

St. Luke Evangelical Lutheran Church

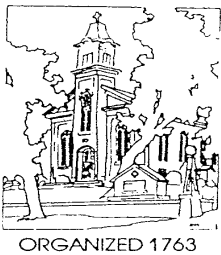
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A Newsletter for Members and Friends of St. Luke Evangelical Lutheran Church
To the King of the ages, immortal, invisible, the only God, be honor and glory forever and ever. Amen. Timothy

April 2025



Mission & Vision Statement

The Purpose and Mission of St. Luke
Evangelical Lutheran Church

We are to be “Christ Centered Servants”.

We are dedicated to glorifying our Lord through worship, learning and outreach ministry: serving and caring for the individual, the family, the community and the world. With the help of God, we will attempt to fulfill this mission through our work to serve Him in the following ministry areas: Witness, Support, Learning, Service and Worship.

Wishing Very Happy Birthdays To:

04/01 – Donna Serok

04/03 – Cheryl Snyder

04/07 – Jeanne Kenna

04/13 – Ben Naska

04/15 – Aden D’Andrea

04/19 – Bill Schnabel



Happy Birthday!





*Special wedding anniversary wishes to
Donald and Charlotte Strouse on April 8th*

**Our congratulations and best wishes
to all those celebrating special days in April!**



Greetings in the name of Jesus Christ our Lord. There is a new beginning coming upon us this April. We have a later Easter this year, but there is something in the wait for the new beginning that Easter brings. The Irish poet John O'Donohue says about new beginnings "Awaken your spirit to adventure; hold nothing back, learn to find ease in risk; soon you will be home in a new rhythm, for your soul senses the world that awaits you." As we pray, reflect, meditate our way through Lent a new world awaits, the new rhythm that is to come on the glorious Easter morn. At times it is hard to sense that new world that awaits us. It is easy to get wallowed down in the mire that Lent can be. There is a post it that I keep on my desk at work, a post it that contains a reminder for me. It comes from the lips of a father, a father who comes to Jesus for the healing of his son. The words that he says are words that should always be on our lips "I believe; help my unbelief." We have the faith to see the new beginning that we are being called to in order to find our way through Holy Week to Easter morn, but our disbelief is always there. I will be sitting at my desk, and that anxiety will hit me at times. I worry that I won't know what to say to the next person seeking a chaplain. In that doubt my eyes will gaze upon that post it, that reminder that I believe in Jesus Christ, and that belief will overcome the unbelief plaguing me in that moment. It will remind me that no matter what I feel on those Good Friday moments, the morn will break on Easter. We all have those Easter moments, and those Easter moments are what we hold out for. Hold onto to those moments. Lent is a time of reflection, and that reflection will bring you to Easter morning where you see the resurrection, the new beginning that faith brings you to. I pray that we all have a blessed start to our spring and a glorious Easter. I pray that we find the

strength in Christ to believe even when our unbelief tries desperately to hold us back. May the grace of our Lord Jesus Christ strengthen you in all you do.

Pastor Rich

Council President Report

Church Council Highlights

9 March 2025

The following items were discussed and/or voted on:

The meeting was called to Order.

The agenda was approved.

The minutes of the 16 February 2025 meeting were not available at this time.

The treasurer's report was approved.

Pastor's report – please see his report in this newsletter.

Computer update – will have recommendations what to purchase at our next meeting.

Sue Taber was elected to Council Secretary.

Bruce Young was elected to the Vice-President position. Welcome Bruce.

John Page volunteered to be on the Finance Committee. Thanks John.

The council decided that we will hold our last soup supper for the year this March.

A discussion on the Lenten Soup Supper Service was held.

The council approved Sunday School to be held every Sunday. We are having more children attend.

A discussion on Easter Breakfast before church. It was decided that we would do a Continental Breakfast this year. It will start at 8:30 am.

A discussion was held on Vacation Bible School. Trinity in Pleasant Valley will be holding their VBS from July 14 to 18 during the day. St. Luke's will be holding our July 28 to August 1 in the evening. More information to follow.

Our Easter Egg Hunt will be on April 19. Our hunt last year was very well received by the community, and we are hoping to have a bigger turnout this year.

SEPTA Church Wide Assembly is May 30 and 31. Pastor and two members will attend.

Confirmation Graduation will be held on June 8th.

Mandy Thursday April 17 will be held at Trinity Pleasant Valley this year.

Good Friday April 18 will have 2 events. St. Luke's will be holding Stations of the Cross at 3 pm. St. Peter's in Riegelsville will be holding a service at 7 pm.

The PALM Leader Meeting will be Thursday April 24 at Durham Church.

The PALM General Meeting will be held on May 8 at Upper Tinicum.

St. Luke's Annual Congregational Meeting is scheduled for 6 April 2025 right after service.

The council urges all members to attend.

Council Assignments were made.

The meeting was adjourned.

Lord's Prayer was said.

Respectfully Submitted,

Alan Klingbeil
Church Council President.

April Meetings



Congregational Annual Meeting – Sunday, April 13th

Immediately following worship – please plan to attend this important meeting



Church Council Meeting- Sunday, April 13th

Following worship – all are invited to attend



WELCA Meeting – Thursday, April 11th

Meetings are the second Thursday of each month at 1:30pm

WELCA News

Our Spring Rummage Sale is scheduled for Friday, May 2nd from 8:30am – 8:00pm and Saturday, May 3rd from 8:30am – 2:00pm. We are going to have evening hours on Friday to accommodate all of our shoppers. Initial set up will be Sunday April 27th after church and continue throughout the week. We need lots of helpers to sort, set up, organize, bake, sell and cleanup at the end of the sale. Sign up sheets will be in the fellowship hall...one for baking and one for working the sale. Many thanks. We appreciate you.

Save the date...Sunday June 1, 2025 at 2:00pm. Actress Linda Kenyon will be portraying Eleanor Roosevelt in a one woman show.

Church News

Annual Congregational Meeting – Sunday, April 13th following service. We hope everyone can attend so we can share the positive strides we are making regarding the growth of our Church.

Please note the meeting was originally scheduled for April 6th, but has been moved to the 13th.

Chakra Yoga – Join us for Chakra Yoga for beginners and modified chair yoga on Thursday, April 10th at 6:30pm. The cost is \$20 per person.

Easter Breakfast – Let’s get together on April 20th at 8:30am for breakfast and fellowship before our Easter Sunday Service. Please use the sign up sheet in the Fellowship Hall to let us know how many will be attending and what you will be bringing.

Easter Egg Hunt – We will be hosting an Easter Egg Hunt on Saturday, April 19th from 2:00pm – 4:00pm. The egg hunt will start at 2:00pm sharp, so be here early and don’t forget to bring your baskets or bags for collecting eggs. In addition to the egg hunt there will be a bake sale, games, prizes, crafts and more. This is a community event and all are welcome.

Any donations and/or help you can offer would be much appreciated. We are in need of egg fillers/candy for the plastic eggs. Please use the basket in the Fellowship Hall to place egg filler by April 13th and join us after service that day to fill the eggs. There is a sign up sheet for donations of baked goods both individually wrapped or whole desserts are welcome. We are also in need of Silent Auction Baskets and/or items for the baskets. Thank you for your help and donations for this event.

Easter Flowers – White lilies, tulips and daffodils will be available for purchase again this year. Please use the attached form to place your order as soon as possible. All orders must be in no later than Sunday, April 6th. Flowers can be picked up after the Easter Sunday Service.

Good Friday - Friday, April 18th

3:00pm - Stations of the Cross at St. Luke’s, Ferndale

7:00pm - Good Friday Service at St. Peters, Riegelsville

Holy Week – Attached please find the Holy Week 2025 Schedule.

Junior Choir – Our Junior Choir will be singing during Sunday Worship on April 20th and May 18th. Please reach out to Darlene Durns at 215-353-6680 with any questions or for more information about our Junior Choir. Rehearsals are on Sundays following worship.

IronPigs – Sunday, April 27th is Lutheran Day with The IronPigs at Coca-Cola Park in Allentown. There is a sign up sheet in the Fellowship Hall for anyone interested in attending. The cost is \$30 per ticket and only 20 tickets are allotted per church.

Lenten Soup Suppers – Wednesdays during Lent the PALM Churches will be hosting soup suppers/devotions at a different location each week from 6:00pm – 7:30pm. The full schedule with dates and locations is attached and posted on the bulletin board in the Fellowship Hall.

St. Luke’s will be hosting the Lenten Soup Supper and devotion on Wednesday, April 2nd. A sign up sheet for donations of soup, desserts and paper products is in the Fellowship Hall.

Spring Rummage Sale – WELCA will be hosting the Spring Rummage Sale on Friday, May 2nd from 8:30am – 8:00pm and Saturday, May 3rd from 8:30am – 2:00pm. Setup will begin after church on Sunday, April 27th. Helpers are needed throughout the week. Please consider donating your time, baked goods and donations for the sale (no electronics, medical supplies or large furniture). Thank you.

Soles4Souls – St Luke’s accepts gently used shoes to donate to “Soles4Souls”. The labeled donation box is in the Fellowship Hall. Thank you for your support!

Soup Supper – Wednesday, March 18th was our last Soup Supper until autumn. Thank you to all who donated, helped out and attended to make St. Luke's Soup Suppers such a fun community event. We'll see you in the fall!

Sunday School – We are happy to announce that Sunday School is now being held weekly at 9:00am. Following our lesson everyone is invited to join Worship at 10:00am.

Youth Group – Our next meeting is Thursday, April 17th. Youth Group meets on the third Thursday of the month from 6:30pm to 8:00pm.

Save the Dates

Thursday, April 10th – Chakra Yoga – 6:30pm

Sunday, April 13th – Annual Congregation Meeting – following service

Saturday, April 19th – Easter Egg Hunt – 2:00pm

Friday, May 2nd and Saturday, May 3rd – WELCA Spring Rummage Sale

Saturday, May 17th – Annual Spring Clean Up – 9:00am

Sunday, June 1st - Actress Linda Kenyon will be portraying Eleanor Roosevelt – 2:00pm

May Newsletter - The cutoff for submissions and updates for the May Newsletter is Wednesday, April 23rd. Thank you.

Palisades Area Lutheran Ministries (PALM) News

Easter Pie Sale – St Peter's in Riegelsville is having an Easter Pie Sale. \$15 each 9-inch pie – you choose the type (sorry no lemon meringue). Orders will be taken until April 11th and pickup is Friday, April 18th at St. Peter's Church from 1:00pm – 3:00pm. Please see attached flyer for details.

Seder Meal – Trinity Lutheran Church in Coopersburg is hosting a Seder Meal on Thursday, April 17th at 5:00pm. Space is limited to 30 people please email office@trinitypv.org to reserve your spot.

Maundy Thursday Service –Thursday, April 17th at 7:00pm Trinity Lutheran in Coopersburg is having a Maundy Thursday Service.

Good Friday - Friday, April 18th

3:00pm - Stations of the Cross at St. Luke's, Ferndale

7:00pm - Good Friday Service at St. Peters, Riegelsville

Family Messy Church – Evangelical Lutheran Church of Durham will be having a Family Messy Church on Saturday, April 19th from 11:00am to 1:00pm. It will be a day of fun and fellowship learning about Easter celebrations around the world. We will share lunch together, please email to sign up to bring a dish or dessert evangel@durhamlutheran.org.

Easter Egg Hunt – St. Peter's in Riegelsville is having an Easter Egg Hunt on Easter Sunday, April 20th after worship (approximately 11:45am). Please bring your basket!

thank you

Thank you to Donna Love for sponsoring our April Newsletter.

The 2025 Newsletter Sponsorship sign up sheet is posted on the bulletin board in the Fellowship Hall. Please consider helping out by sponsoring a month.



Healing of Members: Brunilda Contestabile, Carol Fluck, Darla Mills, Bonnie Weller, Sarah Chadwick, Tiffany Weddle, Pat Young, Elizabeth Herring, Jean Toth

For our homebound:

For friends and family: Chris Craggs, Jane Frey, Megan Ott, Christopher Leah, Jodie Miller, Robin Dillman, Alice Gaibler, Doug Chapman, Edna Roberts, Nancy Gaibler, Ellen Hardy, Cheryl Coulter, Jim Roney, Ava Brad, Holly

For those grieving:

For those in need: All those people impacted by natural disasters, First responders, U.S. Military personnel, Maramba Parish (Tanzania), the Evangelical Lutheran Church of Tanzania, SEKUCo (Tanzania), the people of Sri Lanka, Ukraine, Turkey and Syria, unemployed in our congregation.

For the ministries of area churches: Churches of the Palisades Cluster; Bishop Elizabeth Eaton, Presiding ELCA Bishop; Bryan Penman, Bishop SEPA Synod

Prayer List: If you have any corrections, additions, or deletions, please put a note in Pastor Rich's mailbox downstairs or leave a message on the church's answering machine. If you leave a message, please spell all names. Names for healing and grieving will be kept on the list for one month unless other instructions are given.

CONGREGATIONAL LEADERSHIP DIRECTORY

Church Office: 610-847-5630

Church e-mail: stlukeferndale@ptd.net

Church website: www.stlukeferndalepa.com

South Eastern Pennsylvania Synod	www.ministrylink.org	267-323-3737	getinfo@sepa.org
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The Rev. Richard Bergen	Pastor	646-717-2407	iggyluthrich@gmail.com
Alan Klingbeil	Council President	215-262-4974	fvflbak@gmail.com
Bruce Young	Council Vice President		
Sue Taber	Council Secretary		
Bill Schnabel	Council		
Mark Klingbeil	Council		
Patti Berk	Council	484-767-4886	angelworkscms@gmail.com
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Darlene Durns	Organist/Choir Director		dbdurns@aol.com
Jo Ann Emery	Church Treasurer		stluketreas@ptd.net

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And, all of these other social media sites: Instagram, LinkedIn, X (formerly known as Twitter)