



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



**«Mailing Name»**

**«Address»**

**«City», «State» «F9»**

### Throughout March the Lenten Study *Embracing The Uncertain* continues:

Sundays 9:15 am @ St Luke  
Mondays 1:30 pm @ Karen Clark's home  
Thursday 6:30 pm @ B & J Patty's home

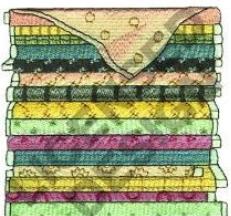
**Sunday, March 4:**  
8/10:30 am Worship - communion  
9:15 am Sunday School



**Sunday, March 11:**  
Daylight Saving Time Begins



**Warm Welcome Flannel Offering**  
8/10:30 am Worship  
9:15 am Sunday School



Non-Profit Organization  
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Newton, IA 50208

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REQUESTED

**St Luke UMC**  
501 E 19th Street N  
Newton, IA 50208  
641-792-5736

**March 2018**

**2018 Apportionment Goal**

**\$25,591**

**GOAL!**

**\$2,300**

### Financial Update

Acknowledging Your Faithful Support:

Our records indicate that your church paid 100% of your 2017 apportionments.

Thank you for your leadership and thank you congregation for the gifts that made this possible. Our Methodist connectional system will remain strong because of churches like yours.

Your Iowa Conference Treasurer,  
Maggie Biggs

These offerings have been received in the past month:

**February 4:** \$4,441 including \$145-Building Fund; \$20-Sunday School Supplies; \$10-Campership.

**February 11:** \$2,616 including \$475-Building Fund; \$16-Larry & Jane Kies; \$750-Camp Offering.

**February 18:** \$1,963 including \$150-Building Fund; \$27-Larry & Jane Kies; \$50-Apportionments; \$484-Pancake Supper.

**February 25:** \$729 including \$15-Building Fund; \$9-Larry & Jane Kies; \$77-Disability Awareness.

The balance on the building loan is \$1,087 thanks to your generosity.



**Tuesday, March 13:**  
January Newsletter  
Articles Are Due

**Wednesday, March 15 &**  
**Thursday, March 16:**  
9 am - 4 pm  
Diaper Sewing Days



**Sunday, March 18:**  
8/10:30 am Worship  
9:15 am Sunday School  
6 pm IWIC Worship at Mitchellville



**Palm Sunday**  
**Sunday, March 25:**  
8/10:30 am Worship  
9:15 Sunday School

**Thursday, March 29:**  
7 pm Maundy Thursday  
Worship Service



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### Lesson On Lent

In her blog, Leading From the Heart, Bishop Laurie Haller shared a lesson on Lent that helps us to better understand why we observe the season of Lent.

*The English word “Lent” comes from the Anglo-Saxon *lencfen*, which refers to the lengthening of days that accompanies spring. In the early church, Lent was a time when converts were instructed in the Christian faith in preparation for baptism, but it was also a time of fasting and penitence for all believers. That’s why many of us “give up” something for Lent...like chocolate.*

*The beginning of repentance is always the transformation of our heart. Most changes of heart, however, are gradual, even imperceptible. We wake up one day and suddenly realize that we are not the same person we were last year, last month, or even last week. But we’re not sure how and when it happened.*

*This change of heart is God’s work as much as it is our own. It’s called grace. God loves you so much that God is just waiting to give you a new heart through Jesus Christ, even when you haven’t earned it or don’t deserve it. Is your heart restless? Is there a sense of disquiet in your inward being? Are you disconnected with the source of your life? The good news is that you, too, can have a changed heart. All you have to do is say “yes”.*

You can read the complete blog entry at: [www.lauriehaller.org](http://www.lauriehaller.org)



**March 25-31**

**March 25:** Palm Sunday at St Luke

**March 29:** 7 pm

Maundy Thursday Worship at St Luke

**March 30:** 12 Noon

Community Cross Walk starting at St Stephen’s Episcopal Church

### 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. NOW Missions





March is upon us. Are you ready for March Madness?

I am not a big basketball fan, but the NCAA tournament is different. I don't pay attention to any team other than the Hawks until March hits, and then, I get invested in teams many have never heard of.

The first time I participated in an office bracket, I said, Gonzaga? Who's that. Well, they were no joke. They may have been the underdog and they may have been called Cinderella, but they proved that they deserved to be there.



In basketball, you have to earn your way in. There isn't anyone that lets you in the tournament unless you've proven yourself. And still, when the underdog wins, it seems like a miracle happens. It makes for great television.

The story of the people of God is the story of the underdog. God looked at the Hebrews in Egypt and decided that those people were God's people. The word Hebrew is the equivalent of our riffraff. These were the people that nobody cared about, that nobody had ever heard of. They were the slaves. And God chose these people to be the chosen people. They didn't earn their spot with God. God chose them.



When Jesus engaged people in ministry, it was quite often those on the edge. They were the underdogs of society: the tax-collectors, the prostitutes, the sick, the beggars. In every case, they didn't deserve to be there, but Jesus accepted them anyway.

March Madness and the Cinderella story that happens each year reminds me that even when we don't think that we deserve to be in the presence of God, God chooses us. We often feel like the Hebrews, or the lepers, or the beggars. We feel like we have no chance. God reminds us with the story of Easter that we are chosen for redemption. We don't deserve to be in, but God chooses us anyway.

Root for the underdog.  
Chad



### Directory Pictures

If you didn't get your pictures taken by LifeTouch Photography and would like to be included in the directory, photo submissions can be made to the church by March 12.



**Maundy Thursday**  
Join us for Worship on  
Thursday, March 29 at 7 pm.

### Community Cross Walk Good Friday, March 30 12 Noon Starting at St Stephen's Episcopal Church



Join the Community Cross Walk on Good Friday at 12 Noon as the group walks to the Downtown Newton Churches. This will be a time of worship, prayer and song in preparation for Easter.

### 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](http://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
- Rubber Bands

### 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.



### March Salvation Army Food Pantry Request

Macaroni and cheese, tuna and hamburger helper



### WORSHIP ASSISTANTS

March 4	8 AM	10:30 AM
Ushers	Larry/Darlyne Howard	Karen Clark/Sue Crook
Greeters	Tamara Lloyd/Randy Tabor	Jeff/Amy Murphy
Reader	Dave Miller	Katie Jones
Acolytes	Ron Lisk	Kleo O'Brien
Nursery	Parents take turns	Pat Patty
Keyboard	Bev Thomas	Jan Lewis
Special		
Projection	Brad Patty	Jacob Murphy
Fellowship	Leonard Family	Wendy Jennings
Care Core	Tamara Lloyd	Kari Ann Munson
Communion	Lisa Pageler	Counters: Russ Leix/Barb Kaldenberg
March 11	8 AM	10:30 AM
Ushers	Dick/Pam Stiles	Corinne Kleppe/Rose Evans
Greeters	Margaret Gullett	Wendy/Nathan Jennings
Readers	Russ Leix	Jeff Carter
Acolytes	Ron Lisk	Abby Jennings
Nursery	Parents take turns	Doug McIntyre
Keyboard	Jan Lewis	Jan Lewis
Special		
Projection	Peg Ehler	Karen Clark
Fellowship	Rose Hartschen	Carolyn Cook
Care Core	Jenni Patty	Lisa Marston
Counters		Rose Evans/Pat Patty
March 18	8 AM	10:30 AM
Ushers	Tamara Lloyd/Randy Tabor	Mike/Kleo O'Brien
Greeters	Pageler Family	Sue Crook
Readers	Rose Hartschen	Amy Murphy
Acolytes	Ron Lisk	Michelle O'Brien
Nursery	Parents take turns	Mikey Carter
Keyboard	Bev Thomas	Jan Lewis
Special	Praise Team	Praise Team
Projection	Peg Ehler	Carolyn Cook
Fellowship	Mike/Barb Kaldenberg	Lori Leix
Care Core	Joyce Stonehocker	Karen Clark
Counters		Brad Patty/Jan Lewis
March 25	8 AM	10:30 AM
Ushers	Mike/Barb Kaldenberg	Wendy Jennings/Lori Leix
Greeters	Dale/Karen Dorrell	Roy/Pat Patty
Readers	Peg Ehler	Corinne Kleppe
Acolytes	Ron Lisk	Ushers
Nursery	Parents take turns	Volunteer Needed
Keyboard	Bev Thomas	Deb Stouil
Special	Chancel Choir	Chancel Choir
Projection	Brad Patty	Pam Smith
Fellowship	Peg Ehler	Mikey Carter
Care Core	Barb Kaldenberg	Jenni Patty
Counters		Russ Leix/Deb Stouil

### Where to Find Us

**Pastor:** Rev. Chad Jennings  
[chad.jennings@stlukeneutral.com](mailto:chad.jennings@stlukeneutral.com)  
Office: 641-792-5736 Cell: 319-929-1867

**Adm. Assistant:** Shirley Guillaume  
Church Office Hours: Tues-Thurs, 1:45-5:45pm  
[worship@stlukeneutral.com](mailto:worship@stlukeneutral.com)

Phone: 641-792-5736

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[corinne.kleppe@grinnellmutual.com](mailto:corinne.kleppe@grinnellmutual.com)  
Phone: 641-831-2639

**Article Submission** by the 13th of month.

**Website:** [www.stlukeneutral.com](http://www.stlukeneutral.com)

**Website Manager:** Stephen Pageler  
**Facebook:** [St Luke Newton](#)

### St Luke News

To the faithful saints of St Luke UMC,  
Thank you so much for the beautiful card  
and compassionate message that Lori wrote  
upon the passing of my father.

I always love being able to join you all in  
worship. Your congregation is so friendly  
and caring and I feel so blessed that my family  
has found such a faithful family of God.  
May He bless you in your service to Him.

In His Love,  
Linda Benton (Pastor Chad's Mother)

Dear St Luke,

I want to thank everyone for all your  
prayers for my family, caregivers and myself  
the past few weeks. I could feel each and  
every prayer working before and after surgery!

I have appreciated every card, message,  
phone call, visit, and meal. Every word of  
encouragement and act of kindness touched  
my heart and helped me through each day. St  
Luke is the best!

Love,  
Stefanie Squire

Thank you for all your prayers, cards, and  
phone calls on my recent surgery.

Martha Stewart

### Please--Update All Addresses

including college students. We are constantly  
updating addresses of our members & friends. Help us by sup-  
plying 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 sched-  
uled. 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
			 *Denotes Birthdays! If your birthday is missing or incorrect, contact the office.	<b>1</b> <b>6:30 pm</b> <b>Trustees meeting</b> <b>Lenten Study</b> <b>6:30 pm</b>	<b>2</b> *Martha Stewart	<b>3</b> *Roy Patty *Rhondi Machin *Chom Thongvanh
<b>4</b> <b>8/10:30 Worship - Communion</b> 9/11:30 Fellowship 9:15 Sunday School Classes for all. 9:15 Lenten Study  *Abby Jennings *Shirley Guillaume	<b>5</b> <b>Lenten Study</b> <b>1:30 pm</b>	<b>6</b> *Ethan Pageler	<b>7</b> *Brad Patty <b>6:30 pm</b> <b>Praise Team</b> <b>7:15 pm</b> <b>Choir Practice</b>	<b>8</b> *Allison Thongvanh <b>6:30 pm</b> <b>Lenten Study</b> <b>6:30 pm</b>	<b>9</b> *Colton Hansen	<b>10</b>
<b>11</b>  <b>8/10:30 Worship</b> <b>Warm Welcome Flannel Offering</b> 9/11:30 Fellowship 9:15 Sunday School Classes for all. 9:15 Lenten Study	<b>12</b> SHARE Orders due. Go online, or call First UMC or First Christian.  <b>Lenten Study</b> <b>1:30 pm</b>	<b>13</b> Newsletter Articles Due	<b>14</b> <b>Diaper Sewing Days</b> <b>9 am - 4 pm</b>	<b>15</b> <b>6:30 pm</b> <b>Praise Team</b> <b>7:15 pm</b> <b>Choir Practice</b> 7 pm Page Turners Book Club	<b>16</b> *Jenni Patty *Dwight Huggins  <b>Lenten Study</b> <b>6:30 pm</b> 7pm Quilt Guild - F Hall	<b>17</b> 
<b>18</b> <b>8/10:30 Worship</b> 9/11:30 Fellowship 9:15 Sunday School Classes for all. 9:15 Lenten Study 6 pm ICIW	<b>19</b>  <b>Lenten Study</b> <b>1:30 pm</b>	<b>20</b> *Jason Hanson  <b>6:30 pm</b> <b>NOW meeting</b>	<b>21</b> <b>1:15 pm</b> <b>UMW at St Luke</b> <b>6:30 pm</b> <b>Praise Team</b> <b>7:15 pm</b> <b>Choir Practice</b>	<b>22</b> *Bryce Rhone 9am-2pm Days For Girls @ 1st Presbyterian Church <b>Lenten Study 6:30</b>	<b>23</b>  <b>7:30 am</b> <b>SHARE Pickup</b>  *Peg Ehler	<b>24</b>  
<b>25</b>  <b>8/10:30 Worship</b> <b>Palm Sunday</b> 9/11:30 Fellowship 9:15 Sunday School Classes for all. 9:15 Lenten Study  *Erin Stonner *John Onstot	<b>26</b>  <b>Lenten Study</b> <b>1:30 pm</b>	<b>27</b> *Hannah Marston *Kris Weston  <b>6:30 pm</b> <b>SPRC Meeting</b>	<b>28</b> <b>8:30 am Collate Newsletter</b>  <b>6:30 pm</b> <b>Praise Team</b> <b>7:15 pm</b> <b>Choir Practice</b>	<b>29</b> *Alan Andrews <b>Lenten Study</b> <b>6:30 pm</b>   <b>7pm</b> <b>Worship Service</b>	<b>30</b> 12 pm-Community Cross Walk - St Stephens Episcopal Church  	<b>31</b>

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



## United Methodist Women

**March 21, 2018**

At Park Centre  
1:15 pm

"For if you forgive other people when they sin against you, your heavenly Father will also forgive you. But if you do not forgive others their sins, your Father will not forgive your sins."

Matthew 6:14-15

Program: The Sacred Space of Legacy: 150th Anniversary by Katie Jones

Hostess: Katie Jones



Save the date and join us in celebrating Day of Giving on March 23, 2018. Giving to the Legacy Fund supports the continuation of UMWomen service and advocacy for women, children and youth from this generation to the next.

[www.unitedmethodistwomen.org/legacyfund](http://www.unitedmethodistwomen.org/legacyfund)

## Sunday School Mission Offering Through 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

## News from our Librarian ~ Karen Clark

Check out *Patched Together* by Brennan Manning who has spent the past forty years helping others experience the reality of God's love. It's at the heart of everything he has written. A recovering alcoholic and former Franciscan priest, his spiritual journey has taken him down a variety of paths. He has taught seminarians, spoken to packed arenas, lived in a cave and labored with the poor in Spain. This is a story and Manning says that in many ways this is his story. You will follow the character of Willie Juan, a lonely boy who finds belonging in the eyes of the mysterious Man of Sorrows, through three distinct seasons of his life: morning, noon, and night. Each season is filled with memorable characters, significant wounds and lingering questions. *Patched Together* is a remarkable story in which readers will see themselves as all the patches are tied together. You can find it on the Newsletter shelf in our little library in the corner. Check it out!



## WARM WELCOME FLANNEL FUND

**March 11, 2018**

In February, 7 St Luke members traveled to Chatham, Illinois to work at Midwest Mission Distribution Center (MMDC). On our last day there, several members of our group worked on making flannel diapers for layette kits.

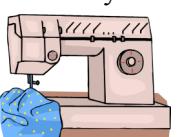


As a group we decided to make this a St Luke project. Each layette kit includes 6 diapers and we estimate we could make 6 diapers for around \$10. So, on Sunday, March 11<sup>th</sup> we will be taking an offering during worship. The funds collected will be used toward the purchase of flannel for these diapers. We have set a goal of \$250...can we surpass that? If you would prefer to donate flannel for this project we ask that you donate a minimum of 3 yards of flannel. This flannel can be brought to the church on Sunday March 11 as part of the offering. Please be sure to avoid any flannel with paw, hand or foot prints.

Then, on March 14 and 15, there will be a sewing day at the church (see separate article) to create these diapers. (As you can see, there are lots of ways to be a part of this project.) The diapers will be delivered to MMDC in May by Joyce Stonehocker who now serves on the MMDC board.

## Sewing Days

We will be sewing flannel diapers for layette kits in Fellowship Hall March 14 & 15. 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 diapers will be taken to Midwest Mission Distribution Center in May. 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.





## My Story

My friend Kelly once left work for an early lunch just so that she could stop at my home and tie my shoes. Why? Because I had injured my hand and she wanted to help me get to my doctor appointment as comfortably as possible. In my tied tennies. Friends do things for one another. They help paint, or pull up carpet. They drive us to doctor appointments, babysit our kids and sometimes they tie our shoes.



A good friend will do a lot for us...but what if your friend knelt in front of you and washed your feet...hours before he carried a heavy wooden beam up a hill where he willingly died for you!

That is what Jesus did! He willingly died for YOU! He willingly died in your place! In my place! He knew what was coming and he still walked into Jerusalem. He knew where this trip would end...and still he walked on. He opened his arms for the nails, and with His last breath He asked God to forgive all of us.

Thank you Jesus for being our friend! Thank you! Thank you! Thank you.

Corinne Kleppe - Editor

## Adult-2 Class

The Adult-2 Class invites you to join them as they read and discuss the book "Go Tell It on the Mountain" by James Baldwin. It tells the story of John Grimes, an intelligent teenager in 1930s Harlem, and his relationship to his family and his church. The novel focuses on the role of the Pentecostal Church in the lives of African-Americans, as a negative source of repression and moral hypocrisy and also as a positive source of inspiration and community.



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.

## 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.




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

## Love Arriving

*Exploring the stories of Holy Week: Mark 14:1-15:47*

A perfume jar, a palm branch, a loaf of bread and glass of wine, a garden, a rooster, a cross, and some linen cloth. All these items are central to the stories of Holy Week.

In Bethany a woman came with an *alabaster* jar of very expensive perfume, broke it, and poured that perfume on Jesus' head. Jesus said, "*She will be remembered forever for what she has done.*" The day that Jesus and his friends left Bethany and arrived in Jerusalem the whole city treated him like a king: *Blessed is the one who comes in the name of God!*

That evening it was the time of the celebration of the **Passover** Seder. During the meal with his disciples in the prepared room Jesus took a loaf of bread and cup of wine for the first *communion*, also sharing, "*One of you will betray me.*"

Jesus and his disciples went to the garden where Jesus and His disciples customarily visited, Gethsemane, located at the foot of the Mount of Olives, a mountain range. *The Mount of Olives has been used as a cemetery for over 3,000 years.* It was there that the disciple Judas betrayed Jesus, identifying him to the authorities.

Later that night Jesus was taken to be questioned by the "high priest." Peter tagged along, just far enough from Jesus to not be clearly identified as one of *Jesus' followers*. Three times Peter was singled out and accused of "being with Him." Three times Peter denied the accusation; then the rooster crowed twice.



From the chief priests, Jesus was sent to Pilate, the Roman governor. Jesus was crucified, the day became dark for three hours, and the temple curtain was torn from top to bottom.

Joseph of Arimathea, a prominent Council member, asked for Jesus' body and provided some linen cloth for wrapping.

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 March. Even if you can't come to class, consider taking the time to read them at home!

### ◊ Lectionary Readings for March 2018 ◊

- March 4:** Psalm 19 | Contemplate God's Glory  
*To deepen our wonder and respect for God's creation and ways.*
- March 11:** Psalm 107:1-3, 17-22 | God's Love Is Steadfast  
*To explore the ways of God's steadfast love in all situations.*
- March 18:** Jeremiah 31:31-34 | God's Love is on Our Hearts  
*To affirm God's presence and promise in the center of our being.*
- March 25:** Mark 14:1-15:47 | Love Arriving  
*To explore together the stories of Holy Week.*



## 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 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!**

## Mission Trip Update

Thank you for praying for our group of 13 who recently traveled to Midwest Mission Distribution Center south of Springfield, IL. During our 2-1/2 days of working we assembled 312 Cleaning Kits. Each kit is a 5 gallon plastic bucket filled with cleaning supplies. Much prep leads up to filling the buckets. For example, garbage bags are rolled into bundles of 12 and each bucket has two of those bundles. There were 7,488 big black garbage bags in our buckets and we rolled more bags in preparation for the next group. We rolled well over 5,000 Handi-wipes into bundles of 18 for the buckets.



Our group and a few local volunteers assembled 809 Personal Dignity Kits. These kits contain personal hygiene items wrapped in a washcloth and towel then sealed in a ziplock bag. Three from our group worked faithfully on school desks which are made from used gym bleacher wood. Medical supplies were counted and the table and chairs were cleaned for the new board room. We also learned to sew flannel baby diapers and brought back patterns so we can make these here at St. Luke. Although some of these jobs may seem a bit menial, it is surprising the satisfaction and even the fun that is experienced when doing these jobs for God's Kingdom.

We have many stories we could tell. Feel free to ask any of us for more details. Those on this trip were Corinne Kleppe, Carolyn Cook, Joyce Stonehocker, Barb and Mike Kaldenberg, Dave Miller, Pastor Chad Jennings, Karen Clark, and five from other churches. Future dates reserved for St. Luke to be at MMDC are January 20-23, 2019, February 24-27, 2019, January 19-22, 2020 and February 23-26, 2020.

## 2018 Church Camp Time Is Here!

Which of the "Best Week Ever" Camps will you attend? The online catalog can be found at: [www.iaupt.org/](http://www.iaupt.org/) camps.

Camperships are available through the St Luke UMWomen. Financial assistance is also available through Iowa Conference Funding.

## Days For Girls Update

The March meeting of Days For Girls will be held on March 25 from 9 am - 2 pm at 1st Presbyterian Church, Newton. There are several St Luke people that participate in the Days For Girls group. 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](http://www.SHAREIOWA.com), or call either First UMC or First Christian Church. "SHARE boxes" can be ordered



by Monday, March 12 and picked up at First UMC on Saturday, March 24, between 7:30-8:30 am, when you can also order and pay for the next month.

## St Luke News

St Luke Family,

WOW!! Another wonderful gift of \$467.50 to our Bedz 4 Kidz Mission Project! Our Christian family at St Luke has been, and continues to be a blessed donor to our beds initiative. Your church family's kindness is overwhelming to say the least, THANK YOU, THANK YOU! Your generous donation will provide 2 additional bunkbeds which will move 4 children from floor mattresses to a Real Bed. What a wonderful expression of love this is! God bless one and all.



Sincerely,  
Dick Palmer  
Bedz 4 Kidz Coordinator

Thank you to those who helped deliver Meals On Wheels in the month of December.

Many Thanks for the contributions of food and the volunteers who helped prepare and serve the meal at Trinity UMC for CFUM on January 29.

Joyce Stonehocker

