

St Luke UMC

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Newton, IA 50208
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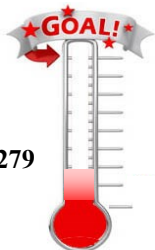
August 1, 2023



THE BI-WEEKLY Flame CATCH THE FIRE!

2023 Apportionments

\$15,279



\$3,279

Financial Update



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

Total of \$10,917 which included:

- \$ 670 - Building Fund
- \$ 136 - Apportionments
- \$ 9 - Florence Mefor
- \$ 44 - Heifer Project
- \$ 3 - St Andrews
- \$ 100 - UMCOR
- \$ 116 - Emmanuel Mefor



Where to Find Us

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Article Submission by the 13th of month.
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Website Manager: Stephen Pageler
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Facebook: St Luke Newton
Prayer: prayer@stlukenewton.com

Mission Kit Supplies Collection: 2023

We started collecting school kit supplies in July, let's collect the rest of the kit items during the month of August.

- One subject notebooks
- Rulers (with metric measurements)
- Student scissors

We will still collect the items listed in the July edition of *The Flame*. For full lists of all kits, please see the Mission Table at St Luke. All items for all kits are welcome.

Corinne Kleppe
NOW Missions



FOOD pantry

CHALLENGE

Mission Moment

I have a challenge for you! As August begins... let's help out the food pantry.

This month, take either \$10 or \$20 and purchase as many items as possible for the food pantry. Check out your coupons and sales and then go shopping. Let's fill the grocery cart at St Luke with food pantry love.

Corinne, NOW Missions



College Ministry Info

Attention college students and families:

I know you don't want to think about this yet, but the next school year is fast-approaching. Our College Ministry wants to make sure that we can stay connected. We will have a poster for the church members to see a little bit about the students and throughout the year we may even send some encouragement and goodies! If you have or are a college student, please let us know the campus contact information. Below is a link to a questionnaire for students to complete that would be most helpful for us. It will take only a few minutes. Have a great year!

<https://forms.gle/tksDAFP6fnWWCGUG7>

SCAN ME





My Story

Walking around my uncle's acreage, I found an old car with a plant growing out of the headlight. That doesn't seem like a very hospitable place for growth, but the plant was doing well. How many times have you seen something similar? A flower growing from a crack in the sidewalk or highway. A tree growing on the side of a rock hill or mountain. Trees growing from gutters on a house. A new seedling growing from a dead, fallen tree. These plants have found a way to grow against the odds. At times they appear to be thriving when other seeds would have given up.



We probably all know of someone who succeeds when others think they will fail. That person who walks, when doctors said it was impossible. The person who finishes college, when others felt they didn't have the brains or determination to stay in school. The couple who work through their issues to make their marriage stronger, rather than to give up. All of these people... blooming where they are planted... surviving when the going gets rough. For each of these people, it's important to believe in themselves, but more importantly to put their trust in the Lord. We don't have to do things alone and really, when we ask God for help, the struggles feel less heavy.

Trust in the LORD with all your heart. Do not depend on your own understanding. In all your ways obey him. Then he will make your paths smooth and straight. Proverbs 3:5-6

If you want to Bloom where you are Planted... turn your face and your heart toward God and never give up.

Corinne Kleppe



Act Exodus 1:8-2:10

Faithful resistance for the sake of doing justice

At least four hundred years passed since Joseph, son of Jacob, welcomed his brothers, their families, and his father into Egypt during the time of a seven year famine. Eventually a later pharaoh felt the growing Hebrew population was a political threat. (So) he assigned the Hebrews difficult laborious jobs. The extended family of Joseph were no longer welcome.

In this Exodus passage we learn of courageous women who defied their pharaoh. As midwives they defied orders to kill newborn male babies. Pharaoh's next plan to decrease the surplus Hebrew population was to order every Hebrew boy born be thrown into the Nile.

Miriam's mother, Jochebed, gave birth to a healthy son. He was kept hidden for as long as possible. Eventually the baby boy was placed in a basket which was set among reeds of the Nile. Miriam kept watch over the basket and eventually observed the pharaoh's daughter claim the basket holding the boy.



Miriam then stepped out and asked the pharaoh's daughter if she would like Miriam to find a Hebrew woman to nurse the child for her. And so the boy's (secretly real) mother did nurse him. Moses was the name he was given.

The Seasons of the Spirit Bible Study Class meets Sunday mornings, after the 9:30 church service. Please feel welcome to join in the learning and discussion!

FYI the publishing company which provides St. Luke with the *Seasons of the Spirit* materials is no longer "in business," so this will be the last St. Luke newsletter piece providing information under that heading. Beginning September 1 the Sunday school class, which will continue to study the lectionary reading/s, will have a different name.

•Lectionary Readings for August 2023•

- **August 6:** Genesis 32:22-31 | Strive
To confront the reality of the past as we journey into a God-shaped future
- **August 13:** Genesis 37:1-4, 12-28 | Dream
To explore how God is with us in our dreams for the future, whether they happen as we wish or not
- **August 20:** Genesis 45:1-15 | Reach
To seek God's wisdom as we participate in the life-giving process of reconciliation
- **August 27:** Exodus 1:8-2:10 | Act
To embrace the practice of faithful resistance for the sake of doing justice.



United
Women
in Faith

United Women in Faith
Potluck
August 9
Meet at St Luke at 5:45 pm
To Carpool to
Pat Patty's house.
Meal at 6:30 pm

"and we know that in all things God works for the good of those who love him, who have been called according to his purpose." (NIV)
Romans 8:28

Camper Reports

Program: Bold Women of Faith
By: Jenni Patty
Hostess: Pat Patty

Collection of Socks and Underwear For The Salvation Army

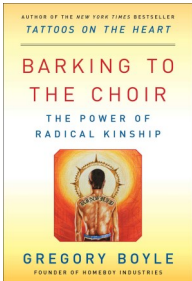
The United Methodist Women now United Women in Faith have been collecting socks and underwear for distribution through the Salvation Army for many years. We are collecting donations now through Sunday, August 6. A collection box is located in the narthex. Thank you in advance for your generosity.



Adult-2 Sunday School Class

The Adult 2 Sunday School class is reading and discussing the book *Barking to the Choir: The Power of Radical Kinship* by Gregory Boyle. If you are familiar with *Tattoos on the Heart* or *The Whole Language*, you will enjoy reading Gregory Boyle's 2nd book in this series. In a nation deeply divided and plagued by poverty and violence, *Barking to the Choir* offers a snapshot into the challenges and joys of life on the margins. Sergio, arrested at age nine, in a gang by age twelve, and serving time shortly thereafter, now works with the substance-abuse team at Homeboy to help others find sobriety. Jamal, abandoned by his family when he tried to attend school at age seven, gradually finds forgiveness for his schizophrenic mother. New father Cuco, who never knew his own dad, thinks of a daily adventure on which to take his four-year-old son. These former gang members uplift the soul and reveal how bright life can be when filled with unconditional love and kindness.

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.

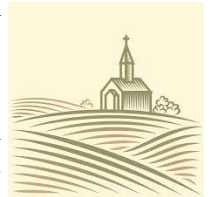


Days For Girls
The next Days For Girls sewing day will be Thursday, August 24 from 9 am - 2 pm at the 1st Presbyterian Church. Questions? Contact Rose Evans. If you would like more information about Days for Girls you can visit their website at www.daysforgirls.org.



Rural Life Sunday/Offering Sunday, August 13

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.



Thank You!



Thank you St Luke family for the generous love gift. It means so much to me. I am thankful beyond words to be loved on by such a kind and generous church family. Thank you all so much!!

Jennifer Etter

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 August 1. We will be having a potato bar with ham, cheese, olives, salsa, onions and sour cream with a melon bowl and sugar wafers for dessert for our August meal. 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, July 30. Any questions please contact Joyce Stonehocker or Jan Lewis.



August

**God in his own right hand
doth take each day
each sun-filled day
each rare and radiant night,
and drop it softly on the earth and say:
"Touch earth with heaven's own
beauty and delight."**

—Jean Blewett (1862-1934)

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
		1 Discover Hope Meal 5:30 pm	2	3 9 am - 3 pm Quilts of Valor FH Rsvd	4	5
6 9:30 am Worship w/ Communion  Adult Sunday School to Follow	7 6:30 pm Monday Night Study Group via Zoom	8 7pm Ad Council Meeting	9 7 pm Page Turners FH Rsvd	10	11	12
13 9:30 am Worship Adult Sunday School to Follow Rural Life Sunday 	14 6:30 pm Monday Night Study Group via Zoom	15	16 6:30 pm UWF Potluck/ Meeting	17 6:30 pm Quilt Guild Meeting FH Rsvd	18	19
20 9:30 am Worship Adult Sunday School to Follow	21 6:30 pm Monday Night Study Group via Zoom	22 7 pm Mission Coalition FH Rsvd	23 First Day Of School - Newton Community Schools 	24 9am - 2pm Days for Girls @ 1st Presbyterian Church	25	26
27 9:30 am Worship Adult Sunday School to Follow	28 6:30 pm Monday Night Study Group via Zoom 6:30 pm JCRCC FH Rsvd	29	30	31		

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

WORSHIP ASSISTANTS	
August 6	9:30 AM
Ushers	Russ & Lori Leix
Greeters	Bruce & Leslie Maach
Reader	Russ Leix
Acolyte	
Keyboard	Bev Thomas
Projection	Ethan Pageler
Camera	
Care Core	Barb Swihart, Amy Murphy
Coffee Time	Barb Swihart
August 13	9:30 AM
Ushers	
Greeters	Dennis & Pam Smith
Reader	Bruce Maach
Acolyte	
Keyboard	Bev Thomas
Projection	Ethan Pageler
Camera	
Care Core	Jenni Patty, Lisa Marston
Coffee Time	Amy Onstot
August 20	9:30 AM
Ushers	Ann Leonard
Greeters	Roy & Pat Patty
Reader	Pat Patty
Acolyte	
Keyboard	Jan Lewis
Projection	Rachel Pageler
Camera	Ethan Pageler
Care Core	Karen Clark, Joyce Stonehocker
Coffee Time	
August 27	9:30 AM
Ushers (2)	Corinne Kleppe
Greeters (2)	Mike & Barb Kaldenberg
Reader	Barb Kaldenberg
Acolyte	
Keyboard	Jan Lewis
Projection	Caleb Leonard
Camera	Ben Leonard
Care Core	Barb Kaldenberg
Coffee Time	Barb Kaldenberg

August Worship Assistants

For 2023 we are trying something new with our worship assistant sign up. We would like to see more of our volunteer position filled so we have decided to start passing around sign-up

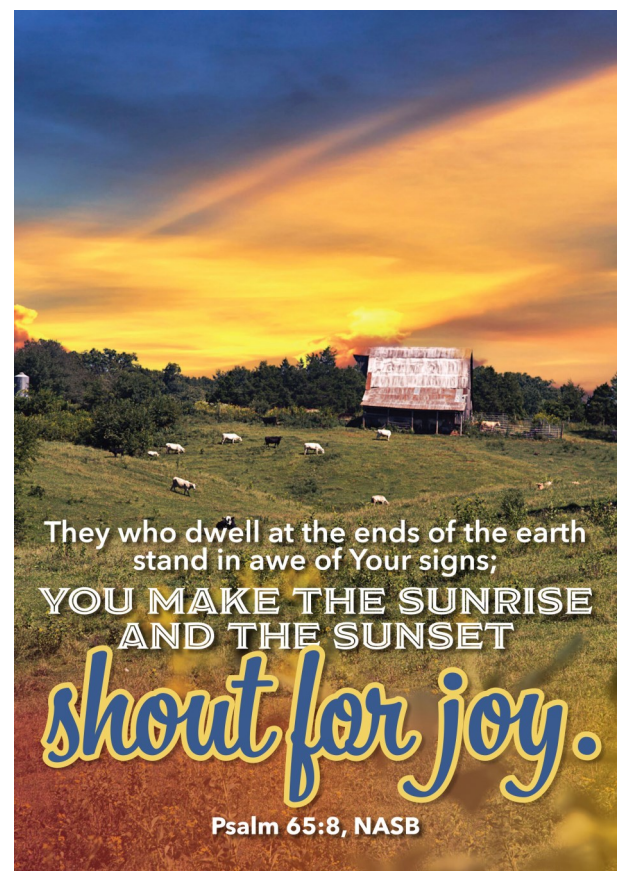


sheets for 3 months at a time. We had another wonderful response for our July-Sept. volunteers and would like to thank everyone who has so graciously signed up.

Most positions are filled now through Sept. 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/1LV73f57IkMBVLyocfiFvS7GsvYM03YPBSzoXUhXQL7s/edit?usp=sharing>

We appreciate all those who have so willingly volunteered to help. 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.



A Special Blessing for those with August Birthdays

- August 3 - Tessa Swersie
- August 4 - Katie Jones
- August 5 - Alayna Guillaume
- August 6 - Wendy Jennings
- August 9 - Linda Powell
Jack Trotter
- August 10 - Nate Boleyn
- August 11 - Rose Evans
- August 14 - Rachel Pageler
Matt Thongvanh
- August 17 - Larry Stoullil
Becky Miller
- August 20 - Avery Etter
- August 24 - Diane Chadwick
Kris McKibben
- August 27 - Barb Kaldenberg
- August 29 - Dale Hartgraves
- August 30 - Pam Andrews



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

Have Household Goods or Furniture to Donate?

Contact Lori Leix



"I realize we've run into the lunch hour, and I'm sorry. Now, who's the wise guy who ordered pizza?"

St Luke Produce Table

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



August Salvation Army Food Pantry Request

Rice and Pastas



Creator of the stars

The stars and sky testify to God's amazing power and creativity.

Directions: Use the clues and Bible passages to fill in the blanks. Then transfer the circled letters (in order) to the spaces below to complete a verse of praise.

God determines this and calls each star by name. (Psalm 147:4)

○ _ _ _ _ _

The heavens are the work of God's what? (Psalm 8:3)

_ _ _ _ ○ _ _ _ _

What does God bring out one by one? (Isaiah 40:26)

_ _ ○ _ _

God made two great lights to do this. (Genesis 1:16)

○ _ _ _ ○ _ _ _

God promised Abraham this would be like the stars. (Genesis 15:5)

_ _ _ _ _ ○ _ _ _ _ _

The sun, moon and stars have this. (1 Corinthians 15:41)

_ _ _ _ _ ○ _ _ _ _ _

The lights in the sky serve as what? (Genesis 1:14)

_ _ _ _ _ ○ _ _ _

The heave _ s declare the _ lory _ f _ od;
the ski _ s _ roc _ aim the wo _ k of his ha _ ds.

PSALM 19:1, NIV

Answer: number, fingers, host, govern, offspring, splendor, signs, The heavens declare the glory of God; the skies proclaim the work of his hands. Psalm 19:1, NIV