



**ST. LUKE'S
METHODIST CHURCH**
A GLOBAL METHODIST CHURCH
DENTON, MD

THE VOICE

**APRIL & MAY 2026 •
THE SEASON OF EASTER**



Musings from Pastor Dan

THE RESURRECTION

(a.k.a. Easter)

Easter, or as I prefer to call it, Resurrection Sunday, really needs no description in one sense — it is the holiday (holiday literally means holy day) that celebrates and commemorates the central event of the Christian faith, the resurrection of Jesus Christ. Resurrection Sunday is the oldest Christian holiday and the most important day of the church year. All the Christian movable feasts and the entire liturgical year of worship are arranged around this day. It is the centerpiece of the Christian faith, according to the Apostle Paul, who says that if Jesus Christ has not been resurrected then the Christian faith is worthless and futile. Without Jesus' resurrection, there is no Christianity.

Yet the name, Easter, has caused a disconnect with the past. The name does not have any Christian or Jewish meaning. It is a term whose derivation comes from the word Eastre, a Teutonic goddess of springtime and fertility. Exactly when the term Easter was popularized seems difficult to ascertain, but it is certainly not the original term. "Pasch" (or Pascha as the early church referred to the day) was the original name used to describe the day and season. This Greek word derives from the Hebrew term for Passover. This provides

the connection between the Exodus and the Resurrection affirming the continuity between Judaism and Christianity.

The first Christians were Jews. It was inevitable that they would see a natural albeit symbolic connection between the two events:

- The symbolic continuity between the slaughtered lamb of the Passover Seder and the crucified lamb of God.
- As Moses led the Israelites from bondage to Pharaoh, so Jesus provides the way out of bondage to sin and death.
- The crucifixion of Jesus took place during the Passover season.
- Until the rise of anti-Semitism, Christianity saw itself as the natural development and culmination of Judaism.

These among other reasons affirm that we are a continuation of and share in the Jewish faith and history. Christianity is not a drastic displacement of Judaism. While it seems highly unlikely that the name Easter will be replaced by Pasch, or even Resurrection Sunday, we should nonetheless have some background and understanding of our history and what we share of the Hebraic faith. Christianity is not a separate, distinct period of time apart from Israel in the Old Testament; it is a continuation of the covenants God made with Israel.

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Though the Bible does not require the church to celebrate Resurrection Sunday, the reasons we do are well known. Evidence of this celebration dates to 200 A.D. though scholars believe these celebrations were well established by 100 A.D. Certainly the early church would have marked and celebrated the greatest event in human history.

A couple of years ago I reintroduced the Paschal candle to the chancel area. Recall that Passover is celebrated in commemoration of the Exodus from Egypt. During Passover, an unblemished lamb was slaughtered, per God's instructions, and blood was smeared on the lintel and doorposts so the angel of death would pass over the Jewish homes. John the Baptist referred to Jesus as the Lamb of God. The Apostle Paul reflected upon this same symbolism: *"For Christ, our Passover lamb has been sacrificed"* (1 Cor. 5:7b)

The Apostle Peter referred to Jesus as a "lamb without blemish or defect" referring directly to the first Passover. The prophetic significance of Jesus' death was recorded by the Apostle John when he wrote, *"Not one of his bones will be broken,"* referring to the O.T. requirement in Exodus 12:46: *"It must*

be eaten inside the house; take none of the meat outside the house. Do not break any of the bones." The angels of the Lord worshipped Jesus saying: *"Worthy is the Lamb who was slain..."* The connection between the Passover and Jesus as the Paschal Lamb is substantive. The Paschal Candle has become symbolic of Christ's appearances following his resurrection. It is lit during the Easter season until the day of Pentecost and then only during the Sacrament of Baptism, and funeral services. The Paschal candle, like the altar, draws the worshipper into reflecting upon all that God has accomplished on our behalf and is fully inclusive of his work in both Testaments.

As we prepare to celebrate Resurrection Sunday, we pray that our risen Lord and Savior will continue to bless His church.

Peace.

Pastor Dan



Palm Sunday Worship March 29th at 10:00 am
(Children's Easter Egg Hunt is March 28th)

Maundy Thursday Worship April 2nd at 7:00 pm

Good Friday Cross Walk April 3rd at 12:00 pm

Good Friday Worship April 3rd at 7:00 pm

Easter Sunday Worship April 5th at 8:30 and 10:00 am

Our Shared Life as the Body of Christ

Cross Walk 2026

April 3rd
Good
FRIDAY



**Starts at 12pm • St. Luke's Methodist Church •
100 S. Fifth Ave**

Sponsored by the Caroline County Christian Clergy Association

St. Luke's Methodist Church



*Free clothing and household items
for those in need*

Donations of gently used clothing,
toys, and household goods accepted
April 19-23

*100 S. 5th Ave., Denton, MD
410-479-2171*

You are invited
to the

St. Luke's Methodist Church MEN'S BREAKFAST

**Saturday,
April 4th and May 2nd
at 8am**

Food, Faith, Friendship



**Quarterly Meeting
Tuesday, April 7th
at 6:30 pm**

5th May 31st
**SUNDAY
WORSHIP**

MAKING DISCIPLES



Sunday Programs

Nursery (infant & toddler)
Available during both services

Sunday School
Preschool through 5th Grade 9:45 am

MS & HS Youth Class 9:45 am

Adult Sunday Class 9:30 am



St. Luke's Methodist Church VBS 2026

July 20-23

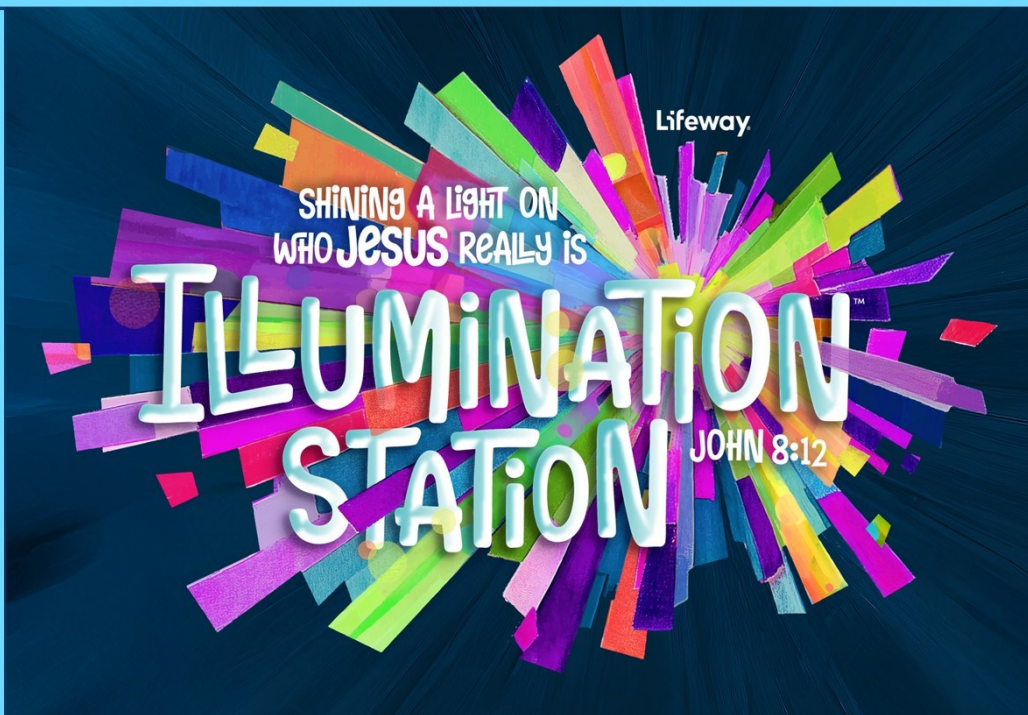
Family Dinner at 5pm

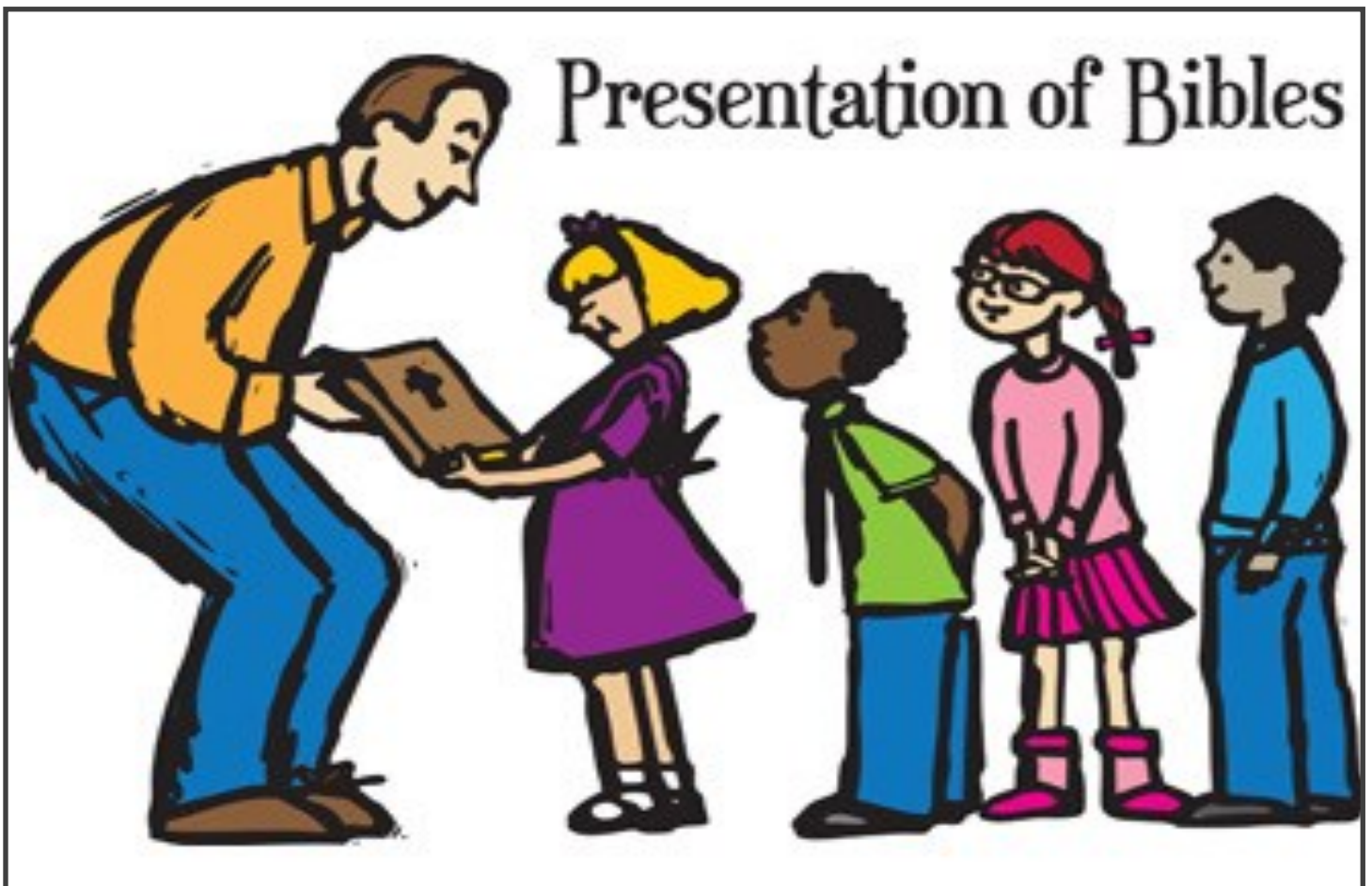
VBS 6-8pm

for

Grades K-5

Registration forms
available in Sunday School
and the office

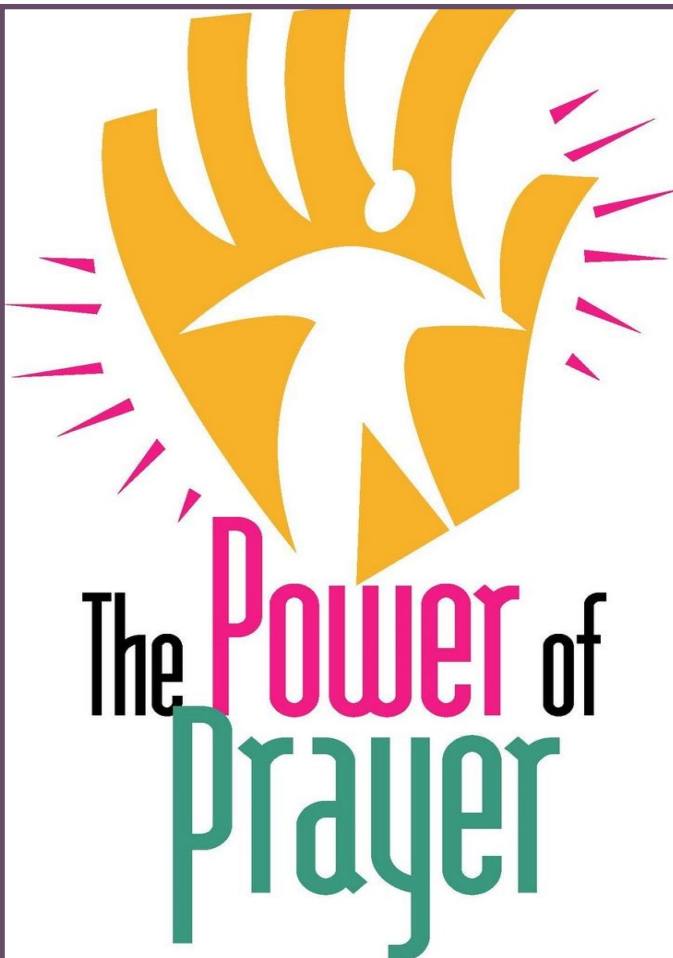




Sunday, April 12th, at 10:00 am

Confirmation

Sunday, Mo. Train Lit. April 19th, at 10 am



Father,
I stand before you in prayer today, not for myself but for anyone who needs you right now.

Father, whatever it is that someone is going through today, please help them and take away their burden.

If there's someone who is weak, I pray for strength for them. If there's someone who is sick, I pray for your divine healing for them.

If someone is lost, please be their guide.

If someone is anxious, please calm their mind. Please provide comfort to the brokenhearted and be their reminder that you are with them.

Help them to hold onto their faith in you. Fill their hearts with your peace and gladness in Jesus's name,

Amen

Prayer Concerns for April & May

Pray for those in our parish & community needing healing and comfort:

Jon Smith, Howard Muir, Chris Wright, Bob Bickling, Phyllis Frase, Bette Shull, Christina Thomas, Francis Blazejak, Betty Wheedleton, Darren Cohee, Tom & Betty Barwick, Randy Bowen, Wendy Bradley, Bill Hughes, Kathy, James & Wendy Miller, Cori Bennington, Randall Butler, Hilliard Gardner, Mary Hawkins, Rosemary Ayers, Glenn & Elaine Orme, Kurt Plinke, Mariah Farmer-Grace, Mitchell Griffith, John and Danielle Stewart, Robin, Dave & Jan Almquist, Carol & Lester, Courtney Harrison, Bryan & Addy Flaherty, Terry Benson, Jimmy Tolson, Kitty Patrick, Craig Little, Baby Charlie, Emily Parry, Suzanne Drury, Mary Grace Cheezum, Shawn Parks, Ryan Alexander, Evelyn, and Jason Lee.

Pray for those serving in the U.S. Military: Seth Gill, Gabe Griffith, Ethan Lister, Teagan Lister, Andrew Robbins, Jack Schroeder, Bryan Hatch, Brayden Boartes, and Cody Chambers.

To add names to any of our lists, we ask that you call (410-479-2171), [e-mail the church](#), or put a prayer card in the collection plate. Please be sure to include your name and telephone number so that we can contact you regarding the status of the person needing prayer; otherwise, the name will be removed after a few weeks.

The prayer team is continuing to remember many on our list who ask for prayer, but do not wish to be on the public list. Please know that we try to honor all requests and often call for updates. Also, **except for phone calls, please give information in writing, as there are too many changes to remember.**

Thank you for your care, concern, and prayer for our church family and beyond!

St. Luke's Methodist Church

Faith Based Camp Scholarship Program



St. Luke's Methodist Church has scholarships available for 50% of the cost of faith based summer camps (*max. \$500.00 per child*) for children or grandchildren who are participating in St. Luke's Church programs.

Please register your child(ren) for camp, provide documentation of your registration, include a copy of your receipt of deposit made for camp, and attach to this completed scholarship application. Return all documents to St. Luke's, 100 South Fifth Avenue, Denton, MD 21629 or deliver in person.

Parent/Grandparents Name: _____

Telephone: _____ (Cell/Home)

Email: _____

Name of Camp: _____

<u>Child(ren) Registered for Camp:</u>	<u>Session Date:</u>	<u>Cost:</u>
_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____

St. Luke's Sunday School Teacher Signature: _____ Sunday School Superintendent Signature: _____

(For Office Use)

Date Request Received: _____ **Pastor's Authorization:** _____ **Scholarship Awarded:** _____

COMING SOON



Online Member DIRECTORY



St. Luke's Methodist Church

Directory

Members

Families

Groups

Staff Members

Announcements

Profile

About Me

My Families

My Groups

Search Members...



Administrator .

stlukesdenton@gmail.com

Get ready...

In May, St. Luke's will launch an online directory! An email link will be sent to those in our member database (which includes new attendees and friends of the church) with directions to access the St. Luke's Directory. Each person will set up an account with the *Online Member Directory*, connect to the St. Luke's directory, and then complete information to set up their own profile. This directory can be accessed through the church website or using an app, and will also be available in printed form. For those who do not use email or feel comfortable creating their own profile, a team of volunteers will be ready to assist. **More to come in April...**

Mother's Day Begonias 2026



Dedicate beautiful begonias to beautify the Sanctuary and Fellowship Hall for **MOTHER'S DAY, on Sunday, May 11th!**

The cost for a 6" pot is \$7.00, there are (2) plants per pot, and we will order a variety of colors so you can pick which color you want when you take your plant(s) home.

Please make your check payable to **St. Luke's Women of Faith** and place your order in the offering plate or mail it to: St. Luke's Methodist Church, 100 S. Fifth Ave., Denton, MD 21629. The order deadline is **Monday, April 25th** [↙](#)

Your Name: _____

Phone _____

Total number of plants: _____

In Honor of _____

Given by _____

In Honor of _____

Given by _____

Given in Memory of _____

Given by _____

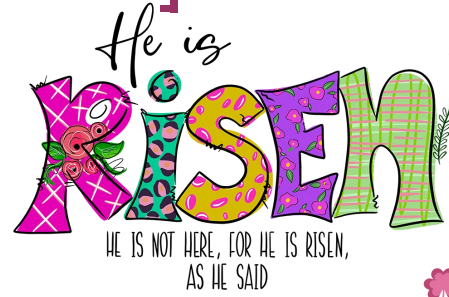
Given in Memory of _____



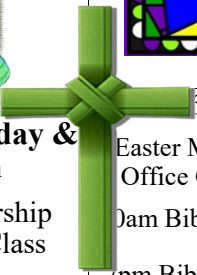

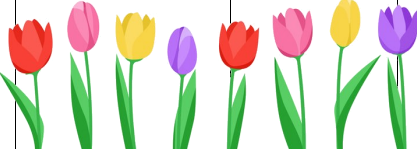
Given by _____

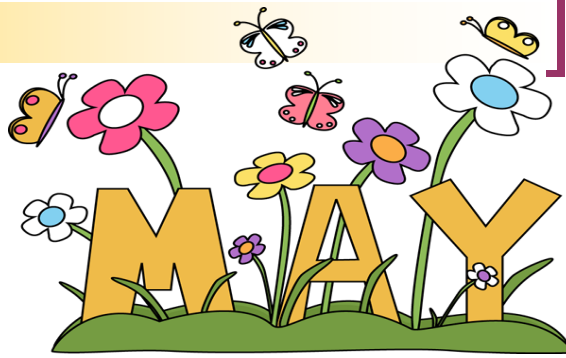
I will pick up my plant(s) after 8:30 am worship on Mother's Day _____.





I will pick up my plant(s) after 10:00 am worship on Mother's Day _____.

You may give to someone on our Shepherd's List or in nursing care _____.



Sun	Mon	Tues	Wed	Thur	Fri	Sat
			1 10am Cards of Comfort 7pm Praise Band Practice	2 10am OMG Group 7pm Holy Thursday Worship & Communion	3 12pm Cross Walk 7pm Good Friday Tenebrae Worship	4 8am Men's Breakfast
5 Resurrection Sunday & Communion 8:30 Traditional Worship 9:30 Adult Sunday Class 9:45 Sunday School 10:00 Ignite Worship	 5 Easter Monday Office Closed 9am Bible Study 7pm Bible Study	7 6:30pm WOF Quarterly Meeting	8 7pm Praise Band Practice	9 10am OMG Group	10	11 9am Emmaus Prayer and Fellowship
12 3rd Grade Bibles 8:30 Traditional Worship 9:30 Adult Sunday Class 9:45 Sunday School 10:00 Ignite Worship	13 9:30 am Bible Study 7pm Bible Study	14	15 7pm Praise Band Practice	16 10am OMG Group 7:30pm Church Council	 17 18	
19 Confirmation 8:30 Traditional Worship 9:30 Adult Sunday Class 9:45 Sunday School 10:00 Ignite Worship	20 10am Bible Study 7pm Bible Study	21	22 7pm Praise Band Practice	23	24 10am—5pm Pick-up Subs from Women of Faith	25 9am Share Shop
26 REACH Sunday 8:30 Traditional Worship 9:30 Adult Sunday Class 9:45 Sunday School 10:00 Ignite Worship	27 	28	29 7pm Praise Band Practice	30	May 1	2 8am Men's Breakfast



	Mon	Tues	Wed	Thur	Fri	Sat
					1	2 8am Men's Breakfast
3 Communion 8:30 Traditional Worship 9:30 Adult Sunday Class 9:45 Sunday School 10:00 Ignite Worship	4 10am Bible Study 7pm Bible	5	6 10am Cards of Comfort 7pm Praise Band Practice	7 10 am OMG Group 6:30 pm National Day of Prayer	8	9 9 am Emmaus Fellowship
10 Mother's Day 8:30 Traditional Worship 9:30 Adult Sunday Class 9:45 Sunday School 10:00 Ignite Worship	11 10am Bible Study 7pm Bible Study	12	13 7pm Praise Band Practice	14 10am OMG Group	15 	
17 8:30 Traditional Worship 9:30 Adult Sunday Class 9:45 Sunday School 10:00 Ignite Worship	18 10am Bible Study 7pm Bible Study	19	20 7pm Praise Band Practice	21 10am OMG Group 7:30pm Church Council	22	23
24 8:30 Traditional Worship 9:30 Adult Sunday Class 9:45 Sunday School 10:00 Ignite Worship	25 10am Bible Study 7pm Bible Study	26 	27 7pm Praise Band Practice	28	29 	30
31 Fifth Sunday Worship Fellowship Hall 9:45 Sunday School 10:00 Worship						

CHURCH COUNCIL MEETING

March 19th, 2026

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Property and Investment Management (Barbara Little and Chuck Deans, Chairs)

- Mini-splits being installed this month in 2 classrooms.

Mission and Ministry (No Chair/No Meeting)

Fund Management (Bob Willey, Treasurer)

- Went over the Monthly Financial Report (as of February 28th)
- Our first two bills from Delmarva Power were high (Total of \$7K is 40% of what has been budgeted for the year)
- Delmarva also charged a deposit at the end of 2025 of \$2,000, which we will try to get back at the end of this year.
- The 2026 budget will need a number of adjustments:
 - Staffing cost adjustment for hiring a Maintenance Manager (increases staffing budget) and no longer contracting with a cleaning service (decreases building & grounds expenses).
 - Cost of accounting (Quick Books program continues to increase in cost).

Staff Parish Relations (Laura Patrick, Chair)

- No cost CPR Class is scheduled April 11th (Contact Laura Patrick if you would like to join). Thank you Renee Barringer for teaching the class!

New Business:

- Church Council members are piloting a new online directory (which can be printed as well) and will discuss their experience at the next meeting.
- Barbara Little asked if we had information yet about the increase in cost for insurance if we start a school. PD - We are meeting next week with an insurance rep to go over specifics in order to get that quote.
- Barbara Little advised the council that a new Memo of Understanding was signed between the church and the county for the use of the church parking lots. The county must request permission for use 30 days ahead of time.
- Laura Patrick and Barbara Little plan to clean out the first floor storage room in April and hope to get a few more volunteers to help.

From Pastor Dan:

- Updates to the whole church from School and Safety committee meetings will go out after Easter.

St. Luke's Methodist Church

A Global Methodist Church

100 S. 5th Avenue
Denton, Maryland 21629



Office Phone: 410-479-2171
Email: stlukesdenton@gmail.com

To:

THE VOICE

St. Luke's Methodist Church

April & May 2026

St. Luke's Staff

Rev. Daniel Gedman– Pastor

Director Traditional Music: David Cherry
Director of Ignite Praise Band: Alicia Weippert
Administrative Assistant: Carrie Soldano
Director of Youth Ministries: Garrett Shull
Maintenance Manager: Bruce Golt
Nursery Coordinator: Alex Penn

Visit St. Luke's Online at www.stlukesdenton.org

or visit us on Facebook [www.facebook.com/
Stlukesmethodist/](http://www.facebook.com/Stlukesmethodist/)

YouTube Channel [www.youtube.com/channel/
UCGrQ5QHraky3SnEIDD8zY9A](http://www.youtube.com/channel/UCGrQ5QHraky3SnEIDD8zY9A)

Jesus Is Lord!

