



# Saint Luke Lutheran Church

1807 Field Avenue, Saint Paul, MN 55116 | 651-698-9443 | saintlukechurch.org

## April 2024 Newsletter



### *The Pastor's Perspective*

### *Pr. Bristol Reading*

#### Sharing Lenten Art Cards

Thank you to everyone who participated in the Lenten art cards over the past months. They were just beautiful this year! So many different ways to reflect on the cross.

My friend Jen from Boston asked me if I could suggest any spiritual practices for Lent, so I invited her to join our congregation in making art cards each week. She loved the idea, and she was thrilled to participate from afar. I sent her photos of our table full of art cards each week, so she could see what you all were making. And then she sent me photos of her own art cards to share with all of you. Jen told me this was the most enriching Lenten practice she'd ever done. Our ministry together stretches further than you know!



A special thank you also to everyone who helped make Holy Week worship possible. It takes many hands, voices, and imaginations to celebrate such rich worship together.

#### Easter Season: A Week of Weeks

Now that Lent has come to a close, we move on to the season at the

### *April Worship Volunteers*

Thanks for your participation!

#### IN PERSON USHERS

##### First and Second Sundays:

Volker Landenberger

##### Third and Fourth Sundays:

Mike and Nancy Hegdahl

#### ONLINE USHERS

1st Sunday: David Tews

2nd Sunday: Sue McNeill

3rd Sunday: Raulie Ruiz

4th Sunday: David NedreLOW

#### OFFERING COUNTERS

7 Katy Eggert

14 Carol Hornung

21 Wendy Bjorklund

28 Joyce Bluel

#### READERS

7 Emily Elfritz

14 Kay Reich

21 Wendy Bjorklund

28 Christine Olson

#### COMMUNION ASSISTANTS

7 Emily Elfritz

14 Kay Reich

21 Wendy Bjorklund

28 Christine Olson

#### ALTAR GUILD

Julie Gaarder

very heart of our faith, Easter, when we celebrate Christ's resurrection and its promise that sin and death have been conquered and eternal life is open to us all. Thanks be to God!

The Easter season stretches seven Sundays after Easter Sunday. So, liturgically it is like a "week of weeks," seven sets of seven days. Its completeness echoes the seven days of creation. Easter is like a new creation, during which God re-makes us through the waters of baptism and the abundance of grace.

During the Sundays of the Easter season, our first readings will come from the book of Acts, as we hear stories of the early church picking up the ministry of Jesus and carrying it on after his ascension. Our second readings will come from the First John, a book that shares many themes with the Gospel of John and focuses on God's love for us and our call to love one another. And our Gospel readings will mostly come from John. We'll begin with some of the appearances of the risen Jesus to the disciples, and later in the season we move into some of the "I am" statements Jesus makes in John ("I am the good shepherd," for example).

Throughout these scripture readings, listen for themes of belonging and connection. God is with us, and we are with one another. Notice how many images there are of "many:" a flock of sheep, a bunch of grapes, a crowd of people. Each of us is a one, a beloved child of God, within the many, the family of all the faithful saints of all times and places. We belong together.

We pray: O God of unchangeable power and eternal light, look favorably on your whole Church, that wonderful and sacred mystery; by the effectual working of your providence, carry out in tranquility the plan of salvation; let the whole world see and know that things which were cast down are being raised up, and things which had grown old are being made new, and that all things are being brought to their perfection by him through whom all things were made, your Son Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

(Prayer from the *American Book of Common Prayer*)



For Christians, the centerpiece of the church calendar is Holy Week, culminating on Easter Sunday, when we celebrate the resurrection of Jesus. I offer my appreciation for the many people whose time, effort, and talents make this such a memorable and



### ***Bun Run***

Many thanks to our Bun Run volunteers for April: Julie Ellingson, Mike and Nancy Hegdahl, Volker Landenberger, Ken McGrew.

### ***April Birthdays***

- 1 Joan Holtz
- 2 Beth Peterson
- 3 Barb Jensen
- 5 David Elliott
- 6 Tom Gaarder
- 7 Michael Arndt
- 21 Tracy Arndt
- 23 Juniper Ulrich

### ***April Anniversaries***

- 5 Volker & Jodi Landenberger
- 8 David & Nahoko Person
- 11 David Elliott & Susan Lorenz
- 24 Raul & Becca Ruiz



***All are invited to Game Day at St. Luke,*** the first and third Fridays of the month, April 5 and 19, at 12:30pm. Bring a snack to share and your favorite game and settle down to an afternoon of fun...join us!

### ***Supper with Saints***

We are going back to evenings in April. The next supper with St. Mark and St. Luke members is Thursday, April 25th at 5:30 pm at Quinny's Sports Pub & Grill, 3140 Century Ave. N., Mahtomedi. If you are planning on attending, please let Joyce Bluel know by April 21st, so we have the correct number for the reservation.

moving season, starting with Pastor Bristol and Becca, but also the altar guild, the many generous people who purchased flowers for the altar area, the choirs, the ushers, and the readers. Thank you all!

During March, we collected food to benefit the Francis Basket Food Market at Sibley Manor (operated by Neighborhood House). Food donations will be accepted at church until Sunday, April 7 (drop them in the shopping cart at church), but you can also donate cash through the end of April, either online or in the donation jar on Sundays. As always, the people at St. Luke have shown their generosity.

We are grieving the loss of Dianne Diestler, who with her husband Roger was such an important part of the St. Luke community for many years. Dianne was fun to talk to and spend time with. We'll miss her and offer our love and support to Roger in his loss. A memorial for Dianne is scheduled for Saturday, May 11.

Mark your calendars for the return of the St. Luke Talent Show on Saturday, April 20, starting at 5 p.m. Last year's talent show was great fun. I was impressed by the diverse talents of our members. Becca Ruiz is coordinating the talent show and Jodi Landenberger is coordinating the snacks and beverages.

The following Saturday, April 27 there will be St. Luke's Spring-cleaning day. We'll try to catch up on some of the deep cleaning that needs to be done. Join us if you can. We'll be starting about 9 a.m.

And finally, a shout-out to some of the new faces I've been seeing at church on Sunday mornings. Peter and Megan (and their adorable kids) and Cristina. It's been a joy to meet you. I apologize to any other new people I haven't met yet.

God's blessing to everyone at St. Luke!

Yours in Christ, David Tews



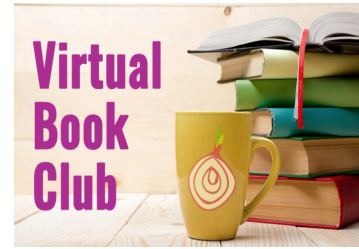
### ***Talent Show!***

After a great success last year, we're bringing the St. Luke Talent Show back again! **Join us on Saturday, April 20th at 5:00 pm for food, fun and entertainment!**

And there are many ways to participate:

- Sign up to share your talent!
- Bring an appetizer or dish to share!
- Volunteer in the kitchen!
- Attend the Talent Show and cheer everyone on!

Sign-up sheets are in the Social Hall or talk to Becca or Jodi after church!



**Join us for St. Luke Book Club, Sunday April 7, 6:30pm, via Zoom, to discuss "The Measure", by Nikki Erlick.** "The Measure is equal parts charming and thought-provoking. It takes a philosophical question—what if everybody on earth knew exactly how long they had left to live?—and explores, with compassion and pragmatism, how the implications would trickle down into every area of modern life, from politics to intimacy." — *Marie Claire*. The Zoom invite will be emailed to you shortly before the meeting. All are welcome!



### ***Notes from the Music Director***

Thank you to everyone who contributed their talents during the Lent and Easter services! Your songs made the services so beautiful!

During Lent, we experienced the Psalm in a new way by hearing and singing a different refrain each week. During Easter we're going to alternate singing hymns reflecting the Psalm and speaking it each week. After spending Lent singing "There In God's Garden" and watching Pastor and the kiddos build the tree, I hope you'll hear how life and nature continue to build in our music during the Easter season!





***Spring Bedding Plant Fundraiser from Gertens*** Just a reminder that if you ordered plants from the online store for the fundraiser, your plants will be available for pickup between 5:00 and 6:30 pm on Tuesday, May 14th in the Social Hall. If you are unable to pick them up at that time, please contact Joyce Bluel to arrange a different pick up time. Thank you for your orders, the funds raised from this sale will be used to support the St. Luke Farmer's Market.

**Announcing another Craft and Chat!** Do you crochet, knit, sew, embroider, scrapbook, or create in some other way? Craft and Chat is for you! Pack up your current project and bring it over to work on after worship on Sunday, April 21 (around 11am). There are no group projects or rules about what you may work on; just a time for people to share, show off, and perhaps learn new skills from fellow crafters. This may be the motivation you need to finally finish that afghan you've been working on (or the like)! Lunch will be served...all are welcome...invite a friend or two! Join us for a relaxing, enjoyable afternoon with friends!



***Connect,  
Grow and  
Serve.***

*Here is a Lenten tree that Pr. Bristol and the Faith Formation kids developed as part of their Lenten enrichment.*