

The
GOOD NEWS
Letter

St. Luke's Evangelical Lutheran Church
215 North Second Street
North Baltimore OH 45872-1105

January 2024

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

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.**

Kick off the new year by learning to take Sabbath

Dr. Crystal Hall, writer, speaker and theologian will help us start off the new year by learning how to embrace taking time for Sabbath. She will lead our time together in conversation at the next B.Y.O.D., Thursday, January 4 at 7 p.m. CST. Join us!

<https://www.boldcafe.org/dinner/>
Register now to attend.



Winter/Spring 2024 Bible study: "Scripture and nature: Teachers of faith" by the Rev. Sara Olson-Smith

Jesus regularly invokes nature in his teaching, drawing us into deeper relationship with the created world. But it's not just Jesus inviting us to see creation as teacher and kin. The scriptures themselves help us see the important role of the created world in God's story and saving work. This four-session Bible study explores how biblical stories of the natural world help us to grow our love for and commitment to God, other people and our beloved earth.



Session One: Weather: Powerful force for change

We can't control the weather, but we can learn from it. Storms, rain, drought and wind shape the lives of human and non-human beings, both in scripture and today. As we face catastrophic storms and the weird weather of climate change, biblical stories of extraordinary weather convict and humble us. They show us how to live faithfully, moving us to act even when we feel powerless. Go to

<https://www.gathermagazine.org/bible-study/>

Thank you to the Altar Guild

for the beautiful Christmas decorations for our Advent and Christmas worship services and for all of the work they do behind the scenes with changing liturgical colors for table coverings and banners, and for the weekly communion preparation.

NORTH BALTIMORE Food Panty

JANUARY requested donations include canned fruits, vegies, and soups.

FEBRUARY requested donations include mac & cheese, pastas and pasta sauces.

Served the fourth quarter of 2023:

Oct: 23 families/51 people

Nov: 24 families/51 people

Dec: 23 families/54 people



CHURCH COUNCIL MEMBERS

Your Church Council members will be installed on Sunday, January 7, during worship. They are Suzanne Bucher, Janet Goldner, Clay McCartney, Bryant Matthes, Matt Matthes, Tracey Pritts, and Jo Lynn Stewart. Please pray for God's guidance for these members as they lead our congregation into the future.



The Finance committee is looking for two volunteers to help with the Church audit in the first part of January. No experience is necessary. Interested folks can call or text Clay McCartney at 419-306-5681.

Written **reports** to be included in the **ANNUAL REPORTS** for 2023 are due in the church office no later than **January 15, 2024.** Electronic form is preferred, but not as important as getting the report in. The 2023 Annual Reports should be available for pick up on January 28, 2024.

Christ in Our Home

The January – March issues of the devotional Christ in Our Home is available on the information table in the Narthex at the church. If you would like a copy but can't get over to pick one up, call the church office and we will mail one to you.

Bulletins, Candles, and Newsletters

Thank you to all who helped to support the work of the church through gifts to our Special Fund.

The sign-up sheets for your continued financial support of this Fund for 2024 are posted on the bulletin board in the main hallway. Also, the opportunity to sign up to provide flowers to the glory of God for our worship services. Thank you for sharing your blessings.



NWOS 2024 The Year of Rest

As we prepare for the new year, we invite you into 2024: The Year of Rest. Time and time again God calls us into rest through scripture. We read stories of Jesus retreating into the hills, journeys being paused, and creation being celebrated with rest.

So what does it mean for God's people to engage in rest?

Throughout 2024 we will explore this question, not just through sleep or vacation time, but through little moments each day that nourish and renew us.

Instead of our traditional daily Bible reading guide we invite you to engage in daily rest practices, using the seven types of active rest. By grounding these practices in a weekly Bible verse, we pray this guide will help you discover moments of rest and peace.

January's calendar is on page 4 of this newsletter. Watch for more to come each month.



The new recycling drop of center in North Baltimore is now open at 226 High Street. No special hours, as the bins are available anytime. We, the church, would like to participate in the program however, we need your help in getting our recycling from the church to the center. Please consider if this is something you can help with and let the church office know. Thank you.

Blessing for you and your family for 2024.
Happy New Year!

Let us say a huge to Beth Williams for video taping our worship services and posting them on



Facebook each week. We are seeking some assistants for her so that she can be away when she needs to. If you think this is something you might try, please call the church office and leave a message. Training will be offered. Since Covid and the need to offer this service to our members and friends, it has become a necessary part of our ministry to our families and friends. Please consider helping out. Thank you.

LORD IN YOUR MERCY, HEAR OUR PRAYERS,



WE GIVE THANKS FOR: for Christmas and the birth of our savior, for the birth of Jesus and the promise of his glorious return, for the HOPE, PEACE, JOY, and LOVE of the Advent Season, for the leadership of Bishop Daniel Beaudoin in worship today, and for the blessing of worship and fellowship in this season for Advent, as we wait together. Thanks be to God!

MEMBERS: Emily Meyerson, Carl Lieser, Jim Wymer, Pat Wheeler, Rick Van Mooy, Kolton Williams, Ron Bean, Cheryl & John Kruse, Fred Husing, Shirley Heilman, Larry Slaughterbeck, Bob Kelley, Caroline Lieser, Marilyn Ziegler, Bertha Carter, Barb Williams.

FAMILY AND FRIENDS: Chase, Bob, Cali, Howard Till, Emelyn, Isabella, Keven Bickle, Shirley Hollowell, Cheryl, A.J., Mavery Breece, Caroline, Ethan, Brent Bradley, Richard Roberts, Deanna Griffith, Laura, Michael Sullivan, Cindy.

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.

NWOS 2024: The Year of Rest

January 24

	Mental	Sensory	Emotional	Social	Creative	Spiritual	Physical
	SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
<p>"He said to them, 'Come away to a deserted place all by yourselves and rest a while.' For many were coming and going, and they had no leisure even to eat." Mark 6:31</p>	<p>1 Close your eyes, breathe deeply for 1 minute</p>	<p>2 Listen to your favorite song</p>	<p>3 Give someone a compliment</p>	<p>4 Find God in nature</p>	<p>5 Write a prayer based on the verse</p>	<p>6 Go for a walk</p>	
<p>"My presence will go with you, and I will give you rest." Isaiah 41:10</p>	<p>7 Observe the people around you and pray for them</p>	<p>8 Turn off screens 1 hour before bed</p>	<p>9 Write down a moment you tried something new</p>	<p>10 Have a conversation with a friend</p>	<p>11 Take a picture that reminds you of the verse</p>	<p>12 Spend some time in nature</p>	<p>13 Spend 5 minutes stretching</p>
<p>"Be down and sleep; I will wake again, for the Lord sustains me." Psalm 3:5</p>	<p>14 Spend some time in nature</p>	<p>15 Enjoy a favorite food</p>	<p>16 Spend time with a friend today (in person or on the phone)</p>	<p>17 Write down names of people who bring you peace</p>	<p>18 Spend 30 minutes away from a project or problem</p>	<p>19 Sign up to volunteer with an organization you value</p>	<p>20 Take a short nap</p>
<p>"In with you the early and stay up late, looking for food to eat - for he grants sleep to those he loves." Psalm 127:2</p>	<p>21 Spend 1 hour unplugged (no technology)</p>	<p>22 Light a candle or sit with your favorite smell today</p>	<p>23 Respond honestly when someone asks "How are you?"</p>	<p>24 Observe or interact with an animal/pet</p>	<p>25 Find local art in your community</p>	<p>26 Write an affirmation based on the verse</p>	<p>27 Spend 5 minutes being still</p>
<p>"Do not be anxious about anything, but in everything by prayer and supplication with thanksgiving let your requests be made known to God. And the peace of God, which surpasses all understanding, will guard your hearts and your minds in Christ Jesus." Philippians 4:6-7</p>	<p>28 Stay off social media today</p>	<p>29 Spend some time in silence</p>	<p>30 Write about a time when you felt at rest</p>	<p>31 Reconnect with an old friend</p>			

❖ Worship Ministries ❖

SUNDAY, January 7 Epiphany/Baptism

Organist: Janet Goldner
Worship Leader: Pastor Elizabeth Hadler
Scripture Reader & Prayer Leader: Tracey Pritts
Acolyte: Hannah Hagemyer
Ushers: Bryant Matthes, Matt Matthes
Videographer: Beth Williams

SUNDAY, January 14

Organist: Janet Goldner
Worship Leader: Pastor Elizabeth Hadler
Scripture Reader & Prayer Leader: Karen Krauss
Acolyte: Avery Wymer
Ushers: Nancy & Jim Wymer
Videographer: Beth Williams

SUNDAY, January 21

Organist: Janet Goldner
Worship Leader: Pastor Elizabeth Hadler
Scripture Reader & Prayer Leader: Pam Van Mooy
Acolyte: Easton Wymer
Ushers: Jace McCartney, Guy McCartney
Videographer: Beth Williams

SUNDAY, January 28

Organist: Janet Goldner
Worship Leader: SAM Bob Fett
Scripture Reader & Prayer Leader: Olivia Matthes
Acolyte: Olivia Matthes
Ushers: Pam & Rick Van Mooy
Videographer: Beth Williams

SUNDAY, February 4

Organist: Janet Goldner
Worship Leader: SAM Bob Fett
Scripture Reader & Prayer Leader: Dwight Patterson
Acolyte: Hannah Hagemyer
Ushers: Jill Guy, Zach Stewart
Videographer: Beth Williams

SUNDAY, February 11 Transfiguration of our Lord

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



Altar Guild

January - Karen Krauss & Pat Wheeler
February - Karen Krauss, Lorraine Ferguson

❖ Worship Gifts ❖

Altar Flowers

January 2 - Tiffany & Tom Mika
January 9 - [available for signup](#)
January 16 - [available for signup](#)
January 23 - [available for signup](#)
January 30 - [available for signup](#)
February 7 - [available for signup](#)
February 14 - [available for signup](#)

Altar Candles

January - Pam & Rick Van Mooy
February - [available for signup](#)

Sunday Bulletins

January - Pam & Rick Van Mooy
February - [available for signup](#)

Newsletter

January - Pam & Rick Van Mooy
February - [available for signup](#)





January 2024



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

SUNDAY	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
	1 Office Closed	2 Staff Meeting 10:00	3	4 Office Closed	5	6
<i>Epiphany/Baptism of Our Lord</i> 7 Choir Rehearsal 9:30 Worship 10:15	8 Staff Meeting 10:00	9	10	11 Call Committee 7:00	12	13
<i>Epiphany 2</i> 14 Choir Rehearsal 9:30 Worship 10:15	15 Martin Luther King Day Staff Meeting 10:00	16	17	18	19	20
<i>Epiphany 3</i> 21 Choir Rehearsal 9:30 Worship 10:15 Church Council 11:30	22 Staff Meeting 10:00	23	24  Newsletter Deadline	25 Call Committee 7:00	26	27
<i>Epiphany 4</i> 28 Choir Rehearsal 9:30 Worship 10:15	29 Staff Meeting 10:00	30	31			



February 14, 2024