



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

**HAPPY
 NEW
 YEAR**

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St Luke UMC
 501 E 19th Street N
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January 2018



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 «City», «State» «F9»



Financial Update

The Finance Committee would like to thank the congregation for its faithful giving. Russ has reported that we only have 8 more payments remaining on the building loan for the remodeling and entryway addition.

As of December 26, the remainder of our 2017 apportionment (\$6,500) and District Askings (\$600) has yet to be paid. These final payments will hopefully be sent by December 31. Thank you for your prayerful, generous giving.

These offerings have been received for the month of December:

December 3: \$6246 including \$220-Building Fund; \$49-Sunday School supplies; \$50-Building Use; \$170- Apportionments.

December 10: \$2163 including \$50- Apportionments; \$40-Building Fund; \$28- Salvation Army; \$100- UMCOR; \$100- Global Migration; \$125-Used Appliances sales.

December 17: \$5433 including \$604- Building Fund; \$34-Salvation Army; \$150- apportionments; \$260-St Nick Books for 2018; \$30-Christmas Offering.

December 24: \$4,680 including \$430- Apportionments; \$30-Building Fund; \$100-UMCOR; \$831-Christmas Offering.

The balance on the building loan is \$3,834 thanks to your generosity.



**Sunday, January 7
 Epiphany Sunday**



Human Relations Day Offering - January 14th

Turn on the news or drive around the outskirts of your town and you will find what Jesus called “the least of these.” Those living in the margins of society, struggling to survive.

Over and over Jesus served people like this, embracing them. And that’s what we want to model as the people of The United Methodist Church. To continue the ministry of Jesus we established Human Relations Day as a Special Sunday that calls all of our churches to participate in helping all God’s children to realize their potential.



Will You Support the Ministry of Christ Among Those on the Margins? Will you continue to support Human Relations Day? Will you continue nurturing at-risk youth, strengthening communities’ self-improvement efforts and advocating for the oppressed?

Rev. I Malik Safir, whose church works with those gripped by addiction in Little Rock, sums up the work of Human Relations Day by recalling Jesus’ story of the Good Samaritan: “to meet the poor, the disadvantaged and the underserved at the places where others have robbed them and help them to recover from the wounds of social inequality.”

**Sunday, January 7:
 Epiphany Sunday**
 8/10:30 am Worship - communion
 9:15 am Sunday School back in session

Newsletter Articles Due

**Saturday, January 13:
 January Newsletter Articles Are Due**

**Sunday, January 14:
 Human Relations Day/
 Offering**
 8/10:30 am Worship
 9:15 am Sunday School

**Saturday, January 20:
 6:30 pm
 St Luke Social Club Potluck/
 White Elephant/Candlelight
 Dinner**

Sunday, January 21:
 8/10:30 am Worship
 9 am Ushers Training
 9:15 am Sunday School
 6 pm IWIC Worship at Mitchellville

Sunday, January 28:
 8/10:30 am Worship
 9:15 Sunday School

Monday, January 29:
 5th Monday Supper for CFUM at Trinity UMC

Tues, Jan 30 & Wed, Jan 31:
 9am - 4 pm School Bag Sewing Days

February 4-7: MMDC Mission Trip

**February 14: Ash Wednesday &
 St Luke Annual Pancake Supper**



Happy New Year!

It's a new year. It's a new year, full of possibilities. A new year brings with it unlimited potential. What will you do with it?



Will you lose weight? Will you get fit? Will you quit a bad habit? Will you make time for someone? These are the resolutions that are most often made, and all are worthy of our time and attention.

But they aren't the only things worth doing with the unlimited potential of the new year. Lots of things would make our life better. Lots of things would make other people's lives better.

What is God calling you to do with the unlimited potential of the new year? What part are you being called to play in the bringing into being the Kingdom of God?

How about starting a new relationship? If you were to make a new friend this year, would God honor that? I believe that God would. I believe that God would want for each of us to expand our circle of relationships because it would allow for us to be God's love for more people.



How about engaging in a social issue? If you were to put some time and energy into changing a small part of the world, would God honor that? I believe that God would. I believe that God would be full of joy as the part of the world you change would bring positive results for the people that God loves. God calls us to reach the least, the last, and the lost in His name.

How about mending a relationship? If you were to forgive someone this year, would God honor that? I believe that God would. God calls us to forgive people as a way of life, just as we have been forgiven.

This new year is full of the potential to be your best year ever. This will only happen if we tap into that potential. How will you spend your energy this year? How will your time benefit you and your community?

Pastor Chad



Ushers Training

There will be a short training session for ushers. It will be held on Sunday, January 21 at 9 am and should last only 15-20 minutes so people can still go to Sunday School.

MMDC Collection

Midwest Mission Distribution Center recently made changes to some of their kits. This means there is a need of supplies to implement these changes. They have asked for glue sticks and dry erase markers. If you would like to donate either of these items, please bring them to the church and put them in the box labeled MMDC by January 28th and we will take them with us to Chatham in February.



Thanks, Corinne (Missions)

Heifer International

Have you ever wondered what the quarters in the Moolah Tube are collected for? This money is sent to Heifer International which works to bring help, healing and hope to millions of impoverished families throughout the world with livestock and agricultural programs that alleviate hunger and poverty. You can learn more about these programs online at: www.heifer.org.



Care Core

Have you ever wondered what "Care Core" does for St. Luke? Our intent is to care for and nurture members of the St. Luke community who are experiencing ups and downs in their life. We follow up on requests for prayer or other special needs that are mentioned during joys and concerns. Sometimes this might mean sending an encouraging card or joining Pastor Chad on a home visit. Because we have two services and some months contain five Sundays, we often have a lot of needs to cover. If you are looking for a way to uplift others and offer support, we would love to have you join us in Care Core. Please contact me or Pastor Chad if you have any questions.



Jenni Patty



January Salvation Army Food Pantry Request

Detergent & Dish Soap

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.



WORSHIP ASSISTANTS

January 7	8 AM	10:30 AM
Ushers	Larry/Darlyne Howard	Mike/Kleo O'Brien
Greeters	Margaret Gullett	Jeff/Amy Murphy
Reader	Brad Patty	Katie Jones
Acolytes	Ron Lisk	Michelle O'Brien
Nursery	Parents take turns	Pat Patty
Keyboard	Jan Lewis	Jan Lewis
Special	Vern Schnoebelen/Jan Lewis	Vern Schnoebelen/Jan Lewis
Projection	Peg Ehler	Pam Smith
Fellowship	Rose Hartschen	Karen Clark
Care Core	Tamara Lloyd	Kari Ann Munson
Communion	Wendy Jennings	Counters: Brad Patty/Russ Leix
January 14	8 AM	10:30 AM
Ushers	Dick/Pam Stiles	Deb/Austin Stoullil
Greeters	Bill/Linda Hotger	Rose Evans
Readers	Karen Dorrell	Amy Murphy
Acolytes	Ron Lisk	Kleo O'Brien
Nursery	Parents take turns	Doug McIntyre
Keyboard	Bev Thomas	Jan Lewis
Special		Kali Draper/Ben Zeien
Projection	Brad Patty	Karen Clark
Fellowship	Peg Ehler	Marianne Spaur
Care Core	Jan Lewis	Lisa Marston
Counters		Barb Kaldenberg/Pat Patty
January 21	8 AM	10:30 AM
Ushers	Randy Tabor/Tamara Lloyd	Rose Evans/Carolyn Cook
Greeters	Ann/Ben/Caleb Leonard	Karen Clark
Readers	Brad Patty	Corinne Kleppe
Acolytes	Ron Lisk	Abby Jennings
Nursery	Parents take turns	Mikey Carter
Keyboard	Bev Thomas	Jan Lewis
Special	Chancel Choir	Chancel Choir
Projection	Peg Ehler	Wendy Jennings
Fellowship	Barb/Mike Kaldenberg	Katie Jones
Care Core	Joyce Stonehocker	Karen Clark
Counters		Jan Lewis/Rose Evans
January 28	8 AM	10:30 AM
Ushers	Mike/Barb Kaldenberg	Lori Leix/Sue Crook
Greeters	Pageler Family	Doug/Jenna McIntyre
Readers	Peg Ehler	Pat Patty
Acolytes	Ron Lisk	Ushers
Nursery	Parents take turns	Volunteer Needed
Keyboard	Bev Thomas	Jan Lewis
Special	Praise Team	Praise Team
Projection	Brad Patty	Jacob Murphy
Fellowship	Tamara Lloyd	Lisa/Dan Marston
Care Core	Barb Kaldenberg	Marianne Spaur
Counters		Deb Stoullil/Russ Leix

Where to Find Us

Pastor: Rev. Chad Jennings
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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)

St Luke News

We have been honored to have two baptisms this month. Blessings to Teagan McIntyre, daughter of Doug and Jenna, and Hayden Munson, daughter of Kari Ann and Jason, on their baptisms. We look forward to watching both of you grow in faith in the coming years.

Thank you to all who helped with our annual Cookie & Candy Sale! The way the people of St. Luke pitch in to help is a true blessing and I am grateful! We had a wonderful variety of cookies and they flew out the door. Thank you for baking, for telling your friends, for helping at the sale, for washing tablecloths, for taking money to the bank, for have happy hearts the whole way through, and for all the other ways you helped make it possible to add over \$1,000 to our apportionment payment.

Thank you to the church officers and leaders, Care Core, Newsletter Collators, Fellowship Servers, Worships Assistants and many others who have served faithfully through-out the year for St Luke.

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 	2 *Lori Leix	3 6:30 pm Praise Team 7:15 pm Choir Practice	4 *Betty Skaggs *Zoe Smith	5 *Stefanie Squire *Annette Sheets	6 *Dennis Smith
7 8/10:30 Worship - Communion 9/11:30 Fellowship 9:15 Sunday School Classes for all. *Betty Carlsen	8 SHARE Orders due. Go online, or call First UMC or First Christian. *Nathan Jennings	9 6:30 pm NOW meeting	10 6:30 pm Praise Team 7:15 pm Choir Practice 7 pm Page Turners Book Club	11 6:30 pm Trustees meeting	12 *Shelly Chandler	13 Newsletter Articles Due
14 8/10:30 Worship Human Relations Day - Offering 9/11:30 Fellowship 9:15 Sunday School Classes for all.	15 	16	17 1:15 pm UMW at St Luke 6:30 pm Praise Team 7:15 pm Choir Practice	18	19 *Pam Stiles *Wilma Eatwell	20 7:30 am SHARE Pickup 6 pm St Luke Social Club Potluck/White Elephant
21 8/10:30 Worship 9/11:30 Fellowship 9 New Ushers Training 9:15 Sunday School Classes for all. 6 pm ICIW 	22	23 6:30 pm SPRC meeting	24 *Jeff McKibben *Jeff Carter 6:30 pm Praise Team 7:15 pm Choir Practice	25 *Jeff Murphy *Kael Swarts *Bill Falcone 9am-2pm Days For Girls @ 1st Presbyterian Church	26 *CJ Osborn 	27
28 8/10:30 Worship 9/11:30 Fellowship 9:15 Sunday School Classes for all. *Thomas Chandler	29 5th Monday Supper @ Trinity UMC for CFUM	30 School Bag Sew Days 9 am- 4 pm 	31 8:30 am Collate Newsletter 6:30 pm Praise Team 7:15 pm Choir Practice	 *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
January 17, 2018
At St Luke UMC
1:15 pm

"We can make our plans, but the Lord determines our steps."
Proverbs 16:9 NLT

Program:

Creation: A Sacred Encounter With God
By Jan Lewis

Hostess: Joyce Stonehocker

Human Trafficking Awareness Month

Sunday School Mission Offering
January –April 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 January to April 2018 Sunday School Mission offering will once again 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 Kies* in the memo line.

Corinne Kleppe – Missions Chair

Resolve To "Be There"

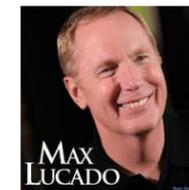
Let our New Year's resolution be this: We will be there for one another as fellow members of humanity, in the finest sense of the word.

--Goran Persson



News from our Librarian ~ Karen Clark

As the new year breaks open and we have encountered the Baby Jesus we have ample opportunity to continue our faith journey. Our little library in the corner has many books which can help with that journey. We have an entire shelf of Max Lucado books. Here are just three of his books. In *Outlive Your Life* Lucado throws out the challenge to change the world with hope, to make a difference by how you live your life. In *Cure For The Common Life* he offers practical tools for exploring and identifying one's uniqueness, motivating us to put our strengths to work and to find and live in our sweet spot for the rest of our lives. *Fearless*, also written by Max Lucado, approaches the idea of getting rid of fear that may taint our lives. Envision a day, just one day, where you could trust more and fear less. If you haven't been in our little library, check it out. Find a book, write your name on the card, put the card in the blue card box. When you bring it back, just drop it in the basket then find another book.



change the world with hope, to make a difference by how you live your life. In *Cure For The Common Life* he offers practical tools for exploring and identifying one's uniqueness, motivating us to put our strengths to work and to find and live in our sweet spot for the rest of our lives. *Fearless*, also written by Max Lucado, approaches the idea of getting rid of fear that may taint our lives. Envision a day, just one day, where you could trust more and fear less. If you haven't been in our little library, check it out. Find a book, write your name on the card, put the card in the blue card box. When you bring it back, just drop it in the basket then find another book.



Sewing Days

We will be sewing one-handle school bags in Fellowship Hall January 30 and 31. We can use help no matter what your skill set. Bring your sewing machine and your serger along with basic sewing supplies and thread. We can use people to cut fabric and press seams along with those who sew. These bags will be taken to Midwest Mission Distribution center the following week. We will start at 9 am and sew until about 4 pm. At noon, we will break for a potluck type lunch. This is always a fun event with lots of fellowship while we work, so come join on one or both days, or even part of a day if you can. Sign-up on the Servant's Table, please, so we can have enough tables in place.



Trip to MMDC

Our mission work trip to Midwest Mission Distribution Center in Chatham, IL is coming soon, Feb 4-7, 2018. There are 16 of us signed up to go. Some are from other churches, but this is our largest group to date! We are looking forward to seeing what is in store for us when we arrive. For those attending, if you have not yet done so, please get \$62.00 to Karen Clark as soon as possible. You can pay the remaining \$62.00 when we arrive at MMDC. For those not attending, please pray for our safe travel, for the work that we will do, and for the recipients of our work. Thank you!

Midwest Mission



Distribution Center



My Story

The class of 2nd graders were tasked with dressing as a character from their favorite book, as they gave an oral book report. Sammy had just completed his report when from the far side of the room I could see him trying to take off the “Odie ears” he had taped to his head. The tape he had used was definitely stuck in his hair. Almost as if in slow motion, I saw Sammy reach into his desk and pull out his scissors. Quickly I hurried across the back of the room and whispered for him to come to the hallway, where I could help him remove the ears... WITHOUT scissors.

Having the class dress as their favorite character helped to put them into the book they were reporting on. It also helped their classmates more clearly see and understand the book they were talking about.

Funny how something as simple as clothing or facial expressions can help us to see the story someone else is sharing. In the Bible we learn that it is important to clothe ourselves in the character of God. By putting on the armor (Ephesians 6:11) or by clothing ourselves with righteousness (1 Corinthians 6:3-7), humility (1 Peter 5:5) or acting on our faith (James 2:14/ James 2:26) we are able to tell our faith story and to show others the best parts of our life in Christ. Dress the part! Show people in your words and actions, what your faith is truly about. God bless.

Corinne Kleppe - Editor

Adult-2 Class

The Adult-2 Class invites you to join them as they read and discuss a new book as yet to be determined.

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.

A New View

The new year is an opportunity to sort out the useless tasks and plan for the important; to review the failures and resolve to be successful; to take an inventory of causes and pledge life to purpose and service. These being done, the new will truly be new, different and better.

—C. Neil Strait



BIBLE STUDY
Sunday School Class
meets 9:15 a.m. in the choir room

Called to Truthful Love

Growing in our knowledge, understanding, and experience of love:
Mark 1:21-28

After Jesus was ritually cleansed by John, He stayed in the wilderness for 40 days where He experienced testing and trials. John was later arrested by Herod. Then Jesus went back to the region of Galilee and began to proclaim the *good news* of God. In His walking travels He would call to various persons and they followed Jesus as His *disciples*.

The village of Capernaum was located on the northern shore of the Sea of Galilee. While there on the Sabbath Day Jesus went “... straight into a synagogue, sat down, and began to teach. The people *looked at each other*, amazed, because this strange teacher acted as One authorized by God, and what He taught affected them in ways their own scribes’ teachings could not.”

Shortly thereafter a man in the synagogue became overcome by an “unclean spirit” and began shouting, “What are you doing here...I can see who you are! You’re the Holy One of God.” Jesus rebuked the unclean spirit within the man, ordered the spirit out, and the spirit did fly out of the man.



The people witnessing this event marveled at Jesus’ intelligence and authority; news of Jesus spread over the countryside of Galilee.

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! **Fulfill a New Year’s resolution** of attending a weekly Bible study by joining this group each Sunday morning -- after the 8 o’clock church service, or before the 10:30 church service!

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

◇ Lectionary Readings for January 2018 ◇

- **January 7: Mark 1:4-11** | Beloved
To respond to God’s voice calling us into new directions for our lives.
- **January 14: 1 Samuel 3:1-10, (11-20)** | Discerning God’s Call
To recognize and live from a new vision, ourselves, and the world.
- **January 21: Mark 1:14-20** | Casting Call
To consider how, and what it means, to place our trust in God.
- **January 28: Mark 1:21-28** | Called to Truthful Love
To grow in our knowledge, understanding, and experience of love.

RECYCLING STRING LIGHTS



If you are like many, you may need to jettison those strands of string/Christmas lights which no longer function.

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 beneath the narthex coat rack.

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



Change in Meeting Night

The Trustees have changed their meeting night from the first Tuesday of month to the first Thursday of the month. However, the January meeting will be held on Thursday, January 11 at 6:30 pm.

St. Luke Social Club Potluck Event

To Be Held Saturday, January 20th



The St. Luke Social Club will host the annual potluck/white elephant gift/candlelight dinner event Saturday evening, January 20th, 6 p.m. in Fellowship Hall. Adults of ALL ages are invited to attend! Please bring food items for potluck supper and one wrapped white elephant gift per participating person.

St Luke News

Many thanks to all of St Luke for supporting the St Nick Book Project. 557 children received a new book for Christmas 2017. Also, Thank You to the following people for their help in distributing the books:



- | | |
|-----------------|-------------------|
| Pam Andrews | Deb Stoullil |
| Leslie Maach | Jan Lewis |
| Brad Patty | Jenni Patty |
| Sue Crook | Dennis Smith |
| Pam Smith | Eric Smith |
| Mike Kaldenberg | Diana Pals |
| Karen Clark | Shirley Guillaume |
| Marianne Spaur | Rose Evans |

Days For Girls

Days For Girls is an international, non-profit, ecumenical group whose purpose is to help girls gain access to quality sustainable feminine hygiene, vital health knowledge, and income-generation opportunities. To learn more about Days For Girls, visit the website at: www.daysforgirls.org.



The Days For Girls Newton group meets on the 4th Thursday of the month at the 1st Presbyterian Church from 9 am- 2 pm. The next meeting date is Thursday, January 25. If you sew, please bring your sewing machine and basic sewing supplies. However, sewing skills not required. Bring a potluck item to share for lunch.

Donations for the kits are also appreciated.

- What is needed: cash
- panties in girl’s sizes 10-16 and women’s sizes 5-6 (darker colors, please)
- thin, dark-colored washcloths
- gallon-size Ziploc freezer bags (non-zipper slider, please)
- good quality flannel (washed)
- good quality quilters cotton fabric in bright colors (washed).

If you have questions about the Days For Girls program, contact Rose Evans or Karen Clark.

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, January 8 and picked up at First UMC on Saturday, January 20, between 7:30-8:30 am, when you can also order and pay for the next month.

