

St Luke UMC

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

November 2019



THE Flame

CATCH THE FIRE!

2019 Apportionments

\$24,351



\$10,076

Financial Update

APPORTIONMENTS ARE MISSIONS.

Together, through our connected congregations, we accomplish what no single church, district or annual conference ever could hope to do alone.

The Africa University Fund is a vital fund that supports the only United Methodist-related, degree-granting university on the continent of Africa—serving students from 21 countries, all across the continent of Africa. Africa University provides higher education of excellent quality, enriched with Christian values, for both men and women, developing visionary leaders of tomorrow. See more at <http://www.umc.org/how-we-serve/apportioned-funds>.

These offerings were received for the month of October:

- Total of \$13,711 which included:
- \$ 535 - Building Fund
 - \$ 892 - Apportionments
 - \$ 180 - Women at the Well
 - \$ 150 - St. Nick Fund
 - \$ 44 - Heifer Moolah
 - \$ 229 - Ingathering
 - \$ 9 - St. Andrews Fund
 - \$ 122 - World Comm. Sunday
 - \$ 100 - Building Use

Thank You!

It is not happiness that makes us grateful. It's gratefulness that makes us happy.
—David Steindl-Rast



We are starting a new group that will keep our college youth connected to St Luke. The first thing we want to do is send care packages during their December finals. We will be collecting items during the month of November. (Keep in mind postage requirements.) There will also be note-cards available for everyone to write some encouraging messages. We estimate there will be between 5-10 students. If you have a college student, please let us know their address so they can be included! You can also help by donating money to help cover postage costs. If you have ideas of future activities, want to help, or have questions, please see or contact Wendy Jennings.

wenjen1@gmail.com 319.929.4195



Mobility Worldwide Volunteer Day

10 St. Luke members worked at Mobility Worldwide on October 18 where hand-cranked Mobility Carts are built, assembled, and packaged for shipment. These vehicles allow persons who are leg disabled to go where ordinary wheelchairs won't go. We painted, we assembled, we sewed, and we packed. May God bless the recipients of the carts we touched and all those who will transport them wherever they go. This little factory in Leighton, IA is fully staffed by volunteers and is an amazing operation.



Beware the killer bunny.

Perhaps you are wondering what I could be talking about. Perhaps you are picturing the Monty Python movie The Holy Grail. That thought crossed my mind, too.



But, no. I am referring to the cute, little bunny that has chosen to live under my front porch. That little bunny is about a foot long. It can't weigh more than a few pounds. It isn't a threat to anyone and is certainly far from what I would call a killer bunny.

Kinnick does not agree. Kinnick, the Jennings' family dog, watches out the window for that killer bunny to appear. Often, that bunny will come out from under the porch and stand on the sidewalk just outside the front windows and bask in the warmth of the sun.



Kinnick does not like that. He immediately barks out a warning,

BUNNY! BUNNY! BUNNY!

He will not stop until the bunny goes away. The bunny doesn't seem to care. It just sits there, enjoying the view of the yard. It doesn't matter that a much bigger, much louder dog is only a few feet away. There are two panes of glass protecting it.

I wish I was as content to let the dog bark as the bunny is. I am not. I don't like the intensity of the bark. Or the frequency. Or the volume.

I have found that the only way to get Kinnick to quit barking is to shoo the bunny away. I tried knocking on the window. I tried yelling through the glass. I tried opening the window and yelling through the screen. Nope! The only thing that works is to go outside and walk toward the bunny until it runs away. By the time I get back inside, Kinnick's bark is reduced to a low growl, a warning to that killer bunny not to come back.

It seems to me that there are many killer bunnies out there. Sure, the world has problems that we must address. But I wonder how many of our problems are like the killer bunny. If we shared power, would we lose our own? If everyone made more money, would our economic power be reduced? If our preferred party loses the election, will the nation collapse? Sure, these things matter, but maybe our own view of them isn't as accurate as we may think.



We used to think that allowing black people to vote would ruin the country. We used to think that allowing women to vote would ruin the country.

God revealed to us in the early church that we are all God's children. The early church believed that everyone was equally loved by God. There is no slave nor free, no Jew nor Greek, no male nor female; we are all children of God. (Galatians 3.28)

It is quite easy to focus on our differences. It is quite easy to invoke the threat of the killer bunny. God calls us to something greater.

Chad

All Saints Sunday Sunday, November 3

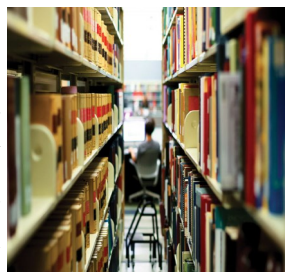
We will be recognizing and remembering people from our families that have died in the past year.



United Methodist Student Day Offering Sunday, November 24

Across the country, the people of The United Methodist Church are serving the people God loves in Jesus' name.

Right now there are UMC young people—who might not have had the resources to attend a school of their choice, or, for some, any school at all—who've been sent by you into the world God loves because of your giving to United Methodist Student Day. When you give generously you are supporting these students as they prepare for a life that unites faith with knowledge.



What no one person or congregation can do alone, we're doing together. Together, we're raising up gifted Christian leaders. Will you give to United Methodist Student Day?





United Methodist Women

November 20 - 1:15 pm

At St. Luke UMC

*"This is the day that the Lord has made;
let us rejoice and be glad in it."*

Psalm 118:24

Program: Women Offering Community

Hostess: Marianne Spaur

December 1: Last day to remit pledges and gifts
to District Treasurer.

December 1: Member Report Due

Bring Your Thank Offering

Sunday School Mission Offering

We have completed our covenant with Larry & Jane Kies. Our 2nd through 5th Sunday school offerings will now be designated for Douglas Williams. Doug serves as pastor and Volunteer-In-Mission promoter of the Evangelical Methodist Church of Argentina.



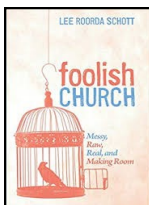
On the challenge of mission, he states: "Our world is becoming a global community and God wells up in me the desire to be part of seeing God's peace expand and renewal take place. There are so many challenges that face us and time and time again God reveals in every challenge an opportunity for growth and healing."

As always, the offering on the first Sunday of each month will be for Sunday School supplies and administrative needs.

Corinne Kleppe, NOW – Missions Chair

Adult-2 Class

The Adult-2 Class is reading and discussing *Foolish Church* by Lee Roorda Schott. *Foolish Church* shares the lessons that Rev Schott has learned while serving at Women At The Well Church at the women's correctional facility in Mitchellville with the hope that we might be inspired, equipped and encouraged to



live out our calling.

If you are looking for a class with variety and topical studies, this would be a good class for you. There is always room for more to join the conversation.

News from our Librarian ~ Karen Clark

Library News ~ As we approach Thanksgiving I can't help but think of gratitude. Somewhere around 10 so years ago I made a decision to pay attention to gratitude. I took note of at least 2 gifts in my life every day and wrote them down. This small act drew my attention to even more gifts for which to be grateful and the ball continued to roll. Within the next year or so I became aware of the book *One Thousand Gifts* by Ann Voskamp which built on that very same premise.



It made a difference in my life and I know it could in yours, too. This book is a beautifully practical guide to living a life of joy. The author discovered, in giving thanks for the life she already had, she found the life she'd always wanted. While reading Voskamp's reflections on her life of farming, parenting, writing, and living you might find a way of living with an open heart where you are gratefully open to God's presence in your life, too. You will find this book and a few others on gratitude on the newsletter shelf in our little library in the corner.

MMDC Mission Trips

St. Luke has made meaningful commitments to Midwest Missions Distribution Center for several years. We have sent volunteers to their center for hands on mission work. We have made and donated school bags and diapers, and we have donated garbage bags and other kit items as well as money. Thank you for your generous contributions. Currently we are committed for two trips in 2020 and two more trips in 2021.



We have 11 volunteers for the January 19-22, 2020 trip. We have 8 committed for February 23-26, 2020 with room for up to 8 more. We will leave early Sunday afternoon and the return trip will be Wednesday afternoon. We will be working at the center Monday, Tuesday and half day Wednesday. We will be staying on site in the dorm. We will eat a few meals out and eat together in the dorm for the remainder. It is a great time of Christian fellowship while we do worthwhile work for God's Kingdom. Please consider going with us. Again, let Karen Clark know if you plan to go and you will get more details, skclark1978@gmail.com or 641-831-4526.

Silent Auction News

The St. Luke building renovation fund-raiser silent auction will continue again this month offering new items for bid. This auction will conclude on November 17. Please continue save your new or gently-used items for donation to future fund-raising auctions. Your participation is **much** appreciated! St. Luke is grateful for your support of **donating** and **purchasing** items to help financially support the renovation projects.



**November Salvation Army
Food Pantry Request**
Peanut Butter & Jelly



My Story

I came home to discover the beads that had started the day sorted by color, had slipped off of their perch and were now a huge jumble of beads. All colors and sizes mixed together. In truth, though I groaned at the mess, it was beautiful to see all of the colors in one combined mess on my floor. Perhaps, it was not as useful when it came to making jewelry, but beautiful all the same.

I wonder if that's how God feels when he looks at humanity. So BEAUTIFUL when we mix together. Why else would God create us with so many shades of eye color, hair color and skin color? Why else would we be created in so many shapes and sizes? Why else would we have so many varied talents and abilities?

We are all beautiful in God's sight. We all make up the tapestry of humanity. "Red and Yellow, Black and White, all are precious in God's sight"

Psalm 104:

24 *What a wildly wonderful*

world, GOD! You

made it all, with Wisdom at your side, made earth overflow with your wonderful creations.

Embrace the beauty that humanity holds. Embrace the messiness and strive to see the beauty in those around you... even when they think and act and look different. God sees the beauty, pray that we see it too.

Corinne Kleppe



Want a printed copy of the Newsletter?

Printed copies of the Newsletter are available at the church. They can be found on the table by the church office.



**Saturday,
November 2:
8 am - ?
Tree Cutting Party
at St. Luke**

All help is welcome and lunch will be served.



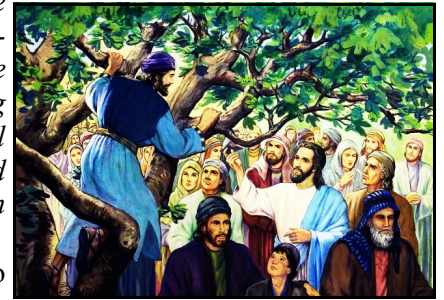
Changing Perspectives

LUKE 19:1-10

Being assured of God's acceptance, empowering us to accept others

Jesus was *passing through Jericho, not planning on staying. Among the great crowd greeting Him was Zacchaeus, the chief tax collector. Because Zacchaeus was vertically-challenged, compared to the other citizens, he had climbed up a sycamore tree, in hopes of obtaining a (better) view Jesus' procession. (Surprisingly) Jesus knew Zacchaeus' name, and called out to him, using it. Jesus directed Zacchaeus to "come down" and invited Himself to his home that day.*

The surrounding people saw this and began muttering, "He has gone to be the guest of a sinner!" (Indeed, Zacchaeus was considered by all to *be a sinner, due to the abuse of his tax-collecting position.*) *The crowd had been celebrating Jesus and His ministry, until He made it known He wanted to meet with a known "sinner."*



Did Jesus invite himself to Zacchaeus' house, because Jesus was hungry? Likely not. Somehow Jesus knew Zacchaeus was up in the tree, out of the line of His vision. Jesus knew Zacchaeus' name, without being introduced. Jesus knew Zacchaeus was a social outcast; yet here he was, wanting to see and learn more about this man, Jesus, who was passing through Jericho.

The Seasons of the Spirit Bible Study Class meets Sunday mornings, sandwiched between the end of the 8 a.m. church service and the beginning of the 10:30 service. The class's emphasis is on the weekly lectionary readings. **All** are welcome to join in the discovery and learning!

∞ Lectionary Readings for November 2019 ∞

• **November 3: Luke 19:1-10 | Changing Perspectives**

To be assured of God's acceptance which empowers us to accept others.

• **November 10: Psalm 145:1-5, 17-21 | Basking in God**

To deepen and bask in our understanding of God's presence and action in our lives.

• **November 17: Isaiah 65:17-25 | A Vision of Promise**

To maintain hope in God's vision of a world of justice and peace and work to help bring it about.

• **November 24: Colossians 1:11-20 | Reign of Christ**

To explore what it means to follow in the way of Christ.



Advent/Christmas Offerings – 2019

This year the NOW committee has chosen to offer two different ways to give to those in need this year. We will have a local focus and an national/international focus.

Locally we are asking for gift cards to local restaurants, local convenience stores and other local stores in the \$5 to \$25 price range. Many times, Pastor Chad has persons come to the church in need of help, and while the Salvation Army is a resource people are often directed to, there are times when the needs cannot be met through this route. The gift cards we collect in December will allow Pastor Chad the discretion to provide a little bit of help those in need when they stop by the church office.



Church World Service (CWS) will be our other giving opportunity during the 2019 Advent/Christmas season. We will be providing you the opportunity to choose where/how your gift will be used through the CWS “Best Gifts” program.

For more information on both of these giving opportunities...check out the December edition of *the Flame*.

NOW Missions



RECYCLING CHRISTMAS STRING LIGHTS

It is that time of year when you may be bringing out your Christmas lights. If you are like many, there may be some strands which no longer function as desired. Do not throw them away. Take the non-working strings to St. Luke to be RECYCLED. Place your non-working light strings in the marked box located by the coat rack in the Narthex.



GUIDELINES:

□ If your stringed lights have any decorative “attachments, or special characters,” please REMOVE them before placing the light string in the recycle box; otherwise the person taking the lights to the recycling center has to do that, first.

□ Lightbulbs, themselves, are NOT RECYCLABLE, so please do NOT place stand-alone light bulbs in the string light recycle box.

□ If possible do NOT place your stringed lights in a plastic sack, before placing the sack into the recycle box. The recycle center does NOT want received lights to be in plastic bags. Please remove your light strings from your sack, before depositing into the recycle box @ St. Luke.

Share this information. Set an example for others that members of St. Luke care about our legacy and Reducing-Reusing-Recycling!

Diaper Sewing Days

We have lots of diapers cut out and yards of flannel. Come and join us as we make diapers for MMDC.

We will be meeting Monday and Tuesday, November 18 and 19 for another round of sewing. Watch for sign-up sheets on the Servant’s Counter.



Mission Coalition Pie Sale

Saturday, November 2 from 9 am - 2pm at McCann Center. The pie sale is held in conjunction with the McCann Flea Market. St Luke is responsible for providing 20 double-crust pies. Sign-up at the Servant’s Counter.

Proceeds from the pie sale will be divided equally between Jasper County Elderly Nutrition program and Neighbors Helping Neighbors.



5th Monday Supper Thank You

Thank you to everyone who has donated food and helped prepare, transport, and serve meals at Trinity United Methodist Church in Des Moines when there was a fifth Monday. About 10 years ago we heard that the elderly women who had been providing the meals on the 5th Monday were retiring, and that Trinity needed someone else to step up. We discussed it in Sunday school and decided we could do those meals. We counted on your help, and you always came through. Thanks so much.

In addition, thank you to those who went to the Sacred Place at the Iowa Correctional Facility for Women at Mitchellville on the third Sunday of the month. For approximately 30 years St. Luke shared worship and fellowship with the women there. Unfortunately, the current administration at the prison has placed restrictions on the volunteers there and we were not willing to continue under those circumstances.

We are taking on a new mission on the first Tuesday of every other month starting in January 2020. We will provide an evening meal at Discover Hope on First Avenue East in Newton. We will provide food, paper plates and cups, napkins and utensils. We will be able to cook the meal in the kitchen at Discover Hope so we won’t have to transport heavy roasters. Watch for sign-up sheets to provide food and/or help with preparation and serving.






Ingathering Thank You

Thank you to all who donated items toward our Ingathering kits and toward our shipping costs. This year at least 43 school kits and several hygiene kits will be delivered on Saturday November 2nd.



Corinne – N.O.W. Missions

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
					1	2 Tree Cutting 8 am Pie Sale 9 am-2 pm Take Away Hunger 9am Ingathering 8am
3 8/10:30 Worship - All Saints Sunday 9/11:30 Fellowship 9:15 Sunday School Classes for all.  	4	5  ELECTION DAY Fellowship Hall In Use 7 am - 8 pm	6 6:30 pm Praise Team 7:15 pm Choir	7 6:30 pm Trustees meeting	8	9
10 8/10:30 Worship 9/11:30 Fellowship 9:15 Sunday School Classes for all.	11 Veterans Day 	12	13 6:30 pm Praise Team 7:15 pm Choir 7 pm Page Turners Book Club 	14	15	16
17 8/10:30 Worship 9/11:30 Fellowship 9:15 Sunday School Classes for all.	18  Sewing Days 9 am - 4 pm	19 6:30 pm NOW Meeting	20 1:15 pm UMWomen Meeting @ St Luke 6:30 pm Praise Team 7:15 pm Choir	21 7 pm Quilt Guild - F Hall 7 pm NAMI - Choir Room	22	23
24 8/10:30 Worship 9/11:30 Fellowship 9:15 Sunday School Classes for all. 11:45 am Potluck and Christmas Decorating Party	25	26 6:30 pm SPRC 7pm Mission Coalition	27 6:30 pm Praise Team 7:15 pm Choir	28 Happy Thanksgiving 	29 Jennings - F Hall	30

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

WORSHIP ASSISTANTS

November 3	8 AM	10:30 AM
Ushers	Bruce Maach/Deb Stoullil	John/Mary Onstot
Greeters	Dick/Pam Stiles	Rose Evans
Reader	Barb Kaldenberg	Marianne Spaur
Acolytes	Ushers	Ava Smith
Nursery	Parents take turns	Doug McIntyre
Keyboard	Bev Thomas	Jan Lewis
Special		
Projection	Ethan Pageler	Pam Smith
Fellowship	Peg Ehler	Lisa Marsden
Care Core	Barb Swihart	Amy Murphy
Communion	Lisa Pageler Counters	Mike Kaldenberg/Rose Evans
November 10	8 AM	10:30 AM
Ushers	Dick/Pam Stiles	Jeff/Amy Murphy
Greeters	Pageler Family	Mary Nelson
Readers	Mike Kaldenberg	Leslie Maach
Acolytes	Ushers	Aniston Chambers
Nursery	Parents take turns	Volunteers Needed
Keyboard	Bev Thomas	Jan Lewis
Special	Praise Team	Praise Team
Projection	Peg Ehler	Karen Clark
Fellowship	Barb Swihart	Lori Leix
Care Core	Jenni Patty	Lisa Marston
Counters		Jenna McIntyre/Russ Leix
November 17	8 AM	10:30 AM
Ushers	Jean Schnell/Chuck Springer	Corinne Kleppe/Jeff Carter
Greeters	Brad/Jenni Patty	Rose Evans
Readers	Peg Ehler	Amy Murphy
Acolytes	Ushers	Michelle O'Brien
Nursery	Parents take turns	Mary Nelson
Keyboard	Bev Thomas	Jan Lewis
Special	Chancel Choir	Chancel Choir
Projection	Deb Stoullil	Wendy Jennings
Fellowship	Pam Stiles	Marianne Spaur
Care Core	Joyce Stonehocker	Karen Clark
Counters		Brad Patty/Doug McIntyre
November 24	8 AM	10:30 AM
Ushers	Peg Ehler/Ben Leonard	Lori Leix/Amy Onstot
Greeters	Joyce Stonehocker	Marianne Spaur
Readers	Dale Dorrell	Jeff Carter
Acolytes	Ushers	Kleo O'Brien
Nursery	Parents take turns	Volunteers Needed
Keyboard		Jan Lewis
Special		
Projection	Brad Patty	Doug McIntyre
Fellowship	Tamara Lloyd	Michelle O'Brien
Care Core	Joyce Stonehocker	Jenna McIntyre
Counters		Jan Lewis/Russ Leix

Where to Find Us

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Website Manager: Stephen Pageler
Facebook: [St Luke Newton](https://www.facebook.com/StLukeNewton)

St Luke News

Congratulations to Mike and Barb Kaldenberg on their new granddaughter, Josephine May. Parents are Scott and Cody Kaldenberg.

A big thank you to all who came out to the Arizona Spaghetti Card Game and Dinner. We raised \$607 for apportionments and enjoyed a fun evening of fellowship.



Present tense

After “turkey day” came and went last year, a pastor challenged church members to ask one another not “How was your Thanksgiving?” but “How is your Thanksgiving?” After all, giving thanks should be an ongoing act.

That doesn’t always need to be profoundly deep, either. A.J. Jacobs, author of *Thanks a Thousand*, once asked a philosophy-professor friend what he was grateful for. The shockingly simple reply? “Sometimes I’m just grateful I have arms.” That odd but spot-on answer shows the importance, Jacobs says, of being “thankful for things so omnipresent that they can escape our notice.”

So ... how is your Thanksgiving?

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 November Birthdays

- November 2 - Linda Prather
Pam Osborn
- November 3 - Michelle O'Brien
- November 4 - Darlyne Howard
- November 5 - Ben Zeien
Eric Smith
Julia Hanson
- November 10 - Abby Wood
- November 19 - Marilyn Owens
Maria Vasquez
- November 21 - Becca Zeien
- November 23 - Vivian Stein
Rachel Cole
- November 24 - Lori Eisbrenner
- November 28 - Rose South
- November 30 - Karin Mills
Joe Squire



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

Newsletter



If you know someone that would like to receive the monthly Newsletter via email, please send their name and email address to the church office to be placed on the email list, at: Worship@StLukeNewton.com.

Want a printed copy of the Newsletter?

Printed copies of the Newsletter are available at the church. They can be found on the table by the church office.



Potluck & Decorating Party Sunday, November 24

Following the 2nd Worship Service

Sunday November 24th following the second worship service you are invited, and encouraged, to join us for a potluck lunch. Once we have enjoyed our meal we will be decorating the sanctuary and Narthex areas for the Advent / Christmas season. Please stay or return and JOIN US for Fellowship, Food, Fun & Festive Decorating. See you there!



Corinne Kleppe and Jenna McIntyre


Weather Cancellation Policy

If school is cancelled/dismissed early due to weather, then St. Luke activities are cancelled that day/evening as well. Sunday Worship is rarely cancelled. Check our Facebook page or listen to the radio for announcements. If the weather and road conditions are questionable, use your best judgement and be safe.




Let your voice be heard!
Remember to vote on Tuesday, November 5th.





A feast of praise

Throughout the Bible, God's people give thanks and praise for his goodness.



Directions: Draw lines to match the scriptures (all NIV) with the correct speaker.

"I thank my God every time I remember you." Philippians 1:3	Hannah
"My soul glorifies the Lord and my spirit rejoices in God my Savior." Luke 1:46-47	David
"He is my God, and I will praise him, my father's God, and I will exalt him." Exodus 15:2	Mary
"My heart rejoices in the LORD." 1 Samuel 2:1	Paul
"I will praise God's name in song and glorify him with thanksgiving." Psalm 69:30	Moses

Answers: Philippians 1:3, Paul; Luke 1:46-47, Mary; Exodus 15:2, Moses; 1 Samuel 2:1, Hannah; Psalm 69:30, David