

UPDATED NOVEMBER 16, 2020



St. Luke Presbyterian Church's Current COVID-19 Strategy to Protect Our Church Family

Dear St. Luke Family,

As we approach the holiday season, your Session and committees have been preparing ways to keep you safe and make a meaningful Advent and Christmas season. Due to the overcrowding of our hospitals and high-levels of community spread of COVID-19, Session has extended some of our precautions and added others:

- 1. All worship opportunities will continue online only. In-person worship opportunities have been suspended through February.** This saddens us all, but we must do what we can to encourage the safety of all. When our community situation improves, we are prepared with safety measures to allow for in-person worship, and we are confident that this day will come. Until then, we have many people working to bring you meaningful communication, scripture readings, caroling and more throughout the holiday season.
- 2. The building will be closed to all group meetings until our community threat level decreases below a Level Red.** Small groups and committees are encouraged to find ways to meet virtually. A few outside events are scheduled in the upcoming weeks, but everyone is encouraged to exercise extreme caution.
3. Several special events will hope to unite our congregation and support our traditions of celebrating God's gift of love! Here are some highlights:
 - **Advent Drive-by Workshop, Saturday, December 5 11am-1pm.** Craft and activity packets will be available to pick up and do at home, provided by the Outreach Committee. Options will include cookie decorating, a special St. Luke ornament, home advent wreath, and more!
 - **Christmas Pageant, Sunday, December 20 streaming on Facebook at 11am,** available later on YouTube and Facebook. Our LOGOS committee is working with families and our young adults to prepare a program with poetry, scripture, and caroling during worship.
 - **Christmas Caroling Event, Sunday, December 20 at 4pm,** Dr. Bob Hansen, choir members, and I will lead participants in our favorite carols. Phone and Internet personal interaction will be available. More details to come!
 - **Christmas Eve Candlelight and Communion Service, Wednesday, December 24 streaming on Facebook at 5pm,** available later on YouTube and Facebook. Our traditional service celebrated across time and space with special music selections and inspirational Christmas message.

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We encourage everyone to look for ways to reach out to your church family by mail and phone, so that we can support one another. Thank you to all of you who have volunteered to help with virtual worship recordings over the next couple of months! This also helps us remember that the church is not a building, the church is God's people coming together, united by the Holy Spirit. With confidence and hope, may the Spirit keep us connected and open our hearts to creative ways to continue being the church.

Please feel free to reach out to me if you have any concerns or would like a porch/curbside visit with Communion.

We lift up thanksgiving for each of you in this holiday season and pray for your health and wellbeing.

Shalom y'all,
Pastor Kati
& the Elders of your St. Luke Session

Additional Note: For everyone's safety during this pandemic surge of cases, we offer contactless pick-up and drop off communication for the church office through our tower door during our normal office hours. Please notify us of your upcoming visit by calling in advance. Once you come into the building, if you would like to visit with Melissa, we ask that you do not enter the church office unless necessary. You can wave to Melissa through her window, call her on the phone or even just say hello through the intercom when you come to the door. If you would like to visit with me, you may make an appointment or request a visit.