



ST. LUKE NEWS

MAY/JUNE 2025

Pastor's Letter



Dear Beloved St. Luke Family,

Warm greetings in the name of our risen Lord!

As summer approaches, I find myself reflecting on the beauty of this transition. The vibrant colors of spring give way to the warm embrace of summer, inviting us to relax in the sun's rays and enjoy the longer days.

For many of us, this change brings a sense of anticipation. Schools wind down, and backpacks are emptied of homework to make room for sunscreen and snacks. Family calendars fill up with plans for reunions, road trips, and backyard cookouts.

We look forward to spending time at lakes, hiking trails, and city parks, and reconnecting with friends or relatives we may not have seen in a while.

Amidst the allure of summer relaxation, let's not forget the vital role our church community plays. While it's tempting to take a break from church activities, I urge you to stay connected and engaged. Our faith community is constant, even in the changing seasons.

Your presence and participation are not just welcomed, but integral to our community. Summer is a fantastic opportunity for us to deepen our faith, strengthen our connections, and reflect on God's goodness in our lives, and your active involvement makes it all the more meaningful.

Whether you are in town or traveling, please make Sunday worship a priority. Even if you're away, you can still participate in our service by streaming it on our website, visiting another congregation, or setting aside a brief family devotion at your campsite or kitchen table.

As we journey through this summer together, remember that I am here for you, supporting you in your spiritual growth. I pray that each of you finds moments of joy and rest, embraces the beauty around you, and remains an active part of our church life.

Grace and peace,
Pastor Ivan Milosi



<http://www.stlukelincolln.org>

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MATT TALBOT KITCHEN & OUTREACH

On Saturday, May 31st, St. Luke will be preparing and serving the evening meal at Matt Talbot Kitchen. If you can assist with the costs of this meal, there is a donation box in the narthex. If you can help prepare and/or serve the meal, please contact Patty Gerlach or call the church office.

This is one of our community outreach projects, and another way we can make a difference in the world by sharing God's love.

Operation Christmas Child Year-Round

Shoebox Shopping

Operation Christmas Child is a project of Samaritan's Purse, an international relief organization. Their mission is to provide local partners around the world with shoeboxes filled with small toys, hygiene items, and school supplies as a means of reaching out to children in their own communities with the Good News of Jesus Christ. They ship these simple gifts outside the United States to children affected by war, poverty, natural disaster, famine, and disease.

St. Luke participates in this outreach instead of other "Christmas in July" programs. We collect items throughout the year, and then place them in the Christmas-wrapped box in the narthex. This is a great opportunity to purchase items when they are at sale prices, and then it's one less thing to do during the busy Christmas season.



RADA FUNDRAISER

This is an ongoing fundraiser. These make great gifts and the soups and dips are a great thing to have in your kitchen. You can pick up a book on the display in the narthex and place your order in the basket. When we get around \$50 or more, we will send in orders.



CALENDAR

- Alcohol Anonymous meets every Wednesday - 6:30pm
- Al-Anon meets every Thursday - 11am
- Men's Fellowship meets every Thursday - 7am at HyVee
- Women's Fellowship meets at 10am on the 3rd Monday of each month at Hy-Vee

May 18 Recognition of Graduates at both services

May 31 St. Luke serves evening meal at Matt Talbot Kitchen

June 4, 11, 18, 25 Work nights in the Community Garden 7pm

Jun 14 Blooming Brunch Fundraiser

Jun 23 Outreach Committee Meeting 7pm

Jul 2, 9, 16, 23, 30 Work nights in the Community Garden 7pm

Jul 28 Care Team Meeting 7pm

Aug 3 One Day VBS

Aug 3 Backpack Blessing at 10:30am worship service

Aug 3 Ice Cream Social 2:00pm (for Closing of VBS Day)

Aug 10 Combined Worship Service at 10:30am

Aug 10 Fellowship Luncheon with Pot Luck sides 11:30am

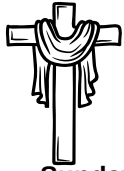
Thank you to those individuals who helped with the Church Work Day on April 26th. Those once a year (or less) jobs are sometimes tough to tackle, but St. Luke workers took on the challenge, and did a great job. Many thanks for a job well done!



St. Luke had a GREAT garage and bake sale on May 9th and 10th! Many thanks to everybody that made our sale a success – from those that donated items, to those that worked the sale, and baked the goodies, to those who helped with set-

up to those that cleaned up, and those who took care of things afterwards. It was a big job -- and done very nicely! Many thanks to Jodi Brockhoff for chairing a great Garage Sale this year! We raised over \$2,000 for St. Luke. It was a successful group effort. A BIG Thank you to all!

WORSHIP



Sunday Services 8:30am & 10:30am

Communion is the first and third Sunday of each Month.

WORSHIP SCHEDULE

Sunday, May 18, 2025

Theme: He Called Her by Name

Scripture: John 20:1-18

Sunday, May 25, 2025

Theme: Grace After Failure

Scripture: John 2:1-19

Sunday, June 1, 2025

Theme: The Mission Continues

Scripture: Matthew 28:16-20

Sunday, June 8, 2025

Pastor at Annual Conference

Rev Dan Safarik - Guest Pastor

Sunday, June 15, 2025

Theme: When God Feels Absent

Scripture: Esther 1-2

Sunday, June 22, 2025

Theme: For Such a Time as This

Scripture: Esther 3-4

Sunday, June 29, 2025

Theme: The Turning Point: When God Steps In

Scripture: Esther 5-6

Sunday, July 6, 2025

Theme: The Enemy's Plans Will Not Prevail

Scripture: Esther 7-8

Sunday, July 13, 2025

Theme: God Remembers & Restores

Scripture: Esther 9-10



BLOOMING BRUNCH

SATURDAY JUNE 14, 2025

10am

FELLOWSHIP, FUN, and FOOD!



Cost is \$12 per person.

Karen Karr Ammons and Shirley Gibson will be preparing some of their favorite brunch foods. Everyone (Men & Women) are invited!

In order to prepare, please reserve your seat by June 8th. We would appreciate it if you would pay when you make your reservation. Reservations can be given to Karen, Shirley, Nancy McMeen, or bring to the church office during office hours.



CHILDREN'S MINISTRY NEWS

May 18th will be our last day of Sunday School until Rally day on September 7th. Thank you to all parents/grandparents for bringing your children so we could share stories how Jesus taught us to be kind and love each other.

Thank you to the following individuals for helping teach Sunday School: Tiffany Wittrock, Janell Uken, Scott Opfer, Russ Parrott, April Yang, and Nancy McMeen. If you can help in the fall, please contact the church office.



ONE DAY VBS

Sunday, August 3rd

10am to 2pm

Bible stories, music, crafts, games, and more! Lunch will be served. Registration will be on the St. Luke website in June/July.

Kids should bring their backpacks and at 10:30, they will join the morning worship service for a blessing of their backpacks.



We will have an ice cream social directly following VBS (2pm) and everyone is invited. The kids will sing a couple of the new songs they've learned and showcase the crafts they've made.



Congratulations to our 2025 High School Graduates

Hannah Hollman

Carley Parrott



Community Garden

Spring is here!!!

The garden is starting to produce. Right now, we have cilantro and radishes ready for use. The rhubarb plant was separated and is growing but no rhubarb will be available this year. We have planted beets, carrots, spinach, kohlrabi, romaine, broccoli, squash, cabbage, pole bean and cucumbers. We will be planting tomatoes and peppers in the next couple of weeks. Again, this year we will be having a work night on Wednesdays at 7:00 PM starting on June 4, 2025. We will be pulling weeds, thinning the carrots, beets, kohlrabi, working on training the zucchini to grow up, instead of spreading out, and training the summer squash, pole beans, and cucumbers to climb the trellises. Gardens take time and work. If you are interested in helping please contact Mary Kulhanek or the church office. The Sharing Table will be open on Sundays in the Fellowship Hall from 9:45 AM – 10:45 AM when produce is available.



Little Food Pantry in our parking lot

A huge THANK YOU to all who contribute to our little food pantry. The items you place in the pantry **provide food for those who may not have enough**. Please help us by placing non-perishable food in the food pantry in our parking lot.

Thank you for your continued support!



Please help us keep our records up to date. If you have moved, or your phone number or email address has changed, please call the church or send an email to:
office@stlukelincn.org.
We are charged \$.90 each time a newsletter is returned to us.
Thanks for your help!!



LIVE STREAM

How to Access the Live Stream
(Step by Step)
Computer Access

1. Turn on computer.
2. Open web browser. (ie. Chrome, Firefox, or Internet Explorer)
3. Click into the address bar at the top of the screen.
4. Type www.stlukelincn.org and press enter.
5. Scroll down and click on the red underlined phrase which says, "CLICK HERE FOR THE LIVESTREAM." This will take you to our YouTube channel.
6. You are able to leave comments on the right. (You will need to sign in to leave a comment.)

Phone Access

1. On your phone you can follow the same steps as above.
2. If you don't already have the YouTube app on your phone, it may ask you to install it. Once installed, follow the steps above again and it should open the YouTube page and click on the video with the red "live" next to it.



Sermon by Phone



Pastor Ivan is recording his sermon weekly. It will be available by Tuesday of each week. To listen to phone sermon dial 1-402-261-0345.



Text announcements will remind you when livestream is starting on Sunday morning, special events, when we have to cancel church or events due to weather, etc.

PLEASE SIGN UP!

1. Open your text messaging app on your phone and start a new message.
2. In the spot where you put the person's phone number (To:) type: 43506
3. In the spot where you type the message, type the word: announce.
4. Press send. If you did it correctly, you should get a response within a minute that says, "Welcome to St. Luke UMC announcements."