

St Luke UMC

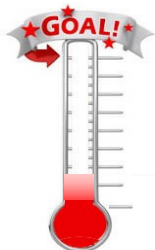
501 E 19th Street N
Newton, IA 50208
641-792-5736

February 1, 2024

THE BI-WEEKLY **Flame** CATCH THE FIRE!

2024 Apportionments

\$16,882



\$83

Financial Update



Thank you to everyone for your continued support of St Luke ministries. These offerings were received in the month of January:

Total of \$12,778 which included:

\$ 140 - Building Fund

\$ 83 - Apportionments

\$ 200 - Christ's Foundry UMC

\$ 30 - Human Relations Day

\$ 40 - UMCOR Ukraine



Where to Find Us

Pastor: Rev. Chad Jennings

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YouTube: St Luke United Methodist Church

Facebook: [St Luke Newton](https://www.facebook.com/StLukeNewton)

Prayer: prayer@stlukenewton.com

ASH WEDNESDAY

Pancake Supper

February 14
4:45 - 6:15 pm
Fellowship Hall

Before Ash Wednesday Service

THE PANCAKE SUPPER IS BACK!!!!!!

Mark your calendars for Wednesday, February 14th - Valentine's Day. Bring everyone you love to our Ash Wednesday pancake supper and worship service.

We will be serving from 4:45 pm to 6:15 pm. The menu is pancakes, sausages, fruit, and beverages. The Ash Wednesday worship service follows at 6:30 pm.

A sign-up sheet for workers and food contributions is on the servant's counter.

A free will offering will be taken and all money raised will be used for our ongoing food insecurity events.

If you have questions, talk to the chairpersons Karen Clark and Rose Evans.

ASH WEDNESDAY SERVICE

FEBRUARY 14 | 6:30 PM



My Story

Have you ever seen a tree that has been bent by constant winds? You can tell the tree has been pushed and pulled by the wind, but it stays rooted in place. Holding on!

On the edge of the pages in the magazine Our Iowa, you can read little one liners, quotes and tidbits of trivia. One page held the following: "Faith means holding on tight when the going gets windy."



As I sat watching out my window on a snow day, I watched the wind blow snow around the courtyard, and my neighbor's flag whipping back and forth all day long. I couldn't help but think about the times when life gets "windy." Scary medical diagnosis...WINDY! Business struggles... WINDY! Money Worries ... WINDY! Emotional Turmoil...WINDY! When these times strike your life, does the wind push you away from your faith? Or do you allow your faith to hold you fast, as the winds rage around you? Do you anchor into Jesus and allow His strength to hold you fast? Or do you try to hold fast on your own?

Be on your guard; stand firm in the faith; be courageous; be strong. 1 Corinthians 16:13

Let us hold unwaveringly to the hope we profess, for he who promised is faithful. Hebrews 10:23

Lean into your faith, hold tight and trust Jesus to keep you rooted when the world gets "windy" around you.

Corinne Kleppe



Sunday February 11 Disability Awareness Offering

100% of this offering is retained by the Iowa Annual Conference. The purpose of the Disability Awareness offering is to celebrate the gifts and graces of persons with disabilities and to promote their full inclusion in the community. This offering provides funds for educational opportunities as well as providing grants to local churches in need of assistance in removing architectural and attitudinal barriers to accessibility.



Sunday School Offering January and February 2024

For the first two months of 2024 we will be designating the Sunday School offerings for the 2nd through 4th Sundays to the St Luke Food Insecurity events. For the past few years we have held a Mission in Worship meal packing/burrito making event in January and a burrito event in the fall. The Sunday School offering in January and February will help with the cost of supplies for these events.



As always, if you would like to contribute to this mission and you do not attend Sunday School, please put "Food Insecurity Events" in the memo line of your check and place it in the offering plate.

Corinne Kleppe, NOW missions

Thank You

Thank you, St Luke Family for the prayers and tributes for the passing of my brother, Leo Ponder. Thank you, Pastor Chad for the service, and Thank you, for continued prayers for my wife Barb Ponder.

Thank you...

- Bill Ponder

Monday Night Zoom

LENTEN Study

Feb. 19 - March 25

**Books are \$14
Sign up TODAY!**

Lenten Study

We will be having a Monday Night Lenten Study via zoom starting February 19 at 6:30 pm. The study will go for 6 weeks. We will be reading the book "The Lord's Prayer" by Adam Hamilton. Books are \$14. Sign up at the servant's counter if you are interested in joining us.

Days For Girls

The next Days For Girls sewing day will be Thursday, February 22 from 9 am - 2 pm at the 1st Presbyterian Church. Questions? Contact Rose Evans. If you would like more information about Days for Girls you can visit their website at www.daysforgirls.org.



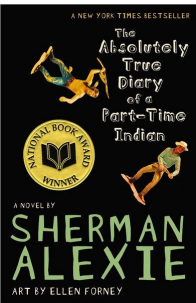


United Women in Faith



The Banned Book Class

The Adult 2 Sunday School class has decided to read “banned” books. Our first choice is *The Absolutely True Diary of a Part-Time Indian* by Sherman Alexie. The book is about a Native American boy who leaves Spokane Indian Reservation to attend an all-white high school in a near farm town.



The book has been described as “heartbreaking, funny and beautifully written.” It was written primarily for adolescents, but from USA Today: “Sure to resonate and lift spirits of all ages for years to come.”

We invite you to join us. We meet at 10:30 am (following worship) in Room 5, the 3rd room on the left, in the education wing.

Discover Hope Supper Club

St. Luke has committed to providing the evening meal for Discover Hope the first Tuesday of every other month. Our next meal will be on February 6. We will be having Reuben casserole, a relish tray, deviled eggs, rolls and red hots applesauce. If you would like to sign-up to provide food, monetary donations or to help serve the meal there will be a sign-up sheet on the servant’s counter. All donations need to be put in the church kitchen by Sunday, February 4. Any questions please contact Joyce Stonehocker or Jan Lewis.



Grocery Sacks Needed

We are in need of plastic grocery sack donations. They will be used to make plarn (plastic yarn) to weave sleeping mats for the homeless. If you have any extra plastic grocery sacks you would like to donate please bring them to Joyce Stonehocker or put them in the donation box at the church.



2023 Can and Bottle Redemption Report

St. Lukers, you are amazing! Can and bottle redemption netted \$444.05 towards our apportionments in 2023. Please continue to empty sacks of cans and bottles as you place your donations in the collection bin. The bin is located by the dumpster in the northwest corner of the parking lot. Can we reach the \$500 amount in 2024?



St Luke UMC
VBS 2024

Save the date!

JUNE 24-28

Camp Firelight

A SUMMER CAMP Psalm 56:3
ADVENTURE WITH GOD

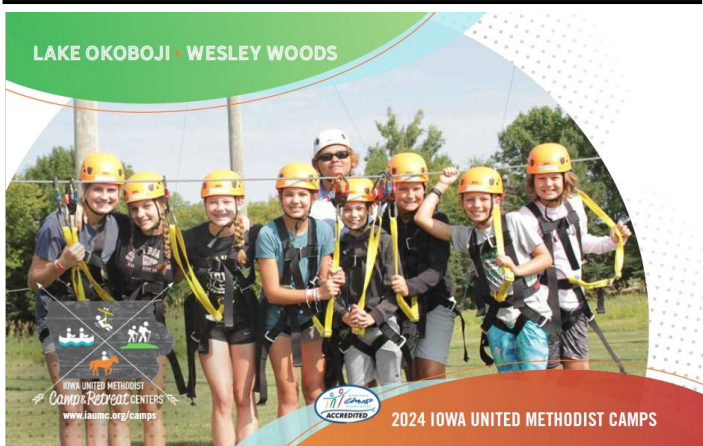
Calling VBS Volunteers!

We want you! To help us spread the word of God to local youth during Vacation Bible School which is June 24-28. We need volunteers in the areas of: classroom teachers, crafts, snacks, recreation, music, and drama. If you are able to help, please contact Ann Leonard at annericleonard@gmail.com or call/text her at 641-521-2463.

be still

AND KNOW THAT I AM GOD.

PSALM 46:10



Camp Season Is Coming Soon

It’s time to start planning and signing up for camp at one of the beautiful Iowa United Methodist Camps. Catalogs are available at the church or you can go online to check out what’s available at www.iaumc.org/camps. Get ready for your adventure of a lifetime.



Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
				1 9 am - 3 pm Quilts of Valor FH Rsrvd	2	3
4 9:30 am Worship w/ Communion Sunday School to Follow 	5 2:15-3:45 pm TR—Rm 5 6:30 pm Mon. Night Study Group via Zoom	6 Discover Hope Supper 5:30 pm	7 6:30 pm Praise Team 7:15 pm Choir Practice	8	9	10
<div style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 5px; display: inline-block;">  </div>						
11 9:30 am Worship Sunday School to Follow Disabilities Awareness Sunday Offering 	12 2:15-3:45 pm TR—Rm 5 6:30 pm Mon. Night Study Group via Zoom	13 	14 4:45 - 6:15 pm Pancake Supper  6:30 pm Ash Wednesday Service 	15 9 am - 5 pm Quilt Guild Sew Day FH Rsrvd 7 pm Quilt Guild Meeting	16	17
18 9:30 am Worship Sunday School to Follow	19 2:15-3:45 pm TR—Rm 5 6:30 pm Mon. Night Study Group via Zoom 	20	21 6:30 pm Praise Team 7:15 pm Choir Practice	22 9 am - 2pm Days for Girls @ First Presbyterian	23	24
25 9:30 am Worship Sunday School to Follow	26 2:15-3:45 pm TR—Rm 5 6:30 pm Mon. Night Study Group via Zoom 6:30-9 pm FH Rsrvd	27	28 6:30 pm Praise Team 7:15 pm Choir Practice	29		

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

WORSHIP ASSISTANTS	
February 4	9:30 AM
Ushers	Mike & Barb Kaldenberg
Greeters	Barb Swihart
Reader	Dennis Smith
Acolyte	
Keyboard	Bev Thomas
Projection	Caleb Leonard
Camera	Ben Leonard
Care Core	Barb Swihart, Amy Murphy
Coffee Time	Barb Swihart
February 11	9:30 AM
Ushers	Amy Ryan
Greeters	Joyce Stonehocker
Reader	Nathan Figland
Acolyte	Payton & Brenna Figland
Keyboard	Jan Lewis
Projection	Rachel Pageler
Camera	Ethan Pageler
Care Core	Jenni Patty, Lisa Marston
Coffee Time	Amy Ryan
February 18	9:30 AM
Ushers	Karen Clark
Greeters	Peg Kimberley
Reader	Karen Clark
Acolyte	
Keyboard	Bev Thomas
Projection	
Camera	Megan DeJong
Care Core	Karen Clark, Joyce Stonehocker
Coffee Time	Karen Clark
February 25	9:30 AM
Ushers (2)	Corinne Kleppe
Greeters (2)	Mike & Barb Kaldenberg
Reader	Emily McConkey
Acolyte	
Keyboard	Jan Lewis
Projection	Rachel Pageler
Camera	Ethan Pageler
Care Core	Barb Kaldenberg
Coffee Time	Mike & Barb Kaldenberg

February Worship Assistants

For 2024 we are going to continue with passing sign up sheets around for 3 months at a time. This worked very well last year in getting more volunteer positions filled. We have had a wonderful response of volunteers for our first 3 months of 2024 and would like to thank everyone who has so graciously signed up. Most positions are filled now through March but there are still some spots open. If you would like to volunteer or see what positions are available you can email the church office at: worship@stlukenewton.com, use the sign-up sheets on the servant's counter or you can add your name to our online sign-up sheet. Here is the link to sign up online:



<https://docs.google.com/document/d/1LV73f57IkMBVLyocfiFvS7GsvYM03YPBSz0XUhXQL7s/edit?usp=sharing>

We appreciate all those who have so willingly volunteered to help on Sunday mornings. Thank you St Luke Family!



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.



A Special Blessing for those with February Birthdays

February 1 Lauren Figland
 February 2 Pat Patty
 February 3 Nancy Ryan
 February 4 Hiap Thongvanh,
 Ann Leonard,
 Conner Marston
 February 6 Lisa Pageler
 February 14 Tom Lloyd
 February 20 Russ Leix
 February 22 Karen Dorrell,
 Emma Carter
 February 24 Tori Boleyn
 February 26 Jan Lewis



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

Newsletter

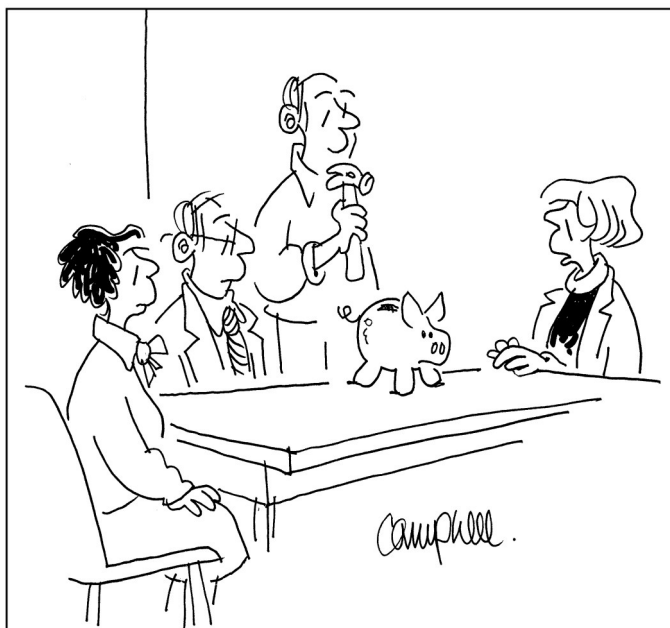


If you know someone that would like to receive the monthly Newsletter via email, please send their name and email address to the church office to be placed on the email list, at: Worship@StLukeNewton.com.

February Salvation Army Food Pantry Request



Muffin, Bread,
 Pancake Mixes
 and Syrup



"Now, for the treasurer's report."

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 for announcements. If the weather and road conditions are questionable, use your best judgement and be safe. Our services are also live streamed on our St Luke United Methodist Church YouTube channel if you are unable to make to church and would like to watch the service online.



CONNECTED BY LOVE

God's Word is filled with messages about love, which connects us to God and to one another.

Directions: Draw a line from the beginning of each Bible verse (on the left side) through the heart to the rest of the verse (on the right side). Use the Scripture references for help.

- | | |
|-----------------|-----------------------------|
| a. We | 1. each other as I have |
| b. Above all, | loved you. John 15:12 |
| c. My command | 2. has no one than this: to |
| is this: | lay down one's life for |
| d. And over all | one's friends. John 15:13 |
| these virtues | 3. But perfect love drives |
| put on | out fear. 1 John 4:18 |
| e. Greater | 4. each other deeply, |
| f. See what | because love covers |
| great | over a multitude of sins. |
| g. There is | 1 Peter 4:8 |
| no fear in | 5. the Father has lavished |
| | on us, that we should |
| | be called children of |
| | God! 1 John 3:1 |
| | 6. because he first loved |
| | us. 1 John 4:19 |
| | 7. which binds them all |
| | together in perfect |
| | unity. Colossians 3:14 |



Answers: a,6 b,4, c,1, d,7, e,2, f,5, g,3