



# St Luke's Lutheran Church Newsletter

*"Love the Creator & His Creation Like Jesus"*

**September | October 2021**

## **Pastor's Corner**

*"Where do the conflicts among you come from?"  
(James 4:1)*

James opens the fourth chapter of his letter to the church with a question. He wants the church to pause and think about why there are fights, conflicts, and quarrels among them. Fights and conflicts are not random. They don't happen for no reason. There is always something behind them.

James points to the "passions" and "desires" that are "at war" among the members of the church. These passions and desires are causing the members of the church to compete in getting things for themselves. Dietrich Bonhoeffer observed the same thing in his great book, "Life Together." He saw that the seeds of discord in a church come from the desire to compete and battle for "who is the greatest" (Luke 9:46).

James calls those who are fighting, "adulterers," for giving in to these selfish desires. They are "cheating" on the Lord, by serving their selfish passions and not serving him. He says the person who has become "friends with Civilization" has made themselves the "enemy of God." Civilization is built on competition and in-fighting. It is what drives economies and wars. Whether it is in school or in sports, we are trained by Civilization from our earliest days to compete and battle for what we can get our hands on. It is a "dog eat dog" world we are told and if we want to make it in this world, then we will have to compete and fight for what we can get. This is a lie.

So if we become friends with competition, then it is no surprise that we will find ourselves in conflicts and fights with each other. And eventually even in a competition with God, trying to take what belongs to him for ourselves—his power, his creation, his glory, etc. This is what Adam and Eve found themselves in—a war with God. They wanted to be "like God" and so



they ate the forbidden fruit in an effort to grab for themselves what belonged only to God. In the process they made God their enemy and were driven out of the garden and a healthy relationship with him.

The way to healing and peace, James tells us, is through humility and submission. Competition is about elevating the self. Humility is about lowering the self, especially before God. If we humble ourselves then the devil, who is trying to get us to compete and fight with each other, will flee from us, James tells us. Humility is how we can disarm the fights and conflicts among us.

So let's make sure we are humbling ourselves as a church. Let's lower ourselves and submit ourselves to God and each other. If we do so, then there will be no fights and conflicts among us. Instead there will be service, love, forgiveness, and mercy. Better than seeing each other as competition, is seeing each other as members of the same Body. We need each other. If I lower myself to lovingly lift up the person next to me, then I will be lifted up with them in the end.

Pastor Luke



## Council Corner

This past spring we agreed to grant Kansas Gas a temporary construction easement at the Disciple Garden. They were hoping to begin construction this summer or fall, but we have heard that they ran into issues with the railroad companies and construction is now delayed till the spring of 2022. At our annual Congregational Assembly we notified you of a small leak in our sanctuary roof. We are glad to report that the roofer who redid the roofs of the parsonage and duplex was able to fix it with some caulking. We will continue to watch it in the coming months and are hoping to get about 5 more years out of that roof if possible. Finally, we are excited to announce our Fall Festival on Sunday October 10. Weather permitting we will meet for worship at the Disciple Garden at 10:30 am and then have lunch, fellowship, and yard games immediately following. Please put this on your calendar and join us for a great time outdoors in God's creation!



## Disciple Garden Corner

The detention basin situation is finally resolved after more unexpected headaches and we should be receiving final occupancy of the Disciple Garden shortly. We are looking forward to this outcome eagerly, so we can finally have all the red-tape behind us. We are also most of the way done with a sand volleyball court (see above) that has been generously donated by some members of our congregation. Our hope is to have it finished soon for use during Jesus Time, our Fall Festival, and for church pick-up games. Finally, we are now taking sign ups for personal retreats at the Disciple Garden. Please contact Samantha Timpe at [samantha.timpe@gmail.com](mailto:samantha.timpe@gmail.com) or (219) 508-6194 to get on the calendar. Sam will guide our participants through a pre-meeting as well as a debriefing afterwards. We are offering Saturday day retreats and Saturday overnight retreats currently. As far as curriculums, we have our "Spiritual Connection" retreat ready to go and will be adding "Sabbath," "Personal Growth," and "Body as Temple" retreats in the coming months. Don't miss out!





## Community Ministry Corner

I've never figured out how to be comfortable in the dental chair. I've had this weird awareness of my tongue and breathing and how unnatural and interfering I am, while the hygienists are more than kind and doing me a favor because I haven't kept up my end of the bargain of the dental-hygiene partnership. Once a dentist encouraged flossing on days that have a T: Tuesday, Thursday, Saturday. Sounded like a fair compromise, I may have started, but I didn't stay committed. And to this day, I have not given the love and care to my mouth that all would agree is in my, and everyone else's best interest.

This past visit, post-covid was typical. Kind, thorough cleaning. I somehow managed to compose myself inwardly and outwardly for "normal" breathing routines and didn't fog up the mirror incessantly. This has been after decades of trying to figure out how to breathe in and exhale at the right time. I hope I remember what I learned at upcoming appointments?!

As a teacher and a person, I don't have the patience of a dental professional. I question the investment, effort, and heart of others, based on quality of work, effort to try, and a willingness to hear some compliments and critiques from peer editors or teachers. I easily and regularly get frustrated and question if it's worth my time, energy, and effort.

I also don't see how well educators and crew have learned and refined best learning needs and practices through research practice, mistakes, and corrections. It all appears too formulaic, too centered on knowledge of facts over simple, deep life-lessons learning and development. And as I've said in education job interviews during my time here, the institutions of my upbringing are well-intentioned, yet very broken and flawed—whether nuclear family framework, or education, or christian education or church.

So as I sense and profess issues and concerns, I also continue to ponder ways of stabilizing or maybe starting from scratch—in education and family and church. School should be four hours in the morning with half of the time for reading or listening to books of mindful writers throughout the world and history of it (I stole this from a teacher's advice to Sally Field's high school boyfriend that changed his life as he read 4 hours each morning and now practice it myself). This would be intermixed with discussion, collaboration, and some meals and snacks and play. Then the afternoon should be four hours of employment, learning and practicing with your hands hard labor and work skills, cooking, cleaning, healthy diet, life skills, etc. If it's too hot that schedule can be flipped. Breaks from the planned work would involve social time modeling and emotional and mental health processing and practicing. The groups need to be more home based on those willing to worship and to be humbled together as small groups who collaborate with other small groups that flock together on the important matters of life and faith.

"Students" need more than the 30 minutes, 2 times a year, that the dentist gets his hands on evaluating anyone's teeth, but maybe that's the amount of assessment that would be done weekly, calmly, patiently, collaboratively by students and teachers and facilitators alike. And it would be led best by whatever faith group your family would be willing to respect and commune with. "Class" sizes would be multi-age, groups of 6-12, of humble, simple folks willing to learn life-long and be humbly growing, failing and trying again together. Or maybe I should just focus on breathing at the right times in the dental chair since I've gotten that right once now.

Kevin Dierks

## **“Patient Ferment” & Revelation Study**

Join us on Mondays at 6 pm as we continue to go through Alan Kreider’s landmark book, “The Patient Ferment of the Early Church.” Also join us at 6:00 pm on Wednesdays as we continue to go through Revelation. We are meeting at the Disciple Garden. Feel free to come early (5:00 pm) and stay late (8:00 pm) for fellowship.

## **Jesus Time, Bells, Choir, & the Fall Festival**

On Wednesdays at 4:30 pm in the fall (starting on Sep 8) we will bring back Jesus Time at the Disciple Garden as we reconnect with our neighborhood kids. We will also be bringing back Bell Choir (5:15 pm) and Choir (6:00 pm) on Thursdays in the sanctuary, though choir will not restart till the county mask mandate is lifted. Finally, join us for worship at 10:30 am on Sunday, October 10 at the Disciple Garden and for our Fall Festival immediately thereafter!

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### **St Luke’s Schedule**

#### **Sunday**

9:30 am Divine Liturgy  
10:30 am Food & Fellowship  
11:15 am Text of the Week Study  
5:00 pm St Luke’s Council — Oct 3

#### **Monday**

6:00 pm Table Talk: “Patient Ferment of the Early Church”

#### **Wednesday**

4:30 pm Jesus Time (starts Sep 8)  
6:00 pm Scripture Study: Revelation

#### **Thursday**

5:15 pm Bell Choir (starts Sep 16)  
6:00 pm Choir (delayed till mask mandate is gone)

### **🎂 Birthdays 🎂**

Immanuela Kammrath — 11 Sep  
Micah Dierks — 12 Sep  
Donna Payne — 20 Sep  
Samantha Timpe — 8 Oct  
Yeshua Kammrath — 9 Oct  
Judy May — 28 Oct  
Stanley Loftiss — 31 Oct

### **♥ Marriages ♥**

Jack & Deb Wagner  
28 Sep 1968 — 53 yrs  
Chuck & Cindy Ford  
1 Oct 1994 — 27 yrs  
Luke & Julie Kammrath  
5 Oct 2012 — 9 yrs



Check out our website and find access to great resources like the church calendar, sermons, newsletters, online-giving, updates on the Disciple Garden, and more!

[www.stlukeskck.org](http://www.stlukeskck.org)

<i>St. Luke's Lutheran Church</i>		<i>"Love the Creator &amp; His Creation Like Jesus"</i>				<i>September 2021</i>
<i>Sunday</i>	<i>Monday</i>	<i>Tuesday</i>	<i>Wednesday</i>	<i>Thursday</i>	<i>Friday</i>	<i>Saturday</i>
			1  Scripture Study: Revelation (6:00 pm)	2	3	4  Breakfast & Devotion (7:00-9:00 am)
5  <b>Pentecost XVI</b> <b>"Faith Without Works Is Dead"</b> <b>James 2:14--3:11</b>  Worship (9:30 am) Food & Fellowship (10:30 am) Jesus Time & Text Study (11:15 am)	6  Table Talk (6:00 pm): "Patient Ferment of the Early Church"	7	8  Jesus Time (4:30 pm)  Scripture Study: Revelation (6:00 pm)	9	10	11  Breakfast & Devotion (7:00-9:00 am)
12  <b>Pentecost XVII</b> <b>"Why Do You Fight?"</b> <b>James 3:12--4:12</b>  Worship (9:30 am) Food & Fellowship (10:30 am) Jesus Time & Text Study (11:15 am)	13	14	15  Jesus Time (4:30 pm)  Scripture Study: Revelation (6:00 pm)	16  Bells (5:15 pm)	17	18  Breakfast & Devotion (7:00-9:00 am)
19  <b>Pentecost XVIII</b> <b>"You Know Nothing"</b> <b>James 4:13--5:6</b>  Worship (9:30 am) Food & Fellowship (10:30 am) Jesus Time & Text Study (11:15 am)	20  Table Talk (6:00 pm): "Patient Ferment of the Early Church"	21	22  Jesus Time (4:30 pm)  Scripture Study: Revelation (6:00 pm)	23  Bells (5:15 pm)	24	25  Breakfast & Devotion (7:00-9:00 am)
26  <b>Pentecost XIX</b> <b>"Be Patient"</b> <b>James 5:7-20</b>  Worship (9:30 am) Food & Fellowship (10:30 am) Jesus Time & Text Study (11:15 am)	27  Table Talk (6:00 pm): "Patient Ferment of the Early Church"	28	29  Jesus Time (4:30 pm)  Scripture Study: Revelation (6:00 pm)	30  Bells (5:15 pm)		

<i>St. Luke's Lutheran Church</i>		<i>"Love the Creator &amp; His Creation Like Jesus"</i>				<i>October 2021</i>
<i>Sunday</i>	<i>Monday</i>	<i>Tuesday</i>	<i>Wednesday</i>	<i>Thursday</i>	<i>Friday</i>	<i>Saturday</i>
<b>3</b>  <b>Pentecost XX</b> <b>"Far Above All Rulers"</b> <b>Ephesians 1:1-23</b>  Worship (9:30 am) Food & Fellowship (10:30 am) Jesus Time & Text Study (11:15 am)	<b>4</b>    Table Talk (6:00 pm): "Patient Ferment of the Early Church"	<b>5</b>      	<b>6</b>    Jesus Time (4:30 pm)	<b>7</b>    Bells (5:15 pm) Choir (6:00 pm)	<b>8</b>      	<b>9</b>    Breakfast & Devotion (7:00-9:00 am)
<b>10</b>  <b>Pentecost XXI</b> <b>"We Are His Poetry"</b> <b>Ephesians 2:1-22</b>  <b>Worship (10:30 am @ DG)</b> <b>Fall Festival (11:30 am @ DG)</b>	<b>11</b>    Table Talk (6:00 pm): "Patient Ferment of the Early Church"	<b>12</b>      	<b>13</b>    Jesus Time (4:30 pm)  Scripture Study: Revelation (6:00 pm)	<b>14</b>    Bells (5:15 pm) Choir (6:00 pm)	<b>15</b>      	<b>16</b>    Breakfast & Devotion (7:00-9:00 am)
<b>17</b>  <b>Pentecost XXII</b> <b>"The Mystery"</b> <b>Ephesians 3:1-21</b>  Worship (9:30 am) Food & Fellowship (10:30 am) Jesus Time & Text Study (11:15 am)	<b>18</b>    Table Talk (6:00 pm): "Patient Ferment of the Early Church"	<b>19</b>      	<b>20</b>    Jesus Time (4:30 pm)  Scripture Study: Revelation (6:00 pm)	<b>21</b>    Bells (5:15 pm) Choir (6:00 pm)	<b>22</b>      	<b>23</b>    Breakfast & Devotion (7:00-9:00 am)
<b>24</b>  <b>Pentecost XXIII</b> <b>"One Body"</b> <b>Ephesians 4:1-16</b>  Worship (9:30 am) Food & Fellowship (10:30 am) Jesus Time & Text Study (11:15 am)	<b>25</b>    Table Talk (6:00 pm): "Patient Ferment of the Early Church"	<b>26</b>      	<b>27</b>    Jesus Time (4:30 pm)  Scripture Study: Revelation (6:00 pm)	<b>28</b>    Bells (5:15 pm) Choir (6:00 pm)	<b>29</b>      	<b>30</b>    Breakfast & Devotion (7:00-9:00 am)
<b>31</b>  <b>Reformation Festival</b> <b>"Be Imitators of God"</b> <b>Ephesians 4:17--5:20</b>  Worship (9:30 am) Food & Fellowship (10:30 am) Jesus Time & Text Study (11:15 am)						