



September 2024 CONNECTIONS

ST. LUKE'S LUTHERAN CHURCH

*Members of St. Luke's Lutheran Church, in response to Christ's love,
reach out in service to each other, the community, and the world*

~~Rally Day~~—**Connection Day!** Sunday, September 8

At the end of the Sunday children's messages, we pray "keep us connected."

Join us on ~~Rally Day~~ **Connection Day** as we kick off a year of
connecting with God, with each other,
with our neighborhoods and with the earth.

+Students and Teachers of all ages, bring your backpacks for a blessing in
worship

+First Day of Sunday School for ages 3-5th grade

+Pick up your Directory!

+Stay for the potluck meal at 11:00—grilled hot dogs and brats and
drinks will be provided.

Bring a dish to share: If your last name begins with A-P, bring a side

If your last name begins with Q-Z, bring a dessert

\$3 per person or \$10 per family suggested donation to help cover costs

Help Needed to set up on Saturday morning,

and to Serve Food and Clean Up on Sunday

Sign up at the welcome center or online!



GREETINGS FROM PASTOR MONTE

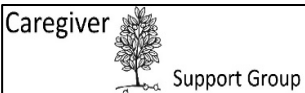
The heavens declare the glory of God;
the skies proclaim the work of his hands.
Day after day they pour forth speech;
night after night they reveal knowledge.
Psalm 19:1-2

God, as creator *of* our world, can be known *through* the world, if we just stop and pay attention. The Season of Creation, celebrated in September, is a time in the year when we celebrate this beautiful world we are part of, and recommit to our role as stewards of it.

Get involved:

1. **Appreciate the Beauty of Creation:** Submit your nature photos to be shared in slideshows during the offertory and at other moments in worship. This year the four categories are Earth Sunday, Sky Sunday, Mountain Sunday and Humanity Sunday. Send photos to stlukes@slchurch.org, with the specific category in the subject line.
2. **Learn about Creation:** Colleen Resendiz of the Metro Audubon Society will lead us on a Bird Walk, **Saturday, Sept 14**. Meet at Wehr Nature Center, 8 am. Bring binoculars if you have them and \$5 for parking (if you aren't a member of Wehr). Birding beginners especially welcome!
3. **Help Restore the Land:** Saturday Sept 21, 9 am-noon. Our Outreach of the Month is to help with removal of invasive species in Grobschmidt Park (35th and College). This nature preserve is home to several endangered or threatened species, and our help will be greatly appreciated! There will be some field education in learning how to identify certain plants, as well as understanding the harm of the invasives to the local ecology.
 - + Gloves, tools and eye protection are all provided, but feel free to bring your own!
 - +parking available along 35th Street
 - +Sign up online or at the welcome center.

Even if you can't join us in the bird walk or land restoration project, you can still take time to appreciate the beauty around you and take a step in helping to protect our world.



The next Caregiver Support Group meetings are as follows:

September 9th – We will again have Ruth Busalacchi, Certified Senior Advisor, President and owner of Synergy Home Health

back to speak about scams. She wrote; "It seems the risk of being scammed continues to grow, and the Con-Artists always seem one step ahead of us!" Leave feeling better prepared to identify a scam in the future.

We meet on the 2nd Monday of each month in the Upper Fellowship Hall at 4:30 (until the time change in fall). Please come and encourage your friends and neighbors to come with you. All are welcome and treats provided.



Carol Peterson, WELCOME BACK

Wednesday, September 4, 7:00 p.m., will be our first rehearsal for the choir at St. Luke's. If you have ever considered being part of a choir, please know that you are most welcome and encouraged to join us. Not only do you have the privilege of singing fine music and leading worship, you have the opportunity to enjoy fellowship with a wonderful group of people!

We are blessed with many fine musicians at St. Luke's who not only sing, but play instruments and we appreciate the many ways they contribute to our worship. In a recent visit to Salisbury Cathedral in the UK, I came across this quote: "Music is an important element of how Christians worship God. We honour God through music which helps people connect with God, and with each other, in a deeply emotional way." Beautifully stated by a church which has supported music in worship and has been there since it was built in 1220.

In my unofficial Sabbatical this summer, I have had the opportunity to engage in many kinds of learning and reflection. It was wonderful to attend a lecture and concert at the organ institute in Eugene, Oregon, attend worship services in San Francisco, Boston, Michigan and Montana. I've become keenly aware of the power and wonder of God's work in the world. In all of the places I've visited this summer, the words of Psalm 100 resonate to the amazing love of God for his world and people: "Make a joyful noise to the Lord, all the earth...for the Lord is good, his faithfulness to all generations."

Blessings and peace,
Carol Peterson, Music Director

Home Communion Ministry

We are relaunching our Home Communion Ministry!



This team will, once a month, bring communion to those who have a difficult time getting to church. If you, or a family member, would like to receive communion at home on a monthly basis, **please** contact the office to let us know. It would be a blessing to serve you in this way.

Binge Jesus with *The Chosen*

This fall in Adult Ed (Sundays after worship, 10:15-11:00 am) we will discuss season 4 of *The Chosen*. *The Chosen* brings to life the story of Jesus and his disciples, in an emotionally rich and theologically accurate way.

Because of the episode length (around an hour), ***we will not watch the episodes together***. Instead, come to each session having already watched it and ready to discuss. We may watch a few clips as part of the discussion.

Watch it online here: <https://watch.thechosen.tv/page/season4> . You do need to sign up for an account to watch season 4, but it's free to do so. Seasons 1-3 can also be accessed from this link.

September Discussion Dates:

Sept 15: Episode 1, Promises

Sept 22: Episode 2, Confessions

Sept 29: Episode 3, Moon to Blood



Beginning Preschool We welcome you into Sunday School this year. We look forward to seeing you grow and learn about Jesus!

Cameron Cornils, Raelynn Gross

Beginning Confirmation May you continue to learn about your faith and develop meaningful relationships.

Savannah Brand, Allison Hessling, Autumn Johnson, Natalie Larsen

Beginning Synergy – May you continue to ask questions and grow in your understanding of God's love.

Kaytelyn Anderson, Alexa Brand, Owyn Bunzel, Christopher Cota, Everett DeArmond, Peighton Leszczynski, James Spehert.

COLLEGE BOUND? – Let us know your new address / email so we can send you the Connections and emails about activities at St. Luke's – We want you to know we are thinking and praying for you and your new journey.

CHRISTMAS PROGRAM

I know Christmas right??? If you have any interest in assisting with the program in any way this year, please contact Heather. Areas of needs include: helping with speaking parts, set design, costumes, divide parts among students/reformat the script, etc.





SUNDAY SCHOOL RESUMES ON SEPTEMBER 8TH

Preschool 3 – 5th Grade Children – Come meet your teachers, in your classroom, and do a fun activity together. Parent(s) are also invited to join their children that morning.

Parent(s)/Guardians

- You should have already received an **informational letter**, which included information about Rally Day and the **2024/2025 Sunday School year calendar**. If you have not received it, please contact heather (heather@slchurch.org)
- Please fill out an emergency form for each child attending Sunday School. Forms can be submitted online at slchurch.org/sign-ups. (Click on Sunday School Sign-up). Paper copies are available at the welcome center.
- On your registration form, please indicate what phone number you would like to **receive text messages** on (or opt out). This is an additional way we communicate about upcoming information.
- **Sunday School information/announcements** will be **e-mailed weekly**. Please make sure your e-mail address is current. If you find you are not receiving e-mails, contact Heather (heather@slchurch.org).
- Students will bring a **note home weekly** from Sunday School. This will provide you with the lesson they learned that day, a family discussion question, as well as any upcoming events/announcements.

CONFIRMATION INFORMATION

CONFIRMATION CLASSES for 6th – 8th graders will begin Wednesday, Sept 4th at 6:00pm-7:15pm. The name of our confirmation program will have a new name – watch for it in the October Connections.

INFORMATION FOR 9TH GRADERS

- **Mini Retreat** - Wednesday, September 18th - - 7:15pm – 8:30 pm in Lower Fellowship Hall
- **Affirmation of Baptism Dinner** Saturday, October 26th at 6PM at Pastor Monte's House. Here confirmation projects will be presented & together we will walk through the order of service for the next day.
- **Affirmation of Baptism (Rite of Confirmation)** Service – Sunday, October 27th (9AM Service).

SYNERGY

- **Calling all 9th-12th graders!** This group is for YOU! We will begin meeting for the year on **Wednesday, September 11th** (7:15pm-8:30pm) in the High School Youth Space (Lower Fellowship Hall)
 - We will meet the **2nd and 4th Wednesdays of each month**, unless otherwise announced. Join us for fun games, snacks, and amazing, meaningful faith conversations. Invite your friends! All are welcome!
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PUMPKIN CARVING FUN



Sunday School families & Middle/High School Youth mark your calendars for Sunday, October 6. During the Education Hour (10:15-11:00) we will be carving pumpkins in Lower Fellowship Hall. There will be a pumpkin carving competition (with prizes included) for those in grades 6-12.



LADIES NIGHT

Need more laughter in your life? Join us at ComedySportz, Friday, September 27. The show is at 7:30 pm, but come early for dinner and drinks. Tickets are \$12. Sign up at the Welcome Center or RSVP to Pastor Monte.

Giving Report

July 2024	\$35,000	\$30,456	Deficit \$4,544	\$245,000	\$232,428.90	Deficit \$12,571.10
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See Mark Ohlert, Rob Kegel or John Noggle with any questions

You can **now give**
online, by scanning this
QR Code

