

THE TOWER

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

January 2020

Volume 13

ISSUE 1



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.



*WISHING
YOU A
SAFE AND
HAPPY
NEW
YEAR!*



***EPIPHANY 18
JANUARY 6TH, 2020***

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**CONGREGATIONAL
MEETING WILL BE HELD
ON JANUARY 26TH,
FOLLOWING THE 3RD
WORSHIP SERVICE.**

Dear friends in Christ,

Christmas greetings!

I want to start by thanking you all for your generous gifts to myself and my family at Christmas. We are humbled by your generosity and I thank you from the bottom of my heart! It is an absolutely joy to serve as your co-pastor! I also want to thank everyone who was involved with the children's Christmas program. It was an absolute delight and so unique! I know that a lot of time and energy went into making it happen. Special thanks to our Sunday School superintendent Sophie Ressler, our education ministry team rep Dawn Wright, and our director, Katie Rosales for the many hours they committed to the program!

I want to say welcome again to Pastor Kari Rinas. I am so excited to be able to serve as her co-pastor and see what things the Spirit is doing among us here at St. Luke's! Please remember to continue wearing your nametags to help her learn names. That was so helpful to me when I started with you!

A gentle reminder that it will take some time for Pastor Kari and I to learn about one another and to find the best ways for ministry to happen with both of us now here. Please continue to show the amazing amount of grace you have shown me through the years as we continue to grow and work together.

With Pastor Kari's arrival I am freed up to shift some of my focus back to one of the areas that you originally called me here to pursue and that is youth and family ministry. I will be reaching out to our families over the next few months to sit down and talk about what you would like our youth and family ministry to look like here! Our senior high and junior high ministries will also be restarting so watch for information on those. I will continue to work with our elementary aged students through the Stepping Stones ministry.

Blessings,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Pastor Rabe". The signature is written in black ink on a light-colored background.

Dear St. Luke's,

I am so excited to finally be with you as we begin our ministry together! I have been eager to get started and get back to doing what I love so deeply—ministry with and among God's people. I am so thankful that God has led us to this new adventure together as we continue discerning what God is up to at St. Luke's.

I have been overwhelmed by your welcome and generosity! For all the pantry items, meals, meal kits, gift cards, money for meals, and other gifts of welcome and love, I am so very grateful. It has meant a lot to me and to my family as we are getting settled in and adjusting in this period of transition. You all have my deepest appreciation for all that you have done to help us feel at home here right from the beginning.

Many of you have already stopped by my office to say hello and introduce yourselves and I look forward to getting to know you all soon. I would ask over the next few weeks (and maybe months—there's a lot of you!) that you help remind me of your names. Names are important, and I want to be able to call you by your name, but I know it will take me some time. If you can help me out with this by wearing your name tags, I'll learn your names much more quickly. And while I am still learning, please also do not take offense if I am not able to remember your name right away. I will be working hard to recall them all, but I am sure that I will make mistakes!

God is up to something wonderful at St. Luke's. It was evident as I went through the interview process here that the Spirit was blowing us on this path together, and I am looking with great anticipation and hope to see what God's future looks like for us. I am excited to see what this new year brings!

In Christ,

Pastor Kari

JANUARY 2020 CONGREGATIONAL MEETING

The Ministry Teams have convened, the budgets have been reviewed, the time is now for the Congregation to hear all about it and voice their concerns, opinions, and vote!

Please join us January 26th, immediately following the 11:15 worship. We will hold the meeting in the Sanctuary. All members of the congregation can vote.

We will be addressing the 2020 budget, old business, the introduction of a new pastor, and many of the projects set for the year ahead.

Erin needs all ministry team budgets and articles by no later than Wednesday the 22nd of January to put the packet for the meeting together.

Any questions, please see Andy Nieman, our congregation's president.



2020 SIGN UP BOOKS ARE OUT...AND WAITING FOR YOU!

It's that time of year again, when Erin rushes up to people or reaches out to make sure they're still wanting to contribute their talents and time to their worship steward duties.

If you have ever had an interest, we highly recommend you speak with Pastor Robyn, Pastor Kari, or any one of our worship Stewards on a particular Sunday. We would love to have you join our teams and giving of yourself can be so rewarding.

We will supply the teaching. Please say you'll help!

MID WEEK EMAIL

We are continuing our ministry in sending the mid-week email to our email subscriber list.

We have been able to keep our congregation informed about what is coming up on Sunday, upcoming announcements, items of interest and the readings for the week. It also is a good reminder for those who are listed as stewards for the worship.

If you would like to receive our Mid-Week Email, please sign up in the sign up books or see Erin.

PRAYER MINISTRY EMAIL CHAIN

Ed Brushaber has been in charge of the email thread that is sent out in the past for prayers needed.

As he is recovering, the office at St. Luke's is taking the mantle on this ministry.

Please send your prayers to office@stlukeschurch.net and we will compile them. If you would like to receive the emails, please see Erin or sign up on the sign up table.



NEW GIVING ENVELOPES AVAILABLE

In the summer/fall, we had a sign up for anyone who would like to continue to receive offering envelopes for the new year.

Those envelopes have finally arrived and can be found in your mailboxes. Your giving number is listed on the front of the packaging. Please be sure to include this and your name on the actual envelope. It helps the counters.

If you have changed your mind and would like a booklet, we have some remaining. Please see Erin.

YOUTH MINISTRY NEWS

THE NEXT STEPPING STONE EVENT

Join us for the kindergarten stepping stone event on Sunday, January 19 at 1:30 pm. During this time we will learn about the Apostles Creed and help our young brothers and sisters in Christ understand how this connects us with Christians throughout the world. We are excited about this day to learn and follow through on the baptismal promise to teach our children about the Apostles' Creed.

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.

STEPPING STONES MINISTRY



The Stepping Stones ministry is one of the many ways St. Luke's wants to support the faith formation of children and families. At their baptisms you promised alongside their sponsors to help them grow in their faith by bringing them to worship, teaching them the Lord's Prayer, the creed, and the 10 commandments, and to place in their hands the Holy Scriptures. As a church it is our privilege to journey beside you as you fulfill these promises to your children.

Each year from pre-school through confirmation we will offer a Stepping Stone event for you and your child to attend together. If you are unable to attend with your child perhaps ask their baptismal sponsor (s) if they could bring them. The Sunday following the event your student will receive a small gift to help remind them of what they learned as they Grow in Grace.

Dates:

Pre-K, Sunday, Dec. 8 1:30 – 2:30 pm

Kindergarten, Sunday Jan. 19, 1:30 -2:30 pm

First Grade, TBD

Second Grade, Sunday, February 9, 1:30 – 2:30 pm

Fourth Grade, Sunday, April 19, 1:30 – 2:30 pm

Fifth Grade, First Communion classes; November 3, 10; 6:00 – 7:00 pm

Sixth Grade, Sunday, May 3, 1:30 – 2:30 pm

KIDS BIBLE ADVENTURE NEWSLETTER

This has been a busy, joy filled month for Kid's Bible Adventures. We had our Christmas around the world presentations from: Luis Salas (Peru), Kathleen Ressler (England), Emilia Reinert (Denmark), Ron Diener, Judy Diener, Erin Beard, and Leah Hafemeister (Germany). The children were thrilled with the gifts, activities, music, and presentations that our guest speakers planned.

The Christmas play practices went well, the children learned their parts and the songs fairly quick. They had an amazing performance during the GiG on December 15th. Some special performers played piano and presented the Christmas traditions that they learned about on December 22nd during the GiG. We will be on break for the rest of the year. A huge thank you to Katie Rosales (director), Amber Yockey (costume coordinator), Julie, Kate, and McKenna Eaton (dance instructors), Dawn Wright (teaching preschool and various other areas), and our amazing helpers: Sarah O'Shea, Cathy Thomas, Charlene Trabbic, Christina Yeager, Dan Chase, and Leslie Lehberger.

We will resume on January 5th with our new unit, Feeding the 5,000. Most places have been filled by our outstanding volunteers for the month of January, but if you would like to volunteer to assist one of our awesome teachers on January 5th or 26th please contact myself (Sophie Ressler), Dawn Wright, or Pr. Robyn Kistemaker.

GET INVOLVED

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

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

- ◆ Help set-up Pastor Kari's computer. (Contact Paul Thomas)
- ◆ Volunteer to organize a get to know you event for Pastor Kari (Contact Pastor Robyn)
- ◆ Help with evangelism video project. (Contact Amanda Wisniewski or Pastor Robyn)
- ◆ Bring donations for our coat/blanket drive. (Contact Sally Georgeson)
- ◆ Help with Kids Bible Adventures. (Contact Pastor Robyn, Sophie Ressler, or Dawn Wright).
- ◆ Help facilitate a Stepping Stones event. (Contact Pastor Robyn or Sophie Ressler)
- ◆ Help with repairs around church (Contact Steve Mayo or see included list from the property team)
- ◆ Work with Pastor Robyn and Erin Beard on St. Luke's website. (Contact office or Pastor Robyn or Pastor Kari)
- ◆ Help with our on-line streaming ministry. (Contact Pastor Robyn or Brian Joesten)
- ◆ Help run the slides for GiG (Contact Paul Thomas).
- ◆ Help run sound for GiG. (Contact Brian Joesten)
- ◆ Help put candles back from Christmas Eve
- ◆ Be stewards of our Worship– sign up for weekly/monthly rolls (See Erin Beard)



ALTAR FLOWERS

January 5– In Celebration of Pastor Kari's birthday on Saturday, January 4th!



Our new Altar Flower sign up is on the bulletin board in the coffee fellowship area. If you would like to dedicate an arrangement, please place your name on the board. The arrangements are \$20, and we encourage you to take them home to enjoy after worship on Sundays.

POINSETTIAS CAN GO HOME

They have made our sanctuary look so lovely and their dedications are well remembered at this time of celebration. Please take them home to enjoy!



CONGREGATION AND SERVICE EVENTS

MUSICIANS

If you are a musician we have many ways for you to use your gifts here at St. Luke's! Our Bell choir meets on Wednesdays at 6:30 p.m. Our chancel choir meets on Wednesdays at 7:30 p.m. If you are interested in participating in our praise band for GiG, talk with Kari Crosby or Pastor Robyn.



EVANGELISM PROJECT

Amanda Wisniewski will be helping us with a video project to help get information about St. Luke's out to the public. If you would like to be involved with this project please contact Amanda or Pastor Robyn.





- * Linda Olrich — In memory of Doug Olrich & our wonderful and lovely family
- * Sharon & Mike Harasta — In loving memory of Angel Stefanie, and Stef's grandparents; Harold & Peggy Harpel, Robert & Betty Harasta
- * Janus Burton — In memory of Fred & Brent Burton, love Mom.
- * Janus Burton — in memory of Nancy Patton
- * Janus Burton — In honor of my St. Luke's Family
- * Gloria Heigel — for Dave Heigel, Nelda & George Heigel, Angela & Edmund Rutkowski, Jeri Madsen
- * Collin & Shawn Emerson — In memory of our Grandson William and Parents James & Bette Schwyn, Elizabeth & Arlo Emerson
- * Deb Shaulis — In honor of Jean Moritz. In memory of Bill Moritz, Clyde Shaulis Sr. and Dorothy Shaulis
- * Joyce Schoch — In memory of my parents Richard & Edna Schoch and Brother Bill and Sister Karen
- * Joyce Schoch — In honor of nieces & nephews: Miranda, Rick, Ashley, Aiden, Taytum, Ryan, Katie, Rylie, Jordan, Jenny, Justin, JJ, Betsy, Jeff, Ben, Matt, Joshua, Becky, Billy and Bobbie
- * The Theodorou Family — In loving memory of Richard & Sondra Rosswurm
- * Jodi Manore — In Memory of my parents, in honor of my siblings, nieces and nephews and their spouses, and especially with love for my grand nieces and nephews.
- * The Hallstrom Family — In memory of Marilyn & Tom Purdham and Vicki Hallstrom
- * Robin & Bob Burkett — In honor of our three beautiful grand daughters, Aubrey, Olivia and Kendall. In memory of Iris & Bob Burkett Sr., Linda Charter, Alva Folk, Joe Folk and Carl Breske
- * Dan Chase — In memory of Chuck and Jane Chase
- * Joanne Combs — In memory of my parents Ernie & Kate Never
- * Shirley Trevathan — In memory of Sam & Rhonda

HAPPY BIRTHDAY!

January 1

Barbara Alexander, Coral Jeanne Weir

January 2

Erica Lehr

January 3

Evelyn Janick

January 4

Sydney Delp

January 5

Baylee Canning

January 6

Bryan (Spike) Cress

January 7

David Ingall

January 8

Jack Durivage, Ava Ingall

January 9

Jessica Myers, Mel Van Wormer

January 10

Brennen Holmblad

January 13

Julie Bell, Ivy Mae Carter

January 14

Christy Marie Strable, Amelia Johnson, Naomi Bowlin

January 15

Lucas Hively, Jason Eaton

January 16

Catherine Canning, Jill Crary

January 17

Michael Russell, Annabelle Jean Yockey, Charlene Trabbic, Joel Paine

January 18

Lisa Eaton, Judy Wiederhold

January 19

Pete Abalos, Carl Holmblad, Jamie Hagen

Birthday Continued

January 21

Gale Galdeen

January 22

Jacqueline Fair, Tyler Crary

January 23

Deborah Davis, Jodi Manore

January 24

Ella Majerski, Wendy Glaser

January 26

Sheila Abalos, Asher Holmblad, Tonya DiCiacca

January 27

Daniel Canning, Jim Van Wormer, Gabriel Manore

January 28

Doug Roberts, Becky Bolander

January 29

Spencer Lingle, Ed Brushaber

January 30

Adam Johnson

January 1

Timothy & Susan Heiden

January 9

Larry & Doris Przeslawski

January 12

Gerald & Jerol Lynn Wack

January 14

John & Carolyn Moody

January 18

Jason & Lisa Eaton

January 27

Douglas & Becky Arndt

January 29

Brian & Heidi Joesten



THANK YOU!

My Gratitude and Thanks for all of the patience, help and kind words this busy holiday season.

We had a roller-coaster of a December; late Thanksgiving, Late Symphony Concert, delayed shipment of offering envelopes, early arrival of our new Pastor, Kari, and Christmas clearing the rest of the month.

Thank you all for your understanding as we navigated this season with grace and calm as best we could achieve.

I hope this new year finds you all in good health, peace of mind and faith. I have greatly enjoyed the work I've been set to do and look forward to what the introduction of our new pastor brings and how we can continue to Grow in Grace here at St. Luke's.

Your gifts at Christmas were so thoughtful and I'm grateful for all of you.

Thank you, be well, Peace On!

Erin Beard —



Dear St Luke's-

Thank You for allowing us to use your facilities for our annual spaghetti dinner. Your continuing support of our troop is greatly appreciated! Thanks Again!

Troop 777

Dear Pastor Robyn & St. Luke's,

Thank you for helping and leading me through this wonderful confirmation journey. I really appreciate all the love and support everyone has shown me. Also, thank you so much for the books; you know me so well!-

Love, Kate

CALENDAR OF EVENTS**January 3rd**

5:00 Bedford Soccer

January 5th8:30 & 11:15 Traditional Worship W/
communion

9:30 coffee fellowship

9:45 Kids Bible Adventure

10:00 GiG Praise Worship

6:00 Bedford Community Ed

7:00 Cardio Drumming/ Scouts 777

January 6

10:00 Comforters

6:00 God Works!

7:00 Volleyball

January 7

5:00 Bedford Travelling League

7:00 Bedford Boys Basketball

January 8

10:00 Luther Haus Bible Study

5:00 Bedford Girls Basketball

6:15 Bells

7:00 Bedford Boys Basketball

7:30 Choir

January 9

5:00 Bedford Girls Basketball

7:00 AA/Al Anon

7:00 Cardio Drumming

January 10

Play & Learn Field Trip

(Classroom critters)

5:00 Bedford Soccer.

January 12

8:30 & 11:15 Service of the Word

9:30 Coffee Fellowship

9:45 Kids Bible Adventure

10:00 GiG Praise Worship

6:00 Bedford Community Ed

7:00 Cardio Drumming/ Scouts 777

January 13

10:00 Comforters

6:00 God Works!

7:00 Volleyball

January 14

5:00 Girl Scout Leaders Meeting

5:00 Bedford Travelling League

6:00 Exec Committee Meeting

7:00 Bedford Boys Basketball

7:00 Ministry Team Meetings

January 15

5:00 Bedford Girls Basketball

6:15 Bells

7:00 Bedford Boys Basketball

7:30 Choir

January 16

5:00 Bedford Girls Basketball

7:00 AA/Al Anon

7:00 Cardio Drumming

January 17

5:00 Bedford Soccer

January 19

8:30 & 11:15 Traditional Worship

9:30 coffee fellowship

9:45 Kids Bible Adventure

10:00 GiG Praise Worship

1:30 Stepping Stone Event (Kindergarten)

6:00 Bedford Community Ed

7:00 Cardio Drumming

7:00 Scout Troop 777

January 20

10:00 Comforters

6:00 God Works!

7:00 Volleyball

January 21

5:00 Bedford Travelling League

6:30 Church Council

7:00 Bedford Boys Basketball

January 22

10:00 Luther Haus Bible Study

11:00 Luther Haus Communion

5:00 Girls Basketball

6:15 Bell Choir

7:00 Bedford Boys Basketball

7:30 Chancel Choir

January 23

5:00 Bedford Girls Basketball

7:00 AA/Al Anon

7:00 Cardio Drumming

January 26

8:30 & 11:00 Traditional Worship

9:30 Coffee/Blood Pressure

9:45 Kids Bible Adventure

10:00 GiG Praise Worship

12:15 Congregational Meeting

6:00 Bedford Community Ed

7:00 Cardio Drumming/Scouts 777

January 27

10:00 Comforters

6:00 God Works!

7:00 Volleyball

January 28

5:00 Bedford Travelling League

7:00 Bedford Boys Basketball

January 29

5:00 Bedford Girls Basketball

6:15 Bells

7:00 Bedford Boys Basketball

7:30 Choir

January 30

5:00 Bedford Girls Basketball

7:00 AA/Al Anon

7:00 Cardio Drumming

January 31

DATE/TIME	GREETER	USHER	SACRAMENT	COUNTER	ACOLYTE	COFFEE	LECTOR
January 5 8:30	N Bowlin	G /M Folger	P/D Yockey	Georgesons	McKenna Eaton		B Skiver
	J Schmidt	N Bowlin					
	10:00	Mayo Family	Mayo Family	No Communion	J & C Weiss	Comforters	
11:15	E Beard, J Sengstock	E Beard , J Sengstock	K Crammond J Mayo , YOU?	R Gephart	Zayne Abitua		E Beard
January 12 8:30	Halter Family	Waidelich/ Trevatha Ressler Tipping	No Communion	Cooks	Camden Barthle		G Heigel
	10:00	YOU? YOU?	Barthle Bunch	C Barthle YOU? YOU?	D Chase	YOU? YOU?	
	11:15	YOU? YOU?		No Communion	Dan Chase	Taylor Burgermeister	J Herr
January 19 8:30	S Ressler	Waidelich/ Trevathan/ Ressler/ Merickel	C Bell, S Emerson	S Tipping	Austin & Alyssa Clise		P Yockey
	J/D Erdmann						
	10:00	YOU? YOU?	YOU? YOU?	No Communion	D Chase	L Hafemeister B Sedelbauer	
11:15	J Sengstock E Beard	J Sengstock E Beard	J Sengstock YOU? YOU?	L Bourn	Ethan & Caleb Manore		L Hafemeiaster
January 26 8:30	J /S Merickel	Warrens	S Tipping	Georgesons	Liberty Lake		A Crammond
		Fraleys	J Merickel				
	10:00	YOU? YOU?	Barthle Bunch	C Barthle YOU? YOU?	Bob Cook	YOU? YOU?	
11:15	YOU? YOU?	YOU? YOU?	YOU? YOU?	D Chase	Samarra Rodriguez		E Beard





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***Or Email* pastor@stlukeschurch.net**
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Sunday Worship Schedule

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

9:30- 10:30 am — Coffee Fellowship

9:45 am — Kids Bible Adventure

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

11:15 am — Traditional Service
The Majesty of liturgy, pipe organ, and choral music

