

# DiscipleShip

Summer Issue, 2015

St. Luke Lutheran Church & School

## Clearances for Volunteers



A new law states volunteers must get clearances before they can work directly with children. Find out more.

6

## School News



This is an exciting year at our school as we celebrate our 150<sup>th</sup> anniversary! Check out all the wonderful events we have planned throughout the year.

4

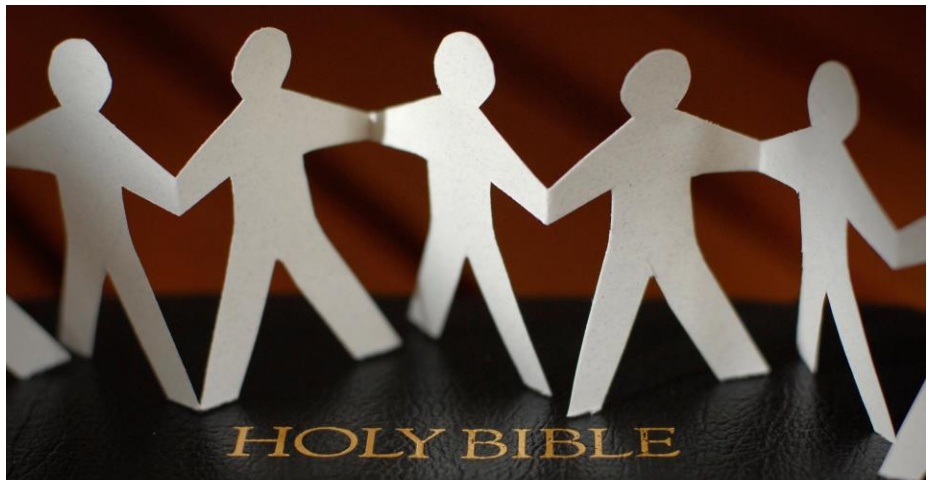
## Introducing our new members!



Find pictures and short bios on our newest members here at St. Luke Lutheran and be sure to give them a warm welcome!

9

Connect with us:



## Exploring Local Missions: Natrona/Brackenridge

St. Luke Lutheran Church has stepped up its local missions program with a new outreach development undertaking in Natrona/Brackenridge, PA. Along with this effort, Dustin Paulsen has been named Mission Developer and will spearhead the work alongside St. John's Evangelical Lutheran Church in Brackenridge.

"Our purpose for putting together this effort is so we can learn about the community, listen to the community, love the community, and lead the community," explains Barry J. Keurulainen, Sr. Pastor of St. Luke Lutheran. "We are going to survey the area to determine the strengths and needs of the Natrona/Brackenridge community. From there, we'll formulate a plan as to how to best meet those needs."

This mission partnership began with a simple letter from St. John's to St. Luke asking if we would consider doing mission work in that area. The idea was intriguing. So, after prayer and discussions with the leadership of the St. Luke congregation, it was decided they would move forward with exploring the area.

Paulsen is looking forward to the work set before him. "I saw an  
Continued on page 3

## Official Acts

### Baptisms

Aaron Daniel Felsing  
4-4-15  
Parents: Shirley and Raymond

Sadie Grace Corll  
4-26-15  
Parents: Michele and Jim

Reese Nicole Alviano  
5-2-15  
Parents: Shannon and Darin

Kayden Jeffrey Krause  
6-14-15  
Parents: Krystal Lee Myers and  
Kevin E. Krause

Krystal Lee Myers  
6-14-15

### Funerals

Claudia Ruth Eckel  
4/8/1949 – 3/11/2015  
(service on 3/16/15)

Larry Irvine  
7/11/1947 – 4/5/15  
(service on 4/8/15)

Erla Bryan  
1/6/1922 – 5/28/2015  
(service on 6/6/2105)

### Weddings

Kayla Dietz and Jeremy Gugino  
June 12, 2015  
Christie Geary and Bradlee Lauer  
June 20, 2015

### Confirmation

May 16, 2015

Nicole L. Ambrose  
Kayla M. Bloom  
Anna K. Fabrizzi  
Lindsey T. Fanton  
Kayla M. Greenawalt  
Tavia M. Kinney

### Confirmation continued:

Christian G. Long  
Abigail R. Markle  
Auston R. Neel  
Hannah E. Pasquini  
Seth C. Relihan  
Jewel L. Robertson  
Amanda N. Shook  
Isabelle G. Thoma  
Aleah M. Young

### St. Luke Lutheran School

#### Graduates

June 6, 2015

Nicole L. Ambrose  
Kayla M. Bloom  
Jason M. Bowen  
Ariana J. Clark  
Anna K. Fabrizzi  
Amelya G. Lyon  
Elizabeth M. Martin  
Joshua C. McCoy  
Seth C. Relihan  
Renee E. Thiele  
Aleah M. Young

### High School Graduates

Hank Klein Ambrose  
Butler High School  
Continuing at: undecided  
  
Ben Andrews  
Knoch High School  
Continuing at: Liberty University

Madeline Bartos  
Knoch High School  
Continuing at: Point Park  
University

Danielle Delzer  
Knoch High School  
Continuing at: Point Park  
University

Laura Grace Doyle  
Knoch High School  
Continuing at: Butler Beauty  
Academy

Heidi Rebecca Fanton  
Knoch High School  
Continuing at: Penn State  
University

Jesse Hubert  
Freeport High School

Brady Matthews  
Mars High School

Sheila Daniel Morrison  
Knoch High School  
Continuing at: Pittsburgh  
Technical Institute

Sarah Vivian Neubert  
Knoch High School  
Continuing at: Messiah College

Kyrstin May Relihan  
Knoch High School  
Continuing at: BC3

Saige Robertson  
Knoch High School  
Continuing at: Westminster  
College

Eve Catarina Terwilliger  
Knoch High School  
Continuing at: Westminster  
College

Katrina Tiffany Vossler  
Butler High School  
Continuing at: University of  
Pittsburgh

Alyssa Wassum  
Butler High School

Grant James Yurisc  
Knoch High School  
Continuing at: Grove City  
College

### College Graduates

Rebekah Ann Alviani  
Clarion University  
B.A. Fine Arts/Graphic Design  
  
(cont'd on page 6)

(Continued from page 1)

opportunity for this whole thing and decided to act upon it. My main goals are to survey the environment and to immerse myself in the Natrona/Brackenridge area. One of the first things I'll do is coordinate a team of volunteers to help serve this pursuit. If feasible, we'll eventually host ministry events such as camps/VBS, clinics, tutoring, gardening, small group studies, kids club, etc."

Paulsen is a recent graduate of Grace Bible College with a Bachelor of Arts degree in Worship Arts. He is a worship leader of the New Life service at St. Luke Lutheran and a lifelong resident of Saxonburg, PA.

**Natrona  
Mission  
Project**

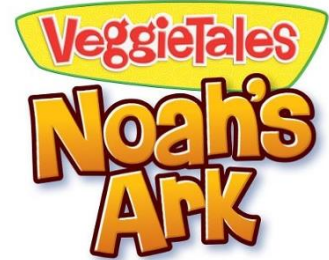


Our newest staff member, Dustin Paulsen, Mission Developer for St. Luke Lutheran Church.  
photo credit: Karen Bartos

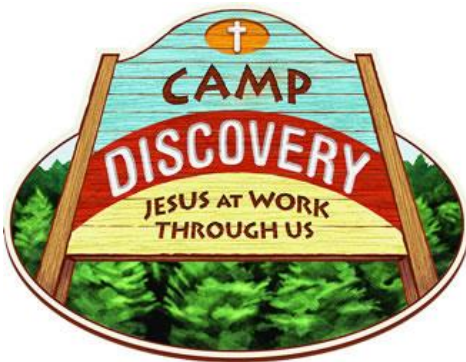
Dinner and movie night!

July 10, 5:30-7:30pm

RSVP by July 5 to Katie Barry—  
724.352.2777



**At VBS, It's All About Jesus!**  
**July 20-24, 2015**



At **Camp Discovery**, kids have fun as they **explore the Bible, make new friends, sing songs, and learn how Jesus works through them in their everyday lives.** Campers discover **5 Bible truths** that excite and challenge them. Jesus, their True North, gives them the wisdom and the courage to step out in faith and serve—whether they're at school, playing with friends, or helping out at home. **Now, that's a VBS with purpose! Be sure to sign up online at our website: [stlukecabot.org](http://stlukecabot.org).**



## St. Luke Lutheran School News

### St. Luke School Celebrates 150<sup>th</sup> Anniversary

This coming school year will mark the 150<sup>th</sup> anniversary of St. Luke Lutheran School. The Lord has blessed His school in so many ways. Plans are being set to celebrate God's blessings in a variety of ways.

On September 13, Rev. Willis we begin our celebration.

St. Luke School. There will be at 6:00 p.m., Sunday morning service may be outside. There a.m. service.

On the weekend of June 3, 4, weekend will include, but not

**Friday, June 3**

**Saturday, June 4**

**Sunday, June 5**

**Family Night Bonfire and hotdogs followed by the Battle of the Bands**

**Open House and Alumni Reception held at Concordia Haven 1**

**Celebration Church services and Congregational Supper**

Many more activities and events are in the works and will be announced in August. We are grateful for God's grace and pray for His blessings as by His grace and power we continue to Shape Young Hearts and Minds for Jesus.



McCall will be the guest preacher as Pastor McCall is a 1995 alumnus of the regular Saturday night worship at 8:00 and 10:30 a.m. The 10:30 will be a picnic following the 10:30

and 5, 2016 our celebration be limited to:



1938-1939



2014-2015

*Providing a truly higher education, in Christ, for Heart, Mind, Body and Spirit*

# St. Luke Lutheran School News



After 32 years of dedicated service, sharing His word and teaching children at St. Luke Lutheran School, Mrs. Andie Keurulainen has retired. Her many dedicated years of service have helped to shape and mold the lives and faith of countless children. We have been greatly blessed by Mrs. Keurulainen's service and devotion.

Andie, you have been an outstanding example to so many—you will be sorely missed. By God's grace may you continue to grow God's people.

"We remember before our God and Father your work produced by faith, your labor prompted by love, and your endurance inspired by hope in our Lord Jesus Christ."

1 Thessalonians 1:3



## Thank You

We would like to thank the following companies and individuals who have supported the Plant-A-Seed Scholarship Fund through our golf outing with their generous gifts and financial donations:

### Platinum Sponsors

Thrivent Financial/Bob Bevington

### Gold Sponsor

Concordia Lutheran Ministries

### Silver Sponsors

John & Laura Freehling  
Industrial Construction  
Services/Bill & Sue Gillespie  
Penn United Technologies, Inc.

### Bronze Sponsors

Fox's Water Service/Cory & Sally Fox  
Bill & Vicki Gass

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Don & Diane Olmstead  
Orkney Homestead/Paul &  
Darlene Garcia  
St. Luke School Parent Teacher  
League

### Birdie Sponsors

Joe & Marge Klein  
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Mark & Cindy Wilt

### Par Sponsors

Marburger Farm Dairy, Inc.

### Gift Sponsors

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Kelley's Family Restaurant  
Shurina's Pizza &  
Restaurant  
Lernerville Speedway  
State Farm  
Insurance/Nancy Zacherl  
Mimi's Memories Antiques  
& Gifts  
Subway of Butler Greater  
Mart  
PROforma/Lynn Capestrani



Be sure to  
mark your  
calendars for:

**First Day  
of  
School**



Sept. 2, 2015

## 2015 College Graduates of St. Luke Lutheran Church—cont'd

Emily McVey Bitting  
Washington & Jefferson College  
English Major

Emma Catherine Patterson  
Gannon University  
Nursing

Dustin James Paulsen  
Grace Bible College  
Bachelor of Music Worship Arts

Jessica Smith  
Savannah College of Art & Design



## JULY CONGREGATIONAL VERSE

*For wisdom is better than rubies, and desirable things cannot be compared to her.*

~ Proverbs 8:11, NET

**Bernice Hook, 93 years old**, has been presenting the American Legion award to an eighth grade girl and boy for the past 50 years. The American Legion Award is given to an 8<sup>th</sup> grader who exhibits outstanding qualities in leadership, citizenship and scholarship. This contest has a specific title given every year which always revolves around being a patriotic American. Mrs. Hook's dedication to the American Legion and St. Luke Lutheran Church and School, and the students has been exemplary. She is an outstanding mentor to the younger generation.

This year we had an extra special occasion as Mrs. Hook presented her husband's military flag to the school. We are honored that she presented this special item to our school.

## Volunteer Clearances: *Cutting through the red tape*

New state regulations mandate that all adults volunteering within a school, church, event, etc. where they will have direct contact with children must apply for the following:

Report of criminal history from the Pennsylvania State Police and Child Abuse History clearance from the Department of Human Services.

Beginning on July 25<sup>th</sup>, these clearances will be FREE to all volunteers per a change to the law via Governor Wolf, dismissing the normal \$20 fee for Pennsylvania residents. For more information on this law and volunteering with children please visit the website [keepkidssafe.pa](http://keepkidssafe.pa).



Photo credit: Valley News Dispatch



# THE STAGE OF SUFFERING

JOB SERMON SERIES  
6.28 - 8.23



## Places to Serve

July

20-24 : VBS; 9:00am - Noon

October

Saturday, 24: Mark your  
calendars now for this day of  
serving others!



## Backpack Pals Deliver Smiles for Students

by Brenda Fett

**The level of excitement** preparing for the first day of school for many children is second only to Christmas. Early August, the list of suggested school supplies arrives in the mail and off to the store we go with list in hand. First things first: the all-important backpack and it will be filled with treasures such as colorful pencils, unique pens, and eye-catching notebooks. Oh, the decision to be made! Finally, after many backpacks are given due consideration, the perfect one is selected. From the time the backpack is taken home, until the bus is boarded on the first day of school, it will be packed and unpacked, arranged and rearranged many times.

But, unfortunately, this is not the case for all children. For many kids the school supply list gets tucked under the mail and a backpack and new school supplies are far from a reality.

However, St. Luke Lutheran Church and School has been blessed through a \$1500 grant (with matching funds by St. Luke) by the John and Harriet Wiebe Foundation of the Lutheran church—Missouri Synod to provide 100 filled backpacks to 100 children in Butler County and the Greater Pittsburgh Area.

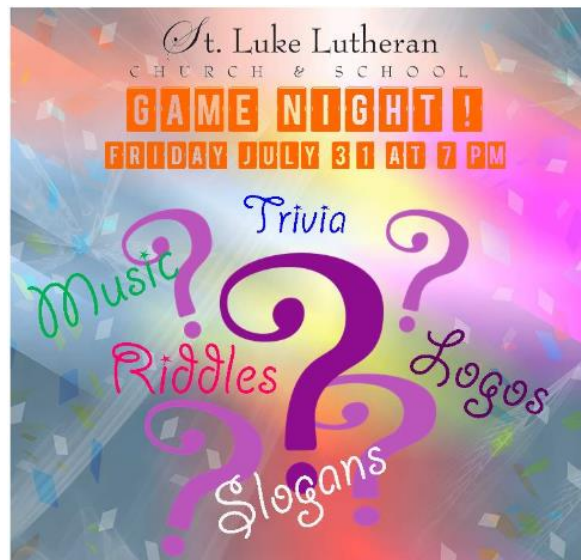
Beginning the weekend of July 11 and 12, members of St. Luke will have the opportunity to take a backpack from church and fill the backpack from an enclosed school supply list. The backpack is then returned to the church/school by August 1. With remaining grant funds each backpack will also be supplied with a children's Arch book and a family devotional book.

Backpacks with supplies will be distributed evenly between Light of Life Mission in Pittsburgh, Unity Lutheran Church in Homewood, and Fishbone Ministries in Butler.

Prayerfully consider your opportunity to help a child begin the new school year not only with a new backpack and school supplies but with hope and love from our Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ.



# SCHOOL SUPPLY *Drive*





## New Members

### To be received on Sunday, July 12, 2015



Allen and Cassie Crispin live in Butler, PA. They have 2 children, Allen Jr. and Carolina who attend St. Luke's School, and will be going into the 4th and 1st grades respectively. Allen is a self-employed truck driver and Cassie is a visiting nurse for Concordia Visiting Nurses.



Jeremy and Kayla Gugino have been worshipping with us for a few years now. Kayla followed her mom, Penny Bacher her from Faith Lutheran. Jeremy is self-employed and Kayla is a substitute school teacher. They live in Sarver and have one daughter, Adelyn, who is four.







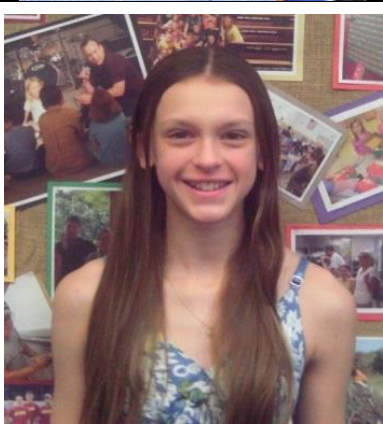
Travis and Stacy Mathers, along with their daughter, Mackenzie, came to membership in St. Luke through our school where Mackenzie just completed the first grade. Travis is a former Marine and is a Contract Analyst for OPM. Stacy is the Director of Information and Education for Concordia Visiting Nurses. The family lives in Butler.





Donald and Mary Mertz reside at Concordia. Formerly members of Zion Lutheran (ELCA), Penn Hills. Donald is a golfer who also likes model cars. Mary likes to read and play cards (500 is her game of choice), walk and visit with family. Now married for 31 years, this is a second marriage, as both were widowed. Interesting, all four of them had gone to HS together and their kids were confirmed together! Between them, they have 7 kids, 4 grandkids, and 11 great-grand kids!



Krystal Myers is a 2005 graduate of Butler High School, as well as a 2009 graduate of Butler County Community College. She is an office manager, and takes pictures on the side. Her son is Kayden who attended St. Luke 5 day Pre K last year and is enrolled kindergarten for this year. They live in Butler. Kayden plays T-ball and soccer and Krystal loves to craft. They enjoy spending time with family and friends and look forward to meeting new people in church.

	<p>Michelle Myers lives in Butler with her husband Jeff, and two sons, Braden and Blake. Her daughter, Krystal, lives just a few miles away with grandson, Kayden. Michelle has worked at Concordia Lutheran Ministries for 17 years. She currently works for their homecare division. She enjoys working with the elderly and the stories they have to tell. Michelle enjoys spending time with her several pets and her family. She is looking forward to meeting the many new faces at church.</p>
	<p>Ann Oesterling, was born and raised in Butler, though most recently lived in Bedford, VA prior to moving back to Concordia. She and her late husband raised her family in Butler as members of St. Mark Lutheran (ELCA). She retired as a Registered Nurse. She loves to read, fish, watch football, and enjoy time with family.</p>
	<p>Justin and Amanda Ross have a two-year old daughter, Emma. Emma will welcome home a baby sister in August! Praying about a new church home, Amanda thought it was the Spirit working when she received an invitation to the Discipleship 101 class. Justin works for Penn United and Amanda is a CSR for Armstrong Cable. The family resides in Butler and is looking forward to growing in their faith.</p>
	<p>Megan Stepp lives with her husband Ford on their small farm in Cabot. Ford has been a lifetime member of a Saint Luke's, and is happy for Megan to join the church. Megan is a registered nurse at Butler Memorial Hospital. She enjoys cooking and entertaining, but most of all, working alongside Ford on their farm. They recently celebrated their first wedding anniversary, and are eager to continue to grow their marriage and faith.</p>
	<p>Lurena Stewart has attended St. Luke her entire life. Pastor Barry baptized her on September 30<sup>th</sup>, 2000. She lives in Sarver with her mom, Laura, dad, Jim and brother, Addison. She will be a freshman this fall in the Freeport Area School District where she will be a majorette and a member of the Pennsylvania Junior Academy of Science. Lurena has many interests including dance, baton, and cross country. She also enjoys reading, baking, and vacationing in California. Lurena is looking forward to becoming a member of St. Luke.</p>



	<p>Randy Wise has been worshipping with us for about seven years now. We are pleased to welcome him and his mother, Phyllis to our membership. Randy is a salesperson for H.P. Starr Lumber in Zelienople. He is an avid sports fan and sportsman with a love of baseball, football, golf, and hunting.</p>
	<p>Phyllis Wise joined her son, Randy, coming to church here a few years back. Widowed 37 years ago, Phyllis keeps very busy with her large family of 5 children, grandchildren and now 1 great-grand child. Phyllis loves to read and enjoys working in her flower garden.</p>



Dinner &  
Auction!  
Friday  
November 13,  
2015

Put the dates of February 26-28, 2016 on your calendar for an incredible weekend with Dr. Paul L. Maier. Dr. Maier is the Russell H. Seibert Professor of Ancient History emeritus at Western Michigan University, a four-term Vice-President of the Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod, and a much-published author of both scholarly and popular works. His novels include two historical documentaries: *Pontius Pilate* and *The Flames of Rome*, as well as a theological thriller that became a #1 national bestseller in religious fiction: *A Skeleton in God's Closet*. A sequel, *More Than a Skeleton*, appeared in 2003, and the third in the trilogy, *The Constantine Codex*, in 2011.

Dr. Maier will lead three different educational opportunities. Friday features a short, special presentation for our older school students; Saturday will be a full seminar; and Sunday he will lead a Q & A session during the Sunday School hour. For more information visit [paulmaier.com](http://paulmaier.com).

Paul Maier!  
Friday-Sunday  
February 26-28,  
2016



St. Luke Lutheran  
CHURCH & SCHOOL

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www.stlukecabot.org

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

## Track & Field Day!

May 22, 2015



Go, girls, go!



Taking home the trophy  
for the 31<sup>st</sup> year in a row.



Defying gravity