

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

*¹⁷Therefore, if anyone is in Christ, he is a new creation.
The old has passed away; behold, the new has come.
-- 2 Corinthians 5:17*

Bad trees produce bad fruit. We are sinners, and sinners produce sin. That's what sinners do. Paul says it this way: "¹⁹Now the works of the flesh are evident: sexual immorality, impurity, sensuality, ²⁰idolatry, sorcery, enmity, strife, jealousy, fits of anger, rivalries, dissensions, divisions, ²¹envy, drunkenness, orgies, and things like these" (Galatians 5:19-21).

But good trees produce good fruit, and we have been made new in Christ. Paul says: "²²But the fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, ²³gentleness, self-control; against such things there is no law" (Galatians 5:22-23).

We have a new mindset, a new approach, a new attitude. We rejoice in what is good. We look for opportunities to encourage, to celebrate, to support, to uplift, to inspire ... you get the point. As new creatures in Christ, the fruit of the Spirit is evident in our lives.

Pastor's Bible Study is on Sundays at 9:45 a.m. We are studying the **Fruit of the Spirit**.



Theology on Tap – We will meet on **Tuesday, June 18** at **7:30 p.m.** at **Rockin K's** (1880 Kimball Ave., Unit 100, Manhattan, KS 66502).



Vacation Bible School (VBS) is **Sunday-Thursday, June 2-6, 6-8 p.m.** Now is the time to register your children (and grandchildren and nieces and nephews and neighborhood kids) and volunteer to help. It's always an incredible energetic, fun, Gospel-filled week. See the flyers in the narthex to register.



Swim Party – **Sunday, June 23, 6:30-8:00 p.m. at Wamego City Pool.** This is for you, the members and friends of St. Luke's, and anyone you invite. Don't miss this opportunity to connect with your fellow church members (and their friends).

American Heritage Girls (AHG) & Trail Life USA (TLUSA) (Troops KS-0057) are owned and operated by St. Luke's.



AMERICAN HERITAGE GIRLS
FAITH | SERVICE | FUN

During the school year, the girls meet on the 1st & 3rd Mondays of the month, and the boys meet on the 2nd & 4th Mondays of the month.

Both organizations have a strong and Biblical Statement of Faith, focusing on the Bible being the Word of God, the Trinity, Jesus being our Savior, and the Holy Spirit working in us to produce the fruit of the Spirit. Both organizations are pro-life, embrace the sanctity of gender, and hold to the traditional understanding of marriage.



At each meeting, often times I (pastor) share a devotion with those in attendance. Both troops are ministries of St. Luke's. If you would like to be involved in these troops, please let me know.

Kate McNeal is our AHG Charter Representative, and **Dave McNeal** is our TLUSA Troop Ministry Liaison (TML).

2024 Saints Alive After 55

Retreat – “What’s Love Got to Do with It” (based on Matthew 22:36-39)

(This event is sponsored by the LCMS Kansas District).

July 21-22, 2024, Christ the King Lutheran Church (111 West Magnolia Road, Salina, KS); KEYNOTE SPEAKER: Rev. Cliff Winter; BIBLE STUDY LEADER: Rev. Mark Boxman.

Please use the link below to find the registration link and the schedule for the SAA55.

<https://kslcms.org/>



We are boldly and unapologetically pro-life.

St. Luke's is a congregation of The Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod (LCMS). We believe that abortion is contrary to God's Word and "is not a moral option, except as a tragically unavoidable byproduct of medical procedures necessary to prevent the death of another human being, viz., the mother" (1979 Res. 3-02A).



This is a controversial topic in our society. Not many people enjoy controversy, but we are also aware that if we are not permitted to state what we believe, people will not know what we believe. With this in mind, I want to share with you over the next few of months how you might respond to pro-abortion arguments.

When someone says: “Women will be prosecuted for miscarriage or ectopic pregnancies,” we could respond:

Many examples given by pro-abortion activists of women going to jail after a miscarriage involve illegal drug use by the mother which is considered child abuse. The law is not targeting innocent mothers experiencing a tragic loss of life. Abortion is the direct and **intentional** murder of a child through tearing the limbs off of, crushing the skull of, and poisoning a living child to death. This is what we're trying to stop. The truth is – legally and morally – treatment for a miscarriage, pre viable separation when a mother's life is in immediate danger, and ectopic pregnancies are **not** abortions and have never and *will never* be treated in such a way by the law.

This response is found in a flyer entitled “How to *Defend* Life” published by houstoncoalition.com.

A Note about Holy Trinity Sunday and the Athanasian Creed

Every **Holy Trinity Sunday** (which we observed on May 25-26), we speak the **Athanasian Creed**. This creed is one of the three ecumenical creeds (the *other two being the Apostles' and Nicene*). The ending of the *Athanasian Creed* raises questions. I usually get one or two questions every year.

The part that folks find most difficult is this line: “³⁹And those who have done good will enter into eternal life, and those who have done evil into eternal fire.” (Athanasian Creed) I would agree that this is hard to swallow. It is law oriented and seems to have works righteousness approach to theology.

I would have to believe that the authors crafted this line of the creed from 2 Corinthians 5:10 ...
“¹⁰ For we must all appear before the judgment seat of Christ, so that each one may receive what is due for what he has done in the body, whether good or evil.”

So how are we to understand this verse (and that line from the creed), being the good Lutherans that we are? I like to tell my confirmands that you will only get to heaven by being perfect ... or by being credited with someone else’s perfection. That’s what Christianity is all about – Jesus took our sin, and He gives us His righteousness.

Do I resonate with this verse or line in the creed? Not especially. But it is a Bible verse. Of all the verses in the Bible, I think they could have gone with something more Gospel oriented. But maybe the confessors of this creed felt that they had already given a lot of Gospel in the creed, and they wanted to give a little law so that people might appreciate the Gospel more.

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



It is an honor to serve as your pastor.

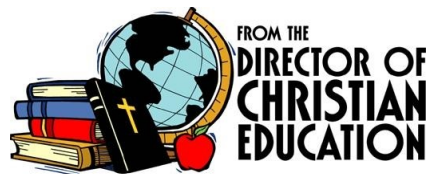
“Sharing Jesus Christ’s love with those around us.”



APRIL 2024 OFFICIAL ACTS

Transferred In
Kim Burke
Pauline Wyckoff





What an amazing month of ministry at St Luke's! The way the family at St Luke's supported our own members and other folks in Westmoreland who experienced a nightmare situation, the work/ministry done in the Faith at Work projects, and our support of the children, parents, and teachers in our Early Learning Center at their graduation family event has been a such a blessing to watch and experience! God has placed this congregation here and blessed us to be a blessing AND to invite people join us in faith and ministry!

Who has God placed around you that would be blessed to be a part of this family OR even BE a blessing to the ministry here at St Luke's?? God is always working in, around, and through us. Be on the lookout for what He's doing!

The month of June brings an amazing opportunity for us to invite friends, family, and neighbors to our evening VBS experience! We have a chance to introduce Christ to little children and parents, we have opportunities to support our St Luke's families by volunteering to serve food, help set up and clean up, or be a small group leader with the kids! This is the best way to stay young, laugh A LOT, and share the love us Christ. Please contact the church office if you are available to serve! We would love to have you!!

Things ahead in the month of June:

- Continuing the Saturday night "Lutheran Identity Series: Augsburg Confession" following the service.
- Continuing the clean up and renewal work at the Blue House (LCMS U Ministry)
- Working with the Childrens Ministry Board to create weekly take home family Sunday School materials for the summer
- Beginning work with the current and new Communication Board to dream up ways to keep everyone at St Luke's connected.
- Beginning to connect with young families in preparation for Fall Sunday School program. We are hoping to offer a special "Parent & 2's" ministry to encourage, support, and empower parents to be the Champions of faith for their kids.
- Working with the Youth Ministry Board to plan and support the summer in home small group gatherings

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.

"Let us hold unswervingly to the hope we profess, for he who promised is faithful. And let us consider how we may spur one another on toward love and good deeds. Let us not give up meeting together, as some are in the habit of doing, but let us encourage one another and all the more as you see the day of Christ approaching!" Hebrews 10:23-25

William Prann, Director of Christian Education



Date	Saturday 6:00 PM	Sunday 8:30 AM	Sunday 11:00 AM
June 1/2		Gavin Hudson	Hunter Fong
June 8/9		Carter Manning	Tucker Lynch
June 15/16		Taryn Thiele	Sarah Oelke
June 22/23		Tessa Thiele	Allie Winter
June 29/30			



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: Tracie Hudson

- June 2-8 - VBS here at the church from 6-8
- June 23 - Annual St. Luke's Pool Party, 6:30-8:30 p.m. - Wamego City Pool
- Sunday School - Sundays @ 9:45 a.m. - Resumes in the Fall
- BASIC - Wednesdays @ 6:00 p.m. - Resumes in the Fall



Youth Night Leader: Natalie Winter
Servant Events Sub-chair: Scott Stone
Youth Events Sub-chair:
Gathering/Fund Raising Sub-chair: Jana Winter

- June 12th - Sr. High Small Group - 6-7:30 p.m. @ the church
- June 26th - Fishing/Campfire - TBA



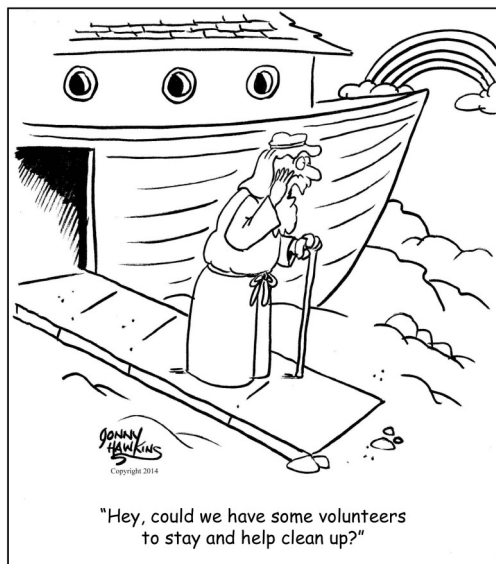
SAVE THE DATE: St. Luke's will be partnering with the Presbyterian Church to participate in Feed My Starving Children, to make meal kits in conjunction with this year's PraiseFest September 21-22, 2024. Please mark your calendars and watch the bulletin/E-News for further details later this year.

If you have recommendations or ideas of other ways to serve our congregation or community, please contact the Christian Care Chair, Julie Hatesohl; phoebehat@gmail.com or 785.236.0493



June 1: Zachary Beach, Aarik Loverude
June 2: Anita Eagan, Joyce Todd
June 4: Jaden Campbell
June 5: Kristina Schmidt
June 7: Jamison Prockish, Shelby Mathies, Byron Jones, Shawn Mathies
June 8: Drew Kohlmeier, Terry Wyatt, Kyle Larson
June 9: Carter Manning, Mark Burris, Allie Winter, Steve Mosier
June 10: Julie Hatesohl, Sherilyn Roland, Payton Sturdy, Ryan Juracek
June 11: James Spain, Katlyn Wyatt, Margaret House, Joyce Mott
June 12: Ava Wright, Pat Orazem, Jim Mooneyham
June 13: Walt Fick, Creighton Redding
June 14: Michelle Olesky
June 15: Doris Park
June 17: La Barbara Wigfall
June 18: Bruce Arnold, Michael Schmidt II
June 19: Jessica Campbell
June 21: Joshua Goff
June 23: Hamlin Burtness, Jovie Winter
June 24: Kendal Proctor
June 25: Ruth Morgan, Bev Winter
June 26: Bonita Tegtmeier, Sarah Oelke
June 27: Brian Sanborn
June 29: Jacob Hagenmaier
June 30: Jeff Tucker, Benjamin Wehmueller
June 31: Henry Lister

June 1: Brian & Jamie Prockish
June 3: Gary & Joyce Mott, Jim & Donna Kroenlein
June 5: Derek & Donna Feld
June 6: Bill & Glenda Moore, Terry & Jana Wyatt
June 10: Eric & Heather Fong
June 11: Codey & Kaitlyn Barber
June 12: Gerald & Carla Robker, Gary & Donna Myers
June 14: Shawn & Julie Thiele
June 19: Richard & Ruth Morgan
June 20: Kennard & Nancy Kopp
June 22: Robert & Kayla Dieball, Barry & Marcey Fickbohm
June 24: Kip & Jessica Campbell
June 25: Andrew & Tracie Hudson
June 26: Bill & Gerda Robb, Jakob & Laura Hutter
June 27: Morris & Jean Olson, Bruce & Nancy Arnold, Howard & Liz Beikmann, Greg & Kris Burnett



CONNECT GROUPS

Sunday Adult Bible Class, Pastor Schmidt

Lutheran Layman's League, David & Julie Hatesohl, 785-845-8124 or 785-236-0493 or phoebehat@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

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 12th grade meet on the 2nd & 4th Mondays of the month from 6:30 PM - 8:00 PM.

For AHG, girls Kindergarten through 12th grade meet the 1st & 3rd Mondays of the month from 6:00 PM - 7:45 PM.

St. Luke's American Heritage Girls/ Trail Life USA Troop News

We are proud of all the accomplishments by the troops this year!

The Court of Awards for AHG was held on Monday, May 20th. Girls were awarded their badges earned this year.

TLUSA Court of Awards will be on Monday, June 10th, 5-6 pm at Keats Park.

The busy year is winding down for St. Luke's AHG and Trail Life USA, and next year's planning has begun. Be watching for some fun summer events being planned!

OPEN HOUSE: AHG/TLUSA will be having a "kick off" open house at the church on Monday, August 26th at 6:30 PM. Everyone is invited. There will be opportunities to talk with troop leaders and find out more about the troops and their activities. You can also sign up to join a troop or volunteer to be a unit leader or assistant at this event. Please prayerfully consider becoming a volunteer unit leader or assistant leader for our troops. **This would be a great opportunity for our college students getting involved with youth!**

Kate McNeal, AHG Troop 0057_Charter Representative, katemcneal51@gmail.com

Dave McNeal, TLUSA Troop 0057 Charter Representative, cmcneal100@gmail.com



The Gift of Contentment

As children grow up, they often feel cramped by their parents' restrictions. Dad says to be home by 11. But why can't I say out 'til midnight? Mom says to clean your room on Saturday morning. But I want to sleep in late, then roll out of bed, hop in the car and go to my friend's house without delay. I want to do what I decide is best.

The older we get, and especially when we have kids of our own, we begin to see the truth. Mom and Dad were not cramping our style or trying to crush our personal freedom — they were looking out for us, providing for us and teaching us a better way of life.

If that's how it is with fallible human parents, how much more so with our Heavenly Father! We sinners often feel cramped by the Law of God. Our sinful flesh wants to go its own way, do its own thing and be in charge. But in our heart of hearts, we know how foolish this is. We know that God loves us, and therefore all of His commands are for our benefit. Each one of His commandments is meant to bless us. Consider the last two commandments:

You shall not covet your neighbor's house.

What does this mean? We should fear and love God so that we do not scheme to get our neighbor's inheritance or house, or get it in a way which only appears right, but help and be of service to him in keeping it. (SC II)

You shall not covet your neighbor's wife, or his manservant or maidservant, his ox or donkey, or anything that belongs to your neighbor.

What does this mean? We should fear and love God so that we do not entice or force away our neighbor's wife, workers, or animals, or turn them against him, but urge them to stay and do their duty. (SC II)

The commandments against coveting are warning us against losing one of the greatest gifts we can possess: contentment. Being content and thankful with what God has provided for us is a necessary building block of living a happy life. Unthankful coveting of what we have not been given will only make us miserable, so God warns us against it.

God has proven His love for us in sending His only begotten Son to shed His blood for us, cleanse us of our sins and brings us back into His family. If He loves us this much, then when percentage of His commandments do you think are meant to harm us? Probably no more than one or two percent, right? Of course that's absurd. God means to bless us with everything He says to us. The Law of God simply describes what a truly happy life, lived in thankfulness to Christ, looks like: It's a generous, merciful, contented life that uses all of the resources God has given us for His purposes.

– LCMS Stewardship Ministry: lcms.org/stewardship

Christian Care Corner – June 2024

SAVE THE DATE-September 21-22-FEED MY STARVING CHILDREN:

St. Lukes will be partnering with the Presbyterian Church to participate in Feed My Starving Children, to make meal kits in conjunction with this year's PraiseFest September 21-22, 2024. Please mark your calendars and watch the bulletin/eNews for further details later this year. To learn more about Feed My Starving Children, please visit: <https://www.fmssc.org/about-us>

FLINT HILLS VOLUNTEER CENTER (FHVC): The Flint Hills Volunteer Center (FHVC) has a number of volunteer opportunities to help others in the community. If you are able to volunteer, here are some volunteer opportunities:

High Need Flint Hills Breadbasket

Volunteers are needed Monday - Friday in a variety of shifts and positions. Help is especially needed in the Market every morning from 9-11:30am, but afternoon and behind-the-scenes opportunities are also available. [Please fill out this volunteer interest form if interested](#) and let us know that you did so that we can follow up if needed!

High Need Via Christi Hospital

Volunteers over 18 years old who are interested in helping patients and their families at Via Christi Hospital are needed! Marisol is especially looking for volunteers with interest and/or experience with retail to assist in the gift shop.

Friendship Meals

Friendship Meals (Meals on Wheels) is a great opportunity for our AmeriCorps Seniors (55+) volunteers who can commit to a regular schedule!

Currently, volunteers who can commit to a regular route or who can serve as substitute drivers are needed. Driver volunteers should be available to run their route(s) from 10:30am-12pm.

Meal delivery driver volunteers pick up the coolers with meals at 10:30am, deliver the meals to those on their designated route(s), and then return the coolers to the Manhattan Senior Center. Volunteers should anticipate a 1.5 hour commitment, although some routes are shorter.

Medical Transportation Drivers

Our office is in need of volunteers who can help drive local residents to medical appointments within Manhattan. This is a flexible opportunity depending on your schedule, but you must have a safe driving record, insurance, and a reliable vehicle.

While typically a volunteer opportunity for our AmeriCorps Seniors, anyone who is able to commit to helping for at least a few months is encouraged to visit our website to learn more and apply: <https://flinthisllsvolunteercenter.com/transportation/>

If you have recommendations or ideas of other ways to serve our congregation or community, please contact the Christian Care Chair, Julie Hatesohl; phoebehat@gmail.com or 785.236.0493

Flint Hills Lutherans for Life

Last year, you helped us collect toiletry items for Foster Teen Camps. This camp is for ages 12- 18. This summer we are helping them by providing them with all of the items needed to make **120 S'Mores** – including the campfire forks to roast them on! Yum!!

We have become aware of Royal Family Kids Camp which is also located at Living Water Ranch. It is for ages 7-11 who are in foster care. All they would like is help with a birthday party for the kids! We will furnish the balloons and streamer. Plus, some manpower or should I say blowing power to blow up the balloons! Seemingly a small task, but so important to those who don't often get to celebrate a birthday. It reminds me of a story I heard of a boy when he had his first birthday cake. He called the birthday cake a **Blessing Cake** because **“people gather just to honor our existence”**.

He says it so well, we honor each other simply because we exist! Each person is important because God loves each of us and calls each of us His child.

Thanks to your generosity, we are able to purchase all of these items with our current funds. Thank you for your support of Life!

News from Life Choice Ministries

Did you know moms and dads can walk into Life Choice Ministries and pick up an emergency supply of diapers (10) and baby wipes?

The BIG news is that they are beginning the transition to add ultrasound services in their building! They received a large donation which will help them with the cost of adding this valuable service! No date has been set.

Lastly, they are in **desperate need of GENTLY used baby and toddler clothing size Newborn-4T!!** Donations can be dropped off at 1441 Anderson Ave. Monday -Friday 10 am - 3 pm. Also, donations of the **following are ALWAYS appreciated!!**

- \$5 Coffee Shop Gift Cards
- Sunscreen, at least 30 SPF,
- Dermoplast (blue can)
- New Tummy Time mats
- Gas Gift Cards (NOT Shell)
- Grocery Gift Cards.

Thank you for supporting this Life Affirming agency.





TRAVELING BULLETIN

Trinity Lutheran Church, Shawnee, KS
Gary & Donna Myers

Lutheran Church of the Resurrection, Prairie Village, KS
David & Julie Hatesohl

Salem Lutheran Church
David & Julie Hatesohl

(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. Thanks!)