

Announcements

June 11, 2026

**Welcome to our weekly
Announcements email!**

Enjoy reading the important news and events at St. Luke Lutheran Church & Campus Ministry. And remember, God loves you!

In this week's Announcements you can read about:

- Serving in Community
- From the Pastor's Fireside
- Congrats to Brad!
- Book Study postponed until next week
- Lutheran World Relief and Personal Care Kits UPDATE
- Pride in the Park
- Showtunes Singalong
- Treasurer's Report
- SCAM ALERT!
- Praying Together
- Calendar

SERVE in COMMUNITY



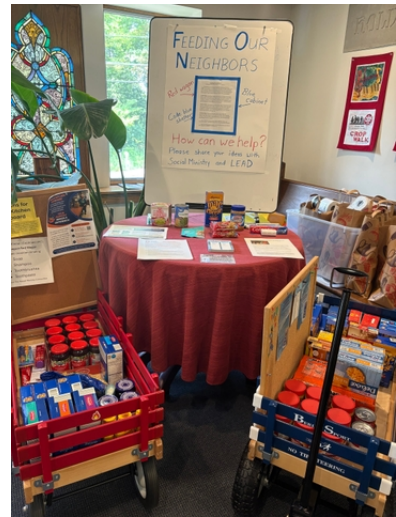
We are in need of volunteers to help assist with setting up and breaking down communion for Sunday services. There is a checklist available to help along the way as well as Pr. Jason. We need assistance most importantly on the **21 and the 28 of this month** while Pastor is away for Campus Ministry and Vacation. If you are interested in serving in this way, please contact Erik at office@stlukeithaca.org or Kimberly at communications@stlukeithaca.org.

LOVING OUR NEIGHBORS IN ITHACA

RED WAGON for Ithaca Kitchen Cupboard:

For June: please donate cans of chick peas and boxes of cereal.

BLUE WAGON for the BLUE CABINET: Please consider donating canned soups, tuna, and plastic jars of pasta sauce, peanut butter and jam. Cereal, oatmeal, macaroni and cheese, pasta, protein bars and toilet paper are always welcome. Thank you for supporting this ministry!



DONATE TO IKC

CONNECT in COMMUNITY

From the
Pastor's
Fireside
Pastor Jason Churchill



The Year of Education Continues – June 2026

At the beginning of 2026, I declared this our Year of Education at St. Luke. Over the past several months, we have already learned a great deal together.

We began with the seasons of Epiphany and Candlemas, asking questions like: What do these celebrations mean? Why do they matter? Then, during Lent, we explored the four major movements of our liturgy—Gathering, Word, Meal, and Sending. We discovered that these

parts of worship are not random or simply chosen by a committee. They are rooted in scripture, shaped by centuries of Christian practice, and continue to form us as disciples today.

Along the way, we learned about the ancient ecumenical creeds, including the Nicene Creed, which is more than 1,700 years old. We explored topics such as the Filioque and how Christians today are seeking reconciliation rather than division between East and West.

Now our attention turns to another important topic: the church itself.

Many Lutherans are familiar with the congregation—our local expression of the church. That's us: St. Luke. (Did you know we even have a parish history book? Ask me if you'd like a copy!) But the ELCA is organized in several expressions. Beyond the congregation is the Synod, which connects congregations across a region. Through your generosity, St. Luke supports the ministry of the Upstate New York Synod, and pastors serve the Synod in a variety of ways. Until this month, I had the privilege of serving as Dean of our conference within the Synod. Our Synodical Bishop is Lee Miller II.

Beyond the Synod is the Churchwide expression of the ELCA, headquartered in Chicago. Churchwide ministries support congregations and synods across the country through mission work, advocacy, leadership development, global partnerships, disaster response, seminaries, and the many ministries that no single congregation could accomplish on its own. Today, the ELCA is led by Presiding Bishop Yehiel Curry, who was elected in 2025 and serves as the church's chief pastor and ecumenical leader. Bishop Curry often speaks about helping the church become more connected—strengthening the bonds between congregations, synods, and the wider church so that we may better share in God's mission together.

And I often like to add a fourth expression—the global church. Through companions, missionaries, ecumenical relationships, and organizations such as the Lutheran World Federation, we are connected not only to Lutherans across the United States but to millions of Christians around the world. The church is far larger than any one congregation, synod, or even denomination. It is a worldwide body joined together in Christ.

One of our own members, Brad Wendel, provides a wonderful example of how these expressions connect. Brad has served St. Luke locally, served on a churchwide task force, and serves within the global church through his work with the Lutheran World Federation. In the months ahead, I'll continue sharing more about these expressions of the church and how they work together. The more we understand our faith, our worship, and our church, the better equipped we are to participate in God's mission.

After all, discipleship is a lifelong journey of learning.

Congratulations to Brad Wendel

St. Luke Lutheran Church is delighted to celebrate Brad Wendel, who was recently recognized

by the Upstate New York Synod with the Synod's Discipleship Award.

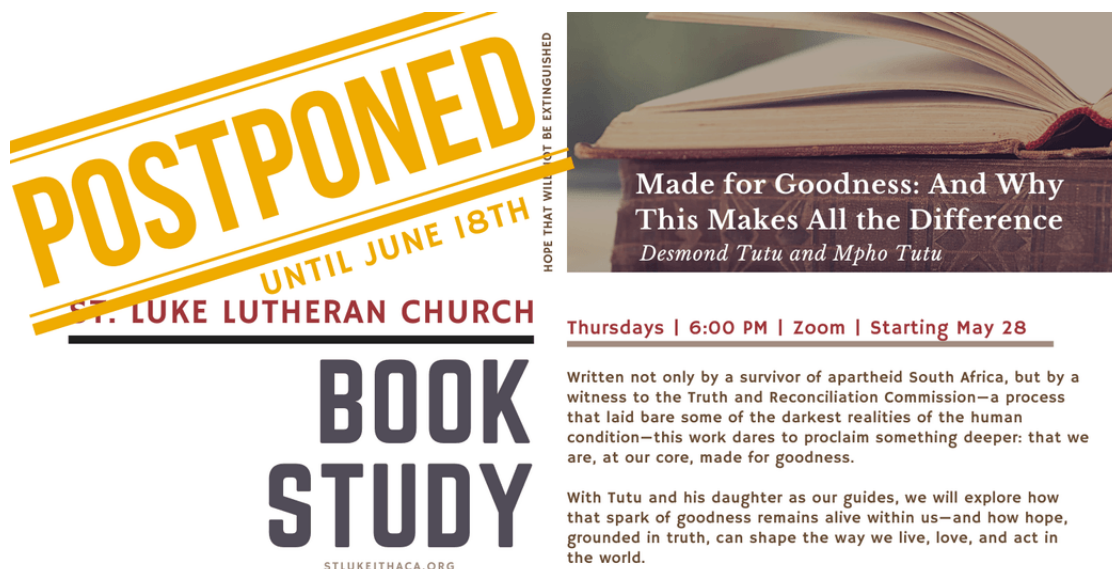
Many in our congregation know Brad through his faithful involvement in the life of St. Luke, his thoughtful teaching, and his commitment to helping the church engage important questions of faith, justice, and public life. As a professor at Cornell Law School, Brad is a nationally recognized scholar in legal ethics, but his vocation extends well beyond the classroom.

I nominated Brad in recognition of his longstanding service to the wider church, particularly his leadership as co-chair of the ELCA's Task Force on Women and Justice, which guided the work that ultimately resulted in the social statement Faith, Sexism, and Justice: A Call to Action. His work has helped the church think more deeply about gender justice, human dignity, and faithful discipleship in our time. Brad has also contributed to the work of the Lutheran World Federation, bringing a global perspective to questions of justice, ethics, and Christian witness.

The Synod recognized Brad not only for his professional accomplishments but for the ways he lives out his faith through scholarship, service, leadership, and a deep commitment to the Gospel's call to justice and reconciliation.

We invite you to watch Brad's acceptance remarks and join us in giving thanks for his ministry and this well-deserved recognition.

[Watch Brad's Acceptance Remarks Here](#)



POSTPONED
UNTIL JUNE 18TH
ST. LUKE LUTHERAN CHURCH

BOOK STUDY
STLUKEITHACA.ORG

Made for Goodness: And Why This Makes All the Difference
Desmond Tutu and Mpho Tutu

Thursdays | 6:00 PM | Zoom | Starting May 28

Written not only by a survivor of apartheid South Africa, but by a witness to the Truth and Reconciliation Commission—a process that laid bare some of the darkest realities of the human condition—this work dares to proclaim something deeper: that we are, at our core, made for goodness.

With Tutu and his daughter as our guides, we will explore how that spark of goodness remains alive within us—and how hope, grounded in truth, can shape the way we live, love, and act in the world.

With several folks unavailable this evening, our book study is postponed until next week, June 18. We will look at chapters 6 & 7 then. This break, however, may give some the opportunity to get the book and read through a few of the chapters before the next meeting. It's not too late to join us next week! This book offers us such hope that we encourage you to consider joining the conversation.

Lutheran World Relief

On Sunday, May 31, Rev. Tim Krick, from Lutheran World Relief (LWR), led a well-attended, after-church discussion in the St. Luke lounge area about the many dimensions of LWR's impact and of the many ways lasting change can be achieved by partnering with them.

LWR provides aid in cases of war, natural disaster, public health crisis, hunger and poverty. This includes partnering with local leaders to grow rural economies, build healthy communities, and break the cycle of poverty.

Rev. Krick's presentation highlighted LWR's current efforts to address emergency situations in Ecuador (helping refugees and asylum seekers who were sent there from the US) and in Lebanon (where over 1 million people have been displaced by the current war and violence).

The St. Luke congregation has been active in supporting LWR by providing quilts and personal care kits and by responding individually to appeals for disaster relief. In the coming weeks the Outreach and Social Ministry committee will highlight some of the ministries that are made possible by LWR and we will explore different ways in which we can support LWR both individually and as a congregation.



Tim Krick during the children's sermon speaking about how God's love grows the more we give it away.

Personal Care Kits: FINAL UPDATE



50 Personal Care Kits have been assembled, blessed by Pastor Jason and delivered to an Ingathering at Good Shepherd Lutheran Church in Brunswick, Maine. Thank you all for your help in supporting Lutheran World Relief and St. Luke



The Collegetown Community Collective (CCC), that meets weekly at St. Luke, was recently highlighted in an Ithaca.com article. Read the article by clicking the button below.

[CCC Article](#)

THIS SUNDAY! Don't miss Pride in the Park.



St. Luke's annual Show Tunes Singalong is right around the corner! Don't forget to bring a friend and dress as your favorite Musical character.



Treasurer's Report for May

- May income was \$21,946, or 70.8% of the budget plan of \$30,987.
- YTD income is \$141,902, or 92% of the budget plan.
- May expenses were \$29,690, or 95.8% of the budget plan of \$30,987.
- YTD expenses are \$150,237, or 97% of the budget plan.
- By the numbers we finished May with a YTD deficit of \$8,335.
- Our May month end balance in Tompkins Bank checking was \$138,056, down from \$148,246 at the end of April.
- At the end of May our Morgan Stanley investment values:
Endowment (designated) @ \$2,940,418, up from \$2,891,094, at the end of April.
Reserve (unallocated) @ \$498,937, up from \$488,616 at the end of April.

Scam Alert — Please Read

From time to time, scammers pose as Pr. Jason or other church leaders and contact members directly by email or text, asking for money or gift cards. This is a known and growing tactic targeting faith communities. Here's what you need to know:

**Pr. Jason and church staff will never ask you for money or gift cards through a personal email or text message.

**If you receive a message like this — even if it appears to be from someone you know at St. Luke — do not respond and do not send anything.

Emails from church staff will always only come from @stlukeithaca.org addresses. If the sender's address looks different or unfamiliar, that's a red flag.

Legitimate requests for giving or support will always appear in the Announcements or the New Humanity Newsletter — never through a private message. If something feels off, trust that instinct. Call the church office at 607-273-6811 to verify before responding.

We pray together...

... Dorothea, Christine, Rebekah, Ron & Lu, Kathleen, Keith, Carole Gathagan, Grace. For Communities experiencing war, famine, and strife.

Upcoming commemorations of saints, renewers of society, and other festivals can be [found here](#).

Prayers are added weekly to our list and will remain for three weeks. If you wish to extend the name of the person for whom we are praying please inform the office. To add someone to the prayer list please email [the Communications Manager](#).

Calendar

Thursday, June 11

1:00 pm CCC Events Committee

Book study postponed until June 18

Friday, June 12

10:30 am. Tea and Tarot at Cornell

Sunday, June 14

10:00 am Holy Communion.

10:00 am - 6:00 pm. Pride in the Park at Dewitt Park

Tuesday, June 16

No Bring Your Own Lunch Bible Study

Wednesday, June 17

10:00 am. Staff Meeting

1:00 pm. Collegetown Community Collective

7:00 pm. Show Tunes Singalong!

Thursday, June 18

9:00 am. Peace by Piece Quilters

1:00 pm. CCC Events Committee

6:00 pm. Book Study on Zoom

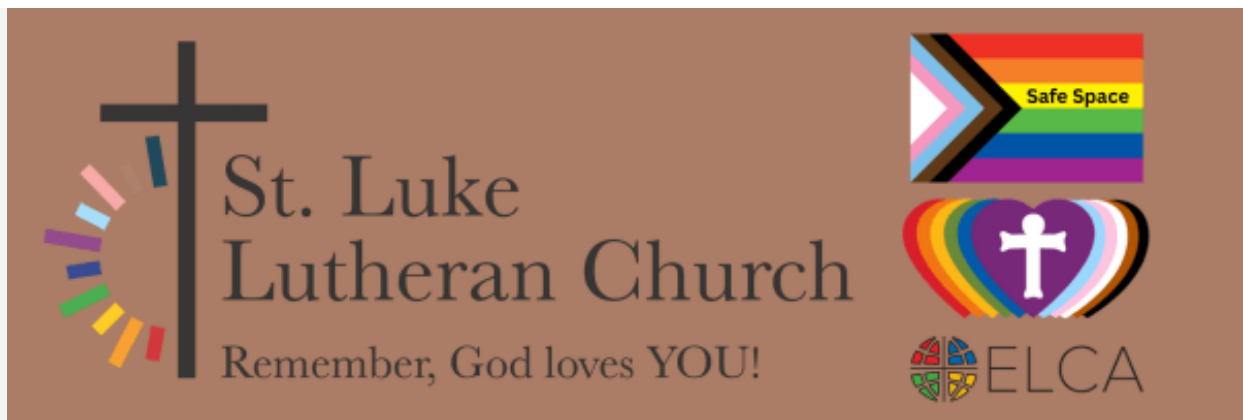
*The St. Luke Office is generally open: Mon. 1 pm-5 pm, Tues. 9:30 am-1 pm,
Wed. 8am-4pm, Thur. 9:30 am-5pm, Fri. 9:30 am-1pm*

***If you would like to be removed from this list, please reply or [send us an email](#) with UNSUBSCRIBE in the subject line. We will be sad to see you go.
Remember, God loves you!***

Website

Give

Calendar



Service of Holy Communion ~ Sundays at 10:00 am

St. Luke is a **Reconciling in Christ Congregation** of the **ELCA**. As a Reconciling in Christ Congregation, the people of St. Luke Lutheran Church are called by God to be a community of Christians, a part of the body of Christ. Because we believe we are one in God's eyes, we welcome the mix of ages, races, gender identities, physical and mental capabilities, and sexual orientations with which God's children are blessed. Everyone is invited to share in God's grace. We rejoice in the knowledge that nothing can separate us from the love of God in Christ Jesus--not our wealth, nor our poverty, nor our nationality, nor our political convictions, nor whom we love, nor anything else in all creation. We are called to follow God's mission of reconciliation and justice with all humanity, and we celebrate our journey of discipleship with a special appreciation for the privileged responsibility of our campus related ministry.

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Our mailing address is:
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