

The **GOOD NEWS** Letter



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

July 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
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.**

What's Your Favorite?

So, what's your favorite color? Do you even have one? Maybe you like the way you look in a certain color of clothes or you have a favorite car that has that color. My favorite is **green**. Not in cars or clothes but I love seeing **green**. I like the feel.

As you may be aware the church seasons have colors as we go through the year. Right now, we are in the long season of **green**. **Green** is the season of growth, a time when we may find God's grace does a lot of work. The waiting is over, the corn is up, the wheat will very soon be ripe and dry. This can be a time for us to observe and enjoy the wonders all around us, the constant works of creation. The birds are raising their young, there are more bugs out, just what those young birds need to grow. The rabbits are increasing in numbers that only rabbits can fully understand, they are looking for your garden and the clover in your yard. While we may view those rabbits and their countless young as pests, we still must marvel at the workings of God's kingdom. How all those birds and rabbits along with everything else in creation is provided for, even us. Do we take that for granted or do we consider it all our works?

We are starting our Adult Vacation Bible School on July 12th at St. John's. Come on down as we take apart our relationship to all that is provided for us in this wonderful world that has been created. Grace and peace to you as we enjoy this season of **green**.

Think **GREEN**, Paul



A Gentle Reminder for the Summer

Talking about money and giving are not a topic I relish but it is something that must be done. Clay McCartney keeps an eye on the budget and the financial health of the church and presents that to the church council each month. He has been reporting for the last few months that we are behind in our giving and thus we are in the red in relation to the budget. Now I don't know about you but being in the red is not something I take lightly. It has been brought to my attention that we have been behind some years at the end of the year and when we send out a letter to the congregation, the money comes in and we balance our books. That is wonderful but why is this happening.



Right now the cost of groceries and gas has gone up and people are feeling the pinch in the pocket. People are going on vacation and are not coming to church as regularly during the summer. Maybe some people don't realize we had a major roof leak this winter and may be faced with a very costly roof project soon. Whatever the reason, it is important for everyone to make sure that you are continuing to give

to the church.

Tithing is a word found in the Old Testament to describe giving one tenth of your income, crops, or livestock to God. Martin Luther downplayed this because he felt that Christ had freed us from the Law of Moses and we should freely give what we can. We believe that giving is not "buying" God's favor but giving a joyful response to the blessing of grace and salvation that has been given to us. I would like to encourage each of you to continue to remember your church during the summer. We still have bills to pay and work to be done. You will be hearing more about the roof issue in the near future. It may require us to give a little extra to care for our most important asset, our church building. Whatever the future holds, please remember St. Luke's!

Blessings from Pam

NORTH BALTIMORE

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

August requested donations include mac 'n cheese, and pork and beans

Served the second quarter of 2026

Apr: 17 families/33 people

May: 22 families/42 people

June: 19 families/37 people

Thank you for your continued support.



Abundance to Share

As we move into the summer months, please remember to share the abundance of your garden with those who may not be able to have a garden or have no green thumb. That may be a neighbor or friend but also your church family. If you have extra, you can bring them on Sunday morning and put them on one of the round tables. If there are vegetable and plastic bags on the table, take what you can use. We want to share and we don't want to waste the bounty. Thank you.



Feed the Children

For the month of July, we will be receiving boxes of breakfast bars to donate to Powell Elementary School snack closet and the community food pantry.

Golf Anyone????



The Luther Home of Mercy invites you to their Annual Golf Outing on Friday, August 21 at Maumee Bay State Park, in Oregon, OH.

There are numerous ways to get involved with the outing and support their ministry to individuals with intellectual and developmental disabilities. For more information go to www.lutherhome.org. You may also call Melissa Gregg at 419-972-4338, or mgregg@lutherhome.org. Check out the bulletin board at the church for more info and for registration forms.

Family Funday 2026 --

August 15 -- from 11 a.m. to 4 p.m. -- @ North Baltimore Park. Hosted by Praise Chapel in Cygnet, there will be walking tacos, bounce houses, give aways, raffles and more. Bring the family and come on out and have a FUNDAY!

Praise Chapel is inviting donations of food, toys for kids, and school supplies. For more information call or text Brandy @ 419-575-8737.

Today is World Refugee Day.

On this day (June 20), we are called to join people around the world in supporting and advocating for the millions of our neighbors who have been forced to flee their homes. Our world is currently experiencing the largest global displacement crisis on record. Wrapping your mind around a crisis of this scale can be hard, but when we work together

as a church, we have the power to make a difference.

Just last week, I talked with women from Ukraine who are refugees in Romania. When I asked what they want people in our church to know, they shared a simple but powerful message:

“We want peace in Ukraine and around the world.”



Lutheran Disaster Response is at work with these women and many other refugees throughout Central and Eastern Europe, providing housing, home repairs, underground schools, legal assistance, language classes, and spiritual and emotional care. This goes beyond immediate aid — we are caring for people, body and soul, when they are at their most vulnerable.

Eastern Europe is just one of many regions where Lutheran Disaster Response is accompanying refugees and displaced people. LDR is also responding to conflicts and humanitarian crises in Sudan, Myanmar, Lebanon, Central and South America, the Democratic Republic of Congo, and Gaza and the West Bank.

There is much brokenness in our world, but these resilient, steadfast women give me hope for the future. They are dreaming of a better world where there's a safe home for everyone. Together we can make that dream a reality.

In peace, Maryn Olson
Director, Lutheran Disaster Response
(from an email received by the church on June 20, 2026)

St. Luke's Lutheran Church

Church Council Meeting Minutes

Sunday, June 14, 2026

Opening

Pam called the regular meeting of the St. Luke's Lutheran Church Council to order on Sunday, June 14, 2026, at 11:29am.

Attendance

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

Absent – Bryant Matthes

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

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

Financial Secretary's Report

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

Treasurer's Report

- Clay submitted his May report. We are \$3,205.29 in the red.
- Motion by Matt to approve Clay's report, 2nd by Carl. All approved. Subject to audit.

President's Report

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

Vice-President's Report

- Nothing to Report

Discipleship Committee Report

- Nothing to Report

Property Committee Report

- Nothing to Report

Pastor's Report

- Paul will be here all of the Sundays in June, and Jack will do the sermon the last Sunday of June.

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.
- Roof Replacement/Repair
 - So far we have received 1 quote and are awaiting additional quotes.
- The remainder of the partitions will soon be taken down.

New Business

- Clay informed us our current AED is no longer supported so if something goes wrong with it, it would not be repairable. We can get a new up-to-date Phillips AED for \$1,529.00. Motion by Clay to purchase a Phillips AED to replace the existing AED, 2nd by Matt. All approved.
- Vacation Bible School 2026
 - We do have volunteers from our congregation helping.
- Pam passed out the new Building Use Policy for council's review and approval. Motion by Carl, 2nd by Matt. All approved. A copy will be placed in the July newsletter.

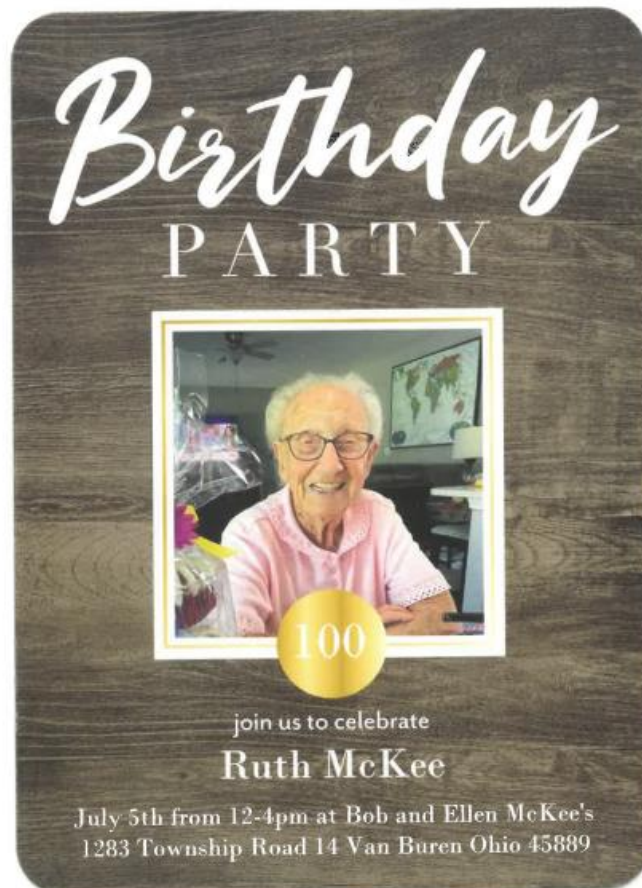
Statistical Report

- Went over the statistical report for May.

Adjournment

- Meeting adjourned @ 12:42pm.
- Next council meeting – Sunday, July 12, 2026 @ 11:30am.

Minutes submitted by: Suzanne Bucher





Gifts and Legacies

St. John's Lutheran Church of McComb

Adult Vacation Bible School (ages 16 and older)

July 12 – 16, 2026 from 6pm – 8pm

There will be:

Music and singing

Snacks,

Bible Study

Guest speakers from:

Thrivent Financial,

McComb Economic Development

Organization,

McComb Community Partnership,

Hancock County Community Foundation,

The Northwestern Ohio Synod

All are welcome.

203 West South Street, McComb, Ohio 45858-0786

LORD IN YOUR MERCY, HEAR OUR PRAYERS,



WE GIVE THANKS FOR: all those who participated in the community Vacation Bible School. With roughly 50 children, we had a great time celebrating Jesus' birthday; fathers; for warm summer days and cool summer nights; colorful flowers and the smell of fresh mown grass; for the teachers, teacher aides, principals, office staff, custodial staff, bus drivers, volunteers, and all those who educate and support our children on their journey through school.

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: Charles Edens, Dan Lammers, Dennis Bauer, Heather Wymer, Granger, Owen, Diana, Sean Mills, Judy Sowards, Christina Webb, Mike, Riley Guy, Anita Roberts, 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, 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

SUNDAY, August 2

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

SUNDAY, August 9

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

SUNDAY, August 16

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

SUNDAY, August 23

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

SUNDAY, August 30

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

Altar Guild

July - Tiffany Mika, Beth Williams
August - Arica Matthes, Sue Simon

❖ Worship Gifts ❖

Altar Flowers

July 5 - [available for signup](#)
July 12 - [available for signup](#)
July 19 - [available for signup](#)
July 26 - Peg & Bill Roberts
August 2 - Karen & Lynn Krauss
August 9 - [available for signup](#)
August 16 - [available for signup](#)
August 23 - [available for signup](#)
August 30 - [available for signup](#)

Altar Candles

July - Carol Williams
August - anonymous

Sunday Bulletins

July - Carol Williams
August - anonymous

Newsletter

July - Carol Williams
August - anonymous

A Prayer for Independence Day

Lord God Almighty, in whose Name
the founders of this country won
liberty for themselves and for us, and
lit the torch of freedom for nations
then unborn: grant that we and all the
people of this land may have grace to
maintain our liberties in righteousness
and peace; through Jesus Christ our
Lord, who lives and reigns with you
and the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever
and ever. Amen





July 2026



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

SUNDAY	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
Happy 250th Anniversary United States of America! Have a safe and joyous celebration!			1	2	3	4
Pentecost 6 5 Worship 10:15 Ruth McKee's 100 th Birthday Celebration 12-4	6	7 Staff Meeting 10:00	8	9	10	11
Pentecost 7 12 Worship 10:15 Church Council 11:30	13	14 Staff Meeting 10:00	15	16	17 Church Office Closed	18
St. John's Church Adult Vacation Bible School 6pm-8pm						
Pentecost 8 19 Worship 10:15	20	21 Staff Meeting 10:00	22	23	24 AUGUST Newsletter Deadline	25 St. Luke's 129th Anniversary
Pentecost 9 26 Worship 10:15	27	28 Staff Meeting 10:00	29	30	31	