

The Good News

St. Luke's Lutheran Church Rt. 73 & Neiffer Road Obelisk, Pennsylvania July/August 2026
3206 Big Road, Zieglerville, PA 19492 www.stlukeslutheran.church StLukesObelisk.Office@gmail.com



Sundays:
9:00 a.m. Worship with
Holy Communion
Third Sunday of the month:
Praise Service with Holy

Communion in Fellowship Hall



Caring for God's
Creation—and for
Those Who Will Come
After Us

Dear St. Luke's family and friends,

One of the great blessings of serving as your pastor is watching this congregation prayerfully discern God's call and then respond with faith and courage. That is exactly what happened at our recent Congregational Meetings.

After months of research, conversation, questions, and prayer, the congregation voted to replace the aging roof on our Fellowship Building and move forward with the installation of solar panels. This was not simply a decision about construction projects. It was a decision about who we are as followers of Christ and how we choose to care for the gifts God has entrusted to us.

Scripture reminds us that "The earth is the Lord's and all that is in it" (Psalm 24:1). From the beginning, God called humanity to be caretakers of creation, tending it with wisdom and gratitude. Stewardship is about far more than finances. It includes caring for our buildings, our community, and the world God so lovingly created.

Installing solar panels allows us to live more fully into that calling. By reducing our dependence on fossil fuels, we are taking a meaningful step toward caring for God's creation while also reducing future energy costs and strengthening the financial health of our congregation.

As we explored solar energy, we discovered that our nearly 40-year-old roof needed to be replaced before the panels could be installed. That unexpected reality significantly increased the cost of the project. Yet rather than allowing that obstacle to stand in the way of our vision, we stepped forward in faith, trusting that God, who has guided this congregation for nearly two centuries, will continue to provide. This decision reflects something I have long admired about St. Luke's. We are willing to invest not only in today's ministry but also in the generations who will worship, serve, and grow in faith here long after we are gone.

Thank you to everyone who helped bring us to this point. Members of our Council, Property, and Finance Committees invested countless hours gathering information, obtaining estimates, and helping the congregation

understand the opportunities before us. Thank you also to everyone who attended meetings, asked thoughtful questions, offered prayers, and participated in this discernment. Together, we sought God's wisdom for the future of this congregation.

As we move forward, contracts will be finalized, construction will begin, and we will continue seeking grant funding to replenish the resources we are investing. Please keep this work in your prayers.

The Church is never defined by its buildings, but our buildings are tools that enable us to proclaim the Gospel, serve our neighbors, and glorify God. By caring for these gifts wisely, we are helping ensure that St. Luke's can continue to be "A Little Church with a BIG Mission" for generations to come.

Thank you for your faith, your generosity, and your willingness to dream about what God is still doing among us.

God's peace,
Pastor Amy

As you vacation this summer,
please remember to continue to support St. Luke's.
Our Mission to Make Christ Known carries on.



Daily Bread Community
Food Pantry

Father's Day Food Drive

Thanks to this congregation's generosity, 317 pounds of food were collected and donated to the Daily Bread Community Food Pantry. Thank you to everyone who donated and is helping to feed God's people.



Community Dinner

The July Community Dinner will be Thursday, July 16, 2026. On the menu: Chicken alfredo, salad, bread, and desserts will be served. Please come out and join us for great food and fellowship.



**Golf
Outing**

Mark Your Calendars –

ANNUAL GOLF OUTING:
FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 11TH

VOLUNTEER

- Be a SPONSOR, or connect the committee with a potential sponsor to discuss
- Come out and PLAY
- INVITE Players
- SHARE online or by flyer
- BE A PART OF THIS MILESTONE EVENT!
- Contact: Brendan Greer 610-306-4838 or Paula Bickelman 215-534-0003 or Rob Bickelman 610-842-2103



**MUSIC IN
MINISTRY**

Do you like to sing? Can you play a musical instrument? You are invited to share your musical talent at the 9:00

a.m. worship services on Sunday mornings by providing special music. Please see Audrey Reinhart if you are interested in participating in this ministry.



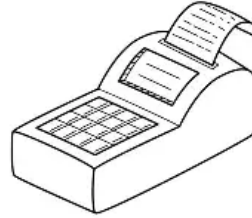
After 27 years of faithful service as St. Luke's Church Secretary, Audrey Reinhart will be leaving her office position on Thursday, July 30, 2026.

For nearly three decades, Audrey has been a steady and welcoming presence in the church office. She has faithfully answered phone calls, managed countless administrative tasks, offered a listening ear to those in need, and welcomed everyone who walked through our doors with kindness and grace. Her dedication, dependability, and caring spirit have blessed not only our congregation but also countless members of our community. Along the way, Audrey has become much more than our church secretary—she has become a trusted friend and an important part of the life of St. Luke's.

At Audrey's request, there will be no celebration. She truly appreciated the celebration that was given to her two years ago after church on the Sunday after Easter.

While we will certainly miss Audrey's daily presence in the church office, we are especially grateful that she will continue to share her gifts with us as our church musician. Knowing that Audrey will continue in this important ministry is a tremendous blessing for our congregation, and we look forward to many more years of worshiping together.

Thank you, Audrey, for 27 years of faithful service, steadfast dedication, and the many ways you have strengthened the ministry of St. Luke's. May God richly bless you in the coming years, and thank you for continuing to share your musical gifts with us.



Redner's Tapes

Do you grocery shop at Redner's? Using your "save-a-tape" card and turning in your receipt at St Luke's earns us 1% of receipt totals. It also earns you gas/food discounts. This is an easy way to help yourself and St. Luke's missions. All receipts must be originals, not reprints or copies. Contact Doug Killough at 610-390-7127 with questions and concerns.

School Supplies Drive



Summer is just starting but it's never too early to think about others in our community. With that in mind, the

Missions/Discipleship Committee will be conducting a School Supplies drive this Summer. We will be collecting supplies through August 16th, when the supplies will be delivered to the Daily Bread Community Food Pantry for distribution. This is to help local families who are struggling to provide their children with the tools needed to start the school year prepared for success. The Missions/Discipleship Committee will start the donations off with getting backpacks for the drive. Please consider demonstrating your love of neighbor by bringing in typical supplies: pencils, pens, paper, rulers, anything you can think of. It's a gift to be a blessing to others, especially the most vulnerable among us. Please bring donations to the foot of the cross by August 16th.



Daily Bread Community
Food Pantry

As of May 31, 2026, the church finances are:

Cash:

Cash in Bank - Checking	\$ 28,968.53
Designated Funds - savings	\$ 48,027.16
Savings Account	\$ 10,007.21
Investments	<u>\$421,962.13</u>
Total Cash and Investments	<u>\$508,965.03</u>

Revenues:	Actual	Actual Year to Date	Budget
Current Giving	\$14,104.15	\$71,878.96	\$196,300.00
Fundraisers	\$ 6,881.56	\$ 6,881.56	\$ 63,000.00
Designated #	\$ 105.00	\$ 650.00	\$ 6,700.00
Total Revenues	<u>\$21,090.71</u>	<u>\$79,410.52</u>	<u>\$266,000.00</u>

Expenses:

Pastor's expenses	\$7,147.94	\$35,801.70	\$ 86,057.00
Worship & Music Expenses	\$1,637.52	\$ 7,801.72	\$ 19,086.00
Faith Formation			\$ 19,950.00
Discipleship	\$ 165.00	\$ 1,154.55	\$ 3,800.00
Office Expenses	\$2,966.54	\$ 13,039.18	\$ 33,763.00
Property Expenses	\$5,825.95	\$ 35,193.23	\$ 93,250.00
Fundraisers	\$ 1,175.57	\$ 1,175.57	\$ 27,800.00
Designated	\$ 1,100.00	\$ 2,350.00	\$ 6,100.00
Total Expenses	<u>\$20,018.52</u>	<u>\$96,515.95</u>	<u>\$289,806.00</u>

Net Surplus/Deficit	\$1,072.19	(\$17,105.43)	(\$23,806.00)
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Please remember St. Luke's in your weekly giving. Consistent giving is crucial to meet the mission of our Small Church with a Big Mission. Electronically give through Tithely.com or Paypal.com - select St. Luke's Lutheran Church, Zieglerville, PA. email: stlukesobelisk.treasuer@gmail.com

A detailed copy of the balance sheet and income statement are posted on the bulletin board across from the Pastor's Office. Questions or more information, contact Penny Odonnell, Treasurer at stlukesobelisk.treasurer@gmail.com.

Your gifts meet the needs of God's people.
And that's not all. Your gifts also cause many people to thank God.
2 Corinthians 9:12 NIRV



Welcome Center Volunteers are Needed!

Volunteers are needed to host our Welcome Center. If you can help, please sign-up in the Welcome Center. Thank you so much to those who have provided for us all this year. You are so very appreciated!

July 2026						
Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
			1 9:30am Bible Study	2 FH – Troop 73; 5:30-7:30pm	3	4 FH – 3-10pm BD Party (Kratz) if it rains Independence Day
5 9:00am Holy Communion	6 7:00pm Conference Committee mtg.	7	8 9:30am Bible Study 11:00am Fiscal Management	9 7:00pm Discipleship/Missions Committee mtg.	10	11
12 9:00am Holy Communion 10:30am Book Club	13	14	15 9:30am Bible Study	16 5:30-6:30pm Community Dinner	17	18
19 9:00am Holy Communion – Praise Service 10:30am Thrift Store Meeting	20 7:00pm <i>Messenger</i> Rehearsal	21 7:00pm Congregational Council	22 9:30am Bible Study	23	24	25
26 9:00am Holy Communion – Buckners visit St. Luke's	27	28	29 9:30am Bible Study	30 FH – Troop 73; 5:30-7:30pm	31	

July 5

Greeters: Mike Way, Judy Moyer
 Lay Reader: Jerry Jordan
 Altar Guild: Brenda Foose
 Welcome Center: volunteer needed
 Counters: Judy Hunsberger, Randi Rose

July 12

Greeters: Joyce Brothers, Spencer Brothers
 Lay Reader: Joyce Brothers
 Altar Guild: Eve Gehringer
 Welcome Center: Dennis & Gail Faust
 Counters: Pat Stonerook, Gwen Semmens

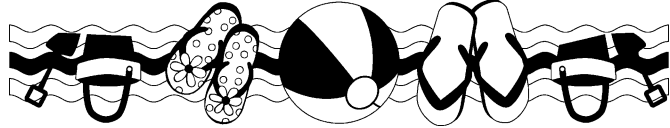
July 19

Greeters: Deneen Kratz, Ian Kratz
 Reader: Pastor Amy
 Altar Guild: Joyce Brothers
 Welcome Center: Charlotte Christman, Jen Christman
 Counters: Jerry Jordan, Doug & Sharon Killough

July 26

Greeters: Paul & Jen Christman
 Lay Reader: Jen Christman
 Altar Guild: Jen Christman
 Welcome Center: Gwen Semmens, Donna Usavage
 Counters: Randi Rose, Mike Way

August 2026

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
						1 8:00am Property Comm. Mtg.
2 9:00am Holy Communion 1015am Faith Formation	3 7:00pm Conference Committee (zoom)	4	5	6	7	8
9 9:00am Holy Communion 1015am Faith Formation	10 7:00pm <i>Messenger</i> Rehearsal	11: 2:00pm Worship & Music Committee (zoom)	12	13 7:00pm Missions/Discipleship Committee (zoom) FH Troop - 73 5:30- 7:30pm	14	15
16 9:00am Praise Service – Holy Communion 10:15am Faith Formation 10:30am <i>Messenger</i> Rehearsal	17	18 7:00pm Congregational Council	19	20 5:30-6:30pm Community Dinner	21	22
23 9:00am Holy Communion 1015am Faith Formation	24	25	26	27 FH Troop - 73 5:30- 7:30pm	28	29
30 9:00am Holy Communion – 1015am Faith Formation Hall Rental 1:00-6:00pm	31					

August 2

Greeters: Kevin & Charlotte Christman
 Lay Reader: Gwen Semmens
 Altar Guild: Brenda Foose
 Welcome Center: volunteer needed
 Counters: Peggy Brendlinger, Marty Jordan

August 9

Greeters: Marty Jordan, Brenda Foose
 Lay Reader: Charlotte Christman
 Altar Guild: Eve Gehringer
 Welcome Center: volunteer needed
 Counters: Randi Rose, Jerry Jordan

August 16

Greeters: Mike Way, Judy Moyer
 Lay Reader: Pastor Amy

Altar Guild: Joyce Brothers

Welcome Center: Rob & Paula Bickelman

Counters: Deneen Kratz, Peggy Brendlinger

August 23

Greeters: Joyce Brothers, Spencer Brothers

Lay Reader: Brendan Greer

Altar Guild: Jen Christman

Welcome Center: Gwen Semmens, Donna Usavage

Counters: Marty Jordan, Judy Hunsberger

August 30

Greeters: Deneen Kratz, Ian Kratz

Lay Reader: Sharon Killough

Altar Guild: Brenda Foose

Welcome Center: volunteer needed

Counters: Doug & Sharon Killough, Gwen Semmens

September 2026						
Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
		1 7:00pm Conference Committee (Zoom)	2 9:30am Bible Study	3	4	5 8:00am Property Comm. Mtg.
	6 9:00am Holy Communion 10:15am Faith Formation	7 Labor Day	8 2:00pm Worship & Music Committee (zoom)	9 9:30am Bible Study	10 7:00pm Missions /Discipleship Committee (zoom)	11 11:00am Golf Outing – Hickory Valley Golf Club
12						
13 9:00am Holy Communion – Praise Service 10:15am Faith Formation 11:00am-2:00pm Hall Rental	14	15 7:00pm Council	16 9:30am Bible Study	17 5:30-6:30pm Community Dinner	18	19
20 9:00am Holy Communion 10:15am Faith Formation	21	22	23 9:30am Bible Study	24	25	26 Thrift Store Opening! Lower Frederick Community Day
27 9:00am Holy Communion – 10:15am Faith Formation	28	29	30 9:30am Bible Study			

September 6

Greeters: Kevin & Charlotte Christman
 Lay Reader: Rob Bickelman
 Altar Guild: Eve Gehringer
 Welcome Center: volunteer needed
 Counters: Peggy Brendlinger, Pat Stonerook

September 13

Greeters: Marty Jordan, Eve Gehringer
 Lay Reader: Charlotte Christman
 Altar Guild: Joyce Brothers
 Welcome Center: volunteer needed
 Counters: Jerry Jordan, Marty Jordan

September 20

Greeters: Mike Way, Judy Moyer
 Lay Reader: Pastor Amy
 Altar Guild: Brenda Foose
 Welcome Center: Charlotte Christman, Jen Christman
 Counters: Pat Stonerook, Judy Hunsberger

September 27

Greeters: Joyce Brothers, Spencer Brothers
 Lay Reader: Dennis Faust
 Altar Guild: Jen Christman
 Welcome Center: Donna Usavage, Gwen Semmens
 Counters: Gwen Semmens, Peggy Brendlinger

