

# St Luke UMC

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

May 1, 2021



# THE BI-WEEKLY Flame CATCH THE FIRE!

## 2021 Apportionments

**\$16,499**



\$2,924

## Financial Update



Thank you to everyone for your continued support of St Luke ministries. These offerings were received in the month of April:

Total of \$14,804 which included:

\$ 1,486 - Building Fund

\$ 105 - Apportionments

\$ 160 - Jane Kies

\$ 530 - Easter/Lenten Offering

\$ 60 - Native American Fund



## Calling VBS Volunteers!

At this time, we're planning on hosting in-person VBS July 19-23. If you are interested in volunteering, here are the areas we need help:

- 3-4 year olds
- Pre-K
- 1<sup>st</sup>-2<sup>nd</sup> grade
- 3<sup>rd</sup> - 4<sup>th</sup> grade
- 5<sup>th</sup>-6<sup>th</sup> grade
- Snacks
- Registration
- Music
- Recreation
- Crafts
- Drama (help with the set and acting)

**SAVE THE DATE!**  
**Vacation Bible School**  
**July 19 - 23, 2021**

Please email ([annericleonard@gmail.com](mailto:annericleonard@gmail.com)) or call (641-521-2463) Ann Leonard if you are interested in helping.

## 2021 Graduates

We are gathering names for any graduate (high school or college) of our St Luke family. Please call or email the office and give us the name of your graduate ASAP, to be sure they are included. We would also like to include a photo of the graduate if at all possible. On Sunday, May 30 we will be recognizing our seniors during our 9:30 am worship service.

*Congratulations*  
**CLASS of 2021**

**HAPPY MOTHER'S DAY!**

**Sunday, May 9th**

## 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 am-12 pm  
[worship@stlukenewton.com](mailto:worship@stlukenewton.com)  
Phone: 641-792-5736

**Newsletter Editor:** Corinne Kleppe  
corinne.kleppe@grinnellmutual.com  
Phone: 641-831-2639

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

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

**Website Manager:** Stephen Pageler

**YouTube:** St Luke United Methodist Church

**Facebook:** St Luke Newton

**Prayer:** [prayer@stlukenewton.com](mailto:prayer@stlukenewton.com)



## My Story

*GOD met me more than half-way, he freed me from my **anxious** fears. Psalm 34:4*

The unknown... it's a scary thing at times. When I graduated from high school, a part of me was excited for the future. The other part was scared of the unknown. I had always been a bit of a homebody. I also leaned strongly toward the shy-introverted side. Thinking about leaving home for college was scary. It was unknown, and I had no clear idea of what I wanted to be when I grew up.

Recently I've been feeling some of that same angst with regards to the unknown. The pandemic has changed my work environment. For a good part of 2020, I was alone on my floor at work. Today, there are a few others on the floor, but most of my coworkers are still at home. The unknown part...what will it look like when the building is open once again? A large percentage of our staff is choosing to continue to work from home. So, what will the office look like? Where will we be in the building? Who will be in the office each day? Will I still be eating alone? How will the atmosphere be different? How much will we return to "normal"? The unknown can be stressful.

When the disciples were waiting for the Holy Spirit, their world was full of the unknown. They had been told by Jesus to not leave Jerusalem, but to wait for the gift that had been promised. They had also been told the Holy Spirit was coming.

*And when the Holy Spirit comes on you, you will be able to be my witnesses in Jerusalem, all over Judea and Samaria, even to the ends of the world." Acts 1:8*

However, they did not know what that would be like. How would the Holy Spirit come? Would they feel different? Would they look different? Would the world see them differently? How long would they wait?

Just like the 17 year old me...I am sure one part of them was apprehensive about what was coming, while the other part was ready. Excited even, to take that next step. In times like these, we have to remind ourselves that worry never helps but God does.

*Don't fret or worry. Instead of worrying, pray. Let petitions and praises shape your worries into prayers, letting God know your concerns. Before you know it, a sense of God's wholeness, everything coming together for good, will come and settle you down. It's wonderful what happens when Christ displaces worry at the center of your life. Phillipians 4:6-7*

Corinne Kleppe

 	<b>BIBLE STUDY</b> Sunday School Class meets 9:15 a.m. in the choir room
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## Join the Witness

ACTS 1:15-17,

21-26

## Disciple #13

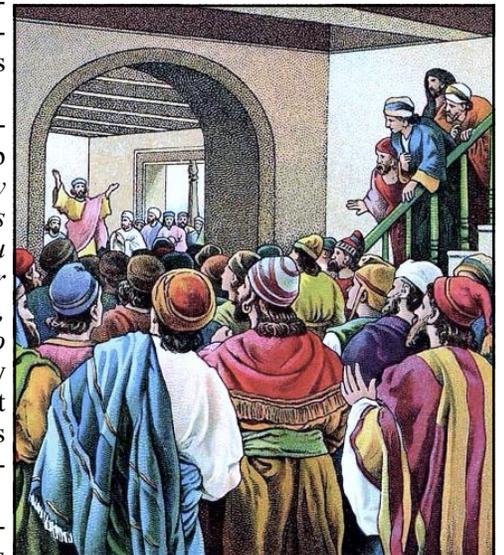
Charles Spurgeon (1834-1892) stated, "Discernment is not a matter of simply telling the difference between right and wrong; rather it is telling the difference between right and almost right."

The power of the Holy Spirit in the lives of faithful followers -

Following the death of Jesus the twelve apostles moved to replace Judas with another. Peter set forth the criteria: "*Therefore it is necessary to choose one of the men who have been with us the **whole time** the Lord Jesus was living with us, beginning from John's baptism to the time when Jesus was taken up from us. For one of these must become a **witness** with us of his resurrection.*"

Two men were nominated, Joseph, called Barsabbas (also known as Justus) and Matthias.

Following the nomination of the two the group prayed, "*Lord, you know everyone's heart. Show us which of these two you have chosen to take over this apostolic ministry, which Judas left to go where he belongs.*" They then **cast lots**, and the lot fell to Matthias; so he was added to the eleven apostles.



FYI there is **no** mention of Matthias after this event.

The disciples had gathered together to discern the "will" of the Holy Spirit so they could continue the work Jesus had started and be empowered to be witnesses to God's work in Christ. In that instance God's will was interpreted by casting lots. How do you determine what you feel is God's will?

"God does not exist to answer our prayers. But by our prayers we come to discern the mind of God." - Oswald Chambers 1874-1917.

### ∞ Lectionary Readings for May 2021 ∞

- **May 2:** John 15:1-8 | Beloved, Be Loved, Be Love  
*To explore what it means to abide in God.*
- **May 9:** John 15:9-17 | The Joy of Love  
*To explore what it means to love as God loves.*
- **May 16:** Acts 1:15-17, 21-26 | Join the Witness  
*To explore how we can bear witness to the love of God.*
- **May 23:** Acts 2:1-21 | Pentecost Sunday  
*To celebrate the gift of the Holy Spirit.*
- **May 30:** Isaiah 6:1-8 | Called, Cleaned, and Committed  
*To consider anew God's presence and call in our lives.*

## WORSHIP ASSISTANTS

May 2	9:30 AM
Ushers (2)	
Greeters (2)	Ann & Caleb Leonard
Reader	Wendy Jennings
Acolyte	Rachel Pageler
Keyboard	Bev Thomas
Projection	Peg Ehler
Care Core	Barb Swihart, Amy Murphy
Counters (2)	

May 9	9:30 AM
Ushers (2)	
Greeters (2)	
Reader	Leslie Maach
Acolyte	Rachel Pageler
Keyboard	Jan Lewis
Projection	Peg Ehler
Care Core	Jenni Patty, Lisa Marston
Counters (2)	

May 16	9:30 AM
Ushers (2)	
Greeters (2)	
Reader	
Acolyte	
Keyboard	Jan Lewis
Projection	Ben Leonard
Care Core	Joyce Stonehocker, Karen Clark
Counters (2)	

May 23	9:30 AM
Ushers (2)	
Greeters (2)	Leslie Maach
Reader	
Acolyte	
Keyboard	Bev Thomas
Projection	Ben Leonard
Care Core	Barb Kaldenberg, Jenna McIntyre
Counters (2)	

## May Worship Assistants

We are continuing with our worship assistant sign-up during the month of May. We want our church family to feel as safe and comfortable as possible worshipping indoors so we are asking for volunteers at this time.

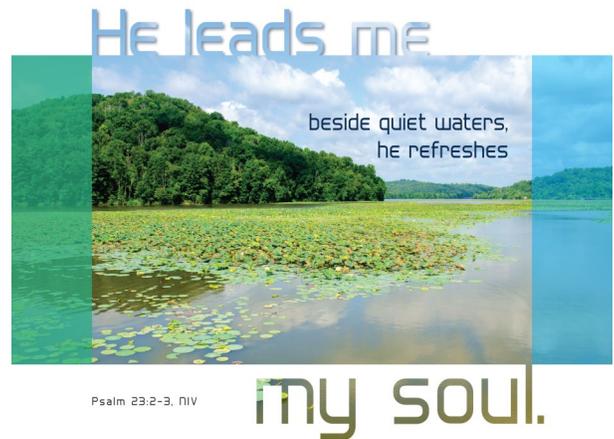


If you would like to volunteer you can email the church office at: [worship@stlukenewton.com](mailto:worship@stlukenewton.com), use the sign-up sheet on the Coffee Counter or you can add your name to our new online sign-up sheet. Here is the link to sign up:

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

Starting in May we will be adding a reader and an acolyte to the sign up sheet. We appreciate everyone who has so willingly volunteered to help during this time. Thank you!

May 30	9:30 AM
Ushers (2)	
Greeters (2)	
Reader	
Acolyte	Rachel Pageler
Keyboard	Bev Thomas
Projection	Ethan Pageler
Care Core	Tamara Lloyd, Jenni Patty
Counters (2)	



Psalm 23:2-3, NIV

## 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.



Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
						
<b>2</b> <b>9:30 am Worship - Golden Cross Sunday Communion</b> 	<b>3</b> 6:30 pm Zoom Bible Study	<b>4</b> 6:30 pm 3rd-6th Zoom Ed. Class	<b>5</b> <b>3:15 pm Middle School Ed. Class</b>  6:30 pm K-2nd Zoom Ed. Class	<b>6</b>	<b>7</b> Kitchen Reserved	<b>8</b>
<b>9</b> <b>9:30 am Worship</b>  	<b>10</b> <b>1:30 pm - 3:30 pm Book Club F-Hall</b>  6:30 pm Zoom Bible Study	<b>11</b> 6:30 pm 3rd-6th Zoom Ed. Class	<b>12</b> <b>3:15 pm Middle School Ed. Class</b> 6:30 pm K-2nd Zoom Ed. Class  <b>7 pm Page Turners Book Club F-Hall Rsrvd</b>	<b>13</b> 	<b>14</b>	<b>15</b>
<b>16</b> <b>9:30 am Worship</b>	<b>17</b> 6:30 pm Zoom Bible Study	<b>18</b> 6:30 pm 3rd-6th Zoom Ed. Class	<b>19</b> <b>3:15 pm Middle School Ed. Class</b> 6:30 pm K-2nd Zoom Ed. Class <b>6:30 pm UMW @ St Luke</b>	<b>20</b> 6:30 pm Quilt Guild F-Hall	<b>21</b>	<b>22</b>
<b>23</b> <b>9:30 am Worship</b>	<b>24</b> 6:30 pm Zoom Bible Study	<b>25</b> 6:30 pm 3rd-6th Zoom Ed. Class	<b>26</b> <b>3:15 pm Middle School Ed. Class</b>  6:30 pm K-2nd Zoom Ed. Class	<b>27</b>	<b>28</b>	<b>29</b>
<b>30</b> <b>9:30 am Worship Graduation Sunday</b>  <b>Newton HS Graduation 3:00—4:30 pm</b>	<b>31</b> No Bible Study   <b>MEMORIAL DAY</b>	<b>7 pm Mission Coalition</b>	6:30 pm K-2nd Zoom Ed. Class			

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



## United Methodist Women

May 19  
6:30 PM  
St Luke UMC

*"For God so loved the world that He gave  
His one and only son, that whoever  
Believes in Him shall not perish  
but have eternal life."  
John 3:16*

Program: Persistence in Mission  
By Wendy Jennings  
Hostess: Shirley Guillaume

May 9 - Mother's Day

### Free Movie

If you didn't see it in the Newton Daily News, Stacy Grams with Stacy's Sweetstuff is collecting personal hygiene products to pass on to the homeless in Newton. She drives around Newton late at night searching them out. To help this cause, she's sponsoring a free movie of "Miracles of Heaven," which stars Jennifer Garner and Queen Latifah and recounts the true story of a young girl's near-death experience who was later cured of an incurable disease. Rather than paying for admission, moviegoers may donate a hygiene product. For more information see the movie flyer below.

### Helping the Homeless

## FREE MOVIE

with donation of hygiene items

**SAT., MAY 8TH - 4:00 PM**

Capitol II Theatre - Newton

#### Suggested Items

- Toothbrush
- Ziplocs
- Chapstick
- Band-aids
- Razors
- Laundry Pods
- Feminine Hygiene

#### Travel Size Items

- Shampoo
- Soap
- Deodorant
- Tissues
- Hand Sanitizer
- Toothpaste
- Shaving Cream

If not coming to the movie, items can be dropped off at the theater Fri/Tues night or Sat/Sun day or night.



sponsored by



## St Luke News

Dear St. Luke,

Thank you all so much for your donations to the United Way Care-a-thon. With your help, I raised \$1900.00! All of that money stays in Jasper County to help our community and schools. Thank you for helping me reach my goal!

Sincerely,  
Rachel Pageler

Thank you everyone for your support through cards, calls and prayers following Jack's death. There will be a memorial service for Jack on June 2nd followed by a luncheon.

Diane Chadwick

Amy Murphy would like to thank everyone for the calls, memorial and prayers following her sister's death.

Our deepest sympathies to Laurel Gustafson on the passing of her husband, Gary Gustafson.

### Golden Cross Sunday Offering May 2

Golden Cross Offerings are used to celebrate health and welfare ministries and the roll in spiritual well-being within the annual conference. 100% of the offering is retained by the Iowa Annual Conference to fund grants to local churches and community groups.

GOLDEN CROSS  
OFFERING



### 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](http://www.iaumc.org/camps). Get ready for your adventure of a lifetime.



## A Special Blessing for those with May Birthdays

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

- May 2 - Gloria Simpson  
Krista Guillaume
- May 6 - Scott Kaldenberg
- May 16 - Blake Squire  
Tony Ehler
- May 19 - Joel Mills
- May 20 - Vieng Thongvanh  
Dune Carter
- May 21 - Terry Swihart  
Joe Stonner
- May 22 - Chuck Springer
- May 23 - Gaylon Pherigo
- May 25 - Dick Stiles





**May Salvation Army Food Pantry Request**  
Personal care items  
Soap, shampoo, tooth care

### Newsletter

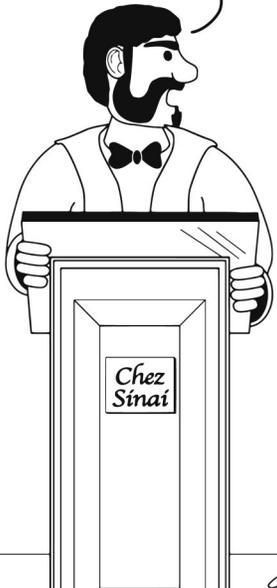


If you know someone that would like to receive the monthly Newsletter via email, please send their name and email address to the church office to be placed on the email list, at: [Worship@StLukeNewton.com](mailto:Worship@StLukeNewton.com).

The children of Reuben, 46,500  
The children of Simeon, 59,300  
The children of Gad, 45,650 ...



HEY! Who took these reservations?  
We only have 50 seats!



## St Luke F.R.O.G. Program

The Sunday School (now called F.R.O.G., or Friends Relying on God) has been meeting weekly through Zoom since September. If you have a child or grandchild that would like to join us please email us at:



[worship@stlukenewton.com](mailto:worship@stlukenewton.com).

**PreK - 2nd Grade - Wednesdays @ 6:30 pm via Zoom**  
**3rd - 6th Grade - Tuesdays @ 6:30 pm via Zoom**  
**Middle School - Wednesdays After School @ St Luke**

# MEMORIAL DAY

REMEMBER AND HONOR

## Monday, May 31st



## A lasting promise

Before ascending into heaven, Jesus speaks a final promise to the disciples.

*Directions: Use the picture clues to find the letters. Then write that word below to complete Acts 1:8, NIV.*

- Find a letter that's in  but not in . \_\_\_\_\_
- Find a letter that's in  but not in . \_\_\_\_\_
- Find a letter that's in  but not in . \_\_\_\_\_
- Find a letter that's in  but not in . \_\_\_\_\_
- Find a letter that's in  but not in . \_\_\_\_\_

"But you will receive \_\_\_\_\_ when the Holy Spirit comes on you; and you will be my witnesses in Jerusalem, and in all Judea and Samaria, and to the ends of the earth."

ACTS 1:8, NIV