

Discipleship

Volume 33, No.7
Summer 2019

Pastor Ben's Ponderings:

“Bless the LORD, O my soul, and forget not all His benefits”
Psalm 103:2

I must admit – I’m not very good at saying goodbye. I’m either emotional and “sappy,” or a little too distant and disconnected, not engaging enough with the relationship or situation at hand. It’s a difficult thing to say goodbye, or to transition, from one event, job, relationship, season of life, etc. to another. As we move into the Summer season our families look ahead to quality time together – vacations, camping trips, a break from school for our children, and the temptation is to act like students on the last day of school – to throw all of our papers in the air, and run out of school as fast as possible. But let me give you a word of advice from the Psalmist – maybe there is a better way to head into our summers than that. Maybe we can transition or say goodbye to this year in a healthier way.

As is common in the Psalms, the Psalmist is talking to himself – giving himself a reminder of important things to know and keep in mind. He’s reminding himself to bless – to praise – the LORD. For all of us, we’re tempted to move into our Summer with our foot on the gas, and to get the year in the rearview mirror as fast as possible, but the Psalmist reminds us that in all circumstances that we should bless the LORD, and to look back on all of the ways God has blessed us so richly. Wherever you go, whatever your summer may have in store, take a moment to reflect on all the ways God has carried you through and blessed you in the past. Look ahead joyfully and with hope, that the same God who has brought you safe thus far, will also continue to lead and guide you forward.

Happy Summer,
Pastor Ben



Open Table is a unique model of mission and ministry that emphasizes the importance of relationship. The St. Luke Open Table initiative asks 8-12 members of St. Luke to “wrap themselves” around an individual from the community (such as a single mother with children, or a newly pregnant mother) to help guide them, to share the Gospel with them, and to be a constant presence in their otherwise chaotic life. Prayerfully consider offering your God-given gifts and talents to help be a light to a life right here in our neighborhood. If God has moved you to become a member of the Open Table initiative, please reach out to Pastor Gandy through the church office at 724-352-2777 to learn more or to sign up.

Mingle On Main

St. Luke participated in it's first Mingle on Main in Saxonburg on May 16th. Pastor Gandy teamed up with a local gym owner to host the strength lift. People who were able to lift the 106 lb. or the 203 lb. kettlebells were eligible for water bottles, free gym passes, and more. It was a great way to engage with the community and a fun time for all. Join us for the next Mingle on July 11th featuring Dress-A-Girl.



June Mingle on Main
"Can you eat locust & honey like St. John the Baptist?"



Make a Difference Week



Congregants from St. Luke helped to make a difference in the lives of the local community of Butler by feeding the homeless, volunteering, and meeting and greeting the community at Mingle on Main during the week of June 17th - 22nd.

Pastor Gandy's Installation



OFFICIAL ACTS: APRIL - JUNE 2019

BIRTHS:	Jack Alan Hitchcock	5-7-2019
	Barrett Gear Lauer	5-11-2019
BAPTISMS:	Peyton Kristine Morrell	4-20-2019
	Beckett Joseph Young	4-28-2019
	Calder Tyson Shaw	6-9-2019
	Caleb William Stiles	6-23-2019
MARRIAGES:	Jailaine Kaczmarczyk & Gregg Pazer	5-31-2019
	Jessica Lauer & Matthew Pyle	6-1-2019
	Emma Patterson & Craig Genser	6-15-2019
DEATHS:	Debora K. Twyman	4-9-2019
	Nancy Lou Kahn Graham	4-10-2019
	Charlene Doris Roberts	4-14-2019
	Josephine Audry Sallach	4-18-2019
	Sara Thiele	6-6-2019
CONFIRMANDS:	Owen Zechariah Black	5-18-2019
	Matthew James Carney	5-18-2019
	Adam Ronald Deal	5-18-2019
	Lindsay Marie Edwards	5-18-2019
	Kelli Nicole Kovalick	5-18-2019
	Sadi Jean Shearer	5-18-2019
	Kenneth Harlan Spinneweber	5-18-2019
	Annabelle Rose Turner	5-18-2019

Mission Fields At St. Luke

Dress-A-Girl-Around-The-World was started by Rachel Eggum Cinader. While on a trip to Uganda, she was asked to teach the women how to make pillowcase dresses. A year later, she taught women at "Smile Africa" to make dresses. After receiving pictures of girls wearing the dresses, people from around the USA began to write and ask if they could make dresses also. Dress-A-Girl believes that every girl deserves at least one dress. Since the group started in October of 2009, there have been over one million dresses delivered to 81 countries. The organization is also beginning to teach girls how to sew, so that they can learn to give back.



A new dress can let a child know that God loves them and that someone else loves them enough to make a dress especially for them. Village pastors also say that a girl wearing a new dress presents an appearance that she is cared for and may discourage predators. The logo sewn into each dress sends the message that the wearer of the dress is sponsored by an organization. The group has Ambassadors throughout the US and Internationally.

A small, but dedicated group of seamstresses meet regularly in the Social Hall at St. Luke Butler. The group had it's first Dress-A-Girl meeting about four years ago after Darlene Garcia visited her sister and attended a "Sew Along" there. It seemed like a good way to increase the activity of our LWML. A request came in for 200 dresses to help reach a goal of 1,000 dresses to be loaded onto a mission ship. Thirty-six of the dresses made by St. Luke members were sent to a missionary in the Marshall Islands. Darlene and Linda Bogan head up this group of nimble fingered ladies. They feel that this group helps serve the Lord with gladness while dress-making. They are blessed by fellowshiping with women they know and meeting ladies who attend other services. Darlene makes the patterns from the Dress-A-Girl-Around-The-World website. She usually cuts out the sundresses and Linda works on the skirts for T-shirt dresses, which are assembled into kits to be completed. The kits are stored in the Resource room at St. Luke Cabot and in the Narthex at St. Luke Butler. People of any skill level are welcome to take kits home and bring back the completed dresses.



There's a job for everyone from cutting fabric to matching pockets. This St. Luke group finds that they grow in skills as well as faith. They are an "arrive when you can, leave when you must," kind of fellowship. The meetings are from 9:00 am – 2:00 pm on various Tuesdays and Saturdays. Check announcements for the next meeting. This is a wonderful way to help young girls you may never meet and impact their lives in ways you may never know about. Contact Darlene through the church office at 724-352-2777 with any questions.



COMBINED WORSHIP SERVICE

Join us for our annual Combined Worship Service on August 25th. We will be celebrating communion and fellowship with the entire congregation. Keep watching the announcements for additional details.



St. Luke School Spring Events

7th & 8th Grade Class Trip to Gettysburg & Hershey May 3rd & 4th



Servant Day

Wednesday, May 15th
Preschool - 8th Grade



Star Wars Day

Wednesday, May 8th



1st - 6th Grade Spring Concert May 1st



National Day of Prayer May 2nd



2019 Summer Activities at St. Luke Lutheran School

July 8-12 -Preschool Adventure Camp

9:00 - 11:30 am.

\$40.00

Imaginary trips explore the wonders of the zoo, the beach, the farm, the woods, and dinosaurs. Location: St. Luke Lutheran School/Children who have turned 4 or 5 years old before 9-1-19.



July 9-12 -Basketball Clinic

9:00 - 11:30 am.

\$25.00

Learn ball handling, defensive and offensive skills, catching, shooting and finish with scrimmages. Location: St. Luke Lutheran School/Grades 4-8 / Coach: Melinda Rhoads.



July 15 -Astronaut for the Day

10:00 - 12:00 am.

No cost

K - 5th grade children explore space and train like an astronaut. Visit 10 stations, inside and outside of St. Luke Lutheran School.



July 29-August 2 - Summer Bridge Camp

9:00 - 11:30 am.

No cost

Participate in fun learning activities and a Summer Reading Challenge. Location: South Butler Community Library – Saxonburg / K – Grade 2 Instructor: Angela Turner



July 22-26 - Vacation Bible School

9:00 - 12:00 noon

No cost

Location: St. Luke Lutheran School

Children hear and experience the saving message of Jesus Christ each day with music, games, crafts, & activities for ages 4 - Grade 6. Register or volunteer online at www.stlukecabot.org.



Track and Field Day

May 24th



8th Grade Graduation

June 1st



“Be Bold, Be Strong in Him”

Proverbs 28:1 “... but the righteous are as bold as a lion.”

Joshua 1:9 “Have I not commanded you? Be strong and courageous. Do not be afraid; do not be discouraged, for the Lord your God will be with you wherever you go.”

As the teachers, students and staff complete the 2018-2019 school year, we can be confident knowing that God has been with us. He was with us from the beginning of the year, with anxious teachers and nervous students entering the classrooms for the first time and getting acquainted. He was with us through the everyday routines, field trips, and special events through the year. He was with us through the end of the year, with excited students (and teachers!) leaving for summer. St. Luke Lutheran School is a family. It is a family that supports and encourages one another to be bold and strong in their faith. We can be bold and strong because Jesus has made us righteous through His death and resurrection. Every day at St. Luke, the students are taught that Jesus loves them and that He is with them. What comfort this brings to all believers!

This year the missions we chose to support were local to Butler: The Lighthouse Foundation, and Center for Community Resources. Many students in grades 6-8, along with staff and parents, volunteered for several weeks at The Lighthouse. What a great opportunity for our middle-schoolers to use their time and talents to give back to the community. A total monetary gift of \$14,689.20 was collected through chapel offerings, student banks, Annual Fund tithe, Concordia Angel Tear grant, etc. Each mission will receive \$7344.60. Thanks be to God!

It has been my joy and privilege to serve St. Luke Lutheran School as interim principal. I look forward to the 2019-2020 school year with the confidence that God is with us!

In His Service,
Kelly Carney

GETTING TO KNOW OUR TEACHERS



Angelina Bachman

- Pre-K Teacher
- 8 years at St. Luke

Education:

- Slippery Rock University - BA in Elementary Education

Teaching Experience:

- St. Ursula - 14 years
- Slippery Rock School District - 4 years

Family:

- Married to Keith Bachman for 28 years
- Daughter - Holly (24 years old)
- Son - Mitchell - (22 years old)
- 2 dogs - Sophie & Nash

Hobbies-

- Taking walks & hiking
- Watching sports
- Shopping
- Spending time with family & friends

Thoughts on St. Luke:

I am proud to say that I'm a teacher at St. Luke Lutheran School. The students, families, and staff are wonderful! Having the opportunity to talk, learn, and teach about God on a daily basis is such a blessing. I am grateful for the 8 years that I have been a part of St. Luke School. I look forward to many more years teaching at St. Luke.



Judy Abernathy

- 2nd grade Teacher
- 4 years at St. Luke as a 2nd grade teacher. Part-time since 2004

Education:

- St. Luke K - 8th grade
- Knoch High School
- Concordia - Bronxville
- Slippery Rock University-Masters

Family:

- Married Joshua in 2000
- Sons - Ashby (15 years old), Finn (10 years old), Huck (8 years old)
- Daughter - Avanlye (5 years old)

Hobbies-

- Jogging
- Antiquing
- Shepherding our sheep.

Thoughts on St. Luke:

I love teaching at St. Luke because our school remains focused on and centered around Christ. All of the teachers know the importance of strengthening academic skills, character traits, and relationships with others - especially God. I am blessed to be an alumni, teacher, and parent of St. Luke!

CORNERSTONE YOUTH GROUP

Kids Fishing Derby
Saturday, May 11, 2019
8 a.m. - 2 p.m.
Saxony Farm Lake
Addy Boy Lane, Saxonyburg

 No entry fee
Open to all kids 14 and under
Free refreshments
Bait provided by Concordia
Prizes all day
Participants must have an adult chaperone
Bring your own fishing pole and lawn chair

  

Call Concordia Public Relations for more information at 724-352-1571 ext. 8268.
Register online by visiting the Events & News section of the Concordia website:
www.concordialm.org/events-news/fishingderby2019.



SENIOR HIGH YOUTH

NYG - team building on ropes course at Lutherlyn

Please pray for our youth and chaperones as they travel to Minneapolis for the National Youth Gathering July 11th-16th. Pray for safe travels and that God will move in these young people's lives.



St. Luke Lutheran Church & School

330 Hannahstown Rd.
Cabot, PA 16023
724-352-2777
www.stlukecabot.org

241 Freeport Rd.
Butler, PA 16002
724-285-5893

Non-Profit Organization
US Postage Permit No. 79
Butler, PA 16001

Return service requested

*A community of believers
worshipping and proclaiming
the Good News of
salvation for over 170 years
1847 - 2019*



July 22nd - 26th
9:00 am - 12:00 pm.

"By the power of Christ, we carry the power of hope to the poor, the broken, and the outcast."