



JULY
2025

The Acts of St. Lucas

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



The seal of St. Luke

OUR NEW SIGN HAS ARRIVED!!!



Our new sign has been installed, in front of the parking lot and community garden. The Healing Team took on this project. Thank you to all who helped make this happen.



Pastoral Acts

Pastor Paul D. Myers III

For freedom Christ has set us free. Stand firm, therefore, and do not submit again to a yoke of slavery— **Galatians 5:1**

It's July. It's hot. It is the time when we celebrate freedom. In the traditional sense, we celebrate the freedom we claimed for ourselves as a nation from the tyranny of Britain those centuries ago.

In Christ, we also have a freedom we claim: freedom from sin and evil. When Paul reminded the Galatians that they had been set free, it was not only sin that was on his mind. The new believers were being asked to undergo circumcision in order to “fit” with the Jewish believers’ assumption that just because they follow Jesus, did not relieve them from their obligation to the Torah. In their minds, freedom in Christ from sin did not mean freedom from the rules and regulations of their established religion.

How are we doing with this freedom? In what sense are we laying the burden of following the religious traditions of our day on the shoulders of those who are seeking to know God in all their fullness? When we share food, resources, love and compassion, is it totally free? It is a challenging thing to do outreach and know that it may only be a one-sided proposition.

It is very easy to fall into the pattern of placing conditions on our grace and hospitality. I thank God for the reminders we have in scripture that grace is always free, that God's unconditional love is exactly that—unconditional. It warms my heart every time I see our outreach ministry, community garden, or just individuals at St. Lucas doing justice, loving mercy, sharing kindness, all without limits or conditions.

There is a great Facebook meme going around that says: “God didn’t call us to feed the hungry because they deserve to be fed; God called us to do it because they are hungry” (or something to that effect). I thank God that we are a people who love our neighbor just because they are our neighbor. No conditions. No limits. No exceptions. That is true freedom. So, celebrate your freedom in Christ by giving it away freely and joyfully.

Peace be with you on your journey.

ST. LUCAS YOUTUBE CHANNEL & WORSHIP LIVE STREAMING We now have our own YouTube account: YouTube@stlucaslutherantoledo. 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.

July Devotions



Jeannie Dennler, Jamie Dael, Martin Billmeier, Georgia Steele, and Sharon Stofan will share in leading July's Wednesday night devotions on the St. Lucas Facebook page at 9PM.

Outreach Wish List

*Commercial Beverage Dispenser 2.5gal

Insulated Hot and Cold Beverage Dispenser/Server

NSF Black (29A-151) \$69.99

ON AMAZON

*Cases of Bottled Water

During this time of extreme heat and humidity, our neighbors need extra water. If you feel moved to help, please do!!

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

Acts of St Lucas JULY 2025

"Do Something Kind for a Stranger." Tom Seeman's daily life goal

Tom grew up in Toledo

Tom is one of 12 children in a family who lived in the projects of East and North Toledo.

Tom is a son of a Mom who conjured up love and care for all her children out of nothing.

Tom is a son of a Dad who did not relate well or often to his children in positive ways:

"Someone not to emulate."

Tom is a listmaker and notebook keeper. He kept lists of animals he wanted to see.

Tom took the High School Aptitude test. He had no way of attending St Francis, a college prep school, but checked the box as a choice.

Sister Ann, Tom's principal, met with a priest, Father McMenamin, about Tom's test.

Father McMenamin made a full scholarship offer to Tom to go to St Francis DeSales High School based on his scores.

Tom always contributed by working. He had a job at St Francis, too.

Tom was a 1977 St Francis DeSales High School Graduate

Tom was a highest honors Graduate of Yale University and Phi Beta Kappa

Tom had a Perfect Law School Admission Test Score.

Tom is a Graduate of Harvard Law School

Tom is a successful businessman, world traveler, continual learner, and studies animals.

Tom is a family man. He and his wife Jenny live in the Boston area with their four kids.

They also have three dogs and one cat.

Tom and Jenny contributed one million dollars several years ago to St Francis High School to help low-income, non-traditional, promising students with their tuition. These scholarship students are known as Seeman Scholars.

Tom is the author of a book ANIMALS I WANT TO SEE A Memoir of Growing Up in the Projects and Defying the Odds.

Tom Seeman was featured at the Toledo Lucas County Public Library Authors Program in 2024 to talk about his book. That is how he and his book came to my attention. He is connected to all of us who stumbled through a low income early life hoping that higher education might somehow be part of our future life. There are interesting and inspirational life experiences on every page of his book. I did not know this while I was reading the book, but I knew the high school friend, Barry, who he refers to, who recently died of Parkinsons, and Gene, another of his close friends from St Francis. I also learned that Tom had help in the writing of his memoir from Rita Zoey Chin, the author of Let the Tornado Come, a memoir about her own childhood hardships. St Lucas has a connection to St Francis, too, Dan Maza. Dan attended St Lucas for many years until he and his family moved from Walbridge Ave to Holland OH. There are probably many others.

It is an honor to celebrate Tom Seeman's life. Toledo was the place where he lived a difficult early life yet he grew into an educated man and a man who with great determination has helped many people.

"All it takes is one bloom of hope to make a spiritual garden." Terry Guillemets



St. Lucas Lutheran Outreach Ministry

Matthew 25:31-40

Outreach Ministry Activities-June 2025

♦ Cindy's Corner Café shared 1,009 lunches with guests during the days the Café was open in June.

♦ 90 bags of clothing were given away during the "**Big Clothing Give-Away**" in June! Many thanks go out to our friends from St. Joseph's Catholic Church in Maumee for donating bags and bags of clothing to be shared with our neighborhood friends. The St. Lucas Thrift Shop was offered the first choice of clothing to display in the Thrift Shop Ministry and there was plenty of clothing to go around to everyone who needed something!

♦ The Nightingale Harvest Organization presented a talk about services available to those who are suffering with cancer. Topics included goods/services available to help those who need assistance.

♦ The NARCAN Van, Lucas County Health Department, and Equitas Health Toledo shared information and services for **National HIV Testing Day** on June 27, 2025. Free HIV, Hepatitis C, & Syphilis Testing was offered along with Naloxone training, harm reduction supplies, pairs of socks/lock bags give-aways, reproductive health & wellness information, and information from other community organizations. Lunch was served by Cindy's Corner Café.

♦ Café guests were joined by Jim & Kathy from Grace Alone Ministries, LLC (friends from Redeemer Lutheran) to talk about their furniture ministry. Do you have gently used furniture you would like to donate to help others? Do you need furniture? **Grace Alone Ministries** can help! Contact the St. Lucas Outreach Ministry for more information (419-243-8189, Ext. #3).

♦ Rock The Block Community Event on June 28, 2025 was well attended and successful! The St. Lucas Outreach Ministry gave away 45 bags of snacks and 45 back packs!

♦ The Lucas County Health Department shared and collected a survey about mental health challenges in our community. Results of the survey are supposed to be shared with our guests (when they become available).

♦ On Thursday, June 26, 2025, the Kidney Foundation offered a program discussing the many facets of kidney illnesses. Kidney disease issues are very common and often, problems are ignored due to lack of information.

♦ The Neighborhood Health Association gave Café guests information about what health care services are available in our community.

Important Community Meeting! On Thursday, July 17, 2025, Area Churches, Agencies, and Interested Community Members are invited to attend a meeting to learn about plans for Neighborhood Improvement Spending from the City of Toledo in the Old South End. The meeting will run from 6:00pm until 7:30pm. Light refreshments will be served. Those planning to attend should call 419-243-8189, Ext. #3 to let us know you are coming!

Attention Please!

Cindy's Corner Café will be closed on July 22, 23, 24, & 25, 2025.

Please Note:

The St. Lucas Lutheran Outreach Ministry Office will be open during regular hours on July 22, 23, 24, & 25, 2025.

Outreach Ministry Contact Info:

Outreach Office Phone:

419-243-8189

Extension #3

Outreach Email:

stlucasoutreach@gmail.com

Thank you!

Many thanks go out to **Mike Biscay!** He recently donated a meat slicer to the St. Lucas Kitchen! Mike's generosity will go a long way toward cutting the work load in the Cindy's Corner Café kitchen! **Thank you, Mike!**

Big Clothing Give away!

Thanks to a large donation of clothing from the Maumee St. Joseph's Catholic Church, the St. Lucas Outreach Ministry was able to provide extra summer clothing blessings for our guests. Thank you!



ST. LUCAS HEALING MINISTRY NEWS



by Deb Reis

3RD WEDNESDAY HOUR OF HEALING PRAYER July 16 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 our hearts to it.

On June 29th we had an introduction to healing class. We had some lunch, and learned a bit about what the class teaches. A few members of the Healing Team attended also.



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



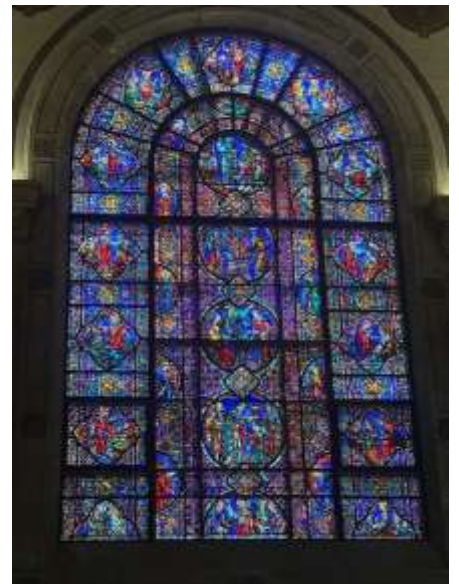
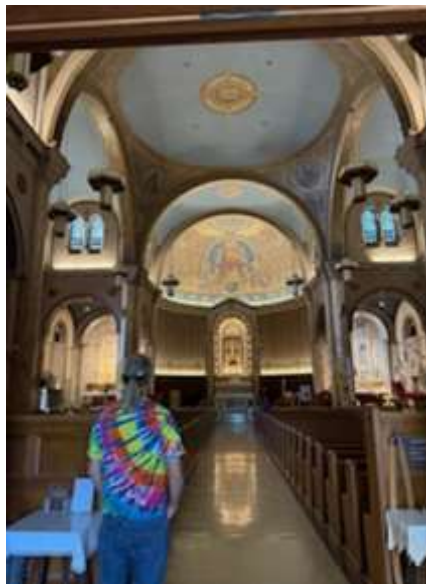
THE WOMEN OF WELCA

The women of WELCA took a field trip on Tuesday June 24th to the Basilica and National Shrine of Our Lady of Consolation in Carey, OH. It was an awesome experience!

The Shrine was built in 1875 and received a statue of Mary holding baby Jesus from Luxembourg, a small country in Europe. When the parishioners made the seven mile walk, carrying the statue to the basilica, a thunderstorm erupted. Not one of them got wet. The first miracle.

Many people have prayed to Mary to intercede for them in their healing. There is a display case that shows many crutches, canes, leg braces, casts and other items that people have left that were healed in this sacred place.

We enjoyed a delicious lunch in Carey afterward. It was a wonderful trip!



St Lucas Garden News

*Inch by inch, row by row, Gonna make this garden grow!
All I need is a rake and a hoe and a piece of fertile ground.
Inch by inch, row by row, God bless these seeds I sow
Keep them warm and safe below 'til the rain comes tumblin' down.*

by David Mallett

The Adopt-A-Garden-Bed program worked well this year. We have 20 of our 24 beds fully or partially planted already, and the remaining ones are either claimed or in the process of being rebuilt. We can look forward to harvesting tomatoes, both sweet and hot peppers, eggplant, okra, beans, raspberries, elderberries, purple potatoes, and a variety of herbs. The rhubarb has been harvestable for a month, it has set seeds and in a week or so, I will harvest those seeds and we'll have baby rhubarb plants available next year!

Early garden prep was done on March 15th by a work crew from the University of Toledo's Big Event. Volunteers from Alpha Chi Omega made short work of cleaning and prepping the beds, covering them in cardboard to keep the weeds at bay until time to plant. I picked up our plants from Toledo GROWS and a volunteer crew from Legal Aid came on Friday, May 16 to begin the planting. Our adoptive bed parents have been hard at work, panting and seeding in their adoptees.

We have seeds from the Toledo GROWS Annual Seed Swap available to anyone who would like to do some gardening at home – I will have them available on Sunday after 2nd Service, or call me if you're a Saturday or Early service attender and I'll get them to you. We will probably have more plants than we can squeeze into our space and I'll make them available too.

I will usually be in the Garden Mondays and Thursdays from 10:00 AM-ish until 2 or so and occasionally on Saturdays, as the Spirit moves me. If you would like to help tend the plants at a different time, call me and we can arrange a time to work together. Or, just drop in whenever – the Garden is always open – no gates, no fences, no locks! Y'all come!

Questions or suggestions? Reach me at 419-244-2243 or mbiscay@hotmail.com

Agriculturally,
Mike Biscay



SERVANTS IN THE CHURCH OF JESUS

JULY WORSHIP SERVANTS

4:00 Elder Harold Petoskey
9:00 Elder Sharon Stofan
10:30 Sharon Schaefer, Jill Hojnacki
Lector Lee Jagodzinski
Head Ushers
Russ Wells
Offering Ushers
John Kern Deb LaJeunesse
Acolyte Lee Jagodzinski
Camera Steve Seaton, Gary Stofan, Jill Hojnacki
Healing Station

AUGUST WORSHIP SERVANTS

4:00 Elder Steve Seaton
9:00 Elder Pat Wilson
10:30 Sharon Schaefer, Jill Hojnacki
Lector Lee Jagodzinski
Head Ushers
Russ Wells &
Offering Ushers
Pam Hoch Pat Bair
Acolyte Lee Jagodzinski
Camera Steve Seaton, Pat Wilson, Jill Hojnacki
Healing Station

JULY THRIFT SHOP SCHEDULE

Wed July 2 Susan Lang Hildegard Ruelke
Thur July 3 Deb Hurley Amy Speelman
Fri July 4 **CLOSED**
Wed July 9 Deb Hurley Sharon Olmstead
Thurs July 10 Deb Hurley, Amy Speelman
Fri July 11 Deb Hurley
Tonya Cason
Wed July 16 Susan Lang
Lorraine Willoughby
Thur July 17 Deb Hurley
Amy Speelman
Fri July 18 Deb Hurley
Tonya Cason

Wed July 23 Deb Hurley
Sharon Olmstead

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

JULY MEETINGS

Executive Committee
Outreach Meeting
Council Meeting
Safety Committee
WELCA Bible study & Business
Meeting,
BUC Meeting
Evangelism Committee
Healing Board Meeting

DARTBALL SCHEDULE

Done for the Season

Wednesday Evening Devotion Schedule 9pm

July 9 Jamie Dauel
July 16 Martin Billmeier
July 23 Georgia Steele
July 29 Sharon Stofan





ST. LUCAS PRAYER LIST

PLEASE REMEMBER THESE PEOPLE IN YOUR PRAYERS:

In Rehab

Ella Myers

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

VISITATION LIST (RARELY OUT)

Cheryl Ivy, Roger Druckemiller, Joyce Mason



Healing Touch Schedule

Every third Wednesday of the month 4-5:00

Wed. July 16

Wed August 20

Wed Sept 17

Wed Oct 15



Happy July Birthday



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

John Kern	2
Lee Jagodzinski	10
Dawn Hetrick	15
Jan Hoffman	18
Pat Wilson	19
Hildegard Ruelke	20
Amy Herick	22
Dan Markley	23
Rob Dauel	24
Roy Deeds	28
Sue Alley	29
Mike Biscay	29
Sharon Szabo	29
Susan Lang	30



HAPPY JULY ANNIVERSARY!

Steve Hudson & George Pfaff	4
Gene & Dawn Keeler	12
Keith & Sue White Johnson	17
Paul & Dee Myers	28

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

The Pastor of Salem Lutheran Church, Mike Hanck, was mentioned on the first page of the Living Section of the Blade on June 1 st , 2025 in connection with a weekly dinner

served to between 200 and 300 people once each week on Tuesday at Salem. FYI 3:30 to 5:30 1127 N Huron St Toledo OH in the Vistula neighborhood. Pastor Hanck is around

St Lucas on occasion, has been a supply pastor, and many of us know him. When I spoke with him, he mentioned that take out meals are available too.

The Blade article brought up close and personal a lesson in Stewardship. Maddie Coppel, the Blade Food Editor, wrote an excellent article about not only the food but the

particulars of their stewardship while providing food. Recipes shared by Katrina Smith for Khaza Brown Butter Cookies, Strawberry Cinnamon Rolls and Strawberry Compote,

were published.

You all know the story about the five loaves and two fishes multiplying to feed thousands under Jesus' grateful hands. You may or may not remember why the crowd formed. John the Baptist had been killed and Jesus had just received word of his death. John's disciples took John the Baptist's body and buried it, then they went to let Jesus know. Jesus went by boat to a quiet place. The Bible does not say how long Jesus stayed there, but word spread and a crowd started following Jesus on foot until there were about 5,000 people gathered. Jesus had compassion on the large crowd and healed their sick. The disciples asked Jesus to send the crowd away so they (the crowd) could go home and eat. Jesus would not let the people who were gathered to share their love with him go hungry. Jesus gathered the people on the grass, he gave thanks and prayed over the food. Then he gave the loaves and fishes to the disciples and the disciples passed food out to hungry people. There was plenty for everyone and 12 baskets of leftovers. How do you think Jesus on that day, despite his sadness about the death of John the Baptist, was able to share so much of himself, despite his sadness, to feed 5,000 people?

Do you look at feeding as stewardship? Following in the footsteps of Jesus, Salem feeds many people. St Lucas feeds many people every week along with St John's. Many other churches and groups in the Old South End feed people. Food and Eating equals community. Preparing food requires cooperation. All of that requires caring for each

other.

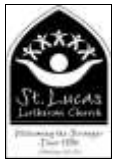
In the narthex every Sunday morning after each service: cookies, cakes, sandwiches, candy. Did I mention cookies? Last Sunday, fresh strawberries with angel food cake was

on the table. Every Saturday after the church service there is a table of good things to eat, too, which is as much part of the service as the service itself. What have you already done and are you doing this week as a good steward?

--- Sharon Stine Schaefer

Ps. Easter was a while ago, but I'm still thinking of the abundance of pastel frosted Cheryl's cookies that were in the narthex on Easter Sunday!

Thank you, Evangelism Committee, for providing a treat for us all.



St. Lucas Evangelical Lutheran Church
745 Walbridge Avenue
Toledo, Ohio 43609
419-243-8189

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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@stlucaslutherantoleado](https://www.youtube.com/stlucaslutherantoleado)

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, 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.