

STAMP

cross connection

St. Luke is a worshipping community in which we:

+Love God and each other. +Welcome all. +Equip people to serve in Christ's name.

Epiphany 2025



LABEL

ST. LUKE
Evangelical Lutheran Church
2695 Luther Drive
Chambersburg, PA 17202



cross connection

Epiphany 2025

Dear Family and Friends of St. Luke,

+ Grace and Peace

In our tradition, when a baptized Christian affirms the faith (often called confirmation) the presiding minister addresses those making public affirmation of baptism and asks the question: Do you intend to continue in the covenant God made with you in holy baptism:

to live among God's faithful people,

to hear the word of God and share in the Lord's supper,

to proclaim the good news of God in Christ through word and deed,

to serve all people, following the example of Jesus,

and to strive for justice and peace in all the earth?

RESPONSE: We do, and ask God to help and guide us.

(Evangelical Lutheran Worship, p. 236)

So begins a daily claiming and re-discovering of the God-given gifts of discipleship. These gifts overlap and are intertwined as one gift flows into another and into faithful living. The thing is, we often assume "we got this" and get caught up in and distracted by the rhythms and routines of life.

Our discipleship can easily become neglected or secondary. God would like each and all of us to become more intentional about the practice of our faith walk with Jesus as disciples. One might call it our primary purpose. These five gifts of discipleship serve as a good place to start (and a good place to remain and abide).

It may seem too soon to consider a Lenten discipline. However, even now we can look ahead. Lent is an ideal season of the church year to promote the five gifts of discipleship. So, I invite you to mark your calendars now and plan to join me as we explore living our baptism through these faith practices beginning on Sunday, March 9. In the meantime, take time to read St. Paul's letter to the Philippians in which we will ground our study and reflection.

In Christ's love for you,

Pastor Christopher Frye

For Personal Inventory: Inward, Outward Gifts of Discipleship

How do you put your faith into practice?

How do you daily practice your faith?

INWARD AND OUTWARD GIFTS

The five gifts of discipleship can be divided into two categories:

Inward Gifts of Discipleship: MY life is blessed!

- Live among God's faithful people
- Hear the word of God and share in the Lord's supper

Outward Gifts of Discipleship: MY life blesses others!

- Proclaim the good news of God in Christ through word and deed
- Serve all people, following the example of Jesus
- Strive for justice and peace in all the earth

DISCERNMENT: Unwrapping the Gifts of Discipleship

Gifts can be transformative and bring unexpected changes. That is especially true as we are open to God-given gifts. Where is God's Spirit leading you? How might your life please God?

More than skills, we live by the grace of God, sealed with the Holy Spirit and marked with the cross of Christ forever. We do not "do" faith practices to earn an "A" in faith or to master a skill. Far from it. We do not "have to" practice our faith. There are no "oughts" in our faith response. These gifts are not laws. Instead, we respond freely to God's love made known in Christ.

Thus, we "get" to: **Put our faith into practice & Practice our faith daily**

At all times we have opportunities to receive (inward) and reflect (outward) God's love. Whether we are new or mature in faith, an extrovert or introvert, young or old, we are continually renewed and strengthened through the Holy Spirit to follow Christ as well as to share God's love with others.

As ambassadors of Christ (2 Corinthians 5:17-20), we will at times find ourselves called to leave our comfort zone.

WORSHIP

SUNDAYS AND SPECIAL DAYS

- ♦ **January 5** *2nd Sunday of Christmas; Within the gospel reading's profound words lies the simple message that God is revealed in a human person.
- ♦ **January 6** *Epiphany; 7:00pm. The feast of Epiphany ("manifestation") concludes the Christmas season with a celebration of God's glory revealed in the person of Jesus Christ.
- ♦ **January 12** *Baptism of Our Lord; On this day the heavens open again for this assembly, and we receive the gift of God's Beloved, Jesus, in bread and wine.
2nd Sunday Fellowship
- ♦ **January 19** *2nd Sunday after Epiphany; The Sundays after Epiphany continue to celebrate the revelation of God's glory to us as it was made known to the magi and to those on Jordan's banks at Jesus' baptism—today using wedding imagery.
- ♦ **January 26** *Third Sunday after Epiphany; God's glo-

ry is revealed in the reading of scripture.

- ♦ **February 2** *Fourth Sunday after Epiphany; Let the light of every candle in church be a little epiphany of the love of God for all people in the person of God's son, Jesus, the light of the world.
- ♦ **February 9** *Fifth Sunday after Epiphany; The fifth Sunday after Epiphany continues to highlight unlikely instruments and circumstances appointed to reveal God's glory.
- ♦ **February 16** *Sixth Sunday after Epiphany; The risen Christ stands among us in the mystery of the holy supper with an invitation to live in him, and offers power to heal us all.
- ♦ **February 23** *Seventh Sunday after Epiphany; The Spirit guides us into merciful lives with the power of forgiveness to reconcile what is fractured and divided.
- ♦ **March 2** *Transfiguration of Our Lord; Witnesses to the glory of God in the face of Jesus reflect that glory in the world.

connect: 2695 Luther Drive, Chambersburg, PA 17202 | 717-261-1213 | office@stlukechambersburg.org

SUPPORT

SUNDAY WORSHIP SERVICES

10a.m. every Sunday; In-person and online.

TUESDAY BIBLE STUDY

Meets the 2nd & 4th Tuesdays of the month at 1:00pm at St. Paul Lutheran in Fayetteville.

WEDNESDAY HEALING SERVICES

We have a weekly service of Prayer, Healing, and Holy Communion every Wednesday at 11a.m.

ANNUAL CONGREGATIONAL MEETING

Sunday, January 26 following worship, join us for the Annual Congregational Meeting where we will vote in our new council representatives as well as approve the 2025 budget.

FINANCIAL REMINDER

Your new offering envelopes have the category 'Capital Projects' which will go to building upkeep and improvements. Thank you for your giving!

STEWARDSHIP REPORT

Thank you! We are grateful for your generous giving to support St. Luke's ministries & mission. Your contributions continue to grow our community.

	November 2024	YTD 2024
Total Income	\$27,548.86	\$382,920.58
Expenditures	\$31,759.94	\$400,708.71
Net Income	-\$4,211.08	-\$17,788.13

THE LSS & A NEW BISHOP

This year, the Lower Susquehanna Synod (LSS) is in the process of calling a new Bishop. Please be in prayer for the process.

If you are interested in being a part of the LSS Council and learning more about what that means—please contact Shelly Davies.

EDUCATION

SOUPER BOWL OF CARING

Start saving up those coins!
The Souper Bowl of Caring will take place Sunday, February 9 where we will make some noise by collecting our coins in soup pots in order to support local food banks. Don't forget to bring your coins, wear your sports jerseys for worship, and stay after for fellowship & snacks.



ADULT FAITH FORMATION

Coming in January we will offer a 7-week study on Prayer. In this 7-session study, join with six beloved Bible teachers who will help you study prayers in the Bible that can inspire your own.

Join us starting in Lent for a 5-week study on Living Your Baptism—5 Gifts of Discipleship.

Join us each Sunday at 8:45am in the Fellowship Hall. All are welcome!

YOUTH GROUP

January 17 —Snow Tubing
Join us Friday night at 4:30pm to head to Whitetail to go snow tubing. Sign up on the bulletin board and get your permission form.



February—Swimming!
More information to come!



Shelly Davies

diredu@stlukechambersburg.org 717-372-9579

connect:



[@stlukechburg](https://www.facebook.com/stlukechburg)



[@stlukechburg](https://www.instagram.com/stlukechburg)



[@stlukechburg](https://twitter.com/stlukechburg)



[stlukechambersburg.org](https://www.stlukechambersburg.org)

OUTREACH

CHRISTMAS PROJECT— TEENS OF ABRAXAS

We were able to donate everything we planned to, plus more! Thank you for your generosity!! In addition to what we planned (60 personal care packs, 30 devotional books, and Xbox game system, 4 controllers, and 3 games), we also donated 120 boxes of crayons, 12 chess boards, 3 jump ropes, ping pong net and paddles, 2 push up boards, and 6 more Xbox games. Thank you!



SOUP, SANDWICH, & SWEET LUNCHEON

Join us on Sunday, January 12 following worship for lunch. No need to sign up, just come and spend time eating and getting to know your fellow church members. Consider sharing with someone what you hope to accomplish this new year. Hope to see you there!

MONTHLY CHAPEL SERVICES WITH HOLY COMMUNION

Did you know that Pastor Frye hosts monthly chapel services in two locations? Join us for worship with holy communion at either of the following locations, and invite your friends!

Luther Ridge - Join us Tuesday, January 7 @ 1:00 pm in the Chapel at the Inn at Luther Ridge.

Menno Haven - Join us the 3rd Thursday of each month at 1:00pm in the Arbor Room off the main Dining Room at Village Square.



cross connection calendar

January 2025



SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
			1 Healing Service Choir Rehearsal	2 <u>AI Anon</u> <u>PowerPack Packing</u>	3 <u>Music Therapy</u>	4
5 NO Faith Formation Worship w/ Holy Communion	6 <u>AA</u> <u>Fellowship Meeting</u> <u>Epiphany Vespers</u>	7 Book Group <u>Music Therapy</u> <u>Staff Meeting</u>	8 Healing Service Choir Rehearsal Zoom Prayer & Share	9 <u>AI Anon</u> <u>St. Paul Food Bank</u> <u>PowerPack Packing</u>	10 <u>Music Therapy</u>	11 <u>St. Seraphim</u>
12 Faith Formation Worship w/ Holy Communion 2nd Sunday - <u>Soup, Sandwich &</u>	13 <u>AA</u> <u>Property</u> <u>Audubon</u> <u>Worship & Music</u> <u>Communications</u>	14 Book Group <u>Music Therapy</u> <u>Tuesday Bible Study</u>	15 Healing Service Choir Rehearsal Zoom Prayer & Share	16 <u>AI Anon</u> <u>St. Paul Food Bank</u> <u>PowerPack Packing</u>	17 <u>Music Therapy</u> <u>Youth Group—</u> <u>Tubing</u>	18
19 Faith Formation Worship w/ Holy Communion	20 <u>AA</u> <u>Finance</u>	21 Book Group <u>Music Therapy</u> <u>Staff Meeting</u>	22 Healing Service Choir Rehearsal Zoom Prayer & Share	23 <u>AI Anon</u> <u>PowerPack Packing</u>	24 <u>Music Therapy</u>	25
26 Faith Formation Worship w/ Holy Communion Annual Congrega-	27 <u>AA</u> <u>Confirmation</u> <u>Outreach</u> <u>Council</u>	28 Book Group <u>Music Therapy</u> <u>Staff Meeting</u> <u>Tuesday Bible Study</u>	29 Healing Service Choir Rehearsal Zoom Prayer & Share	30 <u>AI Anon</u> <u>PowerPack Packing</u>	31 <u>Music Therapy</u>	

[Check our website at StLukeChambersburg.org](http://StLukeChambersburg.org) for details for each of the calendar items!

Special Day, Holiday = bold text

Worship Services = red text

Education Opportunities = green text

Outreach/Fellowship Opportunities= purple text

Church Meeting = italicized underlined text

Support / Community Group = gray underlined text

cross connection calendar

February 2025



SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
						1
2 Faith Formation Worship w/ Holy Communion Winter Conference Meeting	3 AA Collaborative Meeting	4 Book Group Music Therapy Staff Meeting	5 Healing Service Choir Rehearsal Zoom Prayer & Share	6 AI Anon	7 Music Therapy	8 St. Seraphim
9 Faith Formation Worship w/ Holy Communion Souper Bowl of Caring 2nd Sunday Outreach &	10 AA Confirmation Property Audubon	11 Book Group Music Therapy Tuesday Bible Study	12 Healing Service Choir Rehearsal Zoom Prayer & Share	13 AI Anon St. Paul Food Bank	14 Music Therapy	15
16 Faith Formation Worship w/ Holy Communion	17 AA Finance	18 Book Group Music Therapy Staff Meeting	19 Healing Service Choir Rehearsal Zoom Prayer & Share	20 AI Anon St. Paul Food Bank	21 Music Therapy	22
23 Faith Formation Worship w/ Holy Communion Synod-wide Konde	24 AA Confirmation Outreach Council	25 Book Group Music Therapy Staff Meeting Tuesday Bible Study	26 Healing Service Choir Rehearsal Zoom Prayer & Share	27 AI Anon	28 Music Therapy	

[Check our website at StLukeChambersburg.org](http://StLukeChambersburg.org) for details for each of the calendar items!

Special Day, Holiday = bold text

Worship Services = red text

Education Opportunities = green text

Outreach/Fellowship Opportunities = purple text

Church Meeting = italicized underlined text

Support / Community Group = gray underlined text

cross connection

CONGREGATION, COUNCIL, COMMITTEES

COUNCIL HIGHLIGHTS

DECEMBER 2024

- Giving is up 1.79%
- Annual Congregational Meeting will be January 26, 2025
- Constitution and By-laws changes have been finalized and resubmitted.
- Regular maintenance done to sprinklers.
- Sanctuary piano was tuned.
- A Family restroom was completed and is now available in the back hallway—remember to lock the door!

ST. LUKE LIBRARY

Book Highlight:

Pope Joan by Donna Woolfolk Cross

“For one-thousand years men have denied her existence-Pope Joan, the Woman who disguised herself as a man and rose to rule Christianity for two years. Now this compelling novel animates the legend with a portrait of any unforgettable woman who struggles against restrictions her soul cannot accept.”

