

The
GOOD NEWS
Letter

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

March 2025



News flash ... Lent is upon us

We all have experiences with this thing we call Lent. In the Latin, it's Quadragesima (fortieth). Hmm...forty...lent is forty days long. Jesus prayed for 40 days in the wilderness. It rained for forty days in Noah's time. The exodus was forty years. Lent is derived from the Anglo-Saxon word 'lectin' meaning spring, and from the West Germanic 'langitinaz' meaning long days. For us it is the forty days leading up to Easter when we are called to reflect, to pray, and to dig into ourselves as we dig into God. When Jesus went into the wilderness to pray, he fasted. His focus was on preparing, just like we are, for his rejection by the human race, us. Jesus fasted because fasting clears the mind, actually allowing you to think better, to be more aware. He then prayed, questioning his future and the horrors that lie in wait. He wrestled with the devil. He wrestled with his faith, and he questioned God – isn't there another way? Have you ever wrestled with God? That is what Lent is for.

Please join us at St. Luke's every Wednesday evening during Lent as we watch segments of "The Chosen" and dig into and wrestle with the questions around our lives, God's promises and out place in them.

SAM Paul Brooks

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.**



St. Luke's Lutheran Church
Wednesday Lenten Bible Study

The Chosen

Beginning Wednesday, March 12
Meal of soup & sandwiches @ 6pm
Discussion @ 7pm

215 N. 2nd St.
North Baltimore, OH

opportunity to sign up to provide flowers to the glory of God for our worship services. Thank you for sharing your blessings.



With Thrivent Choice®, you can recommend where some of Thrivent Financials' 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.

NORTH BALTIMORE Food Panty



MARCH requested donations include soap, shampoo, deodorant, toothpaste

APRIL requested donations include laundry detergent, dish soap, toilet paper

Please give generously so that no one goes without. Thank you for your continued support for our neighbors.

Save the Dates

The Central Women's Spring gathering is Saturday, May 3, at Good Hope Lutheran Church in Arlington.

The Northwestern Ohio Women's Synodical Gathering is September 26 & 27, at St. Mark's Lutheran in Bowling Green. Theme is "Be Still."

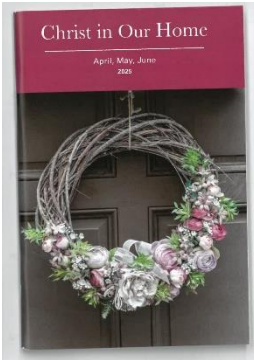
Mark your calendar NOW and plan to join in where you will find friends, fellowship, food, faith, and fun!

Bulletins, Candles, 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 2025 are posted on the bulletin board in the main hallway. Also, the



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. Pick up a copy when you are in the church or call the church office and Dana will send one to you. Blessings.



March 9, 2025

St. Luke's Lutheran Church
Church Council Meeting Minutes
Sunday, February 9, 2025

Opening

Pam called the regular meeting of the St. Luke's Lutheran Church Council to order on Sunday, February 9, 2025, at 11:25am.

Attendance

Present – Pam VanMooy, Matt Matthes, Suzanne Bucher, Carl Lieser, JoLynn Stewart
Bryant Matthes, SAM Paul Brooks

Absent – Clay McCartney

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

- January 2025 minutes accepted.
- Motion by JoLynn to approve January's minutes, 2nd by Carl. All approved.

Financial Secretary's Report

- Carl submitted his Account of Offerings reports.
- Motion by Matt to approve Carl's reports, 2nd by Bryant. All approved.

Treasurer's Report

- Clay previously submitted his January report showing \$8,504.80 in the black.
- Motion by Matt to approve Clay's report, 2nd by Bryant. All approved.

President/Vice-President's Report

- Pam will take care of getting Paul a mailbox.
- Pam will notify Karen Krauss that “cleaning the church day” by Alter Guild will be the Saturday before Easter.

Discipleship Committee Report

- Nothing to Report

Property Committee Report

- Bryant sent Clay the information for the dumpster bumpers to be ordered.
- As long as it's cold outside, the boiler should not be touched.
- Bryant will call Baltz's about the issue with the 2nd floor heating.
- Carpet cleaning will now take place after VBS.

Pastor's Report

- Paul updated us on the Altar Guild training.
- The synod is working to fill a SAM position at St. Luke's.
- Paul would like a mailbox.
- Paul asked us about Maundy Thursday and Good Friday services, and it was decided this will be a blended service on Maundy Thursday, April 17th, at St. Luke's.

Other Committees/Announcements

- Nothing to Report

Mutual Ministry/Transition Team/Call Committee Team

- Nothing to Report

Unfinished Business

- JoLynn advised that Leanne will now be cleaning our church again.
- Pam updated us on the Wood County Committee on Aging – NB Senior Center meals.
 - Pam and Paul will arrange a meeting with Angie & Barb from the WCCA to discuss a few things.
 - Council discussed a request by WCCA to place a sign at our church. After discussion, a Motion by Matt was made to table the discussion until next month, 2nd by Bryant. All approved. More information will be collected.
- The large pot hole on the West side of our parking lot should be taken care of soon.
- Bryant will take care of installing smoke detectors.
- The SAM Contract will soon be discussed between Paul, Pam and Clay, and then brought to Council for approval.

New Business

- Nothing to Report

Statistical Report

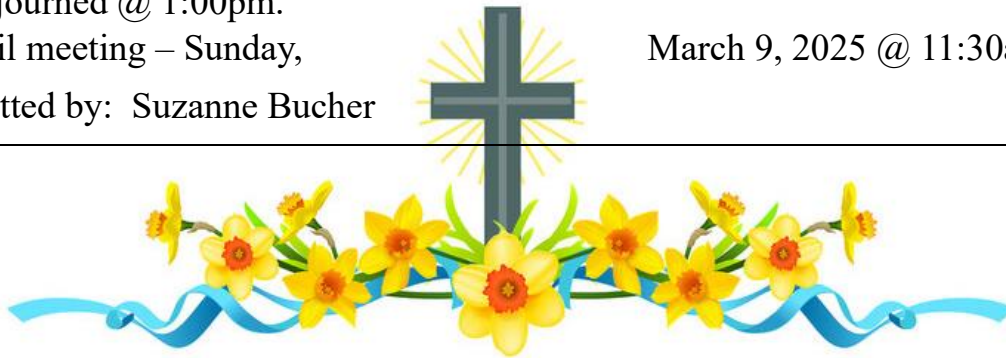
- Went over member count and attendance.

Adjournment

- Meeting adjourned @ 1:00pm.
- Next council meeting – Sunday,

March 9, 2025 @ 11:30am.

Minutes submitted by: Suzanne Bucher



Boldcafe Monthly Dinner: worthiness

What does it mean to be worthy? Join us for the next **Boldcafe Monthly Dinner, Thursday, March 6, at 7 pm CST**. The Rev. Andrea Walker, pastor at St. Paul's Lutheran Church, Washington D.C., will lead our conversation about what she learned from her mother about worthiness. Granddaughters, daughters, nieces, etc., are encouraged to join us and bring their favorite stuffy or doll to this special dinner in honor of Women's History Month. **Register and pass this invitation along: <https://boldcafe.org/dinner>**

Café

boldcafe.org

Monthly dinner with Boldcafe writers + friends (B.Y.O.D.)

March 6, @ 7 pm (CST)

The graphic also includes a photo of a white teddy bear with a red bow and a photo of a woman with braids wearing a pink jacket.

March is Women's History Month

March has arrived, and it's time to honor and celebrate women! Women's History Month is a wonderful time to acknowledge the impact of women in your life and on the whole world. Here are some intentional ways to honor the women you love: past, present, and future.



1. Write a letter to a woman who inspires you. Get out some nice stationary and your favorite pen and get to work. The goal is to be authentic and describe why this woman is important.

2. Make a list of 10 women in your life who have influenced you. Set aside time this month to consider what women to include on your list. Taking time to make this special list will be a great way to increase your awareness of just how much women have influenced your life!

3. Pray for a different woman each day this month. First, find a blank monthly calendar for March. Take time to put a different woman's name in each box for the month.

4. Intentionally appreciate women in art. Read a book by a female author. Watch a film by a female director. Go to a museum and note the works of art created by women.

5. Pick up the phone and call a woman in your life you haven't talked to for awhile. If you've taken a real liking to Twitter, texting, and other online forms of communication, why not try a telephone visit?

6. Support female business owners. Do a little research on the places you shop and the businesses you support. This month, make it a special focus to shop at places owned or run by women.

7. Read the biblical books of Esther and Ruth. There are two books in the Bible named after women. These important Old Testament books teach us a lot about the lives and challenges of women thousands of years ago. They also teach us about perseverance, bravery, and commitment.

The month ahead is a wonderful time to celebrate all women. Praise be to God for women throughout history. May our intentional acts of remembrance and celebration remind us of the Creator at the center of all life!

World Day of Prayer – March 7, 2025



The World Day of Prayer is an international ecumenical Christian laywomen's initiative. It is run under the motto "Informed Prayer and Prayerful Action" and is celebrated annually in over 170 countries on the first Friday in March.

Every year, the World Day of Prayer unites people across the globe in a spirit of worship, solidarity, and shared faith. This year our focus is the Cook Islands. The theme, "I Made You Wonderful" from Psalm 139:14, serves as a beautiful reminder of God's creative work in each of us and His love of diversity.

LORD IN YOUR MERCY, HEAR OUR PRAYERS,



WE GIVE THANKS FOR: SAM Paul Brooks and his worship leadership; the Holy Spirit moving in our lives, our congregation, our world; the Sacrament of Baptism and the community of faith; the freedom to gather together for worship, to share the Word, to pray, to sing, and to praise our God.

MEMBERS: Rose Marie Hosley, Mike Wheeler, Nancy Wymer, John Stewart, Becky Bean, JoLynn Stewart, Emily Meyerson, Carl Lieser, Jim Wymer, Rick Van Mooy, Kolton Williams, Ron Bean, Cheryl & John Kruse, Shirley Heilman, Larry Slaughterbeck, Bob Kelley, Caroline Lieser, Marilyn Ziegler, Bertha Carter, Barb Williams.

FAMILY AND FRIENDS: Jo Mineo, Bobby, Frances Bullock, Eli Swartz, Riley Guy, Kelli Sterling, Mr. Doherty, Kristen, Jennifer Dochod, Ron Stewart, Chase, Bob, 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.

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 2 Transfiguration

Organist: *Janet Goldner*
Scripture Reader & Prayer Leader: *Karen Krauss*
Ushers: *Pam & Rick Van Mooy*
Videographer: *Beth Williams*

SUNDAY, March 9 First Sunday in Lent

Organist: *Janet Goldner*
Scripture Reader & Prayer Leader: *Pam Van Mooy*
Ushers: *Jill Guy, Zach Stewart*
Videographer: *Beth Williams*

SUNDAY, March 16 Second Sunday in Lent

Organist: *Janet Goldner*
Scripture Reader & Prayer Leader: *Tiffany Mika*
Ushers: *JoLynn & Don Stewart*
Videographer: *Beth Williams*

SUNDAY, March 23 Third Sunday in Lent

Organist: *Janet Goldner*
Scripture Reader & Prayer Leader: *Dwight Patterson*
Ushers: *Bryant Matthes, Matt Matthes*
Videographer: *Beth Williams*

SUNDAY, March 30 Fourth Sunday in Lent

Organist: *Janet Goldner*
Scripture Reader & Prayer Leader: *JoLynn Stewart*
Ushers: *Nancy & Jim Wymer*
Videographer: *Beth Williams*

SUNDAY, April 6 Fifth Sunday in Lent

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

SUNDAY, April 13 Palm Sunday

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

SUNDAY, April 20 Easter Sunday

Organist: *Janet Goldner*
Scripture Reader & Prayer Leader: *Tracey Pritts*
Ushers: *Jill Guy, Zach Stewart*
Videographer: *Beth Williams*

SUNDAY, April 27

Organist: *Janet Goldner*
Scripture Reader & Prayer Leader: *Karen Krauss*
Ushers: *JoLynn & Don Stewart*
Videographer: *Beth Williams*

Altar Guild

March - *Karen Krauss, Lorraine Ferguson*
April - *Karen Krauss, Pat Wheeler*

❖ Worship Gifts ❖

Altar Flowers

March 2 - *Jen Carter*
March 9 - [available for signup](#)
March 16 - [available for signup](#)
March 23 - [available for signup](#)
March 30 - [available for signup](#)
April 6 - *Karen & Lynn Krauss*
April 13 - [available for signup](#)

Altar Candles

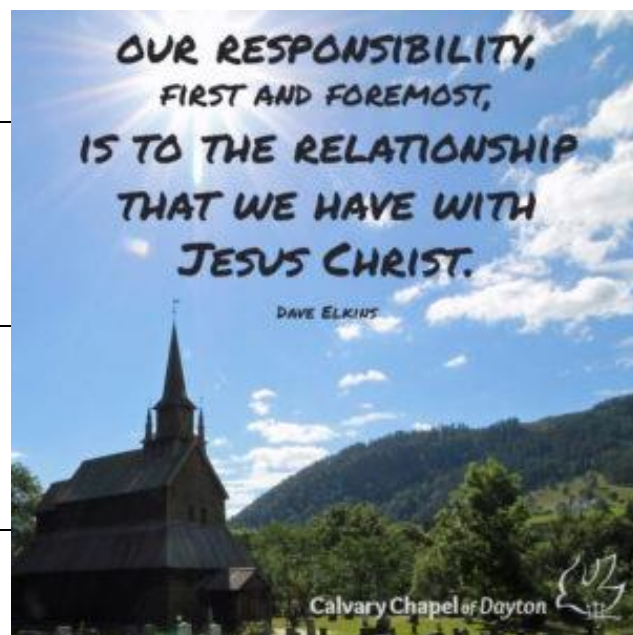
March - [available for signup](#)
April - [available for signup](#)

Sunday Bulletins

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

Newsletter

March - [available for signup](#)
April - *Lois & Rut Heilman*





March 2025



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

SUNDAY	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
						1
Transfiguration 2 Choir Rehearsal 9:15 Worship 10:15	3	4	5 	6	7	8 World Day of Prayer
Lent 1 9 Choir Rehearsal 9:15 Worship 10:15 Church Council 11:30	10	11	12 The Chosen Meal-6:00 Study -7:00	13	14	15
Lent 2 16 Choir Rehearsal 9:15 Worship 10:15		18	19 The Chosen Meal-6:00 Study -7:00	20	21	22
Lent 3 23 Choir Rehearsal 9:15 Worship 10:15		25	26 The Chosen Meal-6:00 Study -7:00	27	28	29
Lent 4 30 Choir Rehearsal 9:15 Worship 10:15	31					