

The HERALD

News about the ministry of
St. Luke's Lutheran Church • Lima, OH



November 2026

I often speak of viewing our church from my “bird perch” (the organ bench). I know from your response how important the music is to our church and our worship. It doesn’t happen by magic, but the Spirit certainly does move much of what we sing and hear. The music, however, is not just the organ. The choir and director lead our worship nine months out of our year. If I tried to do the math of how many hours and years are representative of the time those said choir members have contributed to our worship we would all be amazed. Their anthems are such a blessing to our worship.

Another observation from my ‘perch’ is the ASSIGNED seating in our sanctuary. It is fun to watch how consistently the same pews fill up. Even when we moved into the New Life Center during the pandemic the chairs gathered together in almost always the same spots each week. What was different was the help from those in attendance. Putting everything away after service became a joint effort. Chairs, altar, lectern, piano, sound system, and communion all went into the closets in no time because everyone helped. 45 worker bees made short work of all that had to be done. When we moved back into the sanctuary those 45 worker bees stayed very active. That was very different from when we had many more in attendance. Twelve or fifteen seemed to be the largest number of worker bees in those days. I know that count is low but the percentage was not, again from my view on my ‘perch’.

Another blessing of this congregation is the musicians. We have very rarely had to hire musicians for special services. When we had the contemporary services in the NLC guitars and drums were an every Sunday addition to those services. We used a power point presentation and though there were 35 or so participating in those services the singing was great because heads were up reading the screen. I know there has been talk of putting screens in the sanctuary. They would make our services more user friendly but would most certainly change the look of our church. We use much of our hymnal even as it is printed in our weekly bulletin. The supply pastors we have had in the past years have all commented on the variety of liturgy (service parts) we use regularly and all the hymns that you sing so well. These pastors all have questions of what you are used to as part of our services.

I have been so blessed to serve this congregation for the years I have been here. Many Sundays I wish I were not so visible to all of you. The first Sunday my parents visited my dad commented at lunch that day that people wouldn’t know when I was making a mistake if my face didn’t show it. His suggestion was that I wear a paper bag over my head. I often thought I would do that one Sunday when they were here. That, of course, never happened, but when I take my next job, the organ will not be in the front of the sanctuary.

In love of Christ and in love of music, Sandy Miller

MISSION STATEMENT “Saved by grace. Reaching out in faith.”

WORSHIP ATTENDANCE FOR OCTOBER 2026

10/4 (55) 10/11 (48) 10/18 (51) 10/25 (58)

WORSHIP OPPORTUNITIES FOR THE MONTH

Join us for Worship weekly in the SANCTUARY at 10:15 am.

All Saints Day ~ November 1 ~ Pastor Mark Bauer, presiding:

Revelation 7:9-17, 1 John 3:1-3, Matthew 5:1-12

All Saints celebrates the baptized people of God, living and dead, who are the body of Christ. As November heralds the dying of the landscape in many northern regions, the readings and liturgy call us to remember all who have died in Christ and whose baptism is complete. At the Lord's table we gather with the faithful of every time and place, trusting that the promises of God will be fulfilled and that all tears will be wiped away in the new Jerusalem.

24th Sunday after Pentecost ~ November 8 ~ Pastor Don Pletcher, presiding:

Amos 5:18-24, 1 Thessalonians 4:13-18, Matthew 25:1-13

Today the prophet Amos calls for justice to roll down like waters. Paul urges us to encourage one another with the promised coming of the Lord. Jesus tells the parable of the wise and foolish bridesmaids. Surrounded by the faithful of every time and place, we celebrate Christ's coming in our midst in the word of life and the feast of victory—the marriage feast of the Lamb.

25th Sunday after Pentecost ~ November 15 ~ Kent Miller, presiding:

Zephaniah 1:7, 12-18, 1 Thessalonians 5:1-11, Matthew 25:14-30

Our readings during November speak of the end times. Zephaniah proclaims that the coming day of the LORD will be filled with wrath and distress. Paul says it will come like a thief in the night and urges us to be awake and sober. Jesus tells the parable of the talents, calling us to use our gifts, while we still have time, for the greater and common good. In a world filled with violence and despair, we gather around signs of hope—word, water, bread, and wine—eager to welcome the good news of Christ's coming among us.

Christ the King ~ November 22 ~ Pastor Art Wilde, presiding:

Ezekiel 34:11-16, 20-24, Ephesians 1:15-23, Matthew 25:31-46

On this final Sunday of the church year our gospel is Jesus' great story of judgment. In the end, the faithful are those who served Christ by ministering to those who are poor, hungry, naked, sick, or estranged. In the first reading God is the shepherd who seeks the lost, weak, and injured and feeds them with justice. We gather this day to celebrate the reign of Christ and his victory over death, yet we await the consummation of all things yet to come. Acknowledging Christ as our merciful ruler, we go forth that his reign may be known in our loving words and deeds.

1st Sunday of Advent ~ November 29 ~ Pastor Mark Bauer, presiding:

Isaiah 64:1-9, 1 Corinthians 1:3-9, Mark 13:24-37

Stir up your power, and come! The psalmist's plea in Psalm 80:2 has become familiar to us in the Advent prayers. Isaiah wants God to rip the heavens open. Both cry out for an apparently distant, angry God to show up, to save, to restore. When we hear Jesus describing the coming of the Son of Man with stars falling from heaven, it can sound dire and horrible, not like anything we would ever hope for. But when we really look at the suffering of people God loves, we can share the hope that God would tear open the heavens and come.



Mark your calendars and plan to be present for our annual congregational meeting, **Sunday, November 15**, following our morning worship service. The agenda includes examining and voting on the proposed 2027 budget and the election of members for the church council.



Daily Devotions

Each day, Monday through Saturday, Pastors Beth and Dave publish brief devotions based on the Sunday texts. You may also access them on the St. Luke's website: www.stlukeslima.org



Sunday, November 29, 2026 @ 10:15 am ~ First Sunday of Advent

Sunday, December 6, 2026 @ 10:15 am ~ Second Sunday of Advent

Sunday, December 13, 2026 @ 10:15 am ~ Third Sunday of Advent

Sunday, December 20, 2026 @ 10:15 am ~ Third Sunday of Advent



Christmas Eve *Candlelight Service*

Thursday, December 24, 2026 @ 7:30 pm

Christmas Eve Candlelight Service & Liturgy of Holy Communion

(Special pre-service music begins at 7pm,

it will include Soloist, Duets and our Organist Sandy Miller

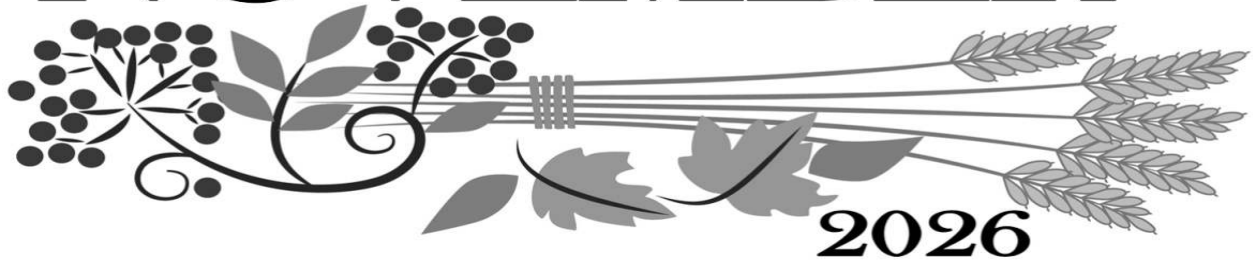
Services will include Our Choir, Brass, Communion and Candlelight)



Sunday, December 27, 2026 @ 10:15 am ~ Lessons and Carols

JOIN US THIS HOLIDAY SEASON

NOVEMBER



Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday
1 ALL SAINTS DAY 9:00a Choir 9:00a Adult Bible Classes 10:15a Liturgy of Holy Communion	2 10a Financial Meeting 11a Staff Meeting 1p Worship Meeting	3  Election Day 6p Altar Guild	4 HFCS 8-3 NLC BB 5-6:30	5 10a WELCA
8 9:00a Choir 9:00a Adult Bible Classes 10:15a Liturgy of Holy Communion	9	10 6p Council Meeting BB 5-6:30 NLC 7:00p NA (NLC)	11  ★ Veterans Day: ★ Thank You for Your Service! HFCS 8-3 NLC	12 BB 5-6:30 NLC
15 Congregational Meeting 9:00a Choir 9:00a Adult Bible Classes 10:15a Liturgy of Holy Communion	16	17 BB 5-6:30 NLC 7:00p NA (NLC)	18 HFCS 8-3 NLC BB 5-6:30 NLC	19
22 Hanging of the Greens 9:00a Choir 9:00a Adult Bible Classes 10:15a Liturgy of Holy Communion 12:00p NLC Rental	23 12-3p CUP	24 9a Herald 11a Mary/Martha BB 5-6:30 NLC 7:00p NA (NLC)	25 OFFICE CLOSED	26 Happy Thanksgiving 
29 9:00a Choir 9:00a Adult Bible Classes 10:15a Liturgy of Holy Communion	30			



Find Us on Facebook!

To find us on Facebook, search for St. Luke's Lutheran Church, Lima, Ohio. "Like" us and you'll have access to pictures and announcements of ministry happening in the name of Jesus Christ here at St. Luke's.



SERVING THIS MONTH

Altar Duties: Beth Arheit McCarty

Friday	Saturday
6	7 1p Rental 7:30p NA (NLC)
13	14 7:30p NA (NLC)
20	21 Wedding 7:30p NA (NLC)
27 11-1 Our Daily Bread	28 7:30p NA (NLC)

Nov 1 ~ All Saint Day

Worship:
 Leader: Pastor Mark Baier
 Organist: Sandy Miller
 Acolyte: Julianna Lewis
 Child Mess: Megan Mulcahy
 Lector: Rachael Lewis
 Comm Ser: Beth Arheit McCarty
 Julianna Lewis
 Ushers: Lois Kennedy
 Tyler Arheit

Nov 22 ~ 26 Sunday after Pentecost

Worship:
 Leader: Pastor Art Wilde
 Organist: Sandy Miller
 Acolyte: Delaney Cardenas
 Child Mess: Dawn Arheit
 Lector: Dee Sherer
 Comm Ser: Lee Moritz
 Mary Trueblood
 Ushers: Dee Sherer
 Phil Trueblood

Nov 8 ~ 24 Sunday after Pentecost

Worship:
 Leader: Pastor Don Pletcher
 Organist: Sandy Miller
 Acolyte: Zoey Kennedy
 Child Mess: Noisy Offering
 Lector: Lonnie Collins
 Comm Ser: Jane Williams
 Lauren Williams
 Ushers: Jack Williams
 Bob Williams

Nov 29 ~ 1 Sunday of Advent

Worship:
 Leader: Pastor Mark Bauer
 Organist: Sandy Miller
 Acolyte: Julianna Lewis
 Child Mess: Marcy Reeves
 Lector: Sarah Oleson
 Comm Ser: Lois Kennedy
 Linda Mann
 Ushers: Dick Fisher
 Bill Oleson

Nov 15 ~ 25 Sunday after Pentecost

Worship:
 Leader: Kent Miller
 Organist: Sandy Miller
 Acolyte: Addy Cardenas
 Child Mess: Kathy Luhn
 Lector: Dale Laukhuf
 Comm Ser: Kim Howard
 Marcia Laukhuf
 Ushers: Mike Gray
 Dick McCarty

* NLC = New Life Center



**Nov 1 Moritz & Williams Families
Sandy Miller**
**Nov 8 Liz Ebbing
open**
**Nov 15 Lyn Mulcahy
open**
**Nov 22 James & Alison Williams
open**
**Nov 29 Mary Stepleton
open**

WOMEN OF THE E.L.C.A. (WELCA)

I am the Lord, the God of all mankind. Is anything too hard for me? Jer. 32-27 NIV

They will meet on the 1st Thursday of the month, November 5, at 10:00am in the Gathering Area

**Mary/Martha Circle meets on Tuesday, November 17, 2026 at 11am, in the Pastor's Study.
Lunch provided by: Mila and Sarah**

Projects for November & December



Global Mission Thankoffering:

turned in to be blessed on **Sunday, November 22nd** for National Welca
(Bring your checks made out to WELCA and place them in the offering plates)



Local Mission Project:

Angel Tree Benefits Churches United Pantry (C.U.P.) Take a tag or two, buy the item & bring it to church and place it in the box next to the tree.

Local Mission Project:

Hats, Mittens, Scarves and warm socks for Salvation Army (delivered before Christmas)



Hanging of the Greens



Sunday, November 29, is the first Sunday of Advent and the beginning of a new church year. It's also time to decorate the church for the Advent and Christmas season. Plan to stay after worship on **Sunday, November 22** – Christ the King Sunday – to help with the trees, wreaths, garland, and other seasonal decorations which beautify our church.

WHAT'S UP AT CUP

The C.U.P. food item for November is: **Deodorant**

Thank you for all the support you give to CUP.

OUR DAILY BREAD

125 South Central 419-224-2086

Our Daily Bread serves hundreds of thousands of trays of food every year!

**The soup kitchen tray line needs six (6) volunteers from
St. Luke's to serve food on the 4th Friday of
every month from 11 am -1 pm.**

We will be serving on Friday, November 25, 2026

6

If you can help in the future or would like more information
contact our church office secretary or, Linda Mann: 419-303-9793.



DEADLINE IS SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 22, 2026

Payment must accompany the order! Please make check payable to St. Luke's Lutheran Church. If you have any questions, please call Robin at the church 419-227-1961. Orders should be turned in to the church office or placed in the offering plate on Sunday. You can find order forms in the gathering area as well.

Number of Red Poinsettias 6 ½" _____ @ \$14.00 each

Number of White Poinsettias 6 ½" _____ @ \$14.00 each

Number of Pink Poinsettias 6 ½" _____ @ \$14.00 each

Your name: _____

Phone # _____ Amount enclosed: _____

DEDICATIONS

In loving memory of: _____

In honor of: _____

In celebration of: _____

Please check one of the following:

I will pick up my plant(s) at the 12/24 service _____

Please deliver to a homebound member _____

**Any flowers not picked up by Thursday, Dec. 24th after service
they will be delivered to a homebound member.**

SUNDAY MORNING GENERAL OFFERING FOR OCTOBER 2026

10/4	\$4,552.75
10/11	\$1,841.16
10/18	\$2,355.00
10/25	\$1,728.60

All generously given
to make known
the Gospel of Jesus Christ



NOISY OFFERING

The **October** offering was **\$76.71** and went to the usual recipient of this offering Churches United Pantry (CUP). Your generosity helps our neighbors in need.

A Glance at our 2026 Budget as of 10/27/26

Income: \$151,544.31
Expense: \$233,205.01
Net Income: -81,660.71

St. Luke's Lutheran Church
209 W. North Street
Lima, OH 45801-4324

U.S. Postage
Non-Profit Org.
PAID
Lima, OH
Permit # 101

Dated Material

Liturgy of Holy Communion
Sundays at 10:15 a.m.

St. Luke's Lutheran Church
www.stlukeslima.org

How to Reach Us:

By Phone:
419-227-1961

Church Office Hours:
Monday-Thursday, 9:00a-2:00p

Via email:
Robin Hefner, *secretary* secretary@stlukeslima.org

Staff

Interim Hospital Visitation Pastor - Samuel Payne (Cell:419-371-9774)
Organist – Sandy Miller
Choir Director – Brian Reeves
Office Secretary – Robin Hefner

Congregational Leaders

President - Rich Moritz
Vice President - James Williams
Secretary - Lois Kennedy
Treasurer - Alison Williams
Marcy Reeves, Susie Cornell,
Jane Williams, Perry Luhn, Tyler Arheit



St. Luke's Renewed Website is up and running. Be sure to check it out.

www.StLukesLima.org