

The  
**GOOD NEWS**  
Letter

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

February 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.**

## Lent begins with Ash Wednesday, February 14



Ash Wednesday is important because it marks the start of the Lenten period leading up to Easter, when Jesus was resurrected. The ashes symbolize both death and repentance. During this period, Christians show repentance and mourning for their sins, because they believe Christ died for them. On Ash Wednesday we will offer a soup and sandwich meal at 6:00 p.m. followed by worship at 7:00 p.m. to include imposition of ashes. Continuing each Wednesday through the Season of Lent (March 20) we will have soup and sandwiches at 6:00 p.m. followed by a Lenten Bible study at 7:00 p.m. Watch the Sunday bulletins and your email for announcement of the study theme and materials. Plan now to join us as we journey through Lent together.



## Scout Sunday February 4

The Sunday that falls before February 8 (Scouting Anniversary Day) has been designated as Scout Sunday, which is the primary date to recognize the contributions of young people and adults to Scouting. On February 4, let us celebrate with the scouts in our families, our community, and around the world. Let us join in prayer for all Scouts, especially those in this congregation and community. Let us pray that they may grow in their commitment to God; and that, by his strength, they may attain the goals of Scouting, the goals of physical, mental, social, psychological, and spiritual maturity.

## 2024 Council Members

St. Luke's Lutheran Church 2024 Council Member positions are: President, JoLynn Stewart; Vice-President, Matt Matthes; Secretary, Suzanne Bucher; Treasurer, Clay McCartney; Financial Secretary, Janet Goldner; Property Committee, Bryant Matthes; Good News†Amen, Tracey Pritts. Take a moment to thank them for their dedication to God's church here in North Baltimore.



**LENT**  
Pray + Fast + Give



**Bold Women's Day** — observed annually on the fourth Sunday of February (Feb 25 this year) — celebrates all Lutheran women who have acted or are acting boldly on their faith in Jesus Christ. Some women are bold in their unceasing prayers while others are bold in their service to those in need. Still other women are bold in their advocacy or through their hospitality. Others are bold in service to the church through serving on the Church Council. Whether we live out our bold story of faith in the workplace, family home, or community, our faith compels us to make a difference in the lives of others. It's all about living out our baptismal call, about being a disciple of Christ. Are you bold? Celebrate the BOLD women in your life!



## Bulletins, Candles, and Newsletters

Thank you to all who helped to support the work of the church through gifts to our Special Fund in 2023. 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.

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

**It's not too late to join in!**

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 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. The February 2024 study - *Creatures: Our siblings in praise and trust*. Jesus invites us to consider the birds, but we'll get to know biblical critters beyond the sparrows. We'll look at biblical animals from ravens and lions to a big fish, paired creatures on the ark, and that sneaky serpent in Eden. Stories of human and animal interactions in Scripture help to reorient our relationships with the non-human world, while pulling us into deeper trust in God. For the video go to

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

## NORTH BALTIMORE Food Panty

**FEBRUARY** requested donations include **mac 'n cheese, pastas, and pasta sauces.**

**MARCH** requested donations include **soap, shampoo, deodorant, and tooth paste.**



Thank you for your continued support of this vital community ministry.



The **Spring Gathering** of the Central Conference Lutheran Women will be held on Saturday, April 20, 2024 at Trinity Lutheran Church in Findlay. The theme is "Earth Day," and Lauren Sandhu from the University of Findlay Biology Department will be our guest speaker. The cost is \$7.00. Mark your calendar NOW.

*Looking Ahead* – Kairos cookie baking at St. Luke's, March 16.

# **St Luke's Lutheran Church**

## Church Council Meeting Minutes

Sunday, January 21, 2024

### **Opening**

JoLynn called the regular meeting of the St Luke's Lutheran Church Council to order on Sunday, January 21, 2024, at 11:34am.

### **Attendance**

**Present** – JoLynn Stewart, Suzanne Bucher, Janet Goldner, Clay McCartney, Tracey Pritts, Matt Matthes

**Absent** – Bryant Matthes

**Guests** – Pam VanMooy (Scribe), Jack Sterling (Call Committee Chairman)

### **Approval of Previous Month's Minutes/Secretary's Report**

- November 2023 minutes accepted – Motion by Clay, 2<sup>nd</sup> by Janet. All approved.

### **Pastor's Report**

- Nothing to Report

### **Statistical Report**

- Went over the member count & attendance.

### **President/Vice-President's Report**

- JoLynn received a call from Paul Herringshaw (Wood County Committee on Aging), and they are looking for a new location in North Baltimore to hold weekday lunches for senior citizens and would like to know if St Luke's would be interested in providing their building Monday thru Friday from approximately 10-2. These luncheons were previously held at the senior center attached to the west side of Westhaven, but have been on pause for quite a while now because of Covid and no site manager to run the NB location. They provide this at churches in Pemberville, Grand Rapids and Wayne, and thought our church would be a nice location for NB especially since we are the only church in town handicapped accessible. We have some additional questions about this so JoLynn will be calling Paul next week to inquire about a few things.

### **Good News Amen Report**

- Nothing to Report

### **Financial Secretary & Treasurer's Report**

- Clay submitted his December report showing \$12,261.96 in the black for the month.
- Clay submitted his annual report showing \$24,456.20 in the black for 2023.
- Janet submitted her year-end report.
- Clay & Janet's reports were accepted - Motion by Suznane, 2<sup>nd</sup> by Tracey. All approved.
- Janet makes a motion for St Luke's to accept \$525/mth from St John's to help pay Pastor Elizabeth & Sam Fett. 2<sup>nd</sup> by Matt Matthes. All approved.

## Property Committee Report

- JoLynn reported the following:
  - The furnace broke twice this past week. Baltz Plumbing & Heating fixed it.
  - The wireless microphones have been replaced.

## Other Committees/Announcements

- New Council Member Assignments for 2024
  - President – JoLynn Stewart
  - VP – Matt Matthes
  - Secretary – Suzanne Bucher
  - Treasurer – Clay McCartney
  - Financial Secretary – Janet Goldner
  - Property – Bryant Matthes
  - Good News Amen – Tracey Pritts

## Mutual Ministry/Transition Team/Call Committee Team

- Jack has volunteered to be the Chairman of the Call Committee.
  - The Call Committee has met twice a month since November.
  - Call Committee: Jack Sterling, Karen Krauss, Brittany Vanaman, Pat Wheeler, and Lois Heilman (St Luke's), and John Sharninghouse and Jerry McCullough (St John's).
- Pam passed out the completed (not submitted/uploaded) Ministry Site Profile and went over it with the Council Members. Council will need to approve it.
- Pam believes the Call Committee meetings will be done by February, and we will be ready for the next step.

## Unfinished Business

- Clay has ordered the new front door and paid half the amount – should come in sometime in March.
- Clay also has gotten all of the permits associated with the installation of our new front door.
- Janet has an EMT lined up to come to St Luke's for ADT training.
- Bryant is working on getting smoke detectors.

## New Business

- Ash Wednesday – February 14<sup>th</sup>
  - Instead of doing a full service, just a quiet service lead by SAM Bob Fett.
- Weekly Lenten devotions at St Luke's
  - Held on Wednesday's beginning February 21<sup>st</sup> thru March 20<sup>th</sup>.
  - Soup & sandwiches beforehand beginning on Ash Wednesday February 14<sup>th</sup>.
  - Dana would like each council member to write a biography for our newsletter.

## Adjournment

- Meeting adjourned @ 1:40pm.
- Next council meeting – Sunday, February 18, 2024 @ 11:30am

Minutes submitted by: Suzanne Bucher

# February '24

"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

"Come to me, all you that are weary and are carrying heavy burdens, and I will give you rest!"  
Matthew 11:28

"The spirit of the Lord shall rest on him, the spirit of wisdom and understanding, the spirit of counsel and might, the spirit of knowledge and the fear of the Lord"  
Isaiah 11:2

"For in six days the Lord made heaven and earth, the sea, and all that is in them, but rested the seventh day; therefore, the Lord blessed the sabbath day and consecrated it!"  
Exodus 20:11

"Take my yoke upon you and learn from me; for I am gentle and humble in heart, and you will find rest for your souls."  
Matthew 11:29

	Mental	Sensory	Emotional	Social	Creative	Spiritual	Physical
SUNDAY	4 Spend 1 hour unplugged (no technology)	5 Close your eyes, breathe deeply for 1 minute	6 Respond honestly when someone asks "How are you?"	7 Observe or interact with an animal/pet	1 Try a new hobby or project today	2 Spend some time in nature	3 Go for a walk
MONDAY	11 Observe the people around you and pray for them	12 Light a candle or sit with your favorite smell today	13 Write about a time when you felt at rest	14 Have a conversation with a friend	8 Take a picture that reminds you of the verse	9 Write an affirmation based on the verse	10 Spend 5 minutes stretching
TUESDAY	18 Spend some time in nature	19 Spend some time in silence	20 Write down a moment you tried something new	21 Give someone a compliment	15 Spend 30 minutes away from a project or problem	16 Sign up to volunteer with an organization you value	17 Take a short nap
WEDNESDAY	25 Stay off social media today	26 Enjoy a favorite food	27 Listen to your favorite song	28 Write down names of people who bring you peace	22 Find local art in your community	23 Write a prayer based on the verse	24 Spend 5 minutes being still
THURSDAY					29 Find God in nature		
FRIDAY							
SATURDAY							

## NWOS 2024 The Year of 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.

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. How will YOU find rest?

<https://nwos-elca.church/year-of-rest/>

So then, a sabbath rest still remains for the people of God; *Hebrews 4:9*

# ***LORD IN YOUR MERCY, HEAR OUR PRAYERS,***



**WE GIVE THANKS FOR:** for our partnership with St. John's Evangelical Lutheran Church of McComb; the faithful and generous contributions of members to the ministry of this congregation; for a new year of opportunities and possibilities; for the leadership of our Church Council members. Thanks be to God!

**MEMBERS:** Don Stewart, 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:** Tony Matthes, 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.

**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](http://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.

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## **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](mailto:StLukesNB@gmail.com)). Thank you for your assistance in keeping our Prayer List up-to-date.

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**Good Morning, Lord!** Today's a new day, a chance for a new start. Yesterday is gone and with it any regrets, mistakes, or failures I may have experienced. It's a good day to be glad and give thanks, and I do Lord. Thank you for today, a new opportunity to love, give, and be all that you want me to be, in Jesus' name. Amen!

## ❖ Worship Ministries ❖

### **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*  
Worship Leader: *Pastor Elizabeth Hadler*  
Scripture Reader & Prayer Leader: *JoLynn Stewart*  
Acolyte: *Avery Wymer*  
Ushers: *JoLynn & Don Stewart*  
Videographer: *Beth Williams*

### **ASH WEDNESDAY, February 14**

Organist: *Janet Goldner*  
Worship Leader: *SAM Bob Fett*  
Scripture Reader & Prayer Leader: *Janet Goldner*  
Acolyte: *Easton Wymer*  
Ushers: *Bryant Matthes, Matt Matthes*  
Videographer: *Beth Williams*

### **SUNDAY, February 18 1<sup>st</sup> Sunday in Lent**

Organist: *Janet Goldner*  
Worship Leader: *Pastor Elizabeth Hadler*  
Scripture Reader & Prayer Leader: *Olivia Matthes*  
Acolyte: *Olivia Matthes*  
Ushers: *Nancy & Jim Wymer*  
Videographer: *Beth Williams*

### **SUNDAY, February 25 2<sup>nd</sup> Sunday in Lent**

Organist: *Janet Goldner*  
Worship Leader: *TBD*  
Scripture Reader & Prayer Leader: *Carl Lieser*  
Acolyte: *Hannah Hagemyer*  
Ushers: *Jace McCartney, Guy McCartney*  
Videographer: *Beth Williams*

### **SUNDAY, March 3 3<sup>rd</sup> Sunday in Lent**

Organist: *Janet Goldner*  
Worship Leader: *Pastor Elizabeth Hadler*  
Scripture Reader & Prayer Leader: *Tracey Pritts*  
Acolyte: *Avery Wymer*  
Ushers: *Pam & Rick Van Mooy*  
Videographer: *Beth Williams*

### **SUNDAY, March 10 4<sup>th</sup> Sunday in Lent**

Organist: *Janet Goldner*  
Worship Leader: *Pastor Elizabeth Hadler*  
Scripture Reader & Prayer Leader: *Karen Krauss*  
Acolyte: *Easton Wymer* Ushers: *Jill Guy, Zach Stewart*

#### **Altar Guild**

February - *Karen Krauss*  
March - *Karen Krauss*

#### ❖ **Worship Gifts** ❖

#### **Altar Flowers**

February 4 - [available for signup](#)  
February 11 - [available for signup](#)  
February 18 - [available for signup](#)  
February 25 - [available for signup](#)  
March 3 - *Jen Carter*  
March 10 - [available for signup](#)

#### **Altar Candles**

February - [available for signup](#)  
March - [available for signup](#)

#### **Sunday Bulletins**

February - [available for signup](#)  
March - [available for signup](#)

#### **Newsletter**

February - [available for signup](#)  
March - [available for signup](#)



# **WORSHIP THE LORD!**

Videographer: *Beth Williams*



# February 2024



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

SUNDAY	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday	
<p>Lent begins with Ash Wednesday, February 14</p>				1	2	3	
<p><i>Epiphany 5</i>     4</p> <p>Scout Sunday ~~~~~ Choir Rehearsal 9:30 <b>Worship 10:15</b></p>	5	6	7	8	9	10	
				<p><i>Valentine's Day</i></p>			
<p><i>Transfiguration</i>   11</p> <p>Choir Rehearsal 9:30 <b>Worship 10:15</b></p>	12	13	<p style="text-align: center;">14</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Ash Wednesday Soup &amp; sandwiches 6pm Worship 7pm</p>	15	16	17	
				<p>Church Office Closed</p>		<p>Church Office Hours 10:30 – 2:30</p>	
<p><i>Lent 1</i>     18</p> <p>Choir Rehearsal 9:30 <b>Worship 10:15</b> Church Council 11:30</p>	19	20	21	22	23	24	
				<p>MARCH</p>			
				<p>Newsletter Deadline</p>			
<p><i>Lent 2</i>     25</p> <p>Choir Rehearsal 9:30 <b>Worship 10:15</b></p>	26	27	28	29	<p style="color: #0000FF; font-weight: bold;">Spring clocks forward March 10</p>		
				<p>Soup &amp; sandwiches 6pm</p>			
				<p>Lenten Bible Study 7pm</p>			
				<p>Soup &amp; sandwiches 6pm</p>			
				<p>Lenten Bible Study 7pm</p>			