

The **GOOD NEWS** Letter



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

June 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.**

Windbreaks and Breezes

So, is Pentecost over? Bet not. It's just the beginning. That particular wind had been somewhat selective as to where it blew and landed. In the past it seemed to land on one person, a prophet or a judge. During Pentecost it came to all; all peoples in all nations and this time it came to a group, a community. That wind is now everywhere with the ability to touch all of us. Christianity is best done in a group, a community of believers, and yet we as individuals must believe. In the community at the Pentecost, people were from many different places, even spoke many different languages. How do we see others as a part of our larger community? What do we do if they speak differently or look different?

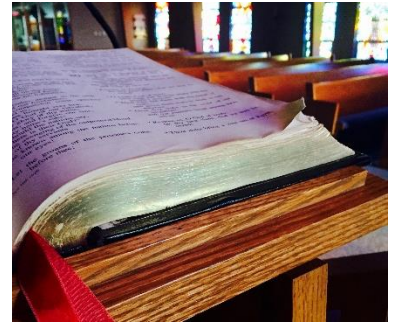
We are about to embark on a 6-week study of Ruth. You remember Ruth, the Moabite who lost her husband, an Israelite. Oh my, a mixed marriage. Don't worry, our minds will be refreshed and we will get some additional thoughts from other texts. In the meantime, look for someone who you may not have spoken to in the past because they were, well.... not one of us. Whether that is because of culture, age, religion, race, or even politics, talk to them, ask them how they are. Ask them if they have needs not being met. You know, as a Christian community, we are kinda here for that purpose. It's what we do. It can be hard to do that so.... with gratitude for what you have, pray about it. The Holy Spirit blowing around just might land on you and you will be amazed at what you can do. Then go tell somebody else, and then another. Create community and the spirit will grow even more. Let's not put up windbreaks, lets bask in the breeze of the Holy Spirit.

Blessings, Paul



The Same and Different

Have you ever had a job where it was the same every day? Nothing changed. You don't have to think about what you are doing. How boring and really mind numbing that kind of work would be. Now think of farmers. They do the same thing every year. They buy seeds and other supplies. They till the same fields every year. They watch the weather carefully throughout the growing season. They harvest the crops in the fall and take them to sell. Same thing every year, but when we look closer, we see that it is always different. The price of the supplies may make them buy a different seed or less fertilizer. They may let a field go fallow for a year or plant the rows in a different direction. They probably don't grow the same crop in the field every year. They still watch the weather carefully. When it comes to harvest time, they may wait to sell the crop until the price goes up. It is the same but it is different. Our church service is the same way. It is set up basically the same each Sunday based on the church season we are in. Sometimes a response to liturgy or a service hymn may be different but that is ok, it really is part of the same service. Our worship team works hard to make the service meaningful for everyone. Sometimes when we have done the same thing for so long, we just recite our response and don't think about what we are saying and what it means. It is important that we are engaged with God as we praise him during our service. Remember our service is the same but it may have little changes that make it a little different. Blessings, Pam



Congratulations Graduates

EASTON WYMER, daughter of Keely Wymer and Adam Wymer, graduated from Van Buren High School on May 31 with a Degree in Business. Easton plans to attend the University of Findlay and participate on the Track and Field team. Congratulations and best wishes!



OLIVIA MATTHES, daughter of Arica & Matt Matthes, graduated from BGSU on May 2 with a degree in Exercise Science. She plans to go to Chiropractic School. Congratulations and best wishes!

There will be a cake and punch reception for our gradated following Worship on June 7. We hope you will join us.

**Congratulations
We are proud of you!**

NORTH BALTIMORE Food Panty

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

JULY requested donations include shampoo, body wash, deodorant, toothpaste.

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

Now is the time!!!! We need to sign up some volunteers from St. Luke's to help with Vacation Bible School this summer. The Joint Vacation Bible School is with St. Luke's, St. James U.M., The Church of the Good Shepherd and the Methodist Church in Van Buren. The program is scheduled for Monday through



Thursday, June 22-25, from 5:30pm to 8:00pm. It will be held at Church of the Good Shepherd this year. We are in need of teachers, helpers, craft people, kitchen help, and general helpers. If you are interested let Paul Brooks know ASAP or sign up on the bulletin board. Our church is providing some monetary support but we need to have bodies to help with this important mission event for the children of the community. Please prayerfully consider how you can help. Flyers with registrations are on the Information Table and the May issue of *The Good News Letter*.



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.

September Bible Study

There has been some interest expressed about starting a Bible Study that will meet during the week. It will start in September and be an 8-week course of study. We will be meeting jointly with St. John’s folks so we will have

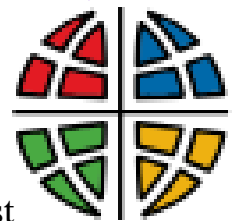
half the sessions at St. Luke’s and half at St. John’s. We need to get a day of the week



and a time established so that people will be ready to go in September. Please let Paul Brooks know your preferred day and what time works for you. We do have some people who would like to come but don’t drive after dark so we may need to find an earlier time since it starts to get dark earlier in the fall. Also be willing to pick someone up who might want to attend but who is not driving as much. We want this opportunity to be meaningful for everyone who is interested!

Dear St. Luke’s Lutheran Church,

Thank you for your gift of \$442.00 to ELCA World Hunger. As a church, we are empowered to love and serve our neighbors as Christ first loved us. Your gifts to the ministries of the ELCA help people around the world feel the power and hope that flow from God’s full, boundless love. Drawn together and guided by the Holy Spirit, we accomplish together what none of us could do alone, grace upon grace.



“From Christ’s fullness we have all received, grace upon grace.” John 1:16

Your generosity is getting at the root causes of hunger and poverty in over 60 countries, including the United States. It provides access to clean water, health care, agriculture, livestock and education, and it advances peace and justice for all people. Through your gifts, you join the whole church in working toward a just world where all are fed. You make God’s love real!

The Rev. Daniel Rift
Director, Congregational Generosity

St. Luke's Lutheran Church

Church Council Meeting Minutes

Sunday, May 17, 2026

Opening

Pam called the regular meeting of the St. Luke's Lutheran Church Council to order on Sunday, May 17, 2026, at 11:20am.

Attendance

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

Absent – Bryant Matthes

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

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

Financial Secretary's Report

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

Treasurer's Report

- Clay submitted his April report. We are \$3,552.77 in the red.
- Motion by Matt to approve Clay's report, 2nd by Tiffany. All approved. Subject to audit.

President's Report

- Janet joined our meeting at the beginning about the 2 pieces of a stained glass window from our old church that was given to St. Luke's by Jim & Robin Sterling. St. Luke's has repaired these pieces and added a light box to one of the pieces. They will soon be displayed.
- Pam reminded us that May 31st is Ken's last day with us. Motion by Pam to get Ken a \$100 Visa card for a final thank you for helping us out. 2nd by Clay. All approved.
- Further discussion from Pam will be in the Unfinished and New Business section.

Vice-President's Report

- Nothing to Report

Discipleship Committee Report

- Tiffany mentioned that we have about a half of basket full of ramen noodles.

Property Committee Report

- In Bryant's absence, Matt advised that Bryant has been getting in contact with individuals about roof issue.

Pastor's Report

- Paul shared there is some interest in having a weekly Bible study here at St. Luke's starting Fall 2026. Those interested from St. Luke's and St. John's need to get together and come up with a schedule.

- Jack Sterling will be starting SAM training in June and July, and will be Paul's worship assistant a couple times per month until his training is completed. After he becomes a SAM, he may then go on to help at other churches in the area.

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 – COMPLETED!
 - Phase 2 & 3 – have been tabled until there's a plan for our roof.
- Roof Leak
 - Bryant is in the process of getting estimates.
- The remainder of the partitions will soon be taken down.

New Business

- Vacation Bible School 2026
 - Paul advised that St. Luke's needs to round up some volunteers to help at the combined VBS that will be held at Good Shepherd this year. A sign-up sheet will be hung up on our bulletin board, added to our bulletin and monthly newsletter. Tiffany suggested someone find out what areas they need volunteers for so it is listed on the sign-up sheet.
 - Motion by Clay to provide up to \$400 for the combined VBS held in June 2026, 2nd by Matt. All approved.
- Motion by Matt to only print large bulletins going forward. 2nd by Clay. All approved.
- Pastor's Report has been completed and filed.
- There was discussion about creating a policy for funerals and funeral dinners held at St. Luke's. Pam will be creating a policy from our discussion and this will be gone over and finalized at our next meeting.
- Graduation recognition at St. Luke's will be Sunday, June 7, 2026.

Statistical Report

- Went over the statistical report for April.

Adjournment

- Meeting adjourned @ 1:00pm.
- Next council meeting – Sunday, June 14, 2026 @ 11:30am.

Minutes submitted by: Suzanne Bucher

LORD IN YOUR MERCY, HEAR OUR PRAYERS,



WE GIVE THANKS FOR: the gift of the Holy Spirit guiding us on our journey; our community of friendship and faith; mothers; all of God's creation. Thanks be to God!

MEMBERS: Ron Bean, 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, 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, June 7 Graduation Celebration

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 McCartner*
Videographer: *Beth Williams*

SUNDAY, June 28

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

SUNDAY, July 5

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

SUNDAY, July 12

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

SUNDAY, July 19

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

SUNDAY, July 26

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

Altar Guild

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

❖ Worship Gifts ❖

Altar Flowers

June 7 - [*available for signup*](#)
June 14 - [*available for signup*](#)
June 21 - [*available for signup*](#)
June 28 - [*available for signup*](#)
July 5 - [*available for signup*](#)
July 12 - [*available for signup*](#)
July 19 - [*available for signup*](#)
July 26 - *Peg & Bill Roberts*

Altar Candles

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

Sunday Bulletins

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

Newsletter

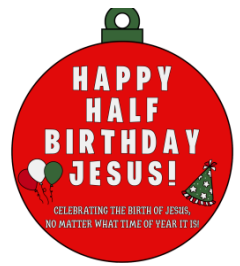
June - [*available for signup*](#)
July - *Carol Williams*




WORSHIP
THE
LORD!



June 2026



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

SUNDAY	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
	1	2 Staff Meeting 10:00	3	4	5	6
<i>Pentecost 2</i> 7 Worship 10:15 Graduation Celebration 11:30	8	9 Staff Meeting 10:00	10	11	12	13
<i>Pentecost 3</i> 14 Worship 10:15 Church Council 11:30 VBS Volunteer Training 2:00	15 	16 Staff Meeting 10:00	17	18	19 Juneteenth 	20 VBS Decorating
<i>Pentecost 4</i> 21 Fathers' Day Worship 10:15	22	23	24	25	26	27
	Change in office hours to 1:00-5:00					
	Vacation Bible School 5:30-8:00 Good Shepherd					
<i>Pentecost 5</i> 28 Worship 10:15	29	30 Staff Meeting 10:00	Vacation Bible School needs – group helpers for all ages, music station helpers, craft helpers, kitchen helpers, general helpers, recreation helpers, and reflection helpers. Also Worship actors for the opening and closing celebrations. Decorators are also needed for Saturday the 20 th . Please sign up and plan to attend the training on June 14 th . God bless you!			