

St Luke UMC

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

November 13, 2020



THE BI-WEEKLY Flame CATCH THE FIRE!

Sunday School in Advent

The Sunday School (now called F.R.O.G., or Friends Relying On God) has been meeting weekly through Zoom since September. They have a great time learning a lesson through 4 different activities. These include the **story**, usually through video, an **activity**, like a game or a project, **creativity**, *an art or craft project*, and **service project**.

We wanted to share our Advent plans with all of you. Advent is such a busy time. Everyone's schedule is so full. This year might be different for many of us, and that got us to thinking that maybe we should focus on the family this year. Because of this, we have planned four activities for families to do together. These are designed to be fun and easy, and to add to the experience of the Christmas season.



Christmas Light Bingo: The families will be given bingo cards of things to look for as they drive around the community and enjoy light displays together.

Family Christmas Story: Families are encouraged to share favorite Christmas memories that tell the story of their family at Christmas. This is something that many of us do naturally as we decorate or open presents, but we don't realize how much this tells the story of our family. The students will share one of those memories with their group.

Favorite Christmas Song: As families share their favorite Christmas songs and why they like them, they will learn about Christmas and each other. The students will pick a song to share with their group that week.

Send Christmas Cards: The students will send Christmas cards to our folks in independent living and care centers. They will be able to make their own cards, or send ones that are provided. This service project will help them to extend their family during this season.

As you can see, not being able to gather in person does not mean that we have to be disconnected. I would like to thank Lisa Marsten, Wendy Jennings, and Peg Ehlers for their leadership and the parents for their encouragement and participation in this program.

Pastor Chad

A St. Luke Christmas Card

We are excited to announce our plan for a Christmas program this year.

With the students meeting online, the traditional Christmas program would be difficult to implement. So we put our minds together and came up with something that we are very excited about. **But, we can't do it without you!**

This year, we will be creating a video Christmas card. To do this, we are asking every St Luke person to submit a Christmas Card picture. We've all seen Christmas card pictures. We have even been a part of many of them. Some are meant to be funny. Some are funny anyway. Some are coordinated and planned. Some are chaotic. We love them all.

The only thing that we are asking for you to include in this picture is a sign with a message for the St. Luke community. This message could say *Merry Christmas*, or *Stay Hopeful*, or *Share Joy*, or whatever your family wants to say in this card. As an example, Peg and Bill submitted theirs already.



Please take a picture with a message and submit it to worship@stlukenewton.com by Dec. 10. We will compile all the pictures into a video, which we will share with all of you. Thank you in advance for your participation.

Pastor Chad

send us your
pictures!



Giving Update

During the last year, we have been blessed. I know it doesn't feel that way many days, but we have. As I look around the conference, there are many churches who are in desperate times. The Conference reports that apportionment receipts are down and are expected to come in at 60% for the year.

We are doing very well in comparison. We expected that we might have a difficult time paying bills, especially during the summer months. This is common in normal years. So far, we are keeping up.

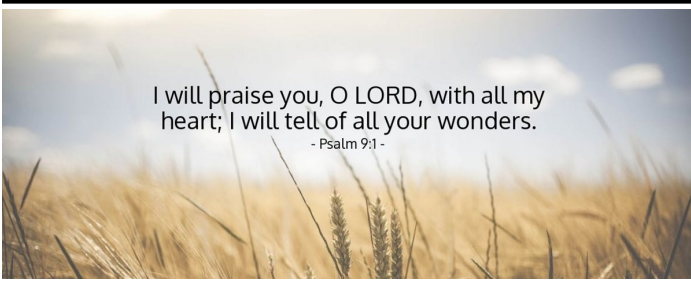
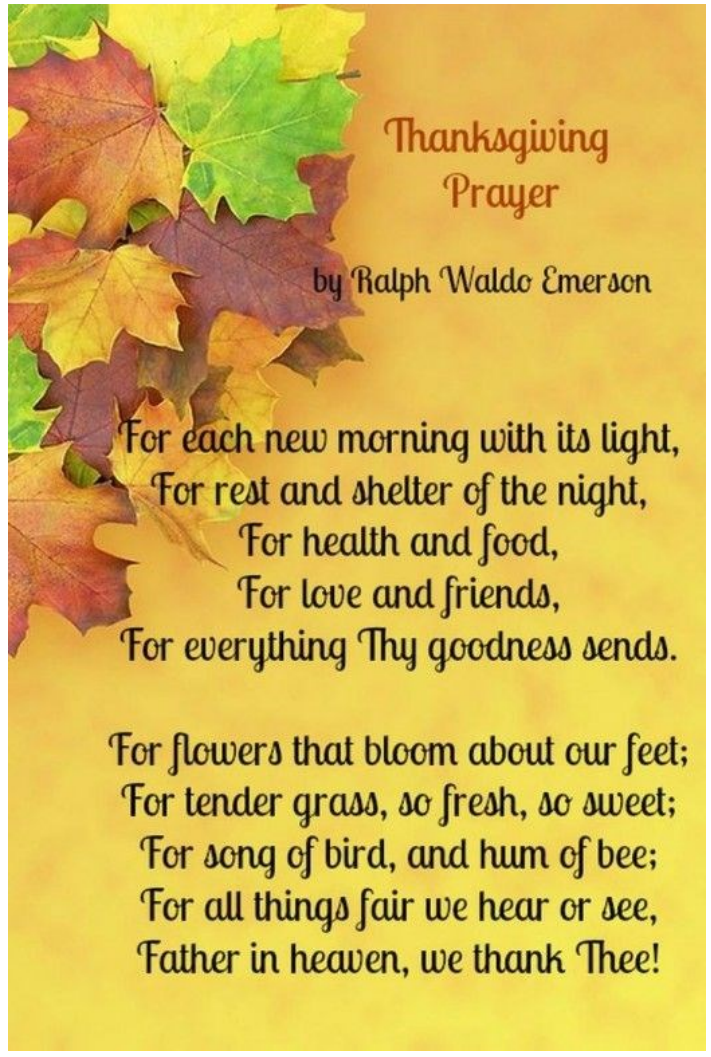


But it is November, and our pattern is to put out a call for apportionment giving so we can reach our goal of 100% participation. As of this writing, we still have about \$8000 to give to meet our goal.

All things considered, we are in good shape. But I believe that we can make our goal. The generosity of St. Luke is awesome. I know we can do it.

As we take time to give thanks, as we take time to consider what is important, please remember St. Luke and our connection to the larger church ministries that we share in through apportionments. Please help us to be faithful in our giving.

Pastor Chad



SAVE THE DATE

#GIVINGTUESDAY
December 1, 2020

Donate at midwestmission.org/donate
or Texting MMDCTUE to 91999

Indoor Worship Update

It was so wonderful to worship indoors again with our church family. We greatly enjoyed seeing each and everyone of you. As much as we loved having the church full again, your safety and health is our top priority.

At this time Bishop Laurie Haller has advised that in-person worship be suspended if the county statistics are in the Red category. Due to the high number of cases in Jasper County we will be returning to online worship starting Sunday, November 15 until the numbers go down. We will continue to send out an online message during this time. Check our Facebook page and your email for the link to the service.

We will let everyone know as soon as we feel it is safe to worship in-person again. Watch for text messages, emails and our Facebook page for updates. We miss you all and hope to see you back inside again soon!

Due to rising COVID-19 cases, IN-SANCTUARY WORSHIP HAS BEEN TEMPORARILY **SUSPENDED.**
Online Worship Services Available.

WORSHIP ASSISTANTS	
Nov. 22	9:30 AM
Ushers (3-4)	Dennis Smith, Pam Smith Dale Dorrell
Greeters (2)	Shirley Guillaume, Rose Evans
Keyboard	Bev Thomas
Projection (1)	Ethan Pageler
Care Core	Barb Kaldenberg, Jenna McIntyre
Counters (2)	Mike Kaldenberg, Brad Patty
Nov. 29	9:30 AM
Ushers (3-4)	Barb Kaldenberg, Mike Kaldenberg, Dale Dorrell
Greeters (2)	Jeff Murphy, Amy Murphy
Keyboard	Bev Thomas
Projection (1)	Ethan Pageler
Care Core	Tamara Lloyd, Jenni Patty
Counters (2)	Rose Evans, Russ Leix
Dec. 6	9:30 AM
Ushers (3-4)	
Greeters (2)	Doug McIntyre, Jenna McIntyre
Keyboard	Bev Thomas
Projection (1)	
Care Core	Barb Swihart, Amy Murphy
Counters (2)	
Communion	Pastor Chad
Dec. 13	9:30 AM
Ushers (3-4)	Doug McIntyre, Jenna McIntyre, Corinne Kleppe
Greeters (2)	
Keyboard	Bev Thomas
Projection (1)	
Care Core	Jenni Patty, Lisa Marston
Counters (2)	
Dec. 20	9:30 AM
Ushers (3-4)	
Greeters (2)	
Keyboard	Bev Thomas
Projection (1)	
Care Core	Joyce Stonehocker, Karen Clark
Counters (2)	

Worship Assistants For November & December

As we attempt to worship indoors again we are trying something new with our worship assistants. We want our church family to feel as safe and comfortable as possible when we can worship indoors again. Instead of assigning church members we are asking for volunteers for the months of November and December. At this time we are temporarily having online worship but we want to make sure we have volunteers available if we decide it is safe to worship in-person again.



If you would like to volunteer for a potential Sunday you can email the church office at worship@stlukenewton.com or you can add your name to the sign-up link that was emailed out. There is also a sign-up sheet on the Coffee Counter to use when we resume in-person services again. We appreciate everyone who has so willingly volunteered to help. If this works well we may continue with a sign-up and add or adjust positions as needed. Thank you!

St Luke News

Dear St Luke UMC,

Your loving support means the world to Midwest Mission and to the countless people who will be touched by your generosity. You are a shining light for Christ and a beacon of hope!

In His service,
Chantel Corrie



Where to Find Us

Pastor: Rev. Chad Jennings
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 Church Office Hours: Mon, Tues, Wed, Fri 3:30-5:30 pm
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Article Submission by the 13th of month.
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Website Manager: Stephen Pageler
Facebook: [St Luke Newton](https://www.facebook.com/StLukeNewton)
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.



COLORING PAGE

THESE THREE
REMAIN:
FAITH



BUT THE GREATEST OF
THESE IS
LOVE.

1 CORINTHIANS 13:13