

The GOOD NEWS Letter



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

June 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

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.**

Lead by the Holy Spirit

I am rather content right now. Not that there aren't things, bothers, schedules. My journey thus far with all of you has been a pleasant one. I'm sure most of you know I feel called to the ministry that is St John's and St Luke's. Sometimes things just flow and that is how I see things right now. Ken and I have been installed and I can feel good things



coming. I have had many people, surprised that I am now serving 2 churches, ask "Aren't you afraid? Is it hard?" Some also comment "I could never do that." My reply is that this wasn't really my decision. I just got out of the way and surrendered to the Holy Spirit's whims. This is a central message to us in the Gospels. This whole being a Christian, coming to church, is not

meant to be a single event thing. Getting baptized and being confirmed is a journey, a process. Our ego often sees this as a bother. "What am I getting out of this? So, if I'm good and go to church I get to go to heaven at the end - right?" Well, that is a common if incorrect understanding. Transformation, being born again is a daily process and one that we cannot actually do alone. This is where daily Bible exposure, prayer and other devotions come in. As we fill ourselves with these things that help the process along, we find ourselves actually living out more and more of God's will. We have gotten out of our own way. We are not trying to do, we are just being. The Holy Spirit does not force itself but can take all of the hurdles out of the way making your path seem to flow effortlessly. Over 365 times in the bible it says do not be afraid, fear not, yet one of our biggest stumbling blocks is fear. Our minds grab on to it and it takes us to not so good places. This is not what God wants for us. Isn't 365 times enough to give us a clue? If you find yourself in a fearful place, break out your Bible, let it just fall open and read, let the Holy Spirit talk to you. It may take you to wonderful places that you had never dreamed you would go. May God's peace be with every one of you as we journey together.

Paul Brooks

PEACE

LIVING LIFE

Is there ever a time when you are not busy? When I was a young mother, I would think that once my daughter was no longer a toddler, I would be less busy. Then there were school activities and my responsibilities of work and career. I would have given just about anything for a day to sleep in over the weekend. Well, when she graduated from high school and went to college I thought there would be more me time. No! I had organization and club work and still my career as a building principal. I still wanted to sleep in but that didn't happen often. I then thought that one day I would retire from my career and there would plenty of relax time. Well, I retired but have continued to work at least part time. I still don't have extra time, although I am slowing down. I am always busy with something. There are always tasks around the house or at church or at my part time job. Now I don't sleep as much so no sleeping in for me.

Sometimes I wonder if God thinks I am staying busy in order to avoid him. I pray every day. I even stop to feel that sense of awe when seeing a beautiful sunset or a little hummingbird. I am thankful for my husband, my children and grandchildren, my sister and my friends. They make my life richer in so many ways. I enjoy the people I meet at work and those people I work with are wonderful ladies. I also enjoy coming to church and being with my church family. God wants me to enjoy life and be happy. Even when bad things happen or I am not feeling well I know that I am not alone. God is right beside me. He loves and protects me every minute of every day. Someday I will stand before him and I trust that he will say "It is well my good and faithful servant." Until that day I will stay busy living life.

Blessings, Pam Van Mooy

From the Church Council

The May council meeting was May 18, 2025. We reviewed the tasks that we had committed to at the April meeting. Pam Van Mooy has had conversations with the new executive director of the Wood County Committee on Aging. Council approved a sign for the senior center and so that will be forwarded to them and the village for approval. The senior center is looking to hire a new site manager to replace Barb who took a different job. Shawn Mills will be doing a spring clean-up of the grounds around the church. The cleaning of the inside church continues with some areas where no longer needed items have been collecting. We are also getting bids for a parking lot upgrade, probably done in phases but starting with the pothole at the exit on Third street. If you have

comments or concerns, please talk with any council member or with SAM Paul.

NORTH BALTIMORE Food Panty

JUNE requested donations include **canned meats.**

JULY requested donations include **canned fruits, veggies, and soups.**



Thank you for your continued support of this vital community ministry

Father God, thank you for your intentionality in creating us. Thank you for speaking your love over us, day in and day out. Help us to silence the other voices that aren't lifegiving, so that we can hear You clearly. Help us to listen as you speak of who we are to You. Then, may we have the God-fidence to be who You created us to be and live Your love into the world! It's in Your amazing name we pray. Amen.

God's work. Our hands.



September 7, 2025

This day is an opportunity to celebrate who we are as the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America — one church, freed in Christ to serve and love our neighbor.

Our “Rally Day” coincides with this special day. Our Church Council is already thinking about what we might do as a congregation for this special day. If you have any suggestions, please notify Pam Van Mooy.

Service activities offer an opportunity for us to explore one of our most basic convictions as Lutherans: that all of life in Jesus Christ — every act of service, in every daily calling, in every corner of life — flows freely from a living, daring confidence in God's grace.

Dear congregational leaders,

In the book of Acts, the story of Pentecost highlights themes of language, care for neighbors and new ways of being in the church — ideas that fueled the Reformation and continue to resonate today. As you reflect on how the season of Pentecost connects to your congregation's mission and ministry, we'd like to share stories of how these themes shape the work we do together as the ELCA.

These stories are your story too. Your congregation has chosen to make special gifts, beyond Mission Support, for causes such as ELCA World Hunger, Lutheran Disaster Response and Global Mission. We've chosen two stories from this spring's “Leadership Circle Newsletter” which have been put into a format that you can easily print and share with your congregation. This format complements the full newsletter, where you will find more stories and pictures. However you decide to use them — together or separate, distributed to small groups or posted on bulletin boards, referenced in sermons or republished in newsletters — we give them to you in thanks for your generosity and continued commitment to our shared mission. Go to the link below or pick up a flyer from the Information Table for more details.

<https://www.elca.org/about/leadership-circle>

Who Are You Listening To?

Lutheran Women's

Fall Gathering Invitation

Saturday, September 6, 2025

St. Luke's Lutheran Church

North Baltimore

9:00am check in and snacks

1:00 p.m. closing

Bishop Daniel Beaudoin will be sharing about the art of listening.

Cost is \$7.00 for lunch and supplies.

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



St. Luke's Lutheran Church

Church Council Meeting Minutes

Sunday, May 18, 2025

Opening

Pam called the regular meeting of the St. Luke's Lutheran Church Council to order on Sunday, May 18, 2025, at 11:20am.

Attendance

Present – Pam Van Mooy, Matt Matthes, Suzanne Bucher, Clay McCartney, Carl Lieser, JoLynn Stewart, Bryant Matthes, SAM Paul Brooks

Absent – None

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

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

Financial Secretary's Report

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

Treasurer's Report

- Clay submitted his April report showing \$8,481.08 in the black.
- Motion by Bryant to approve Clay's report, 2nd by JoLynn. All approved.

President/Vice-President's Report

- Nothing to Report

Discipleship Committee Report

- Nothing to Report

Property Committee Report

- Bryant brought up replacing the lights in the sanctuary with LED lights and did get an estimate for \$1,600.00.

Pastor's Report

- Vacation Bible School meeting in about a week or so.
- Pastor Ken Pollitz will be here the 4th Sunday of every month, but not set in stone. He will not be here in August at all.

Other Committees/Announcements

- Nothing to Report

Mutual Ministry/Transition Team/Call Committee Team

- Nothing to Report

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Unfinished Business

- There was discussion about reviewing and updating St. Luke's constitution. It was decided a sub-committee would be nice. Matt, Bryant and Pam will serve on the sub-committee.
- Wood County Committee on Aging sign.
 - Pam showed us a picture of the new sign that was drawn up by BG Graphics that includes "St. Luke's Lutheran Church" on the sign, which is an extra \$200 to have our church name on the sign.
 - Motion by Matt to approve a double-sided sign, not to exceed more than \$200 for St. Luke's portion to pay. 2nd by Carl. All approved.
 - Pam will talk to the Village of NB about the permits necessary for the installation of this new sign.!
- Matt discussed the 2nd floor situation. Progress will soon be made to go through these items on 2nd floor. Many things need purged and organized. It needs cleaned up!
- Bryant will be getting estimates for the reconstruction of our church parking lot. It was mentioned it may be best to do this large project in phases.
- There was further discussion about repairs to the large pot hole on the West side of our parking lot, and we now have decided it would be best to put a concrete approach on the West side of our parking lot. This could be part of Phase 1 of our parking lot reconstruction.
- Smoke detectors have been installed and have been tested and are working.
- The remainder of the partitions will soon be taken down.

New Business

- Pam updated us on the Wood County Committee on Aging.
 - The NB site manager has left, so WCCA has posted this position and hopes to find someone soon. There is a job description posted on St. Luke's bulletin board. If no one has been hired by the end of May, the NB site will temporarily close until someone is hired.
- Spring Clean Up – Pam spoke to Sean Mills about cleaning up leaves, trimming bushes, killing weeds, weed whacking around the building, and hauling everything away. Motion by Matt to hire Sean, 2nd by Bryant. All approved.
- Building Clean Up – JoLynn & Pam will start in the choir room this Tuesday. Matt will help.

Statistical Report

- Went over the statistical report for April.

Adjournment

- Meeting adjourned @ 1:00pm.
- Next council meeting – Sunday, June 8, 2025 @ 11:30am.

Minutes submitted by: Suzanne Bucher



LORD IN YOUR MERCY, HEAR OUR PRAYERS,



WE GIVE THANKS FOR: for all who have served in the military, past and present, and their families, for the sacrifices they made for the freedoms that we enjoy: for sunshine and rain, warm summer breezes, colorful flowers and trees, and the fragrance of fresh mown grass; for all mothers; for Paul and Ken and their ministry among us. 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, 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, 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 Fathers' Day!

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

SUNDAY, July 6

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

SUNDAY, July 13

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

SUNDAY, July 20 Vacation Bible School begins

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

SUNDAY, July 27

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

Altar Guild

June - Tiffany Mika, Beth Williams
July - Tiffany Mika, Beth Williams

❖ Worship Gifts ❖

Altar Flowers

June 1 - [available for signup](#)
June 8 - Carol Williams
June 15 - [available for signup](#)
June 22 - [available for signup](#)
June 29 - [available for signup](#)
July 6 - [available for signup](#)
July 13 - [available for signup](#)

Altar Candles

June - Lois & Russ Heilman
July - [available for signup](#)

Sunday Bulletins

June - [available for signup](#)
July - Carol Williams

Newsletter

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

Father God, thank you for your intentionality in creating us. Thank you for speaking your love over us, day in and day out. Help us to silence the other voices that aren't lifegiving, so that we can hear You clearly. Help us to listen as you speak of who we are to You. Then, may we have the God-fidence to be who You created us to be and live Your love into the world! It's in Your amazing name we pray. Amen.

Tonya Wagner
2025 Year of Listening
June Devotion



June 2025



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

SUNDAY	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
<i>Easter 7</i> 1 Worship 10:15	2	3 Staff Meeting 10:00	4	5	6	7
<i>Day of Pentecost</i> 8 Worship 10:15 Church Council 11:30	9	10 Staff Meeting 10:00	11 40 days to VBS	12	13	14  Happy FLAG DAY
<i>The Holy Trinity</i> 15 FATHERS' DAY Worship 10:15	16	17 Staff Meeting 10:00	18	19  Juneteenth	20 31 days to VBS 1st day of summer	21
<i>Pentecost 2</i> 22 Worship 10:15	23  Newsletter Deadline	24 Staff Meeting 10:00	25	26	27	28
<i>Pentecost 3</i> 29 Worship 10:15	30 21 days to VBS	<p>When thinking about “listening to self,” the first thing that I think of is a question. “What voices do I hear in my head regarding myself?” “How do I see myself?” A lot of times, we listen to the world’s standards of who we should be, and yet we aren’t of the world. We aren’t supposed to fit in those boxes. So, oftentimes “listening” requires building on the theme of rest that we focused on in 2024. It requires pausing, stilling our souls, and putting on those noise-cancelling headphones that help us to drown out all the other voices. It’s in that space that we begin to tune our ears to hear what is true. It’s there that we can start to heal and listen as God continually speaks His love and adoration over us.</p> <p style="text-align: right;">Tonya Wagner</p>				