

# St. Luke's Visitor

*But the plans of the Lord stand firm forever,  
the purposes of his heart through all generations. Psalm 33:11*

## From The Pastor's Pen

Even as our hymnal is filled with hymns that are appropriate for the liturgical calendar, our hymnal is a doctrinal book of poems, beautifully adorned with musical notes. I encourage you to pause and enjoy the gift we have in our hymnody.

**Advent** – “The everlasting Son / Incarnate deigns to be, Himself a servant's form puts on / To set His servants free” (LSB 331, St. 2).

**Christmas** – “Christ, by highest heav'n adored, Christ, the everlasting Lord, Late in time behold him come, Offspring of a virgin's womb. Veiled in flesh the Godhead see, Hail the incarnate Deity! Please as Man with man to dwell, Jesus, our Immanuel!” (LSB 380, St. 2).

**Christmas** (*Presentation of Jesus*) – “Lord, bid Your servant go in peace, Your word is now fulfilled. These eyes have seen salvation's dawn, This child so long foretold” (LSB 937, St. 1).

**Christmas** (*Jesus at the age of 12*) – “The doctors of the Law / Gaze on the wondrous child / And marvel at His gracious words / Of wisdom undefiled” (LSB 410, St. 2).

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**Advent** is a time of eager anticipation, waiting and preparing for our Lord's return, waiting and preparing to celebrate his first coming. For centuries, the church has highlighted this season with worship services on Wednesdays. You are invited to prepare with us as we gather in worship.

**Advent Midweek** services will be on **Wednesday, December 6 and 20**. These services will begin at 7:30 p.m. We will be looking at various psalms this Advent Midweek season.



On **Wednesday, December 13**, at **6:30 p.m.**, the St. Luke's children will have their Christmas Program. Please join us as the children of St. Luke's tell us the Christmas story. There will **NOT** be an Advent Midweek service that day.

The **Christmas Weekend Worship Schedule** is as follows:

### **Advent 4**

- **Saturday, December 23 at 6:00 p.m.**
- **Sunday, December 24 at 10:00 a.m.**

*Instead of two services in the morning, there will only be one at 10 a.m.*

### **Christmas**

- **Sunday, December 24**
  - ◇ **4:00 p.m. – Happy Birthday Jesus Service**  
*This service includes your favorite Christmas carols, flameless candles, balloons, birthday cake, & a living nativity.*
  - ◇ **7:30 p.m. – Lessons and Carols with Candlelights**  
*This service is a Traditional Service with flameless candles.*
- **Sunday, December 25**
  - ◇ **10:00 a.m. – The Nativity of our Lord**  
*with Holy Communion.*

Be thinking about who you can invite to worship with us this Christmas season.

The **New Year's Weekend Worship Schedule** is as follows:

**First Sunday after Christmas – Guest Preacher: Rev. David Gruoner**

- **Saturday, December 30 – 6:00 p.m.**
- **Sunday, December 31 – 8:30 & 11:00 a.m.**

The **New Year's Eve Service**

**Sunday, December 31 – 7:30 p.m. – Guest Preacher: Rev. Jim Woelmer**

*This is a great way to close out the year and look forward to the new one.*

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**Pastor's Bible Study** is on Sundays at 9:45 a.m. Our topic: ***Christians in a Woke World***. It is a Bible Study book written by Rev. Paul Dare and has 16 lessons. This series started on September 10.

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**Theology on Tap** – We will next meet on **Tuesday, November 19 at 7:30 p.m.** at **Rockin K's** (1880 Kimball Ave., Unit 100, Manhattan, KS 66502). The presenter will be **Rev. Pastor James Woelmer**, pastor at Christ Lutheran Church in Manhattan.

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Please don't miss opportunities to pass *the faith* on to your children and grandchildren.

**BASIC Training** is on **Wednesdays, 6:00-7:15 p.m.**

**Sunday School** is on **Sundays, 9:45-10:45 a.m.**

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If you can't join us in worship in *person*, please join us via YouTube.

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It is an honor to serve as your pastor.

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*“Sharing Jesus Christ's love with those around us.”*



## **OCTOBER 2023 OFFICIAL ACTS**

Transfer Out

**Nathan & Rebekah Pauls**

Transfer In

**Kind & Sinok Crawford**

Receive from other Lutheran Churches

**Joie Berg**



Date	Saturday 6:00 PM	Sunday 8:30 AM	Sunday 11:00 AM
December 2/3	Annalise Orona	Tessa Thiele	Sarah Oelke
December 6	Advent Midweek 1 - 7:30 p.m. — Jackson Fong		
December 9/10		Gavin Hudson	Allie Winter
December 16/17		Carter Manning	Hunter Fong
December 20	Advent Midweek 3 - 7:30 p.m. — Annalise Orona		
December 23/24		10:00 a.m. — Carter Manning	
December 24/25	12/24 - 4:-00 p.m. Allie Winter	12/24 - 7:30 p.m. Sarah Oelke	12/25 - 10:00 a.m.
December 30/31		Logan Olesky	Jackson Fong



**Children's Ministry Chair:** Tiffany Manning  
**BASIC Sub-chair:**  
**Sunday School Sub-chair:** Marilyn Fick  
**Children's Care Sub-chair:** Darci Paull  
**Family Events Sub-chair:** Sarah Larson  
**VBS Sub-chair:**

- December 6th @ 6:00 pm. — Dress Rehearsal for Christmas Program
- December 9th @ 10:00 a.m. — Dress Rehearsal for Christmas Program
- December 13th @ 6:30 .m. — Children's Christmas Program
- December 20th - Family Night & Christmas/BASIC Store
- December 24th - No Sunday School
- December 27th - No BASIC
- December 31st - No Sunday School
- Sunday School - Sundays @ 9:45 a.m.
- BASIC - Wednesdays @ 6:00 p.m.
- Emergency Shelter Donations - December is Paper Towels



## BASIC CHRISTMAS STORE



BASIC is looking for **donations for the Christmas store on December 20**. Our kids will be shopping for moms, dads, grandparents, teachers, siblings, friends, etc so having a wide variety of gently used items that you are ready to part with would be great.

If you are free on December 20, we are **also looking for gift wrappers** to help the kids get all of their gifts wrapped and ready to be gifted. We will have all of the wrapping paper, tissue paper and gift bags. If you are free, we would love to have your **help from 6 p.m. until about 7**.

**Tis the Season...to save wrapping paper tubes and large boxes leftover from Christmas.** Ideas for next summer's **VBS decorating** are rolling and we could use your help. As you prepare for Christmas, please save your wrapping paper tubes. We will also take larger boxes to be used for stage decorations. Items can be dropped off at the church office. Thank you for your help!



**Youth Night Leader:** Natalie Winter  
**Servant Events Sub-chair:** Scott Stone  
**Youth Events Sub-chair:**  
**Gathering Sub-chair:** Becky McQuillian

- December 6th - Sr High @ the Church from 6:00 p.m. - 8:00 p.m.
  - December 8th - Sr & Jr High Christmas Party - 6:00 p.m. - 8:00 p.m.
  - December 13th - Sr High @ the Church from 6:00 p.m. - 8:00 p.m.
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## CONNECT GROUPS

**Sunday Adult Bible Class,** Pastor Schmidt

**Lutheran Layman's League,** David & Julie Hatesohl, 785-845-8124 or 785-236-0493 or phoebehath@gmail.com.

**Table Talk,** Sundays at Noon during the school year. Meal for college students here at the church

**Women's Bible Study,** 2nd & 4th Mondays of the month, Diane Mosier, sdmosier\_2000@yahoo.com

**Card Making,** Janet Beach and Ann Williams

**Campus Ministry Bible Study,** Mondays @ 9:00 PM, during the school year; meets at the Blue House

**Men's Bible Breakfast,** 7:00 AM Tuesdays, Vista Drive In, Walt Fick, 785-776-0879 or fick.walter@att.net

**Mission of Love** (working on quilts), 2nd Tuesday of the month, 9:00 AM, Dorothy Burtness, 785-341-5530.

**Cancer Companions,** Jamie Spikes, 785-313-1587; Judy Boye, 785-320-6355

**Theology on Tap,** 3rd Tuesday of the month, 7:30 PM, Rockin K's, 1880 Kimball Avenue, Manhattan

**Campus Ministry Vespers,** Thursdays @ 8:00 PM, during the school year; Meets at the Blue House

## TRAIL LIFE USA AND AMERICAN HERITAGE GIRLS

St. Luke's owns and operates **KS0057 Troop**, Trail Life and American Heritage Girls. **These groups meet during the school year.** For TLUSA, boys Kindergarten through 5th grade meet on the 2nd & 4th Mondays of the month from 6:00 PM - 7:15 PM. Boys 6th grade through 12th grade meet every Monday of the month from 7:00 PM - 8:00 PM.

AHG meet the 1st & 3rd Mondays of the month from 6:00 PM - 8:00 PM.

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## DECEMBER Birthdays

**December 1:** Ian Carter  
**December 2:** Luke Wilson  
**December 3:** Kasey Sorell, Anna Larson  
**December 6:** Carol Deetjen, Debra Motley, Kallen Hudson  
**December 7:** Robert Hetzler  
**December 9:** Zoe Riggs  
**December 10:** Jane Goff  
**December 13:** Gayle Heitman, Adam Ukena  
**December 15:** Lois Brunmeier  
**December 16:** John Armbrust, Kim Davis  
**December 17:** LaRae Kraemer  
**December 18:** Tom Orazem  
**December 20:** Gerald Robker, David Hatesohl, Ann Williams, Pearl Caponera  
**December 21:** Gary Myers, Taryn Thiele  
**December 24:** Nancy Zidek  
**December 27:** Amy Riggs  
**December 29:** Dennis Tegtmeier, Eli Zidek  
**December 30:** Braylee Kortan  
**December 31:** Fran Veatch

## DECEMBER Anniversaries

**December 11:** Doug & Sheila Frihart  
**December 14:** Ed & Doris Park  
**December 15:** Grant & Rebekah Lyons  
**December 20:** Jeff & Jacinda Tucker  
**December 22:** Kevin & Joyce Jones  
**December 26:** Carroll & Barbara Hackbart  
**December 27:** Kim & Nancy Zier, Steve & Diane Mosier



### LWML

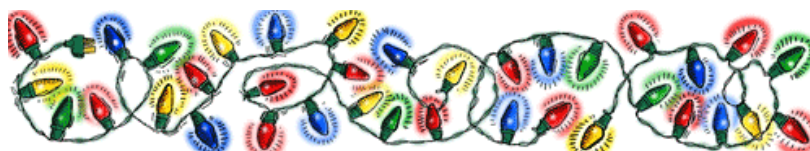


All ladies of St. Luke's are invited to the **LWML Annual Christmas Tea on Saturday, December 2nd at 2:00 PM at St. Luke's Lutheran Church, Manhattan, KS.** This year's tea is hosted by the Elizabeth Circle. Please come and enjoy the Christmas season with fellowship and Christmas goodies with us! And bring a friend!! For more information, contact Kate McNeal at [katemcneal51@gmail.com](mailto:katemcneal51@gmail.com) or call 785-313-0648.



### CHRISTMAS CAROLING

Come help spread the Christmas Spirit with the **Lutheran Layman's League (LLL)** on **December 3rd. Meet at the church at 4:20 p.m. and plan to leave at 4:30 p.m.** Following caroling we will gather at Pizza Ranch for a meal.





## CHURCH REPAIRS AND PROJECTS



**ORGS Update:** The ORGS (Old Guys Repairing Stuff) do special projects of a wide variety to keep the church property maintained inside and out. Volunteers save the congregation a lot of expense likely in the range of \$20,000 per year. If you would like to participate in any property related upkeep contact Brad Brunkow 580-716-8187.

**ELC Classroom Painting:** We thank the ORGS (Old Guys Repairing Stuff) for painting 4 ELC classrooms while the kids were gone for Thanksgiving. Those who helped include Dan Murphey, Kevin Jones, Dale Grunewald, Duane Campbell, Jim Jenkins, Gary Mott, Chuck Veatch, Kim Zier, and Brad Brunkow.

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### EARLY LEARNING CENTER (ELC)

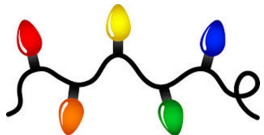
It is the Holiday season and the teachers at the Early Learning Center are making sure that the students are having fun at school too! They prepared a variety of activities related to Thanksgiving and the bible verse of the month. They talked about all the things that we should be grateful for and made some creative crafts to take home with them. Some of them also had a thanksgiving party in their classroom! The staff love all the students and are happy to be part of their life!

With December being just around the corner, the students of preschool age will begin to practice for our Christmas Program that we do annually. Stay tuned for when we give more details!

We also have a new YouTube channel, please contact our Ministry Coordinator, Daxibel Lebron for more information.

The **Early Learning Center** is looking for **full time lead teachers and full and part time assistant teachers**. Previous work in a childcare center is not required, but is an added bonus! If you or anyone you know would be interested in working with the wonderful children in our ELC, please reach out to Marilyn Fick ([wm\\_fick@yahoo.com](mailto:wm_fick@yahoo.com)) or Tiffany Manning ([tiffanykaymanning@gmail.com](mailto:tiffanykaymanning@gmail.com)) for more information.

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### CHRISTMAS PARADE & SOCIAL

The kick-off event beginning a year-long celebration of our congregation being officially 100 years old will be the evening of **Friday, December 1st**. For many years, our church has had a float in the city's Christmas parade and this year we'd like at least 100 members to participate either by walking with the float or as watching bystanders. Parade walkers will hand out candy with a note attached inviting community folks to attend our Christmas services. The parade starts a **5:30pm**. Walkers should meet in the Dillard's parking lot at **5:00pm**. After the parade, all are welcome to gather at the Hartsook home which, like our congregation, is 100+ years old. Come warm up and enjoy their heirloom antiques, multiple Christmas trees, collection of nativity sets, cookies, hot chocolate, and, most importantly, fellowship with your church family celebrating our century of history and the Christmas season. If you watch the parade from the 900 or 800 blocks of Poyntz Avenue you'll be just a two-block walk to their home at 825 Pierre Street. We hope you can attend!

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### CHRISTMAS GIFTS TO THE CHURCH STAFF

If you would like to make a donation for a Christmas gift to the church staff please do so **by December 18**. You may place your gift in the offering plate in an envelope marked Staff Christmas or you can give to the elder after service he will see it is placed in the Church Staff Christmas gifts.

### *The Measure of Our Generosity*

If you open up the Small Catechism, you'll find a shortened version of the Third Commandment: "Remember the Sabbath day by keeping it holy." But if you look up the list of the Ten Commandments in Exodus, you'll find the full version:

Remember the Sabbath day, to keep it holy. Six days you shall labor, and do all your work, but the seventh day is a Sabbath to the LORD your God. On it you shall not do any work, you, or your son, or your daughter, your male servant, or your female servant, or your livestock, or the sojourner who is within your gates. For in six days the LORD made heaven and earth, the sea, and all that is in them, and rested on the seventh day. Therefore the LORD blessed the Sabbath day and made it holy. (Ex. 20:8–11)

Why did Luther shorten this commandment for the Small Catechism? Was it so that the kids wouldn't have so much to memorize? No, it was because Luther knew that all the details of the Third Commandment were part of the "shadow" of the Old Testament (Col. 2:16). Or as St. Paul puts it, there is "letter" in the Old Testament law and "spirit" (2 Cor. 3:6). The details of not working on Saturday were fulfilled by Christ. That part of the Sabbath regulation no longer applies. But the spirit of the law does remain: We need to dedicate sufficient time each week to hearing God's Word and giving it honor and respect. Or as Luther sums it up in the Small Catechism's explanation to the Third Commandment: "We should fear and love God so that we do not despise preaching and His Word but hold it sacred and gladly hear and learn it."

The same sort of analysis applies to our giving. In the Old Testament, God commanded the Israelites to give a tenth of their income to the Levites so that those men could dedicate their lives to serving in God's house, teaching the people, conducting worship, etc. In the New Testament, there is a rigid requirement listed about handing in your tax forms to church to make sure you've given enough. But the mandate to have a full-time ministry, which is the spirit of that law concerning tithing to the Levites, is right there in 1 Corinthians 9:14: "The Lord has ordained that those who preach the Gospel should make their living from the Gospel."

The New Testament church's job is significantly larger than the job of Old Testament Israel. We are commanded to preach the Gospel to all nations. There was only the temple to maintain in the Old Testament, but we have churches, schools, universities and seminaries, plus missionaries everywhere. So you tell me: Can we really undertake the work of the ministry if our giving doesn't even measure up to Old Testament levels of generosity?

– LCMS Stewardship Ministry: [lcms.org/stewardship](https://lcms.org/stewardship)

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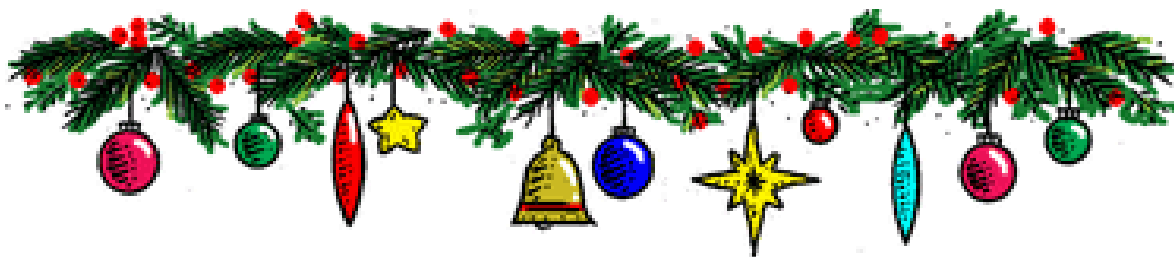
## LCMS-U

Are you a college student? Come join fellow college students for Bible study. LCMSU has Bible study on Monday nights from 8:00 - 10:00 p.m. at the Blue House 9354 N Delaware). Every Sunday, Table Talk (free lunch) is at noon at St. Luke's. the first Sunday of the month, Table Talk is hosted by Christ Lutheran, 4592 Green Valley Road, Manhattan, KS 66502. **Monday, December 4th is the last Bible study of the Fall semester.** Looking forward to next semester, we will have a **Spring Retreat**. The dates are set for **April 19th-21st**. We will be going to Lutheran Valley Retreat (LVR) in Colorado. Contact Megan Jones (meganjonesvc@ksu.edu or 316-253-5808) if you have any questions or would like to register.

The new deck is nearly done! The platform and stairs have been built, and the railings are in place. Stop by and have a look!



*LCMSU escaped their rooms at LockedManhattan*





***Here is a way you can support St. Luke's and qualify for a tax break at the same time."***

### **What is a Qualified Charitable Contribution (QCD)?**

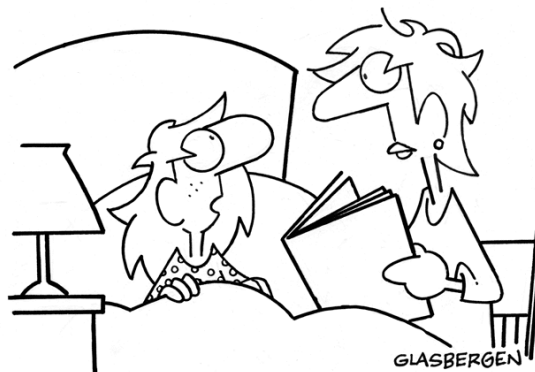
A QCD is a withdrawal from a traditional IRA which goes directly to a qualified charity. If done correctly this withdrawal and contribution does not add to Federal or State Taxable Income or Adjusted Gross Income. You do not have to itemize on taxes to take advantage of this giving opportunity.

The basic requirements are:

- 1) The withdrawal must be from a Traditional Individual Retirement Account (IRA). (If you have a 401K or 403 B funds can be rolled to a traditional IRA first to make this work.)
- 2) The IRA owner must be at least 70.5 years old.
- 3) The money must go directly to a qualified charity. St. Luke's is qualified. The recommended approach is to have the check made out to St. Luke's Lutheran Church and have it mailed to you and you deliver. Make a copy of the check and deliver to St. Luke's so you know all was done correctly.
- 4) When reporting taxes, the withdrawal is reported and if the QCD options are appropriately load and calculated on your tax forms this withdrawal will not be a taxable event..
- 5) If you are of the age of Required Minimum Distribtuions (RMD) the QCD can count towards your RMD requirements. (The RMD age is changing from 70.5 top 72 years of age depending on your age.)
- 6) The maximum qualified QCD is \$100,000 per year per individual. IRA's are individually owned. So if each spouse has their own IRA, each can do a QCD.

If you have any question visit with Brad Brunkow, Karen Armbrust, and involve your financial firm.

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**"If there is a Christmas Eve, how  
come there's no Christmas Adam?"**

