



St. Luke's **MESSENGER**

May/June 2015

PASTOR'S CORNER

"Come, follow me!" Mark 1:17

The call of Jesus to come and follow him are likely some of the most familiar words of Jesus to many of us. They are such simple words, but their meaning is profound. As such, we need to take a long pause and reflect on them from time to time. What does it mean for us to "follow" Jesus? What does this mean especially when he is not physically here for us to follow around in our day to day lives?

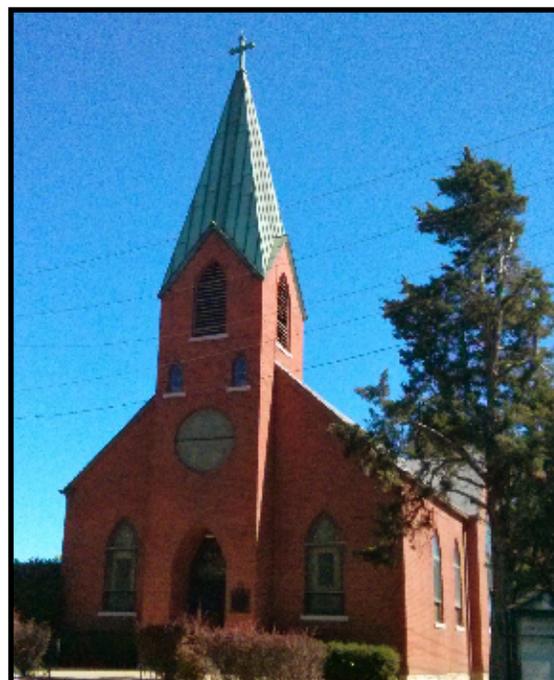
The first disciples had it easy in some ways. When Jesus said, "Follow me," they knew exactly what that meant in its most basic essence, "follow Jesus wherever he goes." But simply following Jesus around was not the fullness of what Jesus was asking. He was asking each of them to become his "disciple" or "apprentice," which meant becoming a loyal student of his by carefully observing his life and listening to his words. Being an apprentice is the most ancient form of "on the job training." It does not involve merely sitting in a sterile classroom, it instead means going out to the job site and watching how the expert works and then practicing doing the exact same thing the expert is doing.

This is ultimately what Jesus is calling us to when he says to each of us, "Follow me!" Jesus wants us to train under his guidance, which means practicing the things he has

modeled and done for us. He wants us to listen to his instructions, see how he puts his own instructions into practice, and then he wants us to practice doing the same things in our own everyday lives.

So how can we and do we pursue this following of Jesus as a community at St. Luke's? As we gather for worship and study we are allowing our minds and lives to be shaped with the words and actions of Jesus. For if we don't regularly immerse ourselves in the life and teachings of Jesus, then inevitably we will be shaped by other influences in our world and won't be able to follow in Jesus's example. After regularly listening to Jesus, our ministries of neighbor outreach and care are great and essential places where we can begin to practice together what it means to live as Jesus taught. Finally and most importantly, however, we need to let the words and example of Jesus fully reach into our everyday lives and homes. This step is always the most difficult because our tendency is to want to "leave Jesus at church." But Jesus cannot and will not be left at church, he must come into all corners of our lives. Jesus wants to influence every decision we make in our lives, shaping the whole of our lives into his image. So together, let's renew our devotion to training with Jesus by letting him apprentice us in his way of life. "Come, follow me!"

Pastor Luke



Worship and Bible Study Schedule

Saturday

4:30pm Worship Gathering

Sunday

9:00am Worship Gathering

10:30am "Text of the Week"

Monday

12:30 pm Pastor Mike Bible Study

6:00pm Pastor Luke Bible Study

Wednesday

4:30pm Kids Time



New Community Ministry Liaison

It's official! Kevin Dierks has been led by the Spirit of Jesus to accept our call to him to be our Community Ministry Liaison. A few words from Kevin and family:

Kevin was raised Lutheran with parents who taught in Lutheran schools (Concordia-St. Paul grads) and a mother who later was an autism consultant in MN. He has been married to Lisa for 20 yrs (Concordia-Mequon grads). They also both have LCMS Pastor grandfathers who conducted their wedding together in 1995.

Lisa and Kevin have served in Lutheran church schools for 20 years in Texas. The growth provided by processing the death of Kevin's dad (rheumatic fever as a child made for surviving 4 open heart surgeries) in '02 and being a LCMS principal for the

last decade has refined their view of God's calling of how/where to serve Christ. Bowen family systems has thankfully created a deeper, healthier processing of human interactions and provided a chance for them to hopefully live out life in healthier ways for their marriage, three children, extended family and church, neighborhood and work families.

We are thankful to Pastors Luke and Scott, and families, for modeling servant living as worker priests for St. Luke's and for forming the community living model occurring on S 17th St. We are also excited to support and learn from Yvonne Brown and her years of work as a leader in St. Luke's and the KCK community as well.

Thanks for giving us the chance to serve and grow with y'all.

Kevin, Lisa, Micah, Morgan, and Marcus

New Book and Bible Study!

Pastor Luke Kamrath has finished his new book on Luke and Acts:

"Father, Into Your Hands"

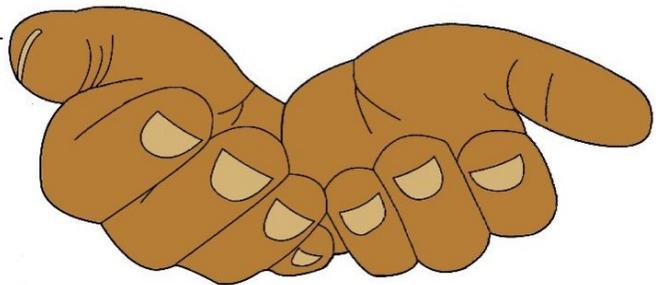
The Way of Jesus According to the Gospel of Luke-Acts

Look for copies at <https://www.createspace.com/4555099> or through Amazon and Kindle (or just ask Pastor Luke in person when you see him!).

It is not too late to join Pastor Luke in going through his new book, Mondays @ 6:00 pm in the Lounge. The group is really wrestling with what the faith of Jesus looks like in everyday, 21st century American life.

"FATHER, INTO YOUR HANDS"

THE WAY OF JESUS
ACCORDING TO THE
GOSPEL OF LUKE-ACTS



Sermon Series: "The Gospel According to Mark" (May 31, 2015 - Nov 22, 2015)

Once we conclude our walk through John's Gospel this Easter season, we will embark on a new journey from Trinity Sunday through Christ the King Sunday as we walk straight through the Gospel of Mark. Join us as we explore Mark's introductory and revolutionary picture of the person of Jesus. If you want a companion resource for our journey through Mark's Gospel, check out Pastor Luke's book, *"Follow Me": The Way of Jesus According to the Gospel of Mark*, which is available on Amazon.com or personally through him.

Baptism Anniversary

- Michael May (5/13)
- Bob Leive (5/15)
- Debbie Wagner (5/26)
- Joanne Leive (5/27)
- Jennifer Wagner (6/1)
- Carrie May (6/2)
- Ann Hauser (6/13)



- Todd Deines (5/2)
- Wilbur Gooden (5/4)
- Bob Leive (5/9)
- Sarah Martin (5/23)
- Kristi Gooden (5/25)
- Jayden Trevino (6/2)
- Haley Bridge (6/8)
- Georgia Story (6/9)
- Charlene Sargent (6/9)
- Rose Tiszka (6/12)
- Richard Vogel (6/13)
- Luke Kammrath (6/23)

Wedding Anniversary

- Stephen & Chris May (6/3/1989, 26 years)
- Bob & Joanne Leive (6/6/54, 61 years)
- Bob & Carrie May (6/7/1986, 29 years)
- Todd & Roxanne Deines (6/10/2000, 15 years)
- Scott & Stephanie Eberlein (6/13/2008, 7 years)



Board of Directors' Corner

With our annual Golf Tournament coming up on May 8, now is a great time to thank all of those who have poured their hearts into this fun and meaningful event that brings folks from across the country to Kansas City to celebrate and participate in the work of the St. Luke's community. While we have an exceptional number of volunteers and community partners who make this event possible we don't have the space here to list them all out. That said, in general terms Steve May and John Tiszka, along with the teams they have assembled, have done a fantastic job in making the tournament a fun and meaningful event for years. Thank you to all who make the tournament possible.

In other board news, we continue to excitedly await the arrival of our newly called Community Ministry Liaison, Kevin Dierks. Kevin and his family will be moving to Kansas City this summer and their arrival marks and underscores St. Luke's commitment to community outreach and will open up new doors for us to connect with even more children and families in our neighborhood and beyond.

On Saturday, April 4th we had a group of scouts spend their day serving our neighborhood by adding a soccer goal, tetherball pole, and planting new grass in the church owned neighborhood park. The project was Calvin Winkler's Eagle Project - he and his team did a great job. It only took hours for the neighborhood kids to find the refreshed park and put it to work/play. A big thanks to Calvin and his team of scouts for their significant service.

We thank you for your continued prayers and support. The Lord is Risen!

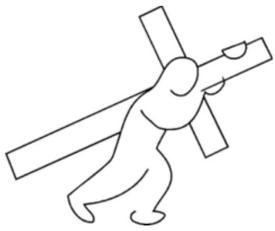
Property Update

Great news on the church steeple. Duane Dean from Miller-Stauch Construction (on 6th Street north of Central) has donated all of the material and labor to complete this project. He said, "It was the neighborly thing to do." We all owe a big thanks to Duane and should be inspired by his Christian generosity.

On Saturday, May 9, we will have a workday with painting, yard work, tree trimming, and gardening. Please bring any necessary tools you can think of. We plan to start the work day around 8:30 am, but we encourage you to come early and enjoy the neighborhood breakfast (7:30-9:00 am) which is offered every Saturday at St. Luke's and sponsored by MLM. Come if even for a short time.

Mar-Apr MLM Emergency Assistance

- IDs: 56 individuals
- Food: 501 individuals
- Utilities: 29 families
- Rent: 9 families
- Housing: 8 families



Come check out our website and find access to great resources like the church calendar, sermons, reading suggestions, a full-color newsletter, and more!

www.stlukeskck.org



"Weird Animals" VBS

When? May 31 - Jun 4 (Sun - Thurs), 6:00-8:30 pm!

Where? Here at St. Luke's!

Why? Because Jesus tells us to welcome little children! So invite all those aged 4-12 you know!

Everyone join us on June 5 @ 6:00 pm for our post VBS celebration! We will have dinner, games, and a bounce house!



15th Annual Charity Golf Tournament!

When? Friday, May 8, 7:00 am check-in, 8:00 am tee-off.

Where? Painted Hills Golf Course.

Why? Because supporting urban ministry is important to loving our neighbors!

Go to www.stlukeskck.org for more info.



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