



ST. LUKE NEWS

March/April 2026

Pastor's Letter



Dear Friends,

Have you ever noticed how fast the "forecast" of your life can change? You start the morning with clear skies and a steady rhythm, but by late afternoon, a storm you never saw coming has flipped everything upside down.

Whether it's a health crisis, a financial shift, or a sudden conflict, it's easy to feel like you're sinking. In Mark 4, the disciples felt the same way. As waves crashed over the hull, they cried out: "Teacher, don't you care that we're drowning?"

When life gets loud, we often interpret God's silence as his absence. But here is the truth: Jesus can be fully present and yet totally quiet.

On that boat, Jesus was sleeping not because He didn't care, but because he was in total control. He knew the end of the story while the disciples were only reading the current page.

If you're in a "silent" season, don't mistake God's stillness for a lack of activity. Even when you can't hear his voice, you can trust his heart. Your circumstances are not the ultimate authority; he is. He is in the boat with you. He is for you. And he will take you to the other side.

Take a moment today to breathe. Remember that the wind may be loud, but the one in your boat is louder. I'm praying that you feel God's presence today, and that his peace, which surpasses all understanding, guards your heart while you wait for the waves to settle.

With hope,
Pastor Ivan Milosi

<http://www.stlukelincoln.org>

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ONE DAY WITHOUT SHOES

It all started in April 2011 when Cornhusker Bank and People's City Mission partnered for the first Day Without Shoes campaign to focus on footwear people need. More than 200 businesses, churches, schools, and other organizations serve as collection sites for donating new and used shoes. To date, members of Lincoln, Omaha and the surrounding communities have collected 416,000 pairs of shoes and monetary donations totaling nearly \$136,000! Help us keep building momentum for this important cause. The foundation of getting them back on their feet is a good pair of shoes.



You can bring your new or gently used shoes to church from April 6th through April 19th, where we'll have a container specifically designated for shoes.

Thank you to all those who brought food for the **SOUPER BOWL OF CARING!**

Our friendly competition for collecting food and winning football touchdowns provided food for those less fortunate in our community. Thanks for joining the St. Luke Team and tackling hunger.



Samaritan's Purse Operation Christmas Child is a Year-Round project for St. Luke. We collect small items that will fit in a shoebox. These boxes are shipped outside the United States to children affected by war, poverty, natural disaster, famine, and disease.

Little Food Pantry in our Parking Lot

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.

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 (Mar 16, Apr 20, May 18)
- Choir practices on Wednesday evenings - 7pm

Feb 18 to March 25 - Wed Nite Live Soup, Salad, Desserts - 5:45pm, followed by a Vesper Service in the sanctuary from 6:45 to 7pm

March 29 - Children will open the 10:30am Worship Service, coming in waving palms

March 29 - Choir presents the Easter Cantata 8:30am & 10:30am services

April 3 - Tenebrae Service 8pm

April 4 - Easter Egg Hunt 1pm

April 5 - Easter Sunrise Service 7am

followed by breakfast (free will offering with proceeds going to the youth group)

April 5 - Easter Worship Services at 8:30 and 10:30am

TENEBRAE SERVICE

Friday, April 3 - 8pm

The word tenebrae is derived from the Latin word meaning "darkness," "shadows," or "night." The Tenebrae Service is the Resurrection story, as told by the disciples of Christ. It's purpose is to immerse worshippers in the passion, suffering, and death of Jesus, offering a time for deep reflection, sorrow & meditation before Easter.



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EASTER SUNRISE SERVICE

Sunday, April 5 - 7am

St. Luke Youth will be doing the Sunrise Service, which will be followed by a yummy breakfast in the Fellowship Hall (with a free will offering).

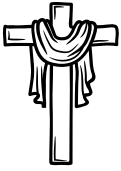


WORSHIP

Sunday Services 8:30am & 10:30am

Communion is the first and third Sunday of each Month.

WORSHIP SCHEDULE



Sermon Series: Resurrection People - An Easter Journey through the Gospel of John

On Easter Sunday, we celebrate the empty tomb with joy and wonder, giving thanks for the new life we find in the Risen Christ. But for the followers of Jesus, Easter wasn't just a single day, it was the beginning of a radical transformation. For the next 6 weeks we will move from the wonder of the empty tomb into the mud and beauty of being the Body of Christ in the world today.

| Date (2026) | Sunday in Lent | Series Focus | Scripture |
|-------------|--------------------------------|---|----------------------|
| April 12 | Those Who Long to See | | John 20:19-31 |
| | | <i>Exploring how Jesus meets us in our doubt and our deep desire for connection.</i> | |
| April 19 | Those Who Fish and Feed | | John 21:1-19 |
| | | <i>Finding the Risen Lord in the midst of our daily work and the weariness of grief.</i> | |
| April 26 | Those Who Follow the Shepherd | | John 10:22-30 |
| | | <i>Learning to distinguish the gentle voice of our Protector from the loud noises of power.</i> | |
| May 3 | Those Who Answer a New Command | | John 13:31-35 |
| | | <i>A radical reordering of love: how washing feet and breaking bread changes everything.</i> | |
| May 10 | Those Who Want to Be Well | | John 5:1-9 |
| | | <i>Confronting the patterns that keep us stuck and accepting the compassion of healing.</i> | |
| May 17 | Those Who May Be One | | John 17:20-26 |
| | | <i>The finale of our series: realizing that the resurrected life is one we live and win together.</i> | |
| May 24 | Pentecost Sunday | | John 14:8-17 (25-27) |
| | | <i>The Completion of the Promise.</i> | |

How Can We Pray for You?

There is comfort in knowing you are being prayed for. Pastor Ivan is available to pray with you and for you. Scan the QR code to receive a text message from him and let him know how he can pray for you. *Your request will be kept confidential.*



CHILDREN'S MINISTRY NEWS

The children will be waving palms on Sunday, March 29th at the 10:30am service. This will be at the beginning of the service. Our choir will also be presenting the Cantata, so come, bring your children and stay for this wonderful event.

We will NOT have Sunday School on Easter, April 5th. Our youth will be doing the Sunrise service and we would like to give our teachers in the younger grades a much needed break to be with their families for worship.



We will be recognizing those that are graduating from High School or College sometime in May. If you have someone graduating, please call the church office. Thank You.



Saturday, April 4, 2026 at 1pm

Bring your Easter Basket! The Easter Bunny will be hiding lots of Easter Eggs!

A Journey to Hope

Our Choir will present the Easter Cantata on Sunday, March 29th at the 8:30am and 10:30am worship services

Mark your calendars as you won't want to miss this!



Wednesday Nite Live - Soup, Salad, Dessert Supper

The last two Wednesday Nite Lives will be on March 18th and March 25th. Supper is served at 5:45pm, and we go upstairs to the sanctuary at 6:45pm for a short vesper service. If you haven't had a chance to attend one of these suppers yet, this is your last chance this year to share in this St. Luke Lent tradition.



Many thanks to all the individuals who have made these suppers possible. From those who set up, to those who cleaned up, and those who brought the food. What a fun time we've had together!

COMMUNITY GARDEN

Sunday, March 1 was the beginning of meteorological spring. It is time to start getting the garden ready for planting. We will have a garden workday sometime during March. Watch the news insert in the bulletin for day and time. Tasks that need to be completed are spade/till the raised beds, spread wood chips where needed, install 2 more trellises for climbing plants, and other tasks as determined. If you have any questions, ideas, or concerns please contact Mary Kulhanek.



Watch for Details

RADA FUNDRAISER



Selling of Rada products is an ongoing fundraiser for St. Luke. You can pick up a book on display in the narthex and place your order in the basket. When we have around \$50 or more in sales, we'll send in orders. These make great gifts and are nice to have "on-hand" in your kitchen.

SOFTBALL

Glenn Kozak is putting together a softball team to play in the city-wide church league. Games will be on Monday nights at Mahoney Park (70th & Fremont), with the first game scheduled for April 13th. For more information, Glenn can be reached at 402-617-3815 (phone or text).



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.stlukelincoln.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.

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."

Interested in Membership? Let's Talk!!

Exploring membership at St. Luke UMC? Pastor Ivan hosts a brief, casual meetup over coffee/tea and donuts every last Sunday of the month at 9:45am and 11:40am. Or any other day by appointment. Learn what we believe, how we serve, and how you can make St. Luke your church home. We warmly welcome all who are interested!