



February 8, 2026  
5<sup>th</sup> Sunday after Epiphany

*St. Luke Lutheran Church*  
20 Candlewood Path Dix Hills, NY 11746  
Phone: (631) 499-8656

**Welcome to  
St. Luke Lutheran Church**  
20 Candlewood Path  
Dix Hills, NY 11746-5398  
Church: 631-499-8656 - Fax: 631-462-6496  
Preschool: 631-462-5216  
Our Website: [www.stlukedixhills.org](http://www.stlukedixhills.org)  
Satellite for the Lutheran Counseling Center: 516-741-0994

**Welcome!**

In the name of Jesus Christ, we welcome both members and guests to His church. We are present this day to worship Him. In this service we thank and honor our Lord for His many blessings and seek His guidance and comfort for each day of life.

- ❖ Be **reverent** and **thoughtful** in this Holy place.
- ❖ **Before** the service, speak with God.
- ❖ **During** the service, let God speak to you.
- ❖ **After** the service, speak to one another.

**As We Gather:** We begin our worship today praising the lamb of God who has taken away the sins of the world. For this saving work, Christ is truly worthy of praise, adoration, thanks and honor. He is truly worthy of our worship because of who He is and what He has done for us. Now we shall hear again the great story of salvation that was won for us by the Lamb of God. Rejoice! For the lamb who was slain has begun His reign. Alleluia!

**Holy Communion is celebrated at each Worship Service.**

The Lord's Supper is a gift from our Savior in which He offers us Himself and His forgiveness. Those who partake witness their love for Him and their faith and fellowship for each other. If you have confessed your sins and if you have been properly instructed regarding the Lord's Supper and believe in the presence of Christ in the form of bread and wine, which are the body and blood of Christ, please join us for the celebration of Holy Communion.

**REGULAR WORSHIP SCHEDULE**

**Traditional Worship with Holy Communion**

8:15am & 10:45am w/ Sunday School

**Contemporary Band plays Sundays two times/month (check online calendar)**

Sundays at 10:45 AM

**BIBLE STUDY SCHEDULE – on short pause**

Sunday morning between services at 9:30 AM

Wednesday Mornings online at 10:00 AM

The **C.A.R.E Team** encourages anyone experiencing illness or a challenging situation in their life to reach out to us for support. Support can consist of emotional/spiritual support, meals, transportation, help with errands or chores, and other areas as they are identified. Contact via **Hotline: (631) 600-0271**

Or email [careteam@stlukedixhills.org](mailto:careteam@stlukedixhills.org) Coordinators: Trish Klare & Amanda Fenty

**Mission Statement**

**To know Christ and make him known by Serving, Teaching, and Loving.**

## NEWS & REMINDERS

### **THIS WEEK at ST LUKE** 5th Sunday after Epiphany

**Sunday February 8, 2026**

**Welcome Rev. Dr. David H. Benke**

8:15 a.m. Worship w/ HC

10:45 a.m. Worship w/ HC & Sunday School  
Coffee Hour between services and after the late service

**Monday February 9, 2026**

**Summer Camp Registration Opens**

**Tuesday February 10, 2026 PS Chapel**

10:00 a.m. Online Yoga

4:30 p.m. School Board MTG

6:30 p.m. ADK-Long Island

7:30 p.m. Handbell Choir

**Wednesday February 11, 2026 PS Chapel**

9:30 a.m. Mommy & Me

10:45 a.m. Mommy & Me

3:30 p.m. PS Staff Meeting

7:15 p.m. Adult Choir

**Thursday February 12, 2026 –**

**PS Valentine's Day Parties**

9:30 a.m. PS Chapel

1:00 p.m. Young at Heart

7:15 p.m. Confirmation

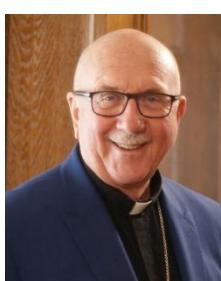
**Friday February 13, 2026 –**

**PS Valentine's Day Parties**

6:00 p.m. Sr High Youth Group

**Saturday February 14, 2026**

9:30 a.m. Recorder Society



*The Rev. Dr. David H. Benke, Bishop Emeritus  
LCMS Atlantic District  
leads us in worship at  
8:15am and 10:45am*

*Please join us to welcome  
Pastor Benke.*



The Altar Flowers are given by **The Klare Family** in loving memory of George Birkel, beloved father & Grandfather.

The Altar Flowers are given by the **Norman and Prummell families** in loving memory of **Robert Prummell on his birthday.**

Sign up on the bulletin board. Fill out a memorial envelope (found in the pews) Insert a check (payable to St. Luke Church) or cash and place in the offering plate. *Flower vase is \$30 and Eternal Light is \$5.*



Women's Ministry meets monthly for light breakfast, refreshments, fellowship, and church projects, on the third Saturday at 9:00 AM in the Memorial Gathering Room. Contact Anita Schabel for more info - [aschabel@yahoo.com](mailto:aschabel@yahoo.com)



Men's Ministry Bible Study, led by Deacon Paul Elgert, is on the 1st Saturday of the month at 8:30 am in the Conference Room in the Education building. Contact Deacon Elgert for more info: [elgertpa@gmail.com](mailto:elgertpa@gmail.com)



\*\*Your 2026 Offering Envelope boxed set is now in your family mailbox. If your envelopes are missing, please contact Laura in the office at [laura@stlukedixhills.org](mailto:laura@stlukedixhills.org)

Your Year End Giving Statements are also in your mailbox. Please retrieve them while you are at worship.



## COFFEE HOUR HOSTS WANTED

Coffee Hour is a wonderful time of fellowship with your fellow congregation members. The sign up is in the narthex (lobby) of the church and at Coffee Hour. \*The Coffee is made for you. Contact Lori Etienne with questions or for more info:

[lletienne13@gmail.com](mailto:lletienne13@gmail.com)



Young at Heart is an active senior group that meets weekly in the Conference room of the Education building at 1PM on Thursdays. The

group enjoys a few hours of fellowship, stories, laughs, birthdays, and of course a competitive game of cards! The group is warm and welcoming and looks forward to meeting you!



## ONLINE CHAIR YOGA CLASS

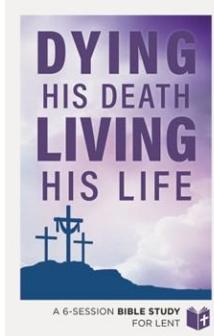
The Chair Yoga class meets online via Zoom at 10:00am on Tuesdays. The Yoga class is led by certified Yoga instructor, Laura Fisher. Any changes to the schedule will be announced by email and Stay Current.

Please check your emails for the link to the Online Zoom Class.



Men's Breakfast at I-HOP in Commack on Jericho Turnpike is on the first Friday at 8:00am. The Men will meet, same place and time, on the first Friday of every month. The next breakfast is on February 6<sup>th</sup>. See you there.

Questions? Contact Deacon Paul Elgert [elgertpa@gmail.com](mailto:elgertpa@gmail.com).



Beginning on February 18<sup>th</sup> Ash Wednesday, Pastor Tom Cusanelli will resume Wednesday Online Bible Study at 10am on Zoom and lead us in a new 6 week Bible Study for Lent entitled, **“Dying His Death Living His Life”**

There are a limited number of Student guides available in the Church office. Please contact Laura in the church office [laura@stlukedixhills.org](mailto:laura@stlukedixhills.org) to reserve a copy.

*An email link to the Online Wednesday Bible Study on Zoom will go out on Sunday evenings.*

# Support St Luke with eGiving



St Luke offers online giving  
through our Website  
**www.stlukedixhills.org**  
(look for the Giving tab)  
and on the **Vanco Mobile** app  
(Search for **St Luke Lutheran Church**)  
*We appreciate your generosity!*



**venmo**

Electronic giving is a convenient, easy way to support St Luke Lutheran Church

By giving electronically, you can: · Give anywhere, anytime from your computer, smartphone or tablet. · Donate to one of our special project funds. · Set up recurring payments and never worry about bringing your checkbook or cash again. Get started today! Visit our donations page to learn more and set up your online contribution: <https://stlukedixhills.org/giving>



**Vanco**

## Scan the codes to give on our Giving Apps

### WHAT IS THE C.A.R.E. TEAM?

The C.A.R.E (Christians Actively Responding to Everyone) team is a group of St. Luke members who can provide support to other St. Luke family members who are experiencing illness or other challenging circumstances in their lives.

We can provide: meals-errands-chores-rides-visits-sitting with a homebound family member while the family caregiver goes out for their own appointments. The St. Luke family is part of your extended family! If we can help you, please call our hotline at 631-600-0271 and leave us a message, one of our volunteers will call you back as soon as possible.

## We pray for...



Please send in your prayer requests to [prayers@stlukedixhills.org](mailto:prayers@stlukedixhills.org)

### Prayers for our sick and rehabilitating members

Janet Boehme, Ronald Breuer, Ally Clark, Theresa Clark, Dorothy DeCordova, Carol Elgert, John Fick, Preston Findlay, Ilene Franzmann, Pastor Froehlich, Jim Gnad, Janet Kahn, Rose Katan, Clark Katz, MP Kuruvilla, Marlene Langhart, Danielle Lopez, John Mancino, Amy McClain, Kevin McDermott, Pat Meade, Gary Miller, Charlie Mock, Bill Nelson, Tom Nelson, Lisa Norberg, Barbara & Vincent Papa, Maren Powell, Matthew Recio, Doug & Matt Ross, Lillian Slade, Alissa Slade, Peter Tomforde, Walter Tomforde, Kathy von Thaden, Doug Wagner, Paul Walker, and Linda Wood-Hoyte.

### Prayers for the friends & Family of St. Luke:

Kathleen Aiello, Melissa Conte, Jeanne Coyle, Carleton Crispell, Jackie Dantzer, Kevin Delgardi, Liam Donohoe & family, Randi Donley, Reagan Doughty, Dash Duke, Gary Dunn, Henry Einzig, Ruth & Robert Elsener, Hannah Froehlich, Cassidy Frevert, Suzanne Gentile's mom, Carolyn Chiappetta, Ricky Gilmore, Giaradano Family, Ray Gremeaux, Lenny Giordano, Daniel Glidden, Tonya Gordon, Darlene Handle, Linda Haseley, Al Henningsen, Joan Hurdle, Mike Hyland, Cassidy Frevert, Bill Kahn, Tim Kildale, Tim Kimmitz, Ariella Klein, Florence Kopp, Beth Krass, Bradley Krueger, Grace Kruskol, Pastor Carl Joecks, Pastor Pierre Eddy Laguerre, Madeline Lamendola, Samantha Larcom, Jeff & Brenda Lawrence, Kathy & Tom Liconti, Dominick Maggiore Sr, Kevin & Gail Mattimore, Ken & Marlene McKenna, Kally McClave, Jean Melillo, Jeanette Meyer, Luke Mohan & Family, Moreno Family, Gina Morrissey, Samantha and John Natale, Karen O'Gara, Concetta Pediliggieri, Mildred Player, Adam Rafuse, Jeff Reynolds, Bobby Ruege, Maria Rodgers, Preston Ross, John Ryan, Joy Schabel, Michael Schieck, Jennifer Smith, Mia Skaats, Rosalind Shepherd, Rev. Kenneth Schnepp, Hilde Sprung, Rev. Michael Staneck, Jeffrey Tonan, Pastor Unger, Cathy Vatkin, Rocco Viselli, Jillian & Kate Wagner & Family, Paul Wenger, Annie Wilkom, Jenny Woegens, and Klaus Zieschang.

### **SPECIAL PRAYERS**

The victims and families of the 9/11 Acts of Terror, Bishop Dien A. Taylor and the Atlantic District, Rev. Victor Nelson, Resurrection, Cairo, NY, Rev. Matthew Harrison, Rev. Rob Morris, Christ the King Church, Newtown, CT., Rev. Kenneth Schnepp, Circuit Visitor, Rev. Dr. Roy W. Minnix and family, Pastor Emeritus Rev. Charles & Kathy Froehlich and family, The Messerschmidt family, Rev. Randy Miller and his family, Rev. Henry Schriever and family, Rev. Michael Staneck and his family, Rev. Jonathan & Katy Crawford and family, Rev. Jim & Chelsea Dorner and family, and our Missionaries to Indonesia, Amy & Jareb McClain and family.



ST LUKE MISSIONS COLLECTION  
Distributed to Helping Hand Rescue Mission

## WINTER COAT DRIVE

DONATE NEW OR GENTLY USED COATS

\*\*Place coats in Clear Bags  
Drop bags in the Bins at the Back of the Church  
\*\* Please, Clear plastic bags only! NO black bags

**Collection is now and through the end  
of January 2026**

## SOUPER BOWL SUNDAY



Soup Drive Now through  
February 8, 2026

---

- St. Luke Missions Committee is collecting cans of soup now through Souper Bowl Sunday February 8<sup>th</sup>.
- Place cans of soup in the bins at the back of the church.
- Missions Chairperson Sandi McDermott will be delivering the soup to Helping Hand Rescue Mission.

## PASTORAL TRANSITION UPDATES BY CHURCH COUNCIL



Dear St. Luke family,

We are pleased to announce that we continue to move forward in our search for a new senior pastor, by establishing a Call Committee, comprised of the following Church members:

- Jackie Guidone, Chair
- Doug Geed
- Denise Inzirillo
- Marlene Langhart
- Jessica Portella
- Michael Smith
- Luke Althaus
- Nancy Gossow
- Greg Laub
- Ken MacDowell
- Glenn Schabel
- Chris Wenz

This Call Committee membership has been approved by the Church Council, in accordance with St. Luke's Constitution and By-Laws and guidance from the LCMS Atlantic District and provides a comprehensive representation of our entire community.

In addition, input from our Senior High youth (who are not expected to be of age to vote for a pastoral call) will be obtained from a Youth Advisory Group that includes the following members:

- Maddy Braddick
- Myla Garcia
- Laturalyn Castro
- Dean Pluschau

We are deeply thankful for the commitment of these individuals as we take this major step toward issuing a pastoral call. As always, we encourage and greatly appreciate your continued prayers and support for St. Luke as we continue to move forward through this transitional phase of our ministry.

Ken Wenz, Church Council President

Jackie Guidone, Church Council Vice President and Call Committee Chair

**\*IF YOU NEED PASTORAL CARE SERVICES DURING THE TRANSITION, PLEASE EMAIL [PASTOR@STLUKEDIXHILLS.ORG](mailto:PASTOR@STLUKEDIXHILLS.ORG)**

# St. Luke Summer Program

## Building Faith, Brick by Brick!

**June 29th- August 7th**  
**9:30am-12:30pm or**  
**9:30am-2:30pm**

**\*Choose 2, 3, or 5 days!**  
Register up to 6 weeks  
online at our website.  
**\*Rates available online!**

**\*Open to children going**  
into preschool (with prior  
school/day care  
experience) through going  
into 4th grade.

Priority  
registration for  
St. Luke Families  
opens  
**FEBRUARY 9TH!**



SCAN ME

Questions?  
[www.stlukedixhills.org/summer-program](http://www.stlukedixhills.org/summer-program)  
Contact:  
[stlukesummerprogram@gmail.com](mailto:stlukesummerprogram@gmail.com)  
or call (631) 490-2941

### WEEKLY ACTIVITIES:

- \*Bounce castle and water slide
- \*Music, art, gym, playground, etc.
- \*Hot lunch program
- \*Morning care option at 8:30am

St. Luke  
  
Summer Program



LEGO

**2026**

BUILD!  
PLAY!  
PRAISE GOD!



# FEBRUARY YOUTH NEWSLETTER

## BASKET DAY

Impact &  
Sr. High Youth

Friday, February 6th  
6:00pm-8:00pm  
in the Youth Room

Come enjoy a pizza  
dinner, games, a  
service project, prayer  
and more!

## SR. HIGH VALENTINE'S DINNER

Friday, February 13th-  
6:00pm-

Meet at St. Luke and go to  
Spuntinos for dinner. Then  
come back for prayer and  
games! Pick up at 8:00pm.



HAPPY  
Valentine's  
Day

Made with PosterMyWall.com

## REMINDE

- Summer Program  
Registration opens on  
Monday, February 9th.
- No Confirmation or Youth  
Group during Feb. break.  
Week of Feb. 15th-20th

## UPCOMING DATES



- Sr. High Youth Group- Friday,  
February 27th from 6:00-8:00pm
- Saturday, March 7th- Jr. & Sr. High  
At Home Retreat -10:00am-2:00pm  
(This takes the place of the Jr. High  
game night in Feb.)

## SAVE THE DATE!

SR. HIGH MISSION TRIP  
JULY 22-JULY 25. 2026





CALLING ALL JR. & SR. HIGH YOUTH!

# YOUTH RETREAT AT ST. LUKE

DEVOTIONS | MUSIC | FOOD  
GAMES | COMMUNITY SERVICE

SATURDAY, MARCH 7TH  
10:00AM-2:00PM

SIGN UP BY TEXTING/EMAILING JACKIE!  
MEET IN THE CHURCH!  
\*ALL CONFIRMATION STUDENTS  
MUST ATTEND!

LWML Atlantic District - Suffolk Zone presents

# Women's Life Day 2026

**Saturday, March 28 ~ 9am-3pm**

Grace Lutheran Church  
240 Mastic Rd., Mastic Beach, NY 11951

**YES!**



*...to Him when He calls*

As each has received a gift, use it to serve one another as good stewards of God's varied grace. 1 Peter 4:10



**Featuring speakers:  
Allison Sininsgalli and Kim Billings**

**Music by Grace Lutheran**

**Plus: Vendors, Giveaways, Raffles, & more!**

**\*Light breakfast and lunch provided\***

Workshop 1 w/Allison: "The World Premier Performance,  
Starring You, Created by God"

Workshop 2 w/Kim: "Devotion Writing? Yes, You CAN!"

**For more information, contact Linda Guterres:  
at Grace Lutheran 631.281.8196 or email: [lguterres@aol.com](mailto:lguterres@aol.com)**

## \*\* Church Attendance and Offerings \*\*

### Attendance week ending 2/1/2026

**Sunday, January 25, 2026 (SNOW) Services Cancelled**

8:15 AM:59 10:45 AM:97

### Offerings Received in December 2025

(total monthly offerings *includes* online giving)

#### **December Offerings Received:**

Regular Offerings Received in December 2025 (including online giving)

Regular Weekly Offerings: \$19034.52

Loose Plate: \$1023.00

Celebrations (Christmas/Advent) \$8929.00

**TOTAL DECEMBER: \$28,986.52**

Budgeted \$22,608.33

Year to Date Received (July through December) 2025-2026: \$84,026.00

## St. Luke Church Council 2026

|                 |                          |
|-----------------|--------------------------|
| Ken Wenz        | President                |
| Jackie Guidone  | Vice-President           |
| Anna Schwen     | Secretary                |
| Brenda Lentsch  | Treasurer                |
| Denise Norman   | Christian Education      |
| Tony Fisher     | Property                 |
| Michele Castro  | Finance                  |
| Theresa Clark   | Evangelism               |
| Lori Etienne    | Parish Life              |
| Nancy Gossow    | Worship                  |
| Sandi McDermott | Missions/Social Concerns |
| Trisha Klare    | Stewardship              |
| Rey Rivera      | Youth                    |

## St. Luke Lutheran Church

Preschool: 631-462-5216

Our Website: [www.stlukedixhills.org](http://www.stlukedixhills.org)

Satellite for The Lutheran Counseling Center: 516-741-0994

**The Rev. Thomas W. Cusanelli - Pastoral Care (transition)**

Email: [pastor@stlukedixhills.org](mailto:pastor@stlukedixhills.org)

**The Rev. Charles W. Froehlich - Pastor Emeritus**

Email: [Revfroe2@gmail.com](mailto:Revfroe2@gmail.com)

**Jackie Flynn - Director of Youth & Family Ministry**

Email: [Jackie@stlukedixhills.org](mailto:Jackie@stlukedixhills.org)

**Dr. Janet Pinto - Director of Music & Choirs**

Email: [janetsuepinto@gmail.com](mailto:janetsuepinto@gmail.com)

**Laura Werner - Administrative Assistant**

Email: [laura@stlukedixhills.org](mailto:laura@stlukedixhills.org)

### Deacons

Deacon Greg Laub - Email: [laugr01@gmail.com](mailto:laugr01@gmail.com)

Deacon Paul Elgert - Email: [elgertpa@gmail.com](mailto:elgertpa@gmail.com)

Deacon Tom Lamendola - Email: [Tjdola63@gmail.com](mailto:Tjdola63@gmail.com)

Deacon Paul Rafuse - Email: [prafuse54@gmail.com](mailto:prafuse54@gmail.com)

### Preschool

**Jean Marie Marsh - Director of Weekday Preschool**

Email: [director@stlukedixhills.org](mailto:director@stlukedixhills.org)

**Teresa Lupo - Administrative Assistant**

Email: [Teresa@stlukedixhills.org](mailto:Teresa@stlukedixhills.org)

### Sexton

**Michael Alonzo**

Email: [mikeyzo109@gmail.com](mailto:mikeyzo109@gmail.com)

# Carnival Sponsorship Opportunities

St. Luke Church will be running a children's carnival on May 30, 2026. The funds from this carnival help support the various missions of St. Luke, including the pre-school and youth program. We hope you will consider taking advantage of our many sponsorship opportunities. Through your generosity, St. Luke can continue to make a positive impact within the church and community.

## Carnival Arcade: Total cost \$5,000

Minimum sponsorship suggestion \$200



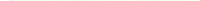
## Petting Zoo and Pony Rides: total cost 1,550

Minimum Sponsorship suggestion \$200



## Prizes: Total cost \$500

Minimum Sponsorship suggestion \$100



In consideration, if they can be fully funded:



## Magician: Total cost \$575

Minimum Sponsorship suggestion \$100



## Balloon Twister: total Cost \$400

Minimum sponsorship suggestion \$100

Please return the completed form below to the St. Luke Church office, St. Luke Preschool Office, or mail to 20 Candlewood Path, Dix Hills, NY 11746 c/o Lisa Wenz

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

Please Accept my donation towards \_\_\_\_\_

Amount included \_\_\_\_\_

Name for sponsorship display: \_\_\_\_\_

Office use only...  cash  check # \_\_\_\_\_

Date received \_\_\_\_\_ / \_\_\_\_\_ / \_\_\_\_\_ Initials \_\_\_\_\_

The Elaine Backmeier Memorial  
Children's Carnival



May 30, 2026

On the Grounds of St. Luke Lutheran Church, Dix Hills  
20 Candlewood Path, Dix Hills, NY 11746

PROCEEDS FROM THE CARNIVAL SUPPORT OUR CHURCH & PRESCHOOL

TAX ID: 11-212-4560

PLEASE HELP US FURTHER OUR CHURCH & PRESCHOOL MINISTRIES  
BY SPONSORING THIS EVENT WITH A DONATION

YES, I'D LIKE TO BE A SPONSOR

CASH DONATION

\$25  \$50  \$75  \$100  OTHER  \_\_\_\_\_

PLEASE MAKE CHECKS PAYABLE TO ST. LUKE LUTHERAN CHURCH - DESIGNATE FOR CARNIVAL

RAFFLE PRIZE ~ PRIZES ~ GAMES

SPECIFY: \_\_\_\_\_

NAME: \_\_\_\_\_

ADDRESS: \_\_\_\_\_

PHONE / EMAIL: \_\_\_\_\_

PLEASE RETURN THIS FORM TO THE CHURCH OR PRESCHOOL OFFICE



Scan the  
QR Code to  
DONATE

Pick up a Donation letter, sponsorship opportunities, and donation form  
on the windowsill in the narthex! Thank you for your support!