



St. Luke Lutheran Church
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St. Luke Lutheran Church

Connect, Grow and Serve.

Parish Times September 2019



The Pastor's Perspective...

Saying Goodbye . . . Saying Hello | Pr. John Keller

As I write my final newsletter article, I am fully aware that this is a bittersweet moment.

On the one hand I celebrate the task that we accomplished together, starting a shared pastoral ministry between St. Luke and St. Mark. It was not always clear that both congregations would receive and embrace this new form of pastoral ministry. We have, and the call of Pastor Emily is evidence of the shared work and the shared trust in the Holy Spirit. This is one of my personal joys of interim ministry: to have a specific task and to accomplish it. This is often rare in settled pastoral ministry: each completed task is normally followed immediately by another task or project. The conveyor belt of ministry rarely stops for a pastor.

But on the other hand, I have started a caring pastoral relationship with many of you and those will now end. I am saddened by that. Though I will continue to pray for your shared ministry and rejoice in your welcome of Pastor Emily, I will step away from the pastoral role that I have served for the past fourteen months. This is part of the interim ministry. It is also part of the rhythm of life.

St. Paul write in Romans 15:12, *Rejoice with those who rejoice, weep with those who weep.* We mutually care for each other by embracing each other's pain as well as joy. Though I doubt that I will be "weeping" as I leave St. Mark and St. Luke, I will be feeling sorrow. At the same time, I will also rejoice with you as a new pastoral ministry begins. God has given us these often conflicting emotions as a gift to strengthen our bonds with God and each other. I will be taking time to acknowledge both emotions and encourage you to allow whatever emotions you have to be present for a time. Don't push them away, but simply feel them for a time and then let them go.

The one eternal constant is the steadfast love of God for us, who embraces us in our sorrow and our joy. *Rejoice in the Lord always, again I say Rejoice,* Philippians 4:4

Peace and Joy
Pastor John Keller (Interim)



Music Notes

It is the beginning of choir season! Rehearsals start after Rally Day (Sept. 8) for vocal and bell choir. Vocal Choir meets Wednesdays at 7pm; Bell Choir meets Sundays at 10am. Everyone is welcome to join - no prior experience is needed for playing bells or singing in a choir. If you've been interested but aren't quite sure, come sit in on a rehearsal! Or you can talk to me after church or via email: bunkamade@gmail.com. I'm happy to answer any questions you may have! I look forward to fun year of music!
--Becca Ruiz

St. Luke Rally Sunday will be held on Sunday September 8th. We will begin with worship and Teacher Installation. Then the students will empty and count the coin jar. Meanwhile we will take part in a Blizzard Bag service project. Finally, we will finish it off with a potluck lunch; a joyous time of fellowship and fabulous food! (Please bring a dish to pass.) Please join us for this time-honored tradition!



September Birthdays

- 3 Victor Landenberger
- 6 Audrey Rongstad
- 9 Ken McGrew
- 10 Aiden Johnson
- 11 Jane McGrew
- 12 Mike Walter
- 15 Sandy Grzywinski
- 17 Connor Burchill Riley
Corinn Burchill Riley
- 22 Carol Vigdal
- 25 Nahoko Person
- 26 Verdel Humburg
- 29 Jordan Brandt
Eric Ellingson

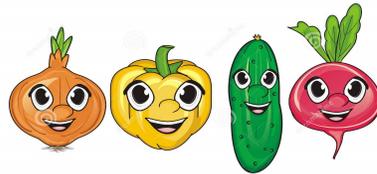


September Anniversaries

- 19 Amy Drier and Gary Nelson, 2015

Our heartfelt thanks to the Farmers' Market volunteers for September:

- 9/7 Sue McNeill, Nancy Redlin
- 9/14 Sue McNeill, Tracy Arndt
- 9/21 Ken McGrew, Beth and Olivia Peterson
- 9/28 Susan Lorenz, Joyce Bluel



A big thank you to our September Bun Run volunteers: David Tews, Ken McGrew, Doug and Jo Klein, Larry Litzkow.

September WORSHIP ASSISTANTS

Readers

- 1 Kay Reich
- 8 Christine Olson
- 15 Jeff Kingsley
- 22 Julie Ellingson
- 29 Jen Fredrickson

Communion

- 1 Katy Eggert
- 15 Jeff Kingsley



Note change in time and date: **St. Luke/St. Mark Ladies Night Out** in September will take place on the **fourth** Tuesday of the month, September 24th at House of Wong, 1153 W. Larpenteur Ave. in Roseville at 5:30 pm. If you are interested in carpooling, please meet at church at 5:00 pm. Please notify Joyce Bluel (651-690-4614) by Sunday, September 22 if you are planning on attending so we have an idea of how many for the reservation. All are welcome to join any time.



September Acolytes

- 1 Evan Nelson
- 15 Ave Herrmann



LOAVES AND FISHES

87 hungry men, women and children were served a summer picnic dinner on July 22nd at the Loaves and Fishes program at St. Matthew's Church. Workers from St. Luke were Christine Olson, Larry Litzkow, Pastor Keller and Joyce Bluel.



Usher Notes

Many thanks to our ushers for September: Jill Burchill, Doug Nelson, David NedreLOW, Mary Jo Brandt, Carol Vigdal, Pam Ballis and Katy Eggert.

OUT OF THE DARKNESS

Out of the Darkness Walk for Suicide Prevention and Awareness

On Sunday, September 15 several of us from St. Luke will join hundreds of other people in walking for suicide prevention and awareness during the Out of Darkness Walk, which is held at Como Lake Pavilion. We park and meet at the State Fair Grounds (1660 Como Ave.) at 9am and bus to the pavilion together. The Walk begins at 10:30am, but there are activities beforehand and you can register on site (it's free). Thanks to your generosity, we raised \$294.00 through the Easter Breakfast for this cause. If you wish to donate further or did not get a chance to make a donation this last Easter, you may give a check to St. Luke with "Out of the Darkness" written on the memo line. Or, if you plan on walking you can pre-register at www.afsp.donordrive.com (it's free) and also donate there. We have a "group" under St. Luke Lutheran. Please sign up at the kiosk if you plan on participating in the Walk so we know to wait for you at the parking lot! We walk and donate to the Walk in honor and remembrance of our very own Teagan, who we continue to miss so much. Thanks for your support!



We are pleased to announce that during the special congregational meeting held on July 31st, both St. Luke and St. Mark members voted unanimously to call Pr. Emily Rova-Hegener to be our shared minister. Pr. Emily has accepted this call; her first Sunday with us will be September 1. Her formal Installation will take place at a shared service on Oct. 13 at 9:30am at St. Mark; details to follow.

Pr. Emily graduated from Luther Seminary in 1999 and was ordained in 2001. She was called as an Associate Pastor to St. Andrew's Lutheran Church in Grand Rapids in 2001; to the Silverdale Lutheran Church in Silverdale, WA as an Associate Pastor in 2003 and then to the United in Christ Lutheran Church in Eveleth, MN as a Co-Pastor from 2006 - 2015.

These past 4 years, Pr. Emily has been teaching at the Oslo International School while her husband, Pastor Joel Rova-Hegener served out his call to the American Lutheran Church in Oslo, Norway. Pastors Emily and Joel have two sons; Nestor age 15 and Johan age 13.

While in Norway, Pr. Emily kept her preaching skills sharp by preaching sermons for the ALC, as well as leading retreats and participating in weekly fellowship opportunities afforded by the Norwegian church in outreach to refugees and immigrants. She served on the board of the Association of International Congregations in Europe and the Middle East as vice president and president. In those roles she was able to pursue her passion regarding connecting through conversation with our global brothers and sisters and raise awareness of how we can share the Gospel in a world which is less about religion and faith and becoming more and more secular.

Pr. Emily is a Minnesota native and still has deep family ties located throughout the state of Minnesota. She is an outdoor enthusiast and is looking forward to settling in St Paul and accessing the wonderful parks and trails St. Paul has to offer. She is excited to work with St. Luke and St. Mark as we continue our friendship and deepen our shared ministry experiences. She is looking forward to meeting each and every member of both congregations.

Please take time to thank the members of our Call Committee for their diligent, prayerful work. Also, we thank all of you for your patience, faith in the process, and prayers. This is an important next step for both congregations. We will take many more steps together, so please continue to pray for the future of these congregations and for Pr. Emily.



Fall Bazaar Update

Joyce Bluel & Judy Salaba, Committee Co-Chairs

Just a reminder, the Fall Bazaar is just around the corner; mark your calendars for Saturday, October 26th.

Bring all of those gently used or unneeded items you cleaned out this summer to the Rummage Sale. We will **NOT** be accepting clothing, furniture, exercise equipment, appliances or electronics. You may bring your items to church; starting on September 1st and place in Sunday school room nearest the offices.

Anyone willing to bake pies or other baked goods for the Bazaar please contact Joan Wilson (651) 253-6111 or Deb Vigdal (651) 681-0865. It's a *delicious* way to support our bazaar!

We will once again be renting out tables to local crafters and vendors this year. If you know of a vendor that would be interested in renting out a table for \$40, please contact us for agreement forms. St Luke will also have a table available for those wishing to make and donate crafts. If you are planning on making crafts for the Bazaar, **we would like to know in advance**, please contact Judy Salaba (651) 698-8572 or Joyce Bluel at (651) 690-4614.

The raffle tickets will be ready for distribution soon. We will not be soliciting local business for raffle items, same as last year. We will have the top three prizes, along with items donated by congregational members. If you would like to donate an item to the Raffle, please contact either of the co-chairs. ***The Raffle Committee could use help with selling raffle tickets and working the raffle table the day of the event.*** If you can help in any way, please contact Joyce Bluel (651) 690-4614 or Judy Salaba (651) 698-8572.

Be a part of the action, there is something for everyone to get involved with, just contact one of the following chairs:

Rummage Sale Chair:	Jo Klein
Bake Sale Co-chairs:	Joan Wilson & Deb Vigdal
Kitchen Chair:	Beth Peterson
Publicity Chair:	Pam Ballis
Raffle Chair:	Joyce Bluel & Judy Salaba
Crafts Co-chairs:	Judy Salaba & Joyce Bluel

The Lord bless thee, and keep thee. -Numbers 6:24