

St Luke UMC

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

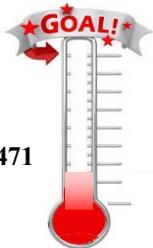
September 1, 2020



THE BI-WEEKLY Flame CATCH THE FIRE!

2020 Apportionments

\$22,929



\$5,471

Financial Update



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

These offerings were received in the month of August:

Total of \$15,918 which included:
\$1,350 - Building Fund
\$422 - Apportionments
\$ 49 - UMCOR Adv# 3020600
\$ 10 - Ingathering
\$ 3 - St Andrews

September Outdoor Worship Services

Sundays: September 13 and 27 at 9:30 am

We will continue with our outdoor worship services during the month of September. The dates scheduled for this month will be Sunday, September 13 and Sunday, September 27 both at 9:30 am.



We continue to 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. Please note in case of rain we will plan on moving the service to the following weekend. We will also post the link to the service later in the day.

New Text Messaging Service

Getting timely information is important. As the derecho hit Newton, the sirens went off to warn us of the impending danger. Several people I talked to wondered if the sirens were the monthly test. Me, too. It was a beautiful morning. My walk from home to church was pleasant. For a split second, I forgot that it was Monday. Very quickly, the sky grew dark and the wind started to pick up. The sirens went off. But even with the sirens, there wasn't much time to prepare for what was coming.

Still, I'm thankful for the sirens.

A few weeks ago, we had to cancel outdoor worship because there was an unexpected shower as we were setting up the electrical equipment. It didn't last very long, but we couldn't risk the sound system getting wet. It was a hard decision, but we made it. Then, we scrambled to get the information out to you through email and Facebook.

I'm thankful for those communication avenues.

But they aren't always timely. Not everyone reads their email as it comes in. Facebook may not show you a post for a couple of days. We need a different option.

Enter text messaging.

We have decided to use text messaging for communications that are urgent or have a limited timeliness. The most important of these would be cancellations because of weather...or Covid.

To do this, we need your help. Please take a moment, right now, to text *subscribe* to 641-323-2525.

This is the number that St. Luke will use to send you texts. You might put it in your contacts lists so you know it is from us. When you send that text, you will get an automated response to tell us your name. We don't have everyone's mobile number, and having a name associated with your number will help us to tailor texts to the groups who need them, rather than sending everyone a message about the trustees meeting.

We intend to use this service sparingly. We might remind you of outdoor worship, but mostly this is for sending important messages from the church. Thank you for participating.

Chad



Where to Find Us

Pastor: Rev. Chad Jennings
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Phone: 641-831-2639
Article Submission by the 13th of month.
Website: www.stlukenewton.com
Website Manager: Stephen Pageler
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Prayer: prayer@stlukenewton.com





My Story

2020 has been an exhausting year! With the pandemic keeping us distanced from one another and now a storm like none I have ever experienced. I don't know about you... but I am tired! And when you are used to a fan or AC when you sleep... the lack of power and the stress filled days make sleep a bit challenging.

The derecho storm on August 10th traveled over 770 miles from South Dakota/Nebraska to Ohio, at times producing category 3 or 4 hurricane winds ranging in speed from 74 to 140 miles per hour. The damage is so widespread and extensive it is daunting to look at. For the tree lover in me, this is so sad.

There has been a lot of good too, however. My family and friends are uninjured and healthy. The company I work for is up and running and doing what we can to help our clients (including St Luke). Neighbors are helping neighbors. Strangers are helping strangers. Buildings can be repaired. Trees can be planted to replace those we have lost. This year is a bit like a really long desolate winter. But God reminds us that after every winter, there will be spring. It seems strange to talk about spring in September, until you think about spring being a time of new beginnings a time for our Lord to wake us up to the good that is still around us, just waiting for us to notice.



My beloved speaks and says to me: "Rise up, my love, my fair one, and come away. For now the winter has past; the rain is over and gone. The flowers appear on the earth; the time of singing has come, and the voice of the turtle-dove is heard in our land. The fig tree puts forth its green figs, and the vines their blossoms; and they give forth fragrance. Rise up, my love, my beautiful one, and come away. Song of Solomon 2: 10-13

Rise up and be Springtime for those around you.

Corinne Kleppe



<p>St. Luke</p>  <p>Seasons OF THE Spirit</p>	<p>BIBLE STUDY</p> <p>Sunday School Class meets 9:15 a.m. in the choir room</p>
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River Sunday

REVELATION 22: 1-5

Inspiration from John's vision of God's river of life, renewing all creation.

There is no consensus as to who wrote the book of Revelation. Some say the author is the *Apostle* John; others believe the author to be an "unknown Christian prophet John." Revelation is believed to have been written during the reign of the Roman emperor Domitian, 81-96. The author of Revelation describes a dream, or vision, in 22 chapters.

In his life John had never entered a city which had no temple. Some cities had multiple temples. During his life Jerusalem, of course, had *thee* temple. John's dream, as shared in Revelation, describes a city without a temple. The city needed no temple because it was the *new Jerusalem*. No temple was needed because *God and the Lamb live with them, constantly in view. Their throne sits prominently in the city. Their light forever illumines its streets and citizens.*

In his dream John's heavenly guide brought him to a **river of pure living waters, shimmering as brilliantly as crystal**. On each bank of the river stood the *tree of life, firmly planted*, bearing twelve kinds of fruit and producing its sweet crop every month throughout the year.

The *tree of life*, you may recall, is first mentioned in Genesis 3:24. *After driving them (Adam and Eve) out, He stationed winged guardians at the east end of the garden of Eden and set up a sword of flames which*



alertly turned back and forth to guard the way to the tree of life. Taking fruit from the tree of life would have allowed Adam and Eve to live forever. In the book of Revelation **no one is denied access to its fruit and healing leaves**.

In Revelation 22:1-5 the world is brought together at the banks of the river of pure living waters, the tree of life, and the brightly shining throne of God and the Lamb. Neither a lamp, nor the sun will ever be required because *the Lord God will be their illumination*.

∞ Lectionary Readings for September 2020 ∞

The SEASON of CREATION

• **September 6:** Acts 17:22-28 | Forest Sunday

To celebrate God as the one in whom all creation lives and moves and has its being.

• **September 13:** Psalm 139: 7-12 | Land Sunday

To stay grounded in the assurance of God's presence through the rhythms of pain and healing heard in the voice of the land.

• **September 20:** Romans 8:18-27 | Wilderness/Outback Sunday

To live faithfully as part of Christ's community immersed in the wildness of God's creation.

• **September 27:** Revelation 22:1-5 | River Sunday

To be inspired by John's vision of God's river of life, renewing all creation.



United Methodist Women
 September 16 - 6 pm
 Meet at St Luke to Carpool

The UMW will be meeting on Wednesday, September 16. Please wear a mask and meet in the St Luke parking lot at 6 pm. We will be car pooling out to the new shelter house by Pat Patty's home near Rock Creek. Please note there will NOT be a potluck dinner or any food served during this meeting.

"Therefore, my dear brothers and sisters, stand firm. Let nothing move you. Always give yourselves fully to the work of the Lord, because you know that your labor in the Lord is not in vain."
 1 Corinthians 15:58

Program: In the Beginning
 Shirley Guillaume

Hostess: Pat Patty

Bring Helping Hand Offering
 Bring socks and underwear for school children.

St Luke News

Congratulations to Karen Clark on the birth of her new granddaughter. Melba Ryn weighed 6 lbs 9 oz. Melba's parents are Kylene and Abbie Wood.



A big thank you to everyone that helped with the removal of the fallen trees from the storm and all of the tree limb clean up. A special thanks to Katie Jones who was a trooper and pushed everyone to do a little more by her being there. We had a great turnout and truly appreciate each and every one of you that participated!



Online Sermon Series

We will be continuing with our You Asked For It series in September. 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. 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.



Ingathering School Kits

If you would like to donate a complete school kit this year, here is the list of supplies:

- 3 - ONE subject spiral notebooks
- 1 - round tip children's scissors
- 1 - 12 inch ruler with metric markings
- 6 - Unsharpened pencils
- 1 - box of 24 crayons
- 1 - box of 12 colored pencils
- 1 - eraser 2" or larger
- 1 - pencil sharpener

Place items in a one – handle cloth bag made of denim, corduroy, sailcloth, med-heavy drapery or light upholstery fabric. No camouflage, handprints, foot prints or paw prints on the fabric. Dimensions for bag = 32" x 15" Dimensions for handle = 32" x 5" For directions on making the school bag – go to www.midwestmission.org/kits-projects-patterns/midwest-mission



You are also welcome to donate the supplies without the school bag.

Thank you, NOW Missions

Prayer FOR THE NEW SCHOOL YEAR

God of wisdom and might, we praise you for the wonder of our being, for mind, body and spirit.
 Be with our children as they begin a new school year.
 Bless them and their teachers and staff.
 Give them strength and grace as their bodies grow;
 Give wisdom and knowledge to their minds as they search for understanding;
 and peace and zeal to their hearts.
 We ask this through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

A Special Blessing for those with September Birthdays

- September 3: Jacquie Huggins, Teresa Rhone
- September 4: Teagan McIntyre, Jordan Henning
- September 5: Carol Stonner
- September 12: Ben Leonard
- September 15: Abby Stonner
- September 18: Tom Miller
- September 19: Bernadette Guthrie
- September 20: Deb Stoullil, Mikey Carter
- September 21: Cory Figland
- September 22: Deb Miller
- September 24: Esther Fifer
- September 25: Austin Wood
- September 26: Margaret Gullett
- September 28: Ron Lisk, David Spiker
- September 30: Helen Schwarz



If your birthday is missing or incorrect, please 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.



September Salvation Army Food Pantry Request

Paper Products and Disposable Diapers



September Calendar of Events

- Sept 7 Labor Day
- Sept 8 First Day of School - Newton Community Schools
- Sept 13 Outdoor Worship Service 9:30 am
National Grandparents Day
- Sept 16 UMW Meeting 6:00 pm
- Sept 17 Quilt Guild in Choir Room 6:30 pm
F-Hall Reserved-Pat Patty 1-10 pm
- Sept 22 First Day of Autumn
- Sept 27 Outdoor Worship Service 9:30 am



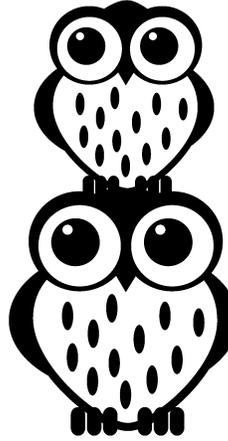


PUZZLE

WISDOM FROM THE WORD

God makes a special promise to people who study Scripture.

Directions: Arrange the word list in alphabetical order. Then write the circled letters in order below to complete Joshua 1:8, NIV.

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“... meditate on it day and night, so that you may be careful to do everything written in it. Then you will be _____ and successful.”

JOSHUA 1:8, NIV

Answer: apple, art, grow, kids, learn, paper, pencils, play, pray, read, school, student, wisdom, prosperous