

St. Luke's Monthly

Sharing Christ's love with those around us



February 2026

Building Our Future

God continues to bless St. Luke's with growth — in faith, in families, and in mission. As we look ahead to Phase 2 of our building project, we remain committed to careful planning and faithful stewardship. Every step we take now lays the foundation for a space that will serve generations to come.

Please continue to keep this project in your prayers: that we would move forward in faith, with clarity, unity, and joyful generosity. We trust that God will provide, in His perfect time and in His perfect way.

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From the Pastor's Pen

*³² a light for revelation to the Gentiles,
and for glory to your people Israel."
– Luke 2:32*

During the first part of February, we continue to be in the season of Epiphany. Epiphany is the season in which Jesus is revealed as the Light of the world, the Savior of all nations, the beloved Son of the Father, and the Lord whose glory shines through His Word, His works, and His people. This season culminates with the Transfiguration, where Christ's glory bursts forth in dazzling light as the Father declares Him the beloved Son.

In the second part of February, we move into the Lenten season. Lent begins with Ash Wednesday. Ash Wednesday is a day of honest reckoning before God, when the Church hears again the ancient verdict spoken to Adam: "You are dust, and to dust you shall return." The tone is sober but not despairing. Ash Wednesday names the truth about our mortality and our sin so that the Gospel may be heard with deeper clarity and joy.

St. Luke's **Ash Wednesday** service is on **Wednesday, February 18, at 6:30 p.m.** It includes the Imposition of Ashes and Holy Communion. During the Imposition of Ashes, the pastor or an elder traces the sign of the cross on the forehead with ashes made from the burned palms of the previous year's Palm Sunday. This action holds together two truths:

- The **ashes confess our sin and mortality**. We stand before God with nothing to offer, marked by death.
- The **cross proclaims Christ's mercy**. The very place where death is acknowledged is also the place where Christ's victory is signed upon us.

The ashes do not earn forgiveness; they confess our need for the forgiveness Christ freely gives.

Lent is a **40-day season** of repentance, patterned after:

- Israel's 40 years in the wilderness
- Moses' 40 days on Sinai
- Elijah's 40-day journey to Horeb
- Jesus' 40 days of fasting and temptation

The 40 days run from Ash Wednesday to Holy Saturday, excluding Sundays, which remain "little Easters." Lent is a season of repentance, renewal, spiritual discipline (i.e., prayer, fasting, almsgiving), baptismal identity, and the journey to the cross. During the **Lenten season**, we have **worship on Wednesday evening, beginning at 6:30 p.m.**

Lenten devotional booklets from Lutheran Hour Ministries are available in the narthex.

I want you to know how thankful I am of your generosity at Christmas. I loved all of the goodies, and I very much appreciate your very generous Christmas gift. When I was in St. Louis for the LWML, someone asked me how things were going at St. Luke's, and I told them, "It is a slice of heaven." I am honored to serve here.

Pastor Schmidt



From the Director of Christian Education

Hopefully you and your family are still basking in the light of Christmas as we walk together through the season of Epiphany!

The season of Epiphany begins 12 days after Christmas and runs through the Tuesday before Ash Wednesday. Lots of amazing things are remembered and celebrated during Epiphany. We have multiple feasts and celebrations to the early church leaders, the early events of Jesus life, and the early church theologians. I like to think of it as a season of celebrating the Incarnation. God humbling Himself, walking among us, teaching humans about God, and serving as the sacrifice for our sins. The Incarnation fills me with gratitude and wonder. Hopefully it does the same for you!

The appointed Scripture readings for the 4th Sunday after Epiphany are a great exhortation for us in this season!

The Old Testament reading comes from Micah 6:1-8. The final verse being "He has told you, O man, what is good; and what does the Lord require of you but to do justice, and to love kindness, and to walk humbly with your God."

The Epistle reading comes from 1 Cor. 1:18-31. The final verses there being: For consider your calling, brothers: not many of you were wise according to worldly standards, not many were powerful, not many were of noble birth. But God chose what is foolish in the world to shame the wise; God chose what is weak in the world to shame the strong; God chose what is low and despised in the world, even things that are not, to bring to nothing things that are, so that no human being might boast in the presence of God. And because of him you are in Christ Jesus, who became to us wisdom from God, righteousness and sanctification and redemption, so that, as it is written, "Let the one who boasts, boast in the Lord."

The Gospel reading comes from Matthew 5:1-12 The Beatitudes. "Blessed are the ...meek, ...the merciful, ...and the peacemakers..."

Hopefully you see the theme! Let us endeavor to honor our God for all He has done for us and put on justice, humility, kindness, meekness, mercy, and be peacemakers in our spheres of influence for the Glory of God and the benefit of our neighbor! AMEN!

Stay focused: God is growing St Luke's in ministry and in the number of people we call St Luke's family! Make sure you are looking for opportunities to help out with the different ministries AND to warmly welcome everyone that comes through our doors!

Please continue your partnership with me as I pray for our Pastor, our leaders, our volunteers, for all the families at St Luke's. God is working in, around, and through us for His glory and for the benefit of the community around us. In situations like these Satan takes immense pleasure in causing discord and unrest. Please pray that each of us will "Fix our eyes on Christ" and that we would not be distracted by Satan's efforts.

- William Prann

HAPPENINGS

Traveling Bulletin

When you worship at another church, please bring the worship folder and bulletin to the church office with your name on. We will post your name and where you've worshipped, hopefully stimulating conversation of where you've visited. And, our staff will get the chance to see what other churches are doing.

Scott Stone & Susan Spain, Messiah Lutheran Church, Hays, KS

THEOLOGY ON TAP

We will next meet on Tuesday, February 17th at 7:30 p.m. at Rockin K's (1880 Kimball Ave., Unit 100, Manhattan, KS 66502) or via Zoom. The presenter will be Rev. Matthew Vattbauer, Associate Pastor, St. Paul Lutheran Church, Clay Center. Topic: Dispensationalism.

HUNTER SAFETY CLASS

St. Luke's will be hosting a Hunter's Education Class March 13th and 14th. There will be twenty slots and they'll go fast. Registration will begin March 1. You will be able to register on that date by going to <https://www.safehunters.com/kansas/default.asp> Class details can be viewed by going to the above site.

2025–2027 MISSION GRANT NO. 6
PHIL'S FRIENDS - \$100,000

Each month Lutheran Women in Mission feature one of their national mission grants. Over the next two years, LWML will fund 33 mission grants totaling over \$2.6 Million. This month's featured grant is for cancer support through Phil's Friends. In our own congregation, Marilyn Fick and Susan Brunkow both have received cancer care packages and cards of hope from Phil's Friends.

Visiting Cancer Patients with the Compassion of Jesus Phil's Friends touches or "visits" cancer patients and their families in profound ways. In the past 18 years, nearly 60,000 care packages and more than one million Cards of Hope were sent across the United States and even to Liberia. Each cancer patient can't be seen in person, but they can be "visited" with the mercy, love, and compassion of Jesus Christ through free care packages and monthly Cards of Hope.

It is during difficult times when people are most likely to ask searching questions and are open to the Gospel. Simple acts of kindness, such as receiving a care package or encouraging cards, become the most meaningful and impactful. The cost to support one cancer patient for a year is \$100. This total includes the care package, 12 Cards of Hope, and postage.

Since Phil's Friends is 100% donor supported, this \$100,000 grant will help reach 1000 patients with Christ-centered hope and compassion. Each care package is lovingly hand-decorated, and the contents are customized according to the age and gender of the recipient. Care packages are filled with both practical and comfort items that a cancer patient can use during their treatments such as lip balm, a water bottle, lotion, a knitted hat, socks, a homemade blanket, a journal, puzzle books, and stuffed animals for children. The most important thing that is included in every package is the Bible, the only true source of hope and comfort.

The Bible verse from Matthew 25:36 is at the core of its mission. Testimonies are received every week from recipients telling how their care package and ongoing Cards of Hope strengthen, encourage, and uplift their spirits. Some recipients say they began reading the Bible for the first time and came to faith in Jesus. Phil's Friends plants Gospel seeds, reaches the spiritually lost, and rejoices over every person who will join Jesus in heaven.

I was sick and you visited me (Matthew 25:36).

MONTHLY CALENDAR

Worship with us | Saturday 6:30 pm | Sunday 8:30 & 11 am

Sunday 2/1

- 9:45 am Adult & Children's Sunday School
- 3:30 pm LLL Pancake Supper

Monday 2/2

- 6 PM American Heritage Girls
- 6:30 pm Trail Life USA
- 7 pm Card Making
- 8 pm LCMS-U Fellowship & Bible Study

Tuesday 2/3

- 7 am Men's Bible Study
- 1:30 pm Cancer Companion
- 7 pm Elders' Meeting

Wednesday 2/4

- 9:30 am ELC Chapel
- 5:15 pm Praise & Worship Team Rehearsal
- 6 pm BASIC & Confirmation Class

Thursday 2/5

- 6 pm JuBellation Handbell Choir Practice
- 7 pm Vocal Choir Rehearsal

Friday 2/6

- 9:30 am ELC Lesson Video
- 5 pm LWML Executive Cmte

Saturday 2/7

- 8 am LWML Executive Cmte

Sunday 2/8

- 9:45 am Adult & Children's Sunday School
- 12:30 pm Table Talk

Monday 2/9

- 9 am Women's Bible Study
- 6:30 pm Trail Life USA
- 7 pm Card Making
- 8 pm LCMS-U Fellowship & Bible Study

Tuesday 2/10

- 7 am Men's Bible Study
- 9 am Mission of Love Quilting Circle
- 1:30 pm Cancer Companion

Wednesday 2/11

- 9:30 am ELC Chapel
- 5:15 pm Praise & Worship Team Rehearsal
- 6 pm BASIC & Confirmation Class
- 6 pm Moms' Group

Thursday 2/12

- 6 pm JuBellation Handbell Choir Practice
- 7 pm Vocal Choir Rehearsal

Friday 2/13

- 9:30 am ELC Lesson Video
- 6 pm Flint Hills Lutherans for Life Movie Night

Sunday 2/15

- 9:45 am Adult & Children's Sunday School
- 12:30 pm Table Talk

Monday 2/16

- 6 pm American Heritage Girls
- 6:30 pm Trail Life USA Mtg
- 7 pm Card Making
- 8 pm LCMS-U Fellowship & Bible Study

Tuesday 2/17

- 7 am Men's Bible Study
- 1:30 pm Cancer Companions
- 7:30 pm Theology on Tap

Wednesday 2/18

- 9:30 am ELC Chapel
- 5:15 pm Praise & Worship Team Rehearsal
- 6 pm BASIC & Confirmation Class
- 6:30 pm Ash Wednesday Service

MONTHLY CALENDAR

Thursday 2/19

- 6 pm JuBellation Handbell Choir Rehearsal
- 7 pm Vocal Choir Rehearsal

Friday 2/20

- 9:30 am ELC Lesson Video

Saturday 2/21

- 12 pm American Heritage Girls Mother's Tea

Sunday 2/22

- 9:45 am Adult & Children's Sunday School
- 12:30 pm Table Talk

Monday 2/23

- 9 am Women's Bible Study
- 6:30 pm Trail Life USA
- 7 pm Card Making
- 8 pm LCMS-U Fellowship & Bible Study

Tuesday 2/24

- 7 am Men's Bible Study
- 1:30 pm Cancer Companions
- 7 pm Church Council Meeting

Wednesday 2/25

- 9:30 am ELC Chapel
- 5:15 pm Praise & Worship Team Rehearsal
- 6 pm BASIC & Confirmation Class
- 6:30 pm MidWeek Lent Service

Thursday 2/26

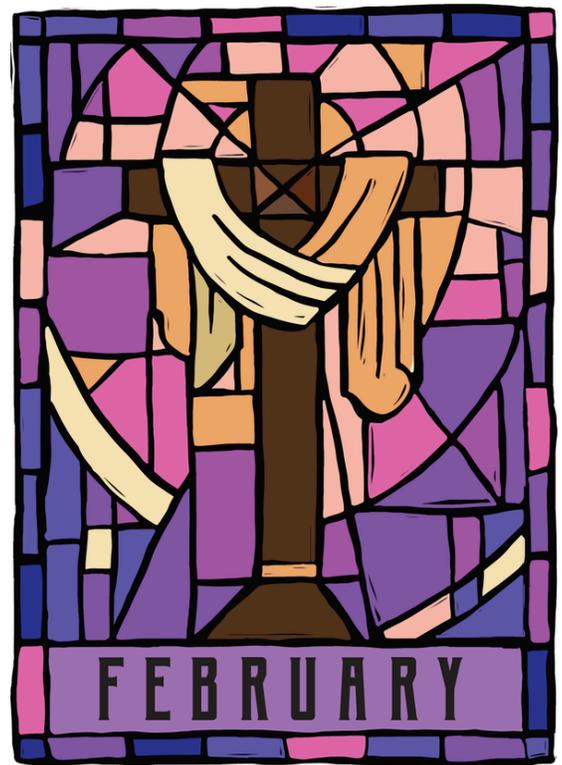
- 6 pm JuBellation Handbell Choir Rehearsal
- 7 pm Vocal Choir Rehearsal

Friday 2/27

- 9:30 am ELC Lesson Video
- 6 pm AHG Winter Lock-in

Saturday 2/28

- 8 am AHG Winter Lock-In



FEBRUARY 2 Linda Graham
Derek Feld

FEBRUARY 4 Bill Wehmüller
Sinok Crawford

FEBRUARY 5 Sandy Wyatt

FEBRUARY 7 Maxine Ganske

FEBRUARY 9 Dean Genschorck

FEBRUARY 13 Kathy Dieball

FEBRUARY 14 Makayla Larson
Gail Schwanke

FEBRUARY 16 Arlyn Stiebe
Derek Schmidt
Carroll Hackbart

FEBRUARY 17 Lynn Thomas
Adam Fick

FEBRUARY 18 Grace Burris
Isaiah Hickman-
Roten

FEBRUARY 20 Eric Cheng

FEBRUARY 21 Tessa Thiele

FEBRUARY 25 Judy Boye

FEBRUARY 27 Jon Brott
Lillian Thede

ANNIVERSARIES

FEBRUARY 4 King & Sinok Crawford

FEBRUARY 15 David & Janet Beach

FEBRUARY 18 John & Brenda Miesner



Table of Duties: The Forgotten Stewardship Tool

Luther's Small Catechism is a magnificent tool. Joined with a well-used copy of the Holy Scriptures and an orthodox hymnal, and the Christian is well equipped to live a life of faithfulness to the Lord and service to the neighbor. First in German and now in English and just about any language known to man, this handy masterpiece has introduced generations of people to the central doctrine of justification by grace, through faith, on account of Jesus Christ. The Six Chief Parts have proven to be a faithful framework for a clear confession of the truth of the Gospel for nearly five hundred years!

But more than a textbook, the Small Catechism also serves well as a handbook for Christian living. As a part of its treasure, there is an element that teaches an extraordinarily strong message of stewardship. That hidden treasure that needs to be rediscovered is called the Table of Duties.

The Table of Duties is really nothing more than a categorized gathering of Bible verses. These verses are set apart for "various holy orders and positions, admonishing them about their duties and responsibilities." Addressing pastors and people, government and citizens, husbands, wives, children, youth, workers and so many more, it very clearly lays out what faithful stewardship looks like. Even better, these assembled passages teach one important truth: we are stewards of one another!

The Table is much more than a "how-to" tool; it also lays out the interconnectedness that exists within the body of Christ. Pastors are described by what they are to be as stewards of the Word. 1 Timothy 3 highlights the characteristics of a faithful pastor. Even more, Titus 1 highlights the need for the pastor to be faithful for the sake of those under his care.

Those who hear the faithful preaching of the pastor are stewards of the pastor as well. 1 Corinthians 9 talks about the need for the people to support the livelihood of the pastor. Galatians 6 talks about how the hearers share in the good things that the pastor teaches. 1 Timothy 6 talks about the honor that is owed to the pastor, not because of WHO he is, but rather WHAT he is teaching! Hebrews 13 shows the impact of this stewardship on the pastor, that they perform their duties with joy. Joyful pastors and people are always going to be better stewards of the Gospel!

Outside the church this interdependent stewardship is on display as well. Romans 13 highlights the respect necessary for the governing authorities. As citizens, the faithful steward is called to pay taxes (Matthew 22), pray for their leaders (1 Timothy 2) and that they should be ready to serve in the civil realm (Titus 3), because they are in these positions by God's direction (1 Peter 2).

LCMS STEWARDSHIP

These steward duties are in the home too! 1 Peter 3 and Colossians 3 shape the husband steward. Ephesians 5 and 1 Peter 3 shape the wife steward. Ephesians 6 form parental stewards and child stewards.

The Table of Duties is a wonderful place for the individual steward to learn how much our stewardship is more than just a “me and Jesus thing!” In fact, it ends with these words: “Let each his lesson learn with care, and all the household well share fare.” This is interdependent stewardship on clear display. As each learns stewardship in this way, the more faithful we will be as a family, congregations, communities and the church at large.



ACOLYTES



ACOLYTES

	Sat 6:00 pm	Sun 8:30 am	Sun 11:00 am
JAN 31/FEB 1		Lillian Robinett	
FEBRUARY 7/8	Brynlee Rengstorf	Taryn Thiele	Jovie Winter
FEBRUARY 14/15		Teagen Thiele	Claire Deetjen
FEBRUARY 18	ASH WEDNESDAY 6:30 pm	Archer Manning	
FEBRUARY 21/22		Anna Larson	Wyatt Barber
FEBRUARY 25	LENT MIDWEEK 2 6:30 pm	Lillian Robinett	
FEB 28/MAR 1		Samuel Lyons	Sarah Oelke

ELDERS

Jon Brott, 785-410-1670

Paul Stuckwisch, 785-577-6687

Kim Zier, 913-787-2710

Randy Hattesohl, 785-259-5157

Tim Oelke, 785-565-2369

Shawn Thiele, 785-313-3950

Jay Peterson, 785-477-6185

Andrew Hudson, 308-240-1488

Kyle Larson, 913-633-1570

David Hatesohl, 785-845-8124

Vince Redding, 785-587-7957

Shane Rengstorf, 785-556-1277

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Head Elder	Shane Rengstorf, 785-556-1277