



Saint Luke Lutheran Church

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

September 2025 Newsletter



September 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:

David NedreLOW

Third and Fourth Sundays:

Mary Jo Brandt, Carol Vigdal

READERS

7 Christine Olson

14 Nancy Redlin

21 Julie Ellingson

28 Wendy Bjorklund

COMMUNION ASSISTANTS

7 Christine Olson

14 Nancy Redlin

21 Kay Reich

28 Wendy Bjorklund

COFFEE HOSTS

14 Karen Larson

Junella Litzkow

21 Doug and Jo Klein

Emily and Matt Elfritz

28 Mary Jo Brandt

Carol Vigdal

The Pastor's Perspective

Pr. Bristol Reading

As summer turns to fall, I imagine many of you will be feeling the change of season. Families are navigating back-to-school transitions. Shorter days and cooler weather arrive. New yard and gardening tasks will beckon. And in our congregation, much of the focus turns to preparation for the Fall Bazaar.

But in the context of liturgy, the season does not change. The longest season in the church year stretches from Pentecost in early summer to Advent in late fall, so we're still in the midst of the long green season. (Green is the liturgical color of this season of "Ordinary Time.")

The assigned scripture readings, however, do take on a different tone as we move into fall. Our Sunday Gospel texts are working chronologically through Luke, and we have reached the part of the narrative when Jesus is traveling to Jerusalem with his disciples. As the cross looms ahead of him, Jesus seems to understand the stakes of the situation in a way that his followers do not. His teachings take on a sharper tone of urgency and severity.

Thank goodness Martin Luther reminds us that "no one can grasp the depths of the Scripture with their own reason. One must keep one's heart open to the Spirit of God and pray for God's help." (From Luther's Works: Table Talk, volume 54, pg. 57). We don't have to understand the Bible alone; we have the help of the Holy Spirit. We can pray together that God will help us learn from these words of Jesus, even when they confuse or unsettle us. Let us keep

our ears and hearts open to hear what God has to teach us about the path of discipleship.

If you're wondering how you might invite the Holy Spirit to guide you in your reading of scripture, you may find this suggestion useful. One way Martin Luther encouraged engagement with a difficult scripture passage – or any scripture passage, for that matter – was through a contemplative form of reflection. He outlined four “strands” to consider with each passage:

1. Instruction. What does the Holy Spirit want me to learn from these words?
2. Thanksgiving. What in this passage moves me to give thanks?
3. Confession. What in this passage moves me to ask for forgiveness and to change?
4. Prayer. What moves me to ask God for specific guidance?

These “strands” can be twisted together into a “garland,” Luther wrote (From Luther’s “A Simple Way to Pray.”) Give this method a try and see what it reveals for you.



Greetings! It is hard to believe that we are already heading into fall. For those who do not know me, I am Carol Hornung and am currently serving my second term as a commissioner on the church council. I am also an usher and serve as an offering counter. I joined St. Luke back in 2020 when I returned to Minnesota from Barron Wisconsin to live with my sister, Joyce Bluel. A lot has been happening here at St. Luke through the summer. We had our annual National Night Out in August, many of us attended Lutheran Night at the Twins and we introduced potlucks on the fifth Sundays of the month during fellowship hour. St Luke is a welcoming congregation that makes you feel like family. I am looking forward to seeing our congregation continue to grow and thrive in the coming years.

COUNTERS

- 7 Katy Eggert
- 14 Julie Gaarder
- 21 Kay Reich
- 28 Kay Reich

ALTAR GUILD

Kay Reich



Bun Run

Many thanks to our Bun Run volunteers for September: Volker Landenberger, Ken McGrew, Doug Klein, Kay Reich.

September Birthdays:

- 3 Victor Landenberger
- 10 Aiden Johnson
- 11 Everett Allen
- 12 Mike Walter
Lydia Weis
- 17 Connor Burchill Riley
Corinn Burchill Riley
- 22 Carol Vigdal
- 25 Nahoko Person
- 26 Verdel Humburg



Online Bible Study All are welcome to our weekly online Bible Study on Wednesdays at 9:30am led by Pastor Bristol. We will discuss the scriptures for the forthcoming Sunday. The Zoom link is emailed to you every Monday. Join us!

Book Club We invite you to our St. Luke Book Club, on Sunday, September 14, 6:30pm, via Zoom, to discuss “Hypocrite in a Pouffy White Dress”, by Susan Jane Gilman. “A funny and poignant collection of true stories



Notes from the Music Director

It's fall and as the season changes, we decided to change the liturgy at the Fall Music Preview. We went through all the settings and decided to try out a new setting from a hymnal supplement published a few years ago, All Creation Sings. The melodies are singable and catchy, and we'll spend the first few weeks learning together. But I think you'll pick it up pretty easily! Our Advent/Christmas Music Preview will be after church on Oct. 26th.

Guess what? There is one more chance to try out choir for just one day, one hour with One-Hour Bell Choir! Sunday, September 7th, rehearsal starts at 8:30am. One song. One hour. No previous experience or musical talent is required. Everyone is welcome!

Regular choir starts on Sunday, September 14th - check out the announcements or contact me to find out more!

And lastly, thanks to our One-Hour Vocal Choir members: Pastor Bristol, Magnolia, Jo, Wendy, Christine, Nancy, Gwen, and Hugo! You did a wonderful job and it was lovely to hear a choral piece in the "off 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.



The next Supper with Saints will be at Loan Oak Grill, 3010 Eagandale Place, Eagan on Thursday, Sept. 25th at 5:30pm. Please let Joyce Bluel know by Sunday, Sept. 21 if you plan on attending so we have a number for the reservation.

about women coming of age that for once isn't about finding a date. Gilman channels the voices of her inner geek, freak, hipster, and princess with razor sharp wit and no small measure of grace.”
-Booklist. The Zoom invite will be emailed to you shortly before the meeting. All are welcome. Join us!



SAVE THE DATE 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 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.



All are invited to Game Day at St. Luke, Friday, September 5 and 19. Bring a snack to share and your favorite game and settle down to an afternoon of fun...join us



Farmers' Market

St. Luke's Farmers' Market

To Everything There Is a Season: The St. Luke's Farmers' Market extends through Saturday, October 4, 8am to 1pm. We celebrate our 10th year of existence at our opener! If you would like to volunteer at the market, you may sign up to work an early shift (7:30am to 10:30am), a late shift (10:30am to 1:30pm), or a double shift (7:30am to 1:30pm). This year, Laurie and I will be working together only 4 Saturdays, so most weeks 5 volunteers are needed during market hours to help in the information/card booth, cover our bread table and entrance tent, along with helping to set up and take down the market. Without your help, this important ministry to our community cannot continue. Which Saturday(s) can you "work the market"? For more information, please contact Wendy Bjorklund at wlbjorklund@stcloudstate.edu or 651-357-5742.

Connect, Grow and Serve.

Blessing Of The Animals



Blessing of the Animals

After worship on October 5, head home to get your furry (or scaly, or feathered, etc.) friends and bring them back to church for a blessing at 11am, in the side yard. This brief prayer service honors St. Francis of Assisi, whose feast day is in the fall. St. Francis inspired Christians through his universal love for all of God's creatures. We give thanks to God for the animals with whom we share our world and our homes!