

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.

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From the Pastor's Pen

What Does It Mean to Be Liturgical?

Dear brothers and sisters in Christ,

Before we can say why St. Luke's is a *liturgical* congregation, we must first understand what the word *liturgy* means. The term comes from the Greek **λειτουργία** (*leitourgia*), meaning "public service" or "work done for the benefit of others." The early Church adopted this word because Christian worship is fundamentally **God's service to us**, not our performance for Him. In Christian theology, *liturgy* refers to the ordered public service in which God gives His gifts through His Word and Sacraments, and the people respond with prayer, praise, and thanksgiving. This is why Lutherans often speak of worship as Gottesdienst—"God's service."

With that definition in place, we can say clearly why St. Luke's is *liturgical*. The word itself does not appear in the *Book of Concord*, yet the realities it describes—order, reverence, continuity, and the centrality of Word and Sacrament—are deeply confessional. The *Augsburg Confession* states, "The Mass is retained among us and celebrated with the highest reverence." (AC XXIV.1). The Reformers did not abolish the historic service; they kept it. A faithful summary of AC XXIV and Apology XXIV explains that the historic order was preserved because it taught the people well, upheld good order, prevented confusion, and ensured that the Gospel was delivered clearly. (*Summary of AC XXIV.2–4; Ap XXIV.1–3*)

This historic order is often called the *ordo*. The word *ordo* simply means "the order"—the basic, time-tested pattern of Christian worship handed down through the centuries. It is not a rigid script or a legal requirement. Rather, it is the Church's inherited structure: readings, preaching, creed, prayer, and the Sacrament, surrounded by ceremonies and canticles that teach the faith and promote reverence.

Clerical vestments—such as the alb, cassock and surplice, and chasuble—also belong to the Church's inherited ceremonies. The Lutheran Confessions do not mandate any particular vestment, yet they consistently commend ceremonies that teach the faith and promote reverence (*summary of Ap XXIV*). Vestments serve this purpose by visually confessing the office of the ministry, emphasizing that the pastor acts not on his own authority but in Christ's stead and by His command. At the same time, vestments are not equal to the Catechism or the Confessions, nor are they required for a service to be truly Lutheran. They are gifts of the Church's tradition—useful, instructive, and pastorally wise when they serve the Gospel, but not laws that bind the conscience.

The Confessions do not mandate a fixed list of elements, but they do require that the Gospel be preached (AC VII), that the Sacraments be administered according to Christ's institution (AC XIII), and that good order be maintained for the sake of the Gospel (*summary of FC SD X*).

This means certain parts of the service—Scripture readings, preaching, the Creed, and the Words of Institution when the Sacrament is celebrated—are essential. Other elements such as the Invocation, Confession and Absolution, the Lord's Prayer, and the Benediction are not mandated, yet they are historically universal, grounded in Scripture, and pastorally wise. The historic canticles—Introit, Kyrie, Gloria In Excelsis/Hymn of Praise, Sanctus, Agnus Dei, Nunc Dimittis—belong to the Church's *ordo*. The Confessions do not require them, but they commend ceremonies that teach the faith and promote reverence (*summary of Ap XXIV*). LCMS guidance (COP 2010; Convention 2016) encourages retaining these elements for the sake of unity, clarity, and catechesis. They are gifts of the Church's tradition—deeply rooted, theologically rich, and pastorally beneficial.

This means St. Luke's can faithfully use the historic *ordo* while also incorporating Praise & Worship music, with the understanding that the music serves the Gospel and does not replace the structure that delivers Christ's gifts. The liturgy is not about style—it is about Christ serving His people through His Word and Sacraments.

Pastor Schmidt



From the Director of Christian Education

I was looking ahead to the month of September and thinking about what I might share. I realized September is a bit of an odd month. June is the beginning of summer, July is the celebration of the 4th and all that goes with it, August is often a return to school, and September is.... well, I don't know. Nothing really jumps out at me about September. (Unless you were born in September; then I celebrate God's gift of you! 😊)

Anyway, as I thought a little longer, I began to wonder about the one big holiday in the month: Labor Day. I found that Labor Day has an interesting story behind it. I encourage to learn it if you are unfamiliar.

That then started me thinking about the Biblical account of labor. How does the Bible speak of Labor? Interesting enough, at the very beginning the account states in Genesis 2:15, "The Lord God took the man and put him in the Garden of Eden to work it and take care of it." Labor was part of God's plan all along! It wasn't a punishment, but God giving us a part in the stewardship of His creation! If you look closely, throughout the Biblical account, God has always involved people in His work. He gives us gifts, abilities, and knowledge so that we can continue the stewardship of all of His creation and to partner with us in His work of redeeming His creation.

If you have breath in your lungs, God wants you to be a part of what He is doing! We GET to be a part of God's plan for His creation!

I would encourage you to reflect on the gifts, abilities, and knowledge that God has given you and Thank Him for the opportunity to use those gifts. God touches people's lives in significant ways using us! I don't think most of us realize the amazing thing that is! I know I often take it for granted or totally miss it because I am wrapped up in my own focus and miss the big picture work God is doing in the simplest of actions. God touches people's lives through an encouraging word shared, a friendly smile shown, the sharing of your technical skill, or even a good dose of manual labor to help someone. These are all a gift from God!

Let us celebrate that God gives us gifts and then He uses those gifts for us to be a blessing! We truly are the children of Abraham: "Blessed to be a blessing!"

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.

*Kaitlin Krause, Zion Lutheran Church, Auburn, IA
Dan & Di Murphy, Zion Lutheran Church, Mitchell, SD
Larry Wesche, Ascension Lutheran Church, Wichita, KS*

LCMS U at Kansas State University

College is back in session and our LCMS U group is off to a great start! We have seven student leaders who are eager to serve and to welcome in new members. On Monday night, the first night of the new semester, twenty-six students, both returners and first-timers, joined us for Bible study. Then on Thursday, we participated in the Activities Carnival on campus, where we interacted with over 300 K-State students who came by our table.

Now, the student leaders are preparing for the Welcome Back BBQ (Mon, Aug 31, 6:00 p.m. at the church) and our weekly Bible study, which will meet on Monday nights at 7:30 p.m. in the K-State Student Union beginning on Sep 14. All college students and any young adults (ages 18-25) are welcome to join us.

Table Talk begins Sun, Aug 30. This is an opportunity for the members of St Luke's to interact and get to know our college students by hosting lunch on Sundays following the late service. You provide the food (enough for 15-20 people is usually plenty); we provide the place settings and cups, set up and clean up assistance and hungry college students! Sign up online (<https://www.mealtrain.com/trains/o142e4>) or using the sheet in the church kitchen.

Thank you for helping us welcome our college students as they return for another year or begin to navigate life after high school!

Jessica Jones - Campus Ministry Chair

HAPPENINGS

Flint Hills Lutherans For Life Presentation on Human Trafficking

Think it doesn't happen in Kansas, Riley County, or Manhattan? Kansas has become a corridor for traffickers due to its central location and intersecting highways. Children make up a significant portion of the victims. Human trafficking occurs not only in major cities like Wichita and Kansas City but also in rural areas, truck stops, and agricultural communities.

The Riley County Police Department deals with human trafficking and The Homestead (not to be confused with Homestead Assisted Living) is an entity that helps human trafficking victims. These two organizations will be making presentations about Human Trafficking on September 20th from 2:00 pm - 3:30 p.m. here at St. Luke's Lutheran Church. Light refreshments will be served. Please consider attending this important presentation.

If you cannot attend but would like to learn more about the tragedy of human trafficking, consider watching the movie "Still Hope". The movie is about human trafficking and is excellent. It was produced by the Angel Studios. "Still Hope" follows a 16-year-old girl whose life is upended when a trusted new friend isn't who he seems to be, leading her into the horrors of sex trafficking. Inspired by true stories, the film focuses not only on rescue but on the long, emotional road of healing.

Mission of Love Quilting Circle

Fifty-two more quilts were Blessed Aug 22-23rd. They were delivered to Orphan Grain Train in Wichita August 26th. We pray for God's Blessings on all who handle them and for their safe passage to those who are in need of them.

On August 5th, a container was shipped to Moldova with 1,200 boxes of quilts and other supplies. This is the second shipment this year. The prior shipment went to Lithuania. The Wichita branch is solely responsible for funding each of their overseas shipments. They would be very grateful for any support for the shipping costs.

A great BIG THANK YOU, especially, to the gals that spend MANY hours at home creating these beautiful tops. Without your dedication we could never achieve the number of quilts we are doing! Also to the gals that show up that 2nd Tues morning each month to help tie and bind the quilts.

We continue to be Blessed with fabric and sheets to use for backing and would welcome more at any time; a Thrivent card to purchase more batting would also be welcomed.

Please remember this Mission in your prayers. There are many folks that are in need of basic things like warm bedding that we take for granted. - Dorothy Burtness 785 341 5530

MONTHLY CALENDAR

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

Tuesday 9/1

- CHURCH OFFICE CLOSED
- 7 am Men's Bible Study
- 10 am LWML Society Meeting
- 1:30 pm Cancer Companions
- 7 pm Elders' Mtg

Wednesday 9/2

- 9:30 am ELC Chapel
- 5:15 pm Praise & Worship Team Rehearsal
- 6 pm Building Committee Meeting

Thursday 9/3

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

Friday 9/4

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

Sunday 9/6

- 9:45 am Adult Sunday School

Monday 9/7

Happy Labor Day

CHURCH OFFICE CLOSED

Tuesday 9/8

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

Wednesday 9/9

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

Thursday 9/10

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

Friday 9/11

- 9:30 am ELC Lesson Video

Sunday 9/13

- 9:45 am Adult & Children's Sunday School

Monday 9/14

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

Tuesday 9/15

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

Wednesday 9/16

- 9:30 am ELC Chapel
- 5:15 pm Praise & Worship Team Rehearsal
- 6 pm B.A.S.I.C.
- 6 pm Confirmation Class

Thursday 9/17

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

Friday 9/18

- 9:30 am ELC Lesson Video
- 10 am Building Design Cmte
- 6 pm American Heritage Girls Leadership Lock-In

Saturday 9/19

- 1 am American Heritage Girls Leadership Lock-in
- 10 am American Heritage Girls Day of Service

Sunday 9/20

- 9:45 am Adult & Children's Sunday School

MONTHLY CALENDAR

Monday 9/21

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

Tuesday 9/22

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

Wednesday 9/23

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

Thursday 9/24

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

Friday 9/25

- 9:30 am ELC Lesson Video

Sunday 9/27

- 9:45 am Adult & Children's Sunday School

Monday 9/28

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

Tuesday 9/29

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

Wednesday 9/30

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



BIRTHDAYS

SEPTEMBER 1	Allison Frihart
SEPTEMBER 2	Evan Brott Mike Schmidt
SEPTEMBER 3	Marsha Grunewald Greg Burnett
SEPTEMBER 4	Simon Schmidt
SEPTEMBER 5	Tucker Lynch
SEPTEMBER 7	Luke Schmidt Emma Schurle Claire Deetjen
SEPTEMBER 9	Dale Meyer Tyson Kruse
SEPTEMBER 10	Sandy Roten Anna Schdrader
SEPTEMBER 11	Kennard Kopp Jamie Spikes
SEPTEMBER 12	Gary Mott Cathie Wilkinson Madilyn Burris
SEPTEMBER 13	Matthew Easton Alice McLain Scott Manning
SEPTEMBER 14	Larry Eagan Mary Lynn Barta
SEPTEMBER 15	Marilyn Fick
SEPTEMBER 16	Andrew Klimek
SEPTEMBER 19	Kathy Wright Mara Rosenow
SEPTEMBER 20	Paul Abitz Miranda Tegtmeier
SEPTEMBER 21	Dan Caponera Kate McNeal Seth Tucker Rachael Stadel David Lohse

SEPTEMBER 22	Mason Sturdy Steve Williams
SEPTEMBER 23	Chuck Veatch Cora McDonald Torie Winter Karissa Rengstorf
SEPTEMBER 24	Missy Schrader Lillian Sauerbrunn
SEPTEMBER 25	Myra Campbell Chris Deetjen
SEPTEMBER 26	Olivia Stuckwisch
SEPTEMBER 27	Fern Michael

ANNIVERSARIES

SEPTEMBER 1	Ed & Denise Klimek
SEPTEMBER 7	Hamlin & Dorothy Burtness
SEPTEMBER 9	Paul & Amy Abitz
SEPTEMBER 13	Dan & Pearl Caponera
SEPTEMBER 14	Gary & Connie Kasten



Stewardship in the First Commandment

Originally published in September 2023

The greatest gift that Martin Luther gave to us was his Small Catechism. The word “enchiridion” is part of the original title of this work. This is the Greek word for “handbook.” The Small Catechism is a handbook of the Bible. All the basic knowledge that a Christian needs to understand the faith and live a godly life has been taken from the Bible and distilled into this beautiful little book of Christian piety.

Luther starts with the Ten Commandments.

- The First Commandment:
- You shall have no other gods.
- *What does this mean?* We should fear, love, and trust in God above all things. (SC I)

We have a God above us. He is the Lord God and we are not. He is Almighty and in control. He is righteous and good. And therefore, we should fear Him.

This God is also our heavenly Father. He wants us to be saved. He does not want us to suffer His just wrath. He has provided salvation for us in His Son, Jesus Christ. And therefore, we should love Him.

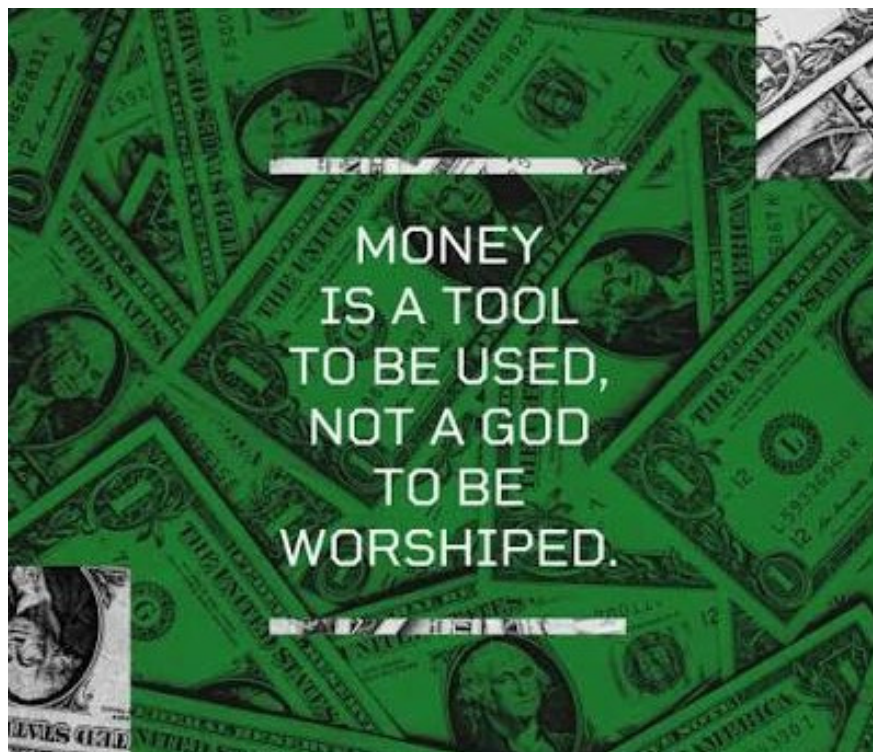
Our heavenly Father will never leave us nor forsake us. He has promised as much — and the Bible shows us that He always keeps His promises. So, we should trust Him.

In the Large Catechism, Luther explains how money and possessions form one of the greatest temptations against the First Commandment:

- This I must unfold somewhat more plainly, that it may be understood and perceived by ordinary examples of the contrary. Many a one thinks that he has God and everything in abundance when he has money and possessions; he trusts in them and boasts of them with such firmness and assurance as to care for no one. Lo, such a man also has a god, Mammon by name, i.e., money and possessions, on which he sets all his heart, and which is also the most common idol on earth. He who has money and possessions feels secure, and is joyful and undismayed as though he were sitting in the midst of Paradise. On the other hand, he who has none doubts and is despondent, as though he knew of no God. For very few are to be found who are of good cheer, and who neither mourn nor complain if they have not Mammon. This [care and desire for money] sticks and clings to our nature, even to the grave. (LC I 5–9)

LCMS STEWARDSHIP

These words of Dr. Luther should call us to repentance; sometimes, we live and act like we don't have a Father in heaven. We seek our comfort and peace outside of His gracious promises. But we do have a Father in heaven. He does love us. All His promises are true. And the Lord will surely provide. If that is our belief, then our outward lives will reflect this belief in our acts of generosity and mercy. We will see money and possessions not as gods but rather as tools for doing God's work.



ACOLYTES



ACOLYTES

	Sat 6:00 pm	Sun 8:30 am	Sun 11:00 am
SEPTEMBER 5/6		Stella Hammons	
SEPTEMBER 12/13	Brynlee Rengstorf	Olivia Badamo	Wyatt Barber
SEPTEMBER 19/20		Anna Larson	Jovie Winter
SEPTEMBER 26/27		Samuel Lyons	Claire Deetjen

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