

St Luke UMC

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

July 15, 2020



THE BI-WEEKLY
Flame
CATCH THE FIRE!



**Outdoor Worship Service
Sunday, July 26 at 9:30 am**

Be sure and join us for our next outdoor service on Sunday, July 26 at 9:30 am. This season has given us a wonderful opportunity to be able to sit outside and truly enjoy God's creation while we worship together.

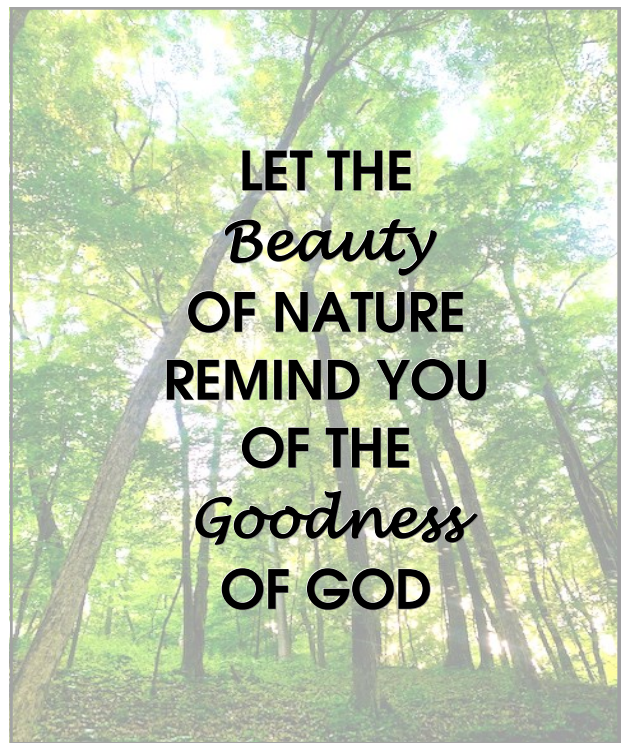
Your safety continues to be our number one priority. We will ask that you bring your own lawn chair and spread out to keep six feet of distance between your family and others. We also ask that everyone please wear a mask until everyone is seated. Those who are considered high risk may want to continue wearing a mask during the service as well. Please be safe during this time and continue to properly social distance yourself from others.

Please note in case of rain we will plan on moving this service to the following weekend as we are not opening up the building at this time. For those who are unable to attend we will be posting the service online. We hope to see you there!



"You Asked For It" Sermon Series

We will be continuing with our You Asked For It series in July and August. In this series, Pastor Chad will be tackling all your questions: fun ones, serious ones, and the ones you've always wanted to ask. Please continue to submit your ideas and questions by email to: worship@stlukenewton.com.



Upcoming Outdoor Worship Schedule

Sunday, August 9 - 9:30 am
Sunday, August 23 - 9:30 am
Sunday, September 6 - 9:30 am
Sunday, September 20 - 9:30 am



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 4-6 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](https://www.facebook.com/StLukeNewton)
Prayer: prayer@stlukenewton.com



The Summer We Never Wanted



Life in 2020 is nothing like we ever imagined. That is an understatement. Graduations, weddings, funerals, reunions, vacations, and sports are all cancelled or modified.

Many of us have been touched by this virus in some way or another. Some of you have been worried about whether you have come in contact with someone that has contracted Covid-19 and been tested yourself. While many have tested negative, some have tested positive.

The conversation lately has been around the opening of schools next month. Whether we *want* schools to reopen is not in question. Whether schools *should* reopen is another question. I, for one, am glad that I don't have to make the decision to reopen schools. Or how to do it safely. Or who should be there. There are so many factors to this.

Then again, the same considerations go into when and how to reopen St. Luke for in-person worship.

So far this summer, we have been worshipping together in the yard. This has been a great success. I think this is partly because of the novelty and partly because we just craved community so much after so long. But mostly, I think its success can be attributed to the power of the Holy Spirit, which will not be stopped by anything.

That being said, the novelty of this will wear off. Either we will tire of outdoor worship, or the weather will turn cold and it will be impractical.

To get ahead of this, the Administrative Council met on Tuesday, July 14, to discuss reopening for indoor worship. In our conversation, we addressed several issues: the continued rise in the number of cases in Iowa and especially in Polk County, the ability of the virus to stay in the air for extended periods, the difficulty of keeping distance between people inside, the advise against singing

and responsive reading, and the risk that many of our community are in because of other health factors.



In light of these things, here is what the Council decided:

1. We will continue to worship outdoors. We will maintain the schedule of every other week at 9:30am. If it rains, we will postpone worship until the following weekend and post a conversation in its place. The schedule, as long as the weather permits

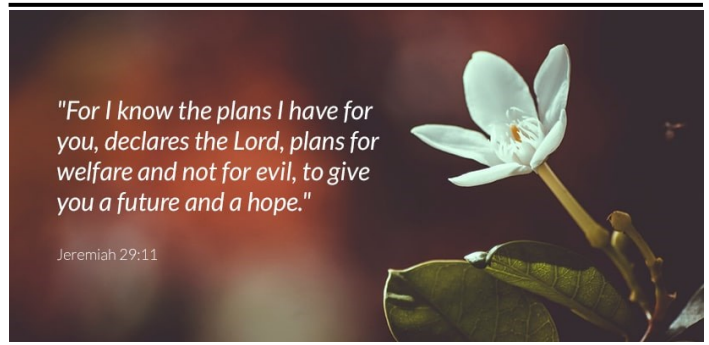
is July 26, August 9, August 23, September 6, September 20.

2. We will broadcast these services on YouTube live, and perhaps Facebook live, each week. In the event that the broadcast doesn't work, we will record a back-up and post the service later in the day.
3. We will research online giving and electronic giving options for the convenience of our people.
4. We will prepare our infrastructure for in-person worship so that we can live stream the service in the fellowship hall as part of our reopening plan.
5. We will meet again in early September to reassess and plan for indoor worship.

We will keep you informed about what is happening at St. Luke through our bi-weekly newsletters. Thank you for your continued financial support. We appreciate you.



Pastor Chad



A Flower, a Bush, and an Idea

You may have noticed some changes around the outside of the church building. Jeff and others have been hard at work pruning, clearing, and preparing the grounds for you. Yes, you!

The trustees are asking for your help. Do you have an idea for the flower beds next to the entrance? Do you want to see some color beneath the Cross and Flame? Do you dream of a different sign? Now is the time to step up.

Jeff is making this offer: If you have some time and energy to give to these projects, Jeff will join you. You set the day and time, Jeff will come and invite others. Together, we will transform the landscape.

Jeff's number is available in the directory or by calling the office. Thank you for your work.



INGATHERING 2020

At this point in time, the 2020 Ingathering is scheduled for the first Saturday in November. The Ingathering kits have always been something that St Luke excels at pulling together. With that in mind, we will start to collect items in July for the 2020 school kits. Because we are not currently entering our building, any items you purchase in July will need to be held at your home until we can once again worship within our church walls.

For July we will be collecting writing utensils for the school kits. The items per kit are:

- 6 pencils – Unsharpened
- 1 box of 24 crayons
- 1 box of 12 colored pencils
- 1 eraser (2 inches or larger)
- 1 pencil sharpener

The remainder of the school kits will be featured in the August edition of the newsletter. Thank you in advance.

NOW Missions



2021 Summer Camp Registration is now open!

To pick your camp, download the 2021 Summer Camp Brochure and register today for an adventure of a lifetime! For more information and to register online visit: www.iaumc.org/camps or call 800-765-1651.



We Can't Wait to See You!

2021 IOWA UNITED METHODIST CAMPS

LAKE OKOBOJI • WESLEY WOODS

God's Constant Creativity

In Isaiah 43:19, God proclaims, "See, I am doing a new thing! Now it springs up; do you not perceive it?" (NIV). God's process of creating is active and ongoing, meaning there's always something new for us to notice, grasp and learn.



"God's will is not an abstraction," writes Thomas Merton in *No Man Is an Island*. "It is a living concrete reality in the lives of [people], and our souls are created to burn as flames within his flame. The will of the Lord is not a static center drawing our souls blindly toward itself. It is a creative power, working everywhere, giving life and being and direction to all things, and above all forming and creating, in the midst of an old creation, a whole new world which is called the Kingdom of God."



SUNSETS ARE PROOF THAT
NO MATTER WHAT HAPPENS
*every day can end
beautifully.*

-KRISTEN BUTLER

St Luke News

Dear Friends in Mission,

Thank you!

The dear people you just helped with your gift to UMCOR may never have the opportunity to meet you, but if they did, I am certain their response would be - *Thank you!*

Since 1940, UMCOR has served as the humanitarian agency of The United Methodist Church, providing disaster response and relief to areas impacted by natural and man-made disasters around the world. And through your financial support, *you* are serving within a vital network of interactive relationships as UMCOR responds to increasingly-frequent and destructive storms-sharing 100% of donated funds with those in need!

Together, may we continue to reveal the love of God for men, women, and children of all ethnic, racial, cultural, and national backgrounds and to demonstrate genuine love for our neighbors.

Grace and Peace,

Thomas G. Kemper, General Secretary
Roland Fernandes, COO and General Treasurer

Supporting

Lawrence Kies

UMCOR US Disaster Response and Recovery

Books of the Old Testament

R	A	N	M	X	N	B	L	S	E	L	C	I	N	O	R	H	C	U	J	D	C	R	J	C	V
S	I	H	N	Y	B	O	R	S	C	H	J	S	A	M	U	E	L	W	K	D	S	O	R	A	A
U	H	E	B	M	B	R	O	C	Y	R	S	J	E	A	W	H	A	I	N	A	H	P	E	Z	A
N	K	X	P	O	A	T	Q	L	F	O	Q	X	R	N	U	M	B	E	R	S	T	O	D	Q	T
P	U	O	W	N	Z	R	G	V	Y	S	F	Z	X	E	J	M	E	S	S	S	B	M	N	D	X
F	K	D	F	O	I	A	H	N	S	O	E	E	U	Y	Y	O	I	K	P	A	L	V	J	H	L
N	C	U	A	R	S	G	N	I	K	N	S	E	O	D	R	I	N	T	V	K	Y	U	Z	I	L
Z	U	S	E	E	D	I	J	I	O	G	N	E	F	Y	N	B	S	A	P	F	D	G	S	M	C
J	H	V	M	T	I	K	G	P	L	O	B	L	J	S	T	L	O	M	H	G	Z	R	Q	A	N
K	O	R	Y	U	N	C	W	A	N	F	Y	R	F	I	D	E	R	H	E	U	J	I	D	L	E
I	W	S	L	E	S	K	R	L	A	S	D	H	Y	S	O	V	M	S	C	N	N	N	J	A	H
S	J	G	H	D	G	T	G	V	H	O	U	A	E	E	C	I	X	M	X	A	H	I	P	C	E
W	R	Z	W	U	Q	J	I	T	U	L	H	B	H	N	L	T	H	V	N	A	A	X	L	H	M
Z	U	Q	N	H	A	C	I	M	M	O	S	Z	O	E	T	I	I	G	X	W	I	B	Y	I	I
O	S	R	I	R	Q	B	P	L	L	M	I	C	S	G	J	C	U	Y	L	P	D	M	N	J	A
V	Z	O	M	C	U	Q	E	U	E	O	F	C	E	R	P	U	X	A	R	S	A	K	C	R	H
P	Z	Y	M	J	D	N	S	N	O	N	Q	F	A	G	X	S	M	E	T	J	B	U	O	P	K
G	X	B	K	A	S	L	Y	N	J	W	Y	Z	W	T	C	E	H	O	E	J	O	K	V	P	H
X	A	E	K	M	U	R	S	V	A	E	A	S	E	E	N	T	H	L	M	E	I	K	C	X	A
Z	G	O	L	N	F	K	A	E	B	V	T	P	Z	T	S	F	E	B	S	R	A	A	E	I	I
Y	T	A	V	S	B	R	E	V	O	R	P	E	A	E	N	D	O	D	Y	E	G	B	T	K	R
I	S	T	K	R	X	F	L	B	F	E	K	T	W	R	K	J	C	M	Q	M	G	A	R	A	A
P	L	N	T	F	R	U	T	H	H	I	I	J	K	Y	J	U	T	O	M	I	A	H	T	O	H
Q	R	W	I	S	A	I	A	H	E	O	F	P	C	N	J	B	X	E	U	A	H	U	S	C	C
X	D	A	N	I	E	L	V	L	N	C	C	S	A	J	X	B	N	S	O	H	Y	C	B	X	E
G	C	P	E	U	S	E	T	S	A	I	S	E	L	C	C	E	L	P	T	T	Q	I	D	R	Z

Genesis

Exodus

Leviticus

Numbers

Deuteronomy

Joshua

Judges

Ruth

Samuel

Kings

Chronicles

Ezra

Nehemiah

Esther

Job

Psalms

Proverbs

Ecclesiastes

Song Of Solomon

Isaiah

Jeremiah

Lamentations

Ezekiel

Daniel

Hosea

Joel

Amos

Obadiah

Jonah

Micah

Nahum

Habakkuk

Zephaniah

Haggai

Zechariah

Malachi