2026 Ankeny Summer Lunch Program for Children

Love Lunches is a summer lunch program for children and their families that is solely supported by church donations and not affiliated with the school district.

Ankeny has two lunch sites:

- The East Side is supported by Prairie Ridge, Lutheran Church of Hope, Ankeny United Church of Christ, and Ankeny Presbyterian Church with lunches being served at Ankeny Presbyterian Church.
- **The West Side site is at Sunset Park** located at 1320 SW 3rd Street. **St. Luke's** partners with Our Lady Immaculate Heart, Holy Trinity Lutheran, Ankeny Christian, and Ankeny First United Methodist to support the West Side location. In 2025, On average, 100 lunches were served at Sunset Park each day in 2025.

This summer the Love Lunch Program at **Sunset Park** will run from **June 1-August 21, Monday through Friday**.

If you are interested in helping with this program you can do so by:

- **Signing up to physically serve:** https://bit.ly/LoveLunch26
  - Prepare the food at **Ankeny First United Methodist Church** (AFUMC) at 206 SW Walnut Street, Ankeny
  - Transport lunches and/or equipment between AFUMC and Sunset Park
  - Serve the food at Sunset Park.

  Volunteer descriptions and hours are available on the SignUp Genius page. Helpers are welcome any day of the summer, regardless of church affiliation. **St. Luke's** is specifically responsible for leading **June 22-June 26** and **June 29-July 3. Teens can volunteer**, and this is a great way to earn hours for Silver Cord, Confirmation, and/or Scouts.
- **Donating nonperishable items** such as individually wrapped/or packaged: teddy grahams, gold fish crackers, animal crackers, granola bars, fruit cups, and applesauce cups. Bring donations to the parish office during our summer hours.
- **Donating grocery gift cards** to Costco, Sam's Club, Fareway, Aldi's or Hy-Vee. Bring donations to the parish office during our summer hours.

Helping with Love Lunches is a great way to meet other Christians and respond to a widespread need in our community.

For additional information, St. Luke's members may contact **Doris Larkins** at mailto:phillarkins@yahoo.com.

