside service for "Richard in Paullina 12-21-21. A Memorial Service will follow in spring or after the COVID virus calms down. We appreciate the prayer support for this sad time.

Love and appreciation,  
Julie Poulsen, Jamie Poulsen, Ted Poulsen & families

### Adult-2 Sunday School Class

The Adult 2 class is reading and discussing the book *I'll Push You* by Patrick Gray. *I'll Push You* is the story of two best friends who decide to do the Camino de Santiago across Spain. It is the true story of Justin and Patrick. Justin has been diagnosed with a neuromuscular disease that robbed him of the use of his arms and legs, thus Patrick will need to push the wheelchair on their journey. He not only pushes the wheelchair, but also has to feed and care for Justin. "A travel adventure full of love, humor, and spirited truth."



If you are looking for a class with variety and topical studies, this would be a good class for you. We read the book together, so there is no "homework". There is always room for more to join the conversation. We meet in Room 5 in the education wing right after Worship.

### Facing the Future

Don't worry about the future. Worry quenches the work of grace within you. The future belongs to God. He is in charge of all things. Never second-guess him.

—François Fenelon

## A Special Blessing for those with January Birthdays

January 1 - Ethan Squire  
 January 2 - Lori Leix  
 January 4 - Zoe Smith  
 January 5 - Stefanie Squire  
 Bruce Maach  
 January 6 - Dennis Smith  
 January 8 - Nathan Jennings  
 January 17 - Esther Klosterboer  
 January 19 - Pam Stiles  
 January 24 - Jeff Carter  
 Jeff McKibben  
 January 25 - Jeff Murphy  
 January 26 - Joyce Stonehocker  
 CJ Osborn  
 January 29 - Gatlin Chambers



If your birthday is missing or incorrect, please contact the office.

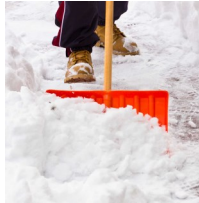


### January Salvation Army Food Pantry Request

Detergent & Dish Soap

### Weather Cancellation Policy

If school is cancelled/dismissed early due to weather, then St. Luke activities are cancelled that day/evening as well. Sunday Worship is rarely cancelled. Check our Facebook page and watch for text messages for announcements. If the weather and road conditions are questionable, use your best judgement and be safe.





*Crio*

**“It’s a 12-step group for church members who like to write angry letters but not sign their name.”**

## 2022 MMDC Trip Update

Midwest Mission Distribution Center (MMDC) is located in central Illinois. It is packed full of a wide variety of mission projects and is powered by volunteers. St. Luke will be sending a team of volunteers January 23-26, 2022. We have 14 people, with 8 of them being St Luke members, going on our work trip to Midwest Missions.

This is our biggest trip ever. We have many diapers and other supplies to take as well as 8 sewing machines which are all in good working order. It is going to be a great trip with hands on mission work, fellowship, and learning more about world missions. We ask that you please pray for our team of volunteers going to MMDC in January as they prepare and travel on this mission for God’s Kingdom.



## A measure of love

Jesus says one golden rule sums up the law.

*Directions: Match the word parts from the ruler to the incomplete words in the first three Bible verses. Then add the bolded letters (in order) to Matthew 7:12 to complete that verse.*

Do not seek **re**\_\_\_\_\_ or bear a grudge against anyone among your \_\_\_\_\_ople, but love your **neig**\_\_\_\_\_ as yourself.

LEVITICUS 19:18, NIV

Learn to do **right**; seek jus\_\_\_\_. Defend the \_\_\_\_\_pressed. Take up the cause of the \_\_\_\_\_less; plead the \_\_\_\_\_e of the widow.

ISAIAH 1:17, NIV

He has shown you, O mortal, what is go\_\_\_\_. ... To act **justly** and to love me\_\_\_\_ and to walk \_\_\_\_\_ly with your God.

MICAH 6:8, NIV

So in \_\_\_\_\_ything, do to ot \_\_\_\_\_ what you would \_\_\_\_\_ve them d \_\_\_\_\_ to you, for this s \_\_\_\_\_ms up the \_\_\_\_\_w and the Proph \_\_\_\_\_s.

MATTHEW 7:12, NIV

- father\_\_\_\_\_
  - pe\_\_\_\_\_
  - \_\_\_\_\_venge
  - \_\_\_\_\_od
  - \_\_\_\_\_rcy
  - op\_\_\_\_\_
  - \_\_\_\_\_hbor
  - humb\_\_\_\_\_
  - cas\_\_\_\_\_
  - \_\_\_\_\_tice

Answer: revenge, people, neighbor, justice, oppressed, fatherless, case, good, mercy, humbly, everything, others, have, do, sums, Law, Prophets