St Luke UMC

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

June 1, 2025

BI-WEEKLY

THE Flame

CATCH THE FIRE!

2025 Apportionments

$20,604

Financial Update

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

Total of $10,797 which included:

$ 130 - Building Fund
$ 66 - Apportionments
$ 110 - Native American Sunday
$ 80 - Golden Cross Sunday
$ 57 - Heifer International
$ 9 - St Andrews
$ 10 - Doug Williams—Missionary
$ 5 - Florence Mefor—Missionary

Sunday, June 15

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:
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YouTube: St Luke United Methodist Church
Facebook: St Luke Newton
Prayer: prayer@stlukenewton.com

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

My Story

My sisters were texting photos of the beautiful birds they were enjoying at their bird feeders. Orioles, Goldfinches, Gnat Catchers, Wild Turkeys, and Catbirds to name a few. My yard, however, really doesn't attract very many birds. That afternoon, as I sat enjoying their photos, I heard strange noises from outside. At first I thought it was one of my neighbors…and then I saw him. Sitting on the tree stump, in the middle of the yard, was a chubby squirrel, happily munching on a nut.

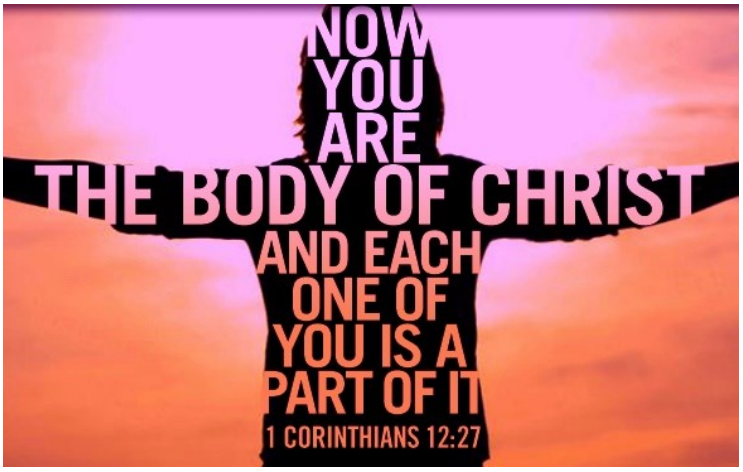
Do you know the song "A Place in the Choir"? The chorus says: "All God's creatures got a place in the choir. Some sing low, some sing higher. Some sing out on the telephone wire and some just clap their hands, paws or anything they got." So while my loud munching squirrel wasn't colorful and didn't sing… he made me smile, just as much as seeing the colorful bird photos my sisters shared.

So… what if we replaced "choir" with "the body of Christ" and we thought of ourselves as "all God's creatures". All God's creatures (you and me included) have a place in the body of Christ. Some sing low, some sing higher, some just clap their hands, serve the poor, feed the hungry, teach the children, share the good news, mow the yard, water the plants, walk the walk and so much more.

Now you are Christ's body, and each of you is a member of it. [28] *And God has placed in the church first apostles, second prophets, third teachers, then miracles, gifts of healing, helps, gifts of leadership, different kinds of tongues.* [29] *Not all are apostles, are they? Not all are prophets, are they? Not all are teachers, are they? Not all perform miracles, do they?* [30] *Not all have gifts of healing, do they? Not all speak in tongues, do they? Not all interpret, do they?* [31] *But you should be eager for the greater gifts.*

1 Corinthians 12:27-31.

Corinne Kleppe



Discover Hope Supper Club

St. Luke has committed to providing the evening meal for Discover Hope the first Tuesday of every other month. Our next meal will be on June 3. We will be having turkey tetrazzini, cabbage pecan slaw with cranberries and apples, garlic French bread with brownies for dessert. If you would like to sign-up to provide food, monetary donations or to help serve the meal there will be a sign-up sheet on the servant's counter. All donations need to be put in the church kitchen by Sunday, June 1. Any questions please contact Joyce Stonehocker or Peg Ehler.

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

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.

The Joy of Generosity

He who has received much should also give much. It is essential to give a goodly part of what God has allowed us to accumulate. Otherwise greed and miserliness will seize our hearts and minds. Furthermore, by not giving generously, we will miss the many joys that generosity brings to us. Let us not cheat ourselves of those blessings.

United Women in Faith

June
No Meeting

"Be still before the Lord and wait patiently for him; do not fret when men succeed in their ways, when they carry out their wicked schemes." (NIV)

Psalm 37:7

Bring socks and underwear for school children (unopened packages)

June 13-15: Iowa Annual Conference, of the United Methodist Church

June 14: UWF Gathering at Iowa Annual Conference

Adult-2 Sunday School Class

The Adult 2 Sunday School class is currently taking a break for the summer and will start again with a new book on the Sunday after Labor Day. We invite you to join us when we start back up again in the fall. If you are looking for a class with variety and topical studies, this would be a good class for you. We read the book together, so there is no "homework". There is always room for more to join the conversation. We meet at 10:30 am (following worship) in Room 5, the 3rd room on the left, in the education wing.

Peace with Justice Sunday - June 15

Moved by Christ's love to pursue reconciliation and peace, honoring the dignity of every individual made in God's image, the United Methodist Church is unwilling to turn a blind eye to injustice.

Although you may lack the resources alone to effect change in a broken world, your giving is vital for the UMC to continue its global ministries of reconciliation. Because of the Peace with Justice Sunday offering, the people of The United Methodist Church are able to make a difference together by sowing seeds—and yielding fruit!—of peace.

Summer Special Music

As the Choir and Praise Team take a break for the summer, we are asking you to sign up to share some music with St Luke during the summer months. We may not have special music every Sunday, but hopefully we will have it at least a few Sundays this summer. A sign-up sheet has been placed on the servant's counter for June through the end of August. We hope you will share your talents with us sometime this summer.

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.

Mission Coalition is Collecting Hy-Vee Receipts for the Pregnancy Center

Do you save your Newton Hy-Vee receipts? We hope so because Newton Hy-Vee wants to continue giving back to the community this time through the Pregnancy Center of Central Iowa.

This includes catering, floral deliveries, prescription purchases, filling up at the fuel pump - anything!

You can drop off receipts at St Luke by putting them in the Hy-Vee receipt container outside the church office.

Continue collecting those Hy-Vee receipts as they need to make it to $40,000 to reach their goal!

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!

SAVE the date

Sunday, July 20th

Outdoor Worship Service & Potluck

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
1 **9:30 am Worship**	**2**	**3** 5:30 pm Discover Hope Meal @ DH	**4**	**5** 9 am - 3 pm Quilts of Valor FH Rsrvd	**6**	**7** 2 pm Legacy Valor Presentation of Quilts— Sanctuary/ Narthex Rsrvd
8 **9:30 am Worship**	**9**	**10**	**11** **7 pm** **Page Turners**	**12**	**13** Iowa Annual Conference June 13-15	**14** 9 am - 4 pm Piecemakers Quilt Guild Sew Day FH Rsrvd
15 **9:30 am Worship** **Peace with Justice Sunday—Offering** **1 pm VBS Decorating** Iowa Annual Conference June 13-15	**16**	**17**	**18**	**19** 7 pm Piecemakers Quilt Guild FH Rsrvd	**20**	**21** VBS Practice
22 **9:30 am Worship** **1 pm VBS Decorating**	**23**	**24**	**25**	**26** 9 am - 2 pm Days for Girls @ First Presbyterian	**27**	**28**
29 **9:30 am Worship**	**30**					

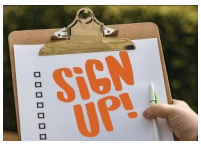
Vacation Bible School 9:00 am - 11:30 am

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

WORSHIP ASSISTANTS	
June 1	**9:30 AM**
Ushers	Mike & Barb Kaldenberg
Greeters	Marianne Spaur
Reader	Corinne Kleppe
Acolyte	
Keyboard	Bev Thomas
Projection	Rachel Pageler
Camera	Ethan Pagler
Care Core	Jenni Patty, Lisa Marston
Coffee Time	Karen Clark
June 8	**9:30 AM**
Ushers	David Spiker
Greeters	Barb Swihart
Reader	Bruce Maach
Acolyte	
Keyboard	Bev Thomas
Projection	Karin Mills
Camera	Joel Mills
Care Core	Barb Swihart, Amy Murphy
Coffee Time	Barb Swihart
June 15	**9:30 AM**
Ushers	David Spiker
Greeters	Kaldenbergs
Reader	Barb Kaldenberg
Acolyte	
Keyboard	Bev Thomas
Projection	Karin Mills
Camera	Joel Mills
Care Core	Barb Kaldenberg
Coffee Time	Barb Kaldenberg
June 22	**9:30 AM**
Ushers (2)	Peg Kimberley
Greeters (2)	
Reader	
Acolyte	
Keyboard	Bev Thomas
Projection	Rachel Pageler
Camera	Ethan Pageler
Care Core	Karen Clark, Joyce Stonehocker
Coffee Time	

June Worship Assistants

For 2025 we are going to continue 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:

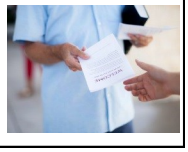
https://docs.google.com/document/d/1LV73f57IkMBVLyocfiFvS7GsvYM03YPBSzoXUhXQL7s/edit?usp=sharing

We appreciate all those who have so willingly volunteered to help on Sunday mornings. Thank you St Luke Family!

June 29	**9:30 AM**
Ushers	Amy Ryan
Greeters	
Reader	
Acolyte	
Keyboard	Bev Thomas
Projection	
Camera	
Care Core	Jenni Patty
Coffee Time	

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: _____

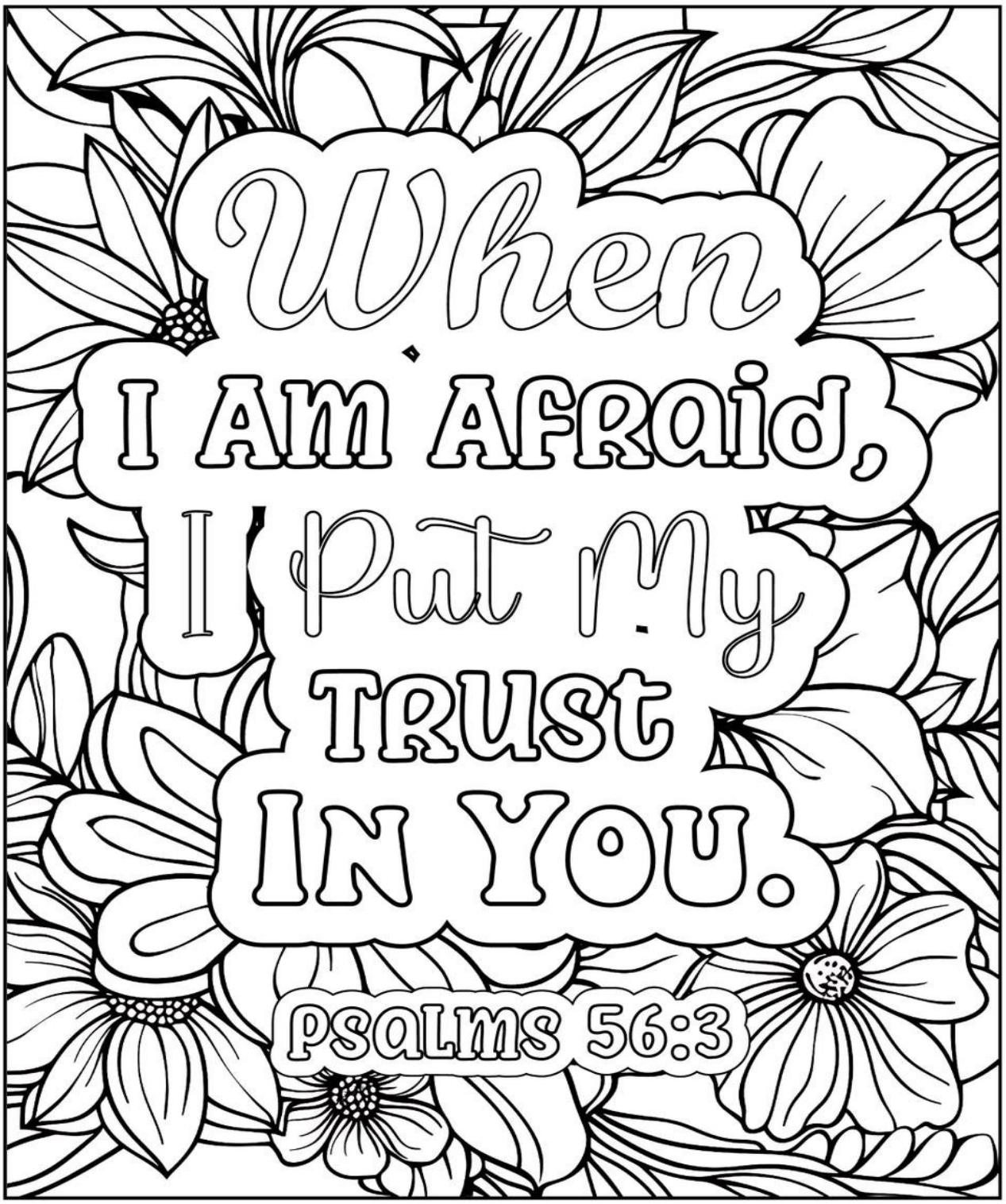
☐ I do NOT want my child's photo, individually of in a group, posted on the church Facebook page or any other online sites.

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-

COLORING PAGE



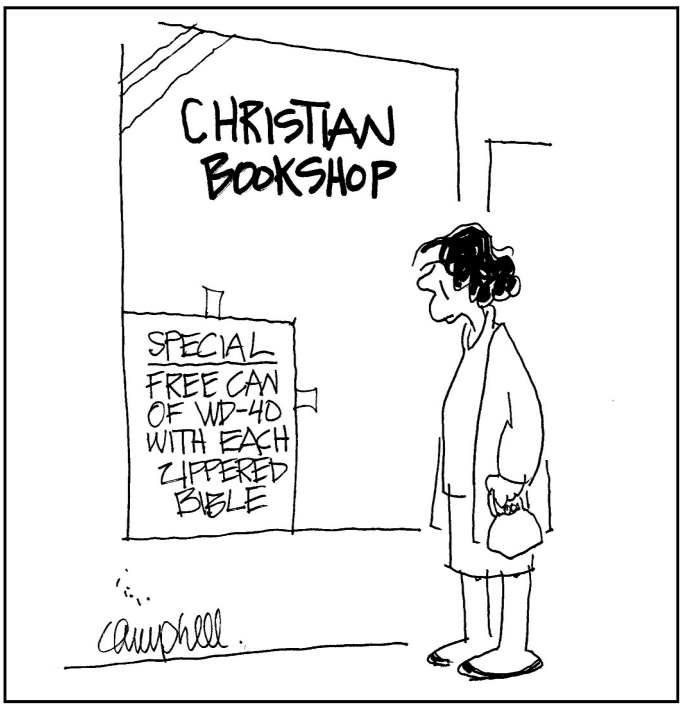
A Special Blessing for those with June Birthdays

June 3 - Doris Diamond
June 4 - Bev Thomas
June 9 - Alex Lemons
June 11 - Leslie Maach
June 15 - Lisa Marston
June 16 - Tamara Lloyd
June 20 - Stephen Pageler
June 21 - Brayden Etter
June 23 - Emily McConkey
June 26 - Jenna McIntyre
June 28 - Tina Ehler

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

Iowa Annual Conference 2025

The Iowa Annual Conference of The United Methodist Church will be held June 13-15 at the RecPlex in West Des Moines, IA. This year's theme is "Equip for such a time as this." This year's theme reflects our vision: "Inspire, Equip, and Connect communities of faith to cultivate world-changing disciples of Jesus Christ." Together, we will explore what it means to be equipped to lead courageously in such a time as this. Please keep all faithful participants in prayer.



THANK YOU!

We would like to give a big THANK YOU to our children's Sunday School teachers: Pastor Mark, Barb Kaldenberg, Jenni Patty and Lisa Marston. Thank you for all of your dedication to our children this past year. We appreciate all you do and are so thankful to have such wonderful teachers!

June Salvation Army Food Pantry Request

Canned Meat & Fish

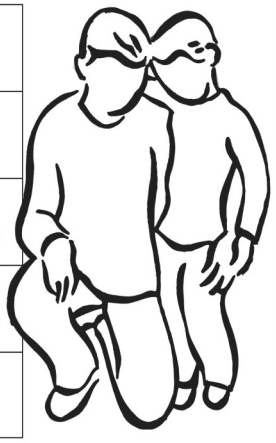
FATHERS OF FAITH

Fathers do amazing things for their families, but the greatest gift our dads can share with us is their faith in God.

Complete this puzzle to read Isaiah's advice to fathers.

Directions: Working left to right, first write down all the 1's in the word blanks. Continue with the 2's and finally the 3's.

1 The	**2** as	**3** tell	**1** living
2 I	**3** their	**1** the	**2** am
3 children	**1** living	**2** doing	**3** about
1 they	**2** today	**3** your	**1** praise
2 parents	**3** faithfulness	**1** you	



___ _____, ___ _____ ___ ____ ____,
__ __ __ _____ _____; _____ ____ _____
_____ _____ _____ _____.

Isaiah 38:19, NIV

Answers: The living, the living—they praise you, as I am doing today; parents tell their children about your faithfulness. Isaiah 38:19, NIV