

St Luke UMC

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

April 1, 2023



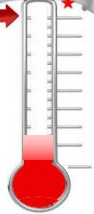
THE BI-WEEKLY Flame CATCH THE FIRE!

2023 Apportionments

\$15,279



\$1000



Financial Update



Thank you to everyone for your continued support of St Luke ministries.

These offerings were received in the month of March:

Total of \$11,452 which included:

- \$ 1,270 - Building Fund
- \$ 126 - Apportionments
- \$ 765 - UMCOR Sunday
- \$ 150 - Easter Offering UMCOR
- \$ 40 - UMCOR Ukraine
- \$ 20 - Discover Hope
- \$ 67 - Heifer Project
- \$ 14 - Florence Mefor Missionary

Holy Week

Sunday, April 2: Palm Sunday

9:30 am Worship at St Luke

Thursday, April 6: Maundy Thursday

6:30 pm Worship at St Luke

Friday, April 7: Good Friday

(No Service)

Sunday, April 9: Easter Sunday

9:30 am Worship at St Luke

Where to Find Us

Pastor: Rev. Chad Jennings

chad.jennings@stlukenewton.com

Office: 641-792-5736 Cell: 319-929-1867

Adm. Assistant: Jennifer Etter

Church Office Hours:

Mon-Thurs 9:00 am - 12:00 pm

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Article Submission by the 13th of month.

Website: www.stlukenewton.com

Website Manager: Stephen Pageler

YouTube: St Luke United Methodist Church

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

Prayer: prayer@stlukenewton.com

MAUNDY THURSDAY
SERVICE
APRIL 6 | 6:30 PM

EASTER
SUNDAY
JOIN US FOR WORSHIP

Easter Sunday Service
April 9 | 9:30 AM
Celebrate the Good News of our Risen Savior!



My Story

“Com’ere” she said from across the pool with a silly smile. Before I knew it, she had me in a bear hug using arms and legs. I couldn’t move, and she wouldn’t let go as she kissed my ear with a loud smack. Soon, it became clear that this would not be the last time I heard that word or saw that mischievous look on her face. Each time, she would have me giggling... just like she had when we were kids. I tried to return the favor... but Loyce has always been stronger than me, and she would take over the bear hug, every time.



“Com’ere” or in normal English, “Come here” is a call to move toward someone or something. There are many calls within the Bible to “Come”. Here are just a few of them:

Matthew 11:28-30 “Come to me, all you who are weary and burdened, and I will give you rest. ²⁹ Take my yoke upon you and learn from me, for I am gentle and humble in heart, and you will find rest for your souls. ³⁰ For my yoke is easy and my burden is light.”

Matthew 19:21 Jesus answered, “If you want to be perfect, go, sell your possessions and give to the poor, and you will have treasure in heaven. Then come, follow me.”

Mark 1:17 “Come, follow me,” Jesus said, “and I will send you out to fish for people.”

Mark 10:14 When Jesus saw this, he was indignant. He said to them, “Let the little children come to me, and do not hinder them, for the kingdom of God belongs to such as these.

Jesus calls us yet today. Com’ere! Come Here! Will you come when Jesus calls?

Corinne Kleppe



Eyes of the Heart

Luke 24:13-35

Opening our hearts to recognize the risen Christ and respond in witness

Soon following his resurrection Jesus joined two male travelers walking on a well-traveled path to Emmaus. The men, walking from Jerusalem, were followers, or disciples, of Jesus, though not one of the original twelve. Speaking about the events that had recently happened, their eyes prevented them from recognizing Jesus.

Jesus inquired of them that about which they were speaking. They were astounded that this person was unaware of the recent otherwise-well-known events of Jerusalem: *You must be the only visitor in Jerusalem who hasn’t heard about what’s been going on over the last few days.*

The disciples shared information about Jesus of Nazareth, a prophet, who it was hoped would liberate Israel. The men told the news that Jesus’ tomb, on the third day, was found empty and his body found nowhere.

Jesus, still the stranger to these two men, replied: *Didn’t it have to be this way? Didn’t the Anointed One have to experience these sufferings in order to come into His glory?*

As the two travelers were nearing their destination, they asked the stranger/Jesus to join them for the night in their home. As they sat down at their table Jesus took the bread, gave thanks for it, broke the bread, and handed it to the others. At that moment the two men instantly recognized Jesus and then He disappeared.

In hindsight they realized the clarity of His explanations. The two men then got up and immediately headed back to Jerusalem, eager to report to others the news of their experience.

The Seasons of the Spirit Bible Study Class meets Sunday mornings, after the 9:30 church service. In honor and respect for all present we are immunized.



•Lectionary Readings for April 2023•

•April 2: Matthew 21:1-11 & 26:14-27:66

Among Palms and Betrayals | *To explore the stories of Holy Week*

• April 9: John 20:1-18 | Joy Comes Alive

To celebrate the good news of Jesus’ resurrection

• April 16: John 20:19-31 | Resurrection Witness

To delve into the richness of the peace that can be ours

• April 23: Luke 24:13-35 | Eyes of the Heart

To open our hearts to recognize the risen Christ and respond in witness

• April 30: Acts 2:42-47 | Sensing Awe

To explore the witness of living and serving together as the Body of Christ



United
Women
in Faith

United Women in Faith

April 19 - 1:15 pm
At St Luke UMC

"Blessed are the peacemakers, for they will be called sons of God." (NIV)
Matthew 5:9

Program: Our Journeys to and with Christ
By: Barb Kaldenberg
Hostess: Joyce Stonehocker

April 9 - Easter
April 22 - Earth Day

Native American Ministries Sunday Sunday, April 23

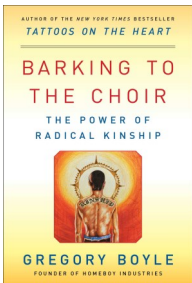
The people of The United Methodist Church, Native and non-Native, are creating a new history. Through Native American Ministries Sunday, we're able to equip and empower Native American pastors, congregations and seminary students to do what only they can do: authentically worship and serve Jesus. Your gifts allow us to collaborate with existing native ministries, create programs and support seminary scholarships for United Methodist Native Americans.



Adult-2 Sunday School Class

The Adult 2 Sunday School class is reading and discussing the book *Barking to the Choir: The Power of Radical Kinship* by Gregory Boyle. If you are familiar with *Tattoos on the Heart* or *The Whole Language*, you will enjoy reading Gregory Boyle's 2nd book in this series. In a nation deeply divided and plagued by poverty and violence, *Barking to the Choir* offers a snapshot into the challenges and joys of life on the margins. Sergio, arrested at age nine, in a gang by age twelve, and serving time shortly thereafter, now works with the substance-abuse team at Homeboy to help others find sobriety. Jamal, abandoned by his family when he tried to attend school at age seven, gradually finds forgiveness for his schizophrenic mother. New father Cuco, who never knew his own dad, thinks of a daily adventure on which to take his four-year-old son. These former gang members uplift the soul and reveal how bright life can be when filled with unconditional love and kindness.

If you are looking for a class with variety and topical studies, this would be a good class for you. We read the book together, so there is no "homework". There is always room for more to join the conversation. We meet in Room 5 in the education wing right after Worship.



St Luke News

Our heartfelt condolences and prayers go out to Larry Howard and family on the passing of his wife, Darlyne Howard.

Our sympathies and prayers go out to Kerri and Rusty Deppe and family on the loss of Kerri's mother, Martha Anderson.



Our deepest condolences and prayers go out to the Huggins family on the passing of Dwight Huggins.

Discover Hope Supper Club

St. Luke has committed to providing the evening meal for Discover Hope the first Tuesday of every other month. Our next meal will be on April 4. We will be serving frito pie, broccoli salad and fruit cups for our April meal. If you would like to sign-up to provide food, monetary donations or to help serve the meal there will be a sign-up sheet on the servant's counter. All donations need to be put in the church kitchen by Sunday, April 2. Any questions please contact Joyce Stonehocker or Jan Lewis.



Mission Coalition

Pie Sale





Saturday, April 29
9 am - 12 pm

**St Luke
United Methodist
Church
Fellowship Hall**

SIGN UP AT THE SERVANT'S
COUNTER TO DONATE PIES







Mission Coalition Pie Sale

Mission Coalition is having a pie sale in the St Luke Fellowship Hall on Saturday, April 29 from 9 am - 12 pm. Sign up at the servant's counter to donate a pie. If you are donating a pie, please bring your pie(s) to Sam's Place at St Luke on Saturday, April 29 between 8 and 9 am. Contact Joyce Stonehocker with any questions.

Easter Lilies Welcome

If you would like to share an Easter lily to decorate the altar for Easter in honor or memory of someone, please write your name and theirs in an email or note and send it to the church office or Pastor Chad. If you order the lilies to be delivered, have the florist call ahead before delivering to be sure someone is available at the church to receive them.



Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
 APRIL						1
2 9:30 am Worship - Communion Sunday School to Follow 	3	4 5:30 pm Discover Hope Meal @ DH 7 pm P.E.O. Meeting FH Rsrvd 6:30-9 pm	5 6:30 pm Praise Team 7:15 pm Choir Practice	6 6:30 pm Maundy Thursday Service 	7 	8 9am-4pm Quilt Guild Sew Day FH Rsrvd
9 Easter Sunday 9:30 am Worship Sunday School to Follow Noon-4 pm Kitchen/ FH Rsrvd Kaldenberg Family 	10	11	12 6:30 pm Praise Team 7 pm Page Turners FH Rsrvd 7:15 pm Choir Practice	13 	14	15
16 9:30 am Worship Sunday School to Follow	17	18	19 1:15 pm UWF Meeting 6:30 pm Praise Team 7:15 pm Choir Practice	20 6:30 pm Quilt Guild Meeting FH Rsrvd	21	22 
23 9:30 am Worship Sunday School to Follow Native American Ministries Sunday-Offering	24 6:30 pm JCRCC FH Rsrvd	25 7pm Mission Coalition FH Rsrvd	26 6:30 pm Praise Team 7:15 pm Choir Practice	27 9am - 2pm Days for Girls @ 1st Presbyterian Church	28	29 9am-12pm Pie Sale @ St Luke FH Rsrvd
30 9:30 am Worship Sunday School to Follow						

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

WORSHIP ASSISTANTS	
April 2	9:30 AM
Ushers	Mike & Barb Kaldenberg
Greeters	Brad & Jenni Patty
Reader	Pat Patty
Acolyte	Frances Mills
Keyboard	Jan Lewis
Projection	Peg Ehler
Camera	
Care Core	Barb Swihart, Amy Murphy
Coffee Time	Barb Kaldenberg
April 9	9:30 AM
Ushers	Corinne Kleppe
Greeters	Marianne Spaur
Reader	Emily McConkey
Acolyte	Rachel Pageler
Keyboard	Jan Lewis & Bev Thomas
Projection	Peg Ehler
Camera	Ethan Pageler
Care Core	Jenni Patty, Lisa Marston
Coffee Time	
April 16	9:30 AM
Ushers	Amy Murphy
Greeters	
Reader	Jenni Patty
Acolyte	Rachel Pageler
Keyboard	Bev Thomas
Projection	Ben Leonard
Camera	Ethan Pageler
Care Core	Joyce Stonehocker, Karen Clark
Coffee Time	Peg Kimberley
April 23	9:30 AM
Ushers (2)	Peg Kimberley
Greeters (2)	Mike & Barb Kaldenberg
Reader	Barb Kaldenberg
Acolyte	Rachel Pageler
Keyboard	Bev Thomas
Projection	Ben Leonard
Camera	Ethan Pageler
Care Core	Barb Kaldenberg
Coffee Time	Barb Kaldenberg

April Worship Assistants

For 2023 we are trying something new with our worship assistant sign up. We would like to see more of our volunteer position filled so we have decided to start passing around signup sheets for 3 months at a time. We had another wonderful response for our April-June volunteers and would like to thank everyone who has so graciously signed up.

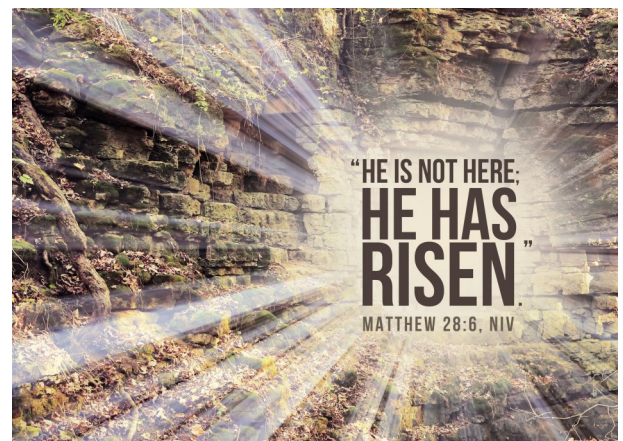


Most positions are filled now through June but there are still some spots open. If you would like to volunteer or see what positions are available you can email the church office at: worship@stlukenewton.com, use the sign-up sheets on the servant's counter or you can add your name to our online sign-up sheet. Here is the link to sign up online:

<https://docs.google.com/document/d/1LV73f57IkMBVLyocfiFvS7GsvYM03YPBSzoXUhXQL7s/edit?usp=sharing>

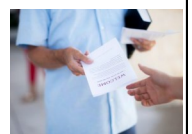
We appreciate all those who have so willingly volunteered to help. Thank you!

April 30	9:30 AM
Ushers	Peg Ehler
Greeters	Amy Onstot
Reader	Russ Leix
Acolyte	Payton Figland & Frances Mills
Keyboard	Jan Lewis
Projection	
Camera	
Care Core	Jenni Patty, Tamara Lloyd
Coffee Time	Lemons Family



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.



Easter Offering 2023

The year was 1993, I came home from getting my hair cut to see fire trucks outside my apartment building. I looked closer and saw the firemen shoveling debris out the window of the apartment across the hall from mine. I had no idea where my cousin/roommate was and I had no idea what, if any, damage there was in my own apartment.

Later that same year, I woke up on a Sunday morning to learn the Des Moines water plant had flooded and there was NO water coming from the taps. There was water – EVERYWHERE – in the Des Moines Metro, but none to drink.

Flash forward to August 2020, a storm whipped its way across the state of Iowa, intensifying as it went. The derecho dropped trees and power lines as it screamed Eastward.

Those are 3 different types of disasters that I have experienced in my lifetime. Each of these disasters (whether man-made or from nature) left chaos and destruction in their wake. However, I was lucky. I didn't

lose my possessions in the fire, I just had to clean everything. My home wasn't damaged in the flood – though my cousin and I had to haul water from elsewhere and take showers at my friend's home in West Des Moines. My apartment building, thankfully, was not damaged in the derecho and my office has a generator, so I was back to work the next day, and able to charge my phone daily during the power outage. As I said, I was lucky.

Others were not so lucky during these disasters, or in the various disasters that have touched their lives. Each disaster affects people in a multitude of ways: loss of property, loss of utilities, loss of food, loss of life and so much more. The UMCOR Disaster Relief fund assists following disasters both nationally and internationally. So far in 2023, UMCOR has responded to the earthquake in Turkey, bringing tents, heaters, blankets, warm clothing, meals and first aid. In the USA, UMCOR has already provided assistance to Alabama and Georgia following the mid-January tornados. Also, UMCOR is working on plans to assist in California following the flooding and landslides. In 2022, UMCOR responded in the wake of hurricanes, floods, tornados, wildfires and blizzards.

We can help these efforts by our Easter 2023 offering. Please designate on the memo line of your check: National/International Disaster Relief – UMCOR.

Corinne, NOW Missions

Days For Girls

The next Days For Girls sewing day will be Thursday, April 27 from 9 am-2 pm at the 1st Presbyterian Church. Questions? Contact Rose Evans. If you would like more information about Days for Girls you can visit their website at www.daysforgirls.org.



Service for Vernon and Esther Klosterboer



Friday, April 21, 2023
10:30 Service with
Burial Ceremony
in Rose Hill Cemetery
Lunch to follow at the church.

Bethany Presbyterian Church
315 G Avenue
Grundy Center, IA

Smart Cookie Fundraiser

Do you have a student in your life who is a smart cookie? Our student ministry is hosting a fundraiser to encourage your favorite students and raise money to support those studying at Africa University. \$20 sends a box of 2 dozen homemade, made-from-scratch cookies delivered to your favorite people of any age. Four kinds of cookies to choose from. You can



place your orders through April 23 with a paper form at the church, scan the QR code, or find the online order form found here: https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLSe_Fuz0RLQB-IDZmNtHwrjKxRap1PzAVzOZASDvLIIXnFia8A/viewform.



SCAN ME

Contact Wendy Jennings with any questions.



Jasper County Take Away Hunger Rescheduled Event

The Jasper County Take Away Hunger event that was scheduled for March 25 has been rescheduled due to shipping and supply issues. The next packaging event is now scheduled for Saturday, April 29 at Holy Trinity Lutheran Church.



Kiva Donation Thank You

A few years ago the Sandwich Bunch and the Baby Boomers met together and made a couple of donations to Kiva. Recently we received the following thank you note.

Dear Sandwich Boomers,

My name is Juan Carlos and I wanted to take a minute to say thank you. Because of your donations to Kiva, people like me have the opportunity to achieve great things.

When I came to San Francisco in 2017, I wanted to improve my life and pursue my dreams. Thanks to a Kiva loan, I now have a successful restaurant, Ceviche Pacha, and I can share my culture with others by cooking and serving my favorite dish from Peru. But I could not have done it alone. I couldn't count on the bank because of my status as an immigrant. When I looked for other alternatives for credit, the bank told me it was impossible. Then I found Kiva. It was like a balloon full of oxygen! I felt so happy that people would help me get a loan — it meant that they believed in me.

I want you to know the true impact your generosity with Kiva has made for people like me around the world. There aren't words to describe the support and hope I have felt with Kiva. So much cariño and care. I am so grateful.

Thank you,
Juan Carlos



JUAN CARLOS, OWNER AND CHEF AT CEVICHE PACHA, USED A KIVA LOAN TO IMPROVE DELIVERY AND OPERATIONS DURING THE COVID-19 PANDEMIC.

Thank You!
FOR YOUR DONATION

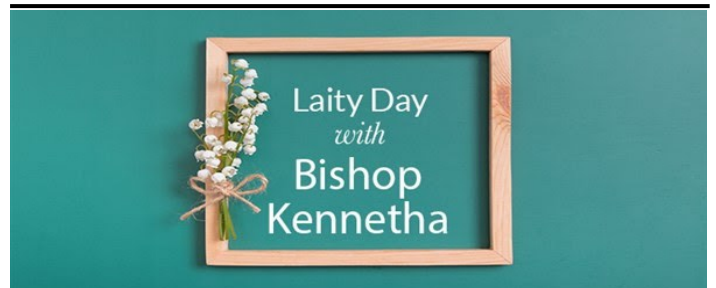
Death Doesn't Win

In the final hours of 2021, a wildfire near Boulder, Colorado, destroyed 1,000 homes, including one belonging to Pastor Bill Stephens. His family, out of town at the time, lost all their possessions. After months of feeling buried in debris, insurance paperwork and mourning, Stephens decided that Easter 2022 would mark a fresh start.

During worship that morning, the pastor shared a photo of vibrant daffodils emerging on his charred property. Burned remnants were visible in the background, just as Easter's backdrop includes the pain and death of Good Friday. But the empty tomb in Easter's foreground means death won't win, reminded Stephens. Even when earthly life "isn't all daffodils," we have hope and eternal life through Jesus.



Easter reveals that God will "give us the joy, and it's going to be in the heart of pain that we go through as well," added the pastor. "And that just makes me draw closer to God."



Laity Day with Bishop Kenneth

Laity Day with Bishop Kenneth will be held on Saturday, April 15 from 9:00 am - 3:00 pm at Aldersgate United Methodist Church, 3600 75th St, Urbandale. This is open to all laity and is a perfect opportunity to interact with the new bishop.



Camp Season Is Coming Soon

It's time to start planning and signing up for camp at one of the beautiful Iowa United Methodist Camps. Catalogs are available at the church or you can go online to check out what's available at www.iaumc.org/camps. Get ready for your adventure of a lifetime.

A Special Blessing for those with April Birthdays

- April 1 - Ava Smith
- April 5 - Jeffrey Guillaume
- April 6 - Mary Nelson
- April 8 - Kleo O'Brien
Dylan Wood
Dawn Bleeker
- April 10 - Jacob Murphy
Pane Thongvanh
- April 11 - Karen Clark
Kelly Murphy
Payton Figland
- April 13 - Paul Bleeker
- April 16 - Mark Spaur
- April 17 - Heuay Thongvanh
- April 20 - Mary Onstot
- April 21 - Dale Dorrell
Jennifer Etter
- April 28 - Barb Ponder



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



**HERO
HOTLINE**
Called Together to Serve God!

2023 VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL

June 26-30

VBS Volunteers Needed!

Please email (anнерicleonard@gmail.com) or call (641-521-2463) Ann Leonard if you are interested in helping.

April Salvation Army Food Pantry Request

Instant Potatoes
Powdered Milk

SEEING AND BELIEVING

Until Thomas saw Jesus' nail scars with his own eyes, he doubted the resurrection. What did Jesus tell Thomas?

Directions:
Use the code to fill in the vowels and complete
John 20:29, NIV.

"B_c_s_y_h_v_s_n m_,
 y_h_v_b_l_v_d;
 bl_ss_d_r_th_s_wh_h_v_n_t
 s_n_nd_y_t_h_v_b_l_v_d."
JOHN 20:29, NIV

Answer: "Because you have seen me, you have believed; blessed are those who have not seen and yet have believed." John 20:29, NIV