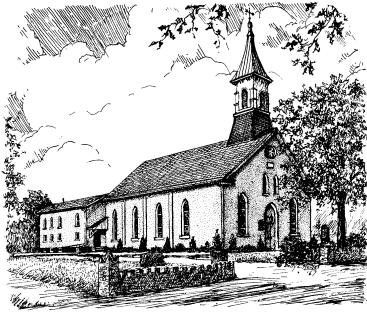


Saint Luke's

United Church of Christ of Trappe

February 2024 Newsletter



Worship Schedule

Rev. Gary Dierolf, Stated Supply Pastor

Office – 610-489-4933

Office email - administrator@stlukestrappe.org

www.stlukestrappe.org

© 484-575-6477

Worship Service 9:00 AM

3rd Sunday of Mo. Healing Service 9:00 AM

4th Sunday of Mo. Children's Sermon 9:00 AM

Lent: A Call to Change

This is something that most of us are not too fond of. We worry will it be for the better, or will it not work out the way we may have hoped. Have we considered and prayed and sought God's will for us in the change. These are all questions that we seek answers for.

We have been making some changes at church. We have painted; we have taking a **HUGE** undertaking in replacing the carpeting in almost the entire church. We have added a TV in the narthex so people who come into the building see what we are up to here at St. Luke's. These are all changes that as far as I can tell have been very positive and should be good for the church. But we are not done yet and I want to share a few thoughts with you.

We are in the beginning stages of considering leaving the PSEC and the UCC. I'm sure many of you have heard this and are wondering where I stand on this. First off, for me personally, I have had some differences with the policies of the denomination for a long time. After all, I was raised in a UCC church. But, I think that we could be a more effective congregation, if we were independent. I am not going to go into the details of the differences that I have, but would be happy to speak of them in person with anyone.

Ash Wednesday is the beginning of the holy season of Lent. I remember growing up and Lent was really important. Each Wednesday night during Lent we went to church along with many other members. We heard messages of a need to change and to love God more. By Holy Week, the services were filled as people prepared for the great day of Easter.

Life has changed. We are way to busy to squeeze in another worship service. There are way too many activities between us with our children. Lent has lost its meaning.

Our lessons for Ash Wednesday call us to change our focus in life. Joel calls us to "return to me with all your heart," return to the Lord, your God, for he is gracious and merciful, slow to anger and abiding in steadfast love . . ." Jesus calls us to quit proclaiming how good and righteous we are, but live quietly in all our actions. Lent is a call to change. We are not called to give up candy, sweets or be absolutely crazy and give up coffee. We are called to read the Bible but, more importantly, to let the Gospel show forth in our daily lives. We should use a devotional book daily during Lent, to let the words seep into our lives, like water does to a plant.

When you come to church, let the words of the scripture, hymns and maybe even the sermon become part of us. When you come forward for the Holy Communion, realize what is really happening to you and in you. Let Lent change you.

Lent will never be like it used to be, for those are only dreams. Make sure this Lenten season changes you. Who knows, maybe we will be different even after Easter.

I look forward to working with our council, the discernment team and any members who have suggestions for how we can grow this church and reach out to our community and our members. For some of you getting to this point may be a long and difficult process, but after much prayer and consideration I feel confident that this is the direction we need to go as a congregation. I have faith that God is still with us at St. Luke's as long as we seek to do his will and serve the world he loves so much.

Blessings, Rev. Gary Dierolf

February Scripture Readings

<u>Date</u>	<u>Old Testament</u>	<u>2nd Lesson</u>	<u>Epistle</u>	<u>Gospel</u>
Feb. 4	Isaiah 40:21-31	Psalm 147:1-11. 20c	1 Corinthians 9:16-23	Mark 1:29-39
Feb. 11	2 Kings 2:1-12	Psalm 50:1-6	2 Corinthians 4:3-6	Mark 9:2-9
Feb. 18	Genesis 9:8-17	Psalm 25:1-10	1 Peter 3:18-22	Mark 1:9-15
Feb. 25	Genesis 17:1-7, 15-16	Psalm 22:23-31	Romans 4:13-25	Mark 8:31-38/9:2-9
Mar. 3	Exodus 20:1-17	Psalm 19	1 Corinthians 1:18-25	John 2:13-22

WOMEN'S BREAKFAST

Join us on February 8th at Spring Ford Diner and we can discuss all those wonderful Christmas presents you received, or what you picked up at the White Elephant.

MEN'S BREAKFAST

Meet at Grace's Café on Wednesday, February 21st at 9:00am. Join us to catch up on things that are happening.

ASH WEDNESDAY SERVICE

Service on Ash Wednesday will be at 5:00pm and there will be Communion.

CROCET CLASSES, Sunday February 18th - STAY TUNED FOR OR MORE INFORMATION

Reminder: There is a slight change in the timing of Sunday worship

8:50 - announcement slides

8:55 - welcome, announcements, joys and concerns

9:00 - beginning of worship service

LAY READERS PLEASE NOTE

The Lay Reader Schedule has been modified. Please note the changes in the weeks you are to read.

From now on you will be reading from the Lectern not the Pulpit.

Alert!!! Someone tried to SCAM one of our members. She received a text from "Reverend Dierolf" asking her to purchase gift cards for him because he was too busy to get them himself. She, fortunately, called Reverend Dierolf and asked him if he actually wanted her to do that. He did not. The person texting was trying to SCAM her. If you ever receive a text or email message like the one she did, CALL the person directly to determine if it's a scam or not, the phone number is in the text message.

February 1 Judy Olcott
February 5 Grant Lloyd
February 7 Kim Gray
February 8 Jeanne Knauer
Cameron Narrigan



February 22 Cassidy Keyser
February 25 Sam Kurtz II
February 28 Jim Kelly

A Word About Worship

– Reintroducing the Prayer Wall

Since the Prayer Wall is visible again, I thought it would be a good time to reintroduce it to the congregation and visitors. I was reminded of the full history by Dottie Snader.

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A while ago, St. Luke's participated in a Conference guided three-year project called the "Revitalization of the Church." Six churches participated and we met every three months at Mensch Mill with Wanda Cramer leading it. We had guest speakers and were introduced to many new ideas that our committee would take back to St. Luke's. One of the ideas was the Prayer Wall. The Youth Group made a paper Prayer Wall to hang where our present Prayer wall exists. The idea was popular with the congregation and the use of it grew. The prayer requests would stay on the wall for one month. Pastor Ann would mark the requests and, after the month, would pray for those people or situations during the church service.

When George passed away in 2009, Pastor Ann suggested that I use some of the memorial money to dedicate a permanent Prayer Wall in memory of George. Ed Oxenham designed the new wall and installed it.

Everyone had the opportunity to write their prayer requests on a post it and affix it to the wall. At the monthly Healing Service, I would remove the requests and give them to the Pastor to be included in the church service prayers.

After the pandemic, a note was placed on the wall declaring "There is no God." That upset many people and the wall fell out of favor. Each Sunday, I still read the requests and add them to my prayers.

I will be happy to see new interest and use of the Prayer Wall.

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Please remember to add your prayers to the wall. We all have so many things to pray for and be thankful for here at the church. Please share what is worrying or uplifting you. The requests will be collected from the wall and included during our healing services. Thank you.



February Sunday Leader Schedule



Church Access Volunteers - Volunteers are needed to open and close the church on Sundays. Please see **Nancy Claycomb** to schedule and review tasks. If you wish to be an usher/greeter please see **Brenda Kurtz** or sign the sheet on the bulletin board in the Narthex.

9:00 Service

	<u>Lay Leader</u>	<u>Children's Time</u>	<u>Nursery</u>	<u>Ushers</u>
Feb. 4	Jim Narrigan			
Feb. 11	Corie Bowers			
Feb. 18	Sue Linkenhoker			
Feb. 25	Bev Spaid	Nancy Leneweaver		
Mar. 3	Kathy Narrigan			

Sunday Leader Scheduling Note

If you are unable to serve on your assigned day, **please find a replacement** by switching dates with someone on the schedule and contact the church office as soon as possible so we may make note of the change. **If you are unable to find a replacement, please contact the church office and we will be happy to do so.**

Articles for the Sunday bulletin are due in the church office by Wednesday. Newsletter deadline for the March Newsletter is February 21st and mailing is February 26th.

PRAYER LIST

People in need of prayers: The Daller Family, Wanamaker Family, Nick Iacorinno, The Family of Amy Miller, Boyer Family, Richardson Family.


People with on-going conditions and prayer needs: Barbara and Mark Nieweg, Casey S., Eli and Ella Vivian, The Kimmich Family, Jack Murphy, Nancy Lewis, Rod Bowers, The Evans Family, Tim Heiser and Tricia White Heiser.

SOMETHING NEW TO THE NEWSLETTER!!!

1. How much does Santa pay to park his sleigh?
2. Why do elephants laugh anytime someone plays the piano? (Answers next page: No Peeking)
3. How do you catch a summer cold?
4. How do bees get to school?
5. What kind of tea is hard to swallow?
6. How do you make a hamburger laugh?



february

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
				1	2	3
4 9:00 Boy Scouts Sunday. Coffee Hr. after Service 5:00 Fellowship Dinner Stoksay Castle, Reading Sign up sheet Narthex	5 7:00 Troop 113	6 10:00 Bible Study 7:00 Finance	7 7:30 Orchestra	8 9:00 Women's Breakfast 7:00 Toastmasters 7:00 Troop 39 7:30 GANON	9	10
11 9:00 Service in Sanctuary w/ Rev. Gary Dierolf	12 7:00 Troop 113 7:00 Missions 7:30 Church Life	13 10:00 Bible Study 6:30 Elders 7:30 Council	14 5:00 Church Service With Communion 	15 7:00 Troop 39 7:30 GANON	16	17
18 9:00 Service in Sanctuary w/ Rev. Gary Dierolf	19 7:00 Troop 113 7:30 Property	20 10:00 Bible Study	21 7:30 Orchestra NEWSLETTER DEADLINE	22 7:00 Troop 39 7:00 Toastmasters 7:30 GANON	23	24
25 9:00 Service in Sanctuary w/ Rev. Gary Dierolf	26 7:00 Troop 113 NEWSLETTER MAILING	27 10:00 Bible Study	28 9:00 Men's Breakfast 7:30 Orchestra	29 7:00 Troop 39 7:30 GANON		

Riddle answers:

1. Nothing it's on the house.
2. Because it tickles their ivories.
3. Catch it in the winter.
4. They take the school buzzzz.
5. Reali-tea
6. Pickle it.

**ST. LUKE'S U.C.C. OF TRAPPE
200 WEST MAIN STREET
COLLEGEVILLE PA 19426-2007**

February Newsletter

**Dated Material-
Deliver Promptly**

St. Luke's Mission Statement

**Centered in God,
guided by His Word,
we share Christ's love with all.**