



# Saint Luke Lutheran Church

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

## July 2022 Newsletter



### Notes from the Music Director

"May the words of my lips and the meditation of my heart be acceptable to you O Lord, my rock and my redeemer." Psalm 19:14

This verse has rumbled around my head and been scrawled in my notebooks for years but has finally found its place in **our Jazz Vespers this summer!** Jazz Vespers have been around for a long time. Some early iterations were created to give the opportunity of worship to those who might not be awake on Sunday morning for a "normal" church service - with the added allure of more modern music as well. Over the years, churches and communities have used Jazz Vespers to offer a casual and fun alternative to worship. Some have elaborate jazz combos, some keep it simple. Some create jazz settings for the 4 common pieces of evening vespers (Radiant Light, Psalm 141, Magnificat and Nunc Dimittis), or like us, they use jazz pieces and hymns with jazz settings in a short service of prayer and reflection. Simple and short, **we hope you will join us in worship on the last Wednesday of the month at 6 pm on the church lawn.** Make sure to bring a chair or blanket for seating!

-Rebecca Ruiz



**We are looking for volunteers** to help out at the National Night Out event being hosted by St. Luke on August 2nd. The event begins at 5:30 p.m., so we need people to set up tables and chairs between 5:00 and 5:30. We will also need helpers to take down and put away the tables and chairs after the event is over (this would be sometime after 8:30 p.m.)

If your neighborhood does not celebrate National Night Out, why not come to church and help us welcome and get to know our church neighbors?

We will be providing refreshments and snacks and will have activities and games for kids.

Come join the fun. If you are able to help in set up and/or clean up, please contact Joyce Bluel (690-4614). Thanks!



### The Pastor's Perspective

#### Reading the Gospel of Luke

The word *Gospel* means "good news." It came to refer to four specific books of the Bible—Matthew, Mark, Luke, and John—because they told the story of the good news of Jesus Christ. There is overlap among the four—especially among Matthew, Mark, and Luke—but each one shares the message differently.

Have you ever read through one of the Gospel books in one sitting? The first time I ever did this was in seminary, when I was required to do so for class. I was surprised to find that it only took an hour or two to read each one. It was less intimidating and more rewarding than I'd expected. If you want to give it a try this summer, I suggest reading through Luke, even though it's the longest of the Gospels. Here are three reasons why:

#### 1. We're in the year of Luke.

From now until November, we will be reading from the Gospel of Luke during Sunday morning worship. Our assigned Sunday morning readings rotate on a three-year cycle, called the lectionary. One year focuses on Mark, one on Matthew, and one on Luke. We read from John's Gospel during the seasons of Advent/Christmas and Lent/Easter. Currently, we're in the year of Luke.

Some things that make Luke's Gospel unique: it was written for a predominately Gentile (non-Jewish) audience; it has the most parables and stories about marginalized people; it was written, around year 85, in the most elegant Greek of the four Gospels; it was authored by the same person who wrote Acts and was intended to be read as a two-volume work.

#### 2. You can learn something new about Jesus.

Reading a whole Gospel in one sitting gives you a different perspective. Every Sunday, we hear from one of the Gospels, but only a single passage. Reading a Gospel as a unified story can offer different insights about the broader arc of Jesus' life and ministry. Here are some themes you might notice throughout Luke's Gospel:

- Jesus is Lord. Luke portrays Jesus as a caring, forgiving benefactor concerned with the wellbeing of the human family. Jesus brings salvation to all, Jew and Gentile alike.
- Jesus is the fulfillment of God's promise to Israel that are found throughout the Hebrew Scriptures (or the Old Testament). The church stands in continuity with the ancient people of God.
- Jesus is rejected by many of his fellow citizens, and especially the leaders in his society, but he is often well-received by the marginalized: outcasts, the poor, sinners, women, and Samaritans, for example.
- Faithful people respond to the salvation offered through Christ with prayer and joy! They also embody God's goodness through hospitality, economic justice, love of neighbor, and other forms of bettering society for all.

#### 3. It can connect you with the context in which the Gospel was written.

The Gospels were not written to be objective historical accounts of Jesus. They were written by people who were faithful followers of Jesus and passionate about spreading his message. They wanted other people to be moved by the story of Jesus and persuaded to commit their lives to his way. The original first-century audiences who heard the Gospels would likely have heard them read aloud in public gatherings. Chapter and verse divisions were not part of the original documents and were added much later. How might the story of Jesus' life, death, and resurrection feel different when it is heard in its entirety?

May you find scripture to be life-giving and illuminating, however you encounter it!

Pr. Bristol

## July Ushers

### In Person:

First and Second Sundays:  
Volker Landenberger  
Third and Fourth Sundays:  
Mike Hegdahl

### Online:

First Sunday: David Tews  
Second Sunday: Sue McNeill  
Third Sunday: Raulie Ruiz  
Fourth Sunday: David NedreLOW



## Loaves and Fishes

Our heartfelt thanks to our June Loaves and Fishes volunteers: the Landenberger family, David Tews and Larry Litzkow.

## Bun Run



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

## Offering Counters for July

3 Katy Eggert  
10 Wendy Bjorklund  
17 Volker Landenberger  
24 TBD  
Thank you for stepping up!

## July Birthdays

7 Ruth Carlson, Carol Hornung,  
Ian Walter  
8 Joyce Bluel  
15 Doug Wasko, Madison Munos  
16 Wendy Bjorklund  
17 Bob and Pam Ballis  
20 Peter Klein  
23 Jo Klein  
26 Jill Burchill, Tatum Herrmann  
28 Dan Grzywinski

## July Anniversaries

6 Kevin and MaryJo Brandt: 1991  
13 Larry and Bev Eckstrom: 2001



## St. Luke Financial Report

through May, 2022:

Receipts	\$45,054
Expenses	\$60,968
Net	(\$15,914)

## July Worship Assistants

### Readers

3 Julie Ellingson  
10 Joyce Bluel  
17 Wendy Bjorklund  
24 Laurie Smith  
31 Mike Hegdahl

### Communion Assistants

3 Joyce Bluel  
17 Wendy Bjorklund  
31 Doug Klein



Greetings,



There are many exciting things happening at St. Luke, with 13 new members being recognized on New Member Sunday in June, MYS back in the church, and the launch of the eighth season of the Farmers Market. As I think about the Farmers Market, it takes me back as to how this all came to happen at St. Luke. In 2014, a congregational member, Sue Grzywinski, called the Highland Business Association and asked if they would be interested in moving their little market to St. Luke, which was then located behind the Barnes and Noble store in the Highland Village, soon to become a Target express. Keri Tierney from the Highland Business Association declined, saying they were looking at other locations in Highland.

In spring of 2015 the Highland Business Association called St. Luke to ask if we would be interested in having the market in our parking lot and to take it over. This was something the congregation had to decide on, and as our mission was to do outreach into the community, we passed a motion to explore the possibility of a having the market in our parking lot. A meeting was called with the HP Business Association, and Rob Hermann, Pastor Dave, Wendy Bjorklund. Mike and I went to meet with Keri Tierney and learn what we had to do to move the market to St. Luke. It sounded like a piece of cake, we later found out it wasn't that easy!

We were lucky that Joyce Bluel had worked for the City of St. Paul and knew where to go to get the correct paperwork, the aerial views of the church, etc. Pastor Dave and Wendy were attending Farmers market meetings and learning the ins and outs of EBT. I had endless talks with the City licensing and zoning departments, and CP railways, and as luck would have it--or maybe it was God intervening--on Thursday, May 14, 2015, I got on the same elevator with Councilmember Chris Tolbert, where I could explain to him the problems we were having in getting this farmers market up and running. He said he was willing to help, and told me to call his office in the morning. Friday morning, Pattie Kelley, in Tolbert's office, was the first person I called. My last email with Pattie Kelley was June 19 asking where our license was as the market was opening on June 20. She replied with a copy of the license showing that Wendy and I were now the co-owners of the St. Luke Farmers Market! This could not have happened without all the support and help of our congregation members.

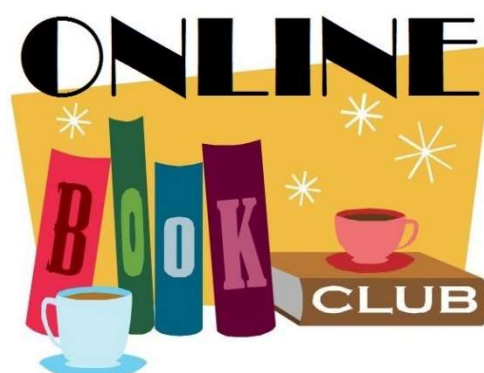
Recently, St. Luke has been contacted by a non-profit organization that asked if we would consider a partnership with them. The church council members endorse this 125-year-old organization, and believe this potential partnership would align with our continued outreach into the community. The council is doing some research with other churches on how this kind of arrangement would work for St. Luke. Today, it is common in many churches to have partnerships with other non-profit organizations or rent space in their building. This would be a long-term partnership. When we learn more we will call a special meeting to bring this to the congregation for your consideration and vote. If you have any questions or concerns, please feel free to talk with Pastor Bristol or your church council members.

Have a Happy Fourth of July!

Nancy Hegdahl

---

**Join us for Book Club** on Sunday, August 7, 6:30pm via Zoom to discuss "The Seed Keeper" by Diane Wilson. "It's a moving multi-generational story about the destruction of Native American families, communities and lands—but also about reconnection, hope and the natural world . . . Wilson offers a different kind of idealism: one where community, family and the seeds can create the future we're seeking."—Today Show. The Zoom invite will be emailed to you shortly before the meeting. All are welcome! PLEASE NOTE that we are always open to book suggestions....feel free to contact Jo Klein at [jojoklein@gmail.com](mailto:jojoklein@gmail.com) with your recommendations!



**Welcome, New Members!**

We celebrate the unique impact they will make here through their presence, gifts and talents. May our church home strengthen their faith and deepen their discipleship. May St. Luke offer support in times of trouble and rejoice with them always!

Matthew and Emily Elfritz, Max and Marie  
 Michael and Bristol Reading, Magnolia  
 Kyle and Beau Ryan, Kenny  
 Casey Ulrich and Charlotte Sivanich, Juniper



**Many thanks to our Farmers Market volunteers for July:**

**JULY 9 - Manager: Laurie and Wendy**

7:30 to 10:30	10:30 to 1:30
Doug Klein	Doug Klein
Kay Reich	Kay Reich
Conie Borchardt	Conie Borchardt
R. Ruiz	R. Ruiz

**JULY 16 - Manager: Laurie and Wendy**

7:30 to 10:30	10:30 to 1:30
Doug Klein	Doug Klein
Jo Klein	Jo Klein
Conie Borchardt	Conie Borchardt
Laurie Smith, Larry Litzkow	

**JULY 23 - Manager: Laurie and Wendy**

7:30 to 10:30	10:30 to 1:30
Doug Klein	Doug Klein
Beth Peterson	Beth Peterson
Tracy Arndt	Julie Ellingson
	Emily Elfritz
Ken McGrew	Ken McGrew (tear down)

**JULY 30 - Manager: Laurie and Wendy**

7:30 to 10:30	10:30 to 1:30
Doug Klein	Doug Klein
Jo Klein	Jo Klein
Sue McNeill	Sue McNeill
Kay Reich	Kay Reich

AND we still need volunteers for mid-August, September and October. Please contact Wendy at [wlbjorklund@stcloudstate.edu](mailto:wlbjorklund@stcloudstate.edu) to volunteer....we truly cannot do this without YOU!



**Jazz Vespers**

Mark your calendars and join us at 6:00 pm on the last Wednesday in July and August (7/27, 8/31) for outdoor Jazz Vespers. Bring a lawn chair or blanket and join us!



**All are invited to Game Day at St. Luke**, the first and third Fridays of the month, July 1 and 15, at 12:30pm. Bring a snack to share and your favorite game and settle down to an afternoon of fun...join us!



**St. Luke/St. Mark Ladies Night Out** is held on the 4th Thursday of the month. The next outing will be July 28th at 5:30 pm at LaCasita in Roseville. Please call Joyce Bluel at (690-4614) by July 24<sup>th</sup> if interested in attending so a reservation can be made.

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