



ST. LUCAS LANTERN
OUR MISSION STATEMENT
We Bring People to Christ, Nurture People in
Christ, and Equip People for Christ
MAY 2024



Dear Family and Friends of Saint Lucas:



I want you to know, brothers, that what has happened to me has really served to advance the gospel, so that it has become known throughout the whole imperial guard and to all the rest that my imprisonment is for Christ. Philippians 1:12-13

Saint Paul mentioned above of his “imprisonment” for Christ. This is not to be taken metaphorically. Paul was in jail. He did nothing wrong of course, except speak the gospel. About 25% of Paul’s active ministry to the Gentiles was spent in jail. That is hard to believe. We should also remember though, this is exactly where God wanted Paul to be. God wanted Paul in prison. This was Paul’s “vocation” for those 4-6 years. Paul’s calling, believe it or not, was to be in prison. The word “vocation” is a fascinating one we don’t consider enough in the church. The word “vocation” literally means “calling.” For us Christians, our vocation means where God has called us to be. They do not have to be fascinating vocations from a worldly perspective. What makes them fascinating is that God has called us into them. Take Saint Paul as an example. The great and mighty “Apostle to the Gentiles,” the man who performed numerous outstanding miracles, who met with the resurrected Christ, Paul’s calling for those years of his ministry was to be in prison. Paul’s vocation, his calling from God, was to be in jail for many years. Our vocations from God may not always be

easy for us. For example, a woman who is a stay-at home mother, who is going on 4 hours of sleep, doesn't receive a medal for her work. No matter how many diapers she changes or spit up she cleans, there are no worldly trumpets for her. But still, this is where God has called her. This is her divine vocation at this point in her life. And when we can look at our lives from God's perspective, suddenly things like diapers, and spit up, take on a divine dimension and the words of Christ ring true, "Truly I tell you, whatever you did for one of the least of these brothers and sisters of mine, you did for me" (Matthew 25:40). Each and every one of you have a vocation, a calling, from God. Not sure what that is? Just look at your lives. You may be called to work a 9-5 job. That is your vocation. You may be called right now by God to spend your final years sitting in a wheelchair. That is still your vocation from God. So, what is our reaction to our callings from God? We could sit around and bemoan our vocation. Saint Paul could have. He could have whined that he was in prison, grumbled that he wasn't being allowed to do something more "glamorous" in worldly eyes, but he didn't. He accepted his vocation. From that calling to be in prison, Paul was able to witness to those around him of the mercy of Christ. You also can be like Paul. You can accept your various vocations as callings from God, and you can serve God faithfully, giving witness to those around you of the mercy of Christ.

This month, as we celebrate Mother's Day, we remember with gratitude those whose vocation from God was, or is, to be a mother. Happy Mother's Day!

Yours in Christ,

Phil Miksad, President,

St. Lucas Evangelical Lutheran Church



MAY COFFEE-TAWLK: *Discipling the next generation – raising children and grandchildren to love God in a secular world. God created the family. Regardless of the means by which a child enters a family, children are a gift from God and He cares about how they are raised (Psalm 127:3). When one generation fails to*

instill God's laws in the next, a society quickly declines. Parents have not only a responsibility to their children, but an assignment from God to impart His values and truth into their lives (Ephesians 6:4). In the same way, just as grandchildren have obligations to love, honor, and assist their grandparents, so do grandparents have responsibilities toward their children's children. Proverbs 13:22 says that "a good man leaves an inheritance to his children's children." Righteous people live wisely and pass on their wisdom, knowledge, and blessings to their grandchildren.

The theme for the current series of *Coffee-Tawls* is "*Finding Joy in the Journey*". Please join us for this All-In Discipleship discussion on Sunday, May 19th at 9:15 a.m. in the gym at St. Lucas. Hosted by Robert McNeil, it will be a casual, informal, and friendly discussion on how we as parents and grandparents, through our example are the key to God's plan of teaching His Word to the next generation. As always, there will be a light breakfast served! You won't want to miss this important discussion. Looking forward to seeing all of you there!



OUTDOOR WORSHIP SERVICE AND POTLUCK:

Sunday, May 5, 10:30 a.m.

When the electricity went out last summer, we worshipped outdoors. The consensus was "Let's do it again!" Join us on May 5 at 10:30 for an outdoor service, followed by a potluck meal. The early service will be held indoors as usual.



BUNCO: May 2, 6:30 p.m. Come one and all - men & women! 6:30 p.m. in the Multi-Purpose Room. The cost is \$5.00 to play. The charity this month is Camp Circle Star which provides day camps for children

with disabilities who may be unsuccessful at more traditional camps. They are requesting plastic grocery bags, corn starch, liquid hand soap, fruit snacks, individual bags of chips & cookies, paper towels, shaving cream, baking soda, Off bug spray, and washable tempera paint. Some people bring snacks to share. Both donations and snacks are purely voluntarily. If you can not attend, there is a black & white tote in the back of church for donations.

MARK YOUR CALENDAR: May 3 - 5, 2024 - LWML SELC District Convention - Concordia Lutheran Church in Macungie, PA



LWML SELC Monthly Women's Bible Studies - 3rd Thursdays, 9:30 am CST

Dear Sisters in Christ,

The ever so popular LWML SELC Monthly Women's Bible Studies are back for 2024 on the 3rd Thursday of each month at 9:30 Central Standard Time.

The Bible Studies are taken from the Lutheran Woman's Quarterly. You can find a copy of the latest Quarterly on the St. Lucas LWML table in the narthex. You are welcome to take a Quarterly, free of charge, even if you are unable to attend a morning Bible study.

This Bible study will be "Five Stones for Service" in the Winter Issue and then we will be in the Spring Issue! Hope to see you Thursday.

Join Zoom Meeting

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/84746607019?pwd=V2t5a1BPQjFnUzJGRzRiS1ZVVVJsQT09>

Meeting ID: 847 4660 7019

Serve the Lord with gladness!



ECC: The children will be working on a surprise for their moms for Mother's Day.



SUMMERTIME STEWARDSHIP:

The summer slump is real, and it brings a lot of challenges for St. Lucas as our members head out on vacation and aren't physically present in our services as often as normal.

But just because you are at the beach, lake or cabin doesn't mean that you can't stay connected. With powerful giving and engagement tools, donations and participation can stay strong without extra effort from you. Please consider one of the many ways of giving which St. Lucas offers through our many convenient methods.

God's blessings for a safe and healthy summer.

The Finance Committee



FOUNDATION FOR LIFE CLASS:

Sundays, 5:00 p.m.

Mondays, 10:00 a.m.,

The teachings of the Christian faith found in the Bible give great meaning to your life!

Completion of the class can lead to membership in the church, but there is no obligation. If we discover that this time does not work for you, we'll look for an alternative. [Go online_st.lucaslcms.org](http://online.st.lucaslcms.org) for more details and to RSVP or contact Pastor Larson by [email mark.larson@stlucaslcms.org](mailto:mark.larson@stlucaslcms.org) or phone, (314) 623-2410.



SAVE THE DATE! VBS is right around the corner. Mark your calendars for June 3-7, from 9:00 a.m. until noon each day. **SCUBA * Diving Into Friendship with God** will take kids deep into an amazing undersea adventure where they'll experience the ever-flowing, never-ending love of God.

As always, we need lots of volunteers to make this wonderful ministry a success. The volunteers' availability changes each year as jobs/school/circumstances change, and we are especially looking for volunteers this year. Please contact Cindy Riley at 314-249-6036 or at rileyvacation@hotmail.com if you would love to help kids dive below the surface to build a strong faith.



WOMENS GUILD: The Women's Guild meeting will be meeting on the third Sunday, May 19th.



CONGRATULATE OUR GRADUATES: On Sunday, May 19, we will recognize and pray for God's blessings for our high school and college graduates. May God bless them in their vocations and keep them faithful their whole life through.

If you have such a graduate in your life, submit the information to the [church office](#) by May 13. Please include, name, relationship to you, institution graduating from and future plans.



MAY

Date	Early Service	Late Service
May 5	Bill Bartlow (Elder) Sharon Majoros (Greeter) Tom & Nicole Buffington (Readers) June Wooldridge (Usher) Timothy Adams (Acolyte) Steve Kulifay, Timothy Adams (Video Techs)	Deb Rose (Comm Setup) Travis Lawson (Elder) Myrna Land (Greeter) Laura Hertel (Reader) Ron & Joan Shebik (Usher) Riley Roper (Acolyte) Norah Kramer (Video Tech) Nancy Kramer, Caylin Schlesselman (Shep Watch)
May 12	Barbara Baranovic (Comm Setup) Phil Miksad (Elder) Diane Dymond (Greeter) Jane Townsend- Solovic, Stan Shurmantine (Readers) Jane Townsend- Solovic, Stan Shurmantine (Ushers) Timothy Adams (Acolyte) Carolyn Crump, Timothy Adams (Video Techs)	Robert McNeil (Elder) Warren & Nita Huffines (Greeter) Tom Kramer (Reader) Robert McNeil, Jane Mihalevich (Ushers) Tracy Jasper (Acolyte) Kamron Schlesselman (Video Tech) Liz Kurtz, Stacey Wellman (Shep Watch)
May 19	Bill Bartlow (Elder) Judy Willenbrock (Greeter) Joyce Kolnik (Reader) Tom & Nicole Buffington (Ushers) Timothy Adams (Acolyte) Carolyn Crump, Steve Kulifay (Video Techs)	Barb Morrison (Comm Setup) Ron Shebik (Elder) Laurie Riley (Greeter) Art Matia (Reader) Art Matia, Ken Ely (Ushers) Angel Jasper (Acolyte) Norah Kramer (Video Tech) Travis Lawson, Caylin Schlesselman (Shep Watch)
May 26	Art Matia (Comm Setup) Phil Miksad (Elder) Joyce Kolnik (Greeter) Steve Kulifay (Reader) Judy Willenbrock, Sharon Majoros (Ushers) Timothy Adams (Acolyte) Steve Kulifay, Timothy Adams (Video Techs)	Travis Lawson (Elder) Ken Ely (Greeter) Travis Lawson (Reader) Laura Riley (Usher) Zachary Aguado (Acolyte) Kamron Schlesselman (Video Tech) Nancy Kramer, Taylor McCallister (Shep Watch)



MAY BIRTHDAYS

- | | |
|--|-----------------------------------|
| 1 – Claire Baggett
Karen Boehm
Phan Thi Qe | 7 – Niki Christopher |
| 3 – Brad Shaw Poe | 8 – Donald Bretz |
| 4 – Ronald Shebik Sr. | 12 – Vivian Kramer |
| 5 – Cole Hoyt
Leo Lawson | 13 – Lawrence Kramer |
| 5 – Riley Roper | 14 – Douglas Wooldridge |
| 6 – Paula Lee | 15 – Makena Currie |
| | 16 – Rachel Simmons |
| | 19 – Thomas Kurtz |
| | 25 – Ruth Brooks
Linda Leggitt |

MAY ANNIVERSIERS

- 2 – Mike & Katie Murphy 3 years
- 3 – Corey & Valerie Weerts 5 years
- 5 – Warren & Nita Huffines 61 years
- 11 – Mike & Barb Baranovic 56 years
- 14 – Don & Karen Boehm 58 years
- 16 – Steve & Margaret Melton 10 years
- 23 – Bill & Mary Bartlow 32 years
- 24 – Mark & Diane Dymond 38 years
- 28 – Ron & Joan Shebik 58 years



GREETING CARDS: Greeting cards are available. They are located on a table outside of the church office in the main entrance. Thank you, Mary Bartlow, for the display cabinet for the table. There are birthday, thank you, sympathy, get well cards, gift card holders and more. Personalized cards can be made. Proceeds go to the Approved Special Projects. For more information contact Kathy Christopher (314) 351-2628 or officeofstlucas@yahoo.com. THANK YOU for all the cards that are bought.



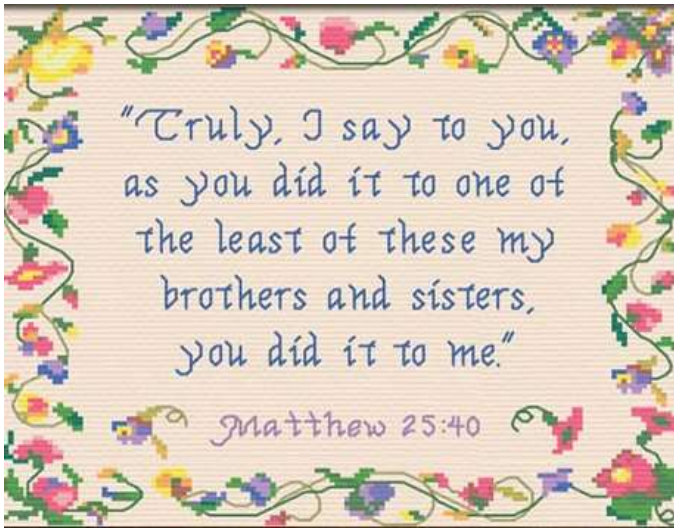
St. Lucas helps Feed My People with donations from our members. In the month of May, we are asking for any kind of donation, canned goods, personal products, etc. Feed My People provides these items to their clients, as needed.

Volunteers are needed at the High Ridge Location. Contact Mary Hettenhausen at (636) 677-9885 if you would like to volunteer.

Reading Through the Word

MAY

- 1... 1 Chronicles 14 & 15; Psalm 132; Matthew 18
- 2... 1 Chronicles 16; Psalm 106; Matthew 19
- 3... 2 Samuel 7; 1 Chronicles 17; Psalm 2; Matthew 20
- 4... 2 Samuel 8 & 9; 1 Chronicles 18; Matthew 21
- 5... 2 Samuel 10; 1 Chronicles 19 & 20; Psalm 20; Matthew 22
- 6... 2 Samuel 11 & 12; Psalm 51; Matthew 23
- 7... 2 Samuel 13 & 14; Matthew 24
- 8... 2 Samuel 15 & 16; Psalm 32; Matthew 25
- 9... 2 Samuel 17; Psalm 71; Matthew 26
- 10... 2 Samuel 18; Psalm 56; Matthew 27
- 11... 2 Samuel 19 & 20; Psalm 55; Matthew 28
- 12... 2 Samuel 21 & 22 & 23; 1 Thessalonians 1
- 13... 2 Samuel 24; 1 Chronicles 21; Psalm 30; 1 Thessalonians 2
- 14... 1 Chronicles 22 & 23 & 24; 1 Thessalonians 3
- 15... 1 Chronicles 25 & 26 & 27; 1 Thessalonians 4
- 16... 1 Kings 1; 1 Chronicles 28; Psalm 91; 1 Thessalonians 5
- 17... 1 Kings 2; 1 Chronicles 29; Psalm 95; 2 Thessalonians 1
- 18... 1 Kings 3; 2 Chronicles 1; Psalm 78; 2 Thessalonians 2
- 19... 1 Kings 4 & 5; 2 Chronicles 2; Psalm 101; 2 Thessalonians 3
- 20... 1 Kings 6; 2 Chronicles 3; Psalm 97; Romans 1
- 21... 1 Kings 7; 2 Chronicles 4; Psalm 98; Romans 2
- 22... 1 Kings 8; 2 Chronicles 5; Psalm 99; Romans 3
- 23... 2 Chronicles 6 & 7; Psalm 135; Romans 4
- 24... 1 Kings 9; 2 Chronicles 8; Psalm 136; Romans 5
- 25... 1 Kings 10 & 11; 2 Chronicles 9; Romans 6
- 26... Proverbs 1 & 2 & 3; Romans 7
- 27... Proverbs 4 & 5 & 6; Romans 8
- 28... Proverbs 7 & 8 & 9; Romans 9
- 29... Proverbs 10 & 11 & 12; Romans 10
- 30... Proverbs 13 & 14 & 15; Romans 11
- 31... Proverbs 16 & 17 & 18; Romans 12



AN OPPORTUNITY OF A LIFETIME: We are excited to offer you an opportunity of a lifetime! You can be famous!!!... Okay, maybe not quite famous... but we could really use your help in creating a short video for our church's website inviting the community to come and worship with us!

On Mother's Day, May 12 after either service, Seminarian Tyler Simmons will have his camera equipment set up and would like to take a few short videos of congregants talking about why they love to receive God's gifts at St. Lucas. Each clip can be less than 30 seconds, so you don't need to come up with a speech, just a simple line or two on our church community.

As a thank you for your participation, he would be happy to take a professional portrait/family picture for you after making the clip. This video will be put on our church website so that all those who are looking to visit St. Lucas can see it, which means, YOU'LL BE FAMOUS! If you are interested in participating, please let Tyler Simmons know by email (simmonst@csl.edu) or on Sunday morning.