



CONNECTIONS

ST. LUKE'S LUTHERAN CHURCH - JUNE 2025

*Members of St. Luke's Lutheran Church, in response to Christ's love,
reach out in service to each other, the community, and the world*

GREETINGS FROM PASTOR MONTE

A priest, a pastor and a rabbit walked into a blood donation center. A nurse asked the rabbit, "What's your blood type?" The rabbit replied, "I'm pretty sure I'm a type O."

A groaner, I know. But I want to celebrate a new partnership we have with the Red Cross, hosting monthly blood drives in our building. The blood drives are open to anyone in the community who meets the blood donor guidelines, but we would especially like to encourage St. Luke's folks to participate.

Every day, blood donors help patients of all ages: accident and burn victims, heart surgery and organ transplant patients, and those battling cancer. In fact, every two seconds, someone in the U.S. needs blood. Jesus said, shortly before he died, "No one has greater love than this, to lay down one's life for one's friends." Donating blood is a beautiful way of following Jesus' example by literally laying down our lives for others.

The June donation date is Monday, June 2 and you can sign up here:



July's date is Wednesday, July 9 and future dates are listed on the community bulletin board near the sanctuary entrance. Speaking of the entrance, check out a few other new things—new busy bags for kids, and a box for collecting used shoes (see article later in the newsletter).

I know that summer is a time for travel, and if you are traveling, we wish you godspeed and traveling mercies! But it is also a time when other activities slow down, so maybe it's easier to make it to church and even to invite a friend.

Take good care,

Pastor Monte



One Bible verse that I've always loved is: Proverbs 22:6, "Train up a child in the way that they should go, and when they are old, they will not depart from it." The New Revised Version translates, "Train up children in the right way, and when old, they will not stray." These verses are a good guide and help for parents, grandparents and teachers or anyone who works with children. Life can be difficult and the more tools we can offer each other as we seek to nurture and encourage one another, the better off we'll be. Whether it's Music Camp, Vacation Bible School or Sunday School, all of us who teach boys and girls deeply care about them and seek to show Jesus' love through the lessons and experiences that we offer. I am grateful for the student helpers, adult staff and all the kids who will be part of our annual Music Camp June 16-20. May they grow in the grace and knowledge of God's love for them through this experience.

Blessings and Peace,

Carol Peterson, Music Director

RUTH: A LOVE STORY

Wednesday nights, June 11, 18, July 2, and 9. 7:00-8:00 PM.

We'll meet outside if it's nice!

Have you ever wondered how (or even if!?) God is involved in the day-to-day joys, struggles and decisions in our lives? The book of Ruth is far more than just a sweet story about a daughter-in-law's loyalty. With famine, enemy tribes, romance, and eventually a happy ending, **this 4 part mini-drama tells the story of God working through the everyday faithfulness of humans; a story about simple acts that change the course of history.**

Come, even if you can't make it every week,

even if you've never read the Bible before, or

even if you know the story of Ruth forwards and backwards.

God continually speaks through God's word, so there are always new things to learn and new ideas to consider!

JUNE OUTREACH OF THE MONTH

First Lutheran Food Pantry

Our congregation is generous throughout the year, but we are highlighting First Lutheran's Food Pantry in June. Many children who receive free breakfast and lunch at school are dependent on food pantries in the summer, including First Lutheran.

We are suggesting the following, but ANY contributions are welcome:

June 1	Spaghetti Sauce, Tuna, Rice
June 8	Canned Vegetables and Canned Fruit
June 15	Cereal
June 22	Peanut Butter and Jelly
June 29	Beans (canned and dried) and personal care items

HOME COMMUNION

“For where two or three are gathered in my name, I am there among them.”
Matthew 18:20

It's hard being stuck at home and feeling isolated from community, especially spiritual community. If you or a family member are no longer able to come to church in-person, and you would like to receive communion at home, please let us know! We have a team of people who would love to bring communion to your home on a monthly basis.



Soles for Jesus (SFJ) was founded in 2009 to collect new and used shoes in the United States and ship them to Africa where each pair is distributed with the life-changing message of Jesus Christ. Over 900,000 pairs have been sent to date! Children in Africa are required to wear shoes to attend school, and adults need shoes to work jobs to earn money for their families. SFJ has an urgent need for shoes currently, so we are doing a shoe drive to help. **Clean out your closets – they accept ALL kinds of shoes (all sizes, kids/adults, mens/womens).** Shoes that aren't in good enough shape will get recycled instead of sent, but if you aren't sure, go ahead and donate! Just bag them up and place them in the collection box near the prayer shawl ladder. Thank you!



“Are any among you suffering? They should pray. Are any cheerful? They should sing songs of praise.” James 5:13

We would love to join you in prayer, whatever your needs! Here are several options—

- ❖ For prayers to be included in Sunday’s Prayers of the People: Add names to the clipboard as you enter the sanctuary. If you aren’t able to be in Sunday worship, you can text Pastor Monte (262-631-9453) and add a name to be included.
 - ❖ For prayers to be added to our on-going email prayer chain (a group of congregational members who will pray for needs that arise), send an email to Kathy Immel at aimmel@wi.rr.com. You can also send it to the office or to the pastor, and it will get passed on.
 - ❖ Prayer requests can be submitted via our website, or via the colored slips in the pews and at the Welcome Center, as well.
 - ❖ If you like to pray and can commit to lifting up the needs that are given to the prayer chain, you can let Kathy Immel, Lani in the office or the Pastor know, and we will add you to the list to receive prayer requests.
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STEPHEN MINISTRY, THE AFTER PEOPLE

Did you know that we have 6 Stephen Ministers in our congregation who are trained, able and willing to meet with anyone who is walking through a difficult time? Stephen Ministers are members of our congregation who have received 50 hours of caregiving training to minister and walk with people experiencing a crisis or facing a challenge. Stephen Ministers, sometimes called ***the after people***, are there *after* the phone call in the middle of the night, *after* the funeral and everyone goes home, *after* the baby comes home and life turns upside down, *after* the lay-off. Talk to Pastor Monte if you or someone you know could benefit from a listening ear, in a confidential, non-judgmental setting.



GERANIUMS AND WEAR RED ON PENTECOST June 8th!

Last Date to Order is June 1. Don’t forget to *WEAR RED* to *celebrate the coming of the Holy Spirit on Pentecost!*

LET US TELL YOU ABOUT OUR NURSERY!

Did you know that we have a staffed nursery on Sunday mornings, for infants through age 3? While children are certainly welcome in worship, this is another option to help parents, in addition to the cry room at the back of the sanctuary and the busy bags available in the entryway. Meet our childcare provider, Lilli Eland!



Hi! I am Lilliana Eland and I work in the nursery! Ever since I was a little girl I loved to pretend to take care of babies. As I got older it was my dream to make the younger children feel safe around me. If you have ever seen Matilda, I have always wanted to be someone's Miss Honey. It makes me so happy to know I can impact someone's life in a positive way. I also adore the smiling faces on every kid who walks through the doors of the nursery. I would love to have more kids in the nursery as time goes on, so don't be afraid to drop in! I would also love to do more babysitting in my free time; my number is 414-813-033.

In my free time if I am not spending my time with kids, I am usually at band. I play clarinet in the Greendale High School Marching Band. I hope to meet more of you soon!

Anyone interested in a Mini Book Club?

Our church library has three (3) copies of SIMON PETER, by Adam Hamilton, a Methodist pastor of Leawood, Kansas. Are there three interested people who would like to read and discuss? Please contact Carol VanRyzin (414.421.4922) to begin the challenge. This could certainly grow into an ongoing book and library adventure.

St. Luke's at the ROCK



Saturday July 12th @ 6pm

\$17 per ticket

7035 S. Ballpark Dr. Franklin (76th and Rawson Ave)
Signup at the Welcome Center

Payment (checks payable to St Luke's Church) must be received no later than June 29th, and can be put in the offering plate, the drop box outside the office, or via Venmo. **PLAY BALL!!!!**



Youth Summer Hangout with Kathy

Confirmation and Synergy had their last session in May,
and we miss each other already. 😞

Let's continue to get together and do whatever! While we are doing "whatever" we can plan for events in July and August to stay connected all summer. Bring your ideas in June and we will smash the rest of the summer.

Those entering Confirmation in the fall should join us! Those graduating high school this year should join us also!

6-7:15 PM (rising 6th -9th grade) 7:30-8:30 PM (rising 9th-12th grade)



SUMMERTIME JESUS

Let's see how many places we can get Jesus to go with us this summer. Snap a pic of you (or your family) doing one of these things and e-mail it to Stlukes@slchurch.org. We will show them on our social media pages and in worship throughout the summer.

Gather more ideas here: [100 Summer Fun Ideas for Kids and Parents](https://www.parents.com/summer-fun-activities-8600043) (<https://www.parents.com/summer-fun-activities-8600043>) (From Parents Magazine)

- *Bake a Dessert*
- *Go to the Park/Playground*
- *Go to the Beach*
- *Build a Sandcastle*
- *Eat Ice Cream*
- *Have a Picnic*
- *Go to a Carnival*
- *Go to a Different State*
- *Go to the Pool*
- *Take a Walk*
- *Take a Bike Ride*
- *Have a Cookout/BBQ*
- *Go to a Sporting Event*
- *Play a Game*
- *Watch Fireworks*
- *Read your Favorite Book*
- *Go to the Farmer's Market*
- *Watch a Movie*
- *Make a Fort*
- *Take a Vacation*



LAST CALL to REGISTER

MUSIC CAMP: JUNE 16TH - 20TH 9:00am - NOON

- **ALL children** who have completed kindergarten through 5th grade are invited to attend.
- Enjoy a morning filled with fun! Participants will learn about music, learn how to play a few instruments, and act out “The Life of the Party” (the story of Mary, Martha and Jesus).
- Sign up forms are located on the table in the Gathering Space or online at



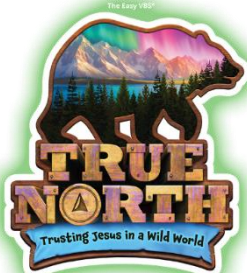
\$10 per child, \$15 per family

this QR Code or at www.slchurch.org/sign-ups

VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL (VBS) AT ST. LUKE’S

Monday, July 29th through Thursday, August 1st 9AM – 3PM

\$30/child OR maximum \$65/family



- Before Care (7AM – 9AM) & After Care (3PM – 5:30PM) is available for \$10/child.
- Friends, family, neighbors, who have completed kindergarten through 5th grade, are invited to join us as we dive into friendship with God together. Sign up early for a discounted rate, prices will increase on July 1st.
- Look for the VBS table in the Gathering Space, or sign

up online (www.slchruch.org/sign-ups)



ADULT VOLUNTEER MEETING

Sunday, June 1 at 10:15am (following worship)

Thanks to everyone who has volunteered with **VBS** so far! We still have a few spots to fill. Contact Kathy to find out more! We especially need someone to supervise students in before care and/or after care.

Affirmation of Baptism Project Meeting: June 8

8th grade youth and parents will meet in the upper fellowship hall *after worship* to discuss the Affirmation of Baptism Project that will be presented to each other in the fall at their Confirmation Dinner. It's never too early to start your project (and summer is a great time to do it!)

CAUGHT BIG-HEARTED



- ♥ All our knitters and crochet-ers who keep the Prayer Shawl shelves full!
- ♥ All our Sunday school teachers, confirmation guides and Synergy volunteers who help lead our young people
- ♥ Julie Ohlert and Pat Larsen who care for our grounds. Bob Larson who created a self-watering system to help keep planters around church watered.
- ♥ The choir, who leads us in worship so beautifully, and Andrea Clark, who accompanies them. They are now taking a well-deserved break for the summer!
- ♥ Rev. Marcie Strahl, who makes sure we appropriately honor our veterans on Memorial Day and Veterans Day.
- ♥ Dave Jensen and Mark Hanson, who are completing a major overhaul of our computer and phone system.
- ♥ Everyone who came and helped with the Spring Clean Up, and Todd Sneed, who heads up this effort.
- ♥ The WINGS ladies for donating and assembling new “busy bags” for kids—check them out, in clear plastic bags, near the entry.

Senior Lunch and Learn and FUN



Watch for announcement
of new activities coming
in fall



Tee Time 12noon

Deadline to sign up is June 9

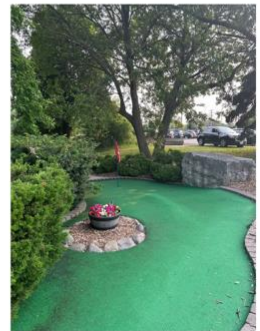
Sign up at the Welcome Center

Brookfield Hills Golf Course

SUNDAY
June 22

Mini Golf 2-4pm

Gastrauss Golf Center



Picnic to follow golf 5pm – at Church

Sign up Sheets for ALL three at
Welcome Center

Check out the Community Bulletin Board at the Entrance to the Sanctuary for some learning opportunities from the Greendale Health Department.

JUNE 3 – MEN'S HEALTH – 9:30AM – 10:30AM

JUNE 26 – SAFE TALK SUICIDE ALERT HELPER – 5PM – 9PM



CONGRATULATIONS TO

Graduating from High School:
Emma Clough
Ashna Dagam
Marin DeArmond

Graduated from University, Dec 24:
Jessica Barrett, from
UW LaCrosse in Music Education

GIVING REPORT

See Mark Ohlert, Rob Kegel, or John Noggle with any questions

Month	Monthly Budgeted Amount	Monthly Actual Receipts	Monthly Analysis	Year-to-date Budgeted Amount	Year-to-Date Receipts	Year-to-Date Analysis
April 2025	Offering: \$35,350 Total: \$35,810	\$29,671 \$29,935	Deficit \$5,679 \$5,875	\$141,400 \$143,240	\$146,695 \$148,573	Surplus \$5,295 \$5,333

This QR Code can be used to contribute to St. Luke’s:

