



St. Luke Lutheran Church
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Editor: Jo Klein

St. Luke Lutheran Church

Connect, Grow and Serve.

Parish Times *September 2021*



The Pastor's Perspective...



Dear Sisters and Brothers in Christ, I pray you are well.

Welcome to September. This month parents are getting ready to send children back to school. With the Delta variant of Covid-19 infecting more children, many parents are worried about keeping their unvaccinated young kids safe as schools reopen and extracurricular activities resume. I added personal prayers for children this school year, to my prayer list, with this thought in mind. I pray they will grow in their love of God and learn to trust Him more. Please pray that children will have opportunities to learn and be safe and well. Every instructor, teacher, professor, and peer will have good days and compassion for our children. To look for opportunities to be kind and loving with the same love Christ has so significantly given us. As this school year starts. I will continue to pray for them and their parents to bring children closer to God. And keep them healthy and safe.

September is also a season where we celebrate the fall season -- a season of harvest of the year. During the spring months, the farmers or sowers turn up the ground and plant their seeds. Then during the summer months, with the heat of the sun and the refreshing of the rain, the seeds spring up. This is the best season of all where we enjoy all the food that grew all summer long. It is indeed a pleasure during this harvest time.

This year has been harsh for farmers in this country, especially in Minnesota, with the high temperatures and wildfires creating a drought in the fields. Vegetables and fruits have not developed well for lack of rain, creating a loss for farmers, affecting our consumption of this beautiful and healthy food. The weather has changed, and farmers' harvest made it difficult too! We join with farmers in depending on the crop during this season.

In the Bible, we see a different kind of harvest. It is called the harvest of the Lord. It is a spiritual one. God plants seeds of His Word into us, and with the watering of His Spirit and the warmth of His Love, those seeds begin to grow. As His word grows in us, we begin to understand His ways, and we desire to be like Him, for He is an excellent experience to us. As we become more and more like God, we take on a change. We are no longer the person we used to be, and other people begin to notice our positive differences. We find ourselves doing good things for people, being kinder, not getting mad as quickly, and being more patient. These are good fruits in us. The Bible says you will know a tree by the fruit it bears. A tree planted by the Lord; you will show forth the fruit of His spirit. In the book of Galatians 5: 22-23, we see the fruit of the spirit: love, joy, peace, long-suffering, gentleness, goodness, faith, meekness, and temperance.

Luke 10: 2 Jesus says, *"The harvest is plentiful, but the workers are few. Ask the Lord of the harvest, therefore, to send out workers into his harvest field."* Jesus, therefore, has told us that the harvest is ready, but the laborers are few. As we grow in God, we become His laborers. A laborer goes forth in God and works on earth to do good and show God to people who do not know Him. They stand with loving arms open to bring cheer to a sad heart. They listen when someone needs to talk about a problem. And they share their experience of God with those who do not know Him in hopes that they can get a relationship with God for themselves. There is a crop of the Lord ready to be harvested. Let us pray the Lord will send us out as His laborers of love to help gather in the harvest of the Lord, unto them.

Your sister in Christ, Pastor Belzer

SPECIAL MEETING NOTICE

Special Congregation Meeting: There will be a short special congregation meeting (both in person and on Zoom) on Sunday, Sept. 12, 2021, immediately following the service, to vote yes/no on calling a new $\frac{3}{4}$ time settled pastor to St. Luke. The Call Committee presented a candidate to the Church Council, and the Council approved this candidate. The congregation must now vote. More information about the candidate will be shared at the special meeting. The Call Committee has worked diligently to find the right person to fill this important position at St. Luke. You must be present to vote (in person or online). Please be available. The Call Committee is grateful for your prayers of support during this process.



Farmers' Market

Come on down to the **St. Luke Farmers Market**, Saturdays, 8am to 1pm. There will be specialty coffees, crafts, soaps, candles, lots of veggies, flowers, beef, breads, and delicious caramels. It will be your favorite errand of the week! Support your local farmers and small businesses. See you there!

September Scripture Readers

- 5 Wendy Bjorklund
- 12 Christine Olson
- 19 Sue McNeill
- 26 Kay Reich



President's Corner



It is an exciting time at St. Luke! On Sept. 12, 2021, after our Sunday service, we will have a special congregation meeting to vote on the candidate the Council and Call Committee believe will be a wonderful $\frac{3}{4}$ time settled pastor. It will be a rather short meeting but oh so very important for all of us. I wish I could share more information in this column, but we have been asked to respect the candidates' confidentiality until we make a call. As a member of both committees, I will share that I am very happy and confident that this candidate would serve us well. Every vote counts. Voting members can vote if you attend the meeting in person or by Zoom.

Once the call is made, we can actually meet with our new pastor on a social basis. We will try to schedule one for sure, and possibly two opportunities before our new pastor begins. During the call process, the Call Committee mentioned and discussed some of our traditions, missions, and expectations. But it will be up to each of us to share why St. Luke is special to each of us. It is my hope that we each of you will meet the new pastor once before the first service with that pastor.

I thank each of you on behalf of the Call Committee (Nancy and Mike Hegdahl, Judy Salaba, Doug Klein) for your support and prayers through this process. Stay safe and well.

Sue McNeill



Thrivent Financial members of St. Luke, have you directed your Thrivent Choice \$ yet this year? If not, a wonderful way to support your church would be to direct those dollars to St. Luke. It is simple to do by logging into your account online or by calling your Thrivent agent. Thank you!

BUN RUN



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



September Birthdays

3 Victor Landenberger
6 Audrey Rongstad
9 Ken McGrew
10 Aiden Johnson
11 Jane McGrew
12 Mike Walter
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

Debby and Stew Shepard, founders of The Drawer, invite one and all to "Socktober Fest", Sept. 26, 1pm to 4pm, All Saints Lutheran Church, 3810 Lexington Ave S, Eagan. There will be live music, carnival games, food and a silent auction. The Drawer is a nonprofit organization that provides warmth and dignity through new socks and underwear for those in need. We will be collecting donations for this cause, and will submit a check on behalf of St. Luke to the Drawer at this event. **Please give! Mail your check to church, or place your check in the offering plate, and indicate "The Drawer" in the memo line. Thank you!**



THE DRAWER



LOAVES AND FISHES

Our heartfelt thanks to our August: Claudia Melbye, Bev Gause, David Tews and Larry Litzkow.

St. Luke Financial Report through July, 2021:

Receipts	\$61,078
Expenses	\$71,224
Net	(\$10,178)



Church Council

The official minutes of each council meeting can be obtained through the church office. If you have any questions, please contact any church council member. The council meets monthly, usually on the third Tuesday. Meetings are open to the congregation, and all are welcome. Currently the church council is meeting by video conferencing. If you would like to attend, contact any church council member.

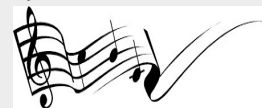
2021 Church Council Members

Sue McNeill, President,
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Kay Reich, Secretary,
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Wendy Bjorklund, Member at Large,
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The Council invites you to celebrate Rally Day and God's Work/Our Hands on Sunday, Sept. 12. Becca and Pastor will plan an outdoor service. After the service, we will put on gloves, wear our t-shirts, and go out and pick up trash. While we are doing that, others can write invitations to new residents. Bring a bag lunch; we will set up tables on the lawn and provide beverages for everyone. We are looking forward to our special day! We hope we see new faces, or at least those we haven't seen in too long.



Notes From the Music Director



Choir is back!

If you SING, we will be meeting outside on Wednesday evenings at 7pm, while the weather accommodates us. So bring a chair (and your hymnal if you borrowed one) starting Sept. 15th.

If you want to RING, no experience is necessary, and it is a lot of fun! Time and day of rehearsal are TBD so email Becca if you are interested,
bunkamade@gmail.com.
-Becca Ruiz

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