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

BI-WEEKLY
THE Flame
CATCH THE FIRE!

Blessing of the Backpacks
Sunday, August 24

All students are invited to bring their backpacks to church on Sunday, August 24 to receive a blessing from Pastor Mark for the new school year.

College Ministry Info

Attention college students and families:

I know you don't want to think about this yet, but the next school year is fast-approaching. Our College Ministry wants to make sure that we can stay connected. If you have or are a college student, please let us know if you would like to be included in this ministry. We will need their name, campus contact information and their email address to get information from them. Have a great year!

Mission Highlight
Midwest Mission School kits

This year Midwest Mission has set a goal of 2500 student kits, and while our kit items may not be delivered until 2026, we can help to refill the items in their warehouse that can be used for future student kits. As you shop this month, the school supplies are prominently displayed. Which items will you donate?

One Student kit includes:

- 3 notebooks (1 subject – spiral)
- 1 12 inch ruler with metric
- 6 pencils (unsharpened)
- 1 pencil sharpener
- 1 pencil eraser (2 inch or larger)
- 1 box of 12 colored pencils
- 1 box of 24 crayons
- 1 pair of student Scissors
- 1 handmade one-handled bag (pattern available at:
  Midwestmission.org/patterns)

Items can be dropped off on the Mission table at St Luke. They will be counted and boxed up for delivery to Midwest Mission. Thank you in advance for any items you feel called to donate.

Corinne Kleppe, NOW Missions

Rural Life Sunday/Offering Sunday, August 17

Rural Life Sunday celebrates and supports rural life, the heritage of the United Methodist Church and its ministries. 100% of this special offering is retained by the Iowa Conference to fund grants to local Iowa UM Churches, rural networks and community organizations.

Sunday School Mission Offering Doug Williams - 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

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.

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!

Discover Hope Thank You

We would like to give a big thank you for everything that was donated for the August Discover Hope meal. We greatly appreciate the generosity of our St Luke family and we can't thank everyone enough. The meal that we provided was fresh fruit, pigs in a blanket, baked beans and chips. A big thank you to those that came and helped with preparing the food and all those that came and helped serve the meal at Discover Hope. We couldn't do this without all the help from our St Luke family. Thank you!

Our next opportunity for providing food will be on October 7. Look for the sign-up sheet on the Servant's Counter to volunteer to contribute food or serve!

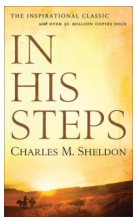
Joyce Stonehocker

Thank You!

I want to express my deep appreciation for the prayers, calls, texts, cards and food during my recovery from hip surgery. Your support has meant so much to Mike and I. We feel very blessed to belong to such a caring church family.

Barb Kaldenberg

New Monday Night Book Study



We will be starting a new Monday night book study on August 18. There will be an in-person study at 5:30 pm in Sam's Place and an online study via zoom at 6:30 pm. We will be reading the book "In His Steps" by Charles M. Sheldon. Books are $7. You can sign up at the servant's counter if you are interested.

Jasper County Hunger Relief

The next packaging event for Jasper County Hunger Relief will take place on Saturday, August 23 at Lynnville Friends Church. We would like to organize a team of 12 volunteers to package meals at the event. They ask for a donation of $35 per person to help cover the cost of the food packaged. If you are interested in volunteering or making a monetary donation to help cover the cost for our volunteers, please sign up at the servant's counter or contact Peg Ehler no later than August 17.

Days For Girls

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

WORSHIP ASSISTANTS	
August 17	**9:30 AM**
Ushers (2)	David Spiker
Greeters (2)	Amy Ryan
Reader	Barb Kaldenberg
Acolyte	
Keyboard	Bev Thomas
Projection	Rachel Pageler
Camera	Ethan Pageler
Care Core	Barb Kaldenberg
Coffee Time	Barb Kaldenberg
August 24	**9:30 AM**
Ushers (2)	Mike & Michelle O'Brien
Greeters (2)	Carolyn Cook
Reader	
Acolyte	
Keyboard	Bev Thomas
Projection	Rachel Pageler
Camera	Ethan Pageler
Care Core	Lisa Marston
Coffee Time	Michelle O'Brien
August 31	**9:30 AM**
Ushers (2)	
Greeters (2)	
Reader	
Acolyte	
Keyboard	Bev Thomas
Projection	Karin Mills
Camera	Joel Mills
Care Core	Jenni Patty
Coffee Time	Barb & Lauren Ferguson
Sept. 7	**9:30 AM**
Ushers (2)	David Spiker
Greeters (2)	Bruce & Leslie Maach
Reader	
Acolyte	
Keyboard	Bev Thomas
Projection	Rachel Pageler
Camera	Ethan Pageler
Care Core	Jenni Patty, Lisa Marston
Coffee Time	Bruce & Leslie Maach

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
Adm. Assistant: Jennifer Etter
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

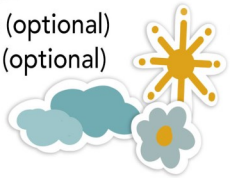
Please find a sub or trade if you cannot do it as scheduled. Then contact the church office so we can print correct names.

SHINE FOR Jesus

This easy and colorful craft helps kids remember that Jesus is their light—no matter where they go!

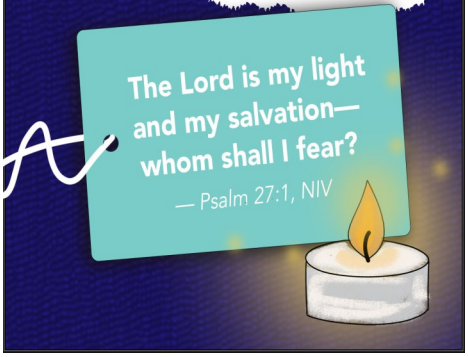
What you need:

- Clear plastic cup
- Battery tea lights
- Tissue paper squares (pre-cut)
- Glue stick
- Markers (optional)
- Stickers (optional)



What you do:

1. Use the glue stick to press colorful tissue paper squares around the outside of the cup.
2. Add a simple phrase like "Jesus is my Light" or use fun stickers to decorate.
3. Turn on the tea light and place it inside the cup.
4. Turn off the lights and let your lantern glow!



Puzzle!

The biblical calendar had many feasts and festivals. They were connected with the changing of the seasons or special events.

Use the code to find the name of the special days the Israelites observed.

CODE:

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

SEASON	HOLIDAY
1. End of Summer _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ I L H S S Z H S Z M Z S	**New Year**
2. Fall _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ B L N P R K K F I	**Day of Atonement**
3. Fall _ _ _ _ _ _ _ H F P P L G S	**Festival of Booths**
4. Winter _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ S Z M F P P Z S	**Festival of Rededication**
5. Winter _ _ _ _ _ K F I R N	**Festival of Lots**
6. Spring _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ K Z H H L E V I	**Festival of Unleavened Bread**
7. Spring _ _ _ _ _ _ _ H S Z E F L G	**Feast of Weeks/Pentecost**

Answers: 1. Rosh Hashanah, 2. Yom Kippur, 3. Sukkoth, 4. Hanukkah, 5. Purim, 6. Passover, 7. Shavuot