St Luke UMC
501 E 19th Street N
Newton, IA 50208
641-792-5736
June 15, 2025

THE Flame

BI-WEEKLY

CATCH THE FIRE!

Join Us For Road Trip VBS 2025
June 23 - 27 | 9:00 am - 11:30 am

During Vacation Bible School we will discover God's presence everywhere as we explore new places, make new friends, and experience God's goodness together.

Join us in a fun-filled adventure on the open road, taking all the kids (Travelers) on thrilling journeys to exciting destinations. Led by the Navigator and an adventurous puppet Scout, kids will learn that God is always with them. Through engaging stories from the Navigators' Guide (the Bible), Travelers will delve into timeless tales of faith from the Old and New Testaments. Get ready for twists, turns, and excitement as they face new challenges and find strength in God's presence on this unforgettable trip!

Road trips are a great way to build strong relationships and create indelible memories. This makes *Road Trip!* VBS not only a fun experience for kids but also an opportunity for them to strengthen their faith and bond with others in their community. With engaging activities, interactive games, and meaningful lessons, children will have a blast while they grow in their understanding of God's love and promises for everyone.

Green Light: "The LORD your God is with you wherever you go." (Joshua 1:9)

Registration forms can be found in the center of this newsletter, on the church information table or online. Check our St Luke Newton Facebook page for details or you can use the following link to register online.

https://forms.gle/TzDu9uouC9mP3BGKA

June Mission Highlight
Church Camps in Iowa

"Lake Okoboji and Wesley Woods are an extension of the Iowa United Methodist Churches and serve as outreach ministries into our communities. When campers return home, parents, pastors and local churches will walk alongside them – supporting them as they reflect on the impact of their time at camp and how God may be calling them to live, serve, and lead in new ways." (excerpt from a recent letter from Rev. Nancy Folsom Lane – director of Camping Ministries).

Many of us have had an experience with one or more of the Iowa UMC church camps (both current and past camps). I have enjoyed time at camp both as a camper and as a counselor. I have even enjoyed Wesley Woods as a retreat location. I remember at one retreat, I sat on a hill with a couple of college friends, picking out constellations in the night sky. It was peaceful and it was exciting at the same time.

If you have memories of church camp, you can help others to find similar experiences, and the opportunity to make new friends and learn more about God. To donate to enhance this summer's ministry of camp – you can donate to Camping Ministries. You can donate once. You can pledge to donate over several months. You can choose a camp location, or you can choose where most needed. If you would like to learn more about the ways your donation can/will be used – check out www.iaumc.org/camps.

Corinne Kleppe, NOW Missions

Days For Girls

The next Days For Girls sewing day will be Thursday, June 26 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.

UWF Collecting Socks & Underwear

St. Luke United Women in Faith will be collecting underwear and socks for Jasper County school children during June and July.

Our plan is to deliver these needed articles of clothing to the Salvation Army early in August for their school clothes and supplies give away.

There will be a wicker container in the gathering space for the summer months. Please drop in your donations and it will be delivered.

A Heartfelt Goodbye

As I prepare to move and say goodbye to St. Luke, I want to express how deeply this church has impacted my faith journey. Since moving to Newton in 2005, St. Luke has been my spiritual home. I've had the privilege of serving as a youth group leader, helping with VBS, and joining the zoom book study—all wonderful experiences that have enriched my life. I have fond memories of pancake suppers, potluck dinners, Christmas cookie baking, youth group mission trips, and individual church members over the years. It was wonderful to bring our kids here and be supported by such amazing people.

This small but mighty congregation has been incredibly welcoming and accepting. I've made special friends here and learned so much along the way. No place will ever quite be like St. Luke, and it will always hold a very special place in my heart.

Thank you for being such a meaningful part of my faith journey. I sure am going to miss this church family. If you are ever near Minden, please stop by. Kevin and I would be so happy to see you.

Sincerely and with much love and respect to you all,
Amy Murphy

2025 Summer Camp Registration Is Now Open!

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. Register today for an adventure of a lifetime!

Sunday School Mission Offering
Doug Williams
June, July and August 2025

The Rev Douglas Williams is a missionary with the United Methodist Board of Global Ministries. Doug serves as a pastor and Volunteer in Mission promoter of the Evangelical Methodist Church of Argentina, based in Buenos Aires. Doug coordinates lay-pastor teams in the northern districts of Tucuman, Salta, Jujuy and Santiago de Estero, and assists with hosting UMVIM teams, mostly from the United States. You can read more about Doug and his ministry at http://umcmission.org/missionary-bio/Williams-douglas.

Our Summer Sunday School mission offerings (weeks 2 – 5) will be designated to Doug Williams. As always, you are welcome to add your support by designating your gift to "Doug Williams- missionary" .

1st Sunday – Sunday school offerings continue to be used in support of our Sunday school administrative costs.

Corinne Kleppe – NOW Missions

Discover Hope Meal Thank You

We would like to thank everyone that donated to our June meal for Discover Hope. A big thank you to Barb Swihart, Kathy Trotter and Pat Patty for preparing the meal and Peg Ehler, Marianne Spaur, Mike & Barb Kaldenberg and Bruce & Leslie Maach for serving the meal. We served turkey tetrazzini, cabbage pecan slaw with cranberries and apples, garlic French bread and brownies for dessert. We greatly appreciate the generosity and willingness of our St Luke family to serve others and look forward to our next meal in August.

Joyce Stonehocker

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.

WORSHIP ASSISTANTS	
June 22	**9:30 AM**
Ushers (2)	Peg Kimberley
Greeters (2)	Joyce Stonehocker
Reader	
Acolyte	
Keyboard	Bev Thomas
Projection	Rachel Pageler
Camera	Ethan Pageler
Care Core	Karen Clark, Joyce Stonehocker
Coffee Time	
June 29	**9:30 AM**
Ushers (2)	Amy Ryan
Greeters (2)	Joyce Stonehocker
Reader	
Acolyte	
Keyboard	Bev Thomas
Projection	
Camera	
Care Core	Jenni Patty
Coffee Time	Karen Clark
July 6	**9:30 AM**
Ushers (2)	
Greeters (2)	
Reader	Bruce Maach
Acolyte	
Keyboard	Bev Thomas
Projection	
Camera	
Care Core	Jenni Patty, Lisa Marston
Coffee Time	
July 13	**9:30 AM**
Ushers (2)	
Greeters (2)	
Reader	Jenni Patty
Acolyte	
Keyboard	Bev Thomas
Projection	
Camera	
Care Core	Barb Swihart, Kathy Trotter
Coffee Time	

Worship Assistants

For 2025 we are continuing with our 3 months at a time sign-ups. This worked very well last year in getting more volunteer positions filled. We have had a wonderful response of volunteers so far for 2025 and would like to thank everyone who has so graciously signed up. There are still positions open so 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 on Sunday mornings. Thank you St Luke Family!

Online Worship

If your schedule keeps you from attending worship, join our live-streamed worship services or watch past services by visiting our St Luke United Methodist Church Facebook page and YouTube channel. If you have any questions or concerns, please call the church office and we will be happy to help you.

Where to Find Us

Pastor: Rev. Mark Johnson
mark.johnson@stlukenewton.com
Office: 641-792-5736 Cell: 563-249-3287
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Church Office Hours: Mon.-Thurs. 9 am -12 pm
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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

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.

Vacation Bible School Registration Form

3 Years through 6th Grade completed
Monday-Friday, June 23 - 27, 2025
9:00—11:30 am

St Luke United Methodist Church

(Partnering with First Christian Church & First UMC)
501 E. 19th St. N., Newton, IA 50208
(641) 792-5736 - worship@stlukenewton.com

No registration fee, but **donations** for curriculum & supplies are gratefully accepted.

Child's Name: _____

Age: _____ Birthday: _____/_____/_____ Sex: _____ Last Grade Completed: _____

Allergies/Other needed information: (Or will attend Kindergarten in Fall 2025_____)

_____

_____

Parent/Guardian Name: _____

Address: _____ City: _____ State: ____ Zip:_____

E-mail: _____

Primary phone: (_____)_____ Secondary phone: (_____)_____

Home church: _____ City: _____

Emergency Contact Name #1: _____Relationship: _____

Phone: _____

Emergency Contact Name #2: _____Relationship: _____

Phone: _____

☐ I do NOT want my child's photo, individually of in a group, posted on the church Facebook page or any other online sites.

Parents & others are invited to watch the opening skit at 9:00-9:10 am each morning in sanctuary.

Mission Offering
Received daily for Mission Projects.

Start children off on the way they should go, and even when they are old, they will not turn from it.
-Proverbs 22:6-