



THE TOWER

St. Luke's Lutheran Church *Growing in Grace*

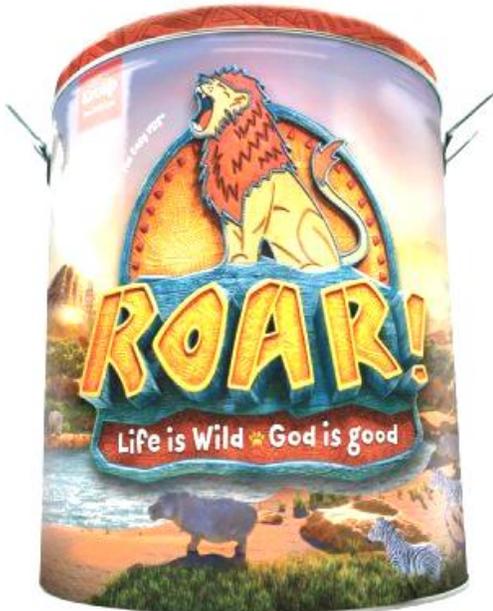
June 2019

Volume 1 2

ISSUE 6

OUR MISSION

To worship, learn and grow together in the knowledge of God and His Word. We are then sent into the world to share God's love, teach His Word, and serve those in need.



VBS IS JUNE 24TH-28TH!

**Join us for Roar! Life is Wild.
God is Good!**

Online Registration is going on now.

Visit stlukeschurch.net to enroll.

Tell your friends!

If you are interested in volunteering,
please see Jillian, Christy Weiss.

For paper enrollment applications, please
see Erin Beard in the church office.

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ABBY!

SUMMER WORSHIP SCHEDULE IS ON NOW!

Starting May 26th through September 1st
our Worship Schedule for the
summer is as follows:

Traditional Worship 8:30

Coffee Fellowship 9:30

GiG Praise Worship 10:00

11:15 worship and Sunday School will
resume on September 8th.



CONGREGATIONAL MEETING

JUNE 9TH, FOLLOWING GiG
WORSHIP IN THE SANCTUARY

We will be voting in new council
representatives for the fall season as well
as going over plans from the ministry
teams to what is in the works for the rest
of the year.

Erin needs reports in by June 6th. If you
have questions, please call the office.

There is two Council seats up for grabs—
Stewardship and Evange-
lism need filling.

See Andy Nieman if you
need additional assistance.



Dear friends in Christ,



Why we do what we do. In almost every Veggie Tales movie the Why We Do What We Do promo, which includes images of children of the employees of Big Idea (the creators of Veggie Tales), and has the “Thankfulness Song” playing while the images scroll. It is a simple but powerful reminder that the reason the employees work on this show is to share the faith with children.

I’ve often thought of this video when I think about evangelism in the church. It’s the big scary word that so many people shudder at because to them it equates to going and knocking on doors and asking if they have found Jesus as though Jesus is the reigning Hide and Seek champion. Evangelism, though, is much different than that. It’s an intentional sharing of the Good News. I like to add to that definition, though. I like to say “It’s an intentional sharing of the Good News whether or not one more person starts attending St. Luke’s.” That is important to me because we don’t share the Gospel message of Christ in order to fill up our pews and to make budget. We share the Good News because we believe it makes a difference in people’s lives and it matters. If it were about putting butts in pews I would insist it be called a membership drive because we should name it for what it is.

But that’s not what we’re about. We want to make sure that people come to know Christ in a way that speaks to their life where they are at. That is why we do what we do. We want to make the Gospel accessible to ALL people. This includes people who are not going to think, act, look, or worship like us. That is a good thing, brothers and sisters. We can get so caught up in making sure things keep happening the way they’ve always happened so that we can be comfortable, that our comfort becomes a stumbling block to people who are trying to hear about God for the first time.

That means that another scary word starts to be heard. “Change.” This is notoriously hard for all people, not just people in the church. Christians can be incredibly stuck in our routines because they are comfortable and they are familiar. “It’s worked well enough until now so why change?” “We’ve always done it that way.” It is said that these two phrases are often the death cry of a congregation. Change does not have to mean a complete overhaul where nothing stays the same, but it does mean that things will be different.

This can happen a few ways in a church. It can happen as different people take leadership positions. People who have not been in service in the leadership of the church will often come with energy, hope, and new ideas. If we are being honest when we say we want to see new and / or younger leadership rising up in the church it means that we have to make space for them and the ideas they will bring. It means not shooting them down and tearing apart their plans just because they aren’t what we’re familiar with. The future cannot mean a return to a past era. It is understood that there seemed to be a heyday in the church’s past where buildings were full and people were beating down the doors and society shaped itself around the church’s calendar. That is not the reality we are living in now and it is not one that we will see anytime soon. This means that instead of longing for a past time of what church looked like we turn our eyes to the reality of the present and start to vision for how church happens today.

The way to welcome others is not through criticizing the things that they value and insisting that they are wrong, wrong, wrong. Because that is not good news and it most definitely is not THE Good News. And I have seen St. Luke’s do this really well. We have had new worshippers joining us in the past months because when they come to worship they have felt welcomed and accepted.

Why we do what we do... Why do we, here at St. Luke’s, do what we do? What outcome are we hoping for when we participate in the life of the congregation? Is it because we want a building and a specific way of worship to continue in perpetuity? Or is it because we have heard the call of God to us through worship, study and service, and we feel compelled to reach out to others to let them know about the God who loves them more than anything?

Big Idea realized that they had to help their employees remember the reason they made videos about anthropomorphic vegetables who shared Bible messages... it was so that the next generation had a way to relate to the Gospel because the videos and cartoons they grew up with weren’t helping the people unfamiliar with God come to know him better. So, instead of trying to force society to change so that they appreciated the cartoons that had existed, they changed the cartoon in order to share the message with society as it is today.

In order to share the Gospel, which is the same yesterday, today, and tomorrow, we have to realize that the same things we’ve always done may need to change in order to help the people who haven’t met Christ hear the Word he has for them. It is my sincerest hope that we, as a congregation, will take time to remember exactly why we do what we do here at St. Luke’s, and that we will turn ourselves over to the beautiful, unpredictable Holy Spirit and listen to where we are being guided. It might mean that some habits have to die, some may have to change, and some may stay as they are. It’s a task that calls for brave hearts and spirits and a deep and abiding trust in God. Some of the things we try might fail, and that’s ok. We learn in our failings. Yet, until we try we cannot know.

God’s blessings!

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Pastor Raby". The signature is written in black ink on a white background.

CALL COMMITTEE UPDATE

The call committee met with Pastor Lauren Kirsch-Carr, the assistant to the bishop for mobility, on Wednesday, May 1. She presented the team with four candidates and after initial interviews with the candidates the decision was made not to proceed with any of them. The committee has requested a new slate of names from Pastor Kirsch-Carr and are waiting for that next step. Confidentiality for the candidates is important during these first steps of the call process. The call committee will continue to keep the congregation updated as the process unfolds. As a reminder, the members of the call committee are: chairperson: Griff Crammond; members: Leah Hafemeister, Gloria Heigel, Jackie Mayo, Julie Sanderson, Cathy Thomas and Lynn Warren. Council president Andy Nieman and Pastor Robyn are ex-officio members. Please feel free to speak with any member of the team with any questions you may have.



GET INVOLVED

Looking for ways to be involved at St. Luke's?

Here are some one-time commitment events coming up where we could use your help with!

Set up or tear down dinner church on June 4. (Contact Pastor Robyn)

Invite a friend and attend our Dinner Church on June 4 at 6:30. (Contact Pastor Robyn)

Help with our on-line streaming ministry. (Contact Pastor Robyn or Brian Joesten)

Help the Shepherding Ministry team by volunteering to send cards or make phone calls to our brothers and sisters in Christ we haven't seen recently. (Contact Pastor Robyn or Jean Roberts)

Help our Shepherding team by offering to provide rides to worship for our homebound members (contact Jean Roberts)

Help with Vacation Bible School. (Contact Jillian Weiss).

Help with repairs around church (Contact Denzil Bell)

Help run the slides for GiG (Contact Paul Thomas).

Help with the gardening around the church. (Contact the church office).



BIBLE STUDY & FAITH GROWTH OPPORTUNITIES

TIME & TALENTS SHEETS

Please remember to fill out and turn in a Time & Talents Sheet! They can be found online at our Facebook group as well as hard copies at church. Prayerfully consider how God is calling you to serve.

LUTHER HAUS BIBLE STUDY

Every second and fourth Wednesday of each month Pastor Robyn leads a Bible study at Luther Haus on Smith Rd at 10:00 am. This is open to all, you do not have to be a resident of Luther Haus. On the fourth Wednesday we share in communion following our study. We are just beginning a study of the prophet Hosea. We hope you will join us!

TOUR OF THE BIBLE

The Tour has resumed. We meet Thursdays at 6:30 p.m. in the sanctuary. We will continue during the summer.

DINNER CHURCH

Our next dinner church will be on Tuesday, June 4 at 6:30 p.m. We do still need volunteers for set up and tear down. All are welcome, invite your friends, we're saving a seat for you!



STREAMING MINISTRY

We are beginning to stream worship services live on the internet. Right now, we are starting with GIG. If anyone from our traditional services would like to learn how to set it up please speak with Pastor Robyn or Brian Joesten. It is not difficult at all to learn.

**LIVE
STREAMING**

TAKE ME OUT TO THE BALL GAME

MUD HENS VS. SYRACUSE



Please join us for an evening of
baseball!

WHERE: FIFTH THIRD FIELD

DAY: July 21, 2019

Time: 6:05 PM

COST: \$14.00 per ticket

Fellowship will be selling ticket (vouchers)
after worships.

Any questions, please ask your
Fellowship Ministry Team:

Doug Becker

Erin Beard

Janel Erdmann

Sophie Ressler

NEWS FOR THE GOOD OF THE CHURCH



WORSHIP INFORMATION AND OPPORTUNITIES

Our Summer Schedule runs Sunday, September 1. Services will be at 8:30 am (traditional) and 10:00 (GiG praise service). Sunday school is on break for the summer. Our regular schedule for worship and Sunday school will resume September 8.

MORNING PRAYER

Pastor Robyn invites you to join her in the Burke Memorial Prayer Garden on Wednesday mornings at 7:30 a.m. beginning July 3 for morning prayer (weather permitting). The service will be no more than 30 minutes. Please bring a chair if you are able. In case of inclement weather we will meet in the sanctuary.



**We are collecting Beanie Babies
(any small stuffed toy)**

Matchbox/Hotwheels (small toys for boys)

Please check garage sales this summer and drop off at church for Mission Trip to Guatemala in September.

IN CELEBRATION OF 55 YEARS OF ORDINATION FOR RON DIENER

We will be celebrating the 55th Anniversary of Ordination from Trinity Seminary, Columbus, OH, for Ron Diener on Sunday, June 16th during our coffee fellowship.

We luck out; he is playing organ that day in the sanctuary!

Please join us in congratulating him on this momentous anniversary.



CO-ED IS STILL LOOKING FOR PLAYERS FOR SOFTBALL

The Co-Ed team is still looking for interested players for their church softball team so they do not have to forfeit any upcoming games.

Please see Nan Brushaber, Marty Skrzyniecki if you have any questions.



SPECIAL FUND FOR THE SKRZYNIECKI FAMILY

Lindsay and Marty Skrzyniecki have encountered some serious complications with their pregnancy. If you would like to make a donation to help off-set some of the unexpected costs please make your check out to St. Luke's with A.C.E. fund in the memo line.

OFFERING ENVELOPE & SIGN UPS

Beginning in June we will have a list in the back of the church of everyone who currently receives offering envelopes. If you would like to continue to receive envelopes, please sign next to your name on the list. If you would not like to receive them please cross out your name and initial beside it. Thank you!



SIGGI'S LUNCH BUNCH

Happy Summer!

The Ladies lunch group will be meeting at the Brownstone on Alexis, near Lewis Ave, at 11:30 on June 5th.

Please join in the fun, fellowship, great conversation and food.

The ladies take July off, due to the holiday, but will resume their luncheons on August 7th, meeting at Judy Nieman's cottage on Wompler's lake. They will be carpooling from the church parkinglot.

If you are interested in joining Saggi's Lunch Bunch in June, please give Nan Brushaber a call and let her know you'd like a seat at the table.

All are welcome.

Thanks !

Nan



THANK YOU SO MUCH!

Naomi Bowlin wants to express her thanks in receiving all of the calls, visits and care notes while she has been recovering.

They mean so much and it really helped in the healing.

Thanks again, St. Luke's Family!



THANK YOU

To Abby Holmblad for your 7+ years of service as Sunday School Superintendent. We are celebrating and giving Abby thanks Sunday, June 2nd during coffee hour. Please join us in showing our gratitude!

Date/Time	Greeter	Usher	Sacrament	Counter	Acolyte	Coffee	Lector
June 2nd 8:30	N Bowlin J Schmidt	Folgers, S Fye, N Bowlin	J Warren, P& D Yockey	Dan Chase	Kate Eaton	Ron & Kathy Watkins	S Harasta
10:00	Mayo Family	Mayo Family	No communion	Weiss'			
June 9th 8:30	Halters	J Waidelich S Trevathan K Ressler S Tipping	No Communion	S Tipping	Trent & Jake Yeager	D Wright K Ressler	L. Warren
10:00	YOU? YOU?	Barthle Bunch, D Wright	C Barthle YOU?	D Chase			
June 16th 8:30	S Ressler	S Trevathan J Waidelich J Merickel S Ressler	C Bell S Emerson	S Tipping	Jackie & Lily Fair	L Hafemeister S Manore	K Ressler
10:00	YOU? YOU?	D Wright YOU?	None	D Chase			
June 23rd 8:30	J & S Merickel	Warren's Fralely's	S Tipping J Merickel J Bock	S Tipping	Camden Barthle	C & C Jackson	S Tipping
10:00	YOU? YOU?	Barthle Family	C Barthle, YOU?	D Chase			
June 30th 8:30	J Combs YOU?	J Roberts K Bristol	YOU? YOU?	D Chase	Austin Clise	YOU? YOU?	A Crammond
10:00	YOU? YOU?	YOU? YOU?	YOU? YOU?	D Chase			

Sunday June 2nd

8:30 Traditional Worship
9:30 Coffee Fellowship
Abby Holmblad Thank You!
10:00 GiG Praise Worship
7:00 Cardio Drumming
7:00 Scout Troop 777

Monday June 3rd

10:00 Comforters
6:00 God Works
7:00 Volleyball

Tuesday June 4th

5:30 Set up for Church Dinner
6:30 Dinner Church
7:00 Black Swamp HAM Radio Group

Wednesday June 5th

Thursday June 6th

5:00 3 :B Baseball
6:30 A Tour of the Bible
7:00 AA/Al Anon
7:00 Cardio Drumming

Friday June 7th

Saturday June 8th

Sunday June 9th

8:30 Service of the Word
10:00 GiG Praise Worship
11:00 CONGREGATION MEETING
7:00 Cardio Drumming
7:00 Scout Troop 777

Monday June 10th

10:00 Comforters
6:00 God Works!
7:00 Volleyball

Tuesday June 11th

6:00 Executive committee Meeting
7:00 Ministry Team Meetings

Wednesday June 12th

10:00 Luther Haus Bible Study

Thursday June 13th

Pastor Robyn Unavailable until June 20
5:00 3B Baseball
7:00 AA/Al Anon
7:00 Cardio Drumming

Friday June 14th

4:00 Wedding Rehearsal
Saturday June 15th
4:00 Hillary Hansen Wedding

Sunday June 16th

8:30 Traditional Worship W/ Communion
9:30 Coffee Fellowship & Celebration
Anniversary of Ron Diener's Ordination
10:00 GiG Praise Worship

Monday June 17th

(Setting Up for VBS in Gym)
10:00 Comforters
6:00 God Works!
7:00 Volleyball

Tuesday June 18th

(Setting Up for VBS in Gym)

Wednesday June 19th

(Setting Up for VBS in Gym)

Thursday June 20th

(Setting Up for VBS in Gym)
6:30 A Tour of the Bible
7:00 AA/Al Anon
7:00 Cardio Drumming

Friday June 21st

(Setting Up for VBS in Gym)

Saturday June 22nd

(Setting Up for VBS in Gym)

Sunday June 23rd

(Setting Up for VBS in Gym)
8:30 Traditional Worship W/ communion
9:30 Coffee Fellowship
10:00 GiG Praise Worship
7:00 Cardio Drumming

Monday June 24th

9:00-12:00 VBS!
6:00 God Works!

Tuesday June 25th

9:00-12:00 VBS!

Wednesday June 26th

9:00-12:00 VBS!
10:00 Luther Haus
11:00 Luther Haus Bible Study

Thursday June 27th

9:00-12:00 VBS!
6:30 A Tour of the Bible
7:00 AA/Al Anon
7:00 Cardio Drumming

Friday June 28th

9:00-12:00 VBS!

Saturday June 29th

Sunday June 30th

SUMMER HOLIDAYS FOR JUNE

Fly your Flag with pride on Flag Day,
June 14th.

Don't forget Dad on Father's Day,
June 16th!

The first full day of Summer starts on
June 21st!

Have a terrific Summer!!!



**CONGRATS TO ALL OF
OUR GRADUATES FOR
2019!**

Please turn in names pre-k through
grad school to the office.

We will post all of the names of our
graduates in our July Edition.



HAPPY BIRTHDAY

June 1st

Natalie Diver

June 2nd

Steve Noble, Jaxson Manor

June 3rd

Robert Braithwaite, Kian Freker

June 5th

Jacob Myers, Kimberly Diver,
Sora Mae Domigan

June 6th

Tarra Nieman,



June 7th

Nicholas Arndt

June 8th

Christy Weiss, George Thompson

June 9th

Lori Neumeyer, Vincent Dezanett,
Deb Gossman, Nolan Delp

June 10th

Marjorie Achinger

June 11th

Stephanie Rodriguez

June 12th

Dawn Palermo-Benedict

June 13th

Emerson Beard

June 15th

Taylor Burgermeister

June 16th

Connie Sexton

June 17th

Timothy Yockey

June 19th

Jessica Wisniewski

June 20th

Jonie Braithwaite, Elizabeth Baum,

June 22nd

Ashley Arndt, Cooper Clemens

June 23rd

Bob Titus, Adam Paine, Matthew Miller,

June 25th

Sandy Nieman, Joanne Sloane, Lori Kruas

June 26th

Shawn Emerson

June 27th

Trenton Yeager, Dory Noble,
Kevin Nieman

June 29th

Judy Schreiber

June 30th

Jennifer Mayo, don Surface, Emlie Sturm,
Joseph Ondrus, Harry Schroeder

HAPPY ANNIVERSARY

June 3rd

David & Karen Williams

June 4th

Bob & Beth Matthews

June 7th

Jeremy & Michelle Walling

June 12th

Kris & Griff Crammond

June 13th

Robyn Kistemaker & David Hively

June 17th

Earl & Cheryl Cornprobst

June 21st

Jerald & Kristi Johnson

June 24th

Noel & Julie Bell

June 27th

Rex & Dorrisse Benz

June 29th

Christy & Jeff Weiss

June 30th

Collin & Shawn Emerson

ALTAR FLOWERS

June



June 9th

In Memory of Matthew Donaldson

In Memory of Dorothy Roby

June 16th

In Memory of Tony Alexander

In celebration of Pastor David and
Pastor Robyn's 10th Anniversary

June 23rd

In Memory of Agnes Georges

In Loving Memory of Jan Alverman

In Celebration of Julie and Noel Bell's
Wedding Anniversary

June 30th

In Celebration of Audrey Kurek's 9th
Birthday.

In celebration of Dorisse and Rex
Benz's 49th Wedding Anniversary!



FOR SOUTH ERIE PARK— JUNE 22ND, 2019

NOON TO DARK

“Who ya’ gonna call? South East MI and Northwest OH Radio Hams!”

Public Demo of Emergency Communications June 22, 2019

ERIE, MI MAY 24, 2019 – Despite the Internet, cell phones, email and modern communications, every year whole regions find themselves in the dark. Tornadoes, fires, storms, ice and even the occasional cutting of fiber optic cables leave people without the means to communicate. In these cases, the one consistent service that has never failed has been Amateur Radio. These radio operators, often called “hams” provide backup communications for everything from the American Red Cross to FEMA and even for the International Space Station. Your Town’s “hams” will join with thousands of other Amateur Radio operators showing their emergency capabilities this weekend.

Over the past year, the news has been full of reports of ham radio operators providing critical communications during unexpected emergencies in towns across America including the California wildfires, winter storms, tornadoes and other events worldwide. When trouble is brewing, Amateur Radio’s people are often the first to provide rescuers with critical information and communications. On the weekend of June 22-23, the public will have a chance to meet and talk with Southeast MI and Northwest ham radio operators and see for themselves what the Amateur Radio Service is about as hams across the USA will be holding public demonstrations of emergency communications abilities.

This annual event, called "Field Day" is the climax of the week long "Amateur Radio Week" sponsored by the ARRL, the national association for Amateur Radio. Using only emergency power supplies, ham operators will construct emergency stations in parks, shopping malls, schools and backyards around the country. Their slogan, "When All Else Fails, Ham Radio Works" is more than just words to the hams as they prove they can send messages in many forms without the use of phone systems, internet or any other infrastructure that can be compromised in a crisis. More than 35,000 amateur radio operators across the country participated in last year's event.

"The fastest way to turn a crisis into a total disaster is to lose communications," said Allen Pitts of the ARRL. "From the earthquake and tsunami in Japan to tornadoes in Missouri, ham radio provided the most reliable communication networks in the first critical hours of the events. Because ham radios are not dependent on the Internet, cell towers or other infrastructure, they work when nothing else is available. We need nothing between us but air."

Peace,

Griff KE8DNU

FACING MENTAL ILLNESS

Much progress has been made in raising awareness and the prevalence of mental illness, erasing the stigma and shame associated with it. More than 50 per cent of Americans will be affected by some form of mental illness in their lifetime, occurring at any age. The brain’s signals that carry chemicals to parts of the brain and body are impaired. Frequent changes of mood and behavior can become so severe that one cannot function with daily activities.

Here are many types of the most severe mental illnesses: Schizophrenia is a mental detachment from reality. Bipolar is alternating episodes of mania (periods of excessive activity and excitement) and depression. Depression is a level of sadness disrupting your ability to function. Anxiety is an anticipation of future danger causing excessive panic. Obsessive-Compulsive Disorder causes repetitive actions and Post Traumatic Stress Disorder often follows traumatic incidences.

None of the above conditions can improve without treatment, which depends on the type of disease. Treatment includes doctors leading a treatment team, prescribed medications, and group therapy. The May issue of the “Living Lutheran” magazine has an awesome article on how many ELCA churches have addressed mental illness and offered those affected with a supportive home at church and their families. Compassion and understanding is stressed with support groups, Bible studies, and prayers. The churches have emphasized an opportunity to provide a safe place without stigma and judgment and the acceptance of the promise of God’s saving grace. I will post the article on our bulletin board.

Mental illness can be well controlled, but one needs to stick with the treatment plan. Learning about one’s mental illness helps in taking steps to prevent stress. Keeping a journal is effective and acceptance of the support of family and friends is very important. If suicidal thoughts should surface get help immediately and be aware of the Suicide Hotline Number, 1-800-273-TALK. Prayers needed for curing mental illnesses!

Judy Diener, R.N







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robyn.kistemaker@stlukeschurch.net

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office@stlukeschurch.net

Phone 734.847.8275

Worship Schedule (Summer Schedule)

May 26th Through September 1st

8:30 am — Traditional Service
The Majesty of liturgy, pipe organ, and choral music

9:30- 10:30 am — Coffee Fellowship

10:00 am — GiG Praise Service
Contemporary praise, worship, and children's time.

