



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
April 2018



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

	<p>Sunday, April 1: Easter Sunday Church World Service Blanket Offering 8/10:30 am Worship - communion 9:15 am No Sunday School Classes</p>	
	<p>Sunday, April 8: Diakonos Special Offering 8/10:30 am Worship 10:30 am Worship - Sunday School Kids Sing 9:15 am Sunday School</p>	
	<p>Friday, April 13: May Newsletter Articles Are Due</p>	
	<p>Saturday, April 14: 7 pm St Luke Social Club Family Game Night</p>	

<p>Sunday, April 15: 8/10:30 am Worship 9:15 am Sunday School 6 pm IWIC Worship at Mitchellville</p>	
<p>Sunday, April 22: 8/10:30 am Worship 9:15 am Sunday School</p>	
<p>Sunday, April 29: Native American Ministries Sunday & Offering 8/10:30 am Worship 9:15 am Sunday School</p>	
<p> Monday, April 30: 5th Monday Supper Club for CFUM at Trinity UMC</p>	
<p>“Easter is the soul’s first taste of spring.” --Richelle Goodrich</p>	



Financial Update
 Do you ever think of your church giving is a part of worship? You should, because giving is worshipping, by giving back to the one who first gave. 2 Corinthians 8:9 talks more about giving being part of our worship. One important part of that scripture talks about giving as an expressions of the love one has for Jesus.

The Finance Committee thanks everyone for their generous and prayerful giving. We are making good progress on meeting our apportionment goals and soon the building fund balance will be paid off.

We will keep all of you updated on the financial aspects at St Luke UMC as the year continues.

These offerings have been received in the past month:

March 4: \$5,028 including \$190-Building Fund; \$17-Sunday School Supplies; \$50-Apportionments; \$50-Flannel.

March 11: \$2,976 including \$220-Building Fund; \$12-Larry & Jane Kies; \$275-Flannel Offering.

March 18: \$1,614 including \$179-Building Fund; \$16-Larry & Jane Kies; \$3-Disabilities Awareness Offering; \$100-Flannel Offering.

March 25: \$1521 including \$30-Building Fund; \$161-Larry & Jane Kies.

The balance on the building loan is \$500 thanks to your generosity.

Thank You!

Join us on Easter Sunday!
Worship Services at 8 & 10:30 am
Bring your family & friends to hear the Good News of our Risen Savior!



EASTER OFFERING CHURCH WORLD SERVICE -BLANKETS

Is a blanket always a blanket? Church World Service (CWS) has found that it is so much more. A blanket can become a curtain over a broken window. A blanket can be a family table, a tent, a poncho, an umbrella, a hug and a promise.

This year our Easter offering will go to the CWS Blanket Fund, which distributes blankets to families in need of warmth and hope. Blankets are given out to families in poverty situations and they are also distributed following natural disasters. This Easter let us Share the Warmth of a blanket to those in need.



If you are curious to see what the CWS blankets are like, a blanket can found at the Missions Table by the Pastor’s office.

NOW Missions

Make it as secure as you can

The following words of promise are an excerpt for Laurie Haller’s blog of March 26. You can read the complete blog entry at: www.lauriehaller.org

“The guards made the tomb as secure as they could. Yet on the third day, Jesus rose from the dead and lives forever. Really, how could the guards secure the world against a miracle? In the midst of a world that often seems to offer scant security, you and I have the opportunity to place ourselves in God’s hands every day, trusting that we will always live secure in our faith and the hope that is in us.”



May we be wise in using the gifts God has given us, love recklessly, forgive extravagantly, and serve with abandon. Most of all, may we share the faith that is in us, so that, one day, everyone will know that no matter who they are or where they come from or what their history is, they are loved. Then, they, too, can rest securely in God’s grace and offer that grace to others.”



What are you planting?

April is here and spring is showing itself more every day. Maybe you are planning your outdoor activities for the next several months. What activities are you going to try? What are you going to plant in your garden?



The Jennings household doesn't have a green thumb among them. But, we have been talking about planting some things in containers. We've been thinking about herbs, mint, and perhaps some tomatoes. Who knows if we will be successful, but why not give it a try?



What are you planting?

We often talk about planting as a metaphor for our Christian life. In John 12, Jesus talks about a seed needing to be planted in order to produce fruit. The seed must die in order for new life to come. Of course, that is its purpose.

In the same way, we need to plant seeds so that new plants may grow. We need to invest ourselves in the lives of others so that new disciples of Jesus may be created. This happens when we follow Jesus and submit ourselves to whatever we are called to do in his name. This might be as a VBS teacher or leader. Maybe it is through a volunteer program at a school. It could be as a coach. It might even be as one who plants, weeds, and waters actual plants.

When we do this, we might see immediate results. We may never see the fruits of our labor. Or maybe, we will see our effort produce disciples that change the world.

As a youth pastor many years ago, I invested in the lives of young Christians. Sometimes, through Facebook, I get to see how those young people have grown up and are investing in others. It is satisfying to see the ways in which these young people are changing the world through their actions. Maybe, just maybe, I played a small part in their journey. Maybe I watered or weeded when they needed it.



Don't discount your contribution to the lives of others. Don't hold back your efforts just because you think it won't make a difference. Plant the seeds of faith in everything you do.

What are you planting?
Pastor Chad

Biblical Limericks

Our own Jeff Carter has written and published a book. "There Once Was A Prophet From Judah" is filled with limericks based on Biblical passages. Books can be purchased from Jeff or on Amazon.com.



Jeff has also written the book "Muted Hosannas."

Diakonos Opportunity & Offering

Do you know a High School aged person that would be willing to give a few days for fun and work at the Iowa Annual Conference. Interested persons can talk to Nathan or Abby Jennings to learn more about serving as a Diakonos. An application can be found online at: www.iaumc.org/files/websites/www/Application+to+Serve+as+a+Diakonos+2018.pdf.



The housing fee is \$100. A special offering to cover the \$100 fee for St Luke Diakonos will be on April 8th.

Items being Collected for MMDC

MMDC is asking for donations of the following items to put in kits. Joyce Stonehocker will take these items to MMDC with her in May when she goes for a board meeting. Items can be left in the box in the Narthex.

- Blue & Black ink pens
- Glue Sticks
- Bike Reflectors
- 24-count Crayon
- Rubber Bands



Church Camp Time Is Here!

Which of the "Best Week Ever" camps will you attend? Catalogs are available on the table by the church office. Information can also be found at: www.iaumc.org/camp.

Camperships are available through the St Luke UMWomen; talk with UMW Treasurer Pat Patty or Camp Coordinator Jenni Patty. Financial assistance is also available through Iowa Conference Funding.

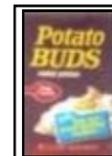


How do you rate St Luke?

Scanning this QR code will take you to our Facebook page where you can like our page and write a review. You will need to have a QR Reader app on your smart phone. Don't have the app?

Go to the Google Play store and download a free app to your phone. It's easy to do.

Why rate St Luke? Rating will give potential visitors searching for a church something to see and read prior to their first visit and help them get to know the St Luke Community.



April Salvation Army Food Pantry Request
Instant Potatoes
Powdered Milk



WORSHIP ASSISTANTS

April 1	8 AM	10:30 AM
Ushers	Larry/Darlyne Howard	Roy/Pat Patty
Greeters	Ann/Ben/Caleb Leonard	Karen Clark
Reader	Russ Leix	Dennis Smith
Acolytes	Ron Lisk	Kleo O'Brien
Nursery	Parents take turns	
Keyboard	Bev Thomas	Jan Lewis
Special	Corinne Kleppe	Corinne Kleppe
Projection	Peg Ehler	Carolyn Cook
Fellowship	Rose Hartschen	Wendy Jennings
Care Core	Tamara Lloyd	Kari Ann Munson
Communion	Wendy Jennings	Counters: Brad Patty/Jan Lewis
April 8	8 AM	10:30 AM
Ushers	Dick/Pam Stiles	Jeff/Amy Murphy
Greeters	Bill/Linda Hotger	Sue Crook
Readers	Dale Dorrell	Barb Kaldenberg
Acolytes	Ron Lisk	Abby Jennings
Nursery	Parents take turns	Doug McIntyre
Keyboard	Jan Lewis	Jan Lewis
Special		Sunday School Kids
Projection	Brad Patty	Wendy Jennings
Fellowship	Ann/Ben/Caleb Leonard	Pat Patty
Care Core	Jenni Patty	Lisa Marston
Counters		Barb Kaldenberg/Deb Stoullil
April 15	8 AM	10:30 AM
Ushers	Chuck Springer Margaret Gullett	Doug/Jenna McIntyre
Greeters	Joyce Stonehocker	Lori Leix
Readers	Brad Patty	Mikey Carter
Acolytes	Ron Lisk	Michelle O'Brien
Nursery	Parents take turns	Pat Patty
Keyboard	Bev Thomas	Jan Lewis
Special	Chancel Choir	Chancel Choir
Projection	Ethan Pageler	Karen Clark
Fellowship	Pam Stiles	Carolyn Cook
Care Core	Joyce Stonehocker	Karen Clark
Counters		Pat Patty/Russ Leix
April 22	8 AM	10:30 AM
Ushers	Pageler Family	Deb/Austin Stoullil
Greeters	Dick/Pam Stiles	Jeff/Amy Murphy
Readers	Jenni Patty	Rose Evans
Acolytes	Ron Lisk	Ushers
Nursery	Parents take turns	Mikey Carter
Keyboard	Bev Thomas	Jan Lewis
Special		
Projection	Brad Patty	Pam Smith
Fellowship	Pam Andrews	Marianne Spaur
Care Core	Barb Kaldenberg	Marianne Spaur
Counters		Rose Evans/Jan Lewis

Where to Find Us

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Article Submission by the 13th of month.
Website: www.stlukenewton.com
Website Manager: Stephen Pageler
Facebook: [St Luke Newton](https://www.facebook.com/StLukeNewton)

St Luke News

Thank you to everyone who gave a donation to us for Jump Rope for Heart. Together we collected \$1,625 for the American Heart Association. We appreciate our church family helping us.

Love, Ethan and Rachel Pageler

Thank you for all the prayers and cards following the death of Quint's mother. Knowing that we were being lifted up in prayer was a great comfort.

Quint and Shirley Guillaume

April 29	8 AM	10:30 AM
Ushers	Lloyd/Tabor	D/P Smith
Greeters	Dave Miller	D/J McIntyre
Readers	Karen Dorrell	Pat Patty
Acolytes	Ron Lisk	Abby Jennings
Nursery	Parents take turns	Volunteer Needed
Keyboard	Bev Thomas	Jan Lewis
Special	Praise Team	Praise Team
Projection	Peg Ehler	Jacob Murphy
Fellowship	Jean Schnell	Karen Clark
Care Core	Barb Swihart	Jenni Patty
Counters		B Patty/Kaldenberg

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	
1 Easter 8/10:30 Worship - Communion 9/11:30 Fellowship 9:15 No Sunday School Classes *Ava Smith 	2 	3 	4 *Autumn Schuler 6:30 pm Praise Team 7:15 pm Choir Practice	5 *Jeffrey Guillaume 6:30 pm Trustees meeting	6 	7 	
8 8/10:30 Worship Diakonos Offering 9/11:30 Fellowship 9:15 Sunday School Classes for all. *Kleo O'Brien *Dawn Bleeker 	9  SHARE Orders due. Go online, or call First UMC or First Christian.	10 *Jacob Murphy *Pane Thongvanh	11 6:30 pm Praise Team 7:15 pm Choir Practice 7 pm Page Turners Book Club *Karen Clark *Kelly Murphy *Bernice Adams	12 	13 Newsletter Articles Due *Paul Bleeker	14 9am-3pm Laity Day @ Aldersgate UMC in Urbandale 7 pm St Luke Social Club Game Night	
15 8/10:30 Worship 9/11:30 Fellowship 9:15 Sunday School Classes for all. 6 pm ICIW	16 *Mark Spaur	17 *Heuay Thongvanh 7 pm Council meeting	18 1:15 pm UMW at St Luke 6:30 pm Praise Team 7:15 pm Choir Practice	19 9 am-4 pm Diaper Sew Day  7pm Quilt Guild - F Hall	20 *Mary Onstot *Wes Breckenridge	21 7:30 am SHARE Pickup *Dale Dorrell	
22 8/10:30 Worship 9/11:30 Fellowship 9:15 Sunday School Classes for all. *Savannah Reicks Earth Day 	23 	24 6:30 pm SPRC Meeting	25 8:30 am Collate Newsletter 6:30 pm Praise Team 7:15 pm Choir Practice *Dolores Mawdsley	26  9am-2pm Days For Girls @ 1st Presbyterian Church 5-9 pm F Hall reserved	27 	28 *Barb Ponder	
29 8/10:30 Worship Native American Ministries Sunday & Offering 9/11:30 Fellowship 9:15 Sunday School Classes for all.	30  Fifth Monday Supper Club		 *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
April 18, 2018
 At St Luke
 1:15 pm

"We proclaim to you what we have seen and heard, so that you also may have fellowship with us. And our fellowship is with the Father and with his son, Jesus Christ."
 1 John 1:3 NIV

Program: The Sacred Space of Nurturing
 by Shirley Guillaume
 Hostess: Shirley Guillaume

Mission Table

Perhaps you have noticed that there are some changes taking place in the Narthex. We are working on creating an attractive setting for all of our mission opportunities. Over the next month or so, this area outside Pastor Chad's office will be transformed into a cohesive and clean look. Stay tuned.
 Corinne & Wendy



Sunday School Mission Offering
May Through August 2018

Go Therefore Into All the world... The first Sunday of each month, the Sunday school offering goes toward the supplies needed for Sunday School. The second through fifth Sundays of each month the offering is given to Missions.

The great commission sends us into the world to make disciples for Jesus Christ. Some are called to service right here, where we live. Others are called to serve around the world. Larry and Jane Kies were called to serve in Africa. Our May through August 2018 Sunday School Mission offering will continue to go toward fulfilling our covenant to partner with Larry & Jane in their ministry.



The Kies work at Africa University in Zimbabwe. Larry is the technical advisor to the Africa University Farm and Jane teaches English at Africa University in Mutare, Zimbabwe. Please join us in supporting these Iowa Missionaries in their work. If you do not currently attend Sunday School, please feel free to support this ministry by placing your check in the offering plate, with Larry & Jane in the memo line.

Corinne Kleppe – Missions Chair

News from our Librarian ~ Karen Clark

Maybe you saw the movie and want to know more or maybe you missed the movie. Either way, now you can read the book, *I Can Only Imagine* by Bart Millard with Robert Noland. It is the story behind the bestselling single hit in the history of Christian music and the man who wrote it. This book takes you into the life of Bart Millard to discover how God repaired a broken family, prepared Bart for ministry through music, and wrote the words on his heart that would change his life forever. The story is a front row seat to witnessing God's presence in Bart's life, from falling in love with his childhood sweetheart, founding the group *Mercy Me*, to mourning his father's death. Throughout it all Bart continues to place his trust in God's plans and this plans continue to surprise and surpass what Bart could ever imagine. You can find this new book in our little library in the corner.



Native American Offering
Sunday, April 29

Gifts to Native American Ministries Sunday provide scholarships for United Methodist Native American seminarians, strengthen and develop Native American ministries and communities, both urban and rural, and support Native American outreach at the annual conference level.



Can and Bottle Redemption Report

The Seasons of the Spirit Sunday School class has been collecting your can and bottle donations since 2014. According to our records they have netted \$566.70. The money was used to buy the 8 newer evergreens south of the church @ \$25 each with the remainder donated to the building fund. We will continue to donate to the building fund. Thank you for your contributions.



We are asked to separate the donations into glass, plastic and aluminum each going into a specific bag or box. The plastic bags and cardboard holding your donations must be removed. Your help in making that easier is appreciated.

Roy and Pat Patty

Flannel Diapers & Sew Day

Thank you for your generous donations to our flannel fund. We now have 151 baby diapers made and more in progress. Your donations of flannel have kept our little sewing team busy so far and your monetary donations of \$475 will buy flannel for many more diapers as well as diaper pins. The diapers and pins will go to Midwest Mission Distribution



Center where they will go into layette kits for distribution wherever needed. This will be an ongoing project. Our next sewing day will be Thursday April 19 from 9 am- 4 pm. If you can help, please do. No experience necessary!



My Story

Each April Fool's day when I was a kid, we never knew what Mom would do to trick us. Would she put string in our sandwich? Would she sew our coat sleeves shut? Would she change the clock to make us think we were running late? It was always fun to find out.

In college one of my housemates taped all of the cereal bowls together. I discovered it first, so after removing my bowl, I taped the remaining bowls back together. Then I sat down to eat my breakfast and to watch the show as the next housemate came down for breakfast.

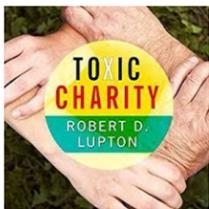
This year, Easter is on April Fool's day. In some ways this is very fitting. There must have been a lot of people in Jerusalem that first Easter morning, who thought it was a joke. Or that the followers of Jesus were fools to believe in the resurrection. Thankfully, however, the resurrection was no joke! It wasn't a trick! As Michael Card wrote in his song *God's Own Fool*: "When we in our foolishness thought we were wise, He played the fool and He opened our eyes. When we in our weakness believed we were strong, He became helpless to show we were wrong. And so we follow God's own fool, for only the foolish can tell. Believe the Unbelievable and come be a fool as well.

If faith seems foolish... then Joyfully I proclaim, "I am a Fool for Christ!" Happy Easter!
Corinne Kleppe - Editor



Adult-2 Class

The Adult-2 Class invites you to join them as they conclude "Go Tell It on the Mountain" by James Baldwin. Starting in early-April they will begin to read and discuss the book "Toxic Charity: How Churches and Charities Hurt Those They Help (And How to Reverse It)" by Robert D. Lupton.



If you are looking for a Sunday School class with topical studies, this would be a good class in which to participate. There is always room for more to join the discussion.



"We live and die; Christ died and lived!"
—John Stott

St. Luke BIBLE STUDY
 Seasons of the Spirit
 Sunday School Class meets 9:15 a.m. in the choir room

Love Means Showing Up
Opening Hearts and Minds to New Insights and Ways to Live Faithfully:
Luke 24:36b-48

After the Son of Man (Jesus) was not found in the tomb by Mary Magdalene; Joanna; Mary, mother of James; along with a number of others-- After Jesus' encounter with Cleopas and his companion walking from Jerusalem to Emmaus-- Jesus *later appeared* in Jerusalem, standing among His disciples where they had gathered, along with Cleopas and his companion, too. It could be expected those present would be overjoyed, but instead they felt terrified, as if seeing a ghost.

Questioning why they were "upset," Jesus then presented His hands and feet, as if to prove His identity. "Do you have anything to eat?" He asked. After consuming the broiled fish they offered, Jesus reminded them: "I've been telling you this all along, that everything written about Me in the Hebrew Scriptures must be fulfilled-- everything from the law of Moses to the prophets to the psalms... You have witnessed the fulfillment of these things."



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 every Sunday morning -- after the 8 o'clock service, or before the 10:30 service!

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

◇ Lectionary Readings for April 2018 ◇

- April 1: **John 20:1-18** | Love Comes to Life
To celebrate the good news of Jesus' resurrection.
- April 8: **John 20:19-31** | Love is a Response to Grace
To encourage engagement by creating a welcoming space for questions and doubts about faith.
- April 15: **Luke 24:36b-48** | Love Means Showing Up
To open hearts and minds to new insights and ways to live faithfully.
- April 22: **John 10:11-18** | Love in Truth and Action
To explore what it means to offer "shepherd care."
- April 29: **John 15:1-8** | Love Abides
To explore what it means for us, as part of the Christian community, to abide in God.

He is not here; He is Risen!
Luke 24:6a



RECYCLING STRING LIGHTS

Way, to go, St. Luke! You recycled **THREE** big boxes of string lights in December and January! Those products did not end up in our landfill, but were delivered to two places: The Metro Waste Authority in Bondurant and the Habitat Restore on East Euclid in Des Moines (which forwarded them on to be properly processed).

Because of your terrific commitment to recycling, we are leaving our designated string light recycling box available for an extended length of time to collect any **more** discarded products. **Do not throw them away.** Take the non-working lights to St. Luke to be **RECYCLED.** Place your non-working light strings in the *marked box* located in the Mission Corner.



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

Family Game Night

St Luke Social Club invites everyone to a family game night on Saturday, April 14 at 7 pm. We will have about an hour of Pictionary for all generations and then break into smaller groups to play your favorite board or card game.

Bring a snack to share and your favorite game. Beverages will be provided by the committee. Our event will be held in Fellowship Hall. Bring ideas for future St Luke Social Club events.



Sunday, April 22

What is Earth Day? It's a day for political action and civic participation. It's a day focused on protecting God's creation, humans, biodiversity and the planet we live on. It's a day to make a change. To learn more about what you can do, visit www.earthday.org.



Card Shower

Phyllis Head is turning 90 on April 21, 2018. Her family is hosting a card shower. Please send her a card at:
502 Pinehaven Dr Apt 120
Monticello, IA 52310



Save the Dates for VBS July 16-20



Are you called to volunteer to be a part of VBS? Contact Amy Murphy.

Days For Girls Update

The April meeting of Days For Girls will be held on April 26 from 9 am - 2 pm at 1st Presbyterian Church, Newton. More people are always welcomed. Donations of kit items or monetary gifts are appreciated.



SHARE Food Program

Buying discounted groceries through SHARE is an easy way to stretch your food budget. You can check out and order online for the program at www.SHAREIOWA.com, or call either First UMC or First Christian Church. "SHARE boxes" can be ordered by Monday, April 9 and picked up at First UMC on Saturday, April 21, between 7:30-8:30 am, when you can also order and pay for the next month.



Laity Day with Bishop Laurie

Saturday, April 14 9 am-3 pm
Starting at 9 am, enjoy coffee and treats, fellowship, pick up materials for the day and check the displays. The program begins at 9:45 and includes worship, missional presentations a networking lunch, and two presentations with Bishop Laurie, one, an extensive Q & A session! A communion service will conclude Laity Day.



Bishop Laurie's provocative title is "Running Away with Noah: and will be preceded by scripture presented in a reader's theater format.

The two Missional Presentations will be of great interest because of their applicability to work in our local churches and communities. One, How Welcoming Is Your Church? (How Unintended Bias Can Sabotage Good Intentions) will provide helpful insight into how newcomers experience us. The second, Child Abuse in Iowa: What We Can Do will educate and equip about a problem far greater than usually recognized.

Where: Aldersgate UMC, 3600 75th St, Urbandale
RSVP: Laity Day is free and while advanced registration is not required, it will be extremely helpful for planning. www.iaumc.org/newsdetail/laity-day-with-bishop-laurie-invitation-11121146 has a link to for registration.

Questions? Contact Barb Mann at the Conference Center at 515-974-8905.