St Luke UMC

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

September 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 August:

Total of $32,956 which included:

$ 130	- Building Fund
$ 75	- Apportionments
$ 35	- UMCOR Texas Flooding
$ 160	- UMCOR Doug Williams
$ 400	- UMCOR Ukraine
$ 400	- UMCOR Global Disasters
$ 10	- UMCOR Old Mutare Hospital
$ 81	- Heifer Project
$ 130	- Rural Life Sunday
$ 11	- St Andrews

Monday, September 1st

Where to Find Us

Pastor: Rev. Mark Johnson
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Office: 641-792-5736 Cell: 563-249-3287
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Article Submission by the 13th of month.
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Website Manager: Stephen Pageler
YouTube: St Luke United Methodist Church
Facebook: St Luke Newton
Prayer: prayer@stlukenewton.com

2nd Annual Tailgating Party

Join us on Saturday, September 6 at 11 am for our 2nd annual Iowa vs. Iowa State tailgating party. Wear your team's colors, bring a snack to share and any drinks that you want. The church doors will be open at 10:30 am and paper products will be provided. Hope to see you there!

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:

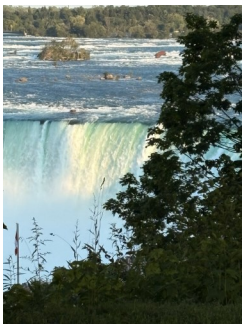
- 3 notebooks (1 subject – spiral)
- 1 12 inch ruler with metric
- 6 pencils (unsharpened)
- 1 pencil sharpener
- 1 pencil eraser (2 inch or larger)
- 1 box of 12 colored pencils
- 1 box of 24 crayons
- 1 pair of student Scissors
- 1 handmade one-handled bag (pattern available at: Midwestmission.org/patterns)

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.

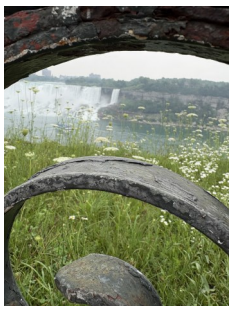
Corinne Kleppe, NOW Missions

My Story

You can hear them before you see them. The sound roars through the air… and then you see them… the waterfalls. We spent 3 days at Niagara Falls, Ontario and the awesome beauty of the falls never dimmed. Each day the falls were both the same and changed at the same time. The light falling on the water changes with the weather and with the time of day. The mist rising in the air and the foaming waters at the base of each waterfall, create an ever-changing work of art, only God can create.

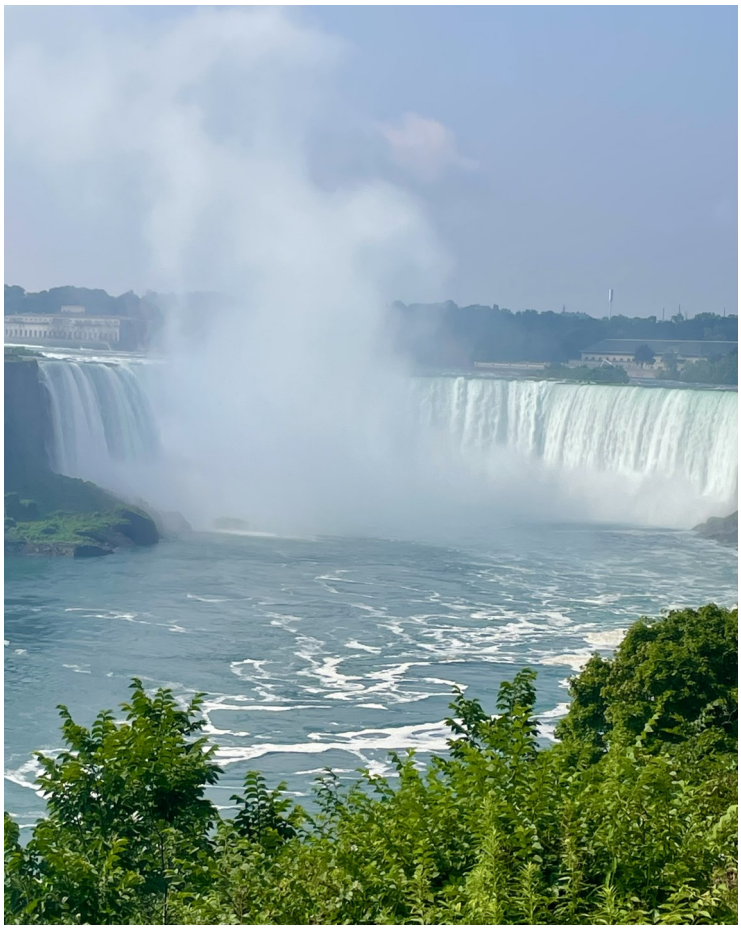


Our relationship with God can be much like a waterfall… we are always changing and yet God remains the same.



[10] He also says, "Lord, in the beginning you made the earth secure. You placed it on its foundations. The heavens are the work of your hands. [11] They will pass away. But you remain. They will all wear out like a piece of clothing. [12] You will roll them up like a robe. They will be changed as a person changes clothes. But you remain the same. Your years will never end." Hebrews 1:10-12

Corinne Kleppe



Singing Groups Return: Wednesday, September 3

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 Praise Team and Choir will begin again on Wednesday, September 3. Praise Team rehearses at 6:30 pm in the Sanctuary and Choir rehearses in the Choir room in the Education wing at 7:15 pm 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.

Chili Cookoff and BINGO Night

Mark your calendars for a chili cookoff and BINGO night on Saturday, October 18th. Details in next month's newsletter.

Sunday School Mission Offering September 14 - November 16 Old Mutare Hospital (#3022277)

As fall Sunday School begins, we are turning our focus for the Sunday School Mission offerings (2nd– 5th Sundays) to Old Mutare Hospital in Zimbabwe.

Old Mutare is a 70 bed hospital serving a population of 15,000 people. There is an active maternity unit, an outreach program, an ambulance , a feeding program for pregnant women in the Waiting Mothers shelter and so much more. Please consider giving to the Old Mutare Hospital, if you are not planning to attend Sunday School, or you would like to donate as part of your monthly giving, you are welcome to put "Old Mutare Hospital" on the memo line of your check.

As always, the first Sunday of each month the Sunday school offering goes towards administrative costs for Sunday School materials.

Corinne Kleppe, NOW Missions

United Women in Faith

September
No Meeting

"He has shown you, O mortal, what is good. And what does the Lord require of you? To act justly and to love mercy and to walk humbly with your God." (NIV)

Micah 6:8

Sept. 13: Riverview Park District Annual Meeting — Marshalltown Hope UMC

Please pay all pledges and present all bills.

Adult-2 Sunday School Class

The Adult 2 Sunday School class 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.

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.

Seasons of Change, Signs of Grace

"While the earth remains, seedtime and harvest, and cold and heat, and summer and winter, and day and night shall not cease" (Genesis 8:22, NASB).

As autumn begins, we watch the world transform before our eyes. Leaves change color, the air turns crisp, and a new rhythm settles in. In these seasonal shifts, we are reminded of God's faithful hand over all of creation.

Genesis 8:22 assures us that the cycles of nature—seedtime and harvest, summer and winter—are part of God's ongoing promise. Each season speaks of His order, care, and presence. Autumn, in particular, invites reflection. Just as the trees release their leaves, we are called to let go of what no longer serves us and make space for renewal.

This season also marks a return to routines—school schedules, church programs, and community events. As we step into new responsibilities or revisit familiar ones, may we do so with gratitude and trust. God is not only present in the harvest but in the quiet letting go.

Let this autumn be a time to embrace God's steady rhythm, find beauty in change, and rest in His faithful promises that never cease—even as the world around us shifts.

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.

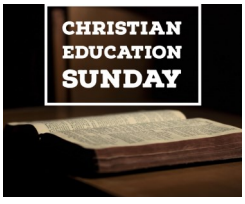
This includes catering, floral deliveries, prescription purchases, filling up at the fuel pump - anything!

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, September 25 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.

Christian Education Sunday
Sunday, September 14



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.

"Education is the most powerful weapon which you can use to change the world."

—Nelson Mandela

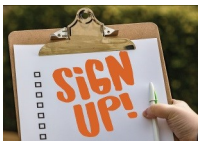
Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
	1 Office Closed	**2**	**3** 6:30 pm Praise Team 7:15 pm Choir Practice	**4** 9 am - 3 pm Quilts of Valor FH Rsrvd	**5**	**6** 11 am 2nd Annual Iowa vs. Iowa State Tailgating Party - FH Rsrvd
7 **9:30 am Worship w/ Sunday School to Follow Communion** 	**8** 5:30 pm In-Person 6:30 pm Online Book Study Group 6:30 pm Piecemakers Quilt Guild Meeting - FH Rsrvd	**9**	**10** 6:30 pm Praise Team 7 pm Page Turners FH Rsrvd 7:15 pm Choir Practice	**11**	**12** P.E.O. Garage Sale FH Rsrvd	**13** P.E.O. Garage Sale FH Rsrvd
14 **9:30 am Worship w/ Sunday School to Follow** **Christian Education Sunday—Offering**	**15** 5:30 pm In-Person 6:30 pm Online Book Study Group	**16**	**17** 6:30 pm Praise Team 7:15 pm Choir Practice	**18**	**19**	**20** 9 am - 4 pm Piecemakers Quilt Guild Sew Day FH Rsrvd
21 **9:30 am Worship w/ Sunday School to Follow**	**22** 5:30 pm In-Person 6:30 pm Online Book Study Group 6:30 - 9 pm FH Rsrvd JCRCC	**23**	**24** 6:30 pm Praise Team 7:15 pm Choir Practice	**25** 9 am - 2 pm Days for Girls @ First Presbyterian	**26**	**27**
28 **9:30 am Worship w/ Sunday School to Follow** 12 pm - 5 pm FH Rsrvd Jenni Patty	**29** 5:30 pm In-Person 6:30 pm Online Book Study Group	**30**				

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

WORSHIP ASSISTANTS	
September 7	**9:30 AM**
Ushers	David Spiker
Greeters	Bruce & Leslie Maach
Reader	Ann Leonard
Acolyte	
Keyboard	Bev Thomas
Projection	Rachel Pageler
Camera	Ethan Pageler
Care Core	Jenni Patty, Lisa Marston
Coffee Time	Bruce & Leslie Maach
September 14	**9:30 AM**
Ushers	Amy Ryan
Greeters	Margaret Gullett
Reader	Corinne Kleppe
Acolyte	
Keyboard	Bev Thomas
Projection	Rachel Pageler
Camera	Ethan Pageler
Care Core	Barb Swihart, Kathy Trotter
Coffee Time	Hiap Thongvanh
September 21	**9:30 AM**
Ushers	
Greeters	
Reader	Leslie Maach
Acolyte	
Keyboard	Bev Thomas
Projection	
Camera	
Care Core	Barb Kaldenberg
Coffee Time	
September 28	**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

September Worship Assistants

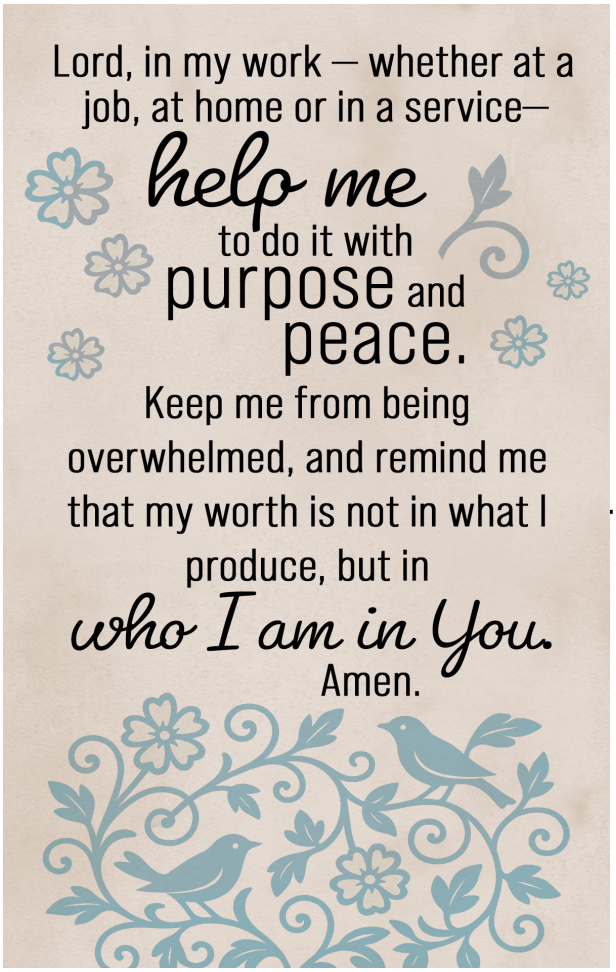
For 2025 we are going to continue with our 3 months at a time sign-ups. This worked very well



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:

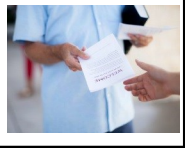
https://docs.google.com/document/d/1LV73f57IkMBVLyocfiFvS7GsvYM03YPBSzoXUhXQL7s/edit?usp=sharing

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



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 8:	Diana Pals
September 12:	Ben Leonard
September 15:	Abby Stonner
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
September 30:	Helen Schwarz

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

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.

"Trick or treat. I'm an usher."

Online Worship

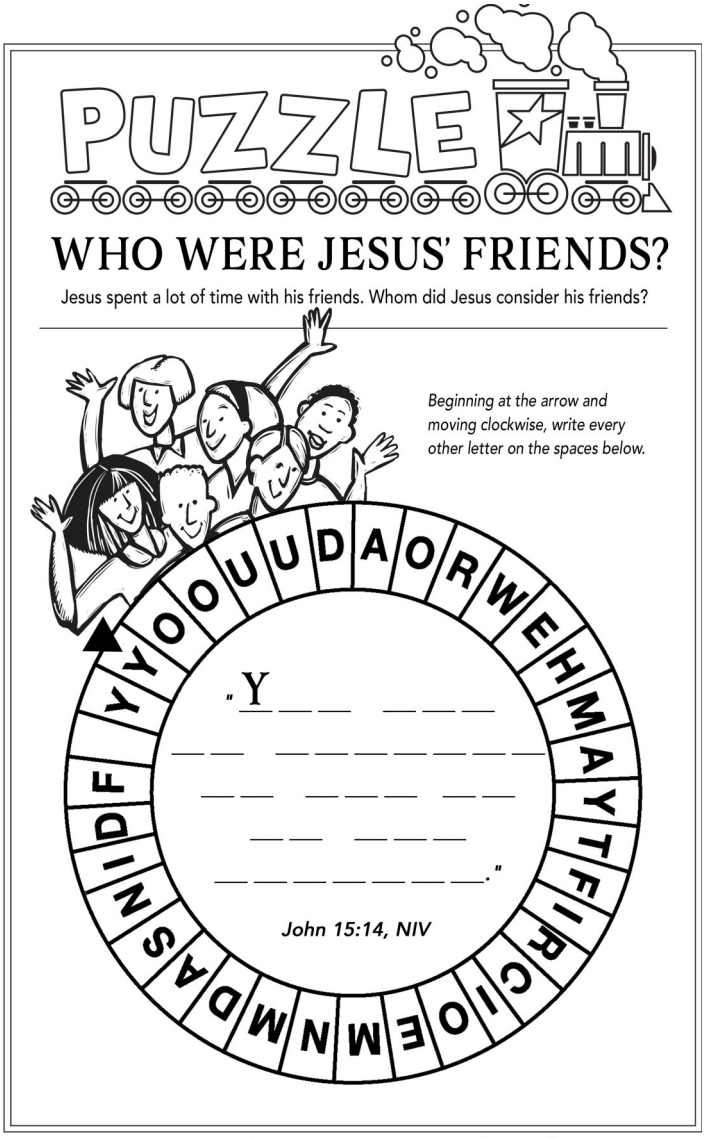
If your schedule keeps you from attending worship, join our live-streamed worship services on Facebook or watch past services by visiting our St Luke United Methodist Church YouTube channel. If you have any questions or concerns, please call the church office and we will be happy to help you.

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.

September Salvation Army Food Pantry Request

Paper Products
and Disposable Diapers



Answer: "You are my friends if you do what I command." John 15:14, NIV