St Luke UMC

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

August 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 July:

Total of $12,301 which included:

$ 50	- Building Fund
$ 95	- Apportionments
$ 1,495	- UMCOR Texas Flooding
$ 100	- UMCOR US Dis Resp
$ 141	- Heifer Project
$ 50	- Salvation Army Food Pantry
$ 45	- UMCOR Ukraine

Where to Find Us

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Mission Highlight
Midwest Mission School kits

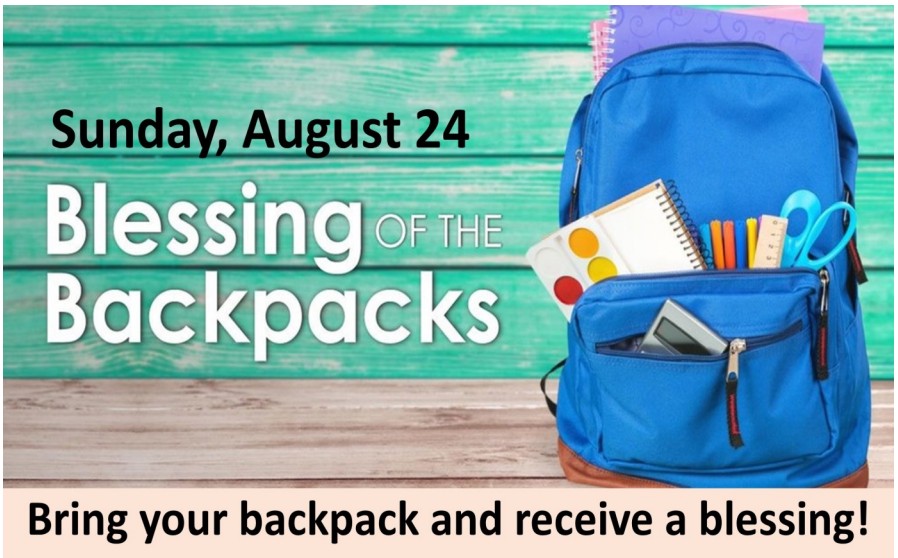
This year Midwest Mission has set a goal of 2500 student kits, and while our kit items may not be delivered until 2026, we can help to refill the items in their warehouse that can be used for future student kits. As you shop this month, the school supplies are prominently displayed. Which items will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



My Story

I spent a few minutes outside one toasty afternoon with my flowers. There was dead heading to be done. If you want some flowers to continue to bloom all summer, you need to remove the dried-up former blossoms and make room for new blooms to flourish. For some flowers this is a constant summer job if you want more than greenery in your flowerpots and gardens. You need to prepare the way for those new blossoms if you want to see that color all summer. If you have a LOT of flowers, this can be a task that requires a lot of time and effort.

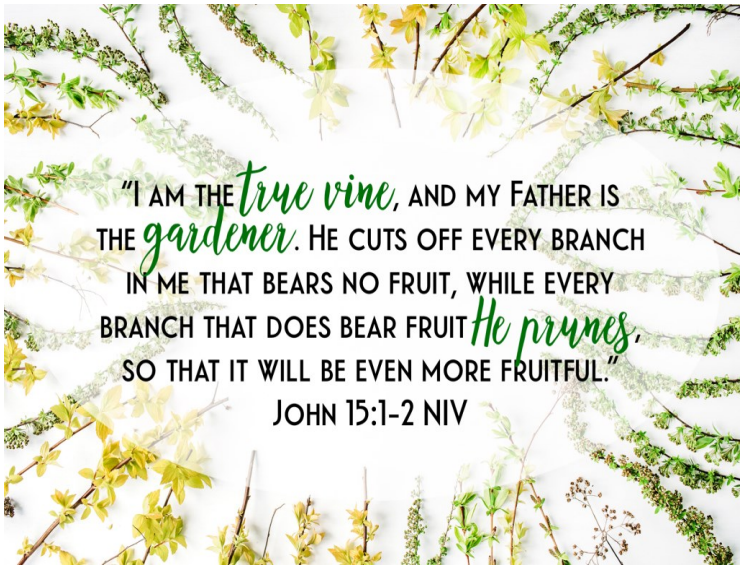
The Bible tells us stories of many tasks that require time and effort. Sometimes telling us to *"Prepare the way of the Lord" Luke 3:4.* But also, stories which remind us that we need to take care of ourselves and those around us, the way the vineyard keeper took care of the fig tree.

"A man had a fig tree growing in his vineyard, and he went to look for fruit on it but did not find any. 7 So he said to the man who took care of the vineyard, 'For three years now I've been coming to look for fruit on this fig tree and haven't found any. Cut it down! Why should it use up the soil?'

8 "'Sir,' the man replied, 'leave it alone for one more year, and I'll dig around it and fertilize it. 9 If it bears fruit next year, fine! If not, then cut it down.'" Luke 13:6-7

What projects do you need to nurture? Where do you need to prune or deadhead in your life, to allow new growth?

Corinne Kleppe



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

A Walking Contradiction

A real Christian is an odd number. He feels supreme love for One whom he has never seen; talks familiarly every day to Someone he cannot see; expects to go to heaven on the virtue of Another; empties himself in order to be full; admits he is wrong so he can be declared right; goes down in order to get up; is strongest when he is weakest, richest when he is poorest and happiest when he feels the worst. He dies so he can live; forsakes in order to have; gives away so he can keep; sees the invisible, hears the inaudible, and knows that which passes knowledge.

The [person] who has met God is not looking for anything; he has found it. He is not searching for light, for upon him the light has already shined. ... He is not a copy, not a facsimile. He is an original from the hand of the Holy Spirit.

—A.W. Tozer

United Women in Faith

Potluck
August 27
Meet at St Luke at 5:45 pm
To Carpool to
Pat Patty's house.
Meal at 6:30 pm

"Your word is a lamp to my feet and a light for my path." (NIV)

Psalm 119:105

Program: Camper Reports
By: Jenni Patty
Hostess: Pat Patty

Bring Your Helping Hand Offering

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.

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.

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!

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 August 5. We will be having fresh fruit, pigs in a blanket, baked beans and chips. 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, August 3. Any questions please contact Joyce Stonehocker or Peg Ehler.

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.

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.

Lifelong Learners

"If you don't have wisdom that goes with knowledge, you are only a walking encyclopedia," wrote Jack Wellman, a Kansas pastor. "A book of knowledge is useless without the wisdom to know how to apply that knowledge. … Information without transformation leads only to frustration."

Consider the many benefits of wisdom — and how you can use what you've acquired to serve God, your church and your community. To better fulfill your calling, what wisdom might you yet need to acquire?

As another school year begins, here's a prayer for students of all ages: All-wise, all-knowing God, make us willing learners and seekers of your wisdom, not for the gain of knowledge for its own sake, but that we might handle every situation we face with the wisdom of Christ, in whose name we pray. Amen.

—adapted from *The Wired Word*

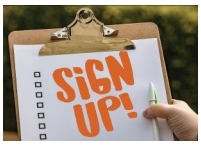
Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
					1	**2**
3 **9:30 am Worship** **Communion**	**4**	**5** 5:30 pm Discover Hope Meal @ DH	**6**	**7** 9 am - 3 pm Quilts of Valor FH Rsrvd	**8**	**9** 9 am - 4 pm Piecemakers Quilt Guild Sew Day FH Rsrvd
10 **9:30 am Worship**	**11**	**12**	**13** 7 pm Page Turners 	**14**	**15**	**16**
17 **9:30 am Worship** **Rural Life Sunday**	**18** 6 pm Piecemakers Quilt Guild FH Rsrvd	**19**	**20**	**21**	**22**	**23** 10 am - 3pm FH Rsrvd
24 **9:30 am Worship** **Blessing of the Backpacks** **31** **9:30 am Worship**	**25** First Day of School - Newton Community Schools 6:30 - 9 pm FH Rsrvd JCRCC	**26**	**27** **6:30 pm** **UWF** **Potluck**	**28** 9 am - 2 pm Days for Girls @ First Presbyterian	**29**	**30**

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

WORSHIP ASSISTANTS	
August 3	**9:30 AM**
Ushers	Peg Kimberley
Greeters	Margaret Gullett
Reader	Bruce Maach
Acolyte	
Keyboard	Bev Thomas
Projection	Barb Ferguson
Camera	
Care Core	Jenni Patty, Lisa Marston
Coffee Time	Karen Clark
August 10	**9:30 AM**
Ushers	Corinne Kleppe
Greeters	Bruce & Leslie Maach
Reader	Bruce Maach
Acolyte	
Keyboard	Bev Thomas
Projection	Rachel Pageler
Camera	Ethan Pageler
Care Core	Barb Swihart, Kathy Trotter
Coffee Time	
August 17	**9:30 AM**
Ushers	David Spiker
Greeters	Amy Ryan
Reader	
Acolyte	
Keyboard	Bev Thomas
Projection	Rachel Pageler
Camera	Ethan Pageler
Care Core	Barb Kaldenberg
Coffee Time	
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	Karen Clark, Joyce Stonehocker
Coffee Time	Michelle O'Brien

August 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:

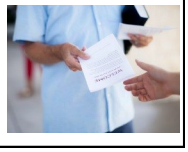
https://docs.google.com/document/d/1LV73f57IkMBVLyocfiFvS7GsvYM03YPBSzoXUhXQL7s/edit?usp=sharing

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

August 31	**9:30 AM**
Ushers	
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.



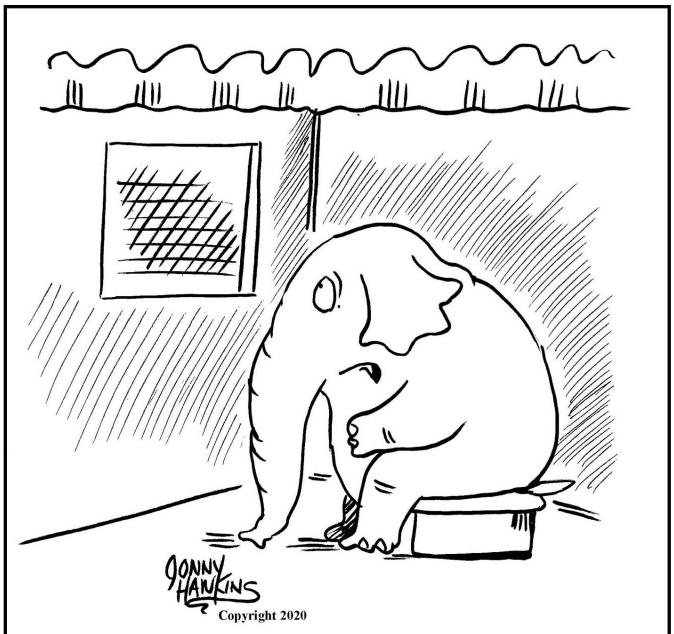
A Special Blessing for those with August Birthdays

August 3 - Tessa Swersie
August 4 - Amy Ryan
August 5 - Alayna Guillaume
August 6 - Alexis Johnson
Wendy Jennings
August 7 - Doug DeJong
August 8 - Peg Kimberley
August 9 - Linda Powell
Jack Trotter
August 10 - Nate Boleyn
August 11 - Rose Evans
August 14 - Rachel Pageler
Matt Thongvanh
August 17 - Larry Stoulil
August 20 - Avery Etter
August 24 - Diane Chadwick
Kris McKibben
August 26 - Miranda Lemons
August 27 - Barb Kaldenberg
Duane Schwartz
August 29 - Dale Hartgraves
August 30 - Pam Andrews

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

August Salvation Army Food Pantry Request

Rice and Pastas



"Forgive *and* forget?!"

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.

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.

WHO AM I?

Did you know that some Old Testament books are named after prophets? Use the clues to figure out each prophet's name and write it on the lines. Then unscramble, use the circled letters to complete the sentence at the bottom.

1. I was called to preach to Nineveh, but I ran from God instead. My book is number 32 in the Bible.
   I am _ _ ◯ _ _ .
2. I spoke God's message when the temple was being built. My book is number 37.
   I am _ _ ◯ _ _ _ .
3. Israel's unfaithfulness to God is compared to my unfaithful wife. My book is number 28.
   I am _ _ ◯ _ _ .
4. My book predicts punishment for wickedness and promises of comfort. It is book 23.
   I am _ ◯ _ _ _ _ .
5. I had dreams and visions. My book is number 27.
   I am _ _ _ _ ◯ _ .
6. I was often in danger because of my prophecies. I angered officials. My book is number 24.
   I am _ _ ◯ _ ◯ _ _ _ .
7. I was a shepherd from Judah who called people to turn to God and leave their selfish lives. My book is number 30.
   I am _ _ _ ◯ .
8. My book contains descriptions of strange visions. My book is number 26.
   I am ◯ _ _ _ _ _ ◯ _ .

Prophets are _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ .

Answers: Jonah; Haggai; Hosea; Isaiah; Daniel; Jeremiah; Amos; Ezekiel. Messengers.