

ST. LUKE'S GOOD NEWS!

Monthly Newsletter of St Luke's UCC, South Milwaukee, WI: *October 2026*

Welcome to our newsletter for St Luke's UCC in South Milwaukee, Wisconsin! I am Reverend Peter Haskins and as of April 1st of 2025 I am the settled pastor of St Luke's. I am honored to be St Luke's pastor as we all continue the vision of our church to "be a spiritually united body, empowering the members to be fully involved in the growing life of the church." If you or anyone in your family needs pastoral assistance of any kind please contact me at (812) 887-1472 or stlukesuccpastor2@gmail.com I am available during the week and will be in South Milwaukee area every Sunday morning for our 11 am worship.

October 4: Worldwide Communion/Holy Communion

Reminder: *St Luke's UCC's Human Concerns collection this month is: 'International Foods: pastas, rice, taco shells, sauerkraut, ramen noodles, sweet & sour sauce, taco sauce, etc.

October 5: Wedding Anniversary for Chris & Lynn P.

October 25: Noisy Offering

Daylight Savings time ends on November 1

Psalm 23

The Lord is my shepherd, I lack nothing. He makes me lie down in green pastures, he leads me beside quiet waters, he refreshes my soul. He guides me along the right paths for his name's sake. Even though I walk through the darkest valley I will fear no evil, for you are with me, your rod and staff, they comfort me. You prepare a table before me in the presence of my enemies. You anoint my head with oil, my cup overflows. Surely your goodness and love will follow me all the days of my life and I will dwell in the house of the Lord forever...

FRIENDS IN OUR PRAYERS:

*KAYE POVLIICH

*LAURIE BOUCHER

* RAY & CONNIE DRAVER

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Pastor's Corner

Blessings to you and your family during this beautifully cool and damp Fall of 2026! It is my hope and our prayer that you and your family are doing well. As we enter October, please reach out if you or anyone in your family has any pastoral requests. I am happy to talk with you or meet with you whether it be for a hospital stay or counseling or just to chat. Please don't hesitate to contact me at (812) 887-1472.

As we continue to study the Acts of the Apostles in our Sunday Sermon Series, we find ourselves in Chapter 15 where Paul and Barnabas and the early church are struggling to find their identity. Were they obedient Jews who

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were the loyal followers of this radical prophet Jesus Christ or were they something completely, a new religion maybe? In this chapter we see Peter re-enter the scene with an emphatic 'no!' to the Pharisees who wanted to stick to the litigiousness of the law and demand that all these new Gentile converts be 'circumcised.' Peter set them straight by saying that everyone was saved by grace, period. End of discussion, as far as Peter (the first Pope) was concerned.

I hear a lot these days that we are living in unprecedented times of confusion, violence and conflict. I would have to admit that I do agree on many fronts, in particular when it comes to the anti-intellectualism and anti-science of our present age, I think we are at a low ebb in terms of our culture and society. When it comes to our religion, I think it's pretty obvious that from the very beginning of Christianity (when it was called 'The Way'), we have had a tremendous amount of conflict. Breaking away from Judaism was enormously difficult and tragic. But something happened to these early ancestors of our spiritual tradition: the resurrection. Paul, Peter, John, Thomas, Mary...these folks all experienced something, something new and cosmic, other-worldly and amazing. And better yet, they were forced to never be able to return to their old world. This experience of the risen Christ was so thorough and ecstatic, so marvelous and authentic, so deep and peaceful that they were unable to return to their fishing fleet and wait on Social Security to kick-in. They had to move...and move they did...

Pastor Pete Haskins, M. Div.

St. Luke's UCC/South Milwaukee, WI

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