



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

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Dear Family and Friends of Saint Lucas:

I read an interesting article in Facebook this week concerning a certain olive tree. It showed a picture of this olive tree, contained the following caption:

The olive tree of Vouves, on Crete. This tree, which has a trunk 15 feet in diameter, is at least 2000 years old, and likely 2900 years older, based on the graveyard found nearby. This tree likely lived through the writing of the Iliad, the golden age of Athens, the rise and fall of the Roman Empire, the birth of Christ (and his crucifixion and resurrection). It lived during the time of mastodons, the Aztecs – and then lived for 2000 years after that. It still produces olives.

What amazed me more than anything else, I think, was not the sheer age of the tree, or the fact that it had been around throughout all of that world history, from pre-Hellenistic Greece through the Golden Age of Athens. It was not that it had lived through the rise and fall of the Roman Empire, or the birth and life of Christ, His crucifixion and resurrection, and the birth of Christianity. It was not the thought of this tree living in the age of mastodons and the Aztec Empire. The most amazing part of the history of this tree, for me, is that it is still producing olives to this day, thus carrying out the purpose that God had given to it in its creation.

What does this have to do with you and me?

The fact is that God has had plans for us since before the creation of the world. We read in Ephesians 2:10: For we are God's handiwork, created in Christ Jesus to do good works, which God prepared in advance for us to do.

How are we carrying out the plans God has had for us? Are we like that faithful olive tree in Crete, still producing olives now going on 3000 years? Or do we need a boost to get those good works going?

We're in the "summer slump" in the church year and might just need that extra push to get us in the swing of things as God's handiwork, created in Christ Jesus. And the great news is that God has already prepared the good works that he expects from us.

May God continue to bless your summer and watch over you as you carry out His purpose for you!

Yours in Christ,  
Phil Miksad, President  
Saint Lucas Lutheran Church, Saint Louis



## Mercy and Grace Lead to Generosity

Thanks be to God for His inexpressible gift” (2 Cor. 9:15)! This is St. Paul’s exclamation upon hearing the Corinthian church’s response to the preaching of the Gospel of Jesus Christ and his request for support for the church in Jerusalem. The Christians in Corinth heard and received God’s mercy in Christ, and they responded to St. Paul’s call to support Christians in Jerusalem with a collection. The Corinthians’ joy filled Jerusalem’s need.

This is the reality of stewardship. Because of God’s generosity in the giving of His Son to die on the cross for us, we are to be generous with all that we receive from Him. What do we receive? Everything. All that we are and all that we have is the Lord’s. He is the creator and the giver. We are His creatures and those who receive what He gives.

It sounds easy. And it is. But then again it isn’t. Stewardship is easy because it is God’s work. Through what God gives, we give to others. Through what God gives, we support the work of the church for the life of the world. He gives; we receive. And like our generous Father in Heaven, we, as His children, use what He gives to us to love and serve others.

But stewardship is also difficult. That is because it goes against our natural inclination to think that what I have is mine to do what I want with. This is our sinful nature. It is our selfishness and our greed. How can we who have been given everything — life, food, clothing, house, home, forgiveness, divine sonship, an eternal inheritance — be so stingy with what we give to the church, the place where we hear about and receive all that God gives us and does for us? We are all guilty of this kind of thinking. And the only godly response is to repent and trust in the Gospel.

For if God has given you His own Son, will He not give you all things? Yes. He will. This is His sure and certain promise. God provides for His people. He provides everything we need for this body and life and for the life that is to come.

The church is a mercy place. It's a place where God's mercy in the death and resurrection of His Son, Jesus Christ, is given and received. For us who believe it means forgiveness, life and salvation in the face of sin, death and the power of the devil. Here in the church, we inhale God's mercy in Word and Sacrament, and exhale this same mercy in love and service to our neighbor. And that is an enduring, joyful thing to do. Our joy fills our neighbor's need because His joy filled ours (Heb. 12:2).

Thanks be to God for His inexpressible gift!  
(LCMS Stewardship Resources – August 2024)



**ECC:** We have been busy over the summer. The children have been enjoying water play days. The splash pad is a big hit. The St. Louis Zoo came here in June and

Kona Ice visited us on July 18. The children picked out their favorite flavors.





**SHUT INS GREETING CARDS:** Come join us on Saturday, August 17 at 10:00 a.m. to assemble greeting cards for St. Lucas Shut ins. We will be making Thanksgiving and Christmas cards. The cards will be prepared and will only need to be assembled. Please contact Mary Bartlow, (314) 283-0049 or email at [mary.bartlow@stlucaslcms.org](mailto:mary.bartlow@stlucaslcms.org) Kathy Christopher, (314) 351-2628 or email [officeofstlucas@yahoo.com](mailto:officeofstlucas@yahoo.com), if you will attend.



## Dinner

**THE WURST IS YET TO COME**™: The Men's Club annual "Brat & Kraut" Dinner will be held Sunday, September 29, 2024, from 11:00 a.m. until 2:00 p.m. As in past years, this family-style feast is prepared and served to your table by the members of the Club. The menu includes the finest Bratwurst in St. Louis, as well as sauerkraut, green beans, new red

potatoes, applesauce, coffee, and dessert. A child's plate, which consists of a hot dog, potato, and applesauce, will be available if your child doesn't care for the menu items. Carry-outs will also be available. Adults \$12.00 Children \$5.00 ages 5-12. Proceeds from the dinners, in the past have supported church youth programs, and the Scholarship Fund. Also, many necessary items for St. Lucas have been purchased with the money. Please mark this date on your calendars. We look forward to serving you. **COME ONE, COME ALL!!**



## AUGUST

Date	Early Service	Late Service
<b>August 4</b>	Phil Miksad ( <b>Elder</b> ) Joyce Kolnik ( <b>Greeter</b> ) Jane Townsend- Solovic, Stan Shurmantine ( <b>Readers</b> ) Jane Townsend- Solovic, Stan Shurmantine ( <b>Usher</b> ) Usher/Elder ( <b>Acolyte</b> ) Carolyn Crump, ( <b>Video Tech</b> )	Art Matia ( <b>Comm Setup</b> ) Robert McNeil ( <b>Elder</b> ) Travis Lawson ( <b>Greeter</b> ) Laura Hertel ( <b>Reader</b> ) Robert McNeil, Jane Mihalevich ( <b>Ushers</b> ) Angel Jasper ( <b>Acolyte</b> ) Kamron Schlesselman, Dalton Costick ( <b>Video Techs</b> ) Dawn Schlesselman, Travis Lawson ( <b>Shep Watch</b> )
<b>August 11</b>	Nancy Roach ( <b>Comm Setup</b> ) Bill Bartlow ( <b>Elder</b> ) Deb Rose ( <b>Greeter</b> ) Mary Bartlow ( <b>Reader</b> ) Judy Willenbrock, Sharon Majoros ( <b>Ushers</b> ) Usher/Elder ( <b>Acolyte</b> ) Steve Kulifay ( <b>Video Tech</b> )	Ron Shebik ( <b>Elder</b> ) Myrna Land ( <b>Greeter</b> ) Tom Kramer ( <b>Reader</b> ) Art Matia, Ken Ely ( <b>Ushers</b> ) Zachary Aguado ( <b>Acolyte</b> ) Norah Kramer, Johnny Bewig ( <b>Video Techs</b> ) Stacey Wellman, Caylin Schlesselman ( <b>Shep Watch</b> )
<b>August 18</b>	Phil Miksad ( <b>Elder</b> ) Sharon Majoros ( <b>Greeter</b> ) Tom & Nicole Buffington ( <b>Reader</b> ) Tom & Nicole Buffington ( <b>Ushers</b> ) Usher/Elder ( <b>Acolyte</b> ) Carolyn Crump ( <b>Video Tech</b> )	Jane Mihalevich ( <b>Comm Setup</b> ) Travis Lawson ( <b>Elder</b> ) Warren & Nita Huffines ( <b>Greeters</b> ) Travis Lawson ( <b>Reader</b> ) Laurie Riley ( <b>Usher</b> ) Zach Schlesselman ( <b>Acolyte</b> ) Kamron Schlesselman, Johnny Bewig ( <b>Video Techs</b> ) Liz Kurtz ( <b>Shep Watch</b> )
<b>August 25</b>	Laurie Ely ( <b>Comm Setup</b> ) Bill Bartlow ( <b>Elder</b> ) Diane Dymond ( <b>Greeter</b> ) Joyce Kolnik ( <b>Reader</b> ) June Wooldridge ( <b>Usher</b> ) Usher/Elder ( <b>Acolyte</b> ) Steve Kulifay ( <b>Video Tech</b> )	Robert McNeil ( <b>Elder</b> ) Laurie Riley ( <b>Greeter</b> ) Art Matia ( <b>Reader</b> ) Ron & Joan Shebik ( <b>Ushers</b> ) Caylin Schlesselman ( <b>Acolyte</b> ) Kamron Schlesselman, Dalton Costick ( <b>Video Techs</b> ) Taylor McCallister ( <b>Shep Watch</b> )



### **AUGUST BIRTHDAYS**

- |                       |                        |
|-----------------------|------------------------|
| 2 – Sara Ladenberger  | 20 – Doris Banks       |
| 3 – Stacey Wellman    | 21 – Deborah Carter    |
| 7 – Lutheran Willis   | 22 – Zachary Aguado    |
| 9 – Jill Arbet        | 23 – Vlasta Pritchett  |
| 11 – Amy Kube         | 24 – Thomas Kramer     |
| 12 – Eleanor Barnes   | 25 – Elizabeth Kurtz   |
| 14 – Jasmine Adams    | 26 – Adrienne Grossius |
| Carl Maulhardt        | Ava Grossius           |
| Justine Perry         | 27 – Philip Lee        |
| 19 – Jared Intagliata | 28 – Katie Murphy      |

### **AUGUST ANNIVERSARIES**

- |                                        |          |
|----------------------------------------|----------|
| 13 – Don & Terri Howell                | 36 years |
| 20 – Frank & Barb Schmaltz             | 39 years |
| 22 – Jerry & Marilyn Hrabovsky         | 42 years |
| 25 – Stan Shurmantine and Jane Solovic | 7 years  |
| 29 – Mark & Kristine Aguado            | 23 years |
| 29 – Donald & Debbie Bretz             | 32 years |
| 29 – Michael & Janice Taylor           | 44 years |



St. Lucas helps Feed My People with donations from our members. In the month of August, 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.

## MARK YOUR CALENDARS







# Reading Through the Word

## AUGUST

- 1 ... Isaiah 65 & 66; Psalm 62; John 3
- 2 ... 2 Kings 21; 2 Chronicles 33; John 4
- 3 ... Nahum 1 & 2 & 3; John 5
- 4 ... 2 Kings 22; 2 Chronicles 34; John 6
- 5 ... 2 Kings 23; 2 Chronicles 35; John 7
- 6 ... Habakkuk 1 & 2 & 3; John 8
- 7 ... Zephaniah 1 & 2 & 3; John 9
- 8 ... Jeremiah 1 & 2; John 10
- 9 ... Jeremiah 3 & 4; John 11
- 10 ... Jeremiah 5 & 6; John 12
- 11 ... Jeremiah 7 & 8 & 9; John 13
- 12 ... Jeremiah 10 & 11 & 12; John 14
- 13 ... Jeremiah 13 & 14 & 15; John 15
- 14 ... Jeremiah 16 & 17; Psalm 96; John 16
- 15 ... Jeremiah 18 & 19 & 20; Psalm 93; John 17
- 16 ... 2Kings 24; Jeremiah 22; Psalm 112; John 18
- 17 ... Jeremiah 23 & 24 & 25; John 19
- 18 ... Jeremiah 26 & 35 & 36; John 20
- 19 ... Jeremiah 45 & 46 & 47; Psalm 105; John 21
- 20 ... Jeremiah 48 & 49; Psalm 67; 1 John 1
- 21 ... Jeremiah 21 & 24 & 27; Psalm 118; 1 John 2
- 22 ... Jeremiah 28 & 29 & 30; 1 John 3
- 23 ... Jeremiah 31 & 32; 1 John 4
- 24 ... Jeremiah 33 & 34; Psalm 74; 1 John 5
- 25 ... Jeremiah 37 & 38 & 39; Psalm 79; 2 John
- 26 ... Jeremiah 50 & 51; 3 John
- 27 ... Jeremiah 52; Revelation 1; Psalms 143 & 144
- 28 ... Ezekiel 1 & 2 & 3; Revelation 2
- 29 ... Ezekiel 4 & 5 & 6 & 7; Revelation 3
- 30 ... Ezekiel 8 & 9 & 10 & 11; Revelation 4
- 31 ... Ezekiel 12 & 13 & 14; Revelation 5



For we are his workmanship,  
created in Christ Jesus  
for good works,  
which God prepared  
beforehand,  
that we should  
walk in them.

Ephesians 2:10 ESV

