



SEPTEMBER  
2024

# The Acts of St. Lucas



The seal of St. Luke

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



## SAVE THE DATES:

**Choir** rehearsals are Wednesdays @ 7:30 pm, in the lower sanctuary. New members are welcome.

**Sunday School** is starting September 8. More info to follow.

**Confirmation classes** will be starting up October 6. We will meet in the Youth room right after 10:30 worship for 1 hour. We will also start planning our summer Mission Trip for next year. We will be offering several fundraisers to support our youth in this great learning opportunity.

**Rummage Sale** Set up will be Oct. 1 & 2. The sale will be Oct 3, 4 & 5. Volunteers and donations needed. Donations accepted thru September 25th.

**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 month.

**GUIDED HEALING MEDITATION FIRST WEDNESDAYS 9PM.** Join us on our Facebook live stream for Prayer at the Close of day the first Wednesday of each month at 9pm. Guided Meditation is a time to seek the healing Spirit of God in our lives and our bodies with the help of one of our Healing Ministry leaders.

**NEWS FROM CINDY'S CORNER CAFÉ** *Saturday meal and other activities will be suspended until further notice . They will be resuming in October.*

## SCRIP PROGRAM ENDING

Over the years the Scrip Program provided a source of income to help pay down the loans for the elevator, Sunday School windows and the Sunday School boiler. Since the pandemic St. Lucas participation in the program has decreased and so have the local merchants that participate. The income we receive from the program has decreased so Church Council voted to stop participation. The last order I will place is Tuesday October 8<sup>th</sup>. Any gift cards should be able to be picked up the weekend of October 12<sup>th</sup>. Lately we have had more backorders so there could be a delay of a few days for any larger orders. Large orders will need to be paid for in advance.

We do encourage you to continue to register for the Kroger Community Rewards Program. Gift cards purchased at Kroger do count toward the dollars we receive from them.

If you have any questions, contact Sharon Stofan (419) 367-0099 or e-mail sstofan@aol.com.

## GEORGIA'S RETIREMENT/NEW OFFICE MANAGER-

Georgia Steele will be on to her next adventure. She will be moving in with her daughter Gwen in Virginia in September. We wish blessings on her. Council has unanimously approved the hiring of Annette Mason as our new office manager! We thank God for Georgia's work over these many years, and we celebrate God's sending Annette to us to fulfill this vital role here at St. Lucas. As we transition into this new way of serving God together, please welcome Annette and help her feel at home in this role. Friday helper Sharon Olmstead and Georgia welcoming Annette to the family.



## GEORGIA'S RETIREMENT DINNER

Let's get together with an old fashioned Pot Luck for Georgia on Sunday September 15 @ 12:30 pm. Melissa, our Kitchen Director, will make a main dish. TBA Bring your best and tastiest dish (write down the recipe for display). Be prepared to tell your favorite story of how you connected with Georgia . RSVP would be appreciated so we can prepare a main dish.



# PASTORAL ACTS

*Pastor Paul D. Myers III*

We are better together. That's what I have heard in so many ways over the years. When we work together, our work is better; when we sing together, the melody is richer; when we pray together, our spirits are lifted and God moves.

As I continue to walk with you in this new role, I notice that when we do ministry together, there is more joy in our expressions and more connection to our God. Our lives are always being transformed and improved by the world around us and by the Creator who has called us into it. And when we try to walk alone in ministry, it is always harder—partly because there is no one to share the load with, and partly because we are made for community.

I have always been a fan of shared ministry, from visiting those who cannot get out on their own to unloading and unpacking the weekly food deliveries. Anything that can be done to minister to the world can be done better in concert with another. Jesus sent out the disciples two by two, even though they could have covered more ground separately. I think the reason for this was so that there would be some companionship on the road, and that they could care for each other when things got hard.

How we work together will determine how successful we are at sharing the love and grace of God in our neighborhood and our world. And though success is not the goal, we are inspired by each other to walk into the world as we walk together. That is why we have committees: not to be business-minded bureaucrats, but to be partners with the same vision of how we make the love of Jesus accessible to the world.

If you are serving on a committee, thank you. Your service is noticed and appreciated. If you serve as a worship worker or volunteer, thank you. You help bring the good news of Jesus to life. If you are a caretaker of someone or something connected to St. Lucas, thank you. You help make life easier for others.

We are all trying to be faithful in our walk with God. Through the inspiration of the Holy Spirit, each of us has a passion that can be used by God to carry the Gospel to a hurting world. This month, I invite you to consider how you serve or how you could serve God at St. Lucas to lighten the load and offer companionship on our mutual journey in the Kingdom of God. When we work together, nothing is out of reach.

We are better together.

Pastor Paul.

## 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. Training is available, and you will be blessed as you bless others with simple bible or devotional readings and prayer. **This in an integral part of our ministry together as we reach out to the world at large with the love of Christ. Please consider joining us!**

**ST. LUCAS YOUTUBE CHANNEL & WORSHIP LIVE STREAMING** We now have our own YouTube account: **YouTube@stlucaslutherantoledo**. Google it, look for our logo & subscribe! Like it...often! 9 & 10:30 will be livestreamed on YouTube, and posted to Facebook once 10:30 worship has ended. **Saturday 4pm worship will only be live streamed on Facebook.**

## THRIFT SHOP IN NEED OF DONATIONS

The thrift shop is seeking donations for the rummage sale coming up in October! Now is a good time to clean out those closets. There is a special need for men's clothing, but everything is welcomed.

**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. They are a very simple way to help people know who we are and how to find more information about the ministries we offer.

**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.



## HOW WOULD YOU LIKE TO SERVE AS A WORSHIP SERVANT?

It is time for new help to serve during all 3 services. Elders help the pastor distribute the communion meal. Sat and 9 am Sunday service they also make sure everyone has a bulletin and may help with offering collection. Lectors read the lessons at the 10:30 Sunday service. If you aren't a singer, we have a choir member or Pastor Paul sing the Psalm. Please consider this way of enhancing your worship. Ask someone who is currently serving how they feel about it.

**THE CAMERA** is also a way for you to help us spread the word of God. We have anywhere from 30-50 people a week who watch either live or later in the day. The camera is pre-set with spots to focus on in the room. It is a very easy way for you to serve without being "in front" of the camera, as it were.





# ACTS OF EDUCATION

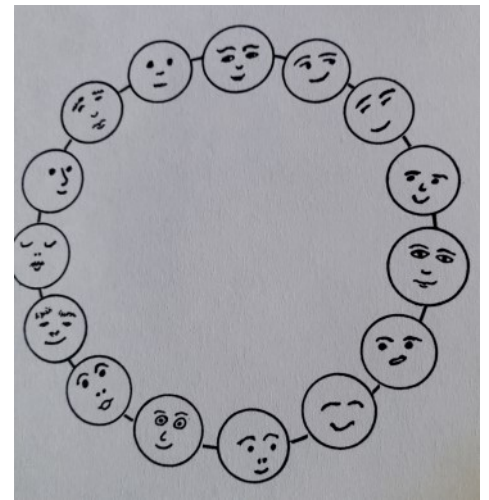
by Sharon Schaefer, Sunday School Correspondent

*SUNDAY SCHOOL MISSION: LOVE, LEARN, AND SERVE GOD*

## EMOJIS

There is so much to learn every day. With a sense of curiosity and powers of observation, the insights that occur to us are hard to keep track of. Do you sometimes put an insight aside for another day so you can give it the attention it deserves? That's why we call this page the Acts of Education, because it is all about ideas and words that may spark an idea that may help you in some way. Education happens everywhere at all times.

On this page is a page out of a book that a friend of mine, Eva Thayer, wrote in 1985. The book's title is *More We Than Me*. Eva moved on with excitement when she was in her 90s but her book lives on. The page that is reprinted is a circle of emojis. She did not call them that back in the day, I think many people think they were created by FaceBook or somebody. She drew pages and pages of faces with different expressions. She never tired of drawing faces because she was certain that all humans are connected and what we do affects all of us. Our Bea Heebsh also will never quit creating cartoons. She has more ideas than there are pieces of paper to write them on. If she cannot draw one of these days, she will continue to see cartoons fully formed that you and I are not able to see.



Many of you have had the privilege of seeing rock carvings. There is a place close to where my Dad grew up in the Thumb of Michigan which has an area of petroglyphs which has been protected for generations. It is currently known as the Sanilac Petroglyphs Historic State Park. There is nothing new under the sun, is there, and using drawings, carvings, pictures and cartoons to help us communicate our thoughts and feelings is a time honored tradition. Eva's way was combined with the verse, Seek ye first the Kingdom of God. Or the Kindom of God, as Pastor Paul calls it. She shows in her book that finding our place in the Kingdom is something that will lead and sustain us and will make real our connection to God. John 14:20

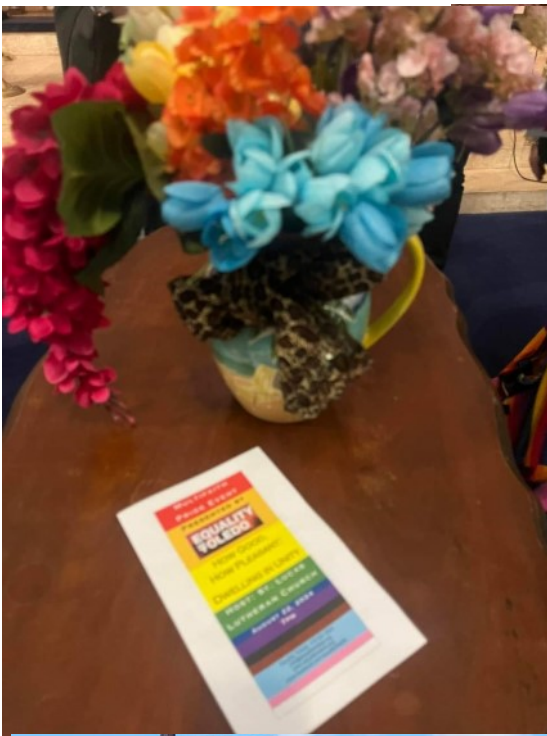
**ST. LUCAS SUNDAY SCHOOL** meets on Sundays at 10 in the gym for breakfast . Our young people then walk through the tunnel to the main sanctuary for the Young People's Time at worship, after which they return to the gym and a lesson. Kids age 5 to high school are welcome to come to Sunday School. For younger children there is a Babyland Nursery in the lower church that parents may use at their choice during any worship service. There are speakers in the lower church so that parents may continue to hear the service while in the nursery.

# St. Lucas' Life in Photos This Month



PRIDE PARADE





Multifaith Event and Parking Lot party pictures





# ST LUCAS OUTREACH IN NPICTURES



# SERVANTS IN THE CHURCH OF JESUS

## SEPTEMBER WORSHIP SERVANTS

**4:00 Elder** Steve Seaton

**9:00 Elder** Pat Wilson

**10:30**

**Lector** Kelly Curtin

**Elders** Dan Markley, Ken Sikorski

**Head Ushers**

Russ Wells

Sharon Schaefer

**Offering Ushers**

Pam Hoch

Pat Bair

**Acolyte** Lee Jagodzinski

**Camera** Steve Seaton, Pat Wilson, Jill Hojnacki

**Healing Station** Annette Mason

## SEPTEMBER THRIFT SHOP SCHEDULE

Thu Sep 5 Deb Hurley  
Amy

Fri Sep 6 Deb Hurley  
Barb Beaverson

Wed Sep 11 Sue Alley  
Susan Lang

Thu Sep 12 Deb Hurley  
Amy

Fri Sep 13 Deb Hurley  
Tonya Cason

Wed Sep 18 Susan Lang  
Sally Ortiz

Thu Sep 19 Deb Hurley  
Amy

Fri Sep 20 Deb Hurley  
Tonya Cason

Wed Sep 25 Susan Lang  
Lorraine Willoughby

Thu Sep 26 Deb Hurley  
Amy

Fri Sep 27 Deb Hurley  
Tonya Cason

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

**NEW NEW ADDRESS FOR GARY SHOPE:** Genoa Retirement Village, **Bldg. 3 Rm 45**, 300 Cherry St. Genoa, OH 43430

**WELCA Meeting Tues. Sept.17** Important meeting about upcoming rummage sale. Please be there by 9:30 am. Bible Study will follow with Pastor Myers.

## SEPTEMBER MEETINGS

Sep 4 @7:30 Choir rehearsal in lower Chapel

Sep 10 @ 7:00 Church Council

Sep 12 @ 6:30 Safety Committee via Zoom

Sep 13 @ 4:00 Wedding offsite

Sep 17 @ 9:30am WELCA biz meet & Bible Study

Sep 18 @ 4:00 Healing Ministry in main sanctuary

Sep 28 8am-4pm Healing seminar

Oct 1 & 2 Rummage Sale set-up

Oct 3-5 Rummage Sale

**THANK YOU, ROB DAUEL!** We all contribute to the glory of God in our own way. Rob blows glass...very well. He made a new bowl for our baptismal font. See how many colors you can see in it.







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

**KINGSTON IN PERRYSBURG**

Kathleen Jones

**GENERAL HEALTH**

Keith Johnson, John Kern, Dave Jerman, Barb Beaverson, Beth Cousino, Sharon Kampfer, Kathy Jackowski, Sharon Stofan, Anna Ponce, Angel Pringle, Lorraine Willoughby, Ariana Wahl, Ed Theimer (Dee Myers' cousin), Patrick Codden

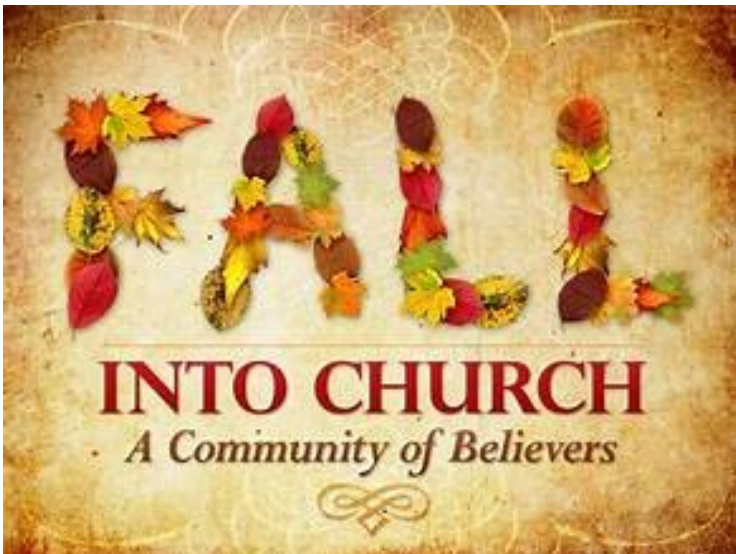
**VISITATION LIST (RARELY OUT)**

Cheryl Ivy, Roger Druckemiller, Joyce Mason, Gary Shope

**SYMPATHY AND PRAYERS** for Kate Gladieux and the family of Tom Hartford who passed away last week. Visitation Sunday, Aug. 11, noon—5:00pm @ Eggleston, Meinert & Pavley Funeral Home in Oregon, OH. Funeral Service will be Aug. 12, 11:00am at First St. John Lutheran Church, 2471 Seaman Rd. Toledo.

**SYMPATHY AND PRAYERS** for the family and friends of the Rev. Anna Hunter. Calling hours 1-3pm, and memorial service at 3pm @ Bersticker-Scott Funeral Home.

**WE RECEIVED** a check from Kroger for \$148.48 as a result of those using their rewards card at the checkout. Thank you!



**Happy September Birthday**

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

Heidi Dorgiewicz	9
Jim Bischoff	12
David Kroll	15
Lori Ritter	18
Kathleen Kane	21
Ed Bloedow	21
Debbie Babcock	22
Kathy Carver	23
Sarah Sigurdson	24
Emmitt Williams	25
Larry Flowers	29



**HAPPY SEPTEMBER ANNIVERSARY!**

Tim & Deby Teague	11
Gerald & Lorriane Willoughby	19
Bill & Jeannie Dennler	26

**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.**

**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.



### The Significance of Prayer and Blessings in Healing Ministry

By Deb Reis

A healing ministry practice includes prayer, laying on of hands, and anointing. The past two articles went into greater depth on what is meant by laying on of hands and anointing. This article dives into prayer. The early Christians identified prayer, laying on of hands, and anointing as one act to be done for one another as part of a community.

Prayer, a cornerstone of Judeo-Christian spiritual practice for millennia, is a vital link between humanity and the divine. Its historical significance is evident throughout the Bible, where prayer is depicted as an essential aspect of Jewish life. Figures like Abraham, Moses, and David are often shown in moments of deep prayer, seeking guidance, expressing gratitude, or pleading for divine intervention.

In the New Testament, the role of prayer is further emphasized by Jesus, who modeled a life of prayer and taught his disciples how to pray. The Lord's Prayer, found in Matthew 6:9-13, is perhaps the most well-known example, encapsulating the core elements of Christian prayer: praise, petition, and a desire for God's will to be done. Jesus frequently withdrew to pray in solitude, highlighting the importance of prayer for personal spiritual strength and clarity (Luke 5:16). The early Christian community continued this tradition, recognizing prayer as foundational for spiritual growth and communal life (Acts 2:42).

In the context of a healing ministry, prayer and blessings are not just supplementary practices but integral components of the healing process. Prayer establishes and nurtures a relationship with God, serving as a conduit for divine grace and intervention. It encompasses praise, thanksgiving, and confession, reflecting a holistic approach to communication with the divine. Through prayer, believers express their deepest needs and desires, seeking physical healing, spiritual renewal, and emotional comfort.

Blessings, closely related to prayer, are another powerful aspect of healing ministry. Blessings are seen as a way to invoke God's favor and protection over an individual. When used in a healing context, blessings can reinforce the spiritual support offered by prayer, reassuring those in distress. The act of blessing someone, often accompanied by prayer, laying on of hands, or anointing with oil, symbolizes the presence of God's love and mercy, fostering a sense of peace and hope.

The practices of laying on hands, anointing, and prayer have deep historical roots in Judeo-Christian traditions. They serve as tangible expressions of divine grace. These practices are rich in symbolism and spiritual significance, creating a profound connection between the individual, the community, and God. In a healing ministry, they offer more than just physical relief; they provide a holistic approach to healing that addresses the body, mind, and spirit.

In conclusion, prayer and blessings are essential elements of a healing ministry, offering comfort, guidance, and a sense of divine presence to those in need. Through these practices, believers seek to experience and share God's healing power, reinforcing the deep connections that bind us to the divine and one another. As we engage in these sacred acts, we are reminded of the profound impact spiritual practices can have on our journey toward wholeness and well-being.

**3RD WEDNESDAY HOUR OF HEALING PRAYER** September 18 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 SEPTEMBER 4 at 9pm** on our Facebook page.

# Stewardship



***Test me in this ... and see if I will not throw open the floodgates of heaven and pour out so much blessing that there will not be room enough to store it.***

**—Malachi 3:10**

“When a country grows prosperous, people tend to think their prosperity will last forever—and that it makes them superior. They lose their heads and spend lavishly on themselves.

God said to the people in a situation like that, “Is it a time for you yourselves to be living in your paneled houses, while [my] house remains a ruin?” (Haggai 1:4). Self-centeredness leads to short-changing God and others in many ways, including the use of our income.

And, mysteriously, the bubble can burst. The center of prosperity can shift—from England, to America, to Japan, to China. Wealth slips out of our hands; “good jobs” dry up; hard times come. We “earn wages, only to put them in a purse with holes in it” (Haggai 1:6).

Christians have often debated the question of tithes. Since Christ came and fulfilled the Old Testament law, must we still give 10 percent of our income to God? Some give a smaller percentage, since 5 percent of a large income is greater than 10 percent of a small income. But Jesus was more impressed by a poor woman’s gift of all she had than by the large gifts of wealthy people (Luke 21:1-4). “God loves a cheerful giver ... and is able to bless you abundantly” (2 Corinthians 9:7-8). Ultimately, all that we have belongs to [God] (Psalm 24:1). So ... what amount of giving

## **Pastor’s Summer Appeal**

Prior Balance	\$ 11,698.48
Received this week	\$ 50.00
<b>Total Received</b>	<b>\$ 11,748.48</b>

restrains your selfishness and stimulates your faith?”

*Lord, open our hearts, that we may be blessed givers. In your name, Amen.*

—George Young

## **Boiler Fund Report**

Original Loan Balance	45,000.00
Remaining Owed	33,266.91
<b>Received this year</b>	<b><u>2976.00</u></b>
<b>Remaining Owed</b>	<b>30,290.91</b>

## **General Fund Report**

WE ARE WORKING WITH OUR NEW BOOKKEEPER TO GENERATE AN UPDATED REPORT. THANK YOU FOR YOUR PATIENCE.



**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,  
 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: [stlucasooffice@gmail.com](mailto:stlucasooffice@gmail.com)  
 Pastor Myers Email: [pastorpaulstlucas@gmail.com](mailto:pastorpaulstlucas@gmail.com)  
 Cindy's Corner: 419-724-1908 [stlucascindyscorner@gmail.com](mailto:stlucascindyscorner@gmail.com)  
 Website: [www.stlucastoledo.org](http://www.stlucastoledo.org)  
 Facebook page: [www.facebook.com/StLucasLutheranChurch](http://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](http://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***