



# Saint Luke Lutheran Church

1807 Field Avenue, Saint Paul, MN 55116 | 651-698-9443 | [saintlukechurch.org](http://saintlukechurch.org)

## October 2022 Newsletter



### *The Pastor's Perspective*

#### A Journey of Generosity

I was baptized at 7.5 months old in the midwestern Lutheran church where my parents were members. I didn't move my membership from that church until I was in my late twenties, when I joined a Lutheran church outside Boston. When I formalized my membership, the pastor put an intent card in front of me and said, "We're so happy you're part of this congregation! An important aspect of membership is thinking about how you can financially support the church. You can commit to giving \$1 a year or \$1,000, but you need to make a commitment." That was the first time I'd ever heard that giving was part of church membership. I took the card home, thought and prayed about what I could give, and made my first pledge.

I was a member at that church for years, all through my time in candidacy and seminary. The amount I could give each year went up and down over that time, but I remembered my pastor telling me that it was the commitment that was important because it was part of being church together. The next congregation I joined as a member was St. Luke, when I became your pastor. Michael and I signed up to give online through automatic monthly contributions. This made it easier for us to give consistently over time. In October, we will make our 2023 financial commitment alongside all of you, our family of faith. We'll be invited along with all of you to grow in our giving. It's not about reaching a particular goal amount but about continuing on the journey of generosity.

Giving is part of membership, it's true. (It's actually in our constitution as a Lutheran congregation!) It's also part of faith. It's an act of thanksgiving to God for all we have been blessed with. It's an act of service for our community and our neighbors. It's even an act of spiritual selfcare because giving is source of joy! When we share what we have, we can be part of something bigger than ourselves that brings God's love to the world.

### *October Ushers*

#### **In Person:**

First and Second Sundays:

Volker Landenberger

Third and Fourth Sundays:

Mike Hegdahl

#### **Online:**

1st Sunday: David Tews

2nd Sunday: Sue McNeill

3rd Sunday: Raulie Ruiz

4th Sunday: David NedreLOW



### *Loaves and Fishes*

Our heartfelt thanks to our September Loaves and Fishes volunteers: Christine Olson, Bev Gause, Claudia Melbye, David Tews and Larry Litzkow.

### *October Bun Run*



Many thanks to our Bun Run volunteers for October: Doug Klein, Larry and Junella Litzkow, Julie Ellingson, Mike Hegdahl and Volker Landenberger.

You'll receive your intent card in the mail later this month. Please do spend some time reflecting on your giving and praying about your commitment for 2023. Ask God what the next step on your journey of generosity? And no matter what amount you're able to give, we hope you'll make that commitment because all contributions make a difference. And, did you know, that systematic, intentional giving enables us to be more generous? Research has shown that when people make an intent to give, they give more. So even making the commitment to return your card could mean you're growing in generosity. We'll collect intent cards on Sunday, October 23. Let's celebrate the future of ministry at St. Luke! Thank you for your generosity!

Pr. Bristol



Greetings,

Here it is fall; time has flown by so fast. All the students are back in school, the leaves are changing colors, the Farmers Market will be ending soon. My hope is that everyone had a very happy and healthy summer and spent as much time outdoors as possible.

A few updates from the Council:

- We counted the jug at the end of August; we raised \$608. \$304. was donated to the Neighborhood House Food Support and \$304. was put in our general fund. Thank you, everyone, for your support.
- October starts our Generosity Campaign: watch for a Time and Talent Fair, an Intent Sunday and some words from a few of our congregational members.
- November 6 is our annual meeting; if you are interested in serving on the church council please be sure to let me or any council member know of your interest.

Thank you,  
Nancy Hegdahl

## ***All Saints Day***

Sunday, Nov. 6 is our annual All Saints Day worship service at St. Luke. We will be honoring those who have passed away since our last ASD service. During this service we observe a Rite of Remembrance, in which we read the names of the deceased one by one, and as each name is read, a family member or friend of the deceased may come forward to light a candle to honor their loved one. (If no one comes forward, the Pastor lights the candle.) We invite you to participate in this special service. If you

## ***October Counters***

2 Katy Eggert  
9 Kay Reich  
16 Julie Gaarder  
23 Wendy Bjorklund  
30 Sue McNeill  
Thank you for stepping up!

## ***October Birthdays***

5 Laurie Smith  
7 Alek Landenberger  
9 Mike Hegdahl  
10 Ava Herrmann  
12 Amy Drier  
17 Wanda Mathison  
21 Jack Holtz  
22 Bev Eckstrom  
24 Zachary Moore

## ***October Anniversaries***

4 Jen & Al Fredrickson: 2008  
7 Kent & Beth Peterson: 1989  
10 Mike & Nancy Hegdahl: 1992  
21 Janell & Mike Walter: 2006  
24 Doug & Jo Klein: 1981

## ***October Worship Assistants***

### **Readers**

2 Mike Hegdahl  
9 Julie Ellingson  
16 Wendy Bjorklund  
23 Kay Reich  
30 Emily Elfritz

### **Communion Assistants**

2 Doug Klein  
16 Wendy Bjorklund  
30 Emily Elfritz



***All are invited to Game Day at St. Luke***, the first and third Fridays of the month, October 7 and 21, at 12:30pm. Bring a snack to share and your favorite game and settle down to an afternoon of fun...join us!

have a family member or friend that you wish to honor on All Saints Day, please contact Administrator Jo Klein at [jojoklein@gmail.com](mailto:jojoklein@gmail.com) so that she may add the name of your loved one to the list.

## ***St Paul Grief Group***

**Fourth Tuesdays of each month, 7:00 p.m. at Gloria Dei Lutheran Church, 700 Snelling Avenue South, St. Paul.**

*"God heals the broken-hearted, and binds up their wounds."* Psalm 147:3. Gloria Dei is hosting a gathering of anyone who is grieving a spouse, a parent, a child, or another loved one. Anyone who is experiencing a loss is welcome, whether you're a member of Gloria Dei or neighboring congregation, or are from the wider community. We'll begin with a speaker or topic for the first 30 minutes, then break into small groups to share stories and connect with others who are grieving alongside us. Our first meeting will be October 25, 7:00 p.m. For more information, contact Danica Goshert ([goshertd@yahoo.com](mailto:goshertd@yahoo.com)).

## ***Some ideas for growing your giving:***

- **If your income has gone down in the last year**, due to loss of work or other reasons, perhaps you can consider raising the *percentage* of your giving, even if that means the total dollar amount of your giving is less than it was in the past.
- **Think of your giving in increments** that you could give on a regular basis. Growing giving by \$1 per day equates to significant growth over the course of the year.
- **Give an extra gift or two during the year.** Maybe one or two months out of the year you could double your usual contribution.
- **If you are 70.5 or older**, you are able to give directly from a traditional IRA/401k to the church and have that distribution qualify as your Required Distribution.

## ***Christmas will be here sooner than you think!***

After discussing how St. Luke members donate gift items during the Christmas season, the council has decided to look at ways to do that more locally. Consequently, we will not be participating in Operation Christmas Child sponsored by Samaritan's Purse this year. So, what will we do? We're in the process of determining that. Look for information in our weekly Sunday bulletins and the November newsletter for more details that will appear soon! If you have any questions, please contact Wendy Bjorklund.



It was a beautiful day for the Blessing of the Animals at St. Luke on September 25!

*"In His hand is the life of every creature."*  
Job 12:10



## ***St. Luke/St. Mark Ladies Night Out***

is held on the 4th Thursday of the month. The next outing will be October 27th at 5:30 pm at Joseph's Grill, 140 Wabasha St., St. Paul. Please call Joyce Bluel at 651-690-4614 by October 23rd if interested in attending so a reservation can be made.



## ***Join us for Book Club***

on Sunday, Nov. 6, 6:30pm via Zoom to discuss "Braiding Sweetgrass" by Robin Wall Kimmerer. Drawing on her life as an indigenous scientist, and as a woman, Kimmerer shows how plants and animals offer us gifts and lessons, even if we've forgotten how to hear their voices. "With deep compassion and graceful prose, Robin Wall Kimmerer encourages readers to consider the ways that our lives and language weave through the natural world."—*Publishers Weekly*. The Zoom invite will be emailed to you shortly before the meeting. All are welcome!

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