



stay  
current

March 8, 2026  
Third Sunday in Lent

*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

**LENTEN MIDWEEK SERVICES**

Wednesdays at 7:30 PM

**BIBLE STUDY SCHEDULE**

Sunday morning between services at 9:30 AM (paused for now)

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

#### 3rd Sunday in Lent

#### Sunday March 8, 2026

- 8:15 a.m. Worship w/ HC  
9:30 a.m. Bible Study w/ Pastor Gillespie  
9:30 a.m. Adult Choir  
10:45 a.m. Worship w/ HC & Sunday School  
12:00 p.m. Youth Choir  
12:30 p.m. Jr/Sr High Meal Packing at LuHi

#### Monday March 9, 2026

- 6:30 p.m. National Charity League MTG.

#### Tuesday March 10, 2026

- 10:00 a.m. Online Yoga  
4:30 p.m. School Board Meeting  
6:30 p.m. ADK-LI  
7:30 p.m. Handbell Choir

#### Wednesday March 11, 2026

- 9:30 a.m. Mommy & Me  
9:30 a.m. Preschool Chapel  
10:00 a.m. Online Bible Study  
w/ Pastor Cusanelli  
6:30 p.m. Holy Communion Instruction  
7:30 p.m. Midweek Lenten Service  
“Hand of the Lord”

#### Thursday March 12, 2026

- 9:30 a.m. Preschool Chapel  
1:00 p.m. Young at Heart  
7:00 p.m. Call Committee Mtg.  
7:15 p.m. Confirmation

#### Friday March 13, 2026 –

- 6:00 p.m. Youth Group

#### Saturday March 14, 2026

- 9:00 a.m. Recorder Society



The Eternal Light and Altar flowers are available to honor or remember a loved one or occasion.

The flowers on the altar are given by **Jackie Von Urff** in honor of her husband **Gregg Von Urff's 75<sup>th</sup> Birthday**. Happy 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 **will not meet this month.**

Instead they will be attending the LWML Women's Life day

3/28 at Grace Lutheran in Mastic beach from 9-3 Carpooling is possible. If you are interested Contact Anita Schabel for more info - [aschabel@yahoo.com](mailto:aschabel@yahoo.com)



#### At the Font

On Sunday, March 8, 2026 we welcome Elliott Christopher Monica, son of Michelle Monica, into the kingdom of God through Holy Baptism.

We pray God's blessings on Elliott Christopher his sponsor, and his family.



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)



## 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.



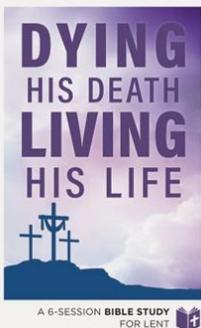
St. Luke Outreach Ministry visits Huntington Hills Nursing Home once a month to do a Worship Service with Communion and Music. We are seeking volunteers to join us so we can ensure that this ministry continues without gaps. Our visits are on the 3<sup>rd</sup> Tuesday at 10:30 a.m. at Huntington Hills Nursing Home in Melville. The service is brief, but the rewards of serving are mighty.

Please contact Trish Klare if you can assist in this important ministry. [TSklare402@gmail.com](mailto:TSklare402@gmail.com)



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 March 6<sup>th</sup>. See you there.

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



Pastor Tom Cusanelli leads Wednesday Online Bible Study at 10am on Zoom 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@stluckedixhills.org](mailto:laura@stluckedixhills.org) to reserve a copy. **Copies are still available.**

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

**WELCOME PASTOR  
ARTHUR & KATHY  
GILLESPIE!**

St. Luke is blessed and grateful to have Pastor Gillespie serve as interim Pastor beginning March 8<sup>th</sup> through May 31<sup>st</sup>! Pastor Gillespie will lead all Sunday & Holy Week worship services and Sunday Bible Study.

*God's blessings on Pastor and Kathy!*



**Sunday Bible Study**

**Bible Study with Pastor Gillespie – Sundays at 9:30 AM**

Holy Week  
CONVERSATIONS WITH  
**JESUS**  
John 3:13-17



## ATTENTION 5TH GRADE FAMILIES!

### *Communion Classes*

-Wednesday, March 11th and March 18th  
6:30pm-7:15pm in the church

### *Communion Banner Making*

Sunday, March 15th at 10:45am during Sunday School

### *First Communion Service*

Sunday, March 22nd at 10:45am

\*Please dress nicely!



# Support St Luke with eGiving

St Luke offers online giving  
through our Website

**[www.stlukedixhills.org](http://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

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### 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.

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## **We pray for...**

Please send in your prayer requests to [prayers@stludedixhills.org](mailto:prayers@stludedixhills.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, Trish Klare, 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 Delgardy, Liam Donohoe & family, Randi Donley, Reagan Doughty, Dash Duke, Gary Dunn, Henry Einzig, Ruth & Robert Elsener, Rochelle Fernandez, Kassidy Frevert, Suzanne Gentile's mom, Carolyn Chiappetta, Ricky Gilmore, Ray Gremeaux, Lenny Giordano, Daniel Glidden, Tonya Gordon, Mary Hayman, Darlene Handle, Linda Haseley, Al Henningsen, Joan Hurdle, Mike Hyland, Kassidy Frevert, Bill Kahn, Tim Kildale, Tim Kimmitz, Ariella Klein, Florence Kopp, Beth Krass, Bradley Krueger, Grace Kruskol, Pastor Carl Joecks, Pastor Pierre Eddy Laguierre, Madeline Lamendola, Samantha Larcom, Jeff & Brenda Lawrence, Kathy & Tom Liconti, Dominick Maggioro 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 Schnepf, 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 Schnepf, 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.



## Calling all Children and Youth!

Enrich our Palm Sunday Worship on March 29 at 10:45 am and Easter Worship on April 5 at the 11:00 am service with your voices. O come, let us sing unto the Lord: *let us make a joyful noise... — Psalm 95:1*

*Dr. Pinto will have quick rehearsals following Sunday School in the Conference room of the Memorial Gathering Room on March 8, March 15, and March 22 for those interested in participating.*

*Please, prayerfully consider being a part of this very special Ministry.*

### St Luke Missions Easter Baskets Collection To Helping Hand Missions

- Pick up a basket at St. Luke at back of the Church
- Fill it with Easter Goodies
- Wrap it in clear cellophane
- Bring it back to St. Luke by the deadline

Collecting Now  
Return Deadline is March 15, 2026





ST LUKE LUTHERAN CHURCH  
PRESENTS

# EASTER EGGSTRAVAGANZA

**SATURDAY, APRIL 4TH**

SNACKS | DYING EGGS | EGG HUNT | CRAFTS

Preschool through 5th Grade

**10:00AM - 11:30AM**



AT ST LUKE IN ROOM 200 - LOWEST LEVEL OF PRESCHOOL

**\*\*Bring a dozen hard boiled eggs with you**





# MARCH NEWSLETTER



## Retreat

Join us for our Jr. & Sr. High At Home Retreat on Saturday, March 7th from 10:00am-2:00pm.

Come play games, sing songs, do service projects, enjoy lunch, etc.

\*Great way to earn Confirmation points or community service hours.

Sign up here:



## Youth Group

6:00pm-8:00pm

- Friday, March 6th- NO YG!
- Friday, March 13th
- Friday, March 20th
- Friday, March 27th

## Meal Packing at LuHi

SUNDAY, MARCH 8TH  
from 12:15pm-3:30pm

Meet in the youth room and travel to LuHi to pack meals for those in need. Then enjoy lunch at Panera. Pick up-3:30pm in upper lot.

Sign up here:



## Pancake Breakfast Fundraiser

- Sunday, March 29th
- Help us make pancakes, decorate, set up, serve, etc.  
Shifts-8:00am-10:30am or 10:30am-1:00pm
- Look for a sign up genius to donate items for our breakfast and a QR code to sign up.



Sunday, March 29th



8:15am & 10:45am services

Made with PosterMyWall.com

## Lenten Wednesdays

Join us every Wednesday night at 7:30pm for worship service during Lent!

\*5th grade communion classes will be 3/11 and 3/18 at 6:30pm.



# St. Luke **Palm Sunday Pancake Breakfast**

**MARCH 29TH- 9:15AM-12:30PM**

All You Can Eat Pancakes with sides!

**NEW  
OMELETTE  
STATION!**



**NEW  
CARVING  
STATION!**

**Come join us after each church service to  
enjoy a nice hot breakfast!**

Located in Room 200 at St. Luke Lutheran Church

**\*Free will offering and profits will go  
towards our Youth Ministry Programs.**

**\*All Jr. & Sr. High Youth- report at 8:30am  
to help out in Room 200!**

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!**  
*say*



Lutheran  
Women  
in Mission

**...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 Siningsalli 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 Guteres:  
at Grace Lutheran 631.281.8196 or email: [lguteres@aol.com](mailto:lguteres@aol.com)**

## 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
- Lauralyn 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)**

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

**Attendance week ending 3/1/2026**

**Sunday, March 1, 2026**

8:15 AM:50    10:45 AM:102

**Offerings Received in January 2026**

*(total monthly offerings **includes** online giving)*

**January 2026 Offerings Received:**

Regular Weekly Offerings: \$11,196.94

Loose Plate: \$378.00

Celebrations (Christmas/Advent) \$247.00

**TOTAL** January 2026: \$11,821.64

Budgeted \$22,608.33

Year to Date Received (July through January) 2025-2026: \$124,834.16

**St. Luke Church Council 2026**

<b>Ken Wenz</b>	<b>President</b>	<b>kpwenz@gmail.com</b>
<b>Jackie Guidone</b>	<b>Vice-President</b>	<b>Jackies7fromhvn@aol.com</b>
<b>Anna Schwen</b>	<b>Secretary</b>	<b>Aschwen1123@gmail.com</b>
<b>Brenda Lentsch</b>	<b>Treasurer</b>	<b>Treasurer@stluketdixhills.org</b>
<b>Denise Norman</b>	<b>Christian Education</b>	<b>Denisenorman231@gmail.com</b>
<b>Tony Fisher</b>	<b>Property</b>	<b>Afisher1855@gmail.com</b>
<b>Michele Castro</b>	<b>Finance</b>	<b>Michelel25@yahoo.com</b>
<b>Theresa Clark</b>	<b>Evangelism</b>	<b>Teesamarie33@gmail.com</b>
<b>Lori Etienne</b>	<b>Parish Life</b>	<b>lletienne13@gmail.com</b>
<b>Nancy Gossow</b>	<b>Worship</b>	<b>Ngg123@aol.com</b>
<b>Sandi McDermott</b>	<b>Missions/Social Concerns</b>	<b>Sandib.mcder@gmail.com</b>
<b>Trisha Klare</b>	<b>Stewardship</b>	<b>Tsklare402@gmail.com</b>
<b>Rey Rivera</b>	<b>Youth</b>	<b>Reinrivera9@gmail.com</b>

# Carnival Sponsorship Opportunities Update

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

**Food:** Total Cost \$600  
Minimum Sponsorship suggestion \$100



**\*\*Thank you to the generous sponsors who have fully funded: The Magician, Balloon Twister, Cotton Candy, and Dunk Tank!**

Scan the QR Code to Donate Online  
Scroll down to Carnival.  
Please note what you are sponsoring.

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 \_\_\_\_\_