

The
GOOD NEWS
Letter



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

May 2026

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 Pollitx
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.**

Water – Sunshine -- Growth

Do any of you get the feeling that a little water and some sunshine to warm things up makes the grass grow? It was as if, not that long ago, the grass was dead or at least not doing very well. Now it can be hard to keep up with its growth. Let us take a lesson from the grass. We have been giving thanks for our baptism at the beginning of our service for some weeks now but have we noticed any growth? Perhaps we should examine this.

There's a common belief that God is a distant being, that it's all far away from us here. It's also common belief that we escape this world for heaven. Yet we pray, "Your kingdom come, Your will be done on earth as it is in heaven." We pray that God's kingdom be here on earth. That it is God's will. From Romans we read: "do you not know that all of us who have been baptized into Christ Jesus, were baptized into his death? Therefore, we have been buried with him by baptism into death, so that, just as Christ was raised from the dead by the glory of the Father, so we too might walk in newness of life. For if we have been united with him in a death like his, we will certainly be united with him in a resurrection like his." The waters of baptism are to us as the waters of rain is for the grass. It is all the waters of God, right here all around us. As the winter grass turns green and springs forth in new life, we too spring forth with new life when reminded of our own baptism.

In 2nd Corinthians we read, "If anyone is in Christ, there is a new creation: everything old has passed away; see everything has become new!" We are that new creation. We are like that old dead grass of winter that has received warm spring rains and sunshine. May we grow in Christian abundance not unlike the grass grows, as we drink in the river of the water of life, the everlasting wellspring, the fire of our rebirth.

AMEN

Paul

To the members of St. Luke's,

Due to unforeseen circumstances we are going to need to delay the paving of our parking lot as the roof of the church is in need of some significant repairs and work done to it. We as the council want to be transparent with you all and the best use of our money at this time is to get the roof taken care of to stop any more damage and ensure the safety of you all and our building. As soon as we can we will get the paving

process back underway. The council thanks you for entrusting us to do God's work whatever projects and jobs they may be.

Head of Property Management, Bryant Matthes



May is the fifth month of the calendar year but once it was the third month of the year. It signals renewal and growth with the peak of spring and plants and birds returning after the long winter. As a teacher I always felt that it was a transition month with students graduating and all students leaving never to return to my classroom again. I had seen them through the year and tried to help them learn and grow as scholars and individuals.

It is that way here at St. Luke's. Pastor Ken Pollitz will be leaving as he will be assisting another congregation that is in transition. May 31 will be his last Sunday with us. Let us wish him well. May the weather and symbols of spring bring you joy!

Blessings, Pam

Thank You to Karen, Tiffany, and Beth for preparing the yummy Easter breakfast and those who prepared the sanctuary for Easter Sunday.

NORTH BALTIMORE Food Panty

MAY requested donations include canned meats, Kleenex, and paper towels.

JUNE requested donations include pasta, pasta sauces, and soups.

Thank you to those who continue to support this mission for our community. Please give joyfully and generously so that no one goes without. Thanks be to God.



recruited to help in all areas. Please speak with Beth Williams or Paul Brooks if you are interested in helping. Look for more information and a registration form in this newsletter.

Help Feed the Children

After speaking with Powell School, it became clear that there will be children who are not going to have as much to eat during the summer. Many students qualify for free or reduced breakfasts and lunches during the school year. Families count on those school meals to help stretch the government dollars that help feed the family. When school is closed those children still need to be fed but the dollars the family receives does not change. This is a problem. We will collect items and share some with the food pantry and the school. The school has a snack closet that they use to help feed kids. We are asking for **Ramen Noodle Packages** as our outreach item during **May**, and **Macaroni and cheese cups in June**. Please consider helping with this project but don't forget the regular food pantry requested items.

Vacation **B**ible **S**chool – we are joining with the Church of the Good Shepherd, St. James United Methodist Church, and Van Buren United Methodist Church for Vacation Bible School this year. Mark your calendar now for **June 22-25** at the Church of the Good Shepherd on West Broadway. A light meal will be served followed by crafts, music, games and more. Volunteers are being

Bulletins, Candles, and Newsletters

Imagine coming to church on a Sunday morning and there were no bulletins to help you participate in worship! How do you think you would feel if the candles that adorn the altar remained dark? The cost for printing the bulletins and the newsletters, and the liquid wax for the Altar Candles (as well as the Eternal Candle) are funded through the Special Fund of the church. Please take a moment to prayerfully consider how you can help.



Thank you to all who helped to support the work of the church through gifts to our Special Fund in past years. The sign-up sheets for your continued financial support of this Fund for 2026 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.

Pentecost Sunday May 24
On the 50th day after Easter, we celebrate the wondrous day the Holy Spirit came down to the apostles in a mighty wind and tongues of fire.



Wear something red!

Second Chance for Graduation Recognition



If you have a graduate in your family, please share this information with your Church family. Thank you.

Graduate's name:

Parents' Names:

Date of graduation:

Graduating from:

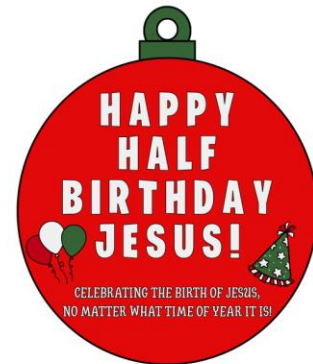
Major or degree:

Plans following graduation:

Graduates email address:

Thank you so much, Dana.

CHURCH OF THE GOOD SHEPHERD, ST. JAMES UMC, ST. LUKE'S LUTHERAN,
AND VAN BUREN UMC INVITE YOU TO JOIN US FOR:



VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL

JUNE 22-25, 2026, 5:30 - 8:00 PM

CRAFTS

SNACK

DINNER

MUSIC

GAMES

OPEN TO AGE 4 THRU COMPLETED 6TH GRADE
NO COST TO ATTEND!

CHURCH OF THE GOOD SHEPHERD
119 W. BROADWAY ST.
NORTH BALTIMORE, OH 45872

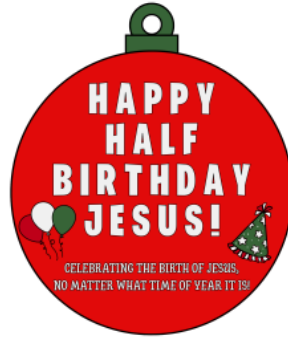
QUESTIONS? EMAIL
GOODSHEPHERDUMC.NB@GMAIL.COM OR
CALL PASTOR MEGAN AT 419-257-3247

FOLLOW THE QR CODE TO PRE-REGISTER:



“Jesus’s Half Birthday” Vacation Bible School Registration Form

Hosted by Church of the Good Shepherd, St. James UMC, St. Luke’s Lutheran, and Van Buren UMC



Child’s Name (please one form per student!) _____

Date of Birth _____ Last Grade Completed _____

Student Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Special Needs/Allergies _____

Parent/Guardian #1 _____

Relationship to Child: _____ Phone Number: _____

E-mail _____

Parent/Guardian #2 _____

Relationship to Child: _____ Phone Number: _____

E-mail _____

Additional Emergency Contact Name: _____

Relationship to Child: _____ Phone Number: _____

Name(s) of person(s) who may pick up your child from VBS. We will release kids only to those listed on this form.

Return form to any host church or register online with the QR code below:



St. Luke's Lutheran Church

Church Council Meeting Minutes

Sunday, April 19, 2026

Opening

Pam called the regular meeting of the St. Luke's Lutheran Church Council to order on Sunday, April 19, 2026, at 11:30am.

Attendance

Present – Pam VanMooy, Suzanne Bucher, Clay McCartney, Carl Lieser, Bryant Matthes, Tiffany Mika, Paul Brooks

Absent – Matt Matthes

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

- March 2026 minutes accepted.
- Motion by Carl to approve March's minutes, 2nd by Bryant. All approved.

Financial Secretary's Report

- Carl submitted his March Accounting of Offerings report.
- Motion by Bryant to approve Carl's report, 2nd by Tiffany. All approved. Subject to audit.

Treasurer's Report

- Clay submitted his March report. We are \$4,359.49 in the red.
- Motion by Bryant to approve Clay's report, 2nd by Tiffany. All approved. Subject to audit.

President's Report

- Discussion from Pam will be in the Unfinished and New Business section.

Vice-President's Report

- Nothing to Report

Discipleship Committee Report

- Tiffany advised they delivered 17 "Soup in a Bags".
- Wednesday Lenten meals and Bible study went great.

Property Committee Report

- Bryant & Paul have inspected the roof issue and have come to the conclusion our roof is not really meant for shingles because of the slope, and a warranty would even be voided by this issue. We began discussion about what might be needed to be done in the near future which is called SA-SBS roof. Paul has agreed to write some specks up for us to review.

Pastor's Report

- Ken will be leaving St. Luke's, and his last Sunday will be at the end of May.
- Paul advised he has sent in a candidacy process in Seminary. Paul has chosen to complete this by an in-context study, and can do this at his own pace, and it will take about 2-3 years. In the future, Paul would like to see a rotation of worship assistants during our services.

- There was discussion about bringing back a children's sermon for when we have children in attendance.

Other Committees/Announcements

- Nothing to Report

Mutual Ministry/Transition Team/Call Committee Team

- Nothing to Report

Unfinished Business

- St. Luke's Constitution Review & Update
 - Council members are working on reviewing St. Luke's Constitution to return to Paul.
- Parking Lot Project
 - Phase 1 – Spring 2026 – the concrete has been poured and it is currently curing.
 - Phase 2 – Because of the current roof issues, we are going to table Phase 2 and Phase 3 until there's a plan for our roof.
- Bible Study update – Pam has advised some individuals have showed interest, and a couple have mentioned that they would lead this study. This will be discussed at an upcoming special congregational meeting that should soon be held concerning the roof.
- The remainder of the partitions will soon be taken down.

New Business

- Vacation Bible School 2026
 - There will be a combined VBS with St. Luke's Lutheran Church, Good Shepherd United Methodist Church, St. James United Methodist Church, and Van Buren United Methodist Church, and it will be held at Good Shepherd this year.
 - VBS will be held the week before the June 27th Village festival.
 - St. Luke's will offer to host VBS in 2027.
- Council again discussed a need for an informational email sent to our members. We would like to see this done weekly or as needed, with announcements of any deaths, births, weddings, sickness & health, graduations, and any other important information. Pastor Ralph did something like this, and we would like to begin this again. Pam will talk to Dana about starting this up again.

Statistical Report

- Went over the statistical report for March.

Adjournment

- Meeting adjourned @ 1:00pm.
- Next council meeting – Sunday, May 17, 2026 @ 11:30am.

Minutes submitted by: Suzanne Bucher



LORD IN YOUR MERCY, HEAR OUR PRAYERS,



WE GIVE THANKS FOR: for sunshine and rain, warm summer breezes, colorful flowers and trees, and the fragrance of fresh mown grass; our church family, our fellowship, and all of God's gifts in this place and time; the Resurrection ~ because Jesus lives, we will live; the hope, joy, and love of the Easter Season! Thanks be to God!

MEMBERS: Ned Slaughterbeck, Lorraine Ferguson, Pat Wheeler, Rut Heilman, Ruth McKee, Steve Pritts, Lisa Claybaugh, Bertha Carter, Eloise Matthes, Rose Marie Hosley, Mike Wheeler, John Stewart, JoLynn Stewart, Emily Meyerson, Carl Lieser, Jim Wymer, Kolton Williams, Ron Bean, Cheryl Kruse, Bob Kelley, Caroline Lieser, Marilyn Ziegler, Barb Williams.

FAMILY AND FRIENDS: Dan Lammers, Dennis Bauer, Heather Wymer, Howard Till, Granger, Owen, Mike Thompson, Diana, Sean Mills, Judy Sowards, Christina Webb, Mike, Riley Guy, Anita Roberts, Amy Stewart, Nickie Whitman, Eli Swartz, Mr. Doherty, Ron Stewart, Chase, Cheryl, A.J., Mavery Breece, Caroline, Ethan, Brent Bradley, Richard Roberts, 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 Yehiel Curry**, 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 3

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

SUNDAY, May 10 Mothers' Day

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

SUNDAY, May 17

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

SUNDAY, May 24 Pentecost

Organist: *Janet Goldner*
Scripture Reader & Prayer Leader: *Janet Goldner*
Ushers: *Jill Guy, Jack Sterling*
Videographer: *Beth Williams*

SUNDAY, May 31 Holy Trinity

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

SUNDAY, June 7

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

SUNDAY, June 14

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

SUNDAY, June 21 Fathers' Day

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

SUNDAY, June 28

Organist: *Janet Goldner*
Scripture Reader & Prayer Leader: *Carol Williams*
Ushers: *Jill Guy, Jack Sterling*
Videographer: *Beth Williams*

Altar Guild

May - *Karen Krauss*
June - *Tiffany Mika, Beth Williams*

❖ Worship Gifts ❖

Altar Flowers

May 3 - [*available for signup*](#)
May 10 - [*available for signup*](#)
May 17 - *Arica & Matt Matthes*
May 24 - *Carol Williams*
May 31 - [*available for signup*](#)
June 7 - [*available for signup*](#)
June 14 - [*available for signup*](#)

Altar Candles

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

Sunday Bulletins

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

Newsletter

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



WORSHIP
THE
LORD!



May 2026



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

SUNDAY	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday	
<p><i>Faithful servants never retire. You can retire from your career, but you will never retire from serving God. – Rick Warren</i></p>					1	2	
Easter 5 Worship 10:15	3	4	5 Staff Meeting 10:00	6 Dana's Office Hours 8:00-noon	7 ★★★★★ NATIONAL DAY OF PRAYER	8	9
Easter 6 Mothers' Day Worship 10:15	10	11	12 Staff Meeting 10:00	13	14 Ascension of Our Lord Dana's Office Hours 8:00-noon	15 Office Closed	16
Easter 7 Worship 10:15 Church Council 11:30	17	18	19 Staff Meeting 10:00	20	21	22  Newsletter Deadline	23
Pentecost PENTECOST Worship 10:15	24	25  HAPPY MEMORIAL DAY	26 Staff Meeting 10:00	27	28	29	30
Holy Trinity Worship 10:15	31	<p><i>Thank you so very much for the card. We appreciate it so much. Ned is recovering great! God Bless all,</i></p> <p><i>Ned & Theresa Slaughterbeck.</i></p>					