

St. Luke's Monthly

Sharing Christ's love with those around us



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.

From the Pastor pg 2

From the DCE pg 4

Happenings pg 5

Monthly Calendar pg 6

Birthdays & Anniversaries pg 8

LCMS Stewardship Ministry pg 9

Acolyte Schedule pg 11

Church Leadership pg 12

From the Pastor's Pen

This July, as our nation celebrates its **250th birthday**, we rightly give thanks for the blessings God has given us in this land—especially the freedoms of speech, assembly, and religion. These are gifts that allow the Church to preach Christ openly and without fear. Yet as these celebrations approach, questions often arise: *Is America a Christian nation? Were only Christians involved in its founding?* And more recently, the term **“Christian Nationalism”** has been used—often as a political label, usually applied by one side of the political aisle toward the other.

The truth is more complex. The Founders were a mixture of Christians, deists, and Enlightenment thinkers. **The Federalist Papers**, written by Hamilton, Madison, and Jay to defend the Constitution, never claim that the United States is a Christian nation. They do, however, assume a moral order shaped by Christian ideas. Federalist No. 51 famously observes, *“If men were angels, no government would be necessary.”* That is simply another way of confessing what Scripture teaches about human sinfulness.

As Lutheran Christians, we approach these questions through **Luther's Two Kingdoms**. God rules the **right-hand kingdom**—the Church—through the Gospel, creating faith and forgiving sins. He rules the **left-hand kingdom**—civil government—through the Law, restraining evil and preserving order. The Augsburg Confession (AC XVI) calls civil authority a **“good and divine order,”** but it does not make anyone righteous before God. This means we can be deeply patriotic without confusing America with the Church, and we can love our country without imagining it is God's chosen nation.

Our identity is grounded not in a nation, but in **Christ**, who alone works repentance and faith. Jeremiah prays, **“Turn me, and I shall be turned”** (Jer 31:18). The apostles rejoice that **“God has granted repentance that leads to life”** (Acts 11:18). Repentance—broadly defined—is God's work: the Law produces contrition; the Gospel creates faith. Faith is the **receptive instrument** that receives Christ's righteousness. As the Apology says, *“Faith justifies because it receives the promise.”* When God looks at us, He sees not our sin, **but Christ and His righteousness.**

This also shapes how we view the modern state of Israel. Scripture teaches that the **Church is the Israel of God** (Gal 6:16). Christians may support Israel politically, and many do, but this is a **political judgment**, not a theological mandate. Our hope is not in any earthly nation—ancient or modern—but in Christ's kingdom.

The **Two Kingdoms** doctrine also guides our civic life. We participate vigorously in public life because God works through our vocations to bless our neighbors. We seek justice, defend the vulnerable, and uphold moral order—not to usher in heaven on earth, but because God commands love for our neighbor. At the same time, we do not expect the government to preach the Gospel, nor do we baptize political movements with theological authority. No party or platform is the kingdom of God.

So as we celebrate our nation's 250th year, we do so with gratitude—thankful for the blessings God has given, mindful of our responsibilities as citizens, and confident that our true citizenship is in Christ's eternal kingdom, where His Gospel reigns and His mercy endures forever.

In Christ,

Pastor Schmidt



From the Director of Christian Education

The beginning of summer is always exciting around St Luke's due to VBS and the all congregation fellowship night at the pool!

Thank you to the amazing leadership team and all the volunteers who worked hard to place the message of God's love into the hearts of over 50 little ones during VBS! It was fun, memorable, and had an eternal impact!

Thank you to our Child ministry team who plan and lead the night at the pool! Praise God for the amazing weather!

In July, we have more opportunities to fellowship, celebrate and invite people to St Luke's!

The Riley County Fair is July 23-27 and we have a booth to greet and invite our community to St Luke's! 2 shifts each night 5-7pm and 7-9pm. We hand out candy to the kids and adults receive a St Luke's Chip Clip!

Please consider coming out and serving at the booth or just hanging out with us for a bit!

Then on Sunday, July 26 we have ONE weekend service and potluck fellowship following to celebrate the 30th year of ministry for our Pastor! DON'T MISS OUT ON THIS!!! Show you love for our Pastor and make deeper connections with your St Luke's Family! You are blessed to be a part of what God is doing!

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.

Julie Hatesohl, St. John Lutheran Church & School, Alma, KS

Ken Culbertson, Ascencion Lutheran Church, Wichita

Max Peterson & Jim Jenkins, Concordia University, Chicago, IL

ST. LUKE'S LWML ANNUAL "NO BAKE, BAKE SALE"

The Lutheran Women's Missionary League will hold it's No Bake, Bake Sale from July 7 thru July 28. Proceeds go to Shepherd's Crossing here in Manhattan to assist them in their mission. Just donate the money that it would take to bake a loaf of bread, a batch of cookies, a pie, or a cake (plus a little extra if you are so moved!) to help our neighbors in need. Look for the milkcan display in the Narthex! Thank you for your support!

MONTHLY CALENDAR

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

Wednesday 7/1

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

Friday 7/3

- 9:30 am ELC Lesson Video

Saturday 7/4

HAPPY 4TH OF JULY

Sunday 7/5

- 9:45 am Adult Sunday School

Monday 7/6

- 6:30 pm Trail Life USA Mtg
- 7 pm Card Making

Tuesday 7/7

- 7 am Men's Bible Study
- 1:30 pm Cancer Companions
- 7 pm Elders' Mtg

Wednesday 7/8

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

Friday 7/10

- 9:30 am ELC Lesson Video
- 10 am Building Design Cmte

Sunday 7/12

- 9:45 am Adult Sunday School

Monday 7/13

- 9 am Women's Bible Study
- 6:30 pm Trail Life USA
- 7 pm Card Making

Tuesday 7/14

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

Wednesday 7/15

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

Friday 7/17

- 9:30 am ELC Lesson Video

Sunday 7/19

- 9:45 am Adult Sunday School

Monday 7/20

- 6:30 pm Trail Life USA Mtg
- 7 pm Card Making

Tuesday 7/21

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

Wednesday 7/22

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

Friday 7/24

- 9:30 am ELC Lesson Video

Sunday 7/26

- 10 am Celebration of 30 years in Ministry-Combined Worship Service
- 12 pm Potluck

MONTHLY CALENDAR

Monday 7/27

- Women's Bible Study
- 6:30 pm Trail Life USA
- 7 pm Card Making

Tuesday 7/28

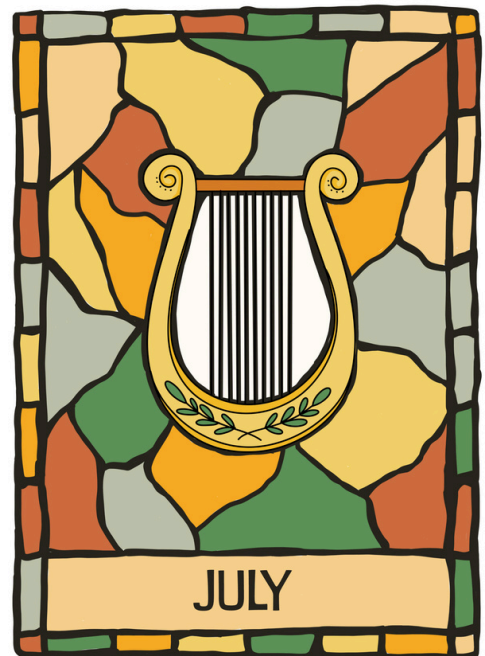
- 7 am Men's Bible Study
- 1:30 pm Cancer Companion
- 7 pm Church Council Meeting

Wednesday 7/29

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

Friday 7/31

- 9:30 am ELC Lesson Video



BIRTHDAYS

JULY 4	Duane Campbell
JULY 5	Ryan Kruse
JULY 6	Grace Hagenmaier
JULY 8	Evan Rosenow Angela Kohls
JULY 10	Logan Redding
JULY 11	Teresa Lynch
JULY 12	Scott Stone
JULY 13	Jocelyn Brott Owen Stuckwisch Del Ganske
JULY 14	Zachary Davis Donna Myers
JULY 15	Aidan Proctor Diane Murphy
JULY 17	Garrett Lister Levi Tucker
JULY 19	August Hartsook
JULY 20	Will Miesner Jakob Hutter
JULY 22	Theodore Hutter
JULY 23	Ken Culbertson
JULY 24	Susan Brunkow
JULY 28	Donna Burton
JULY 29	Joshua Kohls

ANNIVERSARIES

JULY 1	Ryan & Teresa Lynch
JULY 5	Derek & Jana Winter
JULY 14	John & Karen Armbrust
JULY 15	Dan & Diane Murphy Ken & Carolyn Culbertson
JULY 18	Garrett & Alyson Lister Logan & Natalie Winter
JULY 19	David & Donna Cederberg
JULY 24	Bill & Terry Wehmueller
JULY 25	Mac & Alice McLain Sr. Ian & Gretchen Hartsook
JULY 26	Mark & Deanne Burris Scott & Tiffany Manning
JULY 30	Steve & Diana Havenstein
JULY 31	Ralph & Linda Simon



LCMS STEWARDSHIP

LCMS Stewardship Ministry

Go ... Sell All You Have?

Originally published July 2023

"What must I do to inherit eternal life?" asked the rich young ruler. Jesus said, "You know the commandments." And he replied, "All these I have kept from my youth." And Jesus said to him, "One thing you still lack. Sell all that you have and distribute to the poor, and you will have treasure in heaven; and come, follow me" (Luke 18:18–22).

When we hear this story, this question comes to mind: is Jesus speaking to us also, or only to the rich young ruler? In other words, is Jesus telling us to sell all that we have and give it to the poor?

As good Lutherans, we answer, "No!" But why? Why should we not sell all that we have and distribute it to the poor? The simplest explanation is this: if we sold everything we have, our wife and our children would be neglected. In other words, to sell everything we have and give it to the poor would ignore, even abandon, those whom God has placed in our care. Our money, everything we have, is not to be used solely for the church. But that doesn't excuse us from using our money for the purpose God intends.

Everyone has three stations in life, three spheres in which we live and are to be of service to our neighbors. These stations are the church, the family and society. We are members of all three of these by birth. We are born into the church by water and the Word of God, and our duties to others in the church arise from our Baptism into the church. We are born into a family, and our duties to others stem from our birth into that family. Finally, we are born into society, which is simply a further extension of our birth into our family. The duties we have toward other members of society come from either our own birth or the birth of others into the same society.

All that we have and all that we are ought to be pressed into service for the church, the family and society. If we were to sell all we have and give only to one, the other two would be neglected, and we would falter in fulfilling our duties.

So, consider your life and all that you have in light of these three stations. You pay taxes to support and help those in society. You save for college for your children, and provide food, clothing and shelter for the members of your family.

LCMS STEWARDSHIP

But the station that is usually thought of last is the church. Since the needs of the family and society are more immediate, the church is often given what is left over. This is not how it should be. Rather, we are to give of our first fruits, from off the top, the best, even as Abel gave the best of his flock.

This requires forethought. It means that you sit down and make a plan of what you will give from the beginning. It means sticking to it even when it seems that there are other more immediate and pressing things.

And this is all the more necessary now as we enter into periods of time where giving is low due to high unemployment or where restrictions on meeting in church limit opportunities to give. If we love God and His gifts of forgiveness given through the Means of Grace, which we receive at church and only at church, then we will support it, just as we love our country and our family. For all that we have and all that we are is given to us by our gracious God. He spared no expense for us and our salvation. He gave up His Son to death so that our sins are forgiven, and we will live. What's more, He provides for all that we need for this body and life. And our lives in this world, among these three spheres of church, family and society are to mirror the generosity of the one who gave us life in all three at birth.

Don't let the church, your divine family, be an afterthought or even ignored. It is nurturing you, bringing you up in salvation through Word and Sacrament.

ACOLYTES



ACOLYTES

	Sat 6:00 pm	Sun 8:30 am	Sun 11:00 am
JULY 4/5		Nolan Michael	
JULY 11/12	Brynlee Rengstorf	Lillian Robinett	Wyatt Barber
JULY 18/19		Taryn Thiele	Jovie Winter
JULY 26	10:00 am Combined Service	Teagen Thiele Claire Deetjen	

ELDERS

Kevin Jones, 620-388-3497

Scott Ahlgrim, 316-212-3917

Jay Peterson, 785-477-6185

David Hatesohl, 785-845-8124

Chris Deetjen, 785-776-4137

Tim Oelke, 785-565-2369

Andrew Hudson, 308-240-1488

Vince Redding, 785-587-7957

Brett Richardson, 816-876-5263

Shawn Thiele, 785-313-3950

Kyle Larson, 913-633-1570

Shane Rengstorf, 785-556-1277

COUNCIL

President

Mark Hatesohl, 785-564-0174

Vice President

Dennis Tegtmeier, 785-313-1879

Secretary

Karen Armbrust, 785-341-5908

Treasurer

Logan Winter, 913-209-3396

Adult Ministry

Walt Fick, 785-776-0879

Campus Ministry

Jessica Jones, 307-259-2155

Children's Ministry

Tiffany Manning, 785-562-6391

Christian Care

Julie Hatesohl, 785-236-0493

Outreach/Missions

Garrett Lister, 785-713-1675

Fellowship/Assimilation

Carol Deetjen, 785-565-1982

Parish Communications

Chari Miller, 620-793-0121

Properties Management

Brad Brunkow, 580-716-8187

Preschool Education

Marilyn Fick, 785-776-0879

Stewardship

Lori Uffman, 785-410-0119

Youth Ministry

Natalie Winter, 785-409-9141

Head Elder

Shane Rengstorf, 785-556-1277