

St Luke UMC

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

June 15, 2021



THE BI-WEEKLY flame CATCH THE FIRE!

Iowa Annual Conference 2021



CONNECTED IN CHRIST
Watching Over One Another in Love

Iowa Annual Conference 2021

Annual Conference was June 4th – 6th. It was done virtually again this year. Clergy and Laity sessions were on Friday night. Business and legislation began in earnest on Saturday following Bishop Laurie Haller's Episcopal Address. Part of her address called on us to imagine our future as she said:

“My dear friends, thank you for being the church of Jesus Christ, eager to share the hope that is in you. These next months are going to be challenging for The United Methodist Church. As we imagine the future, we remember the three-pronged emphasis of our guiding vision in the Iowa Annual Conference. In the church of 2032, relationships will be more important than theological convictions. Second, innovation, creativity, and imagination will be more important than stagnation, rigidity, sacred cows, and the status quo. And third, in the church of 2032 our primary focus will be on the great Commission and the Great Commandment: to go out into the world and make disciples of Jesus Christ and to love God and our neighbor in all that we do. This three-pronged vision lies at the heart of the gospel and is the foundation of our spiritual lives.

We are embodying that vision as a conference right now through the Bishop's Operational Team in two major ways. First, we have started the roll-out of circuit ministry in all of our districts. The desire for the creation of circuits is to increase clergy and lay leadership development and best practices, and help churches create ministry opportunities and partnerships tailored to their unique missional needs.

Second, we are reimagining the Conference Connectional Ministries Council by creating two primary ministry areas or pillars: Formation and Outreach; and Advocacy and Justice, with a staff member designated to focus on each. Our goal is to advance the mission and vision of the

Iowa Annual Conference by developing best practices around these two pillars. The Bishop's Operational Team will provide guidance and accountability.

Finally, as we wait for yet another General Conference postponed until 2022, we know it is unlikely that the center of our denomination will hold together. New expressions of Methodism may emerge, including the Global Methodist Church, the Liberation Methodist Connexion, along with the current The United Methodist Church and perhaps others. At the same time, we continue to be connected in Christ by having incredible opportunities to witness to Christ's love, make a difference, and share ministries together. I honor and respect each one of you, laity and clergy, for your commitment to Christ and the church.”

We are all so blessed to have a Bishop like Laurie in the Iowa Conference.

All legislation seemed to go through very smoothly with only minor changes in some wording as all votes were by an overwhelming majority.

The retirement service on Saturday would be a who's who of former St Luke pastors and St Luke laity who became pastors. There were five retirements including Beverlee Bell, Audrey Westendorf, Paul and Gayle Wilcox, and Julia Poulsen, who also gave the sermon for the retirement service. I know you will all join me in wishing them all the best in their retirements.

We concluded with final business and legislation on Sunday. I would encourage anyone wanting more information on Annual Conference to go to www.iaumc.org.

I also want to thank St Luke for allowing me to be your representative at Annual Conference again this year.

Dennis Smith

St Luke UMC Vacation Bible School



July 19 - 23, 2021
9:00 am - 11:30 am



Vacation Bible School 2021

Knights of North Castle - is quickly approaching! From July 19-23, we will be learning how to grow strong in the Lord by putting on the Armor of God. We hope you can join us for a great week!

Registration sheets are available in this newsletter, by the church office and you can now also register online. Check our St Luke Newton Facebook page for details or you can use the following link to register. <https://forms.gle/JDLLvWkpfK5jM8qNA>

Volunteers are still needed for VBS this year. Other areas of support include providing monetary donations to cover the curriculum, decorations and snacks. If you are interested in volunteering, please contact Ann Leonard at 641-521-2463 or americleonard@gmail.com.



Hanging out with Dad

I've always been a "daddy's girl." Growing up, I usually spent Saturdays in the garage with my dad. We'd build something, fix a car part or get into some trouble together.



Though Joseph wasn't Jesus' biological father, he certainly served as a father figure for God's Son. Jesus followed in Joseph's footsteps as a carpenter, but we're told little about his childhood. When Joseph advised Jesus to "measure twice and cut once," did Jesus mention he'd get it right on the first measure? How many craftsman tips did Jesus learn from Joseph? And did Joseph learn a few from Jesus? Surely young Jesus looked up to Joseph. What did wonder look like in the eyes of the One who invented wonder?

How am I hanging out with God on a regular basis? Am I continuing to learn his "trade"? Do I intentionally mimic his words, his kindness, his ways of loving others well? Take a minute to ponder that. Imagine yourself out in the garage with God (or in the kitchen with God, or at the computer with God). What task do you imagine doing together? What does God say to you as you look into his eyes?

—Janna Firestone

St Luke News

We would like to give a big thank you for everything that was donated for the June Discover Hope meal. We greatly appreciate the generosity of our St Luke family. We would like to mention again that Discover Hope has an ongoing needs list. The current needs are paper plates, paper bowls, napkins and plastic forks. Items can be dropped off at Discover Hope or you can leave them labeled in the church kitchen and Peg Ehler will deliver them.



Joyce Stonehocker and Peg Ehler

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 July 6, 2021. We will be serving bean burritos, corn on the cob, relish tray and ice cream sundaes for our July meal. If you would like to sign-up to provide food or monetary donations there will be a sign-up sheet on the coffee counter. All donations need to be put in the church kitchen by July 4th. Please contact Joyce Stonehocker or Peg Ehler with any questions.



Thank you St. Luke

In 2021 you have donated redeemable cans and bottles worth \$231.10. This money is designated for apportionments. The container processing is easier and faster if the items are not in bags or boxes. Thanks for the donations and cooperation.



Roy and Pat Patty

Jasper County TAKE AWAY HUNGER



Packaging Event

Jasper County Take Away Hunger is excited to get back to holding a meal packaging event on Saturday, July 10th at Holy Trinity Lutheran Church. We need a team of 12 volunteers plus \$30 each. Please sign up on the coffee counter if you can volunteer for 1 hour between 9-12 am, July 10th or if you would like to make a monetary donation to help cover the cost for our volunteers. Children are also welcome but those under 12 needs to be accompanied by an adult. There will be measures taken to enhance the safety of volunteers at our events, including additional spacing of packaging lines, more sanitizing, and availability of face masks. If you have any questions please contact Peg Ehler at 641-417-9979.

WORSHIP ASSISTANTS	
June 20	9:30 AM
Ushers (2)	Mike & Barb Kaldenberg
Greeters (2)	Jan Lewis, Joyce Stonehocker
Reader	Dennis Smith
Acolyte	
Keyboard	Bev Thomas
Projection	Peg Ehler
Care Core	Barb Kaldenberg
Counters (2)	Rose Evans

June 27	9:30 AM
Ushers (2)	Corinne Kleppe
Greeters (2)	Jan Lewis, Joyce Stonehocker
Reader	Bruce Maach
Acolyte	
Keyboard	Jan Lewis
Projection (1)	Peg Ehler
Care Core	Karen Clark, Joyce Stonehocker
Counters (2)	Rose Evans

July 4	9:30 AM
Ushers (2)	
Greeters (2)	
Reader	Rose Evans
Acolyte	
Keyboard	Jan Lewis
Projection (1)	
Care Core	Barb Swihart, Amy Murphy
Counters (2)	

July 11	9:30 AM
Ushers (2)	
Greeters (2)	
Reader	Leslie Maach
Acolyte	
Keyboard	Bev Thomas
Projection (1)	
Care Core	Jenni Patty, Lisa Marston
Counters (2)	

Worship Assistants For June & July

We are looking for volunteers to be worship assistants for the months of June & July. If you would like to volunteer you can email the church office at: 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/1LV73f57IkMBVLyocfFvS7GsvYM03YPBSzoXUhXQL7s/edit?usp=sharing>

We have now added a reader and an acolyte to the sign up sheet. We appreciate everyone who has so willingly volunteered to help. Thank you!



Where to Find Us

Pastor: Rev. Chad Jennings
chad.jennings@stlukenewton.com
 Office: 641-792-5736 Cell: 319-929-1867
Adm. Assistant: Jennifer Etter
 Church Office Hours: Mon.-Thurs. 3:15-6:15 pm
worship@stlukenewton.com.
 Phone: 641-792-5736
Newsletter Editor: Corinne Kleppe
corinne.kleppe@grinnellmutual.com
 Phone: 641-831-2639
Article Submission by the 13th of month.
Website: www.stlukenewton.com
Website Manager: Stephen Pageler
Facebook: St Luke Newton
Prayer: prayer@stlukenewton.com

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.



Vacation Bible School Registration Form



3 Years through 6th Grade completed
Monday-Friday, July 19-July 23, 2021
9:00—11:30 am

St Luke United Methodist Church
501 E. 19th St. N., Newton, IA 50208
(641) 792-5736 - worship@stlukenewton.com

No registration fee,
but **donations** for
curriculum & supplies
are gratefully accepted.

Child's Name: _____

Age: _____ Birthday: ____/____/____ Sex: _____ Last Grade Completed: _____

Allergies/Other needed information: _____ (Or will attend Kindergarten in Fall 2021 _____)

Parent/Guardian Name: _____

Address: _____ City: _____ State: ____ Zip: _____

E-mail: _____

Primary phone: (____) _____ Secondary phone: (____) _____

Home church: _____ City: _____

Emergency Contact Name #1: _____ Relationship: _____

Phone: _____



Emergency Contact Name #2: _____ Relationship: _____

Phone: _____

Parents & others are invited to watch the opening skit at 9:00-9:10 am each morning in sanctuary.

Mission Offering
received daily for
Mission Projects.



 Start children off on the way they should go, and even when they are old, they will not turn from it. 
-Proverbs 22:6-