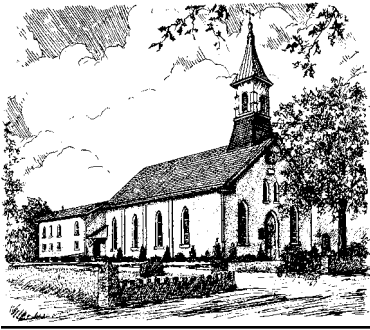


Saint Luke's

United Church of Christ of Trappe

August 2015 Newsletter



Rev. Dr. Kris Peterson – Interim Pastor

Worship Schedule

petersonka@verizon.net

Office – 610-489-4933

Office email-administrator@stlukestrappe.org Summer Blended Service 9:30AM

3rd Sunday of Mo. Healing Service 9:30 AM

www.stlukestrappe.org

From the Interim Pastor

Dear Sisters and Brothers in Christ,

Life is full of transitions. Times of change from one state of being to another. There's the predictable developmental transitions—from infant, to toddler, to preschooler, to first grader, to middle school, to high school, college and beyond. And then there are those more personal transitions—an upcoming wedding, a milestone birthday, graduations which we are recognizing today, the anticipation of a new job, a move into an assisted living facility, the ending of a relationship, the death of a loved one, a slow recovery from surgery. Sometimes the transitions of life slip by almost unnoticed, one day blending into the next, and we wake up wondering how we got to where we are.

We live in the midst of change. All of our lives we are adjusting to, re-orienting to, grieving, anticipating, relishing . . . change. We may not understand the changes, but they are a reality of life. Moving. Changing jobs or careers. New relationships. Romances. A child or grandchild. Separation or divorce. Illness. Losing a job, Losing mobility. Losing mental acuity. Saying Goodbye. Change is with us all the time.

Change can be defined as the inevitable movement of life's forces. Some changes are unexpected and uninvited, others are planned for, anticipated and welcomed. In and of itself change is neutral. Any change can be approached as either a threat or an opportunity, either a cause for celebration or a reason to despair. The difference is our response. We can choose to resist it or fight it or be angry about it or even deny it, but change is going to occur.

What is the story you tell yourself about change? Is it something you fear, something you welcome, something you surrender to, something you avoid at all costs? Our lived experience is that we can't stop change. And there's a lot of change that we can't control. Whatever story we tell ourselves about change, change is always about some kind of loss. Even if the change is positive, like having a new grandchild, or getting a new job, or buying a new vacation home . . . along with the new, something old, something familiar and trustworthy, is lost.

During a sermon in June I tried an "experiment." I invited the congregation to stand up and move to a different part of the sanctuary and remain there for the rest of the service. Some folks moved right away, some thought about it for awhile, some stayed where they were. When I asked about the experience I heard the following reflections. . . "I gained a new perspective on the service". . . "I could see better" . . . "I was able to sit with different people" . . . "I didn't move because I am comfortable where I sit."

During this transition God is inviting us to get out of our "comfort zones" . . . and experience how God is "doing a new thing." God has been faithful to St. Luke's for 273 years in times of change and transition and will continue to be faithful now and in the future.

Blessings on the Journey,
Pastor Kris

August Scripture Readings

<u>Date</u>	<u>Old Testament</u>	<u>2nd Lesson</u>	<u>Epistle</u>	<u>Gospel</u>
Aug. 2	Exodus 16:1-4, 9-15	Psalm 51: 1-12	Ephesians 4:1-6	John 6:24-35
Aug. 9	2 Samuel 18:5-9, 31-33	Psalm 130	Ephesians 4: 25-5:2	John 6:35, 41-51
Aug. 16	1 Kings 2:10-12, 3:3-14	Psalm 111	Ephesians 5:15-20	John 6:51-58
Aug. 23	1 Kings 8:22-30	Psalm 84	Ephesians 3:14-21	John 6:1-14
Aug. 30	Song of Sol. 2:8-13	Psalm 45:1-2, 6-9	James 1:17-27	Mark 7:1-8, 14-15
Sept. 6	Proverbs 22:1-2, 8-9	Psalm 125	James 2:1-10, 14-17	Mark 7:24-37

TRANSITION UPDATE

In July Church Council met with the Rev. Sharon Morris, Associate Conference Minister, to discuss the Search Process and the UCC Local Church Profile. Church Council again met on July 26th to map the way forward. In that meeting names of possible Search Committee members were identified. If approached, please prayerfully consider the opportunity to serve in this important capacity.

The Local church Profile is a document that, when completed, becomes the foundation of the Search Committee's work. It enables a congregation to share thoughts, beliefs, disappointments, and hopes for the congregation. Completing the profile will help members and the Search Committee to have a better understanding of the congregation's identify / calling / vocation as the Body of Christ. It also includes demographics, history and financial situation. After completion, the Profile is available for review by pastoral candidates discerning God's call to serve as pastor at St. Luke's.

In the next few weeks congregational members will be asked to complete portions of the Profile. Each member's perspective and input is important in this process of calling a new pastor.

ATTENTION - ATTENTION

During the weeks of August 9th and August 16th Corie will be on vacation. Office hours will be Tuesday, Wednesday and Friday from 9:30 - 1:00 during these two weeks.

WEDNESDAY WAVERS

Come out at **7:00AM** every Wednesday morning until the Wednesday after Labor Day. We need your "lovely" arms waving and "SMILING" faces greeting everyone on their morning travels. Coffee and snacks after you have used up your energy waving. Everyone is welcome to join us.

CHURCH IN THE PARK AND ANNUAL PICNIC

"God's Amazing Creation" will be the theme for our annual "Church In The Park" worship service. We will again be gathering at Upper Providence Park on **Sunday, September 13, 2015 at 10:00am**. Special activities are being planned for the youth relating to the care of creation.

After the worship service we will be gathering for our Annual Church Picnic. Bring your favorite dish to share and your own place setting, silverware and cup. A sign-up sheet is on the bulletin board. Please remember to sign-up by September 6th so we can plan for the hot dogs and hamburgers.

August 2 Randy Davidson
 Kimberly Hughes
 Matthew Neiman
August 4 Roberta Servey
August 7 Natalie Krentz
August 10 Rod Bowers
August 14 Jeff Davidson
August 16 Roy Linkenhoker, Sr
 Ken Hughes
 Eva Dietrich



August 19 Sue Linkenhoker
 Sue Davidson
August 20 Scott Spaid
August 23 Ed Oxenham
 Stacia Ridge
August 24 Adam Litka
 Kelly Gray
August 27 Michael Narrigan
August 30 Kaitlyn Koehler
August 31 Midge Litchert

Thank God for... is a column for you to contribute outstanding achievements by our members in and out of the church or any other moment you want to Thank God for.... Please consider letting us know about your Thank God moment.



The Ladies of St. Lukes for their generosity whenever asked to chip in with food and many other tasks!!

HOLY COMMUNION

Sacraments are ritual actions in worship which, according to Scripture, were instituted by Jesus. In the sacraments of baptism and communion we ask the Holy Spirit to use water, bread and wine to make visible the grace, forgiveness and presence of God in Christ. The communion meal recalls the table fellowship Jesus shared with his disciples on the night before his death.

A variety of communion practices are found in the United Church of Christ. These practices include sharing of a common loaf, using individual wafers or cubes of bread at the communion rail or in the pews. Wine is distributed by common cup, individual cups or by intinction.

Holy Communion will be celebrated at The Healing Service on August 16. We will be using intinction to receive the elements of bread and wine. At the time for communion, members will be ushered to the head of the center aisle. After receiving a piece of bread from the Pastor it is dipped into a chalice of wine/grape juice that is held by an elder. Return to the pew by the side aisle. The elements will be brought to those in the pew by request.

WOMEN'S BREAKFAST

Join the ladies of the church for a get together breakfast the 2nd Thursday of August at the new restaurant "3 Square Meals" in the Limerick Town Shopping Center in front of Target. We meet at 9:00 am, just tell them you are with St. Luke's Church.



WE'RE GOING TO A



BALL GAME!

FIGHTIN' PHILLIES

Meet the "BIG YELLOW BUS" that will be taking us to the Fightn' Phils Game on **Sunday, August 9, 2015** against the New Britain Rock Cats. Our wonderful bus driver Bob will be driving again this year, we will be **leaving the church parking lot at 3:00pm sharp!!** All tickets have been sold. If you haven't paid do so ASAP. The **game starts at 5:05pm, there is a 2 1/2 hour all-you-can-eat buffet.** Character Pool is available for kids under 14 years of age (that's true age NOT the age you think you are!) and a Phunland Area. A very special guest will be at the game this year, the Philly Phanatic will be making an appearance! See you in the Picnic Area!!

275TH ANNIVERSARY CELEBRATION

In the year 2017... our 275th Anniversary will be celebrated by St. Luke's. We need volunteers to serve on the committee to gather info and plan our celebration! We had a great time at our 250th, lets see if we can top that one. Please contact the office if you are interested in helping and/or have ideas.

IT'S NOT TOO LATE!

Shingles strikes one in three older adults. I'm sure you have all seen the television commercials. Shingles (Zoster) vaccine helps prevent Shingles. It is caused by the same virus that causes chickenpox. The virus stays in your body and can resurface any time as Shingles- a painful, blistering rash. One out of three Americans will have Shingles at some time in their lives. Even if you are healthy, your risk for Shingles increases as you get older. Montgomery County Aging and Adult Services in collaboration with the Montgomery County Health Department have scheduled a Free Shingles Outreach Clinic at St. Luke's UCC on **Thursday, August 13, 2015 from 9:00 am to noon. This clinic is by appointment only!** If you are a Montgomery County resident and 60 years of age or older, please call Susan Wenrick at [610-292-4539](tel:610-292-4539) to make an appointment.



WOMEN'S BOOK CLUB

Please come and join us on Wednesday, August 12, 2015 at 6:00 to discuss the book "The 13th Tale" by Diane Setterfield. You must purchase your own copy of the book or get it at a Library. We will then pick a new book to read for our next meeting.

GROWING OUR CONGREGATION WORKSHOP

Social networking for ministry is not about using the latest new technology for the sake of looking "relevant" and it is not the latest "gimmick." It is about commitment to extend God's hospitality. Today's technology makes it easy to reach out and connect.

PSEC is sponsoring a workshop on social media on August 19, 2015 from 9am to 3pm at The Hampton Inn in Oaks.

This workshop helps faith leaders explore the "why on earth should I?" and "how on earth do I?" of social networking technology. Workshop participants will explore how to engage, enrich, and expand community as they:

- * Learn to identify their purposes for engaging social media.
- * Begin to develop a social ministry strategy for their church.
- * Receive tutorials with Facebook, Twitter, Instagram, Pinterest, blogging and YouTube.
- * Explore how to use technology more effectively in worship, education and spiritual

formation.

Cost is \$20.00. If interested in attending see Pastor Kris.



MITZVAH CIRCLE FOUNDATION

Did you know that you cannot buy diapers (child or adult), toilet paper, tissues products, any kind of hygiene products (shampoo, soap, toothpaste, toothbrushes) or feminine products with food stamps? Or that babies in poverty get their diapers changed on average once a day? Or that elderly people living alone will often feed their pets before they feed themselves if they don't have enough money to do both. Or that people seeking federal assistance typically have to make 3 personal visits to the agency before they will be considered to receive aid. Or that in can take just one serious medical condition or event to destroy a family's financial stability?

These are a few reasons why Mitzvah Circle Foundation (MCF) was established almost six years ago. MCF is a 501(c)(3) non-profit, non-religious based organization which provides support to individuals and families during times of crisis, poverty, homelessness and serious illness. We help those who have fallen through the cracks, providing help and guidance quickly and with care and compassion. We provide basic necessities to people in need directly before or when traditional and government organizations do not. We promptly determine needs and develop individualized support in terms of clothing, household items, food, services, diapers, referrals and provide help where it is most needed. MCF responds to basic human needs with compassion, love and the kinds of resources that truly make a difference for people, giving them hope and dignity.

Our main areas of service are:

Homeless Outreach

Food Project (delivering day-old bakery items to shelters)

Adopt-a-class (Food4Hope bags at our Classroom4Good and basic school items)

Diaper Bank (In 2013 we distributed 17,000 diapers, in 2014 we distributed 240,000 and we are projected to distribute over 500,000 in 2015)

Last year we served approximately 2,700 elderly people; 31,000 individual children and 14,368 families

There are 4 part-time employees working with 95% of our work being done through volunteers. Last year we had over 450 volunteers helping fulfill our mission. There are many ways in which the members of St. Luke's can help: donate gently used clothing and household goods, come to the warehouse and sort through donated clothing and shoes, help pack small boxes filled with hope for needy individuals and families or help make deliveries to needy families or other non-profit organizations. This work is not hard or difficult and anyone of any age is welcome to come. We are happy to have individuals or organizations come such as Girl Scouts, Boy Scouts, church youth groups, Women's and Men's clubs, etc. Just let me know and we will set up a date!

We believe that all people are deserving of respect and dignity and that no person should have to go without food, shelter, clothing or other essential items. We treat ALL people with kindness and compassion, removing barriers to support and help. At MCF we want to be the "YES we can help" in their world of "No"s. We all need someone's help at some point in our lives, let us not leave the most vulnerable among us out of the circle.

Thank you,
Brenda

OUR "IRONMAN" ROY

It was about 6am on a beautiful Saturday morning. The sun was up and the temperature was about 60 degrees. The lake was calm and there was very little breeze. I was standing with my closest family and friends who had given up a weekend and driven about 400 miles to be there with me and I could feel their support. I knew I had put together a good plan and was well prepared. I had given much thought to this day and had walked through every detail in my head. I was dressed warmly, but I was shaking out of control. I wasn't cold, but was overwhelmed with the thought of the whole thing. I was about to complete an Ironman triathlon that involved a 2.4 mile swim, 112 mile bike ride, and a 26.2 mile run. A goal that I had for several years.

I watched the Ironman world championships in Kona, HI several years ago and listened to the many stories of the competitors and thought it was impossible to complete such a long grueling event. In addition, I was working two jobs at the time and never thought I would ever have enough time to prepare for such long distances. I was not much of a swimmer and I always felt horrible after even the shortest amount of running. Then in 2009 I left my part time job and I instantly had several additional hours a week and decided to fill them up with exercise. I thought I had worked so much for so long this was the time to try to accomplish some things that I hadn't had the time for in the past.

Still thinking the Ironman distances were unattainable, I thought I would try other shorter events to see what I could handle. I completed an Olympic triathlon and learned to enjoy running. I decided to try longer distance runs and completed a few half marathons and then a full marathon. I did a lot of research on training, diet, and technique. I talked with my friends and family about the little goals and accomplishments and they were always there with their support and encouragement. Slowly, the full Ironman seemed more and more attainable.

During the event there were difficult times, such as hurting muscles, bad road conditions, and even a stuck bus that blocked the road. However, the cheers from my family and the thought of my preparation carried me through. I finished the triathlon in just over 13 hours and I felt pretty good physically afterward and very happy with my results.

I was always taught, if you put your mind to it, you can do anything. I learned through the process of preparing for this triathlon that it helps to break a big goal up into smaller pieces, take one step at a time, and to seek knowledge and support along the way. We at St. Luke's are facing a challenge of finding a permanent pastor and I think we can apply the approach of taking one step at a time to overcome this challenge. There are some things that make this challenge seem overwhelming, but we need to remember we have a plan. Pastor Kris and the conference are helping us through this plan. Please keep the faith and stay tuned as we will be asking for your help as we move to the next step in the coming months.

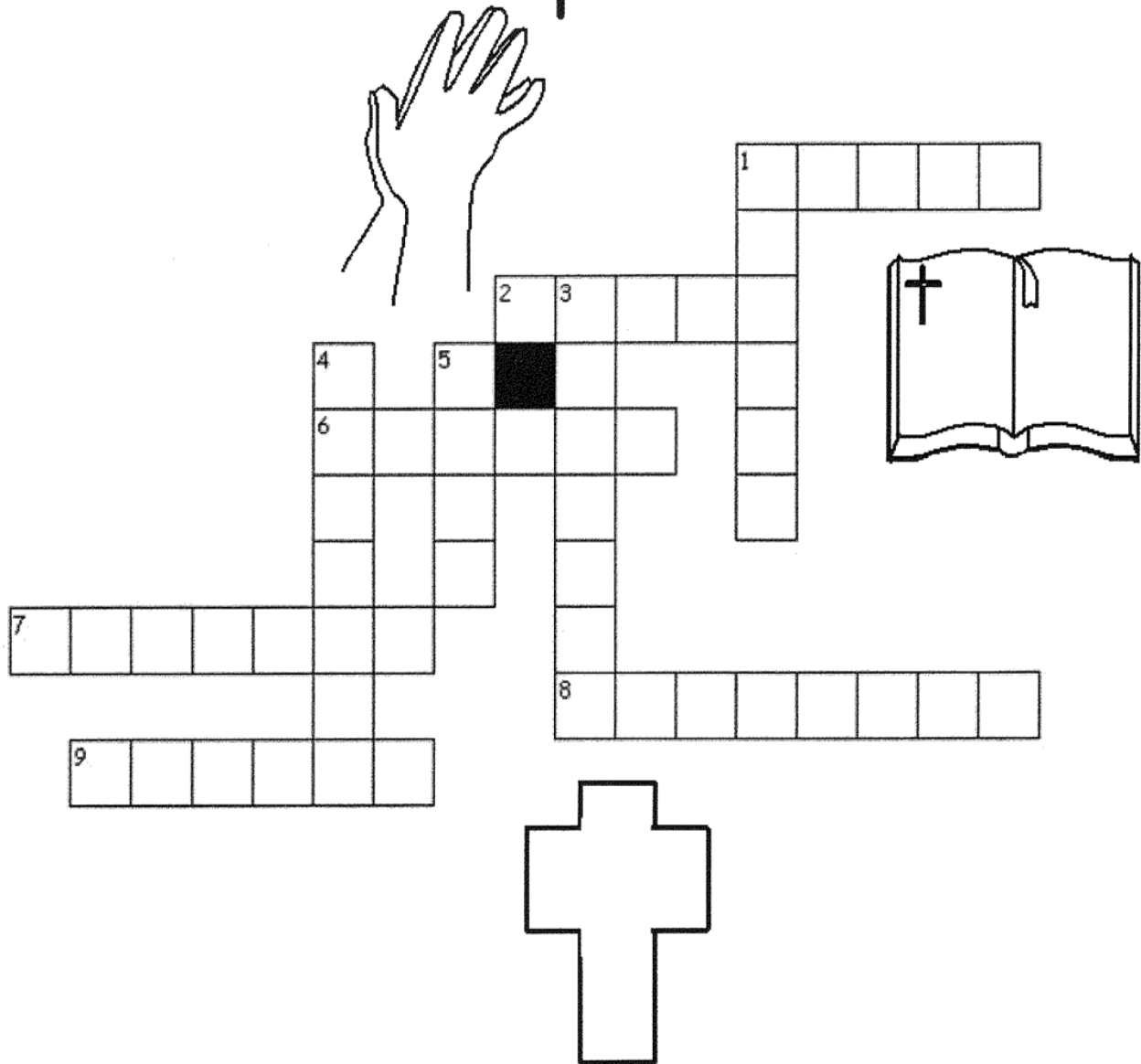
God's Blessings,
Roy Jr.



GAME DAY IS HAPPENING

Join us the first Thursday of every month to play GAMES. We will pick out a game when we know how many people are here. Bring a brown bag lunch we will eat together and then play the afternoon away.

Church and Respect Crossword



Across

1. At church we meet with others to worship and also to study or ____ about God.
2. The way we ____ can show respect on the outside of us.
6. When we ____ God we are telling him how much appreciate and love him.
7. When we sing and pray to God this is the way we do this for God.
8. These people care about you and spend time preparing a lesson for you to learn.
9. The church isn't about where we meet but about the ____ we meet with there.

Down

1. It's important to do this to hear what the people at church are trying to teach you.
3. Treating others the way we would like to be treated can be called this.
4. Church is a ____ place to worship God together no matter where it is.
5. Instead of running and being loud it's better if you ____ and speak nicely to others.



August 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.

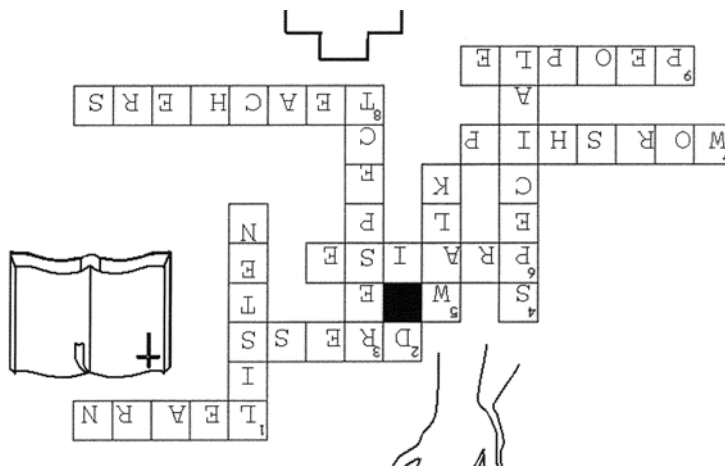
9:30 Summer Blended Services

	<u>Lay Reader</u>	<u>Children's Time</u>	<u>Nursery</u>
August 2	Jim Narrigan	Scott Koehler	Brenda Koehler
August 9	Corie Bowers	Brenda Koehler	Carrie Krentz
August 16	Sue Linkenhoker	Sue Kelly	Sue Kelly
August 23	Scott Koehler	Nancy Leneweaver	Nancy Leneweaver
August 30	Bev Spaid	Becci Richardson	Kim Gray
September 6	Brenda Koehler	Pastor Kris	Brenda Koehler

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 September Newsletter is August 21st and mailing is August 25th.





AUGUST

						1
2 9:30 Blended Service	3 7:00 Boy Scouts	4 7:00 Tai Chi 7:30 Church and Ministry	5 7:00 am Wednesday Wavers 7:00 Endowment	6 12:30 Games 7:00 Finance 7:30 Gamblers	7 10 LMM	8
		GUTTER INSTALLATION BY WANAMAHER				
		DRAMA KIDS CAMP				
9 9:30 Blended Service  A Trip to the Ball Game	10 7:00 Boy Scouts	11 7:00 Tai Chi 7:30 Council	12 7:00 am Wednesday Wavers 6:00 Women's Book Club	13 7:00 MCA&AS Shingle Shots Clinic 9:00 Women's Breakfast 7:00 Toastmasters 7:30 Gamblers	14	15
		BOILER INSTALLATION BY OEHLERT BROS.				
		CORIE ON VACATION				
16 HEALING SERV. COMMUNION 9:30 Blended Service	17 7:00 Boy Scouts 7:30 Property	18 7:00 Tai Chi 7:30 Worship and Music	19 7:00 am Wednesday Wavers 7:00 Greenbar 7:00 College Woods HO	20 7:30 Gamblers	21 NEWSLETTER DEADLINE	22
		CORIE ON VACATION				
23 9:30 Blended Service	24 7:00 Boy Scouts	25 7:00 Tai Chi 7:30 Church Life NEWSLETTER MAILING	26 7:00 am Wednesday Wavers	27 7:00 Christian Ed. 7:00 Toastmasters 7:30 Gamblers	28	29
		CARPET INSTALLATION - MOYER HALL				
30 9:30 Blended Service	31 7:00 Boy Scouts					

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

August Newsletter

**Dated Material-
Deliver Promptly**



St. Luke's Mission Statement

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