



APRIL
2025

The Acts of St. Lucas



The seal of St. Luke

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

WEDNESDAY LENTEN SERVICES began on Ash Wednesday, March 5th at 7:00 pm and will continue each Wednesday evening through April 9th. A Soup and Salad supper will be served in the gym from 5:30 pm to 6:30. Please join us!

Maundy Thursday Services 12:00 & 7:00pm

Good Friday Services 12:00 & 8:00pm

Saturday Easter Vigil 4:00pm

Easter Sunday Services 9:00am & 10:30am

Easter Breakfast 8:30-12:00



• Youth Summer Mission Trip

As we prepare for our summer mission trip, we are seeking gift cards for food, and gas as we drive back and forth on our trip. **Exxon, BP, and Shell** are nationwide gas chains, as well as **McDonald's and Wendy's**. Or a **prepaid Visa or Mastercard** would be helpful. Any amount would be a blessing for our trip.

Needed-\$11,095.00

Raised-\$7,376.00

Remaining-\$3,719.00



On Easter Sunday, the kitchen will be serving a continental breakfast. Bagels, Donuts, Sausage muffins, Orange Juice, Milk and Coffee.

There is no charge, just a free will offering.

All are welcome!





PASTORAL ACTS

Pastor Paul D. Myers III

"I am the light of the world. If you follow me, you won't have to walk in darkness, because you will have the light that leads to life." John 8:12

Hide And Seek

Playing Hide and Seek at night in the summertime was a favorite pastime when we were kids. The rules were: you must stay in the yard, and you can't jump out and scare anyone; and, of course, when mom said it was time to quit, we must come inside. Hiding in the dark was just more fun.

The other side of the coin was, however, that when you hide in the dark, it's easy to get scared when you're a kid. Not being able to see very clearly often led to thoughts of crawling things and monsters of various kinds seeking to devour you. There were times when I almost wanted to be found so I could come back into the light of the back porch.

I read a story recently about Mammoth Cave in Kentucky. It seems that a great opening in the cave system was called the "Methodist Church" because there used to be actual services there once upon a time. And the tour guide demonstrated just how much light could be put out by an oil lamp. When there is no other source of light, a single lamp shines brightly in comparison.

As the days get longer, and light fills our part of the world for longer periods of time, I am reminded of the gift of God: the Light of the World, Jesus, and how in our dark times, we need only look to Jesus to shine in the darkness and move us into the joyous light of peace and healing. There is no longer any need to hide because God has found us and called us into the light.

By the way, there was always punch and cookies on the back porch waiting when we were called in, just as in Christ, there is always a feast awaiting us as we come into the heavenly light of God's Kingdom. So enjoy your time outdoors as the weather gets warmer; and have joy in your life together at St. Lucas, living and serving with our neighbors in the Old South End.

Peace be with you on your journey.

Pastor Paul.

ST. LUCAS YOUTUBE CHANNEL & WORSHIP LIVE STREAMING We now have our own YouTube account: [YouTube@stlucaslutherantoleado](https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCstlucaslutherantoleado). 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.**

NEW SPIRITUAL HEALING CLASSES have been postponed. Please contact the church office or Deb Reis if interested.

Even if you are only interested in personal spiritual growth, these classes will help you learn more about God's ability to heal us.

There is a discount for St. Lucas Members, and also, scholarships if you need this financially.

At Sofia Quintero Art and Cultural Center
Key Bank is sponsoring a seminar called **Pathways to Homeownership** on **Saturday April 26 from 10:00-1:00pm.**

There will also be a Spanish interpreter for our Spanish neighbors.

*discover programs to make homeownership possible for more people.

*learn how our cutting-edge tools make getting qualified faster and easier.

*learn how to qualify for KeyBank's home lending interest rate discount.

For additional information contact: John Frank (Mortgage Loan Officer) at, (419) 891-3095

SHARE YOUR WORSHIP EXPERIENCE ON SOCIAL MEDIA: SNAPCHAT, INSTAGRAM, FACEBOOK, TWITTER

Please share your worship experience via social media. Get the word out that you value your faith community and faith in God. You are welcome to use your cell phone or tablet to share our shared worship experience with others. Sharing your faith in real-time is cool. Phone calls are not. Texting is fine. Check-in on Facebook. Take selfies. Share pictures of the services and this beautiful sanctuary on our Facebook page. Tell your friends and family you are here. Invite them to join you. Post about your experience on social media. Take videos and share them freely, but **please don't take pictures/videos of children** and be careful not to disrupt the service. Check us out on Facebook: www.facebook.com/StLucasLutheranChurch

Donate Hygiene Items



ST. LUCAS OUTREACH 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 9:00-3:00, or in the empty tub under the narthex tables at worship services.



ACTS OF EDUCATION

by Sharon Schaefer, Sunday School Correspondent

SUNDAY SCHOOL MISSION: LOVE, LEARN, AND SERVE GOD

It is hard to know how to pick a topic for an Acts of Education page for April 2025. It is Lent, it is Holy Week, and it is Easter all in one month! I'm not sure why this happens, but in this month of Easter, the feeling of closeness with Jesus is so definite. There are lessons everywhere we look. There are Lent services available every week. If you write down some quotes from Pastor Paul's sermons, maybe you wrote this one do recently: "You are beloved and God is faithful." And one from a sermon back in 2021 when we were grappling with Covid, "I am the bread of life." It is always good to be reminded from John 6, "I am the living bread that came down from heaven. Whoever eats of this bread will live forever; and the bread that I will give for the life of the world is my flesh."

And also in this month of Easter, the feeling of gratitude is palpable. How can we be more thankful than for the life and death and resurrection of Jesus?

Suggested reading this month: Luke 13:31-35, with its unforgettable verses about "how often have I desired to gather your children together as a hen gathers her brood under her wings, and you were not willing."

May the powerful words of the Easter season fill your life with interesting experiences and help you relive the sacred stories.

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



The last Spanish Class! Our last class was spent at El Centro Americano Mexican Restaurant. The students ordered in Spanish. Well done, everyone!! L-R Pam Hoch, Pastor Paul, Sarah Abts, Pat Bair, and Norma Ramos-Prater (instructor)



March 31, 2025 Visit St John's Lutheran Church Food Pantry

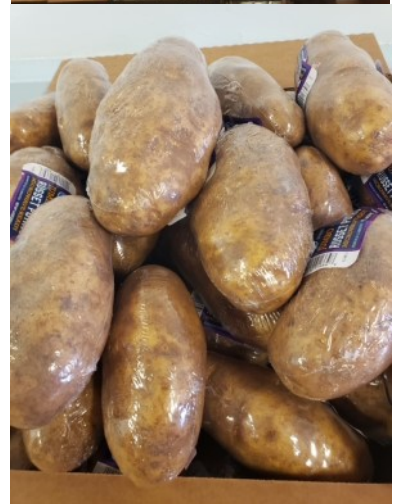
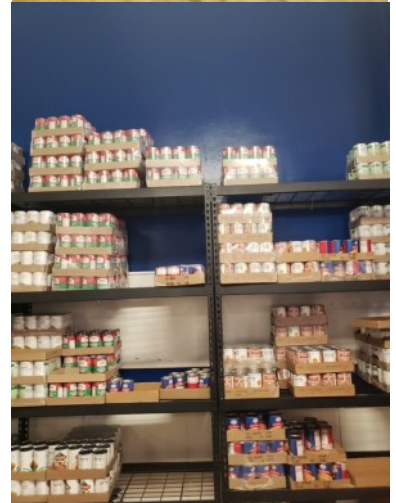
This Ministry is supported monthly by St John's and St Lucas. It was begun by Cindy Kirk and St Lucas as Cindy's Corner with initial funds and space donated by St John's.

This is a beautiful old red brick church. It has a ramp up to the entrance door of the education building from the large parking lot. Go on in and check in at the desk. You will be greeted and welcomed. There are tables and chairs, coffee and sometimes donated pastries in this room. Have a seat at one of the tables, have a cup of coffee and visit with some other people before you start choosing items from the food selection available that day.

Take a look at the food that is on display in the first room before you take a right into the hallway with a large refrigerator that leads to the big room with shelves, boxes, freezers, and an empty box to put your items in. There are flat bottom carts in the entry room. One of the volunteers will bring you one. There are many canned goods. There are dry items like rice and beans and grains. There is cereal and milk. There is a meat selection of the day. The volunteers get to know their customers and the customers look forward to picking out some much needed food supplies. The Food Pantry is open Monday and Wednesday from 11 to 12:30. The address is 708 S. Erie. Their phone number is 419-377-4530.

I see people I know here, LaVonda, Emmitt and Shandonna. There are a number of other volunteers, some who help every time the Pantry is open, who attend other area churches. I saw Brian, too, who I have seen many times helping at St Lucas. He helps here every time he is able.

It takes a lot of time and organizing and of course constant stocking to make this place hum every week. Thanks to all the volunteers. Check it out!



St. Lucas Outreach News

AED Update

—AED training will be held on a Saturday June 7th, 11:00-1:00. You must register for this training. The cost is \$5.00. You must register by May 1st. This will be a certification, after you finish the training.

Youth Trip Fund Raising

—Easter Brunch – free will offering. (see below)

Guest Services

—April speakers Zeph Center on April 16, 2025 @11:00

— Sight Center on April 17, 2025 @11:00

- Easter Continental Breakfast April 20 8:30-12:00
- **Women's Health Fair** April 22, 2025 10:00-3:00pm Location: Sofia Quintero Arts & Cultural Center
- Location: 1222 Broadway St. Toledo 43609 (asking for volunteers)
- Office of Aging on April 23, 2025
- Lutheran Social Services April 24, 2025
- Buckeye Broadband will be making lunch & serving it on April 24,2025

Special Café Events

—Wednesday Lenten evening services will be preceded by a soup and salad meal. The food service will start at 5:30 pm; the church service starts at 7:00 pm.

—A continental breakfast is being planned for Easter. Breakfast starts at 8:30 am and ends at 12:00. Free-will donations will be solicited.



SERVANTS IN THE CHURCH OF JESUS

APR 1 @ 6:30 EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

MAY WORSHIP SERVANTS

4:00 Elder Kate Gladieux

9:00 Elder Pat Wilson

10:30 Patrick Codden, Dan Markley, Ken Sikorski,
Annette Mason

Lector Jill Hojnacki

Head Ushers

Kelly Curtin

Russ Wells

Offering Ushers

Ed & Fritz Bloedow

Acolyte Jill Hojnacki

Camera Steve Seaton. Gary Stofan, Sarah Sigurdson

Healing Station Pat Bair

Apr 3 @ 10:30 Christian Ed Meeting

Apr 8 @ 7:00 pm Council Meeting

Apr 10 @ 6:30 Safety Committee via Zoom

Apr 15 @ 9:30 am WELCA biz meet & Bible Study

Apr 15 @ 6:30 BUC

Apr 22 @ 6:00 pm Evangelism Committee

Apr 23 @ 2:00 pm Healing Board Meeting

APRIL THRIFT SHOP SCHEDULE

Wed Apr 2 Susan Lang
Lorraine Willoughby

Thur Apr 3 Tonya Cason
Amy Speelman

Fri Apr 4 Tonya Cason
Deb Hurley

Wed Apr 9 Susan Lang
Sally Ortiz

Thurs Apr 10 Deb Hurley,
Amy Speelman

Fri Apr 11 Deb Hurley
Tonya Cason

Wed Apr 16 Susan Lang
Sharon Olmstead

Thurs Apr 17 Deb Hurley,
Amy Speelman

Fri Apr 18 Deb Hurley
Tonya Cason

Wed Apr 23 Susan Lang, Hildegard Ruelke

Thurs April 24 Deb Hurley, Amy Speelman

Fri April 25 Deb Hurley, Tonya Cason

DARTBALL SCHEDULE

All games start at 7:30

Monday 3/31 St. John #1 @ St. Lucas

Monday 4/7 Prince of Peace @ St. Lucas

Banquet on Monday 4/28 at St. Marks Lutheran

Wednesday Evening Devotion Schedule 9pm

Apr 02 Ed Kane (Guided Meditation)

Apr 09 Georgia Steele

Apr 16 Martin Billmeier

Apr 23 Jamie Dauel

Apr 30 Su Opansky

Subs are Jan Hoffman 419-740-2302 or Sally Wing
419-349-0981, or call Deb Hurley 419-409-9967.

APRIL MEETINGS





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

Recovering at home:
Pat Wilson and Pat Beaty

GENERAL HEALTH

Keith Johnson, John Kern, Dave Jerman, Beth Cousino, Lorraine Willoughby,
 Doris Banks, Kathy Jackowski, Sharon Stofan, Anna Ponce, Angel Pringle, Barb Beaverson, Ariana Wahl, Serenity Padgett (pastor Paul's niece), Crystal, Tina, Robert Dauel Sr. Suzy Ray, Bob Alley, Angie Basilius, Steve Hudson, Ken Sikorski.
 Jessica Wilson (Deb Hurley's niece)

VISITATION LIST (RARELY OUT)

Cheryl Ivy, Roger Druckemiller, Joyce Mason, Gary Shope

HOSPICE of Northwest Ohio is offering classes on Advance Directives for

Medical at various local libraries in the next few months. Wednesday April

23 from 6 to 7 pm at the Oregon Branch Library 3340 Dustin Road Oregon

And Wednesday May 28 from 6 to 7 pm at the Sylvania Branch Library,

6759 Monroe St, Sylvania. And one more in this announcement from

Hospice. Wednesday June 25 from 10 to 11 am at the South Branch Library

(two blocks away from St Lucas) 1736 Broadway Toledo. Questions? Sara Chambers at 419-953-5423 or schambers@hospicenwo.org.

ST LUCAS OUTREACH 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.



Happy April Birthday

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

Martin Billmeier	1
Gwen Steele	1
Diane Porter	12
Maddox Woody	13
John Mensing	15
Dawn Keeler	22
Ron Carver	25
Russ Wells	26



HAPPY APRIL ANNIVERSARY!

Larry & Karen Flowers	9
George & Deb Reis	9
Martin Billmeier & John Mensing	11

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



3RD WEDNESDAY HOUR OF HEALING PRAYER March 19 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.

A Journey of Healing: Bringing the Healing Ministry to St. Lucas Lutheran Church

Over 20 years ago, a small seed of faith and healing was planted at St. Lucas Lutheran Church—a seed that has since grown into a thriving Healing Ministry that continues to touch lives, offer comfort and restore hope. The journey that led us here was filled with divine guidance, personal transformation, and the unwavering belief that God's healing power flows through us when we open

by Deb Reis our hearts to it.

A Calling to Healing

For Jeannie Dennler, the road to healing ministry began with a deep spiritual curiosity about energy healing. She had always believed in the power of faith and prayer, but when she discovered Healing Touch, it became clear that God was leading her toward something greater. She witnessed firsthand how this work could restore the body, uplift the spirit, and provide peace for those in need.

For Deb Reis, the journey began as a burned-out critical care nurse searching for more. Was there more to healing than just medicine and procedures? That question led her to Healing Touch Program (HTP), where she found a deep spiritual connection in Healing Touch. She later discovered Healing Touch Spiritual Ministry (HTSM), which aligned the practice with Judeo-Christian teachings, prayer, and the mission of Jesus.

As faith would have it, Jeannie and Deb crossed paths, and both felt an unmistakable calling to share this work with the church community.

A Healing Ministry is Born

In a divine twist of fate, they connected with Pastor Martin, who welcomed their vision of bringing healing ministry to St. Lucas. It made perfect sense—after all, St. Luke was a physician and healer in the early Christian church, and what better place to rekindle the ancient tradition of prayer, hand-laying, and oil anointing?

Together, with the support of church members and those seeking a deeper connection to faith and healing, they introduced Healing Touch Spiritual Ministry to the congregation. People came with open hearts, eager to learn, pray, and offer their hands as instruments of God's healing.

The Power of Healing Hands

Since its beginning, the Healing Ministry at St. Lucas has witnessed countless miracles—not always physical healing but often renewed peace, emotional restoration, and a profound sense of God's presence.

Jeannie recalls working with her father, who was suffering from Alzheimer's disease. After using Healing Touch, her children witnessed something incredible: their grandfather, once slumped and unresponsive, would sit up straight and begin speaking again. It was a moment that left them in awe—a living example of how God works through our hands when we invite Him into our healing work.

Through this ministry, we have seen hearts healed, spirits lifted, and faith renewed.

Continuing the Legacy of Christ's Healing Work

As we reflect on these 20+ years of healing ministry, we give thanks to the St. Lucas community and all those who have come forward to share in this sacred work. We follow in the footsteps of early Christians, who were the first to establish healing centers, hospices, and faith-based care for those in need.

Today, our Healing Ministry continues as a sacred offering of love, faith, and divine connection. We invite you to join us, experience healing, or learn how to bring this work to others. Whether through prayer, hands-on healing, or anointing with oils, we remain committed to sharing the message and ministry of Christ's healing power.

May we continue to be vessels of God's healing grace.

🙏 "He heals the brokenhearted and binds up their wounds." – Psalm 147:3

Blessings, Deb Reis

Stewardship

What does Diversity mean exactly?

We use this word all the time and we probably know what we personally think it means, but not what it means to you or you or you or any of you. In 2007, we adopted the Guiding Principles of St Lucas. These are listed on the back of our church bulletin most weeks. The second item is the only

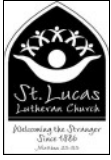
item that includes the word “diversity” and says, “We embrace diversity and welcome all unconditionally with love.” Reading one item by itself does not have nearly the power of reading items 1. through 5. We use words like commitment, closer relationships with God and with one another, compassion and forgiveness through open hearts and minds, and #1 on the list, “We believe that Jesus is Lord and Savior.”

There is a verse in Ephesians 4:16: “From him the whole body, joined and held together by every supporting ligament, grows and builds itself up in love, as each part does its work.” Do you think this verse might hold within it the secret to knowing the deeper meaning of “diversity”?

There are many parts in our bodies and we need every one of them to make the whole body. If half of those parts disappeared or is not growing or built up in love, we would no longer be able to live. We could look at St Lucas as a body. We need every person with their particular talent growing and building itself up in love, which creates the diversity we need to survive.

—

Song lyrics by Natalie Sleeth, text and music written in 1986, to add to the beauty of Lent: In the Bulb there is a flower. “In the bulb there is a flower, in the seed, an apple tree; in cocoons, a hidden promise, butterflies will soon be free! In the cold and snow of winter there’s a spring that waits to be, unrevealed until its season, something God alone can see.”



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
 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.
 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



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, 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.

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***