

The GOOD NEWS Letter



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

May 2025

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

SAM Paul Brooks
Pastor Ken Pollitz
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.**

Welcome Easter !

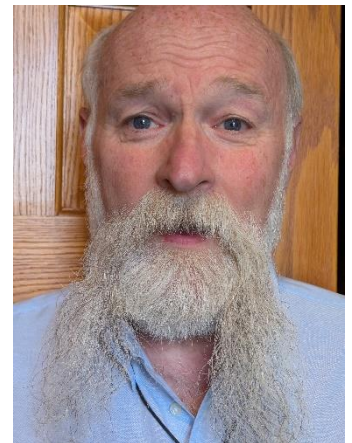


Easter was wonderful! After putting the "Alleluias" away during Lent, we got to sing "Alleluia" again! We had 85 people, including children, in person for the worship service!

We even had a children's message! We were so pleased to welcome old and new faces to our service. Now we are getting ready to officially welcome our SAM Paul Brooks and retired pastor Ken Pollitz to St. Luke's on Sunday, May 4. It will be a joyous occasion and Cheryl Sondergeld from the Synod office will be joining us. We hope that you will be in attendance, stay for a special meal, fellowship after the service, and greet old and new friends. Welcome Paul and Ken to St. Lukes and St. Johns!

Welcome Paul

Another day that the Lord hath made, what a blessing. My name is Paul Brooks. Some of you have seen me and some perhaps not, yet. So that you know more about me, the good the bad and well....here's the run down. I am the SAM (Synod Authorized Minister) serving St. John's and St. Luke's since fall of 2024. I live with my wife Kathy south of Findlay. I have 2 sons and a daughter who have blessed us with 8 grandchildren that provide endless hours of joy. I am a retired commercial roofing contractor. I have been blessed to have traveled the country and have seen and experienced a lot of wonderful things. I am also the central conference call facilitator for the Northwest Ohio Synod. I grew up on a farm in Putnam County, beans, wheat, horses, steers and hogs. I attended Northwest Tech College, twice. I have a love for the outdoors, history, cooking, reading and teaching; have had gun dogs since I was 16 and love to fish as well. I serve as chairman of the board of the League of Ohio Sportsmen, representing Sportsmen and outdoor enthusiast with the general assembly, the Governor, the Dept. of Natural Resources and other stakeholders and agencies. I teach outdoor skills at several camps and weekend gatherings as well as Hunter ed. and Trapper ed. I have also served as a township zoning inspector for 25 yrs. From the love of history



came participation in a miniseries, several movies and a music video. I had an experience in my late 20s that radically changed my perspective, on everything. I truly know just how powerful grace can be. I could be described as a recipe, one that has 75 ingredients, takes three days to make and is best after 3 more days sitting. As I look back, I can clearly see how God has been preparing me all of my life to be where I am, with you, to be beside you, to minister to you, to laugh and to cry with you. May God bless you and your congregation to bring forth the fruit that nourishes the community and the world all around us. Please do not hesitate to call me if you feel there is need or concern.

Peace be with you · Paul Brooks · 419 722 8625

Welcome Ken

I was raised in the Chicago, Illinois, part of the country. Our family grew up in the Lutheran Church (the Missouri Synod type of Lutheran). By fifth grade I began to pick up the game of basketball (I played tennis in high school, too). Basketball became the game that I enjoyed, had some success in high school, and was able to get a basketball scholarship to the University of Missouri, and then ended up transferring after a couple years there and finished my college career at Valparaiso University in Indiana.



I was an accounting major in college (and eventually got a Business Accounting Degree). Were it not for a college friend, I don't know that I wouldn't be a CPA or a bookkeeper somewhere. As God would have it, this friend randomly questioned me by asking, "Ken, have you ever thought about going into the ministry?" Something along the lines of "Not Happening, by good friend," was likely my response. Pastors had no life, they dressed in black, and they worked too many weekends. Nevertheless, I couldn't get that thought out of my head, even after holding two quality job offers as I approached graduation. Turns out, I just couldn't say yes to either and only found peace when I said "yes" to the Holy Spirit. Upon graduation in 1979, I got married a month later, went on our honeymoon and came back to the home, packed our car and headed off to Summer Greek at Trinity Lutheran Seminary in Columbus, Ohio.

Following graduation, I served churches in Arlington, VA, Holland, OH and Ottawa, OH. My wife, Linda Rae, and I have a daughter and 3 sons of which two are twins. We have been blessed with 11 grandchildren. Linda Rae, along with being a stay at home mom for plenty of years, was a social worker by education. Her passion has been the elderly, and has spent about 25 years working in the geriatric field (long-term care facilities) though 17 of those years she worked for the Alzheimer's Association of Northwest Ohio. Some of my hobbies include road-bike riding, contemporary Christian music, and, of late, historic art and artists. A fun fact about our family is that we have three sets of twins. This includes our twin sons; our youngest son, Joel, and his wife, Kyesha, had twins as their first two kids; and, our daughter and her husband, Matthew, adopted identical twin daughters from birth just over three years ago.

Blessing, Ken

NORTH BALTIMORE Food Panty



MAY requested donations include peanut butter, jellies, and jams.

JUNE requested donations include canned meats

Please give generously so that no one goes without.

HELPING OTHERS

I was recently reading Luke 10 about the story Jesus told the Jewish man who was traveling when he was stripped, beaten and left for dead along the side of the road. Three different Jewish men came by. Each noticed the man but went on their way without giving him aid. Then a Samaritan came along the road. Samaritans and Jews hated each other. Immediately upon discovering the man the Samaritan helped him. The Good Samaritan is a good example of what God wants from us. He wants us to assist everyone in need, not just those we like or who like us, but everyone who requires assistance.

How can you help...that is easy. Each month we are asked to help others by providing items for the community food pantry. It is housed and maintained by The Bridge Fellowship Church but all churches are asked to donate items on a monthly basis. We gave our birthday bags to them as well. People in our community with a need who qualify are given food and supplies free of charge. It is our way of sharing with those who need assistance in our community. You can take extra canned or boxed food to the Blessings Box located east of the Marathon to help people as well. That box is open to



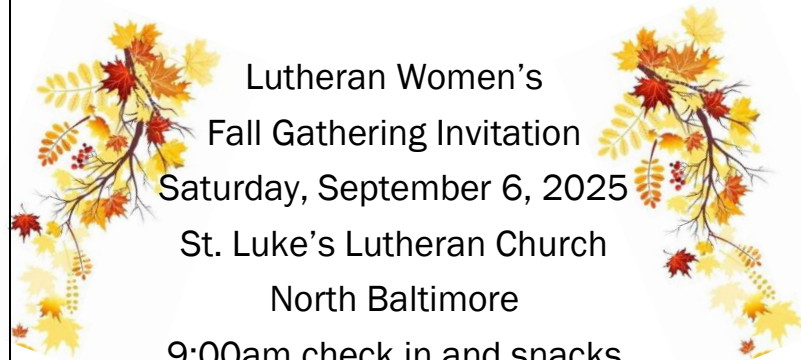
GOD LOVES

a cheerful giver



anyone who needs something with no questions or income requirements. You can donate clothes you no longer need to the Good Will donation centers to help others who need to find employment. You can volunteer your time to help an agency be able to serve others like the Wood County Committee on Aging. Loving and helping each other is the command from Jesus.

Blessings, Pam Van Mooy



Lutheran Women's

Fall Gathering Invitation

Saturday, September 6, 2025

St. Luke's Lutheran Church

North Baltimore

9:00am check in and snacks

There will be a very special speaker sharing about the art of listening.

Mark your calendar now and plan on attending. You'll be glad you did.

Need more details? Keep watching!



St. Luke's Lutheran Church

Church Council Meeting Minutes

Sunday, April 13, 2025

Opening

Pam called the regular meeting of the St. Luke's Lutheran Church Council to order on Sunday, April 13, 2025, at 11:48am.

Attendance

Present – Pam VanMooy, Suzanne Bucher, Clay McCartney, Carl Lieser, JoLynn Stewart, SAM Paul Brooks

Absent – Matt Matthes, Bryant Matthes

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

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

Financial Secretary's Report

- Carl submitted his March Accounting of Offerings report.
- Motion by Pam to approve Carl's report, 2nd by JoLynn. All approved.

Treasurer's Report

- Clay submitted his March report showing \$6,114.23 in the black.
- Motion by Suzanne to approve Clay's report, 2nd by Carl. All approved.

President/Vice-President's Report

- Nothing to Report

Discipleship Committee Report

- Easter breakfast will be at 9am.

Property Committee Report

- Nothing to Report

Pastor's Report

- Paul presented a “covenant” document to Council, which is between the synod, Paul and the churches. Everyone approved and Pam signed the covenant accordingly.
- The installation of SAM Paul Brooks will be Sunday, May 4, 2025, with a meal afterwards.

Other Committees/Announcements

- Paul will check with Beth and Dana to see where things stand with VBS plans (July 20-24). Some things will need to change this year because of the Wood County Committee on Aging senior meals being held at the church each weekday now.

Mutual Ministry/Transition Team/Call Committee Team

- Nothing to Report

Unfinished Business

- Pam updated us on the Wood County Committee on Aging.
- The new “Senior Center” sign was discussed along with a picture of the proposed new sign. Council had a few questions, so Pam will get additional information from WCCA about the sign, and submit a request to the Village of NB zoning employee for approval of the sign installation.
- The boiler was inspected and we passed.
- The large pot hole on the West side of our parking lot should be taken care of soon, weather permitting.
- Bryant will be getting estimates for the reconstruction of our church parking lot.
- Bryant will be getting the smoke detectors installed soon.
- The remainder of the partitions will soon be taken down.

New Business

- Easter plans are all taken care of by the appropriate people.
- A Facility Use Request was submitted by Carol Williams for the Central Conference Fall Gathering by Women on Saturday, September 6, 2025. Motion by Carl to approve the request, 2nd by Clay. All approved.
- A member suggested St Luke's having a soup fundraiser in the future, but tabled at the moment.

Statistical Report

- Went over the statistical report for February & March.

Adjournment

- Meeting adjourned @ 1:30pm.
- Next council meeting – Sunday, May 18, 2025 @ 11:30am (changed due to Mother's Day being on the May 11th).

Minutes submitted by: Suzanne Bucher

Gracious God,

On this Memorial Day, we pray for those who courageously laid down their lives for the cause of freedom. May the examples of their sacrifice inspire in us the selfless love of Your Son, our Lord Jesus Christ.

Bless the families of our fallen troops, and fill their homes and their lives with Your strength and peace.

In union with people of goodwill of every nation, embolden us to answer the call to work for peace and justice, and thus, seek an end to violence and conflict around the globe. We ask this through your name.

- Author Unknown

LORD IN YOUR MERCY, HEAR OUR PRAYERS,



WE GIVE THANKS FOR: for the resurrection – because Jesus lives, we will live!; for the sacrifice of Jesus for the forgiveness of our sins so that we might live in God’s glory; for the faithful and generous contributions of members to the ministry of this congregation. God’s gifts and guidance for those called to serve on our Church Council; for all who reach out and help those recovering from devastating storms and wildfires. Thanks be to 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: Nickie Whitman, Ella Moore, Jo Mineo, Eli Swartz, Riley Guy, Mr. Doherty, Ron Stewart, Chase, Cheryl, A.J., Mavery Breece, Caroline, Ethan, Brent Bradley, Richard Roberts, 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, May 4

Organist: Janet Goldner
Scripture Reader & Prayer Leader: Tiffany Mika
Ushers: Nancy & Jim Wymer
Videographer: Beth Williams

SUNDAY, May 11 Happy Mothers' Day!

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

SUNDAY, May 18

Organist: Janet Goldner
Scripture Reader & Prayer Leader: JoLynn Stewart
Ushers: Pam & Rick Van Mooy
Videographer: Beth Williams

SUNDAY, May 25

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

SUNDAY, June 1

Organist: Janet Goldner
Scripture Reader & Prayer Leader: Carl Lieser
Ushers: JoLynn & Don Stewart
Videographer: Beth Williams

SUNDAY, June 8 Pentecost

Organist: Janet Goldner
Scripture Reader & Prayer Leader: Tracey Pritts
Ushers: Bryant Matthes, Matt Matthes
Videographer: Beth Williams

SUNDAY, June 15

Organist: Janet Goldner
Scripture Reader & Prayer Leader: Karen Krauss
Ushers: Nancy & Jim Wymer
Videographer: Beth Williams

SUNDAY, June 22

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

SUNDAY, June 29

Organist: Janet Goldner
Scripture Reader & Prayer Leader: Tiffany Mika
Ushers: Pam & Rick Van Mooy
Videographer: Beth Williams

Altar Guild

May - Karen Krauss, Pat Wheeler
June - Tiffany Mika, Beth Williams

❖ Worship Gifts ❖

Altar Flowers

May 4 - [available for signup](#)
May 11 - [available for signup](#)
May 18 - Arica & Matt Matthes
May 25 - Karen & Lynn Krauss
June 1 - [available for signup](#)
June 8 - Carol Williams (Pentecost)

Altar Candles

May - [available for signup](#)
June - [available for signup](#)

Sunday Bulletins

May - Laura & Tony Damon
June - [available for signup](#)

Newsletter

May - Laura & Tony Damon
June - [available for signup](#)






May 2025



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

SUNDAY	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
Pour out to the God of hope and be filled!				1 National Day of Prayer	2	3 Women's Gathering Arlington 9am
<i>Easter 3</i> 4 Choir Rehearsal 9:15 Worship 10:15	5	6 Staff Meeting 10:00	7	8	9	10
<i>Easter 4</i> 11 MOTHERS' DAY Choir Rehearsal 9:15 Worship 10:15	12	13 Staff Meeting 10:00	14	15	16	17
<i>Easter 5</i> 18 Choir Rehearsal 9:15 Worship 10:15 Church Council 11:30	19	20 Staff Meeting 10:00	21 Office Closed	22	23	24
<i>Easter 6</i> 25 Choir Rehearsal 9:15 Worship 10:15	26  Office Closed	27 Staff Meeting 10:00	28	29	30	31