

The First Sign of Civilization

*Welcome one another, therefore, just as Christ has welcomed you, for the glory of God.
Romans 15:7*

It was a real sensation 100 years ago: the US-American scholar Margaret Mead travelled to the small island group of Samoa in the southern Pacific at the age of just 23. Unaccompanied. She lived there for several years and talked to adolescent young women about their role in traditional societies. The resulting book, *“Coming of Age in Samoa”*, has greatly influenced our understanding of human behaviour and has become a real bestseller. Margaret Mead discovered how strongly people are influenced by their respective culture and society. This also applies to the fundamental question of what makes us human.

Later, when she was a famous professor, a student pondered about this fundamental question and once asked her what she thought was the first sign of civilization. In other words, where do we draw the line between animal and human behaviour? The student had probably expected Mead to talk about fire or fishhooks, clay pots and whetstones. But no, Mead had a completely different approach. She said: ‘The first sign that tells us for sure that we are dealing with civilization is a thigh bone. More precisely: a broken and healed femur. Why is that so? Well, an animal dies when it has a broken leg. When animals break a leg, they can no longer flee from danger. They also can't go to the river to drink or look for food. As an animal with a broken leg, you are just meat for other animals. No animal survives a broken leg long enough for the bone to heal.

A healed broken femur is proof that someone took the time to stay with you. To look after you. They bandaged your wound, brought you to safety and looked after you during your recovery. And that's the beginning of civilization: helping someone else when they're in trouble. From a scientific point of view, this answer is controversial these days. However, I like to take up the impulse that we can find in Margaret Mead's position: All human civilization is based on helping each other. When someone has a broken leg or a broken heart, we become human by supporting each other in situations of need.

In Jesus we see this brought to life: Unconditional love, care and acceptance of our fellow human beings. He practiced it. He lived it. He breathed it. As Christians, we are called to walk in Jesus' footsteps. ‘Welcome one another, just as Christ has welcomed you, for the glory of God’ – words from the apostle Paul, written to the congregation in Rome. This verse makes the reader understand that mutual respect is a highly Christian matter despite differences we might have. We are called to overcome any caveats and prejudices and to not look at the things which separate us, but rather at the things which unite us, because God himself has acted in this way towards people in Jesus Christ. In Christ we are united.

In a world in which individualism rules, the idea of a healed femur as the first sign of civilization speaks to me. This is what makes us human. And, in helping and welcoming our neighbours, we glorify God.

May the rest of our ‘after Pentecost’ and autumn season, be a time fulfilled with joy, love and mutual care for one other.

Blessings, Pastor Heike



Our Love and Prayers go out to all who are in need of God's grace.

Grace be to you and peace from God our Father, and from the Lord Jesus Christ.

For a visit from the Pastor,
please contact Pastor Heike at 519-212-9952

Indulge your Sweet Tooth in our ...



DESSERT POTLUCK

*** Friday, September 27 ***
6:30 p.m.

While enjoying your sweets, catch up on summer adventures; partake in some games and/or cards, 'Supper 8' sign-up, updates on 'Socialites' and 'Friday with Friends' (formerly Messy Church)

Watch the courtyard bulletin board for the sign-up sheet coming soon!

Soup Sundays – Supporting St. Luke's work in the Dominican Republic

In addition to sponsoring 2 children in the DR, we also hold Soup Sundays to raise money to support ongoing DR projects. The funds raised are directed to the Pregnancy Resource Centre which assists moms in learning basic numeracy and literacy skills, personal hygiene and baby care.

Soup Sundays are held during fellowship after the worship service and scheduled for:

September 29
October 27
November 24

Please consider supporting DR projects by:

- Making a soup for Soup Sunday (*sign up list will be posted on the courtyard bulletin board*)
- Make a generous donation on Soup Sunday (*seconds are included in the donation!*)
- Include a donation in your weekly offering



MARK YOUR CALENDARS!
VOLUNTEER APPRECIATION DAY
is being planned for
SUNDAY, OCTOBER 20
after the worship service.
WATCH FOR FURTHER DETAILS!

St. Luke's Women

Next Meetings:

Thurs. October 10 – Ladies Night Out

Collectibles:

Two new initiatives in support of **Leprosy** care.

Mission:

1. Used postage stamps. (place in our box under the stairs in the narthex)
2. Dr. Simone of Canadian Food for Children, whom we already support, has visited a Leprosy Colony in Africa and will return in November with supplies that the residences are particularly in need of. We will be doing a drive for these items in September. Please place any donations in the wooden box under the narthex table.
 - Rice
 - Hand Soap
 - Vegetable Oil
 - Sheets, Pillow Cases, Blankets
 - Honey, Jam & Marmalade
 - Kitchen Utensils
 - Canned Meat, Canned Fish
 - Toothbrushes & Toothpaste
 - Iodized Salt
 - Laundry Soap
 - Sugar

Knitting:

A special thank you to our knitters for supporting all our projects. In particular, we would like to thank Ruth Golbeck for all the mittens she continues to knit for us. We have a plastic bin full!

To that effect, we have been able to take on an additional project this year.

The Stanley Park Community Centre is doing a Mitten Tree to collect items to be used at the Stanley Park Eats program (which we already support with our food donations). We have agreed that we will be able donate mittens for their tree. We have plenty to accommodate our own mitten tree too and our bazaar knitting table!

Community Connections Committee

Thank you for your support of our projects!

Blessings Box: We are always in dire need of children's books. Please be on the lookout for good buys.

Card Ministry: A special thank you for those who donated stamps for this project. The cards are much appreciated, especially by the children in the Sunday School program. Receiving mail is exciting!

Stanley Park Eats: The Sunday email keeps us up to date with the items that are needed to prepare Wednesday meals for those with food insecurities. Monetary donations are also accepted for buying fresh produce; if you are able to help in this manner, please contact Bonita Ziegler.

Pop-up Bakery: We will continue with the little bakeries as we get back into fall activities. Also, we have one quilt left to raffle off this fall.

Stanley Park Market: Our table at the market was very well received again this year. Community members have been very kind in assisting us with items for our Blessings Box and for The Sharing Place initiative.

Trunk Sale: Super success again! Thanks to all who donated, assisted and purchased.

The Sharing Place: This group offers free clothing, toys and household items to those in need. We have partnered with Rosemount United Church to make this a joint effort.

Next event:

Fri. September 6 at 12:30 – 3:30 pm

Sat. September 7 at 9:00 am – 12:00 noon

Seniors' Cards

Thursday, September 5 from 1:00 – 4:00 pm

All are welcome! Come and join us.

Choir

ADULT CHOIR

Wednesday, September 11 at 2:30 pm

HAND BELL CHOIR

Wednesday, September 11 at 4:00 pm

CHILDREN'S CHOIR

Rehearsals will be held following certain Sunday morning services – dates to be announced.

CHIME BELL CHOIR

Rehearsals will be held following certain Sunday morning services – dates to be announced.

HYMN OF THE MONTH

Beginning **September 15**, we will sing a Hymn of the Month in order to become more familiar with some hymns from the 'All Creation Sings' supplement.

A CHRISTMAS CANTATA

Sunday, December 1

**MORE MEMBERS ARE WELCOME AND NEEDED
IN ALL CHOIRS!**

ADVANCE NOTICE

Information and sign-up coming soon!

“THE SOUNDS OF CHRISTMAS”

Saturday, December 7

2:00 pm

Tickets \$35/person (group rate)

Watch for details.

Confirmation Class

for youth born between 2010 and 2012

All Youth entering Grade 7 or 8 (older students are welcome) are invited to join Confirmation Class. Meeting dates will be determined together with the group. Class will start at the end of September. Please reach out to Pastor Heike by September 22 if you are interested.

Rally Sunday on September 8

Sunday School kick off is happening on Rally Sunday, September 8. Let's start into an amazing year of Sunday School with a Blessing during the Worship Service, registration for Sunday School, games and fun in class and an ice cream social after the service. All are invited to fellowship time with some yummy treats.

Display for Thanksgiving Worship Service on October 13

Attention gardeners – it would be highly appreciated if you could put aside some of your produce for our Thanksgiving Display. Items can be dropped off at the church on the morning of October 12 between 8:30 and 9:30 am. After the Worship Service on Thanksgiving, you can either take home your items or leave them for donation at church. We will check in with Stanley Park Eats if they have use for them or leave them with our Blessing Box. Sunday School children are invited to bring a fruit or a vegetable to the Thanksgiving Worship Service. The children will have a procession into the church and celebrate Thanksgiving in their classroom.

Attention Youth and post-secondary students

High school students can work towards their volunteer hours at church, for example as Sunday School Helpers, live-streaming the Worship Services, as Ushers or Worship Assistants or as helpers for church events. Keep your eyes open for church events and reach out to Pastor Heike if you are interested (pastor.heike@gmail.com or 519.212.9952). Pastor Heike is happy to be your reference as well when you apply for a job,

volunteer position or scholarship. Post-secondary students who are members of St. Luke's or former members of St. Philip's can apply for a \$500 bursary fund. Application forms are available at the office. The Eastern Synod offers several scholarships for post-secondary students who are active members in the church. More information about the Eastern Synod scholarships can be found here: <https://easternsynod.org/wp-content/uploads/REV-2022-2023-Scholarship-Application-Page-1-5-1.pdf>.

Season of Creation 2024

The Season of Creation is the annual Christian celebration to listen and respond together to the cry of Creation: the ecumenical family around the world unites to pray and protect our common home. The Season of Creation begins on September 1, the World Day of Prayer for the Care of Creation, and ends on October 4, the Feast of St. Francis of Assisi, the patron saint of ecology beloved by many Christian denominations.

This year's topic is: To hope and act with creation.

Bible Exploration: Jesus of Nazareth – Studies on the Gospel of Mark

Our bible studies on the Gospel of Mark will continue in their Sunday morning/Thursday evening rhythm. The Sunday Group starts on September 15 at 8:00 am (Breakfast served) and the Thursday Group meets for the first time on September 19 at 6:30 pm (snack provided). All sessions are enclosed in itself. You can join at any time. Please note: This is not a seminary style bible study. The objective is to discover what the Gospel of Mark has to say to our lives today. We will study each passage seriously, but with a strong emphasis on practical application to daily living.

All Saints Sunday – November 3

On All Saints Sunday, November 3, 2024 we will commemorate all our members who passed away this church year. There will be an occasion as well to commemorate non-members of our church or those who passed away a long time ago. If you have a beloved one who you would like to remember in a special way on All Saints Sunday, please contact Helga with name and date of passing by October 30.

Living Advent Calendar

The Living Advent Calendar has become a beloved tradition at St. Luke's. But it only works with your help. Beginning November there will be a sign-up sheet posted on the Socialites Bulletin Board for those who would like to provide a video. If we find enough people who are willing to present a craft, a story, a recipe or something else – there are no limits to your imagination – we will be able to continue this beloved tradition.

Congregational Report from Eastern Synod ELCIC Assembly

Just over 200 people including Rostered Pastors and Congregational Delegates gathered in Toronto for our Eastern Synod ELCIC Assembly.

After an inspiring opening worship service at 1:00 pm on Thursday, we began working through a full agenda. We did break for dinner, but then worked straight through until 9:00 pm.

Our second day was equally full, beginning with an opening worship service at 8:30 am and concluding at 5:00 pm.

A lot of the necessary work of any assembly includes reviewing the many reports of the various committees throughout the synod. There is a lot of material to cover since these assemblies only occur every three years.

Included among these reports, we approved the proposed synodical operating budget for the next three years.

One of the biggest tasks that we had at this Assembly was to elect our new Bishop. In addition, we needed to elect a new Vice Chair of Synod Council, a new Secretary, and a new Treasurer.

It took 5 ballots to finally elect our new Bishop. I am very happy to report that we have chosen an excellent candidate from Saskatchewan, Rev. Carla Blakley.

Pastor Heike is already acquainted with Rev. Carla, and we had the pleasure of her company at our table at the banquet on Friday evening and again at the closing worship service on Saturday.

During scheduled breaks, and while gathering before sessions, there was time to visit with other delegates from across our Synod. It is reassuring to know that we are not alone in our struggles and that many congregations share the same issues that we have.

One of the highlights of any assembly is our opportunity to recognize the achievements of both our rostered clergy and Lay Leaders. Pastor Jim Bindernagel was recognized for his 60 years of ordained service in our synod.

Of course, another highlight was to be able to recognize Bishop Michael Pryse for his many years of dedicated service to our synod.

I can report that while some congregations within our synod will face some challenges in the near future, and that some congregations will struggle, that there is still much optimism about the future of our Church.

One hopeful sign for me was the attendance and active participation of youth delegates. One of these delegates has been elected to our Synod Council.

We should be very grateful for the excellent leadership that our synod has enjoyed over the past many years, and will continue to have with our newly elected officers.

We can look forward to the future with confidence with our newly elected Bishop and the officers who were chosen at this assembly.

We also were able to hear and see video greetings from our sister synods in Guyana, Jordan, and the Holy Land. It was very impactful and moving to hear from them as they expressed their gratitude to our retiring Bishop and to the ELCIC for our ongoing support. The Bishop of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in Jordan and the Holy Land also described

the terrible situation and daily horror taking place in Jerusalem and the West Bank.

It is one thing to read accounts of this war in the news and see this on TV. This firsthand account certainly brings the situation into clear focus and clarity when you hear from someone who is living through these horrors every day.

I believe that this was the third time that I have had the privilege to attend a synodical assembly. As I reflected on my experience this time, I am reminded of just how important our synod is in representing our church both nationally and globally.

I would like to thank St. Luke's congregation for allowing me to attend this historic assembly. I would be happy to discuss my experience with you during our Coffee Fellowship.

Tim Wilke

Ish'N Chips

Ish'N Chips, will continue to serve us
every other
Wednesday evening
4:30-7:00 pm
through September and October.

Next date: Sept 11



Image from vecteezy.com

Update from your Finance Committee

We hope everyone had a wonderful summer. We want to provide you with an update of our financial position to the end of June. At the end of June, our current account deficit was \$2,700 and the 2023 deficit has been fully eliminated. We were in a very good position as we entered the summer months thanks to your ongoing support. We expect the deficit to increase during the summer months as expenses usually exceed income. We will provide another update in the bulletin in the fall which will include the summer months.

As fall approaches and we return to fall routines, please continue with your financial contributions to St. Luke's as we would like to end 2024 in a positive financial position. We are close to attaining this goal and we can do it with your continued support!

Operating account analysis							
2024	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	June	Year to Date
Income	14,682	15,860	17,819	18,152	15,092	23,729	105,334
Expense							
adminisration	1,057	2,029	684	738	1,547	382	6,437
property	2,809	3,948	3,594	2,493	3,089	2,271	18,204
salaries & benefits	12,100	15,922	14,669	13,602	12,506	14,210	83,009
Worship&Music	151	-	90	-	143		384
subtotal	16,116	21,899	19,037	16,833	17,285	16,863	108,034
Net	- 1,434	- 6,039	- 1,219	1,319	- 2,193	6,865	- 2,700
2023 Deficit analysis							
2023 Deficit		- 6,193					
Deficit reduction payts rec'd		6,193					
Balance		0			Total Deficit		- 2,700

FRIDAY with FRIENDS

(formerly Messy Church)

Please join us on selected Fridays this fall to enjoy a meal and conversation at St. Luke's.

We meet from 5:30 to 7:00 pm. Dinner (and dessert) is provided. There is no cost. It is an opportunity to enjoy a meal with friends.

Please add your name to the sign up list posted on the courtyard bulletin board (so we know how much food to make!).

The menu is not posted ahead of time – it is a surprise!!

If we have children joining us, there will be a craft activity for them to do.

Join us on:

Friday, October 4

Friday, November 8

Friday, November 29

Nahlah & John Carapanta
Tim & Cath Wilke



Image from clipartcraft.com

Pie Auction

**Sunday,
October 6**



Attention all Bakers and Pie Lovers!

We are having our second pie auction on October 6 after the service in the Fellowship Hall.

What we need from you:

Bakers - we need you to start planning your most delicious pie you would make to donate to the auction.

Pie Lovers – we need you the most to start dreaming of the pies you would like to eat and to start saving for your purchase, there could be someone else that wants the same pie you do. All funds raised will go towards 2024 deficit

More information will be announced in the Sundays before the auction.

Bazaar

Saturday, November 2

We will be asking for the following donations, if you are able:

- Preserves, jams, jelly
- Baked goods (cakes, pies, cookies, tarts, loaves) and candy
- Items for raffle
- Items for knitting table
- Items for new/nearly new table

The church will be open all-day Friday, November 1 to receive these items. Thank you.

Vendor Tables: \$25.00 per table

Please contact Jeanette Wyatt at 519 896-0712

Planning Meeting:

Wednesday, September 11 at 9:15 am

SUPPER 8



Supper 8 will be happening again this fall

Supper 8 is an opportunity to get to know fellow members of St. Luke's outside of Sunday mornings.

Everyone is put into a group. Members of the group take turns hosting! Yikes what is hosting?

The host makes a reservation for the group at a local restaurant of their choosing. The group meets there for dinner (everyone pays for their own meal) and then goes back to the host's home for dessert and coffee along with conversation and maybe games.

Singles and couples are welcome.

The groups are mixed up so you will not be with the same people that were in your group this past year.

The sign up list will be posted in the courtyard bulletin board for those members new to Supper 8 or wishing to withdraw at this time. You do not need to sign the list if you are in Supper 8 and staying in.

If you require a special arrangement, please contact me.

Schedules will be ready by Thanksgiving weekend.

Thanks,
Cath Wilke 519-744-3044
Wilke_family479@hotmail.com

Image from clipartcraft.com

Six Nations Powwow – July 27



Marilyn Colquhoun
(photos by Donna Finch)





Eastern Synod

of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in Canada

We joyfully invite you to pray for
and attend the Ordination of

Rev. Carla Blakley

as **Bishop** of the **Eastern Synod**



28 September 2024

2pm

St. Matthew's Evangelical Lutheran Church

54 Benton Street, Kitchener ON

More Details To Follow Soon



Summary of Events at St. Luke's

Friday, September 6	12:30 – 3:30 pm	The Sharing Place
Saturday, September 7	9:00 am – 12:00 noon	The Sharing Place
Sunday, September 8	Sunday School commences	Rally Sunday with ice cream <i>following the service</i>
Wednesday, September 11	9:15 am	Bazaar Meeting
	2:30 – 4:00 pm	Choir
	4:00 – 5:00 pm	Hand Bell Choir
Sunday, September 15	8:00 am	Bible Study (Group 1)
Thursday, September 19	6:30 pm	Bible Study (Group 2)
Friday, September 27	6:30 pm	Dessert Potluck
Sunday, September 29	following the service	Soup Sunday
Friday, October 4	5:30 – 7:00 pm	Friday with Friends
Sunday, October 6	following the service	Pie Auction
Thursday, October 10	TBA	Ladies Night Out
Saturday, October 12	8:30 – 9:30 am	Thanksgiving drop off of produce
Sunday, October 13	10:00 am	Thanksgiving Worship Service
Sunday, October 20	following the service	Volunteer Appreciation Day
Sunday, October 27	following the service	Soup Sunday
Friday, November 1	Sign-up sheet for Living Advent Calendar on courtyard bulletin board	
	All Day (Time: TBA)	Bazaar Set-Up
Saturday, November 2	8:00 am	Bazaar
Sunday, November 3	10:00 am	All Saints Sunday
Friday, November 8	5:30 – 7:00 pm	Friday with Friends
Sunday, November 24	following the service	Soup Sunday
Friday, November 29	5:30 – 7:00 pm	Friday with Friends

Weekly Offerings

Council Members:

Council Chair: Kathy Thomsen
Vice Chair: Brent Clarke
Secretary: Donna Finch
John Carapanta
Nahlah Jeorje-Carapanta
Cathy Dowsling
Barb Pitz
Don Snow
Dennis Willfang

Standing Committee Chairs:

Finance: Christine Petersen
Mutual Ministry: Kathy Thomsen
Worship and Music: Kathy Thomsen
FMT: Cathy Dowsling
Property Mgmt: Roger Wyatt and Ken Wolfe
Christian Ministry & Parish Life:
- Community Connections:
Gay Anderson & Heather Meyer-Kraft
- Sunday School: Darlene Brooks,
Dianne Metcalf, Rachel Sutton
- WEPP: Pastor Heike Toeller
Dream Team: Pastor Heike Toeller

Church Office:

(519) 893-3826
Email: info@stlukeslutheran.ca
OR stlukeslutheran317@gmail.com

Office Hours:

Mon/Wed 9:00 am – 12:30 pm
Thu 9:00 – 2:00 pm

Website:

stlukeslutheran.ca

Pastor Heike

(519) 212-9952
Email: pastor.heike@gmail.com

We appreciate your support to meet our financial obligations. Please send your offerings in through the mail or drop it off in the church's mailbox on the left side of the doors to the narthex.

We also accept e-transfers, which are set up as automatic deposits. Please send e-Transfers to our email address at stlukeslutheran317@gmail.com

When the transfer is sent, you can put the designation into the comment box (current, benevolence, building, etc.).

If you have any questions, please contact Dave DeCoppel at stlukestreasurer317@gmail.com

Our mailbox is checked regularly; however, for your peace of mind, arrangements can be made with Helga to ensure your offering is retrieved the day you drop it off.

We are thankful for all who have joined PAR for their contributions. For PAR information, please contact the church office.

We graciously thank all who have continued their generous offerings.

Keep in touch...

Visit our website at www.stlukeslutheran.ca
for our online worship services, Newsletters,
and updates.

Like us on Facebook and subscribe to our
YouTube Channel under
St. Luke's Evangelical Lutheran Church,
Kitchener

**DEADLINE for Dec-Jan Newsletter
is November 15.**