

St Luke UMC

501 E 19th Street N
Newton, IA 50208
641-792-5736

July 1, 2024



2024 Apportionments

\$16,882



\$1,369

Financial Update



Thank you to everyone for your continued support of St Luke ministries. These offerings were received in the month of June:

Total of \$10,034 which included:

- \$ 180 - Building Fund
- \$ 140 - Apportionments
- \$ 10 - Emmanuel Mefor-Missionary
- \$ 50 - UMCOR Iowa Storm #223
- \$ 40 - UMCOR Ukraine #982450



Welcome Pastor Mark and the Johnson family!

We would like to give a big St Luke welcome to the Johnson family. Mark, Alexis, Maggie, and Nehemiah Johnson moved into the parsonage on Sunday, June 23rd.

Pastor Mark will be in Church beginning Sunday, July 7th. He will officially lead worship on Sunday, July 14th. His wife, Pastor Alexis has been appointed to Oakwood United Methodist Church in Pleasant Hill. They have two children. Maggie is 9 and will be in 5th grade and Nehemiah is 7 and will be in 2nd grade.

We are making a welcoming love gift basket for the children as we are excited to have them join our community. It will be in the Narthex if you would like to give them a fun gift, i.e. bubbles, sidewalk chalk, books, etc. Surprise them!!

We will be having a welcome cake reception on Sunday, July 14th after service. Further upcoming plans to meet and greet the Johnson family will be announced later once they get settled.

Prayers for the Johnson family and their transition as they begin their new journey at St. Luke. We are so excited to have them here!

Help Pastor Mark Get to Know You!



We would like to assist Pastor Mark in getting a “jump start” in getting to know our church members and friends. We have made a questionnaire for each of you to fill out so he can learn more about you. Forms will be on the college table and there is a basket by the office where you can drop off your filled out form.



Where to Find Us

Pastor: Rev. Mark Johnson
mark.johnson@stlukenewton.com
Office: 641-792-5736 Cell: 563-249-3287

Adm. Assistant: Jennifer Etter
Church Office Hours:

Mon -Thurs 9:00 am - 12:00 pm
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corinne.kleppe@grinnellmutual.com
Phone: 641-831-2639

Article Submission by the 13th of month.

Website: www.stlukenewton.com

Website Manager: Stephen Pageler

YouTube: St Luke United Methodist Church

Facebook: St Luke Newton

Prayer: prayer@stlukenewton.com



My Story

Rejoice on that day and leap for joy, for surely your reward is great in heaven, for that is how their ancestors treated the prophets. Luke 6:23

She wanted her cake, but she hadn't eaten her lunch yet. But... she wanted her cake! And then Great Grandma said, "Oh, let her have her cake first." So, her mama gave her the plate with the cake on it. She picked up the cake, put it on the table and handed the plate to Great Grandma. Then, with relish, she ate the whole piece of chocolate cake. Well, okay, so all but the crumbs that covered her face, her hands and the table. Her uncle said with a smile, "Grandma never let us eat our cake first."

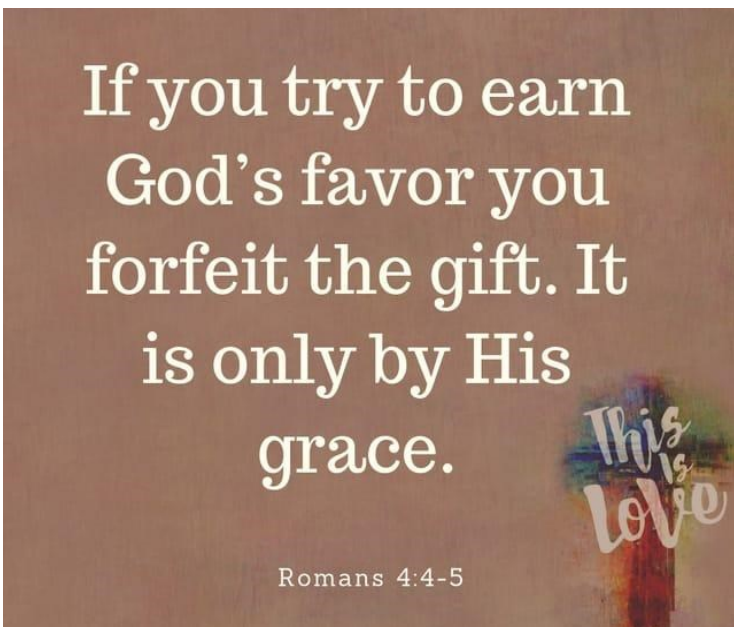


Cake is usually the sweet reward, after we have cleaned our plate during the meal. But, even adults sometimes want our cake first!

Many people think grace is like that too. They think they have to clean up their lives BEFORE they are rewarded with Grace. The truth, however, is so much sweeter. Just like Eloise got her cake first, when we ask, we get our GRACE first! And then, lucky us, Jesus, helps us to clean up our lives. All we have to do is ask for his grace! Have you asked?

But didn't he earn his right to heaven by all the good things he did? No, for being saved is a gift; if a person could earn it by being good, then it wouldn't be free—but it is! It is given to those who do not work for it. For God declares sinners to be good in his sight if they have faith in Christ to save them from God's wrath. Romans 4:4-5

Corinne Kleppe



Summer Special Music

It's been a few years since we pushed for special music throughout the summer months. I don't know about you, but I miss special music during worship when the Choir and Praise Team take a break for the summer. This year, we are asking you to sign up to share some music with St Luke during the summer months. We may not have special music every Sunday, but hopefully we will have it at least a few Sundays this summer. A sign-up sheet has been placed on the Servant's counter for the end of June through the end of August. We hope you will share your talents with us sometime this summer.



Corinne Kleppe & Amy Onstot

UWF Collecting Socks & Underwear

St. Luke United Women in Faith (formerly United Methodist Women) will be collecting underwear and socks for Jasper County school children during June and July.

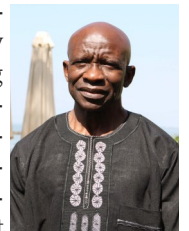


Our plan is to deliver these needed articles of clothing to the Salvation Army early in August for their school clothes and supplies give away.

There will be a wicker container in the gathering space for the summer months. Please drop in your donations and it will be delivered.

Missionary Focus – July through October Emmanuel Mefor

Our Missionary focus for the next 4 months is Emmanuel Mefor (husband of Florence). Emmanuel is a Medical Doctor with the Mutambara Mission Hospital in Zimbabwe. This is the only hospital in the Chimanimani region, serving over 140,000 people with only three doctors. Dr Mefor and the staff provide medical care to all who come, regardless of ability to pay. Emmanuel says that is his mission: "We treat but God heals." (excerpt from Global Ministries of the United Methodist Church.



Sunday School offerings from July through October – 2nd through 5th Sundays, will be designated to Emmanuel Mefor. If you would like to contribute to his ministry – you can put "Emmanuel Mefor" or Advance 13990Z on the memo line of your check and place it in the offering plate. (As always the first Sunday of the Month, any Sunday School offerings will be designated to administrative / supply costs for Sunday School materials.)

If you would like to learn more about Emmanuel's work at Mutambara Mission Hospital in Zimbabwe, check out the Global Ministries: The Mission Family – Iowa Missionaries. umcmission.org/covenantrelationship.

Corinne Kleppe , NOW Missions



United Women in Faith

United Women in Faith

July
No Meeting

“In the same way, let your light shine before people, so they can see the good things you do and praise your Father in heaven.” (CEB)

Matthew 5:16

TBD - Summer Mission U

The Banned Book Class

The Adult 2 Sunday School class has decided to read “banned” books. We are currently taking a break from Sunday School for the summer but are looking for our next book to read. Let us know if you have any suggestions. We invite you to join us when we start back up again in the fall. We meet at 10:30 am (following worship) in Room 5, the 3rd room on the left, in the education wing.

St Luke News



Congratulations on the baptism of Kyrian Lemons, son of Alex and Miranda Lemons, who was baptized by Rev. Chad Jennings on June 16, 2024.

Grocery Sacks Needed

We are in need of plastic grocery sack donations. They will be used to make plarn (plastic yarn) to weave sleeping mats for the homeless. If you have any extra plastic grocery sacks you would like to donate please bring them to Joyce Stonehocker or put them in the donation box at the church.



Days For Girls

The next Days For Girls sewing day will be Thursday, July 25 from 9 am - 2 pm at the 1st Presbyterian Church. Questions? Contact Rose Evans. If you would like more information about Days for Girls you can visit their website at www.daysforgirls.org.



St Luke Produce Table

Bring produce or take produce in exchange for a free-will donation in the Red Bucket for St Andrew Produce Project.



Disaster Ministries Update

Dear friends,

Our hearts go out to the many communities in north-west and north central Iowa dealing with flooding and evacuations. As soon as it is possible, the Disaster Response Team will deliver clean-up supplies to as many communities as they are able access.

Today, the best way to help is to:

PRAY. Pray for those affected, those grieving, those in the shelter, and those responding.

DONATE. Make a financial gift to Iowa Disaster Response, Special Advance #223.

REACH OUT. Do you know someone who was affected by this disaster? Call them, send them a note or text. Knowing that others care and are praying makes a huge difference. It’s the best of who we are as a congregational church.

MAKE KITS. Clean up buckets and hygiene kits are necessary during before, during and after a disaster. For instructions, go to <https://umcmmission.org/umcor-cleaning-kit/> or www.midwestmission.org/kits for information on how to make clean-up buckets and other kits.

GET TRAINED. You can receive training and organize a team so that when the time is right, you can go and help. Early Response Training (ERT) and United Methodist Volunteers in Mission (UMVIM) Training will help to prepare you for volunteering. Contact Pastor Catie Newman at 712-899-4067 or disaster.response@iaumc.org to schedule ERT or Spiritual Care Training, or contact Pastor Derrick Okine for UMVIM Training.

In the days and weeks to come, there will be many opportunities to help and the Disaster Ministries Team will let you know what is needed.

Thank you!

Pastor Catie Newman,
Disaster Response Coordinator
Iowa Annual Conference
of The United Methodist Church

Discover Hope Supper Club

St. Luke has committed to providing the evening meal for Discover Hope the first Tuesday of every other month. Our next meal will be on July 2. We will be having Flying Farmer Chicken Salad, Shoestring Potoatoes, Deviled Eggs, Fresh Fruit and Rice Krispy Bars. If you would like to sign-up to provide food, monetary donations or to help serve the meal there will be a sign-up sheet on the servant’s counter. All donations need to be put in the church kitchen by Sunday, June 30. Any questions please contact Joyce Stonehocker or Jan Lewis.



Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
	1	2 5:30 pm DH Meal @ Discover Hope	3	4  INDEPENDENCE DAY Office Closed 9 am - 3 pm Quilts of Valor FH Rsrvd	5	6
7 9:30 am Worship w/ Communion Sunday School to Follow 	8	9 6-8 pm TTT KEN Chapter FH Rsrvd	10 7 pm Page Turners FH Rsrvd	11	12	13 9 am - 4 pm Quilt Guild Sew Day FH Rsrvd 
14 9:30 am Worship Sunday School to Follow Cake Reception for Pastor Mark	15	16	17	18 7 pm Quilt Guild Meeting	19	20
21 9:30 am Worship Sunday School to Follow 11 am - 6 pm FH & Kitchen Rsrvd Kaldenbergs	22 6:30-9 pm JCRCC FH Rsrvd	23	24	25 9 am - 2pm Days for Girls @ First Presbyterian Church	26	27
28 9:30 am Worship Sunday School to Follow	29	30	31			

Read Calendar closely for events not appearing elsewhere in Newsletter. Thank you.

WORSHIP ASSISTANTS	
July 7	9:30 AM
Ushers	Amy Ryan
Greeters	Barb Swihart
Reader	
Acolyte	
Keyboard	Jan Lewis
Projection	
Camera	
Care Core	Barb Swihart, Amy Murphy
Coffee Time	Barb Swihart
July 14	9:30 AM
Ushers	Peg Ehler
Greeters	Dennis & Pam Smith
Reader	Bruce Maach
Acolyte	
Keyboard	Bev Thomas
Projection	Rachel Pageler
Camera	Ethan Pageler
Care Core	Jenni Patty, Lisa Marston
Coffee Time	Leslie & Bruce Maach
July 21	9:30 AM
Ushers	Dennis & Pam Smith
Greeters	Diana Pals
Reader	Daryl Pals
Acolyte	Camryn Lemons
Keyboard	Bev Thomas
Projection	Rachel Pageler
Camera	Ethan Pageler
Care Core	Joyce Stonehocker, Karen Clark
Coffee Time	Lemons Family
July 28	9:30 AM
Ushers (2)	David Spiker
Greeters (2)	Margaret Gullett
Reader	Leslie Maach
Acolyte	
Keyboard	Jan Lewis
Projection	
Camera	
Care Core	Barb Kaldenberg
Coffee Time	Barb Kaldenberg

June Worship Assistants

For 2024 we are going to continue with passing sign up sheets around for 3 months at a time. This worked very well last year in getting more volunteer positions filled. We have had a wonderful response of volunteers for 2024 and would like to thank everyone who has so graciously signed up. Most positions are filled now through September but there are still some spots open. If you would like to volunteer or see what positions are available you can email the church office at: worship@stlukenewton.com, use the sign-up sheets on the servant's counter or you can add your name to our online sign-up sheet. Here is the link to sign up online:



<https://docs.google.com/document/d/1LV73f57IkMBVLyocfiFvS7GsvYM03YPBSz0XUHXQL7s/edit?usp=sharing>

We appreciate all those who have so willingly volunteered to help on Sunday mornings. Thank you St Luke Family!



Thank you and Farewell Jennings Family

A big thank you to everyone that helped to make the last Sunday and Farewell Potluck for the Jennings family a huge success. We appreciate each and every one of you! Best of luck Pastor Chad, Wendy, Nathan and Abby on your new adventure in Cedar Falls. We will miss you!

GOD BE WITH YOU
TILL WE MEET AGAIN

Worship Assistants

Please find a sub or trade if you cannot do it as scheduled. Then contact the church office so we can print correct names.



A Special Blessing for those with July Birthdays

July 1 - Brenna Figland
 July 4 - Maggie Johnson
 July 6 - Mike O'Brien
 July 12 - Brooke Chambers
 July 14 - Eli Swersie
 July 17 - Ralph Simpson
 July 19 - Corinne Kleppe
 July 21 - Bill Ponder
 July 23 - Jim Lockwood
 July 26 - Holli Simpson
 July 29 - Doug McIntyre



If your birthday is missing or incorrect, please contact the office.

Praise for God's Handiwork

How wonderful, O Lord, are the works of your hands! The heavens declare your glory, the arch of sky displays your handiwork. In your love you have given us the power to behold the beauty of your world robed in all its splendor.



The sun and the stars, the valleys and hills, the rivers and lakes all disclose your presence.

The roaring breakers of the sea tell of your awesome might; the beasts of the field and the birds of the air bespeak your wondrous will.

In your goodness you have made us able to hear the music of the world. The voices of loved ones reveal to us that you are in our midst.

A divine voice sings through all creation.

—from *Earth Prayers*

July Salvation Army Food Pantry Request
Cereal and juice

Newsletter

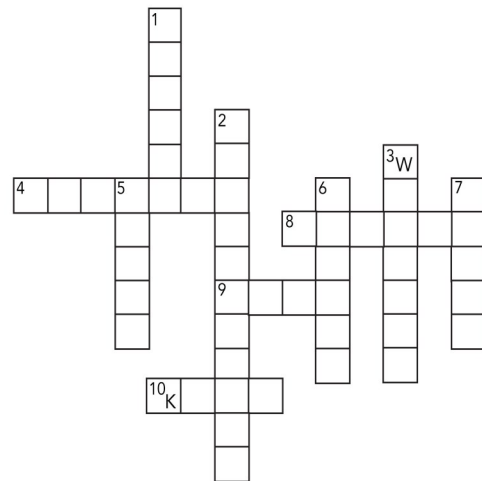
If you know someone that would like to receive the monthly Newsletter via email, please send their name and email address to the church office to be placed on the email list, at: Worship@StLukeNewton.com.



THE WONDER OF STARS

The heavens display evidence of God's great power. What else does the Bible say about the sky?

Directions: Use the clues and Bible references (all NIV) to complete the crossword.

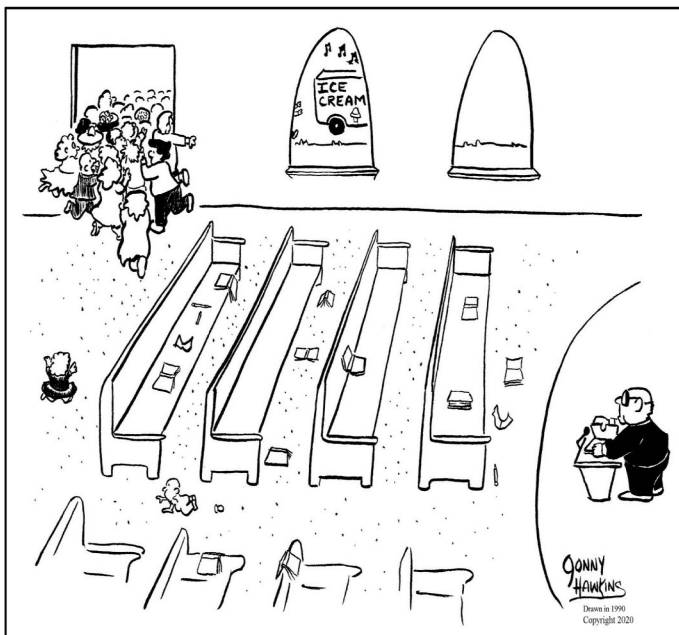


DOWN

- The sun, moon and stars do this to God. (Psalm 148:3)
- God made these as numerous as the stars. (Genesis 26:4)
- Don't do this to the stars and sky. (Deuteronomy 4:19)
- What do the heavens declare? (Psalm 19:1)
- The moon and the stars do this at night. (Psalm 136:9)
- When we're pure, we do this like the stars. (Philippians 2:15)

ACROSS

- The heavens are the work of these. (Psalm 8:3)
- On what day did God create the stars? (Genesis 1:14-19)
- God calls each star by this. (Isaiah 40:26)
- A star announced the arrival of him. (Matthew 2:2)



Answers: DOWN: 1. praise; 2. descendants; 3. worship; 5. glory; 6. govern; 7. shine; ACROSS: 4. fingers; 8. fourth; 9. name; 10. King