

St Luke UMC

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

September 1, 2023

THE BI-WEEKLY **Flame** CATCH THE FIRE!

2023 Apportionments

\$15,279



\$4,279

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 \$9,713 which included:

- \$ 840 - Building Fund
- \$ 891 - Apportionments
- \$ 200 - Days for Girls
- \$ 265 - Rural Life Sunday
- \$ 6 - Emmanuel Mefor
- \$ 40 - UMCOR Ukraine

Singing Groups Return: Wed Sept 13th

Do you enjoy singing? Have you considered joining the St Luke Praise Team? Or the Choir? Now is your chance. We would love to have you join us.

Rehearsals for both groups will begin again on Wednesday September 13th. Praise Team rehearses at 6:30 in the Sanctuary and Choir rehearses in the Choir room in the Education wing at 7:15 each week. Each group rehearses for 45 minutes on Wednesdays and sings in worship once each month. Both groups are also a great place for fellowship. If you are interested, Please join us.

PRAISE TEAM REHEARSAL

Starting September 13th

WEDNESDAYS AT 6:30 PM

Starting September 13

CHOIR

Rehearsal
Wednesdays - 7:15 pm



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
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

Website Manager: Stephen Pageler

YouTube: St Luke United Methodist Church

Facebook: St Luke Newton

Prayer: prayer@stlukenewton.com

Kit Collection for Midwest Mission Distribution Center Personal Dignity Kits

Now that school has begun, let's change our focus for kit supply collection to the personal dignity kits. These kits are sent out for a variety of situations, including flood recovery, tornado recovery, and fire recovery to name a few.

Kit Supplies include:

- Hand towels
- Wash clothes
- Adult size toothbrushes (Single packaged only)
- Shampoo (12-19 oz bottles)
- Bar Soap (3-4 oz bars)
- Deodorant (2-3 oz)
- 1 Gallon resealable plastic bags.



Kit supplies can either be placed in the Ingathering basket or on the Mission Table itself. Full lists of all kits are available on the table for you to pick up. Supplies for ANY of the kits are welcome. Supplies will be delivered to MMDC when we next send a team to Chatham.

Corinne, NOW Missions



My Story

I have a house plant that has grown gangly over the years. It used to be full and lush but now it has become stretched out with a multitude of long stems. I pulled a few sections out and stuck them into a cup of water. When I checked the cup recently, I can see new roots are growing. Soon I will be able to transplant these new roots into the soil and watch the new plant grow and flourish once again.



Outside I have a pot of mini petunias. One Friday evening I noticed very few blooms, so I got to work dead heading the old blooms off of the plant. The next afternoon, there were new blooms taking the place of the old ones I had removed. The plant was once again vibrant with new color.

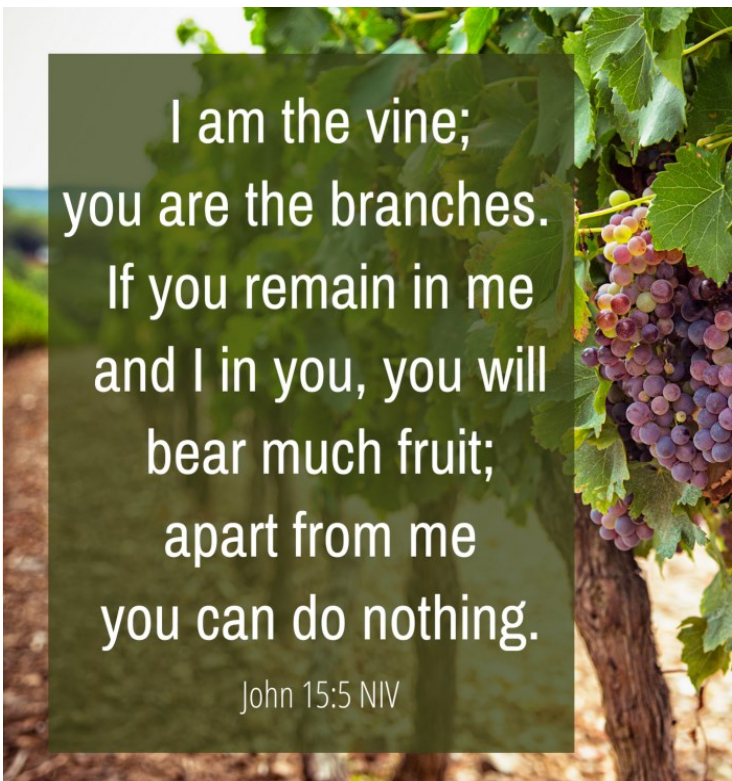


I believe we are like these plants. Sometimes we too need to have the old blooms and gangly branches pruned. We need to be “cut back” ... to have the unproductive parts of our lives removed. It may not feel pleasant at the time but if we allow God to “plant” us into “fertile soil” we too will flourish.

⁵ *“I am the Vine, you are the branches. When you’re joined with me and I with you, the relation intimate and organic, the harvest is sure to be abundant.” John 15:5 (The Message)*

May we find ourselves grafted to the True Vine where we will flourish with vibrant new colors.

Corinne Kleppe



UMCOR Thank You

Dear Friends in Mission,

Thank you!

The dear people you just helped with your gift to UMCOR may never have the opportunity to meet you, but if they did, I am certain their response would be - Thank you!

Since 1940, UMCOR has served as the humanitarian agency of The United Methodist Church, providing disaster response and relief to areas impacted by natural and man-made disasters around the world. And through your financial support, you are serving within a vital network of interactive relationships as UMCOR responds to increasingly-frequent and destructive storms - sharing 100% of donated funds with those in need!

Together may we continue to reveal the love of God for men, women, and children of all ethnic racial cultural, and national backgrounds and to demonstrate genuine love for our neighbors.

Grace and Peace,

Roland Fernandes, General Secretary

St Luke Produce Table

Bring produce or take produce in exchange for a free-will donation in the Red Bucket for St Andrew Produce Project.



Answers

Answers to prayers come in various ways,
sometimes in minutes, sometimes in days.

And some take years to fully unfold
the harvest of love and blessings they hold.

Answers to prayers come in various forms,
sometimes in sunlight, sometimes through storms.

Some blossom early, and some blossom late,
but each one will flower — have faith and wait!

—Helen Inwood, *His Mysterious Ways*

New St Luke Member

We would like to give a warm welcome to our newest St Luke member - Megan DeJong, who was received into membership on Sunday, August 20. Welcome to the St Luke family Megan!





United
Women
in Faith

United Women in Faith

September
No Meeting

"The Lord announced the word, and great was the company of those who proclaimed it." (NIV)
Psalm 68:11

September 23 - Riverview Park District
Annual Meeting

Please pay all pledges and present all bills.

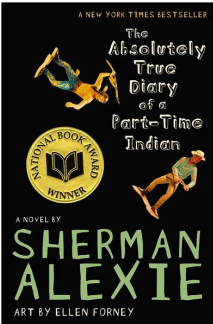
Salvation Army Thank You

The Salvation Army would like to thank St Luke for all the food pantry donations given this month. They are extremely grateful as all the extra donations have been a great blessing to those in need.



The Banned Book Class

The Adult 2 Sunday School class has decided to read "banned" books. Our first choice is *The Absolutely True Diary of a Part-Time Indian* by Sherman Alexie. The book is about a Native American boy who leaves Spokane Indian Reservation to attend an all-white high school in a near farm town.



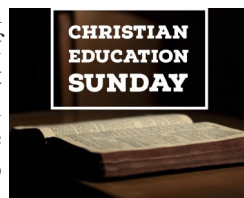
The book has been described as "heartbreaking, funny and beautifully written." It was written primarily for adolescents, but from USA Today:

"Sure to resonate and lift spirits of all ages for years to come."

We invite you to join us for this book beginning September 10! (You can help us select the next banned book.) © We meet at 10:30 am (following worship) in Room 5, the 3rd room on the left, in the education wing.

Christian Education Sunday Sunday, September 11

On Christian Education Sunday we recognize the many members of our congregation who take on the important task of educating not only our children, but our adults as well. With intentional learning and Christian formation, we become the people God calls us to be, and we develop gifts and strengths for encouraging and leading others to the same strong faith.



Days For Girls

The next Days For Girls sewing day will be Thursday, September 28 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.



Africa University Thank You

Dear St. Luke UMC Family:

Thank you for your generous gift designated to the Direct Scholarship Fund.

Through your contributions Africa University is able to provide students with an excellent education and a good quality of life while they are on the campus. Your generosity is also a wonderful testament of your love for Africa University.

Your generosity today makes you part of something remarkable. A legacy that will instill hope and change lives for many decades to come.

Thank you for all that you have done and will do through the ministry that is Africa University. Together, we are changing Africa. Learning here. Living here. Leading here. Serving God. All the time. Everywhere.

Yours sincerely for:
AFRICA UNIVERSITY
James H. Salley



Mission Highlight: Women At the Well UMC

Women at the Well is a mission congregation within the walls of the women's correctional institution in Mitchellville, Iowa. This means that no matter how generous the giving of its members, it will never be self-sustaining. As a result, the church relies heavily on other sources of giving. By far the largest, and most reliable, source of funding is from individuals and churches like ours.

In addition to their weekly worship services, Women at the Well offers a number of different ministries designed to encourage the spiritual growth of its members, assist them when they transition back into the world beyond the razor wire, and to assist those of us who already live outside the walls to better understand the hurts and hopes of the women who reside within the Iowa Correctional Institution for Women. (excerpts from the Women at the Well website: www.womenatthewellumc.org)

If you feel called to support this ministry, please put "Women at the Well" on the memo line of your check and place it in the offering plate during worship.

Corinne, NOW Missions

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
					1	2
3 9:30 am Worship w/ Communion Adult Sunday School to Follow 	4  Office Closed	5 6:30 pm P.E.O. Meeting Chapter ME FH Rsrvd	6 6 pm N.O.W. Meeting	7 9 am - 3 pm Quilts of Valor FH Rsrvd	8	9 Quilt Guild Sew Day 9 am - 4 pm FH Rsrvd
10 9:30 am Worship Sunday School to Follow Children's Sunday School Begins Christian Education Sunday 	11 6:30 pm Monday Night Study Group via Zoom	12 7 pm Ad Council Meeting	13 6:30 pm Praise Team 7 pm Page Turners FH Rsrvd 7:15 pm Choir Practice 	14	15	16
17 9:30 am Worship Sunday School to Follow	18 6:30 pm Monday Night Study Group via Zoom	19 6-9 pm P.E.O. Meeting Chapter ME FH Rsrvd	20 6:30 pm Praise Team 7:15 pm Choir Practice	21 6:30 pm Quilt Guild Meeting FH Rsrvd	22 FH Rsrvd All Day - P.E.O. Garage Sale Setup	23 8 am - 2pm P.E.O. Garage Sale FH Rsrvd 
24 9:30 am Worship Sunday School to Follow	25 6:30 pm Monday Night Study Group via Zoom 6:30 pm JCRCC FH Rsrvd	26 7 pm Mission Coalition	27 6:30 pm Praise Team 7:15 pm Choir Practice	28 9am - 2pm Days for Girls @ 1st Presbyterian Church	29	30

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

WORSHIP ASSISTANTS	
September 3	9:30 AM
Ushers	
Greeters	Joyce Stonehocker
Reader	Gloria Simpson
Acolyte	
Keyboard	Bev Thomas
Projection	Rachel Pageler
Camera	Ethan Pageler
Care Core	Barb Swihart, Amy Murphy
Coffee Time	Hiap Thongvanh
September 10	9:30 AM
Ushers	Corinne Kleppe
Greeters	Russ & Lori Leix
Reader	Nathan Figland
Acolyte	Payton & Brenna Figland
Keyboard	Bev Thomas
Projection	Caleb Leonard
Camera	Ben Leonard
Care Core	Jenni Patty, Lisa Marston
Coffee Time	Barb Swihart
September 17	9:30 AM
Ushers	
Greeters	Pam Andrews & Rose Evans
Reader	Ann Leonard
Acolyte	
Keyboard	Jan Lewis
Projection	Rachel Pageler
Camera	Ethan Pageler
Care Core	Karen Clark, Joyce Stonehocker
Coffee Time	Kathy Trotter
September 24	9:30 AM
Ushers (2)	Mike & Barb Kaldenberg
Greeters (2)	Amy Onstot
Reader	Barb Kaldenberg
Acolyte	
Keyboard	Jan Lewis
Projection	
Camera	
Care Core	Barb Kaldenberg
Coffee Time	Barb Kaldenberg

September Worship Assistants

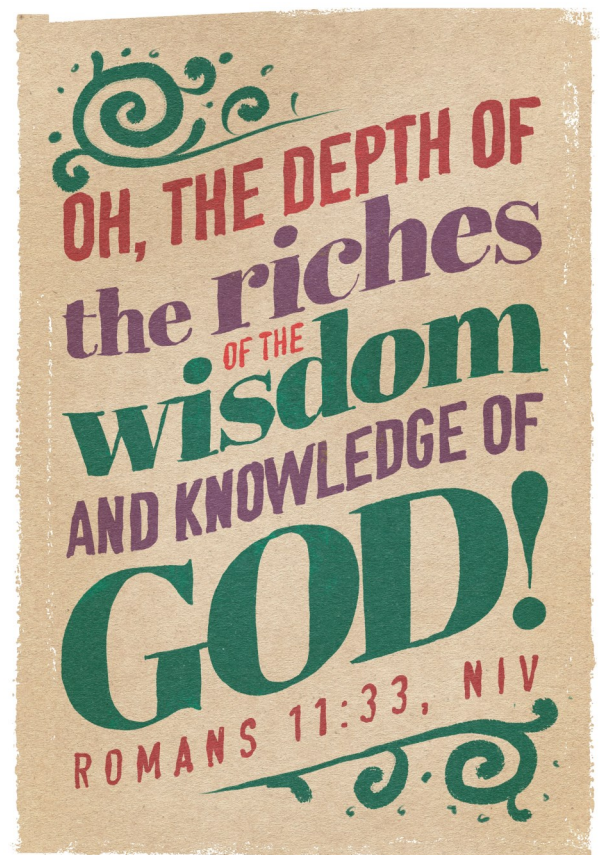
For 2023 we are trying something new with our worship assistant sign up. We would like to see more of our volunteer position filled so we have decided to start passing around signup sheets for 3 months at a time. We had another wonderful response for our July-Sept. volunteers and would like to thank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



Most positions are filled now through Sept. 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/1LV73f57IkMBVLyocfiFvS7GsvYM03YPBSzoXUUhXQL7s/edit?usp=sharing>

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



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.



A Special Blessing for those with September Birthdays

- 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 Stoulil, Mikey Carter
- September 21: Cory Figland
- September 22: Kerri Deppe
- September 24: Esther Fifer, Pat Vasquez
- September 25: Austin Wood
- September 26: Margaret Gullett
- September 28: Ron Lisk, David Spiker



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

CHILDREN'S Sunday School Returns






September Salvation Army Food Pantry Request
Canned Fruits & Vegetables

PUZZLE


A PATH TO PRAYER

God's Word offers lots of insights about how to pray.

Directions: Use the code to fill in the blanks and complete a Bible passage about prayer.



A	B	C	D	E	F	G	H	I	J	K	L	M	N	O	P	Q	R	S	T	U	V	W	X	Y	Z
Z	Y	X	W	V	U	T	S	R	Q	P	O	N	M	L	K	J	I	H	G	F	E	D	C	B	A



R	G	S	Z	M	P	N	B	T	L	W		
V	E	V	I	B	G	R	N	V	R			
I	V	N	V	N	Y	V	I	B	L	F		
R	M	Z	O	O	N	B						
K	I	Z	B	V	I	H	U	L	I	Z	O	O
L	U	B	L	F	R	Z	O	D	Z	B	H	
K	I	Z	B	D	R	G	S	Q	L	B		
K	S	R	O	R	K	K	R	Z	M	H		


1:3-4, NIV

Answer: I thank my God every time I remember you. In all my prayers for all of you, I always pray with joy. Philippians 1:3-4, NIV

Have Household Goods or Furniture to Donate?

Contact Lori Leix





Pastor Dave indulges in one of his favorite daydreams.