



JULY 2024

The Acts of St. Lucas



The seal of St. Luke

For nothing will be impossible with God. Luke 1: 37

ST. LUCAS YOUTUBE CHANNEL & WORSHIP LIVE STREAMING We now have our own YouTube account: [YouTube@stlucaslutherantoledo](https://www.youtube.com/@stlucaslutherantoledo) OR **St Lucas Livestream** in the search box.. Google it, look for our logo & subscribe! Like it...often! 9 & 10:30 will be livestreamed on YouTube for now, but also on Facebook, once we get the camera connection issue in the sanctuary solved. **Saturday 4pm worship will only be live streamed on Facebook, but posted later on YouTube as well.**

ICE CREAM SOCIAL IN JULY The weekend of July 20-21 the Evangelism Committee will be sponsoring our annual Ice Cream Social after each worship service. We'll give out ice cream treats on the sidewalk in front of the main steps to all worshipers and people who pass by. It's a great opportunity to get to know our neighbors and share community time together. After the 10:30 service Pastor Paul will provide guitar music and song for entertainment.



JULY 12 & 13 ARTS & CRAFTS here at St. Lucas in the gym. Several vendors will be here. HOURS: Fri. 11-6, Sat. 10-6

Postponed

DEVOTIONS ON FACEBOOK

We need volunteers for noon devotions on Tue, Wed., and Fri. They don't have to be complicated, just a reading and prayer. It would be nice if we could have several people available doing one day each week for a couple of months at a time. Congratulations for the efforts in keeping our ministry thriving!

CINDY'S CORNER WISH LIST

Appliances for smaller portion prep.

- *Small crock pots for serving toppings & sauces
- *Hand mixer

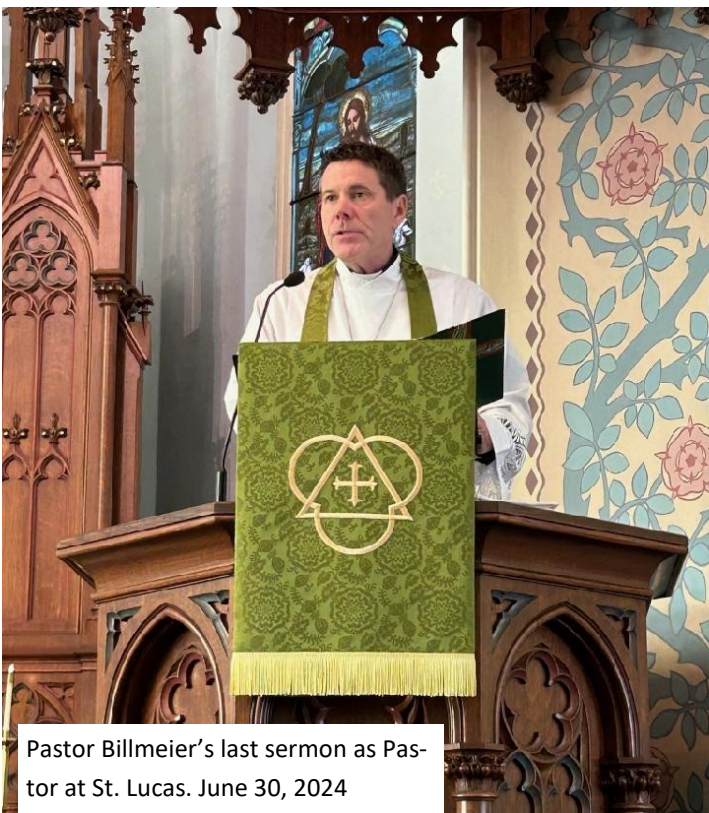
We also request hand can openers to give to our visiting community for them to open the canned goods we provide them. Thank you, Theresa

ROTARY GRANT

The Rotary has awarded a \$4,000 grant to Cindy's Corner for the purchase of kitchen appliances for our Food Ministry!

GUIDED HEALING MEDITATION WED AUGUST 7 9PM

Join Jeanne Dennler on our Facebook live stream Prayer at the Close of day this Wednesday at 9pm as she leads a guided healing meditation. Deb is a leader in our Healing Ministry at St. Lucas.



Pastor Billmeier's last sermon as Pastor at St. Lucas. June 30, 2024



PASTORAL ACTS

Pastor Emeritus Martin Billmeier

Dear St. Lucas Congregation:

Thank you for the wonderful celebration of my retirement held on May 19! It was full of laughs, great memories and heartfelt tributes to my ministry among you.

I am grateful to all who were present, both members and friends of St. Lucas!. Special thanks to my bestie Pastor Lori Strang for serving as MC and to my bestie from seminary, Pastor Jamie Kaufman, for making the trip all the way from Philadelphia to be there. Please say prayers for my bestie from U of Michigan days, Jim Hughes, who was planning on being there from Austin, Texas with his wife, Nancy, but suffered a heart attack the week before the event. A special thanks to my good friend from St. Louis seminary days, Pastor Dave Peters, for driving over from Chicagoland to be there, as well as to Rob Montry and Mert Spencer from Lutherans Concerned days, who came down from Michigan to be here. A shout out to Nancy Daniel, from my first parish served, Grace in Elmore, who took the time to join us. And, how nice of far flung members, Bill and Jeannie Dennler, to drive all the way from Lake Leelanau (near Traverse City) to be here for the festivities.

I enjoyed the “dance of the sugar plum chasubles” and the wonderfully discombobulated choreography of the “So Long, Farewell, Auf Wiedersehen, Goodbye” of the Cindy’s Corner group. They were fitting pay backs for all the nonsense I’ve perpetrated on the congregation through the years. Also, kudos to our kitchen crew who set up the room and made sure the dinner went off well. We are so blessed at St. Lucas with beautiful servants of God.

Thank you also for the generous retirement gift that was collected through the congregation. Your outpouring of love and generosity touched me deeply. That financial gift also helped John and me travel to Machu Picchu, Peru and the Ecuadorian Amazon Basin. We had a fun, if rather exhausting trip. We were blessed by Incan shamans in Machu Picchu and saw toucans, tarantulas, tree snakes, squirrel monkeys, red howler monkeys and even a harpy eagle in the jungle. We visited a native village where we were invited to taste “grubs on a skewer”, a staple of the native diet. It will not become a staple of my diet.

I also thank the church council for creating the position of Pastor Emeritus and inviting me to it. See pages 5 and 6 of this newsletter for guidelines and boundaries set around the position. Special thanks to Council President Jill Hojnacki who did the lions' share drafting the language of the document. I have accepted the position and hope to continue to contribute to the faith community in specific ways that do not impinge on Pastor Paul’s status as presiding pastor of St. Lucas. I think the guidelines do a great job of establishing boundaries. I would like to see the Congregation make a vote of approval of this document at the annual meeting in October, so that the wider community will have opportunity for greater “buy in” to the boundaries and guidelines established by church council. I will leave that up to those in leadership after me and trust their judgment.

I’ve now worked with Pastor Paul Myers since Palm Sunday. I will tell you that I have found him easy to work with and that as I have gotten to know him, I’ve grown to genuinely like the man, and what is not to like about the delightful Dee Myers? I will do everything I can to support and help our new pastor be successful in serving the Lord Jesus here. I give thanks to the Holy Spirit, who led our Call Committee to the 8th pastor to serve St. Lucas. That’s eight pastors in 134 years. To me, that speaks of a congregation that treats its pastors well and can maturely work with a pastor through thick and thin.

My thanks to all the leaders and church council member with whom I’ve worked over the years. It has been a pleasure to serve the Lord Jesus with you. Now, off to retirement and seeing just exactly what the Lord has for me next.

St. Lucas' Life in Photos This Month



Congratulations to Andrew and Kelly Jo Curtin, who were married at St. Lucas on June 15th!



WARM CONGRATULATIONS to Virginia (Suzy) Ray on her baptism on July 6th.





ACTS OF EDUCATION

by Sharon Schaefer, Sunday School Correspondent

SUNDAY SCHOOL MISSION: LOVE, LEARN, AND SERVE GOD

TEACHER TRAINING

Shandonna Flunder, our Sunday School Superintendent and only teacher (so far) is new to this at St. Lucas and enjoying the experience. She did tell me that no one has signed up to be a Sunday School teacher or a Sunday School substitute. She needs to have someone able to cover for her if she cannot be there. St Lucas needs to have more teachers trained, screened and available.

This page is to encourage you to find out more about being a Sunday School teacher to see if it is something, with training, that you are called to do, beginning in September 2024 and ending in May 2025. Maybe you can see yourself teaching once a month, or maybe you can see yourself being a teacher's helper for a month so you feel more comfortable being on your own. It does take some lead time to be okayed through the St Lucas Child Safety System as a person who is able to work directly with children.

A few things I have noticed about Shandonna that you probably have, too: She is always there, every Sunday, ready to teach the children who are there and escort them to the Gym after the Young People's Time. We are fortunate at St Lucas because Jamie Dael or the Pastor have a young people's time during every service that reaches the children who are present as well as some children online who are able to find our FB live feed. That means our students have already had their first informative and interactive lesson before they go downstairs for breakfast and their Sunday School time with Shandonna.

Teaching Focus for today: **Teaching Methods** Telling, Showing, Exchanging Ideas, Group Activities and Individual Activities. 1. Telling is sharing a Bible story. It needs to be age specific. 2. Showing is a big part of learning for students. Visuals are great. Props and playacting are great. 3. Having a discussion with students, especially if they will participate, helps everyone in the group understand the story from different points of view. 4. Group activities at St Lucas include eating breakfast together and getting to know each other before class starts. 5. Individual activities. St Lucas students, like all students, like art projects and crafts. We have had teachers who volunteered only for that part of the lesson. Young people are known to have a lot of energy. Each one is different. Keeping them occupied and interested is not always easy but it does get easier as the teacher gains experience and gets to know the students. Training and Experience will allow a person who didn't even know they had the teacher talent, to come to appreciate what this experience might uncover within themselves.

A lot of you know Wyatt Hoch. Wyatt as a young one himself, prepared a Sunday School lesson using the Jenga game. People of all ages can be teachers.

Words from Superintendent Shandonna: "The thing is I love children and love introducing them to Jesus. Having some training and a good support system of teachers will go a long way."

Interested? Call the St Lucas Office 419-243-8189

A NEW BEGINNING
A Message From Church Council

On June 11, in separate, unanimous, votes, your Church Council passed two important new resolutions. The first created a new position within our church — that of a Pastor Emeritus — enumerating the rights afforded to, and the limitations placed upon, any who might come to fill that role. The second resolution was to authorize Council to extend the offer of the Pastor Emeritus role to Pastor Martin Billmeier as he ends his time as our spiritual leader, and embarks upon his well-deserved journey into retirement — an offer which I am delighted to say he has gratefully and humbly accepted.

While I would highly encourage you to read the full text of the Pastor Emeritus guidelines, provided below, the short version requires a Pastor Emeritus to relinquish all pastoral and sacramental duties for the congregation of St. Lucas. In return, they will be accepted as ongoing, full members of the St. Lucas congregation, permitted to worship with us and to continue, as they see fit, to serve St. Lucas through our various committees and outreach ministries. In the case of Pastor Billmeier, he has expressed a desire to continue to serve on the Archive Committee and to lend his support to our various fund-raising efforts and appeals.

With the establishment of the Pastor Emeritus position, as when we chose to overlap pastoral duties to smooth the transition between spiritual leaders, St. Lucas once again breaks new ground within the synod. Historically, when a Pastor has left a congregation they have been serving, in order to facilitate a smooth transition to new pastoral leadership and reduce frictions within a congregation that may arise from the natural human resistance to change, the break is made complete; they left and found a new place of worship and new ministries to serve.

While clean breaks may be, and undoubtedly have, served congregations well over the years, we on Council believe that our congregation at St. Lucas has proven itself healthy and mature enough that this kind of total separation is unnecessary at this time. This is, perhaps, in large part due to the 30 years that Pastor Billmeier has spent teaching us Family Systems and leading Healthy Congregation workshops, and his relentless insistence on our adhering to established policies and procedures. For this, we owe him our thanks.

The synod, in fact, has expressed an interest in seeing the policy which we have written, and looks forward to seeing how it works in practice. Personally, I have faith that we at St. Lucas can make a success of this. But, to be perfectly clear, should issues arise within the congregation due to Pastor Martin's continued involvement, Council reserves the right to withdraw our offer of the position. Past the date of June 30, 2024, St. Lucas will once again have one, and only one, pastoral and sacramental leader: Pastor Paul Myers. Pastor Emeritus Martin Billmeier will be a congregational member, nothing more, and nothing less. I hope that you will join me in welcoming Pastor Martin to his new role, respecting his retirement, and lending your full support to Pastor Paul as he assumes his new mantle of responsibility as our spiritual guide. Thanks be to God, and may God bless all of you and our congregation as we venture together into the future.

— Jill Hojnacki, President, St. Lucas Council

SEE NEXT PAGE FOR GUIDELINES AND BOUNDARIES ESTABLISHED FOR THE PASTOR EMERITUS

GUIDELINES FOR THE ROLE OF ST. LUCAS PASTOR EMERITUS

The role of the Pastor Emeritus, if offered by council to a departing pastor, shall be consultative in nature and all actions must be undertaken only by the request of, and with permission from, the presiding pastor. This role exists primarily to make the job of the presiding pastor easier by providing them with a ready source from which to draw institutional memory and knowledge of the congregation, ministries, church activities, and neighborhood. Secondly, it exists to allow a departing pastor to continue to contribute, as they see fit, their time and skills to benefit their former congregation as, now, simply an equal member. Council reserves the right to later revoke these rights and privileges should they, as a body, deem it to be in the best interest of the congregation, as a whole.

At the discretion of the presiding pastor, and with the agreement of the departing pastor, the following may be permitted, in whole or in part.

The Pastor Emeritus may enjoy all of the rights, privileges, and responsibilities of a church member save one: They shall NOT be permitted to hold a position of leadership in the church for a period of three (3) years following their resignation.

- As a member of the congregation they may attend worship services, act as a worship servant, participate as a member of the choir, act as a member of the healing or other team(s), request prayer and pastoral counseling, etc.
- They may maintain personal relationships with congregational members and attend weddings, funerals, and other functions, sacramental and secular, held at, or by, the church, as their time and inclination dictates.
- The emeritus pastor may, by request of the presiding pastor, communicate with the congregation as a whole for the purpose of lending their support to stewardship campaigns, appeals, and other church-sponsored or supported activities.
- They may, in accordance with our standing policies, rent church facilities for the purpose of private events. They may, again, by request, and with permission from the presiding pastor, present themselves as a member of St. Lucas and represent the church in that capacity at ELCA functions and during the course of participating in St. Lucas outreach activities.

While the above permissions are negotiable, the following restrictions are mandated and nonnegotiable.

A Pastor Emeritus may **NOT** perform any pastoral functions at, or on behalf of, St. Lucas, or St. Lucas congregational member(s) including, but not limited to, the following:

- They may not perform weddings, funerals, baptisms, confirmations, or preside over any other sacramental events held in, or on behalf of, St. Lucas or St. Lucas congregational member(s).
- They may not offer confession, absolution, or pastoral counseling.
- They may not make pastoral home and hospital visits, although they may, of course, visit as a friend. They may not be called upon to offer Last Rites.
- They may not consecrate the elements of communion or offer it in the role of a presiding pastor at St. Lucas, unless they are acting as a supply pastor in the absence of the presiding pastor.

Note: The role of Pastor Emeritus is NOT intended to be one of an on-call, de facto, Supply Pastor. While the emeritus pastor may, if requested and, if they are so inclined, occasionally serve in that capacity, the presiding pastor is under no obligation to ask them, nor are they under any obligation to accept that role.



Theresa Johnson, R.N.
Cindy's Corner Representative

Call 419-243-8189,
press 3

St. Lucas Cindy's Corner Ministries

*Café Noon Tue.-Fri.

*Outreach Noon Tue.-Fri.

*Kids' Closet & Babygate by appointment

* Food Pantry @ St. John's M & W 11-12:30

ST. LUCAS CINDY'S CORNER NEWS

Oak Street Health will be back on July 28th. They are very interesting and we learn so much from them.

We are looking forward to our activities for the coming months. Of course, the 4th of July is fast approaching and we will be closed the entire week so our volunteers and office personnel can have time with their families and friends to enjoy the holiday.



by Joy Huener

**Total lunches served in
May by our Café and
Saturday Kid's Café:
1043**

The craft fair will be on the 12th and the 13th of July. Add this to your calendar, we are expecting many crafters that put their arts and crafts on sale. This will take place in the gym. The times for the craft fair is on the 12th: 11-6pm and the 13th from 10-6pm. Table rentals are \$25.00

The Pork and Sauerkraut dinner will be on November 8. Carryout will be from 5-6 and Dine in will be from 6-8. We have had a lot of fun in the previous years. Mark it on your calendars and plan on joining us! If anyone has an inexpensive and non-fragile beer stein, we would like to use them for center pieces. After all, we are a Lutheran Church and most of us have a German lineage.

The café will be closed November, 28-30 in honor of Thanksgiving.

Pastor Billmier's last sermon was June 29-30. Our very talented choir performed the "Amen Chorus" from Handel's *Messiah!* We will certainly miss Pastor Billmeier, but we will love Pastor Myer as we did Pastor Billmeier. A new chapter begins at St. Lucas!

The Rotary Club has awarded a \$4,000 grant to Cindy's Corner for kitchen appliances! This will help with a much needed ice maker and sink for the kitchen.

We want everyone to keep Brian Brushaber in your prayers. He is one of our volunteers, who has had major health problems of late. He is back in the hospital and we have not been able to find out anything about his situation. We will let everyone know how he is doing and hopefully out of the hospital soon.

We hope everyone dealt with the hot spree we had. We hope all had access to a cooling station.

There are activities in the city of Toledo, for instance the pools and swimming lessons. The cost is 1.00 for children 12 and under and \$2.00 for 13 and older. Pools are open from May 27 - August 19th. The hours are 12-6pm

Little Angels Arts and Crafts-

- a. ages 2-12
- b. June 3 -August 12
- c. At Highland Park at 1737 South Ave
- d. Saturdays from 4-6p

Swim Lessons available for all ages. Offered during the month of July. Registration is required and spots are limited. For full schedule online Toledo.oh.gov/pools

We are giving everyone a list of the cooling stations in the area. We pray this will help keep everyone cool.

SERVANTS IN THE CHURCH OF JESUS

JULY WORSHIP SERVANTS

4:00 Elder Harold Petoskey

9:00 Elder Gary Stofan

10:30

Lector Georgia Steele

Elders Sharon Schaefer, Pat Bair

Head Ushers

Russ Wells

Offering Ushers

John Kern

Deb LaJeunesse

Acolyte Lee Jagodzinski

Camera Steve Seaton, Gary Stofan, Jill Hojnacki

Healing Station

JULY THRIFT SHOP SCHEDULE

Wed Jul 3 CLOSED

Thu Jul 4 CLOSED

Fri Jul 5 CLOSED

Wed Jul 10 Susan Lang
Sue Alley

Thu Jul 11 Deb Hurley
Sharon Olmstead

Fri Jul 12 Sally Ortiz
Tonya Cason

Wed Jul 17 Susan Lang
Sue Alley

Thu Jul 18 Deb Hurley
Sharon Olmstead

Fri Jul 19 Deb Hurley
Tonya Cason

Wed Jul 24 Susan Lang
Tonya Cason

Thu Jul 25 Deb Hurley
Jan Hoffman

Fri Jul 26 Deb Hurley
Lorraine Willoughby

Wed Jul 31 Susan Lang
Tonya Cason

Subs are Jan Hoffman 419-740-2302 or Sally Wing 419-349-0981, or call Deb Hurley 419-691-7321.

NEW ADDRESS FOR GARY SHOPE: Genoa Retirement Village, Bldg. AL Rm 20, 300 Cherry St. Genoa, OH 43430

CINDY'S CORNER FOOD PANTRY in conjunction with St. John's Lutheran, is located at St. John's, 708 S. Erie St. and open Mon & Wed. 11am- 12:30pm.

WELCA The WELCA meeting on July 16 @ 10am will be Bible Study only.

WORD IN SEASON DEVOTIONAL booklets are now available in the narthex. Please take one for your daily devotions at home. **Large print, too!**

CINDY'S CORNER VOLUNTEERS Would you like to volunteer once a week to help in the kitchen or Cindy's Corner office? Please speak to Theresa Johnson.

CINDY'S CORNER SEEKING DONATIONS of personal Hygiene items for our visitors. Items include:

Disposable razors, Toilet paper, Soap/shampoo/hand sanitizer, Toothbrush/toothpaste, and Feminine products. Donations can be dropped off at the church during normal hours or in the empty tub under the narthex tables at worship services.

FOLLOW THIS LINK to apply for free produce in the Senior Farmers Market Nutrition Program through the Ohio Dept. of Aging. Those over 60 are invited to apply.

<https://aging.ohio.gov/care-and-living/health-and-safety/health-and-safety-resources/sfmnp-form/sfmnp-join>

ST. LUCAS BUSINESS SIZE CARDS for you to use to invite a friend to church are in the Narthex. Please pick some up and share them as a way to help people know that they are welcome here.

JULY MEETINGS

July 9, 7:00 pm Church Council

July 12-13 Arts & Crafts Show, gym

July 16, 10am WELCA Bible Study

July 16 6:30pm BUC meet via Zoom

July 17 4pm Healing Ministry

July 20/21 Sunday Ice Cream Social



ST. LUCAS PRAYER LIST
PLEASE REMEMBER THESE PEOPLE IN YOUR PRAYERS:

GENERAL HEALTH

Keith Johnson, John Kern, Dave Jerman,
 Beth Cousino, Barb Beaverson, Lorraine
 Willoughby, Anna Ponce, Angel Pringle, Sharon
 Kampfer, Sharon Stofan, Rease McCoy, Kathy
 Jackowski, Phil Chambers, Dan Markley
 Arianna Demski

VISITATION LIST (RARELY OUT)

Cheryl Ivy, Roger Druckemiller,
 Joyce Mason, Gary Shope

**SEVERAL BOOKS FROM PASTOR BILL-
 MEIER'S OFFICE LIBRARY** are on the nar-
 thex tables and free for the taking for any in-
 terested.

THANK YOU NOTE RECEIVED :

Dear brothers and sister in Christ,

*Thank you for your prayers and well wishes. I
 am healing slowly but will be active soon. —*

Sharon Stofan

**SAVE THE DATES: PRIDE PARADE & VOLUNTEER
 APPRECIATION DINNER**

- ⇒ St. Lucas will have a delegation in the Toledo
 Pride Parade on Saturday, August 24. We
 need you to represent our faith community.
 Mark your calendar and bring a friend!
- ⇒ Volunteer Appreciation Dinner will be October
 13, from noon - 2pm at Middlegrounds Shelter.
 It is an opportunity to thank everyone who does
 so much for St. Lucas throughout the year.
 Look for more details in the coming months.



**Happy July
 Birthday**

*Say a prayer for each of
 these on their special day.*

John Kern	2
Lee Jagodzinski	10
Dawn Hetrick	15
Jan Hoffman	18
Pat Wilson	19
Hildegard Ruelke	20
Amy Herrick	22
Dan Markley	23
Rob Dauel	24
Roy Deeds	28
Sue Alley	29
Mike Biscay	29
Sharon Szabo	29
Susan Lang	30



**HAPPY JULY
 ANNIVERSARY!**

Steve Hudson & George Pfaff	4
Gene and Dawn Keeler	12
Keith Johnson & Sue Wendt	17

**ARE WE MISSING YOUR BIRTHDAY OR
 ANNIVERSARY IN THE ACTS?**

**Please inform the church office or drop us a
 note on your "I Worship Today" card.**

ST. LUCAS HEALING MINISTRY NEWS



HISTORY OF JUDEO-CHRISTIAN PRACTICES: LAYING ON OF HANDS, ANOINTING, AND PRAYER *Laying on of Hands*

Historical Context: The practice of laying on of hands has deep roots in both Jewish and Christian traditions. In the Hebrew Bible (Old Testament), this act is often associated with blessings, consecrations, and healings. One of the earliest references is in Genesis 48:14, where Jacob blesses his grandsons Ephraim and Manasseh by laying his hands on their heads.

In the New Testament, Jesus frequently used the laying on of hands in his healing ministry, as seen in Mark 6:5 and Luke 4:40. The apostles continued this practice, emphasizing its importance in the early Christian community for healing, imparting the Holy Spirit, and ordaining leaders (Acts 8:17, 1 Timothy 4:14).

Explanation: The laying on of hands is a symbolic gesture signifying the transfer of power, blessing, or authority. In Jewish tradition, it was a way to convey blessings and establish a tangible connection between the individual and God's divine will. In Christian practice, it represents the presence and power of the Holy Spirit, providing comfort, healing, and spiritual empowerment. This act fosters a sense of connection and community, reinforcing the bond between the healer, the recipient, and God.

Anointing

Historical Context: Anointing with oil is another significant ancient practice in Judaism and Christianity. In the Old Testament, anointing oil was used to consecrate priests, kings, and prophets, marking them as chosen by God for a specific purpose (Exodus 30:30, 1 Samuel 16:13). The oil symbolized God's blessing and presence.

In the New Testament, Jesus is often referred to as the "Anointed One" (Christ in Greek, Messiah in Hebrew), signifying his divine mission. The practice of anointing the sick with oil for healing is mentioned in James 5:14-15, where the elders of the church are instructed to pray over the sick and anoint them with oil.

Explanation: Anointing with oil symbolizes God's presence and blessing. In Jewish tradition, it sets individuals apart for divine purposes, symbolizing holiness and dedication to God. In Christian practice, anointing the sick is a sacramental act that invokes God's healing power and the Holy Spirit's comfort. The oil symbolizes purification, healing, and the sanctification of the individual, providing both physical and spiritual relief.

Prayer

Historical Context: Prayer is a central practice in both Judaism and Christianity, serving as a means of communication with God. In the Hebrew Bible, prayer is depicted as a vital part of Jewish life, with notable prayers from figures such as Abraham, Moses, and David. The Psalms, a collection of prayers and hymns, are a significant part of Jewish liturgical tradition.

In the New Testament, Jesus emphasized the importance of prayer, teaching his disciples how to pray (Matthew 6:9-13) and often retreating to pray alone (Luke 5:16). The early Christian community continued to prioritize prayer as a foundational practice for spiritual growth and community life (Acts 2:42).

Explanation: Prayer is a means of establishing and nurturing a relationship with God. In Judaism, it encompasses praise, thanksgiving, confession, and petition, reflecting a holistic approach to communication with the divine. In Christianity, prayer is seen as a dialogue with God, fostering a personal connection and seeking guidance, strength, and healing. Prayer in the context of healing is particularly powerful, as it invokes God's mercy and intervention, providing comfort and hope to those in need.

Conclusion

The practices of laying on of hands, anointing, and prayer have deep historical roots in Judeo-Christian traditions, each serving as a conduit for divine grace and healing. These practices are rich in symbolism and spiritual significance, fostering a profound connection with God and the community. Through these acts, believers seek to experience and share God's presence, blessing, and healing power.

3RD WEDNESDAY HOUR OF HEALING PRAYER July 17 from 4-5pm in the main sanctuary. Join the St. Lucas healing team for this powerful time of healing. Come any time during the hour and stay as long as you like during the hour.

FACEBOOK GUIDED HEALING MEDITATION WEDNESDAY AUGUST 7 at 9pm on our Facebook page.

Stewardship



Colossians 3:12-14

Therefore, as God's chosen ones, holy and beloved, clothe yourselves with compassion, kindness, humility, meekness, and patience. Bear with one another and, if anyone has a complaint against another, forgive each other; just as the Lord has forgiven you, so you also must forgive. Above all, clothe yourselves with love, which binds everything together in perfect harmony.

What does it mean to be kind? I heard a story about a man named Bill who stopped into a coffee shop to get a cup and a Danish. On the way out, he ran into someone who looked like they had been outdoors for a while. The person asked, "Have you got any spare change?" Bill reached into his pocket and dug out a dollar and handed it to the person. Walking away and feeling pretty good about himself, he noticed that down the street, there were several other people down the block who were likely in the same boat. Bill knew that he only had that one dollar in his pocket, and he didn't know what to do.

What does it mean to be kind? Bill's struggle points to the challenge we all might face in one form or another: what to do when confronted with the enormity of need in our world. We have been blessed by God with time, talent, and/or resources with which to share the love of God in Christ. In Colossians, the writer asks us to live lives filled with compassion, kindness, humility, meekness, and patience. This not only applies to how we deal with those in need (whatever the need), but also to ourselves. Can we be kind to the point of burnout? How will that affect our generosity? Would it not be better to give our best, knowing that we cannot heal the world, but that we can heal our little corner of it?

Sacrificial giving has always been the way of Christ. Jesus gave all for the healing of the world and the reconciliation of creation back to God; and we are asked to give sacrificially for the sake of the world, as well. As we meditate on how much, how often, and what we should give, let us keep in mind that we are part of the Body of Christ—but only part. Together we can change the world through kindness, forgiveness, and love.

What is your part in that Body? How can you lend your life and resources in a way that is sacrificial, yet does not burn you out?

Boiler Fund Report		General Fund Report	
Original Loan Balance	45,000.00	MAY 1 BALANCE	(15,566.85)
Remaining Owed	33,266.91	RECEIPTS	11,019.41
Received this year	<u>2319.50</u>	DISBURSEMENTS	(40,490.62)
Remaining Owed	30,947.41	MAY 31 BALANCE	(45,038.06)
		BALANCE LAST YEAR	(24,252.96)



ST. LUCAS EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH
745 WALBRIDGE AVENUE
TOLEDO, OHIO 43609
419-243-8189

ADDRESS SERVICE REQUESTED
TIME SENSITIVE MATERIAL
PLEASE HANDLE PROMPTLY

THE ACTS OF ST. LUCAS NEWSLETTER

Parish Staff

Paul D. Myers III, Pastor
 Georgia Steele, Office Manager
 Jamie Dael, Organist
 Ron Lang, Choirmaster
 Steve Seaton, Custodian

Church Council

Jill Hojnacki, President; Brian Hoch, Vice-president; Russ Wells, Treasurer;
 Sharon Stofan, Secretary; Mike Biscay, Fritz Bloedow, Melissa Demski,
 David Jerman, John Kern, Diane Porter, LaVonda Rodgers, Steve Seaton,
 Russ Wells, Emmitt Williams

Parish Office Information

Tuesday-Friday—9:00 a.m.-3:00 p.m.
 Phone: **419-243-8189** Fax: 419-243-8180
 Secretary Email: stlucasoffice@gmail.com
 Pastor Myers Email: pastorpaulstlucas@gmail.com
 Cindy's Corner: 419-724-1908 stlucascindyscorner@gmail.com
 Website: www.stlucastoledo.org
 Facebook page: www.facebook.com/StLucasLutheranChurch.

Northwest Ohio Synod

Evangelical Lutheran Church In America

621 Bright Road, Findlay, Ohio 45840
 1-419-423-3664
 Bishop: Rev. Daniel Beaudoin
 Website: www.nwos-elca.org



AFFIRMATION OF WELCOME - adopted 1999

In accord with the gospel of Jesus Christ St. Lucas welcomes all. By this we mean that we extend the radical welcome of Jesus Christ to people of every age, race, ability, sexual orientation, gender identity, economic level, mental health diagnosis, recovery status, education level, or previous religious experience to participate in the sacramental life and work of our congregation.

Worship & Sunday School Times

Saturdays: 4:00 p.m.
Sundays: 9:00 a.m. and 10:30 a.m.
Sunday School: 10:15 a.m. Sept. to May

***The Sacrament of Holy Communion and healing rite
 are offered at all services.***

Mission and Vision

ST. LUCAS PURPOSE STATEMENT:

The people of St. Lucas Lutheran Church invite and welcome everyone to enter and feel God's presence.

GUIDING PRINCIPLES:

1. We believe that Jesus is Lord and Savior.
2. We embrace diversity and welcome all unconditionally.
3. We commit to live God's Word and share the Good News.
4. We strive for closer relationship with God and each other.
5. We demonstrate compassion and forgiveness through open hearts and open minds.

****Handicap Accessible Building****

***Elevator Next to Handicap Parking on Walbridge Ave.
 Please come dressed as you are...ALL ARE WELCOME***