

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



*CROSS CONNECTION*



**Pentecost 2**

**2025**

St. Luke is a worshipping community in which we:

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



# cross connection

Pentecost 2, 2025

Dear Family and Friends of St. Luke,

As you will have heard during the announcements at the beginning of worship a few weeks ago, my family has some news to share. I shared the basics, but here is what our future holds, in more detail, as we know it.

We have made the tough decision to move to Canada and will be leaving St. Luke sometime in the next few months. We feel this is the right decision for many reasons.

- Charles' dad is aging and is needing more consistent help. He will be moving in with us.
- The opportunities for employment, housing, and health care, are great.
- We've lived in my home country, but never in Charles' and have spoken about the possibility for years.
- Our one child already lives in Canada and the other is excited at the possibilities.
- I've wanted to live near water again ever since we left Mercy Ships, so we are making that a priority this time around!

I say 'tough decision' for two reasons: there are two things I will miss the most about Chambersburg. One is my parents and the other is St. Luke. The family that is St. Luke has been one of the best communities I've ever been a part of. You welcomed us straight into the church family, which was soon followed by the opportunity of employment which I've been so grateful for. The ministry St. Luke does in this community and world-wide is inspiring. I pray that it will continue to grow.

At this time we don't have an exact move date, but are working on getting all the pieces together to make it happen in the next few months. The plan at this point is for Charles to go up to Prince Edward Island (north of Maine) in September to go to a few job interviews, talk to a realtor, and familiarize himself with the province. I will remain here and work on packing, getting the house on the market, and continuing to work. If all goes as planned we hope to move and be reunited by late fall sometime.

We are so grateful to have been a part of this community and plan to stay in touch! Feel free to ask questions if you have them. We are happy to continue to share our lives with you.

In His love,

Shelly (& Charles, Sean, & Luke) Davies



## WORSHIP

### SUNDAYS AND SPECIAL DAYS

- ♦ **August 3** \*8th Sunday after Pentecost: Today's texts offer instruction and encouragement for all who are occasionally overwhelmed by the "unhappy business" of life.
- ♦ **August 10** \*9th Sunday after Pentecost: Jesus says, "It is your Father's good pleasure to give you the kingdom."
- ♦ **August 16** \*Vespers in the Park; Greene Township pavilion #3 @ 6pm
- ♦ **August 17** \*10th Sunday after Pentecost: The word of God is a refining fire.
- ♦ **August 24** \*11th Sunday after Pentecost: Remember the sabbath day.
- ♦ **August 31** \*12th Sunday after Pentecost: Invited and inviting—that is the nature of the church.
- ♦ **September 7** \*13th Sunday after Pentecost: Called to contemplate the cost of discipleship, we might be helped by translating Paul's request to Philemon into our prayer of the day: Refresh my heart in Christ.
- ♦ **September 14** \*14th Sunday after Pentecost: The grumbling of the religious leaders in today's gospel is actually our holy hope: This Jesus welcomes sinners and eats with them.

- ♦ **September 21** \*15th Sunday after Pentecost: As we are invited today to consider what it means to be managers (rather than owners) of all that we have, it is crucial to recognize that we are bought with a price.
- ♦ **September 28** \*16th Sunday after Pentecost: Consideration of and care for those in need (especially those "at our gate," visible to us, of whom we are aware) is an essential component of good stewardship.

### WEEKLY WORSHIP & STUDY OPPORTUNITIES

#### Sunday

8:45 a.m. Faith Formation classes *(on hiatus for the summer)*

10 a.m. In-person and online worship

#### Tuesday

1 p.m. (1st Tuesday) @ Luther Ridge; worship

#### Wednesday

11 a.m. In-person worship

7 p.m. Zoom Prayer & Share online

#### Thursday

1 p.m. (3rd Thursday) @ Menno Haven; worship

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## SUPPORT

### MINISTRY SPOTLIGHT

During the months of June & July, your offerings have gone beyond the church walls to support ministries and organizations including:

Lutheran Disaster Response, Lutheran World Relief, World Hunger, St. Seraphim Center, our local PowerPacks program, LVR-School Kits, WIN Ministries, Little Daisy's Closet, & the St. Paul Sharing Box. Thank you for affecting the lives of so many this month!

### NEW BISHOPS

The LSS has elected Rev. Steve Herr who will be installed as the new bishop in October. The ELCA also had an election this year as well. Rev. Yehiel Curry of Chicago was elected as the bishop for the next 6 years for the ELCA. Find out more about each of them here.

Steve Herr -<https://www.lss-elca.org/lower-susquehanna-synod-2025-bishops-election/>

Yehiel Curry—<https://www.elca.org/news-and-events/yehiel-curry-elected-presiding-bishop-of-the-elca>

### 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.

	May 2025	YTD 2025
<b>Total Income</b>	\$40,823.77	\$165,832.11
Expenditures	\$39,551.04	\$145,370.37
<b>Net Income</b>	+\$1,272.73	+\$20,461.74

### 'GET TO KNOW YOUR NEIGHBORS' LUNCHEON

On Wednesday, July 30, the neighbors luncheon was held at St. Luke. It was attended by close to 50 people and a great time was had at our garden party-themed event. Thank you to all who attended and help make the event successful!



## EDUCATION

### FAITH FORMATION

Get ready for the fall line up for Faith Formation classes! Join us for our Kick-Off (all ages) in the Fellowship Hall on Sunday, September 7 at 8:45am followed by classes for adults and classes for children.

### UPCOMING ADULT FAITH FORMATION CLASSES

#### *Martin Luther—the Educator*

We usually think of Martin Luther as a church reformer, a pastor, a theologian, but not as an important educator. We will learn about his contributions to the field of education (not just the small catechism) as well as his concrete methods of implementing his educational goals.

#### *THE NAME of God*

We invite you to consider 'THE NAME' of God as revealed to Moses and perhaps some other words the early Hebrews used to describe God and how that may or may not influence the way(s) you personally think of God today.

### HAGERSTOWN BASEBALL

Sign up by August 15 to join us for an evening of baseball and fellowship at the Hagerstown Flying Boxcars. Meet at the church parking lot on Saturday, August 30 at 4pm. We will car-pool down to the stadium. Cost is \$10-16, depending on the number who sign up. Please sign up on the bulletin board at St. Luke or by contacting Shelly.



**Shelly Davies**

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[stlukechambersburg.org](http://stlukechambersburg.org)

## OUTREACH

### PENTECOST PROJECTS

Our two Pentecost projects for the 2025 season of Pentecost will be for WIN Victim Services (formerly Women in Need) and school kits for Lutheran World Relief. See the insert for all the details or pick up a information sheet in the Gathering Area at St. Luke!

### KANDETE PARISH IN TANZANIA

Shelly returned from the synod trip to the Konde Diocese in Tanzania just over 1-month ago. Her time with the Kandete Parish was short, but very productive.



She learned about this congregation—the people, the support opportunities they participate in, and discussed how we can better communicate into the future. Each month, St. Luke will communicate with the Kandete Parish via What's App? And share something about the congregation—a prayer request, photos of an event, local news, etc. Kandete Parish will do the same and we will continue to grow our partnership. If you have any ideas of a short paragraph and photos of something to share with them, please let the Social Ministry committee know.

# *cross connection*

## CONGREGATION, COUNCIL, COMMITTEES

### COUNCIL HIGHLIGHTS—JUNE/JULY 2025

- Walk-Fahnestock Scholarships were awarded to Luke Davies and Ella Jones.
- Church Wide Assembly – July 28-Aug 2
- It was reported, Whitney Waters should get a 3% raise.
- No Council meeting in August – next meeting September 15, 2025.

### ST. LUKE CHOIR IS COMING BACK THIS FALL!

It has been quite the summer for us all, St. Luke. I went to California to see my college friend and oldest friend from childhood for two weeks, and then I came home and jumped in the car to visit new England for a week. In Vermont, I had the pleasure of rehearsing with my longtime pianist, collaborator, and friend while working on some songs by my composer friend, David Amram, who is 94! We will premiere a new work he has written for us on my September recital in NYC. I was then able to see my 83-year-old voice teacher up in Marlboro, VT, swing through MA and see my dancer friend from Juilliard, and finally come home to host my best friend Roberta from the Chicagoland area. ...quite a summer!

Looking back, I am grateful to recognize the presence of God in all of it. The only thing I planned was the trip to California, and even that was surprising. The bonuses were that I got to hear the Verdi Requiem in San Francisco, Rigoletto in LA, and take a lesson in Palm Springs. All of these things I didn't/couldn't have planned or afforded, and yet they were there for me when I didn't even know that I needed them. To see all my best friends, my soul mates who have known me throughout the course of my many lives, and my parents' lives, was a cathartic, blessed sojourn and gift. To see my mother and father as reflected in their eyes and remembrances has been beautiful, moving, and healing. Ever present in the time of need, God is always.

And as the end of summer begins to appear, we welcome the fall and the beginning of a new school year AND...the return of choir to our corporate worship! **CALLING ALL CHORISTERS**, old and new! Choir will begin on Wednesday, September 3 at 6:30 in the chapel. Please join us, as all levels of experience or inexperience are welcome. We have a good time of fellowship, fun, and raising our voices to the glory and honor of Creation.

Faithfully Yours,  
James Martin



## 2025 PENTECOST PROJECTS

This year two opportunities to make a difference are being lifted up to you during this Pentecost season and for 'God's Work. Our Hands.' Sunday. The first project is for *WIN Victim Services* in our local community. The second is to assemble School Kits for *Lutheran World Relief* for distribution in our global community.

### **WIN Victim Services**

*WIN Victim Services* provides services to domestic and sexual violence victims, and their significant others, and has done so in Franklin and Fulton counties for over three decades.

You can donate in two ways:

1. Physical items needed right now are shampoo, conditioner, hairbrushes, toothpaste, individually wrapped toothbrushes, hair ties, baby shampoo, and deodorant. Please place your items in the marked box next to the keypad door.
2. If you would like to give towards the ministries of WIN via the offering, write your check out to St. Luke and put "WIN" in the memo.

### **School Kits for Lutheran World Relief**

Education is one of the best tools to raise people out of poverty. This is especially true for girls. Too often children cannot attend school simply because they do not have the supplies we take for granted—paper, pencils, rulers, and so on. You have the power to make a difference in a child's future by (1) assembling a school kit, (2) purchasing some of the items needed for a kit, or (3) making a donation to the project. School Kits are distributed to wherever there is a need in the world.

You can donate any or all of the following items-

Each kit will contain:

- Four 70-80 sheet SPIRAL notebooks (280-300 sheets total) of wide or college-ruled paper approximately 8" x 10 ½"; no loose-leaf paper
- One 30-centimeter ruler, or a ruler with centimeters on one side and inches on the other
- One pencil sharpener
- One pair of blunt scissors
- Five **unsharpened** #2 pencils with erasers; secure together with a rubber band
- Five black or blue ballpoint pens (no gel ink); secure together with a rubber band
- One box of 16 or 24 crayons
- One 2½" eraser

All of these items will be packed into a backpack (will be provided) during our 'Gods Work. Our Hands.' event on Sunday, September 7 following worship. Join us! Please place your items in the marked box next to the keypad door.



# cross connection calendar

August 2025



SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
					1	2
3 Worship w/ Holy Communion Tanzania Review	4 AA Social Ministry Communications Fellowship Meeting	5 Book Group Music Therapy Staff Meeting	6 AA Healing Service Zoom Prayer & Share	7 AI Anon New Freedom Music Therapy	8	9
10 Worship w/ Holy Communion Single, Now What? Luncheon	11 AA Property Audubon	12 Book Group Staff Meeting Music Therapy	13 AA Healing Service Zoom Prayer & Share	14 AI Anon New Freedom Music Therapy St. Paul Food Bank	15	16 Summer Vespers in the Park
17 Worship w/ Holy Communion	18 AA Finance	19 Book Group Music Therapy Staff Meeting	20 AA Grief Meeting Healing Service Zoom Prayer & Share	21 AI Anon New Freedom Music Therapy St. Paul Food Bank	22	23 Adopt-A-Highway
24/31 Worship w/ Holy Communion Foster	25 AA Outreach Audubon	26 Book Group Staff Meeting Music Therapy	27 AA Healing Service Zoom Prayer & Share	28 AI Anon New Freedom Music Therapy Family & Youth	29	30 Hagerstown Baseball game

[Check our website at StLukeChambersburg.org](https://www.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 text

Support / Community Group = gray text

# cross connection calendar

September 2025



SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
	1 <b>Labor day</b> AA Social Ministry Fellowship	2 Book Group Staff Meeting Music Therapy	3 AA Healing Service Choir Rehearsal Zoom Prayer & Share	4 AI Anon New Freedom Music Therapy	5	6
7 Worship w/ Holy Communion Faith Formation Kickoff Gods Work. Our Hands Baptism Branch.	8 AA Property Audubon Conformation	9 Book Group Staff Meeting Music Therapy Bible Study	10 AA Healing Service Choir Rehearsal Zoom Prayer & Share	11 AI Anon New Freedom Music Therapy St. Paul Food bank	12	13 Church Picnic
14 Worship w/ Holy Communion Faith Formation 2nd Sunday Outreach S.	15 AA Audubon Council Finance	16 Book Group Music Therapy	17 AA Grief meeting Healing Service Choir Rehearsal Zoom Prayer & Share	18 AI Anon New Freedom Music Therapy St. Paul Food Bank	19	20
21 Worship w/ Holy Communion Faith Formation	22 AA Outreach Audubon Conformation	23 Book Group Music Therapy Staff Meeting Bible Study	24 Healing Service Choir Rehearsal Zoom Prayer & Share	25 AI Anon New Freedom Music Therapy	26 Alive Retreat	27 Alive Retreat
28 Worship w/ Holy Communion Faith Formation	29 AA	30 Book Group Music Therapy Staff Meeting				

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