



The Acts of St. Lucas

SEPTEMBER
2026



The seal of St. Luke

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



ST. LUCAS ANNIVERSARY OF FOUNDING

"140 Years of Serving Jesus"

On March 21st of this year St. Lucas turned 140. We will celebrate our anniversary on **Sunday Sept. 27**. Here is the schedule of events:

10:30: Festive Worship/Special Music. There will be no 9am service on this Sunday.

Noon: Old Fashioned Church Dinner with roast beef, fried chicken, mashed potatoes, baked beans and green bean casserole. (\$12 tickets, comp tickets available if in need).

12:45: Tours - St. Lucas Organ Tour, Sanctuary Tour & Explanation, Archives Tour & St. Lucas History.

Reserve on the back of your I Worship Today card. Dinner tickets will be available through Pastor Paul, Martin Billmeier, Steve Seaton, Sharon Stofan, or in the church office.

We are looking for folks to bring desserts to share. Let us know that on your "I worshipped today card", too.

How blessed we are as a congregation to have served Jesus for 140 years!



Volunteer Appreciation Lunch

St. Lucas Volunteer Appreciation Lunch will be held on Sunday, September 13 at 12:30 pm at the Middlegrounds Metropark, 111 Ottawa St., Toledo, OH 43604.

Everyone is invited, as most of us volunteer in some way. **Please write on the back of your I worship today card if you will be attending, and how many people.**

You can also email – stlucasoffice@gmail.com or call the office – 419-243-8189.

Please reserve ASAP!! We will need a head count soon!!





PASTORAL ACTS

Pastor Paul D. Myers III



10:1 After this the Lord appointed seventy-two others and sent them on ahead of him in pairs to every town and place where he himself intended to go.—Luke 10:1

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 ministry, 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.

Peace be with you on your journey.



By Deb Reis

A Time of Healing Prayer During Our Taizé Service

A quiet invitation to prayer, blessing, laying on of hands, and anointing with oil (the third Saturday of every month)

One of the beautiful aspects of our Taizé service is the opportunity to come into a quiet, prayerful space and simply be present with God. Through Scripture, silence, singing, music, and prayer, we are invited to slow down and listen for God's presence.

On the third Sat, we have a focus on **healing ministry**, a quiet time of personal prayer that includes, when desired, the laying on of hands, anointing with oil, and a blessing or prayer.

What Is Healing Prayer?

Healing prayer is an opportunity to bring ourselves, our concerns, our loved ones, or situations in our lives before God. Healing can take many forms. We may pray for physical healing, emotional or spiritual healing, strength during a difficult time, peace, guidance, or simply a deeper awareness of God's loving presence.

Where Does the Prayer Take Place?

On the third Taizé service of the month, there will be a **designated prayer station—a table or chair—where individuals may come for personal prayer.**

You do not need to wait for a particular announcement or for the music to stop. If you feel called to receive prayer, you may simply go to an identified area during the appropriate portion of the service and quietly take a place at the prayer station where someone from the healing ministry team will be there to welcome you. You may sit in the chair, stand, or lie down, whichever is most comfortable for you.

What Happens at the Prayer Station?

The process is simple and quiet. You may tell the prayer minister as much, or as little, as you wish about what you would like prayer for. You are welcome to ask for prayer for yourself or for someone else. You may then choose one or more of the following:

Prayer and blessing

Laying on of hands

Anointing with oil

A combination of these

Or simply a quiet moment of prayer

If you choose the laying on of hands, the prayer minister will ask your permission before touching you. The touch is gentle and respectful, generally on the head or shoulders. If you prefer not to be touched, you can simply say so. Your wishes will always be respected.

If you choose anointing, a small amount of oil may be placed on your forehead or hand as a sign of God's healing love and presence. The anointing is accompanied by a quiet prayer or blessing.

There is no need to explain everything that is happening in your life. Sometimes a simple request such as **"Please pray for me"** is enough.

(continued next page)

You May Come While the Music Is Playing

One of the special characteristics of Taizé prayer is that the music itself becomes part of the prayer.

Taizé songs are often short, repetitive, and meditative, allowing the congregation to remain in prayer without needing to focus on a performance or a particular sequence of events. Because of this, **the healing prayer does not require the entire congregation to stop singing or listening.**

While the congregation is singing, while the music is playing, or during a period of silence, you may quietly come to the prayer station.

There is no right or wrong way to participate.

Come When You Feel Called

The invitation to healing prayer is open throughout the designated time of the Taizé service. You do not have to come immediately when the opportunity is announced.

Perhaps a particular song touches your heart. Perhaps a Scripture reading brings someone to mind. Perhaps you suddenly realize that there is something you have been carrying that you would like to place before God.

That may be your invitation to come to a healing ministry station.

A Quiet Ministry in the Midst of Worship

The healing ministry is intentionally quiet. While one person is receiving prayer, the rest of the congregation continues in worship through the gentle repetition of Taizé songs, music, silence, or prayer.

This allows the entire community to remain in prayer together. There is something deeply meaningful about knowing that while one person is receiving a personal prayer, the whole congregation continues to surround that person, and one another, with prayer.

We are reminded that we do not carry our burdens alone.

An Invitation to Receive

If you have never participated in healing prayer before, you are welcome to come simply to experience it. You do not have to have a specific request. You do not have to be experiencing an illness. You may simply desire God's peace, strength, guidance, comfort, or blessing. During the singing, the silence, the music, and the prayers, we make space for God to meet us where we are and to remind us of God's abiding love. If you feel the invitation to come to the prayer station, please do so quietly and freely. If you feel called to remain where you are and pray, that is also a faithful response.

There is room for both.

May this time of healing prayer be a gentle reminder that God's presence surrounds us, in our joys, in our concerns, in our questions, in our healing, and in all the places where we seek God's peace.

“Are any among you sick? They should call for the elders of the church and have them pray over them, anointing them with oil in the name of the Lord.” — James 5:14

Blessings,

Deb

What's happening at St. Lucas



Pastor Paul, and Pastor Sarah Schaaf.

Pastor Paul, 2 friends, Steve Hudson, George Pfaff, Dee Myers & Chloe Spenser, are ready to march!

L to R.



Jill Hojnacki and friends worked the booth.



Zoar Lutheran Church organized "Better Together". Multiple faith communities marched together in the parade, including St. Lucas.

Pastor Paul got sprinkled on...



This is most of the group with "Better Together".



SPOTLIGHT ON ST. LUCAS



Anna Ponce's son, Matias, received a certificate of recognition from the California State Senate for his dedication as the "Self-Tape Audition Instructor" in the Latino Theater Company's Summer Youth Conservatory! Congratulations Matias!



Theresa Johnson's grandson Paxton, received a scholarship to St. Francis High School. He will be starting this fall. To get a scholarship, you must have very good grades. Congratulations Paxton!



On the last Friday of the month, the Outreach has a giveaway! Clothes, personal hygiene items and insulated travel mugs.

Theresa is now looking for school supplies for older students. Plain backpacks, pens, pencils, highlighters and folders.

The Outreach appreciates all the donations they receive. Thank you to all who have helped out!





PARKING LOT PARTY AT THE PANTRY

Dear Community Partners and Friends,

On behalf of our entire team of St. Lucas Cindy's Corner Food Pantry at St. John's, We want to thank you for your incredible generosity in supporting our recent Back to School Bash! Your financial, food contributions and hands-on help made this event a resounding success, directly supporting local students and families as they prepare for the new school year.

Thanks to your kindness, we distributed 60 fully stocked backpacks filled with essential school supplies, socks, laundry detergent, and hygiene products to children in need.

We extend our deepest gratitude to the key individuals and groups who made this day possible:

Our Generous Donors: John Kern, Ron and Sue Lang, Pat Bair, Mr. and Mrs. Adam McIntosh, Pastor Paul Meyers, and Judy Pffaffenberger.

Food Contributors: Bethel Assembly of God of Perrysburg Norma Strayer

Our Outstanding Volunteers: Diamond Flunder, Adrian Luvene, Sharon Olmsted, Katherine Hamilton, Adam McIntosh, Tavion Thompson, Pastor Paul Myers, Dee Myers, Tia Baker, Jerry Baker and David Richards

Our Community Partners:

Believe Center: Thank you for introducing our community to your wonderful youth sports programs.

ProMedica Ronald McDonald Care Mobile: Thank you for providing vital health assessments and physicals to our families.

Thanks to this joint effort, our community enjoyed a wonderful celebration, serving over 100 hot dogs and hamburgers alongside ice cream, cookies, chips, candy, and toys for the kids.

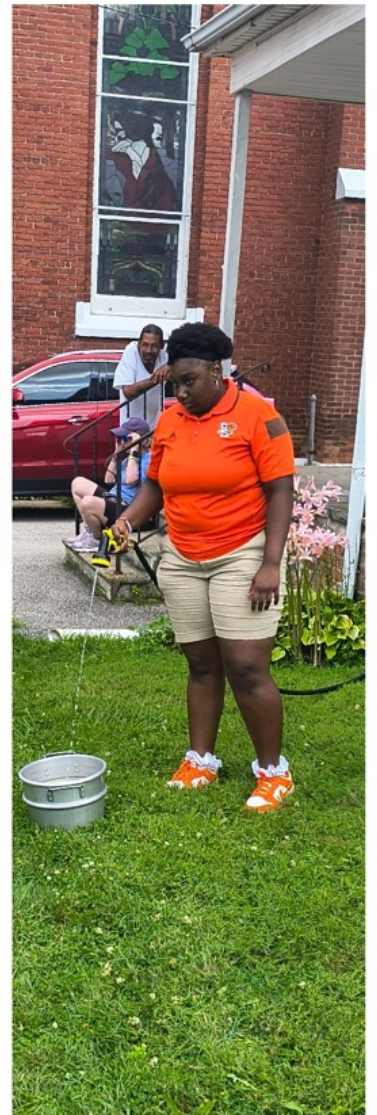
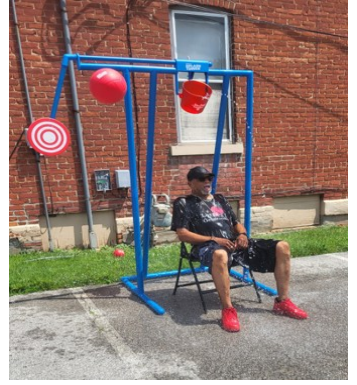
Thank you once again for investing in our youth and helping us launch the school year on such a joyful note.

Sincerely,

Shandonna Flunder, Emmitt Williams and Lavonda Dawson.



PARKING LOT EVENT/ BACK TO SCHOOL AT ST. JOHNS





Cindy's Corner Café

At St. Lucas Lutheran Church –

News from the Café & Kitchen

Hello! Big news about three very welcome grants the Café has received during the past several weeks! Please express your appreciation to anyone you might know at **Zion Lutheran in Waterville** and/or workers at the **Northwest Ohio Synod offices**. Additionally, **Steve Seaton** and **Doug Black** have worked very hard to secure a grant for new kitchen equipment! Please let Steve and Doug know of your appreciation for their work! Thank you to the anonymous Thrivent Grant donor for the new microwave!

Project Protein Grant for the Café

Cindy's Corner Café has been awarded a \$5,000.00 grant to be used to specifically for purchasing meat/protein products to serve our guests! This grant is from **Zion Lutheran Church** in Waterville (Ohio) and was facilitated by the **Northwest Ohio Synod**. A huge thank you goes out to our friends at **Zion Lutheran Waterville** and at the **Northwest Ohio Synod**!

An Anonymous Thrivent Grant Donor has donated a much needed new Microwave Oven to the St. Lucas Kitchen! Thank you for making this possible!

Approximate
number of lunches
served during
August 2026
(16 days):

1,132



Susan
Demski

John Henry Eldred, Jr. Foundation Provides Grant for New Kitchen Equipment

Over the summer months, the **John Henry Eldred, Jr. Foundation** has provided a \$30,000.00 grant to replace kitchen equipment in the St. Lucas Lutheran Church kitchen! The grant will provide the funds necessary to purchase the following new items: Refrigerator, stove, convection oven, grill, and air fryer. At the time of the September Acts deadline, no definite date has been established for when everything will be installed and operational. **Steve Seaton** and **Doug Black** were responsible for filling out the necessary paperwork and for handling all of the details involved with making this grant possible. Many thanks go out to Steve, Doug, and the John Henry Eldred, Jr. Foundation!

Cindy's Corner Café at St. Lucas Lutheran Church

Featured Servant:

Susan Demski

(Susan's picture is above on the left)

1. Name? **Susan (Sue) Demski.**
2. What is your favorite part of serving in the Café? **Serving coffee and preparing trays/silverware for the guests.**
3. What is your primary job in the Café? **I mainly serve coffee and welcome our guests at the beverage table during lunch.**
4. How long have you served in the Café? **Two and a half years.**
5. Please share some little known facts about yourself (family, hobbies, pets, favorite TV shows, favorite movies, favorite foods, favorite music, favorite place you have visited, etc.): **I crochet and have two dogs and a guinea pig. My favorite TV shows are the Soaps.**
6. How often do you serve in the Café? **I serve each day the café is open (four days a week).**
7. What are some of your favorite Café meals/meals that are served in the Café? **Spaghetti!**
8. Anything else you would like to share?

SEPTEMBER WORSHIP SERVANTS

4:00 Elder Kate Gladieux

9:00 Elder Kathy Carver

10:30 Elder Rick Charchol, Annette Mason

Sept 27 only Patrick Codden, Faith Wolfram

Lector Kelly Curtin

Greeting Ushers Pat Bair, Sally Ortiz

Offering Ushers Fritz Bloedow, Susan Lang

Acolyte Jill Hojnacki

Camera Steve Seaton

Healing Station Su Opansky

OCTOBER WORSHIP SERVANTS

4:00 Steve Seaton

9:00 Gary Stofan

10:30 Patrick Codden, Jill Hojnacki

Lector Mike Biscay

Greeting Ushers Russ Wells, Dee Myers

Offering Ushers Deb LaJeunesse, Pat Bair

Acolyte Faith Wolfram

Camera Steve Seaton

Healing Station

THRIFT SHOP SERVANTS

Wed 9/02 Susan Lang,

Thur 9/03 Deb Hurley, Amy Speelman

Fri 9/04 Deb Hurley, Tonya Cason

Wed 9/16 Susan Lang

Thur 9/17 Deb Hurley, Amy Speelman

Fri 9/18 Deb Hurley, Tonya Cason

Wed 9/23 Susan Lang

Thur 9/24 Deb Hurley, Amy Speelman

Fri 9/25 Deb Hurley, Tonya Cason

Wed 9/30 Susan Lang

Subs Deb Hurley 419-409-9967.

SEPTEMBER MEETINGS

Sept. 01 @ 1:30 pm Food Pantry

7:00 pm Executive Committee Meeting

Sept. 03 @ 10:30 Christian Ed.

Sept. 08 @ 9:30 WELCA

@ 7:00 Council Meeting

Sept. 10 @ 6:30 Safety Meeting

Sept. 15 @ 6:30 BUC Meeting

Sept. 22 @ 6:30 Evangelism Meeting

Sept. 23 @ 2:00 Healing Board

Sept. 29 @ 10:00 Café Board

@ 1:00 Outreach Board

Outreach News

The Outreach office is closed on Fridays:
Open by appointment only.

1st. WEDNESDAY GUIDED

MEDITATION October 7 @ 9:00 pm

Martin Billmeier

St. Lucas Rummage Sale will be

October 1, 2 & 3 from 10:00-2:00 pm.

Set up for the sale will be

September 29 & 30 10:00-2:00 pm.

The Thrift Shop will be closed the week
of 9/30 and 10/7 to set up and restock.

ST. LUCAS PRAYER LIST

PLEASE REMEMBER THESE PEOPLE IN YOUR PRAYERS:

Hospitalized

Recovering from Surgery

GENERAL HEALTH

John & Christa Kern, Dave Jerman, Lorraine Willoughby, Phil Chambers, Kathy Jackowski, Ken Sikorski, Pat Beaty, Angel Pringle, Seir Reis, Suzy Ray, Bob Alley, Paul Schnapp, Joseph Kane, Joseph Hunter, Ed Bloedow, Jeff, Bill & Jeannie Dennler, Neil Neukam, Chloe Spenser, Kate Gladieux, Kathy Kane

VISITATION LIST (RARELY OUT)

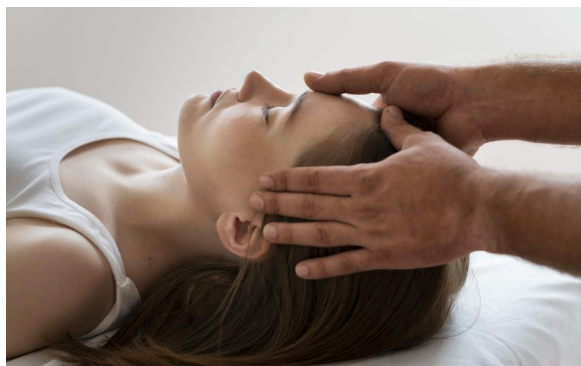
Cheryl Ivy,
Carole Mack, Joyce Mease



Healing Service Schedule

Every third Saturday of the month in the lower sanctuary during Taizé worship.

Sat September 19



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

September Birthdays

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

Fritz Bloedow	3
DelAnna Coffman	7
Tim Teague	9
Tyler Woody	12
Bruce Taylor	15
Sharon Schaefer	15
Sally Ortiz	16
Dan Wofram	17
Steve Tandler	18
Joyce Mease	20
Jill Hojnacki	21
Cheryl Ivy	21
Phil Chambers	25
Georgia Steele	29



HAPPY SEPTEMBER ANNIVERSARY!

Rick & Annette Mason	13
Rudolf & Sharon Schaefer	25

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 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

St. Lucas Outreach: 419-243-8189 EXT.103 stlucasoutreach@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

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.