

St. Luke's Monthly

Sharing Christ's love with those around us



April 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

Dear brothers and sisters in Christ,

Every Easter we proclaim with joy, "Christ is risen!" Yet behind that familiar confession lies a profound biblical mystery: Who raised Jesus from the dead? Scripture gives an answer richer than many expect. The resurrection is not the work of one Person of the Trinity acting alone. It is the united work of the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit—one God, three Persons, acting inseparably for our salvation.

The Scriptures speak first of God the Father raising Jesus. Peter declares on Pentecost, "God raised Him up, loosing the pangs of death" (Acts 2:24). Paul writes that Christ "was raised from the dead by the glory of the Father" (Romans 6:4). And in Galatians, Paul identifies the Father explicitly as the One "who raised Him from the dead" (Galatians 1:1). In these passages, the Father publicly vindicates His Son, overturning the world's verdict and declaring Jesus to be the righteous One. The resurrection is the Father's "Amen" to Christ's "It is finished."

Yet Jesus Himself also claims an active role in His own resurrection. When the Jews challenge Him in John 2, He responds, "Destroy this temple, and in three days I will raise it up" (John 2:19). Later, He speaks even more plainly: "I lay down My life that I may take it up again... I have authority to lay it down, and I have authority to take it up again" (John 10:17–18). Only God can speak this way. Even in death, the Son does not cease to be true God. His human body truly dies, but His divine person remains the Lord of life, able to take up His life again just as He promised.

The Scriptures also attribute the resurrection to the Holy Spirit. Paul writes, "If the Spirit of Him who raised Jesus from the dead dwells in you... He will give life to your mortal bodies through His Spirit" (Romans 8:11). Peter echoes this when he says Christ was "put to death in the flesh but made alive in the Spirit" (1 Peter 3:18). The same Spirit who hovered over the waters at creation now breathes life into the crucified body of the Son. And the same Spirit who raised Jesus now dwells in you, guaranteeing your own resurrection on the Last Day.

So who raised Jesus? The Father did. The Son did. The Holy Spirit did. This is not a contradiction but a confession of the Trinity. The early Church summarized this beautifully: the external works of the Trinity are indivisible. Where one Person acts, the others are present and active. The resurrection is the united work of the Triune God, carried out in perfect harmony for your salvation.

And this is your comfort. The Father who raised Jesus has declared you righteous. The Son who took up His life again holds you in His hand. The Spirit who raised Jesus dwells in you and will raise you as well. The empty tomb is the work of the whole Godhead—and the guarantee of your own.

In the risen Christ,

Pastor Schmidt

Holy Week Schedule

Palm Sunday – March 28 & 29

with Holy Communion

Saturday – 6:00 p.m. – Traditional Service

Sunday – 8:30 a.m. – Traditional Service

Sunday – 11:00 a.m. – Praise & Worship

Maundy Thursday – April 2

with Holy Communion and the Stripping of the Altar

6:30 p.m. – Traditional Service

Good Friday – April 3

6:30 p.m. – Traditional Tenebrae Service

“Tenebrae” is Latin for *darkness or shadows*. The service uses Scripture and the gradual extinguishing of light to draw worshipers into the mystery of Christ’s suffering and death.

Easter – April 4 & 5

Saturday – 6:00 p.m. – Traditional Service *with Holy Communion*

Sunday – 7:00 a.m. – Easter Sunrise (outside, weather permitting)

Sunday – 8:30 a.m. – Traditional Service *with Holy Communion*

Sunday – 11:00 a.m. – Praise & Worship *with Holy Communion*



From the Director of Christian Education

When I was growing up the collects (fancy prayers) during the Easter service rang clear in my ears. I don't know that I understood them at the time, but the words of the Pastor struck chords in my heart. I knew something special was going on around me and in me. The Pastor would pray:

Almighty God, who by the death of Thy Son hast overcome sin and death, and by His resurrection hast restored innocence and everlasting life, to the end that we, being delivered from the power of the devil, should live in Thy kingdom, grant that with our whole hearts we may confidently believe this, and in such faith ever thank and praise Thee; through the same Thy dear Son Jesus Christ, our Lord, who liveth and reigneth with Thee and the Holy Ghost, ever one God, world without end. AMEN!
Lutheran Liturgy 1941

Hearing these words, hearing the proclamation of God's love for His creation, and hearing the songs of celebration, praise and thanksgiving told me that God was present, God was loving, and that Jesus did this terrible and humiliating work for me. I hope you heard that on Easter Sunday! This work was done out of love for you!

As you reflect on the Easter services may you be reminded:

For God so love the world (You and those around you) that He gave his one and only Son, that whoever believes in Him shall not perish but have eternal life. For God did not send His Son into the world to condemn the world (You and those around you), but to save the world (You and those around you), through Him. - John 3:16-17

May you hear, feel, and know that YOU are loved, valued and not alone at St Luke's Lutheran Church because of Jesus, our Savior and Lord! Amen, Amen, AMEN!!

In God's Grace and Peace,

- William Prann

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.

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.

Bran & Susan Brunkow, Christ Lutheran Church, Overland Park, KS

Larry & Judy Boye, St. John Lutheran Church & School, Alma KS

LIFE CHOICE MINISTRIES WALK FOR LIFE 2026 – MAY 2ND.

This annual event is to raise money so that Life Choice Ministries can support men and women who attend parenting classes; families in need of diapers; families looking for used items like strollers, books, and clothes (freshly washed). The walk isn't a marathon – it's a **leisurely walk around Long's Park beginning at 9:00 a.m. St. Luke's has a team – join us by signing up and encouraging people to sponsor you by donating! GO Team St. Luke's!!!**

In 2025, Life Choice had the following personal contacts with people:

363 Prayers with Clients

617 Spiritual Conversations

857 Packs of Emergency Diapers plus diaper wipes

1,294 Client Visits to the Friendship Room (Used clothes, books, toys, equipment, etc.)

1,074 Patent with Purpose Classes

MONTHLY CALENDAR

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

Wednesday 4/1

- 7 am ELC Donuts with Parents
- 9:30 am ELC Chapel
- 5:15 pm Praise & Worship Team Rehearsal

Thursday 4/2

- 6:30 pm Maundy Thursday Service

Friday 4/3

- 9:30 am ELC Lesson Video
- 6:30 pm Good Friday Service

Sunday 4/5 He is Risen! Alleluia!

- 7 am Easter Sunrise Service
- 9:45 am Adult Sunday School
- 3 pm Pastor's New Member Class

Monday 4/6

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

Tuesday 4/7

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

Wednesday 4/8

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

Thursday 4/9

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

Friday 4/10

- 9:30 am ELC Lesson Video

Saturday 4/11

- 9 am Ruth Morgan Visitation
- 10 am Ruth Morgan Memorial Service
- 12 pm Luncheon

Sunday 4/12

- 9:45 am Adult & Children's Sunday School
- 12:30 pm Table Talk
- 3 pm Pastor's New Member Class
- 7 pm Lutheran Layman's League

Monday 4/13

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

Tuesday 4/14

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

Wednesday 4/15

- 9:30 am ELC Chapel
- 5:15 pm Praise & Worship Team Rehearsal
- 6:00 pm BASIC & Confirmation Class

Thursday 4/16

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

Friday 4/17

- 9:30 am ELC Lesson Video

Friday 4/17 - Saturday 4/18

American Heritage Girls Lock-In

MONTHLY CALENDAR

Sunday 4/19

- 9:45 am Adult & Children's Sunday School
- 12:30 pm Table Talk
- 3 pm Pastor's New Member Class

Monday 4/20

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

Tuesday 4/21

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

Wednesday 4/22

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

Thursday 4/23

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

Friday 4/24

- 9:30 am ELC Lesson Video

Sunday 4/26

- 9:45 am Adult & Children's Sunday School
- 12:30 pm Table Talk
- 3 pm Pastor's New Member Class

Monday 4/27

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

Tuesday 4/28

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

Wednesday 4/29

- 9:30 am ELC Chapel
- 5:15 pm Praise & Worship Team Rehearsal
- 6:30 pm Spring Concert



BIRTHDAYS

APRIL 2 Jeff Mooneyham
Julie Thiele

APRIL 3 Dax Rengstorf
Richard Morgan

APRIL 4 Liana Eagan

APRIL 8 Laura Hutter
Marcey Fickbohm

APRIL 10 Brenda Miesner

APRIL 12 Archer Manning
Andrew hudson

APRIL 16 Ethan Fickbohm

APRIL 17 Barbara O'Neill

APRIL 18 Joshua Garcia
Tiffany Manning
Mark Boguski

APRIL 19 Neil Kortan

APRIL 20 Rylan Uffman
Heidi Brott
John Hohnson
Brian Carter

APRIL 21 Carolyn Culbertson
Samuel Lyons

APRIL 22 Jessica Jones

APRIL 23 Logan Sturdy

APRIL 24 Rober Davis
Johnathan Lister

APRIL 26 Doug Kraemer

APRIL 27 Jana Wyatt

APRIL 28 Andrew Schwanke
Karen Armbrust

APRIL 29 Denise Klimek
Jim Jenkins
Shane Rengstorf

ANNIVERSARIES

APRIL 1 Jim & Martha Mooneyham

APRIL 3 Ben & Ali Gordon

APRIL 6 Shane & Karissa Rengstorf

APRIL 16 Bran & Susan Brunkow

APRIL 21 Frank & Marlene Kunze-Dolan

APRIL 26 Ron & Linda Frey

APRIL 27 Dean & Barbara Genschorck
David & Julie Hatesohl



LCMS STEWARDSHIP

A Better Way

Originally published in April 2023

The most common question about stewardship is not whether a Christian should give to their church. Of course Christians should give to their church. Everyone knows this. Rather, the question asked most is, “How much should I give?” But this question really means, “Should Christians give a tenth of their income to their local congregation?”

Here are some common reasons against tithing. Some say tithing isn’t necessary because it isn’t expressly commanded in the New Testament. There is no “Thus saith the Lord,” or “should” concerning tithing. Others say that Christians give to their congregation in ways much broader than money. They give of their time and their talents, and these together with treasures (money) add up to more than a tithe. Still others say that they give of their treasures to other things besides their congregation, and they want to support those things alongside their church. And then there are those who think Christians shouldn’t tithe because of some fear. They are afraid that if they tithe, their gift will be misused, or that after tithing, there won’t be enough left over to get the things that they use, want or need.

Here are some reasons why Christians should tithe. Even though the New Testament doesn’t specifically command Christians to tithe, the Old Testament people were commanded to. And on top of this, St. Paul often describes giving a regular and generous proportion of the first fruits of one’s income — terms similar to a tithe (2 Cor. 8:7–23; 2 Cor. 9:2–7).

But here’s another way to think about it. What was the point of the tithe in the Old Testament? Where did it go? This tithe was intended to support the ministry of the Levites. They were not given any land because they had no time to farm; their full-time job was the ministry. What does it say in the New Testament? “The Lord commanded that those who proclaim the gospel should get their living by the gospel” (1 Cor. 9:14). This is the verse that Luther used in the Small Catechism’s Table of Duties to explain what Christians owe to the support of the ministry.

It seems clear from both the Old and the New Testaments that the tithe is the goal of Christians in their giving. But what if we’re not there yet? How should we handle this? What are we to do?

Let’s answer this by asking a different question. What would you say to your adult children who only attended church quarterly or once a month? After all, there is no passage in the New Testament that requires Christians to go to church weekly. Hebrews 10:25 is the closest verse we have, and it states simply that Christians should not neglect gathering together. And even though there is no passage that commands Christians to gather weekly, that is the implicit expectation throughout the Old and New Testaments.

LCMS STEWARDSHIP

So, what would you say to that son or daughter? The conversation might go something like this. I'm glad you're still going to church. It is a wonderful blessing to hear God's promises of forgiveness, life and salvation, and to receive His gifts in Word and Sacrament. But you can do better, and it will only be a blessing to you. There is a better way, and I'd really like you to try to attain it.

We should approach the topic of tithing with a similar conversation. The tithe is not specifically commanded in the New Testament, but it sure seems like the implicit expectation of both the Old and New Testaments. So, we're ecstatic that you're giving, and that you're giving in all these various ways — time, talents and treasures. But there is a better way. And that will only be a blessing to you, just as the Word of God — Old and New Testament alike — promises. Can you try increasing your gifts over the coming weeks, months and years? Can you put your trust in the God who sent His Son to take away your sin and give you everlasting life? And if He did this for you, if He did not spare His only Son, how will He not give you all things? He will not disappoint.



ACOLYTES



ACOLYTES

	Sat 6:00 pm	Sun 8:30 am	Sun 11:00 am
APRIL 4/5		Nolan Michael Lillian robinett	
APRIL 11/12		Stella Hammons	Claire Deetjen
APRIL 18/19	Brynlee Rengstorf	Taryn Thiele	
APRIL 25/26		Teagen Thiele	Jovie Winter

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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Youth Ministry	Natalie Winter, 785-409-9141
Head Elder	Shane Rengstorf, 785-556-1277