

# St Luke UMC

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

August 1, 2020



# THE BI-WEEKLY Flame CATCH THE FIRE!

## 2020 Apportionments

**\$22,929**



\$5,049

## Financial Update



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

These offerings were received in the month of July:

Total of \$13,807 which included:

\$1,905 - Building Fund

\$557 - Apportionments

\$ 50 - MMDC

\$ 20 - Flannel Fund

\$ 20 - Salvation Army Food Bank



## August Outdoor Worship Services Sundays: August 9 and 23 at 9:30 am

We will be continuing with our outdoor worship during the month of August. The dates scheduled for this month will be Sunday, August 9 and Sunday, August 23 both at 9:30 am.

We will ask that you bring your own lawn chair and spread out to keep six feet of distance between your family and others. We also ask that everyone please wear a mask until everyone is seated. Those who are considered high risk may want to continue wearing a mask during the service as well. Please be safe during this time and continue to properly social distance yourself from others. You can also bring along your own bread and juice and we will do Communion together during the first service of the month. Please note in case of rain we will plan on moving the service to the following weekend as we are currently not having indoor services.

For those who are unable to attend we will be live streaming our services on YouTube starting in August. You can watch live with us at home by going to our St Luke United Methodist Church YouTube page at 9:30 am on the day of the service and look for the LIVE video. Be sure to subscribe to our YouTube channel to make sure you don't miss any of our future videos.



## St Luke News

The Trustees have been hard at work this summer landscaping and removing old tree stumps from around the building. A big thank you to everyone who has helped with these projects. We truly appreciate all the hard work that has been done to make St Luke such a welcoming place for all.



## Where to Find Us

**Pastor:** Rev. Chad Jennings  
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**Article Submission** by the 13th of month.

**Website:** www.stlukenewton.com

**Website Manager:** Stephen Pageler

**Facebook:** St Luke Newton

**Prayer:** prayer@stlukenewton.com



## My Story

During this time of working alone on the 2<sup>nd</sup> floor at the home office, while my coworkers work from home, I have been playing old CD's. Many of these CD's I have not listened to in years and in some cases I had forgotten how much I liked the music they provide. One CD in particular has a song that focuses on one of the most important things all Christians must do...Love your Neighbor.

In this song the artist, Todd Agnew, sings to remind himself and us: "Love your neighbor, Doesn't ask me if I fully understand. Love your neighbor, Doesn't ask if he's a working kind of man... Doesn't ask me if I see things through her eyes."

*"There is one law giver and judge, He who is able to save and to destroy, But who are you that you judge your neighbor." James 4:12*

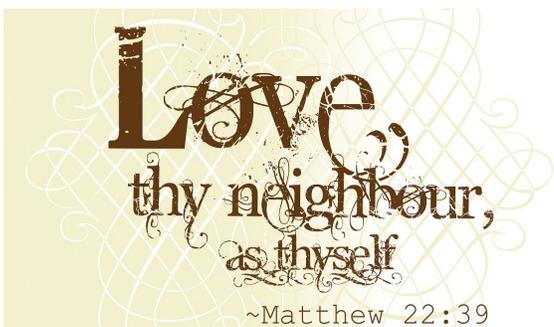
We aren't asked by Jesus to know exactly where others are coming from, nor are we asked to judge their perspective. Jesus simply says; "...You shall love your neighbor as yourself." *Matthew 19:19b*

The song goes on to say to us and to God, the truth we must all learn: "Love your neighbor is a little about them. Probably more about me, But it's a lot, a lot about You. Love is a lot about You!"

Things in our country are at times full of chaos. Pandemic illness, social injustice, racial tensions, fear and confusion may be all around us. The answers to these issues may be a struggle to find, but we need to start where Jesus told us to start. Even when we do not agree or completely understand one another. We need to make the effort, to make the stand, and to LOVE YOUR NEIGHBOR.



Corinne Kleppe



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

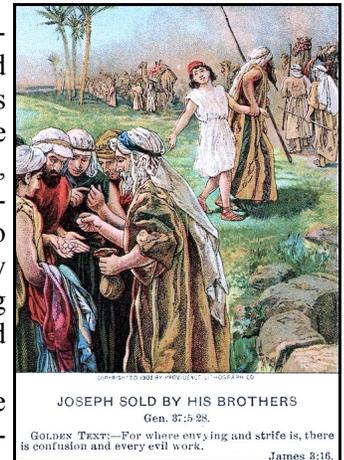
GENESIS 37: 1-4, 12-28

Exploring how God is with us in our dreams for the future, whether they happen as we wish or not.

The family tree of Joseph: **Joseph**- - son of Jacob/Israel & Rachel; **Jacob**- - son of Isaac & Rebecca; and **Isaac**- - son of **Abraham** & Sarah. Israel/Jacob loved Joseph more than any of his other sons since he had been born to him in his old age. Because of this, it is understandable that his ten older brothers hated him and "could not speak a kind word to him." An eleventh brother, Benjamin, was younger than Joseph, born of the same mother, Rachel. At the age of 17, Joseph brought an "ill" report to his father regarding the ten older brothers.

Jacob, Joseph's father, gifted him with a long-sleeved coat, in a style which suggested royalty. Joseph later alienated his brothers further by sharing two significant *dreams* with them. In the first dream: his brothers *bowed* to him. We learn from the second dream Joseph shared that: his father and mother, represented by sun and moon, *also bowed* to him, along with eleven stars (Joseph's siblings).

Eventually Joseph was in a position with his brothers in an isolated territory, far from Jacob. His brothers plotted to kill Joseph. The only one who dissented was his oldest brother, Reuben. The other brothers then relented; Joseph was eventually sold to some passing traders and taken away to Egypt as a slave. Keep reading Genesis to find out what happened next!



While we are temporarily unable to meet as a Body of Christ in a building, consider weekly reading the (below listed) lectionaries to feed your spiritual "hunger" and continue "being the church" wherever you are!

∞ **Lectionary Readings for August 2020** ∞

• **August 2:** **Genesis 32:22-31** | Face to Face

*To confront the reality of the past as we journey into a God-shaped future.*

• **August 9:** **Genesis 37:1-4, 12-28** | Dreaming Big

*To explore how God is with us in our dreams for the future, whether they happen as we wish or not.*

• **August 16:** **Genesis 45:1-15** | Subversive Forgiveness

*To seek God's wisdom as we participate in the life-giving process of reconciliation.*

• **August 23:** **Exodus 1:8-2:10** | Cunning, Compassion, and Courage

*To embrace the practice of faithful resistance for the sake of doing justice.*

• **August 30:** **Exodus 3:1-15** | Holy and Humble Curiosity

*To explore and reflect on the process of responding to God's callings.*



## United Methodist Women

There will NOT be a UMW meeting held in August. We will be having an outdoor meeting on September 16 with more details to come.

“The only antidote to fear is love. When you fill your life with love, your fears naturally disappear. I'm talking about a love for God, a love for others, a love for yourself, and a love for life itself. The Bible says, "Perfect love casts out all fear (1 John 4:18)." Once your fears are gone, happiness will flood your soul.”

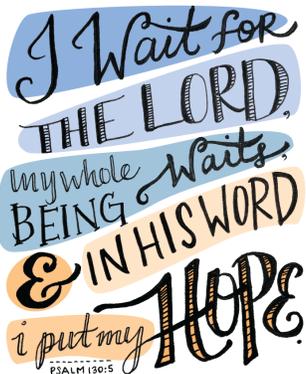
— Bo Sanchez, Don't Worry, Be Happy



### Patient Attention, Valuable Discoveries

For many people, the coronavirus pandemic has been a test of patience — or worse. Medically vulnerable people face an anxious time of hypervigilance. Furloughed workers wait on hold or in lines for assistance. Special events have been canceled or rescheduled.

Those not impacted directly deal with assorted frustrations and inconveniences. Many people are learning the benefit of slowing down, being present (even virtually) to others and practicing patient attention.



Interestingly, scientist Isaac Newton did some of his best work when the plague forced Cambridge University to close. At home, the inquisitive student invented calculus and developed groundbreaking theories of gravity and optics. Later Newton called 1666 his *annus*

*mirabilis* (“year of wonders”) and reportedly said, “If I have made any valuable discoveries, it [owes] more to patient attention than to any other talent.”

What have you discovered during the Covid-19 crisis? What appreciations have you developed for aspects of life you may have previously taken for granted? What has social distancing taught you about the value of neighbors, church, community volunteering?

During the pandemic, what have you learned about persistence and God’s presence? What empathy do you now feel for writers of words such as “I wait for the LORD, my whole being waits, and in his word I put my hope” (Psalm 130:5, NIV)?

## Shine On, Friends!

Friendship is one of the greatest gifts a human being can receive. It is a bond beyond common goals, common interests or common histories. It is a bond stronger than sexual union can create, deeper than a shared fate can solidify and even more intimate than the bonds of marriage or community.

Friendship is being with the other in joy and sorrow, even when we cannot increase the joy or decrease the sorrow. It is a unity of souls that gives nobility and sincerity to love. Friendship makes all of life shine brightly. —Henri Nouwen



### Ingathering 2020

In July, the newsletter listed a portion of the items needed to complete school kits. This month, we will also be looking for the following items that will help to complete school kits for the 2020 Ingathering.

- 3 Single Subject Notebooks – spiral bound
- 1 pair round tip children’s scissors
- 1 ruler with metric markings

Because we are not currently entering our building, any items you purchase in July and August will need to be held at your home until we can once again worship within our church walls. Later this month we will reprint the entire list of items for the school kits.

NOTE: If you would like to make cloth school bags – the pattern for the one-handle cloth bag can be found at [www.midwestmission.org/kits-projects/patterns](http://www.midwestmission.org/kits-projects/patterns).

Thank you, NOW Missions



### Online Sermon Series

We will be continuing with our You Asked For It series in August. In this series, Pastor Chad and Joel will keep tackling all your questions: fun ones, serious ones, and the ones you’ve always wanted to ask. Please continue to submit your ideas and questions by email to: [worship@stlukenewton.com](mailto:worship@stlukenewton.com). Be sure



to check our St Luke United Methodist Church YouTube channel or Facebook page for new videos on the weekends we are not having our outdoor services.

## A Special Blessing for those with August Birthdays

- August 4 - Katie Jones
- August 5 - Alayna Guillaume
- August 6 - Wendy Jennings  
Drake Rhone
- August 9 - Linda Powell
- August 10 - Nate Boleyn  
Kyle Swihart
- August 11 - Rose Evans
- August 14 - Rachel Pageler  
Matt Thongvanh
- August 17 - Larry Stoullil  
Becky Miller
- August 20 - Avery Etter
- August 24 - Diane Chadwick  
Kris McKibben
- August 27 - Barb Kaldenberg  
Duane Schwartz
- August 29 - Dale Hartgraves
- August 30 - Pam Andrews



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

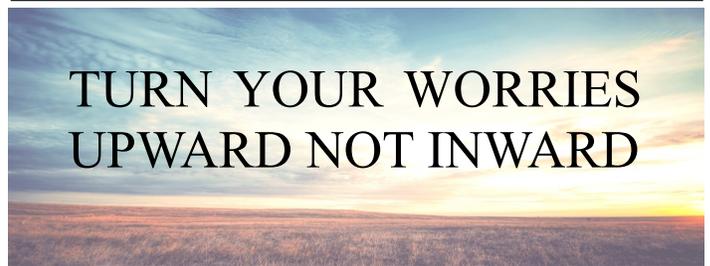
### Newsletter

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).



## August Calendar of Events

- Aug 9 Outdoor Worship Service 9:30 am
- Aug 20 Quilt Guild in F-Hall 6:30 pm
- Aug 23 Outdoor Worship Service 9:30 am
- Aug 25 First Day of School -  
Newton Community Schools



August Salvation Army  
Food Pantry  
Request  
Rice and Pastas



## Compete for the crown

The apostle Paul compares the Christian life to running a race for an imperishable crown.

*Directions: From the starting line through the finish line, circle every third letter. Then place the circled letters in order in the blanks below to complete 1 Corinthians 9:24-25, NIV.*

START

ctrejasucphelnpomrxkibvztaejargiusonycw

iqsatexympsakogmzsjeeubtneyhapidmrf

tegrbuanpicdnofihmneygjocxrdpoetwkin

FINISH

“Do you not know that in a \_\_\_\_\_ all the runners run, but only one gets the \_\_\_\_\_? \_\_\_\_\_ in such a way as to get the prize. Everyone who \_\_\_\_\_ in the \_\_\_\_\_ goes into strict \_\_\_\_\_. They do it to get a crown that will not last, but we do it to get a \_\_\_\_\_ that will last forever.”

1 CORINTHIANS 9:24-25, NIV

Answer: race, prize, run, competes, games, training, crown