

St. Luke Lutheran Church

900 Maryvale Drive
Cheektowaga, NY 14225-2702
(716) 633-6752 www.stluke-buffalo.org



We are called by God's grace to enlighten all people in Jesus Christ.

Dear St. Luke Family,

Early on the first Easter morning, the world was quiet. The grief of Good Friday still hung in the air like the last bit of darkness before the sun rises. The followers of Jesus expected a sealed tomb, a stone, and the final chapter of a sad story. Instead, they found something completely different: an empty grave and a message that would echo through history. Christ is risen.

Easter is not simply the memory of a miracle long ago. It is the center of our faith. When Jesus rose from the dead, death lost. Sin and grave have no more power. Because Jesus lives, the forgiveness he spoke of is real, the hope that he offered is available to all, and the promise of eternal life is guaranteed. As the angels proclaim on the first Easter, "**Why are you looking among the dead for someone who is alive? He isn't here! He is risen from the dead! (Luke 24:5-6).**" The resurrection is God's promise that sin, evil, and death have no power, and there is paradise for those who call upon Christ as Savior.

And my prayer is that this good news shapes your life every day. Easter reminds us that even in the darkest moments, God is there, and that darkness never wins. In Christ, we have a future brighter than any sunrise, a hope stronger than death itself.

So, as we celebrate this Easter season, let us do so with joy and peace in remembering what Christ did for us. May our hearts be grateful, and may we declare **Christ is risen! He is risen indeed! Alleluia!** May Easter joy fill your homes, your families, and your life in the days ahead.

Serving Him with you,

Pastor Phil



"WHY ARE YOU LOOKING AMONG THE
DEAD FOR SOMEONE WHO IS ALIVE?
HE ISN'T HERE!
HE IS RISEN FROM THE DEAD!
LUKE 24:5-6



The Monthly Newsletter since 1954

April 2026

Pastor Phil Schultz

Pam Maconaghy
Editor

Email:
stlukechips@yahoo.com

Worship Schedule

Sundays at 9:00 am
(Traditional)

Sundays at 11:00 am
(Soul Celebration
contemporary worship the
1st and 3rd Sundays)

Wednesdays at 7:00 pm

Holy Communion

(Celebrated on the 2nd, 4th,
and 5th Sundays of the
month and the Wednesdays
that follow.)

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Who to Call...

The Staff of St. Luke Lutheran Church stand ready to assist you in every way we can, and can be reached at church (716) 633-6752 Our fax number is (716)-219-1105. Our email address is secretary@stluke-buffalo.org Church office Hours M-TH 8:30 AM - 12:30 PM

MINISTRY STAFF

Pastor	Phil Schultz
Organist	Susan Errett
Office Manger	Karen Baglio

BOARD OF TRUSTEES

President	Nancy Koehler
Vice-President—Personnel	Bill Dunlop
Vice-President—Property	Glenn Kilger
Treasurer	Linda Rowe
Financial Secretary	Dale Karcher
Recording Secretary	Debbie Fiebelkorn

CHURCH COUNCIL

Spiritual Life/Congregational Care	Karen Baglio
Stewardship	Fred Schmitt
Outreach and Mission Services	Kammy Ciesielski
Christian Education/Life	Anne Schultz
	Michelle Silverblatt
Media Relations	Tom Green
Special Care & Human Services	Open
Youth and Family	Open

BOARD OF ELDERS

Susanna Garofaro	Karen Baglio
Manfried Rieger	Allan Riemer
Tyler Silverblatt	Craig Maconaghy
Ron Connor	

OTHER CONTACTS

Address/phone corrections	Karen Baglio
Altar Care	Allan Riemer
Altar Flowers	Kathy Brogan
Bulletin Announcements	Karen Baglio
“CHIPS” Newsletter	Pam Maconaghy
Facility Maintenance	Glenn Kilger
Facility Use (scheduling)	Church Office
Food Pantry	Robin Beane
Fund Raising Committee	Fred Schmitt
LWML	Marg Albert
Youth Group	Pastor Phil
Visitation	Pastor Phil
Sunday School Information	Anne Schultz
Weekly Contributions	Dale Karcher



We have recently seen an uptick in the people we are serving at our food pantry. We need your help to make sure our shelves are replenished so we can help those in need.

Items we need: kernel corn, cream corn, peaches, cake mixes, cut green beans, French green, pears, chicken soup, peas, fruit cocktail, tomato soup, spinach, pineapple chunks, baked beans, beets, pasta sauce (regular), diced tomatoes, canned chicken, canned pasta (e.g. rings), egg noodles, toilet tissue, tuna, peanut butter, pancake mix, Sunny D juice, tea, pancake syrup, assorted beans, baked beans, elbow noodles, breakfast cereal oatmeal)

Church Phone Number:
(716) 633-6752

Website:
www.stluke-buffalo.org

Facebook:
www.facebook.com/StLukeBuffalo

X (Twitter):
@StLukeBuffalo

YouTube:
<https://www.youtube.com/c/stlukelutheranbuffalo>



Food Pantry Numbers

	Families	Individuals	Meals
March	94	190	1710
YTD	507	977	7893

Membership Class: Interested in becoming a member or learning more about our church? A New Member Class will be held on **Sunday, April 19 and April 26 at 10:10 AM** in the **Small Basement**. If you are interested in attending, please join us! If you are unable to make these dates but would still like to participate, please contact Pastor Phil to make other arrangements.

Due to illness and changing life circumstances, we've lost a few of our regular helpers in **Sunday School and the nursery**.

We're looking for a few volunteers willing to help **just once a month now through June**. The role is simple: spend time with children in the cry room during the service or help play a video lesson with the kids downstairs. No teaching experience is needed. If you're willing to lend a hand and support our young families, please contact Annie Schultz, Michelle Silverblatt, or Cindie Gross or email stlukebuffalokids@gmail.com

The LWML Bake Sale was a sweet success in every sense of the word! Thank you to everyone who baked, bought, and supported this effort. At our April meeting, we'll prayerfully decide which missions will be blessed by the proceeds. Until then, take a moment to savor a job well done!



At the congregational meeting held on March 22, 2026, we received some truly joyful and encouraging news. Pastor Phil shared the details of a generous inheritance from a former member. Through this remarkable gift, along with the faithful giving of our congregation over the years, we have fully paid off the debt from our building project. By God's grace, St. Luke is now completely debt-free! With the loan now paid off, the congregation approved a new budget that reflects this change, dropping our yearly budget by approximately \$44,000.

In addition, this inheritance has allowed us to fully establish an emergency fund, providing a strong financial foundation for the future. With this milestone reached, plans are already underway for a special celebration event. Be sure to look for more details in the coming weeks as we gather to give thanks together.

The remaining funds from the inheritance will be placed in an account with the Lutheran Church Extension Fund, helping us continue to be good stewards of the blessings we have received.

Looking ahead, the congregation also approved \$150,000 for replacing our church's boiler system. The Buildings and Grounds team is currently obtaining quotes, and the Trustees will oversee the final decision to ensure the best path forward.

We extend our heartfelt thanks to all who have given faithfully over the years, whether through special donations or participation in fundraisers. Your generosity has been a vital part of this journey. God has truly provided for us in abundant ways. As we move forward, we do so with gratitude and purpose, continuing our mission: *"We are called by God's grace to enlighten all people in Jesus Christ."* Let us remain steadfast in prayer and faithful in our offerings as we grow together in ministry.


In our prayers

- Chuck and Betty Walters,
- Bev Haist
- Bernadine Walters
- Marilyn Kozlowski
- Don Eggert
- Sean (neighbor of Jim Nietopski)
- Marlena Zuercher
- Glenn Evertt
- Brian Bartosik
- Max Brenzell
- Dan Vecchio
- Eddy Thoric (Friends of the Taylors)
- Mackenzie Maconaghy
- Tracy Nelson
- Kathy Jones
- Nita Milkie
- Don Rottger
- Kathleen (Jim Nietopski's sister)
- Doug Giles
- Marg Albert
- Becky Zenger
- Nancy Koehler
- Family of Sharron Rich
- Family of Joanne Quinn
- Victoria Hadley and Baby Anastassia
- Keith Horn



April 2026

St. Luke Lutheran Church - 900 Maryvale Drive Cheektowaga NY - (716) 633-6752 - www.stluke-buffalo.org
 Office hours Monday - Thursday 8:30 am - 12:30 pm

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
		1 	2 7:00pm Maundy Thursday Worship	3 Office Closed Noon-3:00pm Tre Ore Worship 8:00pm Tenebrae	4 10:00 am Easter Brunch Set-up	
5 <u>Easter Sunday</u> 8:30 am Worship 9:45 am Easter Brunch 11:00 am Worship/	6 Office Closed	7 10-2:00pm Food Pantry 10:00pm Tole Painters 7:00pm Trustee mtg.	8 9:00am Bulletin folding 10:00am Bible Study 9:00am Bulletin folding 7:00pm Worship	9 9:00am Bulletin folding 10:00am Bible Study 9:00am Bulletin folding	10 Office Closed	11 3:00pm Girl Scout mtg.
12 9:00 am Worship 10:10 am Confirmation	13	14 10-2:00pm Food Pantry 10:00pm Tole Painters 7:30pm Recovery	15 11:00am LWML mtg. 7:00pm Worship	16 9:00am Bulletin folding 10:00am Bible Study	17 Office Closed	18 10:00am Fundraising mtg.
19 9:00am Worship 10:10 am New Members Class 11:00am Worship/	20	21 10-2:00pm Food Pantry 10:00pm Tole Painters 7:30pm Recovery	22 7:00pm Worship	23 9:00am Bulletin folding 10:00am Bible Study	24 Office Closed	25 3:00pm Girl Scout mtg.
26 9:00am Worship 10:10 am New Members Class	27	28 10-2:00pm Food Pantry 10:00pm Tole Painters 7:30pm Recovery	29 7:00pm Worship	30 9:00am Bulletin folding 10:00am Bible Study		



Loeffler, Rita	4/1	Hart, Aidan	4/17
Williams, Connie	4/1	Taylor, Richard	4/17
Kasprzyk, Virginia	4/3	Uplinger, Lisa	4/18
Richter, Lois	4/4	Ricks, Nya	4/20
Costanzo, Lauren	4/5	Errett, Donald	4/21
Fusco, Martha	4/5	D'Amico, Kathryn	4/22
Deitrick, Raina	4/6	Brudz, Thomas	4/23
Jones, Patricia	4/6	Faskel, Darwin	4/23
Schmitt, Betty Ann	4/6	Hanel, Bailey	4/24
Brand, Elisabeth	4/7	Grefrath, Scott	4/25
Hart, Isaiah	4/7	Maconaghy, Pamela	4/25
Deitrick, Sebastian	4/10	Curry, Janice	4/26
Uplinger, Adam	4/12	Stanford, Suzette	4/26
Burns, Keira	4/13	Taylor, Kristen	4/26
Torcasio, Vincent	4/13	Walters, Bernadine	4/26
Wojcik, Rosalie	4/13	Biegasiewicz, April	4/29
Monroe, Stacy	4/14	Smith, Melissa	4/30
Wicher, Beverly	4/14		

	Time	April 12	April 19	April 26
Greeters	9:00	Linda Rowe	Allan & Arlene Riemer	Pat & Skip Rohloff
	11:00	Rita Loeffler	Betty Ann Schmitt	Virginia Becker
Elder	9:00	Karen Baglio	Ron Connor	Allan Reimer
	11:00	Tyler Silverblatt	Soul Celebration	Craig Maconaghy
Lector	9:00	Karen Baglio	Ron Connor	Allan Reimer
	11:00	Louise Mallon	Soul Celebration	Karen Machnica
Communion Assistants	9:00	Kathy Brogan		Kathy Brogan
	11:00	Ed Loeffler		Anne Schultz
Counter		Linda Rowe Dale Karcher	Linda Rowe Dale Karcher	Linda Rowe Dale Karcher
Ushers	9:00	Skip Rohloff Ken Knoll	John & Cinde Gross	Glenn Kilger Ken Knoll
	11:00	Carol & Tom Nelson	Louise Mallon Diane Palermo	Karen Machnica Rita Loeffler

St. Luke Lutheran Church

900 Maryvale Drive
Cheektowaga, NY 14225

Phone: 716-633-6752
Fax: 716-635-0718
Email: secretary@stluke-buffalo.org

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Mark Your Calendar! Road Trip VBS is Almost Here!

Get ready—Vacation Bible School is just around the corner, happening **Monday, June 29 through Thursday, July 2, from 10:00 AM to 2:00 PM** each day!

Whether you love being front-and-center with the kids or prefer helping behind the scenes, there's a place for you in this exciting and meaningful outreach ministry. To learn more or to sign up as a volunteer, go to our VBS page on our website www.stluke-buffalo.org/vbs.

All volunteers working with children are required to attend a **mandatory workshop on Saturday, June 13 at 9:00 AM**. If you're interested in helping but have a scheduling conflict, please contact **Annie Schultz** as soon as possible to arrange a make-up session.

We also invite you to join us for our **Decorating Days** as we transform our space for the adventure ahead:

- **Saturday, June 13 at 10:30 AM** (following the workshop)
- **Saturday, June 27 starting at 9:00 AM**

There will be plenty of ways to help, including “table tasks” for those who prefer to stay seated.

Thank you for sharing your time, talents, and treasures to make this incredible ministry possible!

Annie Schultz & Michelle Silverblatt
Christian Education & VBS Directors

