



# Saint Luke Lutheran Church

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

## October 2025 Newsletter



### *The Pastor's Perspective*

### *Pr. Bristol Reading*

#### We Need More Worship Servants

As our congregation continues to grow, we need more support for our worship life. I want to share with you about specific needs we have right now, and I hope you will prayerfully consider how you can be involved.

Fall is a time when we look towards our future. We make financial commitments for the year ahead (watch for a stewardship letter in the mail this month), and we hold a congregational meeting to elect new lay leaders and pass a budget (that meeting is November 2). Participating in the worship life of the church is another form of stewardship because it is a way to share your gifts in service to our community and support our life as a community in Christ.

“Christian community is the place where we keep the flame of hope alive among us and take it seriously so that it can grow and become stronger in us.” –Henri Nouwen

We are currently most in need of people to fill these roles:

#### 1. Ushers

Ushers work in pairs and provide hospitality on Sunday mornings. They open the doors, light the candles, and hand out orders of service. They count attendance numbers, which is critical for our record keeping. Most importantly, they greet people, especially visitors, and help guide people to come up for communion. Truly,

### *October Volunteers*

Thanks for your participation!

#### ONLINE USHERS

1st Sunday: David Tews

2nd Sunday: Sue McNeill

3rd Sunday: Raulie Ruiz

4th Sunday: David NedreLOW

#### IN PERSON USHERS

First and Second Sundays:

Volker Landenberger

Aidan Tarpenning

Third and Fourth Sundays:

Mike and Nancy Hegdahl

#### READERS

5 Christine Olson

12 Julie Ellingson

19 Wendy Bjorklund

26 Kay Reich

#### COMMUNION ASSISTANTS

5 Christine Olson

12 Emily Elfritz

19 Wendy Bjorklund

26 Kay Reich

#### COFFEE HOSTS

5 Kay Reich

Heather Moreno

12 Julie Gaarder

Julie Ellingson

19 Katy Eggert

Jodi & Volker Landenberger

26 Karen Larson

Aidelle Volkman

David Elliott & Susan Lorenz

we are not able to do worship well without ushers, and this is the greatest need we have right now!

This role is for you if... you like people, you can come early on Sunday mornings, or you are committed to making our worship welcoming and comfortable for all.

Your typical time commitment would be... one Sunday a month, from 8:45–10:45 am.

## 2. Communion assistants

Communion assistants help serve communion during worship. They carry the tray with wine and say to each person, “The blood of Christ, shed for you,” a phrase that is a proclamation of the Gospel in itself! They also serve both bread and wine to the pastor.

This role is for you if... you have steady hands, you find communion to be a moving part of worship, or you’d appreciate a chance to personally connect with other worshippers.

Your typical time commitment would be... flexible! You can sign up for as many Sundays per year as work for your schedule.

## 3. Altar guild members

Members of the altar guild help set up the worship space each week. Most importantly, they prepare for communion, usually on Saturdays. They thaw the bread, pour the wine, and set the table. When the liturgical seasons change, the altar guild members change the paraments (the colorful fabric coverings on the pulpit and table).

This role is for you if... you like to host, you pay attention to detail, or you care deeply about the beauty of our worship space.

Your typical time commitment would be... about an hour each week for four consecutive weeks per year.

If none of those roles are for you, there are always other ways to support our worship life! We also need:

- bread bakers to prepare batches of communion bread loaves,
- lectors to read the scripture readings during worship,
- counters to count the offering money after worship,
- and coffee hour hosts to bring treats for all to share.

Please let me know if there is a way you’re feeling called to serve in our community. We need to increase our number of volunteers to make our worship life sustainable for the community. Thank you for the ways you have and will continue to support our shared ministry!

## COUNTERS

- 5 Katy Eggert
- 12 Carol Hornung
- 19 Wendy Bjorklund
- 26 Carol Hornung

## ALTAR GUILD

Julie Gaarder



## *Bun Run*

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

## *October Birthdays*

- 5 Laurie Smith
- 7 Alek Landenberger
- 9 Mike Hegdahl
- 10 Ava Herrmann
- 14 Megan Allen
- 15 Charlotte Ulrich
- 18 Magnolia Reading
- 22 Bev Eckstrom
- 23 Peter Allen

## *October Anniversaries*

- 10 Mike and Nancy Hegdahl
- 24 Doug and Jo Klein

***Bible Study*** All are welcome to our weekly Bible Study, in person or online, on Wednesdays at 10am led by Pastor Bristol. We will discuss the scriptures for the forthcoming Sunday. The Zoom link is emailed to you every Monday. Join us!

***Attention, women:*** you are invited to the 2025 Annual Women's Ecumenical Luncheon on Saturday, October 25th, St. Peter's Lutheran Church, 530 Victoria Street S., St. Paul, 10am - 1pm. Come enjoy brunch with friends from around the West



Fall Greetings! I hope everyone has enjoyed the Council Corner and getting to know your church council members and their roles. It has been a pleasure this year to work with such dedicated people and all they bring to Saint Luke.

November 2 is our annual meeting, during which we will elect new council members—please consider serving; we need YOU. The council meets once a month on the second Tuesday at 6:30 pm.

October 11 is our Fall Bazaar, an event that wouldn't be possible without all of you. If you enjoy baking apple pie or apple crisp and have an extra one to share, the kitchen crew will gladly sell your pies alongside the chili prepared by the Chili Chicks. We'll also hold a Bake Sale, with Deb Vigdal collecting items on Friday until 8:00 pm; cookies, bars, fudge, cakes, jellies, or any homemade goods are always welcome. A raffle will be held again this year, so if you'd like to donate a basket or prize, please let me know. Don't forget the White Elephant sale—remember, one person's junk can be another's treasure. Mike will be collecting donations until October 5, and they'll be stored in the classroom down the hall. On Bazaar day, extra hands are always needed for cleanup, and anything unsold will be donated to Goodwill—drivers are especially helpful for this task. Please mark October 11 on your calendar, stop by church, shop the vendors, and bring the kids so they can enjoy the fish pond and win prizes.

Finally, I want to mention the ongoing work around the church. This year has been a transition since our longtime custodian, Doug Klein, retired in June. We had grown accustomed to relying on Doug for everything, and now responsibilities are shared: Jack and Mou Lee handle cleaning, Kay Reich oversees the grounds, David Elliott helps with setups and repairs, and David Tews and Don Clark address larger concerns such as lighting and plumbing. As a congregation, we must be good stewards of our church home by stepping up and helping where needed. If you notice concerns, please talk to a council member. During this transition, we ask for patience as we reestablish the property committee and prioritize major repairs.

Blessings, Nancy Hegdahl, Council President

Seventh neighborhood at our annual women's luncheon. (We have been meeting together since 1992!) We will hear updates from the represented churches, learn about Visual Faith practices from Digital Missionary and Family Life Coach Connie Denninger and spend a brief time practicing her tips. We will then end with prayer and a song. Bring a non-perishable, non-canned food item, toiletries or monetary donation for the St. Peter's Little Pantry that serves the community. Click [here](#) to rsvp or email at [stpetersstpaul@gmail.com](mailto:stpetersstpaul@gmail.com).



Dear St. Luke Family,

Thank you for supporting the St. Luke's Farmers' Market this season. Together you contributed \$744 in jar and designated donations, plus an additional \$1,940 from free-will, anonymous, and past vendor gifts—helping keep the market financially strong.

Despite a slow start, one cold day, and one rainout, attendance was consistently stronger than last year, with 125–240 customers weekly. We hosted 5–8 vendors each week, averaging 6–7. Along with returning vendors, we welcomed three new ones: Cloudments Coffee Roasters, Seva Kitchen, and Pat's Pantry. Music was provided six times by the Women's Drum Center and guitarist Peter Ruddy.

The market takes five volunteers per shift plus myself—covering the EBT/credit booth, bread



### *Notes from the Music Director - Becca Ruiz*

**The choir season has started** and it's not too late to join! All are welcome to give choir a try!

Bell Choir rehearses before service: 8:30am to 9:30 am

Vocal Choir rehearses after service: 11:00am to 12:00pm

**Announcing the St. Luke Family Choir**, Wednesdays from Oct. 22nd to Nov 19th! We'll begin with a meal from 5:30pm to 6:00pm. After eating, I would lead the kids, and anyone who wanted to join, through some activities with movement, rhythm and singing. We'll fill the time with multiple activities and learn a song or two! More details will be sent to Faith Formation families.

**Winter Music Preview**, Oct. 26th, 10:45am to 11:15am: Bring your treats to the choir loft and we'll chat about Advent liturgy and the upcoming holiday season!



**Monthly Birthday Celebrations!** Beginning in October, we will celebrate monthly birthdays by serving a birthday cake on the first Sunday of each month, alongside the treats provided by our coffee hour hosts. Those who wish to help cover the cost of the cakes may place donations in the kitchen fund basket at the serving window. This new tradition will provide a more organized and inclusive way to honor and celebrate our members.



**Congregational Meeting** On Nov. 2, we'll meet for our annual congregational meeting after the Sunday service. The key events of the meeting are reviewing annual reports, approving the minutes of last year's meeting, approving next year's budget, and electing a church council for next year. The council meets monthly to conduct the business of the church. We welcome new people and previous council members to serve on the 2026 council. If you are interested, talk to Nancy Hegdahl or one of the other council members.

booth, and entrance greeters. Setup and takedown requires everyone's help. I especially thank Doug Klein (our setup master), Kay Reich, and Sue McNeill—who worked the bread booth every single week! Many of you served multiple Saturdays, and the market truly couldn't happen without you. Volunteers included Laurie Herrmann, Doug Klein, Kay Reich, Sue McNeill, John Halla, Conie Borchardt, Jodi and Volker Landenberger, Beth Peterson, Christine Olson, Ken McGrew, Julie Gaarder, Mary Jo Brandt, Kim McNamara, Emily, Max and Marie Elfritz, Susan Lorenz, David Elliott, Nancy Redlin, and Aidan Tarpenning.

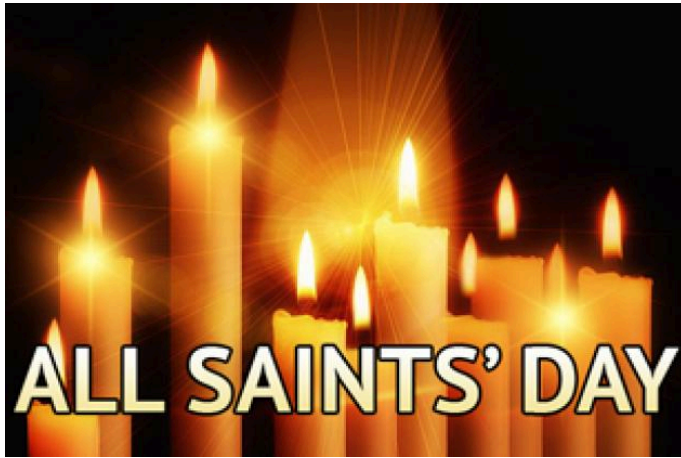
Thanks also to Jo Klein and Becca Ruiz for publicity and volunteer coordination. The market is not an individual effort—it truly takes a congregation!

This market is my “happy place.” Our volunteers, customers, and vendors make it a real community. As we look to next season, I wish you good health and happiness. Thank you again—I look forward to seeing you at the market!

Best, Wendy Bjorklund



**Youth Holiday Gifts** Your Council has voted to “go local” again this year and support homeless youth in the Twin Cities over the holidays. Lutheran Social Services sponsors a



*All Saints Day Sunday, Nov. 2* 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 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.

***Christmas in October??*** That's right, the annual Gerten's Christmas fundraiser has begun...time to order poinsettias/festive greenery to dec the halls \*and\* support our church! To access the site and place an order, go to <http://www.gertensfundraising.com> and enter our Store ID code 135 into the text field, then click 'Enter ID to Continue'. The site opened September 22nd and will close at 10 PM on Thursday, October 30. Plants will be delivered and available Tuesday, December 3rd at St Luke. If you would like to leave your plant at church to be included in our holiday decorations, please let Joyce Bluel know.

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

program for homeless youth called "Youth Holiday Gifts." This is a gift program of LSS Metro Homeless Youth Services. We will be collecting gifts on Sundays, 11/2, 11/9, 11/16, 11/23 and 11/30. The gifts will be delivered in early December. Gifts should be NEW and UNWRAPPED. A list of desired holiday gifts is available in the Social Hall or click [here](#) for details. You are a warm, giving congregation; I'm confident we can offer gifts to these young people who are in need. Please contact me with any questions or concerns!

-Wendy Bjorklund 651-357-5742,  
[wlbjorklund@stcloudstate.edu](mailto:wlbjorklund@stcloudstate.edu)



***All are invited*** to Game Day at St. Luke, Friday, October 3 and 17. Bring a snack to share and your favorite game and settle down to an afternoon of fun...join us!



***The next Supper with Saints*** will take place on Thursday, October 23rd at 5:30 at House of Wong, 1135 Larpenteur Ave. W., Roseville. If you plan on attending, please let Joyce Bluel know by October 19th so we have a number for the reservation.