

March 2023

Sunday Morning Worship
10:15 a.m.

In-person and Facebook Live

Church Office Hours
Mon-Fri 9-1

StLukesNB@gmail.com
419-257-3253

Interim Pastor Rob Johnson
Church Secretary Dana Bourne

Home Page
<http://stlukesnb.org>



As Lutherans, we believe that we are part of God's unfolding plan. When we gather for worship, we connect with believers everywhere. When we study the Bible or hear God's word in worship, we are drawn more deeply into God's own saving story.

**EVANGELICAL
LUTHERAN CHURCH IN
AMERICA**



**GOD'S WORK.
OUR HANDS.**

<http://www.elca.org/>



**Northwestern
Ohio Synod**

<https://nwos-elca.church/>

**Our Vision is to know Christ
and make Christ known.**

A Reflection from Pastor Rob

The Story of Jesus. The Story of Us.

Then the woman left her water jar and went back to the city. She said to the people, "Come and see a man who told me everything I have ever done!" John 4:28-29

For many of us in the Christian tradition, Lent is a time of self-reflection and introspection. On the one hand, we sing more reflective hymns and refrain from saying "halleluia" in worship. On the other hand, we might give up an indulgence – like chocolate – or add Bible study to our daily routine.

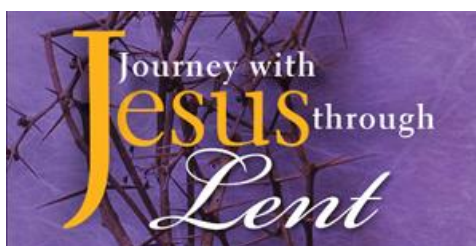
Regardless of your observation, the mood of Lent is often quiet and reflective. We are called to evaluate our lives in faith.

The season of Lent is not that much different from the Samaritan woman's meeting with Jesus at the well in John 4. There, the woman was confronted with her life struggle of marriage and relationships. In response, Jesus offers her living waters of faith and purpose that no other person can offer.

Amazed and transformed by Jesus' words, the Samaritan woman runs to her neighborhood and tells everyone she meets about Jesus. She is a witness to Jesus' power and grace. By telling others her experience with Jesus, she is turning Jesus' story into her story. She began her relationship with Jesus in a moment of self-reflection (just like Lent). Her relationship transforms into a life of grace and salvation. She is crucified; she is raised from the dead.

This Lenten season, we will explore the story of Jesus. More importantly, in sermons and in Bible study, we will talk about ways that the story of Jesus is the story of us.

Think about your story of faith – seasons when you felt alone or defeated, and seasons when you have felt rejuvenated, alive, and blessed. **How will you go and tell others the story of Jesus – the story of us!**



Lenten Wednesday Bible Study



Join us as we continue our Journey through Lent together. In-person and online every Wednesday at St. Luke's, March 1, 8, 15, 22, 29, and April 5 @

6:00pm-Soup, Sandwich, & Dessert Supper (in-person) 7:00pm- Bible Study in-person and online

Pick up a study guide at the church.

NORTH BALTIMORE Food Panty

MARCH requested donations include canned meats

APRIL requested donations include canned fruits and vegetables



Many thanks for your continued support of the vital community ministry.

SPRING CLOCKS FORWARD MARCH 12

Central Conference Lutheran Women Spring Gathering

Theme: I Love to Tell the Story

Invitation: ALL Women of the ELCA

When: Saturday April 15, 2023 9 a.m.-1p.m.

Where: First Lutheran in Findlay

(109 E. Lincoln St.)

Speaker: Kaitlyn Kniss from the Women's Resource Center of Hancock County

In Kind offering: diapers for the Women's Resource Center

Cost: none

Watch for even more details. Plan NOW to join your sisters in Christ for fellowship, worship, food, mission and learning together.



Good News†Amen!

The Good News†Amen Team has once again accepted the opportunity to reach out and share the love of Jesus through the Kairos Prison Ministry. You are invited to join us to bake cookies for the Kairos Prison Ministry at the Allen/Oakwood Correctional Institution in Lima, Ohio. The cookies are needed by March 15, so we will gather on Sunday, March 12, following worship, to bake and package cookies. We will purchase the ingredients and the packaging supplies. If you are unable to come and help bake, financial donations are welcome. If you wish to bake cookies at home, there are specific guidelines to follow. Please call the church office or stop by and pick up a flyer with the details. Sandwiches and beverages will be provided. Please join us for fellowship, food, and service on March 12.



**THRIVENT
FINANCIAL®**

Connecting faith & finances for good.®

With Thrivent Choice®, you can recommend where some of Thrivent Financial's charitable outreach funds go. Members become eligible for Thrivent Choice based on insurance premiums, contract values and Thrivent volunteer leadership. Members are designated Choice Dollars that they can direct to enrolled charities. Visit Thrivent.com/thriventchoice or call [800-847-4836](tel:800-847-4836) and when prompted, say "Thrivent Choice®."

**DIRECT THRIVENT CHOICE
DOLLARS® by March 31st.**



With Thanks...

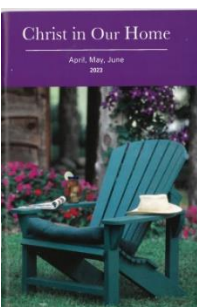
Thank you for your recent gift of \$295.00 to ELCA World Hunger. Your generosity is getting at the root causes of hunger and poverty in over 60 countries, including the United States. It is providing access to clean water, health care, agriculture, livestock, education, and peace and justice. Through your gifts you are joining with the whole church as we work toward a just world where all are fed. *Amanda White*, Director of Congregational Generosity

Thank you for supporting the ministries of Women of the ELCA with your recent gift. Your faithful generosity makes a real difference. Even in unsettling times, Women of the ELCA in all its expressions is still at work with life-changing ministry.



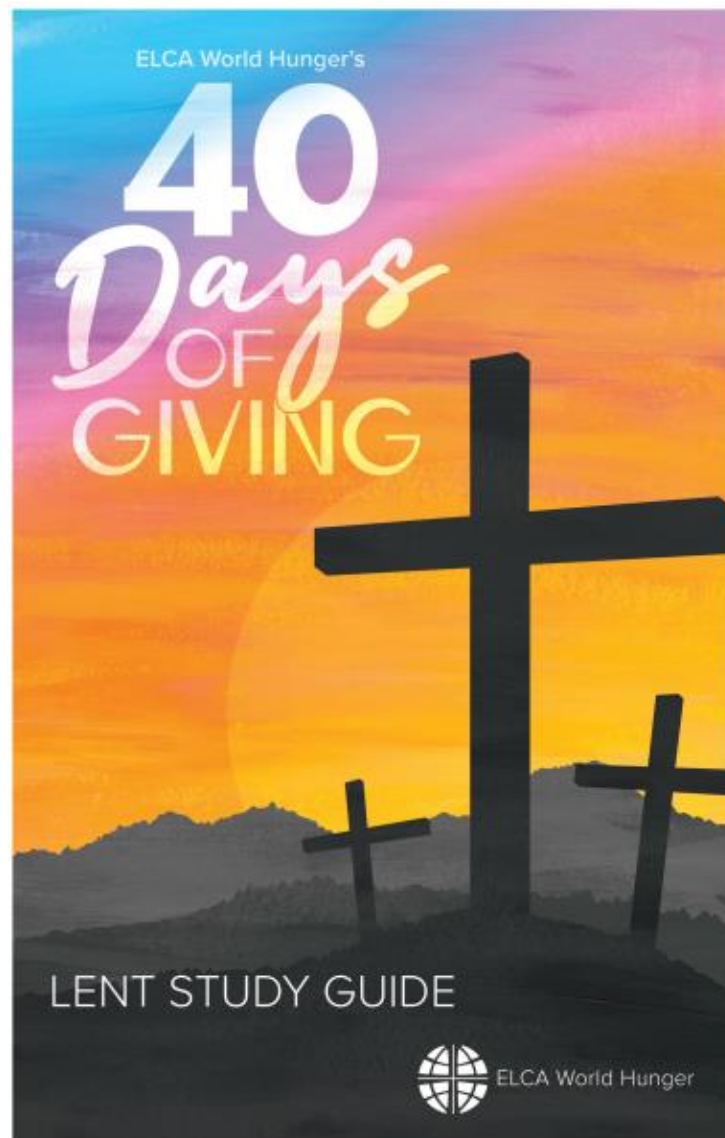
CHECK IT OUT!

Come check out the bulletin board at the church or go to <https://www.lomocamps.org/> for all the details about camping and retreat opportunities this year for children, youth, adults, families, and church groups. From grade school to grandparents, the great outdoors to your community, we offer year-round programs that are fun, faith-filled and fit your schedule. Register now!



Christ in Our Home

The April – June issue of the *Christ in Our Home* devotional is here and can be found on the information table at the church. Please come and pick one up during office hours or call and Dana will mail one to you. Blessings.



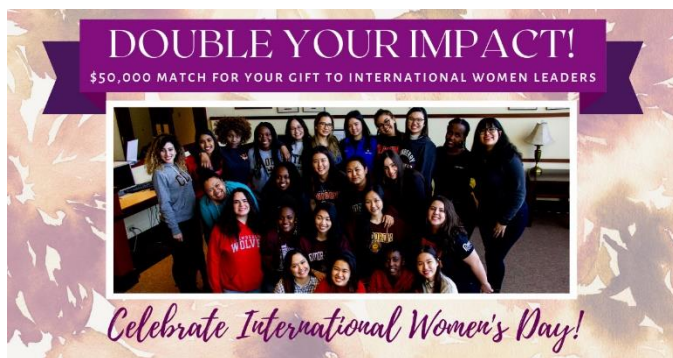
The 40 days of Lent are a season to reflect and remember, to look forward and ahead. These are not easy times for many of us. Yet Lent reminds us that God is not yet through with us or our world. We know by faith that God is at work, drawing us toward the resurrection and restoration of the world. Connect your congregation to the church's global work to end hunger and poverty during ELCA World Hunger's [40 Days of Giving](#), which begins on Ash Wednesday, Feb. 22. Visit [ELCA.org/40Days](https://www.elca.org/40Days) for resources including a devotional calendar, a study guide, an action guide and a Lenten email series.

Go to <https://www.elca.org/40days> to download the study or contact the church office and request a copy.

NEW: A study curriculum on civic life and faith

The ELCA Task Force on Studies for Civic Life and Faith has released a six-session study about government, democracy and how Christians are called to participate in civic life. Each customizable session comes with a teaching video, prayers, hymn suggestions, Scriptures, group discussion questions, suggested resources and case studies. After each session, participants are asked to give feedback on the content to help the task force write a draft social statement. The study response period is open through Oct. 15. Your input is key—thank you for your participation! [Learn more.](#)

Go to elca.org and search “Seeds Monthly” to sign up to receive the “Seeds Monthly” in your email box.



International Women’s Day is **March 8**. The ELCA celebrates this day by uplifting the **International Women Leaders (IWL)** program, which provides scholarships for emerging women leaders from our companion churches around the world to study at ELCA colleges and universities, ELCA seminaries and other institutions.

On Sunday, **March 12**, we encourage your congregation to take a special offering for IWL. In honor of International Women’s Day, **all gifts to IWL will be matched dollar for dollar until we reach \$50,000** — your gifts will go twice as far!

Go to www.ELCA.org/IWL for more resources.



I Have Heard About Your Faith

Ephesians 1:15-19 - March 3, 2023

The theme of the World Day of Prayer 2023 program is based on Ephesians 1:15-19, the letter sent to a faith community to express gratitude. Paul gave thanks to God for the Ephesians living out their love and faith, and prayed that they could see these three truths: the hope to which God has called the disciples, the riches of God’s glorious inheritance among the saints, and the immeasurable greatness of God’s power.

World Day of Prayer is a global ecumenical movement led by Christian women who welcome you to join in prayer and action for peace and justice.

<https://worlddayofprayer.net/index.html>

EASTER FLOWER ORDER FORM

You are invited to help decorate the sanctuary for
Easter Sunday, April 9!

Traditional Single



Stem Easter Lily: \$12.00

QUANTITY: _____



Hyacinths: \$12.00

QUANTITY WHITE: _____
PINK: _____
BLUE: _____

Yellow Daffodils: \$12.00



QUANTITY: _____

Tulips: \$12.00



QUANTITY RED: _____
PINK: _____
YELLOW: _____
PURPLE: _____
WHITE: _____

PLEASE PRINT

Given by: _____

In loving memory of: _____

In honor of: _____

Other: _____

Flower color choices may change due to availability.

ORDER DEADLINE: SUNDAY, March 26

Please indicate the quantity of your selections and designation information on this order form. Order forms (with payment) may be dropped off or mailed to the church. Please put "Easter Flowers" in the check memo. Thank you!



LORD IN YOUR MERCY, HEAR OUR PRAYERS,



WE GIVE THANKS: for the opportunities to come together for food, fellowship and Bible study; for the observance of Ash Wednesday; for Lutheran Disaster Response and all who have responded following the earthquakes in the Middle East; for the resources and opportunities to be the Hands of God for our neighbors in need; and for the leadership and dedication of Bishop Eaton and Bishop Beaudoin. Thanks be to God!

MEMBERS: Janet Goldner, Jim Wymer, Harry & Julie Friess, Cheryl & John Kruse, Fred Husing, Shirley Heilman, Larry Slaughterbeck, Bob Kelley, Caroline Lieser, Eloise Matthes, Marilyn Ziegler, Bertha & Jim Carter, Barb Williams, Rex McCarty.

FAMILY AND FRIENDS: Patty Webb, Cheryl, Ryan Bullock, Isabella Miller, A.J., Frank Strausbaugh, Bill Bankey, Mike Gorsline, Mavery Breece, Caroline, Mike Lerma, Ethan, Tom Szor, Beth Johnson, Brent Bradley, Richard Roberts, Deanna Griffith, Laura, Michael Sullivan, Cindy, Sally Eggleston, Catherine Pritts, Ja-nét Moske.

CHERISH ALL CHILDREN: All of God's children, that we seek to protect and cherish their lives and futures, always staying focused on what is best for God's children. www.cherishallchildren.org.

MILITARY: for all those serving in the military & their families; the chaplains (*especially those in combat zones*); grieving families and friends of those who died while serving.

COMPANION CHURCH: Mwanawotta Lutheran Church, of the Dodoma Diocese, Evangelical Lutheran Church in Tanzania.

WIDER CHURCH PRAYERS: 3.7 million baptized members, 9,320 congregations, all ministries of the ELCA (Evangelical Lutheran Church in America), our presiding **Bishop Elizabeth Eaton**, all our bishops, pastors, leaders, and 75,000 members in the 162 congregations of the NWOS (Northwestern Ohio Synod), **Bishop Daniel Beaudoin**, and our 15 Central Conference congregations.

THE WORLD: for peace in our country and around the world. For the end of violence against one another. For everyone to seek You and share Your love, grace, and mercy.

Prayer Requests

If you wish to update a prayer request on our list or to add new requests, please use the "My Prayer" cards in the pews and/or call or email Dana Bourne, Church Secretary (419-257-3253 StLukesNB@gmail.com). Thank you for your assistance in keeping our Prayer List up-to-date.



❖ Worship Ministries ❖

SUNDAY, March 5

Lent 2

Organist: *Janet Goldner*
Scripture Reader & Prayer Leader: *Carl Lieser*
Acolyte: *Olivia Matthes*
Ushers: *Pam & Rick Van Mooy*
Videographer: *Beth Williams*

SUNDAY, MARCH 12

Lent 3

Organist: *Janet Goldner*
Scripture Reader & Prayer Leader: *Tracy Pritts*
Acolyte: *Hannah Hagemyer*
Ushers: *Jill Guy, Matt Wymer*
Videographer: *Beth Williams*

SUNDAY, MARCH 19

Lent 4

Organist: *Janet Goldner*
Scripture Reader & Prayer Leader: *Karen Kauss*
Acolyte: *Avery Wymer*
Ushers: *Hank Matthes, Zack Stewart*
Videographer: *Beth Williams*

SUNDAY, MARCH 26

Lent 5

Organist: *Janet Goldner*
Scripture Reader & Prayer Reader: *Janet Goldner*
Acolyte: *Easton Wymer*
Ushers: *JoLynn & Don Stewart*
Videographer: *Beth Williams*

PALM SUNDAY, APRIL 2

Organist: *Janet Goldner*
Scripture Reader & Prayer Leader: *Pam Van Mooy*
Acolyte: *Olivia Matthes*
Ushers: *Bryant Matthes, Matt Matthes*
Videographer: *Beth Williams*

MAUNDY THURSDAY, APRIL 6

Organist: *Janet Goldner*
Scripture Reader & Prayer Leader: *Olivia Matthes*
Acolyte: *Olivia Matthes*
Ushers: *Jace McCartney, Guy McCartney*
Videographer: *Beth Williams*



Altar Guild

March - *Emily Meyerson*
April - *Karen Krauss, Pat Wheeler*

❖ Worship Gifts ❖

Altar Flowers

March 5 - *Jen Carter*
March 12 - [available for signup](#)
March 19 - [available for signup](#)
March 26 - [available for signup](#)
April 2 - [available for signup](#)
April 9 - [available for signup](#)

Altar Candles

March - *Tracey & Steve Pritts*
April - *Ruth McKee*

Sunday Bulletins

March - *Tracey & Steve Pritts*
April - [available for signup](#)

Newsletter

March - *Tracey & Steve Pritts*
April - [available for signup](#)



GOOD FRIDAY, APRIL 7

Organist: *Janet Goldner*
Scripture Reader: *JoLynn Stewart*
Prayer Leader: *Hank Matthes*
Acolyte: *Hannah Hagemyer*
Ushers: *Pam & Rick Van Mooy*
Videographer: *Beth Williams*





March 2023



St. Luke's Evangelical Lutheran Church, North Baltimore, Ohio

SUNDAY	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
			1 Soup Dinner 6 Lenten Devotion with dessert 7pm	2	3	4
Lent 2 5 International Women's Day Worship 10:15	6 Staff Meeting 9:30	7	8 Soup Dinner 6 Lenten Devotion with dessert 7pm	9	10	11 Time to Spring Ahead
Lent 3 12 Daylight Savings Time Begins Worship 10:15 Church Council 11:30 Cookie Baking 11:30	13 Staff Meeting 9:30	14	15 Soup Dinner 6 Lenten Devotion with dessert 7pm	16	17 	18
Lent 4 19 Worship 10:15	20 FIRST DAY OF SPRING Staff Meeting 9:30	21	22 Soup Dinner 6 Lenten Devotion with dessert 7pm	23	24 	25
Lent 5 26 Worship 10:15	27 Staff Meeting 9:30	28	29 Soup Dinner 6 Lenten Devotion with dessert 7pm	30	31	

HOLY WEEK

April 2 Palm Sunday	April 6 Maundy Thursday	April 7 Good Friday	April 9 Easter Sunday
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