 **St Luke United Methodist Church**  
 Rev Chad Jennings  
 501 E 19th Street N  
 Newton, IA 50208



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**St Luke UMC**  
 501 E 19th Street N  
 Newton, IA 50208  
 641-792-5736

July 2017



«Mailing Name»  
 «Address»  
 «City», «State» «F9»



**Financial Update**

The Financial Committee at St Luke wants to thank all of you for your generous financial contributions throughout 2017. Because of your

giving, St Luke has, so far, been able to keep up with ongoing expenses.

However, our funding is becoming limited, and our budget has become tight. Soon, we will not be receiving revenue from the parsonage rental which was \$11,400 per year, so this has become a concern as well.

We mention these concerns not out of desperation, but because we think all members of St Luke want our church to remain a vibrant, outreaching church that is Christ centered.

With that in mind, we would ask that all of us prayerfully consider our financial support of St Luke United Methodist Church.

Respectfully, The Finance Committee

These offerings have been received:  
**June 4:** \$4855 including \$145-Building Fund; \$17-Sunday School Supplies; \$250-MMDC.

**June 11:** \$1566 including \$35-Building Fund; \$40-Apportionments; \$11-Kies Missionaries; \$39-Peace With Justice.

**June 18:** \$6930-including \$265-Building Fund; \$14-Kies Missionaries; \$5282-Apportionments; \$10-Peace With Justice.

**June 25:** \$7116 including \$11-Kies; \$170-Building Fund; \$145-Church usage.

The balance on the building loan is \$9,541 thanks to **Thank You!** your generosity.



**Join Us for Hero Central VBS**

**July 10 - 14  
 9 -11:30 am**

**3-yrs-old through 6th grade**

**Registration Form on page 5.**

Hero Central VBS will take kids on awesome adventures alongside some of their favorite Bible heroes and discover the qualities that make us truly heroic in God. Hero Central VBS will have great music, spectacular science, crafty crafts, heroic recreation, and fantastic Bible stories to help kids discover their strength in God!

Each day will focus on a hero code and the main verse for the week is: "Do good! Seek peace and go after it." Psalm 34:14b

The Hero Codes are: God's Heroes Have Heart! God's Heroes Have Courage! God's Heroes Have Wisdom! God's Heroes Have Hope! God's Heroes Have Power!

Flame the Red Panda will be here to help to bring the Bible Stories to the kids each day.



**VBS 2017 Mission Project**

Rick's House of Hope is the regional center for grieving and traumatized youth, offering a wide spectrum of services. The center provides a cozy setting where youth of all ages find hope to face the future unafraid.

The mission of Rick's House of Hope-Center for Grieving and Traumatized Children is to make sure the needs of grieving and traumatized youth are not overlooked.

RHOH comes alongside kids and families to help them along the grief journey.



**Sunday, July 2:**  
 8/10:30 am Worship  
 - Dennis Smith Lay Speaker  
 - Communion with Pastor Chad Jennings  
 11:30 am Taco Bar Luncheon to welcome the Jennings Family to St Luke. Bring times for the Taco Bar.



**Sunday, July 9:**  
**2nd Sunday Apportionment Offering**  
 8/10:30 am Worship  
 9/11:30 am Fellowship



**VBS 2017**  
**Mon-Fri, July 10 - 14**  
**9 am-11:30 am**  
 3 yr olds – just completed 6th grade  
 Registration on Page 5.



Please fill out a "Help Pastor Chad Get To Know Me" form if you haven't done so already.

**Sunday, July 30: Rural Life Sunday**

Rural Life Sunday celebrates and supports rural life, the heritage of the United Methodist Church and its ministries. 100% of this special offering is retained by the Iowa Conference to fund grants to local Iowa UM Churches, rural networks and community organizations.



**St Luke Produce Table**

Bring produce, and/or take produce in exchange for a free-will donation in the Red Bucket for St Andrew Produce Project.



**Free Lunch for Kids** 1-18yrs available at:  
 Berg Elementary Cafeteria,  
 Thomas Jefferson Cafeteria,  
 Emerson Hough and the High School Cafeteria  
 11am-12:20 pm (M-F) Now -July 28



Have you ever tried to go to dinner with a group of friends? Trying to figure out where to go is usually a dance that doesn't always look graceful. *What are you hungry for? Mexican? Well, no. Italian? Had that yesterday. A burger? Maybe.* Even after years of getting to know your friends, learning their likes and dislikes, and finding a comfortable understanding of what works for your group, it can still be hard.



Now, imagine bringing in a new friend to the group. Even with just one person who hasn't learned this dance, the whole process starts again. Often, this new person feels like they don't fit in the group. This is true. Always.



This should be a temporary state. If they stick it out and learn the dance, then they can feel like they belong. Your part in this is to be gracious, to keep inviting, to let your toes be stepped on a few times (or a hundred), and to keep insisting that they dance with you.

This is essential for us to remember whenever new people come to the church. It is hard for people to break in to the tight knit community of a church. This is true regardless of how open, welcoming, and friendly a church is. No matter how much you try to include someone, they will feel like they don't fit until they learn the dance-until they learn the vernacular, until they learn the customs that you all take for granted.

Please remember this for the next few months. I, and my family, are excited to be here. We have been preparing to come for months. We are looking forward to becoming Newtonians (Newtonites?). See, we don't even know what you all call yourselves.

We are excited to be here. But we will make mistakes. We will step on toes. We won't do it intentionally, but we don't yet know your dance. We want to learn your dance. We hope you want to teach us.

As we learn, here's a few things you can do to help us. Invite us. Invite us to dinner, at your house or your favorite place. Invite us to social events. Invite us. Keep inviting us, even if we say no the first time. Wendy and I have a real desire to share in your lives, even as our family will be scheduled by our kids' activities. We will say yes whenever we can.



Please share things about the life and customs of St. Luke. Please don't assume we know something, even if it is obvious to you. Help us to learn the dance.

And please be willing to dance with us. As outsiders, we will have a different perspective of the things you take for granted. I will likely ask why you do things the

way you do. Sometimes it will be because I think it is strange, but more often, I will ask simply to understand. Sometimes it will be to help you understand why you do the things you have always done.

These next few months can be a refresher course for all of us. It can remind us how to welcome new people to St. Luke. I certainly hope that the Jennings family won't be the only new people God brings to St. Luke. So these months can remind us how to be people of grace-filled hospitality. It can help us to be open to new ideas, new ways of serving God, and new ways to be community together.



A dance takes a partner or a troupe. It takes coordinated movement. It takes timing. And it takes grace. Can we covenant together to offer grace first, teaching second, and growth together as we learn each other's favorite dance?

Pastor Chad Jennings



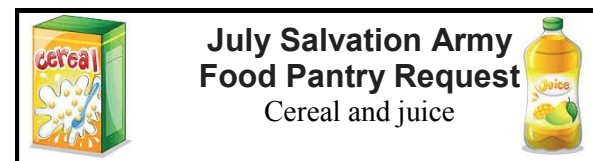
**Save the Date**  
**Trip to MMDC**  
**February 4-7, 2018**  
Contact Karen Clark if you are interested in going.

### St Luke News

The Trustees would like to thank the following people for all their hard work in helping to prepare the parsonage for the Jennings: Katie Jones, Mike & Barb Kaldenberg, Dan Marston, Roy & Pat Patty, Brad & Jenni Patty, Joyce Stonehocker, Jan Lewis, Bruce Maach, Karen Clark; Jeff, Amy & Jacob Murphy.

My heartfelt thanks to St Luke for the prayers, visits, cards, flowers and food while I was in the hospital, rehab and since I've returned home. You are truly a blessing! I miss seeing you all every Sunday!

Barb Ponder



WORSHIP ASSISTANTS		
July 2	8 AM	10:30 AM
Ushers	Larry/Darlyne Howard	Karen Clark
Greeters	Dick/Pam Stiles	Sue Crook
Reader	Rose Hartschen	Leslie Maach
Acolytes	Ron Lisk	Evan Grimm
Nursery	Parents take turns	Volunteer Needed
Keyboard	Bev Thomas	Jan Lewis
Special	Praise Team	Praise Team
Projection	Jacob Murphy	Carolyn Cook
Fellowship	Pam Andrews	Potluck Luncheon
Care Core	Tamara Lloyd	Kari Ann Munson
Communion	Barb Pherigo	Counters: Russ Leix/Jan Lewis
July 9	8 AM	10:30 AM
Ushers	Bill/Linda Hotger	Carolyn Cook/ Marianne Spaur
Greeters	Margaret Gullett	Rose Evans
Readers	Dale Dorrell	Amy Murphy
Acolytes	Ron Lisk	Emma Grimm
Nursery	Parents take turns	Pat Patty
Keyboard	Bev Thomas	Jan Lewis
Special		
Projection	Peg Ehler	Karen Clark
Fellowship	Dick/Pam Stiles	Carolyn Cook
Care Core	Jan Lewis	Lisa Marston
Counters		Rose Evans/Deb Stoullil
July 16	8 AM	10:30 AM
Ushers	Dick/Pam Stiles	Jeff/Amy Murphy
Greeters	Joyce Stonehocker	Karen Clark
Readers	Bruce Maach	Corinne Kleppe
Acolytes	Ron Lisk	Jacob Murphy
Nursery	Parents take turns	Volunteer Needed
Keyboard	Bev Thomas	Jan Lewis
Special		
Projection	Brad Patty	Pam Smith
Fellowship	Mike/Barb Kaldenberg	Lori Leix
Care Core	Joyce Stonehocker	Karen Clark
Counters		Russ Leix/Brad Patty
July 23	8 AM	10:30 AM
Ushers	Jean Schnell/ Tamara Lloyd	Corinne Kleppe/ Karen Clark
Greeters	Ann/Ben/Caleb Leonard	Marianne Spaur
Readers	Barb Kaldenberg	Rose Evans
Acolytes	Ron Lisk	Kleo O'Brien
Nursery	Parents take turns	Kali Draper
Keyboard	Bev Thomas	Jan Lewis
Special		
Projection	Peg Ehler	Carolyn Cook
Fellowship	Rose Hartschen	Kari Ann Munson
Care Core	Barb Kaldenberg	Marianne Spaur
Counters		Pat Patty/Barb Kaldenberg

### Where to Find Us

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**Article Submission** by the 13th of month.  
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**Website Manager:** Stephen Pageler  
**Facebook:** [St Luke United Methodist Church Newton](https://www.facebook.com/StLukeUnitedMethodistChurchNewton)

### St Luke News

Many thanks to all those who donated their time and items for the Ice Cream Social. And a BIG THANK YOU to Joyce Stonehocker and Peg Ehler for organizing and all the behind the scenes work to make it a big success. We raised \$1800 for missions!

Allen Barr's new address: 172 6th St E Apt 501; St Paul, MN 55101-1944

July 30	8 AM	10:30 AM
Ushers	Margaret Gullett/ Bruce Maach	Swarts Family
Greeters	Rose Hartschen	Roy/Pat Patty
Readers	Peg Ehler	Marianne Spaur
Acolytes	Ron Lisk	Evan Grimm
Nursery	Parents take turns	Kali Draper
Keyboard	Bev Thomas	Jan Lewis
Special	Bell Choir	
Projection	Brad Patty	Karen Clark
Fellowship	Jean Schnell	Pat Patty
Care Core	Jan Lewis	Jenni Patty
Counters		Rose Evans/ Brad Patty

### Please--Update All Addresses

including college students. We are constantly updating addresses of our members & friends. Help us by supplying us with those you know. We don't want to lose track of our church family. 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. It's a way for us to get to know one another.



Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday	
<b>2</b> <b>8/10:30 Worship</b> <b>Lay Speaker Dennis Smith</b> <b>Communion with Pastor Chad</b>  9 Fellowship 9:15 Sunday School Classes for all. 11:30 Taco Bar Luncheon	<b>3</b> *Darin Swarts *Jeremy Caddell	<b>4</b>  <b>Independence Day</b> *Mike Spaur *Jennifer Cook	<b>5</b>	<b>6</b> *Mike O'Brien  <b>6 pm SPRC meeting</b>	<b>7</b> *Sharon Burton *Jerry Rhone	<b>1</b> *John Nuzzum  <b>8</b>	
<b>9</b> <b>8/10:30 Worship</b> <b>2nd Sunday Apportionment Offering</b>  9/11:30 Fellowship 9:15 Sunday School Classes for all.	<b>10</b>  <b>6:30 pm Finance meeting</b>	<b>11</b> <b>7pm Council Meeting</b>	<b>Vacation Bible School 9-11:30 am</b>			<b>13</b> <b>Newsletter Articles Due</b>	<b>14</b> *Deb Fifer  <b>15</b> *Ron Cook
<b>16</b> <b>8/10:30 Worship</b> 9/11:30 Fellowship 9:15 Sunday School Classes for all. 6 pm ICIW *Dave Miller	<b>17</b> SHARE Orders due. Go online, or call First UMC or First Christian.  <b>6:30 pm NOW Meeting</b> *Ralph Simpson	<b>18</b> <b>6:30 pm Care Core meeting</b>	<b>19</b> *Corinne Kleppe  <b>6:30 pm Care Core meeting</b>	<b>20</b> <b>St Luke Visits Women At The Well</b> 7 pm Quilt Guild - F Hall	<b>21</b> *Bill Ponder	<b>22</b> *Madison Bleeker	
<b>23</b> <b>8/10:30 Worship</b> 9/11:30 Fellowship 9:15 Sunday School Classes for all. *Clayton Swihart	<b>24</b> *Dan Anthony	<b>25</b>	<b>26</b> <b>8:30 am Collate Newsletter</b> *Hollie Simpson *Kristin Breckenridge	 <b>9am-2pm Day for Girls</b> @ 1st Presbyterian Church *Emmett Andrews	<b>27</b>	<b>28</b> <b>29</b> 7:30-8:30am SHARE Pickup @ 1st UMC *Blake Anderson	
<b>30</b> <b>8/10:30 Worship</b> <b>Rural Life Offering</b>  9/11:30 Fellowship 9:15 Sunday School Classes for all.	<b>31</b>  <b>5th Monday Supper @ Trinity UMC for CFUM</b>		 *Denotes Birthdays! If your birthday is missing or incorrect, contact the office.				

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

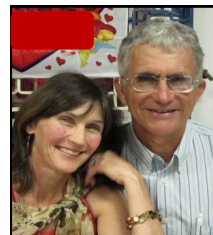


### United Methodist Women No Meeting

*"All of you who were baptized into Christ have clothed yourselves with Christ. There is neither Jew nor Greek; there is neither slave nor free; nor is there male and female, for you are all one in Christ Jesus."* Gal 3:27-28 CEB

July 16 District Officer Training at Marshalltown  
 July 16-18 Mission U at Iowa Valley Conference Center, Marshalltown

### Sunday School Mission Offering



Larry and Jane Kies have spent much of their adult lives in mission service. They currently live and teach in Zimbabwe, Africa, at the Africa University. Larry works as the Technical advisor to the Africa University Farm at Mutare. Jane teaches English at the Africa University in Mutare.

Once again this year we have covenanted with the Kies with our goal being \$1 per member for each of them. The May to August Sunday School offering will continue to go to the Kies until we have met our yearly commitment. If we reach that goal before the end of August, the NOW committee will select a new recipient. The first Sunday of each month will continue to go toward Sunday school administrative costs including our Sunday school materials and resources.

Corinne Kleppe— NOW missions



### SHARE Food Program

Buying discounted groceries through SHARE has returned to Newton, Iowa. You can check out and order online for the program at [www.SHAREIOWA.com](http://www.SHAREIOWA.com), or call either First UMC or First Christian Church. "SHARE boxes" can be ordered by Monday, July 17 and picked up at First UMC on Saturday, July 29, between 7:30-8:30 am, when you can order and pay for the next month.

### News from our Librarian ~ Karen Clark

Another recent best seller, new to our little library in the corner is *Option B* by Sheryl Sandberg and Adam Grant. After her husband's sudden death Sandberg wondered if she or her children would ever feel joy again.



Her friend Adam Grant a psychologist taught her some skills people can take to recover from life's tragedies. We are not born with a fixed amount of resilience, but it is something everyone can develop. This book combines Sheryl's personal insights with Adam's research on finding strength in the face of adversity. *Option B* goes beyond Sheryl's loss to explore how a broad range of people have overcome all sorts of hardships and losses. The stories in this book reveal the capacity of the human spirit to persevere and rediscover joy. Resilience comes from deep within us and from support outside us. Even after the most devastating events, it is possible to grow by finding deeper meaning and gaining greater gratitude in our lives. Many of these lessons can be applied to everyday struggles, and coupled with our faith can help us to face whatever lies ahead. Look for this book on the Newsletter shelf and check it out!

### Iowa Justice for Our Neighbors update

The Iowa Justice for our Neighbors is a United Methodist Immigration Ministry. Recently IA-JFON opened their seventh legal clinic in the state of Iowa. This newest clinic is located in Marshalltown and is a cooperative venture between First United Methodist Church and Hope United Methodist Church in Marshalltown. The Marshalltown location held it's first legal clinic on April 11 and met with seven clients the first day. If you would like to know more about Iowa Justice for our Neighbors check out their website at [www.iaumc.org/jfon](http://www.iaumc.org/jfon).



### St Luke UMC to Host Jasper County Take Away Hunger Packaging Event

Saturday, July 8  
 9 am - Until Done



"Feed the hungry and show the love of Jesus"  
 Talk with Tamara Lloyd to get a team of 10-12 St Luke people at \$30 each to fill bags for an hour.

### One-Room Sunday School

The One-Room Sunday School for children 3-years of age through 4th grade has begun. To give our school year teachers a break, volunteers are asked to sign-up to teach for a Sunday or two during the summer.

There is a sign-up sheet on the Servants Counter for volunteers to choose the Sunday they would like to teach. If you have questions about the program, please talk to Tamara Lloyd.





### My Story

When I was a kid, the 4<sup>th</sup> of July meant a lot of things. There was an annual celebration held in Spillville. This summer celebration was a time to see our school friends who lived in other towns in the school district. The event was full of games, food, dancing, horses, oh... and fireworks. For the fireworks show, cars would line the highway for more than a mile as we all gathered to enjoy the light show. The explosion of colors in the night sky created a sense of community and celebration for all who came to enjoy the colorful display.

The 4<sup>th</sup> of July celebrates our country's Independence. It honors our history as a country; all of our diversity, all of our mistakes, and all of our moments of unity. The Israelites experienced their own versions of this type of celebration.



*Now leave Babylon! Celebrate as you go. Be happy and shout for everyone to hear, "The LORD has rescued his servant Israel!"* (Isaiah 48:20 cev)

*The LORD your God wins victory after victory and is always with you. He celebrates and sings because of you, and he will refresh your life with his love.*" (Zephaniah 3:17 cev)

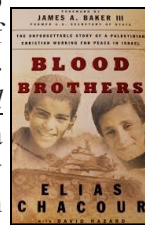
*God has also given each of us different gifts to use.* (Romans 12:6a cev)

This year, as we celebrate the 4<sup>th</sup> of July – let us remember to also celebrate the diverse ideas and cultures and people who created this country. Let us remember that even when we don't agree...we ARE one nation "Under GOD".

Corinne Kleppe - Editor

### Adult-2 Class

The Adult-2 Class invites you to join them as they study the issue of Israel through the eyes of a Palestinian Christian in the book, *Blood Brothers* by Elias Chacour. As a group, they decided that they really don't know a lot about the conflict in Palestine. Hopefully, this book will give some insight and deeper understanding of life in the most volatile region of the world.



There is always room for more to join the discussion in the 3rd room on the left in Ed Unit at 9:15 on Sunday mornings.

**St. Luke**  
  
**SEASONS OF THE SPIRIT**  
**BIBLE STUDY**  
 Sunday School Class meets 9:15 a.m. in the choir room

### Promises

*Being open to the mystery of God's leading and presence in our times of vulnerability.*  
 Genesis 28:10-19a

Isaac and Rebekah had two sons, Esau and Jacob (Israel). One day a famished firstborn Esau traded his *birthright* (the right to be recognized as firstborn) with Jacob for a bowl of stew. For this lentil stew Esau gave up one half his inheritance (1/3 of Isaac's estate). Much later Jacob tricked his father Isaac into granting Isaac's *blessing* onto Jacob, when (blind) Isaac had thought he was blessing Esau. (*Who was blessed* would become the next head of the extended family when Isaac died.) An angry Esau vowed to kill Jacob, so Rebekah encouraged him to flee a great distance to live with Laban, his uncle. Jacob was the son who was deceptive, devious, and clever.

The *transformation* of Jacob begins on the road, at Luz. That night Jacob experienced a **dream** wherein he was called to raise himself heavenward. Jacob visualized a ladder, or stairway, with angels ascending and descending it. At the top stood the Lord who revealed to Jacob that all the world would be blessed through Jacob's descendants.



When Jacob awoke from his dreaming sleep, he was afraid and declared "...*This is none other than the house of God; this is the gate of heaven.*" Jacob took the stone, on which he had previously placed his head as he slept, set it up as a pillar and poured oil on top of it. Jacob renamed that place **Bethel** which means *House of God*.

The Seasons of the Spirit Bible Study Class meets Sunday mornings at 9:15 to read about and discuss issues related to each week's prescribed lectionary readings. Come, join in the learning!

Below are the lectionary scriptures that the Sunday school class participants will be learning about each week in July. Even if you can't come to class, consider taking the time to read them at home!

#### ∞ Lectionary Readings for July 2017 ∞

•**July 2: Matthew 10:40-42** | Welcoming Ways  
*To embrace the risks and rewards of offering hospitality in God's name.*

•**July 9: Genesis 24:34-38, 42-49, 58-67** | Delight  
*To find strength and comfort in the knowledge that God accompanies us on life's journeys.*

•**July 16: Genesis 25:19-34** | Division  
*To seek God's counsel while navigating the tensions and struggles of communal life.*

•**July 23: Genesis 28:10-19a** | Promises  
*To be open to the mystery of God's leading and presence in our times of vulnerability.*

•**July 30: Genesis 29:15-28** | Honor  
*To discern the surprising and persistent ways in which God works among us.*

## Vacation Bible School Registration Form

3 Years through 6th Grade completed  
 Monday-Friday, July 10-July 14, 2017  
 9:00—11:30 am

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

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 2017 \_\_\_\_\_)

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 invited to watch the opening skit at 9:00-9:20 am each morning in sanctuary.

**Daily Mission Offering**  
**Rick's House of Hope**  
**In Davenport**

Free Lunch for Kids 1-18yrs available at Berg Elementary Cafeteria, Thomas Jefferson Cafeteria, Emerson Hough and the High School Cafeteria  
 11am-12:20 pm (M-F) June 5-July 28

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