



# The Acts of St. Lucas

DECEMBER  
2025



The seal of St. Luke

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

## Saurkraut Supper



## Decorating the Sanctuary November 30



## WINTER FEAST OF ABUNDANCE

The Stewardship of Life Institute (SOLI) has granted St. Lucas \$1,000 for the purpose of celebrating members of our community in the Old South End. This "Feast of Abundance" is meant to forge better connections between our ministry site and the surrounding community. The event will be **Saturday, December 13 from noon-2:00 pm.**

We will have a delicious meal, as well as gift cards to give away for people to use during the holiday season. You may also consider providing funds and/or making salad or dessert for the meal.

If you wish to donate for gift cards, please write "Feast" on your check, giving envelope or online bill pay. If you can bring salad or dessert, please indi-



Stewardship of Life Institute





# PASTORAL ACTS

*Pastor Paul D. Myers III*

*<sup>1</sup> In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God. <sup>2</sup> He was in the beginning with God. <sup>3</sup> All things came into being through him, and without him not one thing came into being. What has come into being <sup>4</sup> in him was life, and the life was the light of all people. <sup>5</sup> The light shines in the darkness, and the darkness did not overtake it. —John 1*

## Endings and Beginnings

It always happens around this time of year: we look back on the year past, and we look forward to the new year. Advent leads us from where we are to where we seek to be in the birth of Christ our redeemer. We walk through the prophecies of the Old Testament with eyes to the future—a future with Jesus in our midst, and a future with God’s Kingdom fulfilled at the second coming.

In the Gospel of John’s introduction, we hear the retelling of God’s presence throughout history through the lens of an author who witnessed the promises of God fulfilled. John tells of the revelation of Jesus—God Incarnate—to a weary and waiting world.

Can we claim that same position? Are we living in a world that is in need of a revelation from God? Yes. And so, God reveals Godself to us again, in the telling of the stories of Advent and in the images of Jesus we see all around us. We are able to see God’s faithfulness in all of creation; we are able to see God’s love in the hands of God’s servants; we are able to see God’s salvation in the lives of everyone around us as they strive together for a better world.

There will come a day when all of this striving will end. We will no longer need to seek the Lord because we will know the Lord fully, according to the Apostle Paul. But even that ending will be a beginning, as we live with Christ forever in God’s glory. I invite you to start living that life as if it were already here—that is the joy of this life. As you journey through Advent, let the year end festivities lead you into a new year of beginnings devoted to the One who lived, died, and rose again for your life.

Peace be with you on your journey.

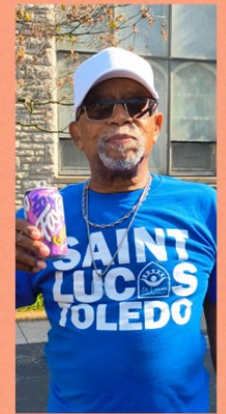




# ACTS OF EDUCATION

by Shandonna Hamilton-Flunder , Sunday School Superintendent

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







by Deb Reis

**Beginning Saturday, Dec. 20th** Healing Hour will be in the main sanctuary from 3:00-3:45. 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.

## A Note of Gratitude for Our Healing Ministry

Recently, we completed a Healing Ministry class hosted at **Grace Episcopal Church in Traverse City, MI**, with coordination support from **Jeannie Dennler**. We are grateful for Grace Episcopal's hospitality and for Jeannie's faithful assistance in making this learning opportunity possible.

Healing ministry is more than a skill set, it is a path of formation. Those who feel called to this work know it asks for time, humility, and perseverance. It is study and practice. It is mentoring and accountability. It is learning how to offer a steady, prayerful presence and becoming a **conduit for God's love**, allowing the Holy Spirit to flow through us to bring comfort, peace, and, in God's timing, healing.

Because this ministry touches tender places of body, mind, and spirit, it requires **education, structure, and resources**. Our practitioners devote themselves to learning: foundations in prayer, scripture, and the Christian tradition of laying on of hands; ethical guidelines and boundaries; and practical skills for compassionate listening and intercessory prayer. They prepare not to "fix," but to **serve**, to accompany others with reverence and hope.

As we enter this season of **Thanksgiving**, we offer heartfelt thanks:

- To those who quietly serve St. Lucas in so many ways, seen and unseen.
- 
- To our healing ministers and those discerning a call to this work, thank you for showing up with open hands and willing hearts.
- 
- To our partners and mentors who help train and equip our team.
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May the Lord continue to strengthen this ministry, deepen our compassion, and make our parish a place where the weary find rest, the anxious find calm, and all who seek God's presence are welcomed in love.

**With gratitude,**

**Deb**

# ST. LUCAS LUTHERAN OUTREACH MINISTRY

*Matthew 25:31-40*

## St. Lucas Outreach Ministry Approximate Info/Statistics for November 2025:

During November 2025, an average of approximately 80 lunches per day were served in the Cindy's Corner Café on open days. For many in our neighborhood, the Café has long been an important part in helping to manage their food security. However, in light of recent financial and supply instability, the Café has become even more important as a source for those in need to get a prepared/wholesome meal. Every donation (monetary, food items, donations of time/talents, etc.) made to the St. Lucas Outreach Ministry goes directly to help serve our guests. **Thank you!**

### Outreach Ministry Contact Info:

419-243-8189 – Ext . #3  
stlucasoutreach@gmail.com

### Outreach Ministry General Request List:

The following items are being requested to help our guests-Thank you:

\***Gently used coats** – there is a critical need for student size coats (Pre-K to High School ages).

\***Socks** – there is a critical need for socks of all sizes.

\***Gently used tennis/sport/athletic shoes** – Adult sizes. Refurbishing & fundraising.

\***Laundry soap.**

\***Canned meat:** Chicken, beef, and/or pork – Any/all size cans are welcome.

\***Aluminum cans** (empty) for recycling & fundraising.

\***Hygiene items** – soap for bathing, shampoo, adult diapers, feminine products, deodorant, toilet paper, hand sanitizer, wipes, etc.

\***Baby/Infant/Toddler items** for Baby Gate (diapers – all sizes, wipes, anti-diaper- rash creams, etc.).

\***Blankets of all sizes** – critical need.

\***Gloves, mittens, scarves, hats, etc.** – critical need.

## Outreach Ministry Events/Happenings/Info:

**\*FREE LAUNDROMAT DAY – Clean Duds!** Do you (or someone you know) need a place to get your clothes washed? How does getting them clean for FREE sound? If this sounds like a great idea, please consider taking the clothes you would like to have washed (please bring your own laundry soap) to the Reynolds Laundromat, 521 South Reynolds Road, Toledo, Ohio 43615 on the third Thursday of each month from 3:00pm to 7:00pm. Wash your clothes for FREE...yep, you read that correctly, FOR FREE! **This month's free Laundry day is Thursday, December 18, 2025 from 3-7pm! Please share this information!**

\*The Stewardship of Life Institute (SOLI) has granted St. Lucas \$1,000 for the purpose of celebrating members of our community in the Old South End. This celebration will be a **"Feast of Abundance" Meal** and a time for the neighborhood to come together in a free and safe social setting with the intent of helping to forge better connections between our ministry site and the surrounding community. **Monetary and/or food donations (salads, desserts, munchies, light appetizers, etc.,)** are being sought. If you wish to make a contribution, please call the St. Lucas Office at 419-243-8189 and let them know what you would like to donate. **This free event is open to the public and will take place in the St. Lucas Gymnasium on Saturday, December 13, 2025 from Noon until 2:00pm** and is a joint effort between the Evangelism & Outreach Committees with the generous grant from SOLI(!) and support of everyone who donates **ALL ARE WELCOME!**

**\*Other Holiday Meals** – The Café will be offering the following special holiday meals on these days:

**-Wednesday, November 26, 2025,** Café guests will be offered a full **Thanksgiving Meal from Noon until 1:00pm.**

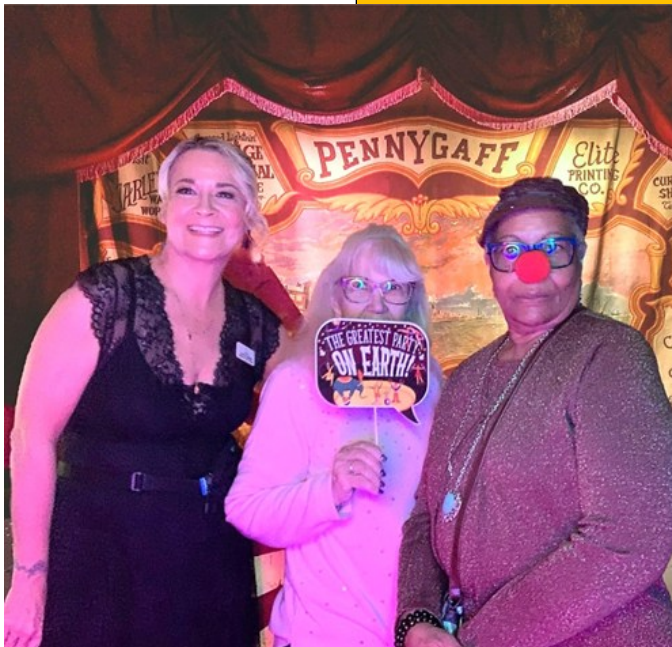
**-Friday, December 19, 2025,** guests will be offered a full **Christmas Meal from Noon until 1:00pm.**

As always, **ALL ARE WELCOME!**

## OTHER ST. LUCAS LUTHERAN OUTREACH MINISTRY NEWS



School supplies, clothing, and other supplies being delivered to **Pickett Elementary!** Thank you to **Kid's Closet** and **everyone** who has helped to make this possible. The needs are still great – please stay tuned to provide for other needs! Thank you!



**St. Lucas Outreach Ministry Networking with other Northwest Ohio Outreach Organizations:**

Picture above – *At Mobile Meals of Northwest Ohio.*

Picture to the right – *At Relay for Life.*





## DECEMBER WORSHIP SERVANTS

**4:00 Elder** Kate Gladieux

**9:00 Elder** Gary Stofan

**10:30 Elder** Rick Charchol, Annette Mason

**Lector** Mike Biscay

**Head Ushers** Russ Wells, LaVonda Rodgers

**Offering Ushers** Ed Bloedow, Fritz Bloedow

**Acolyte** Faith Wolfram

**Camera** Steve Seaton, Pat Wilson, Sarah Sigurdson

**Healing Station** Pat Bair

## JANUARY WORSHIP SERVANTS

**4:00 Elder** Steve Seaton

**9:00 Elder** Kathy Carver

**10:30 Elder** Faith Wolfram, Patrick Codden

**Lector** Sarah Sigurdson

**Head Ushers** Russ Wells, LaVonda Rodgers

**Offering Ushers** Pat Bair, Pam Hoch

**Acolyte** Jill Hojnacki

**Camera** Steve Seaton, Gary Stofan, Sarah Sigurdson

## DECEMBER MEETINGS

Dec 02 @ 10:00 am Outreach Meeting

Dec 04 @ 10:30 Christian Ed. Committee

Dec 09 @ 7:00 Council Christmas Party

Dec 09 @ 3:30 WELCA Christmas Gathering

Dec 16 @ 6:30 BUC

Dec 23 @ 6:30 Evangelism Committee?????

## DARTBALL SCHEDULE

Monday December 1st

St. Lucas @ 1st St. John #1

Monday December 15th

St. Marks @ St. Lucas

Contact Russ Wells

419-480-7638

## DECEMBER THRIFT SHOP SCHEDULE

Wed Dec 03 Susan Lang, Lorraine Willoughby

Thur Dec 04 Deb Hurley, Amy Speelman

Fri Dec 05

Wed Dec 10 Susan Lang, Hildegard Ruelke

Thur Dec 11 Deb Hurley, Amy Speelman

Fri Dec 12 Deb Hurley, Tanya Cason

Wed Dec 17 Susan Lang, Hildegard Ruelke

Thur Dec 18 Deb Hurley, Sally Ortiz

Fri Dec 19 Deb Hurley, Tanya Cason

Wed Dec 24

Thur Dec 25 **CLOSED**

Fri Dec 26

Subs are Jan Hoffman 419-740-2302 or call Deb Hurley 419-409-9967.

## Wednesday Evening Devotion Schedule

**9pm**

December 03 Ed Kane ( guided meditation)

December 11 Martin Billmeier

December 17 Sharon Stofan



## ST. LUCAS PRAYER LIST

**PLEASE REMEMBER THESE PEOPLE IN YOUR PRAYERS:**

### Hospitalized

Angie Basilius

### Recovering from Surgery

### GENERAL HEALTH

Keith Johnson, John Kern, Dave Jerman, Beth  
Cousino, Lorraine Willoughby,

Doris Banks, Kathy Jackowski, Ken Sikorski, Sharon  
Stofan, Pat Beaty, Anna Ponce, Angel Pringle, Barb  
Beaverson, Crystal, Tina, Robert Dauel Sr. Suzy  
Ray, Bob Alley, Jessica Wilson, Becky Herbert, Pat  
Wilson, Dawn Hetrick, Aunt Sharon, Dan Markley,  
Paul Schnapp

### VISITATION LIST (RARELY OUT)

Cheryl Ivy, Roger Druckemiller, Joyce Mason

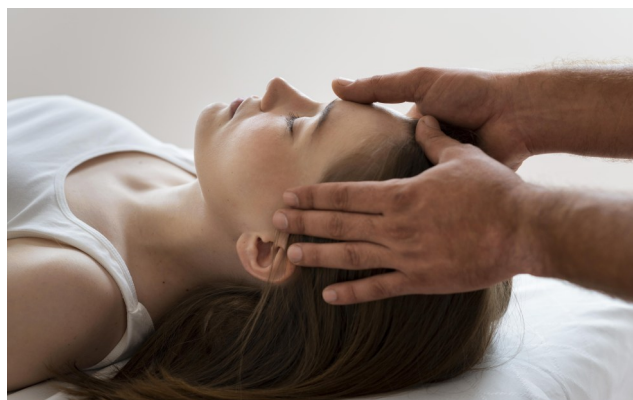


## Healing Touch Schedule

*Every third Wednesday of the month in the sanctuary  
4-5:00.*

Wed Dec 17

Wed Jan 21



## Happy December Birthday



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

George Pfaff	1
Amy Woody	11
Sue Johnson	16
Bea Heebsh	24
Neil Neukam	27
Chuck Dennison	27
Ana Dubois	29



## HAPPY NOVEMBER ANNIVERSARY!

Pat & Karen Wilson	03
Ron & Susan Lang	29
Howard & Sarah Abts	29

## 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.**



# Stewardship

A Stewardship Devotion by Norman Visser

<sup>26</sup> *“Just as it was in the days of Noah, so also will it be in the days of the Son of Man. <sup>27</sup> People were eating, drinking, marrying and being given in marriage up to the day Noah entered the ark. Then the flood came and destroyed them all.*—Luke 17:26-27

This Christmas Eve stores will be filled with people looking to buy something—anything—for some of their closest family members. If asked why they waited till Christmas Eve, some will claim they enjoy the rush that comes with last-minute shopping. Others will offer different reasons, but many will just say they have been too busy. Doing -other things, they have had no time to shop, and now it is Christmas Eve.

Jesus warns us that people will be busy on the day of his coming. People will be busy in the way they were in the days of Noah and Lot. When Jesus says this, he does not say that people in those days were busy being wicked. Jesus says that people were eating and drinking, marrying and giving in marriage, buying and selling, planting and building. They were going about their daily lives and were busy doing everyday sorts of things.

We often keep ourselves busy in similar ways even when we know a special deadline is approaching. We know that Christmas is coming, but we still leave some of our preparations to the last minute because we are “so busy.”

In this Advent season, may we set aside our busyness and simply enjoy the gifts God has given us. May we be ready to rest in God’s goodness as we celebrate the birth of Jesus. Our stewardship is necessary for the ministry of the church, but so is stewardship of our own souls and bodies. May this season be a time to rest and enjoy the life and fellowship of God and community.

*Gracious God, the day is almost upon us. Forgive us for leaving some things undone. Guide us toward healthier lives, and help us to rest in your grace and to receive the joy of your salvation revealed in Jesus. Amen.*



**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  
Annette Mason, Office Manager  
Jamie Dael, Organist  
Ron Lang, Choirmaster  
Steve Seaton, Custodian  
Melissa Demski, Kitchen Manager

### **Church Council**

Russ Wells, President; Jill Hojnacki, Vice-president; Brian Hoch, 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**

Secretary Email: [stlucasooffice@gmail.com](mailto:stlucasooffice@gmail.com)

Pastor Myers Email: [pastorpaulstlucas@gmail.com](mailto:pastorpaulstlucas@gmail.com)

St. Lucas Outreach: 419-243-8189 EXT.103 [stlucasoutreach@gmail.com](mailto:stlucasoutreach@gmail.com)

Website: [www.stlucastoledo.org](http://www.stlucastoledo.org)

Facebook page: [www.facebook.com/StLucasLutheranChurch](https://www.facebook.com/StLucasLutheranChurch).

YouTube: [YouTube@stlucaslutherantole](https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCstlucaslutherantole)

### **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)



### **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**

### **AFFIRMATION OF WELCOME - 2025**

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