

ADVENT 2025

In this newsletter
you can expect:

Advent Calendar

Pastor's Letter

Congregation, Council
Committees news

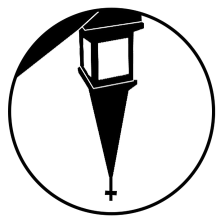
Stewardship Report

Bishop Visit

Outreach

Memberships

December Calendar



WED
DEC
3RD

@7pm - Advent 1
Midweek Service
Mont Alto UMC

SUN
DEC
7TH

Second Sunday of Advent
Holy Communion
10:00 AM

WED
DEC
10TH

@7pm - Advent 2
Midweek Service
St. Luke

SUN
DEC
14TH

Third Sunday of Advent
Holy Communion
10:00 AM

WED
DEC
17TH

@7pm - Advent 3
Midweek Service
Scotland Fellowship Church

SUN
DEC
21ST

Fourth Sunday of Advent
Holy Communion
10:00 AM

SUN
DEC
21ST

Blue Christmas @3pm
St. Johns UCC
1811 Lincoln Way, E
Chambersburg

WED
DEC
24TH

Christmas Eve
Holy Communion
Festival Service @7pm

SUN
DEC
28TH

First Sunday of Christmas
Holy Communion
Lessons and Carols
10:00 AM

Dear Family and Friends of St. Luke,

This edition of our newsletter greets you at a time of transition. Not only are we ending one church year and beginning a new one, there are other endings and beginnings occurring all around us. After many years of dedicated service to the church, Shelly Davies is ending her time with us as she and her family prepare a new beginning in Canada in the new year. Whitney Waters is ending her time as Office Assistant and beginning serving as our Office and Communications Manager. Chaplain Amy Wagner has ended her service with SpiriTrust Lutheran and begins a new chapter as Chaplain of WellSpan Chambersburg Hospital. While times of transition can be a cause of stress and grief, they are also opportunities for growth and renewal.

The theme of Advent, the new season of the new liturgical year greets us with the following message from Jesus: **Keep awake, therefore, for you do not know on what day your Lord is coming.** (Matthew 24:42)

This call is not meant to engender fear and anxiety, but rather hopeful anticipation. Keeping awake can sometimes be a challenge! The meaning undergirding this summons is being watchful and vigilant, giving strict attention. I think of my (really, Heidi's) dog, Oliver. Most days (when we're home) he sits in his special spot. From this vantage point, he is afforded full visual surveillance of our front yard. He keeps awake and vigilant for the first sign of the USPS van to park down the street. As the letter carrier makes his way to our porch, Oliver lets out a "gentle woof" of greeting.

The rolling around of the season of Advent once again can feel like a familiar and well-traveled occurrence by this point. Maybe sometimes we feel like we're going through the motions.



St. Luke had the privilege of hosting Bishop Mwakihaba from the Konde Diocese in October, along with a group from Tanzania and other pastors from the Lower Susquehanna Synod and Chambersburg Conference, The evening was filled with great food, conversation, diocese updates, and renewed friendships.



The Stephen Ministry Team welcomed a new member to the ministry team. Barbara Brown was commissioned as a Stephen Minister on Sunday, November 16, 2025. Congratulations Barb, and thank you for your willingness to serve.

Pastor’s Letter, Continued.

Even as much around us is coming to an end and beginning in new ways again, we can participate in this time of transition with renewed attentiveness. Christ calls us to be vigilant and hopeful. Let us support one another as we greet the Advent of our God in a time and place of God’s own choosing.

Come in your holy might, we pray,
redeeming us for eternal day;
defend us while we dwell below
from all assaults of our dread foe.

In Christ's Love for you,

Pastor Christopher Frye

Financial Stewardship Report

	October 2025	YTD 2025
Total Income	\$52,014.16	\$373,713.89
Expenditures	\$33,313.48	\$347,705.07
Net Income	+\$18,700.68	+\$27,198.82

congregation, council, committees

- Nominating Committee: Brad Bolinger and JoAnn Wildeson
- 2 members are needed for council
- Council revised and approved the Spending Plan for 2026
- The Social Ministry and Outreach committees will be combined to form the new Faith in Action Committee.
- The Family and Youth Committee will be renamed the Faith Formation Committee with two working groups: Children and Youth and Adult Education
- The congregation welcomed Bishop Stephen Herr and his wife, Jill Herr to worship with us on November 9 (pictured above right).

New Members

In addition to our newly baptized, St Luke welcomed eight new members this fall.

- Ed & Karen Shrader
- Gary & Peggy Louder
- Bruce & Kathryn Lemmon
- Bill & Jaci Fix



Kevin & Danielle Douglas
Parents of Lena Cheryl Douglas
Baptized August 24th 2025



Connor & Whitney Waters
Parents of Sadie Marie Waters
Baptized September 7th 2025

CROSS CONNECTION CALENDAR

SUN	MON	TUES	WED	THURS	FRI	SAT
	1 AA Fellowship	2 Book Group Staff Meeting Music Therapy Choir	3 Healing Service AA Midweek Service	4 Powerpacks New freedom Al Anon	5	6
7 Faith Formation Holy Communion	8 AA Faith in Action Audubon Property	9 Chambersburg Conference PA State Testing Book Group Music Therapy Bible Study Choir	10 PA State Testing Healing Service AA Midweek Service	11 PA State Testing New freedom Al Anon	12 Powerpacks	13
14 Faith Formation Holy Communion 2nd Sunday	15 AA Finance	16 Book Group Staff Meeting Music Therapy Micah 6:8 Choir	17 Powerpacks Healing Service AA Midweek Service	18 New freedom Al Anon	19	20
21 Faith Formation Holy Communion	22 AA Audubon Council	23 Book Group Staff Meeting Music Therapy Choir	24 Christmas Eve	25 Christmas Day	26	27
28 Faith Formation Holy Communion	29 AA	30 Book Group Music Therapy	31 Healing Service AA Choir Zoom prayer and share			

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

End-of-Year Giving Reminder

Thank you for your faithful and generous support of our shared ministry! As the end of the calendar year is approaching, please note that all contributions intended for 2025 tax-year credit need to be received by the church office at 2695 Luther Drive, Chambersburg, no later than Tuesday, December 30, 2025. Your generosity helps sustain vital ministries within our congregation and across the Lower Susquehanna Synod and beyond. Together, we continue to share Christ's love, serve our neighbors, and strengthen the Church for God's mission in the world.

Weekly Worship & Study Opportunities

Sunday

8:45 a.m. Faith Formation classes
10 a.m. In-person and online worship

Wednesday

11 a.m. In-person worship
7 p.m. Midweek Services during Advent
Zoom Prayer & Share online

Tuesday

1 p.m. (1st Tuesday) @ Luther Ridge: Worship
6:30 Choir

Thursday

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