



the CHALLENGE



January
2020

From the Desk of
Brennan Blue

IN THIS ISSUE

- 2 Thank you, Seasoned Lukers
- 2 Want to do Lunch?
- 3 Worship Participants
- 3 January Birthdays
- 4 Dementia Friendly Church
- 4 Care Givers
- 5 Confronting White Supremacy: Part 2
- 6 Dinners 4x8 or 9
- 6 Women Connecting
- 6 Carol's Book is Out!
- 7 The Book Group
- 8 Faith Formation
- 9 January Calendar

Season of Giving

The "season of giving" wouldn't be complete without an update on St. Luke's end of year giving. Thanks to careful budgeting and bonus funding from our "burn the mortgage" event series, the Social Justice Collaboration Team had the pleasure of designating over \$56,000 in year-end financial gifts to a thoughtful variety of partners and causes. These gifts come in addition to both our monthly change-for-change donations and funding disbursements that occur throughout the year as we work along side our partners for justice, peace and a fair future for all.

(Note: we aim to include more communication about these on-going, monthly funding grants in the *Challenge* - be on the lookout for a new feature section!)

A majority of these year-end funds were used to make major gifts to our partners of deepest engagement. Gifts ranging from \$8,000 to \$11,000 were given to:

- Division of Indian Work (DIW)
- Families Moving Forward/Beacon Interfaith Housing Coalition
- The ICA Foodshelf
- Liberty Community Church's The Healing Space and 21st Century Academy
- Minnesota Interfaith Power and Light (MNIPL)

Continued on next page

Photo: Highbush Cranberry; Viburnum trilobum

From the Desk of Brennan Blue continued

Secondary gifts ranging from \$500 - \$1,500 were given to:

- Green Valley Samaritans
- Immigrant Law Center of MN
- Meals on Wheels, MN Freedom Fund
- MoveFWD
- Pine Ridge Flute Society

The Social Justice Collaboration Team is ready to dive back into its work with our regular monthly meetings (3rd Sundays after worship). All are welcome to join us as we together guide and discern our shared work of learning, serving, advocating and giving. Interested in learning more or getting involved? Let me know! We've a great year ahead of us and I look forward to sharing in this important work together.

Yours in justice, joy and generosity,

Brennan Blue

Thank you!

Thank You!

Thanks to Seasoned St. Lukers, who donated \$375 and 45 pounds of food to ICA Foodshelf at the Seasoned Luker Christmas party!

Want to do lunch?

For the last 5 years, 19 St. Luke women have provided a monthly luncheon for the women at **Northside Healing Space** who are exiting the sex trade. Two people prepare and deliver the meal to St. Luke. Then it is delivered to Liberty Church before the women arrive. Now we could use a few more meal providers to round out our number. If you would be willing to collect or prepare a meal for the first Tuesday of the month once during the year, please sign up with Katie Williams – katiwilli@aol.com.



Worship Sundays 10:30 am

January 5 Communion

Preaching: Brennan Blue
Welcoming: Kathy Whatley, Peter Whatley
Greeting: Todd Pointer, Judy Schlichting
Liturgist: Carrie MacLeod
Ushers: Cel Smith, Greg Smith
Sound: Jim Gregory

January 12

Announcements
Preaching: C. P. Elliott
Welcoming: Dickie Smith
Greeting: Adele Sullivan, Chris Sullivan
Liturgist: Kim Pearson
Ushers: Todd Lindberg, Steve Warner
Sound: Mike Breckenridge

January 19

Preaching: Brennan Blue
Welcoming: Sue Kirchhoff
Greeting: Tammy Rogers, Randy Schumacher
Liturgist: Katie Williams
Ushers: Nancy Anderson, Don Ellenberger
Sound: Larry Stickler

January 26

Announcements
Preaching: Brennan Blue
Welcoming: Sue Kirchhoff
Greeting: Darrell Schmidt, Sharon Grostephan
Ushers: Frank Babka, Peter Whatley
Sound: Jim Gregory

Deacons: Gretchen Otto, Lou Frank

January Birthdays

January 1 Alex Belz
January 2 Larry Stickler
January 3 Joe Muñiz
January 3 Ann Woodbeck
January 5 Nicole Egan
January 6 Christopher Winslow
January 7 Tim Hayden
January 8 David Gregory
January 9 Holly Winters
January 9 Lori Cocking
January 9 Bill Frank
January 9 Benjamin Manning
January 9 Nelson Otto
January 10 Rene Larin
January 12 Carolyn Cuthill
January 12 Bob Cuthill
January 12 Sophia Hicks
January 12 Jere Cleaveland
January 13 Anthony Bottoli
January 15 Peter Urbanek
January 15 Tracie Bell
January 17 Tanner Anderson
January 18 Cindy Eyden
January 18 Hannah Roth
January 19 Gary Cocking
January 20 Rod Fisher
January 20 Carol Thomas
January 21 Jim Hayden
January 22 Charlie Bjork
January 23 Hannah Ungerman
January 23 Celia Smith
January 23 Nancy Olmsted
January 24 Ann Davies
January 26 Sandy Steelman
January 27 Liz Heuser
January 27 Samantha Klepfer
January 29 Margot Bell
January 31 Cecy Faster
January 31 Harding Van Schaack

Dementia Friendly Church

January Dementia Awareness Information

Tips for having a conversation with a person with dementia:

Come from the front, identify yourself and keep good eye contact.

Ideally, converse in a quiet space with minimal distractions.

Use short, simple phrases and repeat information as needed.

Ask one question at a time. Yes or no questions are good.

Speak slowly and clearly. Use a gentle and relaxed tone.

Patiently wait for a response while the person takes time to process what you said. (may be up to 20 seconds)

There is a brochure with Communication ideas on the back counter of the sanctuary. More resources are in the St. Luke library downstairs.

Local Resources

Minnetonka Dementia Friends Training is at Ridgedale Library the 2nd Monday of the month at 6:30 pm or at the Minnetonka Community Center the 1st Tuesday of each month at 12:00 pm.

Minnetonka Memory Cafe has added an additional class to try to meet the increased need.

For more information, please visit <https://eminnetonka.com/dementia-friendly-community#minnetonka-memory-cafe>

There are also Memory Cafes at the Chanhassen Senior Center and the Hopkins Library,

Questions or concerns? Please contact Jill Engeswick 952 426 2831, jillengeswick@gmail.com



Caregiver Support at St. Luke

Are you caring for a family member or friend? We know it can be exhausting and frustrating at times. It helps to talk with others who are in similar situations. There will be an initial meeting for caregivers on Sunday, January 26 from 11:45-1:15 in the West Room.

We will have some light snacks (you could bring a lunch for yourself if you want). We will offer each other support and brainstorm how we might continue this group in the future.

Although this is sponsored by the Dementia Friends of St. Luke, the person you care for does not need to have memory loss issues in order to be part of the support group.

Please contact Jill Engeswick to RSVP or if you have questions. Thanks.

952-426-2831, jillengeswick@gmail.com

Confronting White Supremacy: Part 2

Identifying why it's so hard for white communities to talk about race Sundays at 9:15 am in the East Room

January 5: Racism takes many forms. What do we mean when we say racism?

January 12: We are becoming more aware of our own unintentional racism. How do we navigate receiving feedback?

January 19: We have all heard racist comments. How do we respond?

January 26: Guilt and shame often hold us back from speaking up. How do we break through these common internal barriers?

Special Community Event:

Justice Choir

February 11, 2019 at 7:00 pm at St. Luke

Conductor, composer and co-founder of the national Justice Choir movement Tesfa Wondemagegnehu joins us for a special Justice Choir event. We'll share in dialogue while engaging in the empathetic, collaborative, and collective power of singing together to create change.



Dinners 4x8 or 9

Enjoy a once-a-month gathering with fellow St. Lukers by signing up for the February-May Dinners for 8 or 9. Sign up on the sheet in the back of the church or email Anne at the church office as a regular or reserve by the January 19 deadline.

You will be randomly assigned to a group and contacted by a coordinator to arrive at a meeting date. Rotating hosts will provide beverages and a main dish and others will provide sides. All are welcome!

If you have any questions, ask Judy Leatham (612-669-724) or Gretchen Otto (952-545-6191).

Women Connecting

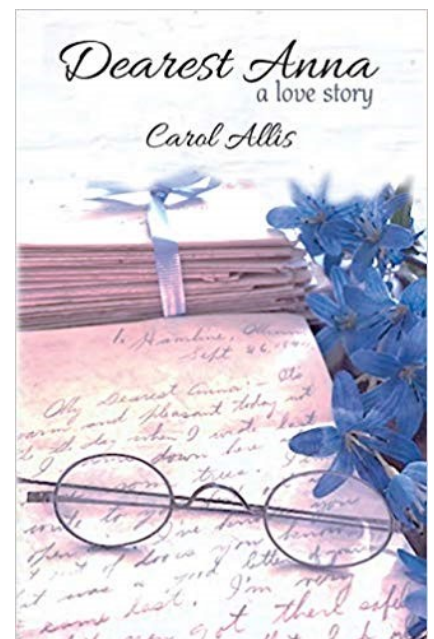
Share your hopes for the New Year at the January Women Connecting

You are invited to an evening of fun, laughter, and sharing at the next Women Connecting potluck on Sunday, January 12 starting at 5:00 pm at Adele Lennig Sullivan's house - 3506 Sunrise Drive West in Minnetonka. In honor of the New Year, we will be sharing our plans and hopes for 2020. Please bring a potluck offering of finger food. This event is open to all who identify as women and is a great way to get to know some of the wonderful women of St. Luke - whether you are a member or a visitor. RSVP to Adele if you are planning to come by sending an email to adele_lennig@outlook.com or calling 952-292-0392.

Carol's Book is Out

"Before my grandmother, there was Anna."

Dearest Anna: A Love Story – love letters from 1894 through 1898 between Carol Allis's grandfather and the woman he loved and lost – is finally published. Books are available from Carol or online at Amazon, Kindle, and Barnes and Noble. Come to her first book reading Wednesday, January 15, from 1:00 to 2:00 pm in the Great Room at Applewood Pointe Minnetonka, 12201 Minnetonka Blvd. Check out the book trailer at authorcarolallis.com. And think about this – what story will be lost if you don't tell it?



The Book Group

The St. Luke book group will meet Wednesday, January 8, at 9:30 at the home of Jenna Stickler, 8480 Franlo Rd #411, Eden Prairie, 952-934-3016. We will meet in the small dining room on the first floor.

We are reading "Where the Crawdads Sing" by Delia Owens:

For years, rumors of the "Marsh Girl" have haunted Barkley Cove, a quiet town on the North Carolina coast. So in late 1969, when handsome Chase Andrews is found dead, the locals immediately suspect Kya Clark, the so-called Marsh Girl. But Kya is not what they say. Sensitive and intelligent, she has survived for years alone in the marsh that she calls home, finding friends in the gulls and lessons in the sand. Then the time comes when she yearns to be touched and loved. When two young men from town become intrigued by her wild beauty, Kya opens herself to a new life—until the unthinkable happens.

February 12 - *Born a Crime: Stories from a South African Childhood* by Trevor Noah

March 11 - *The Dearly Beloved* by Cara Wall

April 8 - *Becoming* by Michelle Obama

May 13 - *Educated* by Tara Westover

June 10 - *Desert Queen* by Janet Wallach

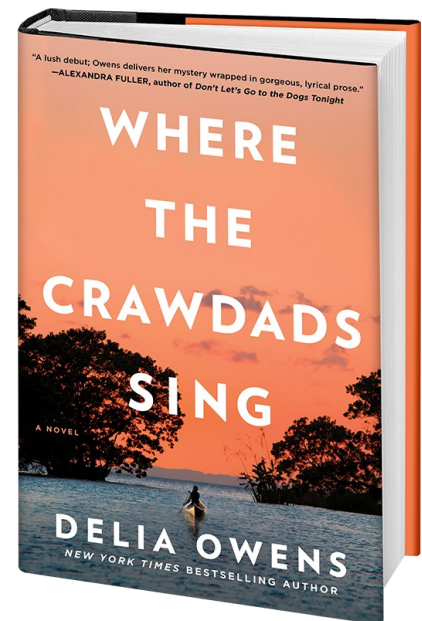
Directions from Jenna:

494 S to Exit 11C, MN 5/US 212 W.

Take 5 to Prairie Center Drive and turn right.

Go 1.1 miles to Franlo Rd (just past Flying Cloud Drive), Turn right.

Destination is on your right. 8480 Franlo Rd



A Really Useful Directory

Did you know:

You can be included in the church directory, official member or not? Just let the office know.

You should let the office know if your email, address, or phone number change?

You should let the office know if you drop your landline?

You can view the entire directory online at <http://www.stluke.mn/member-resources>. Click "Directory." (Ask Anne for the universal password.)

You can update your own information and add a picture to the directory? From the online directory scroll to bottom and click "Manage my family info" and follow prompts.

Paper directories are available in the office (shelves above the copier)?

Faith Formation

One review of the recent Christmas pageant was, "it was a Christmas miracle!" Now, maybe it was because worship got out about twenty minutes early, or maybe it was because our youth and children touched each of our hearts while warming our souls. Either way, the new year is here and with it comes preparation for *Fire and Ice*, our annual youth trip to Wilderness Canoe Base at the boundary waters. After a full and meaningful Advent, some sacred sabbath time in the wilderness offers a peaceful getaway. This trip is taking the place of our regular youth focus groups this month.



Our Sunday Morning Faith Groups are meeting regularly again. Families with little ones are invited to come at 9:00am on Sundays for our infant/toddler playdates in the garden court; parents can take advantage of our youth child care worker to attend our Adult Education forums at 9:15am, this month resuming our curriculum on Confronting White Supremacy.

Also, our Confirmation class will be taking a field trip to the Basilica of St. Mary this month, to experience a traditional Catholic service, before walking their art installation, "The Stations of the Cross." Afterward, they'll debrief the experience as a group.



January Calendar

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
29 9:00 AM Infant/Toddler Play Date 10:30 AM Worship	30 7:00 PM Choir Rehearsal 7:30 PM AA	31	1 New Year's Day 7:00 PM ACA Study Group	2 9:30 AM Staff Meeting - tentative 7:00 PM ACA 7:00 PM Depression, Anxiety & Grief Support	3	4
5 9:00 AM Infant/Toddler Play Date 9:15 AM Adult Education 10:30 AM Worship w/ Communion 10:45 AM Sunday School 11:45 AM Dementia Friends 11:45 AM Sunday Club Play Date 6:00 PM Youth Group Dinner	6 Epiphany 7:00 PM One World Community Choir 7:30 PM AA	7 6:30 PM Minnetonka Climate Initiative 6:45 PM Deacon Meeting	8 9:30 AM The Book Group	9 7:00 PM ACA 7:00 PM Depression, Anxiety & Grief Support	10 4:00 PM People Serving People	11 7:45 AM Hermanos
12 9:00 AM Infant/Toddler Play Date 9:15 AM Adult Education 10:30 AM Worship 10:45 AM Sunday School 11:45 AM Dementia Friends 5:00 PM Women Connecting 6:30 PM Confirmation	13 10:00 AM Minnesota Peace Project 7:00 PM Choir Rehearsal 7:00 PM One World Community Choir 7:30 PM AA	14	15 10:00 AM The Seekers 7:00 PM ACA Study Group	16 7:00 PM ACA 7:00 PM Depression, Anxiety & Grief Support	17 Fire and Ice	18 Fire and Ice
19 Fire and Ice 9:00 AM Infant/Toddler Play Date 9:15 AM Adult Education 10:30 AM Worship 10:45 AM Sunday School 11:45 AM Dementia Friends	20 Fire and Ice Martin L. King, Jr. Day 7:00 PM Choir Rehearsal 7:00 PM One World Community Choir 7:30 PM AA	21 6:00 PM Adult Ed FG 6:45 PM Session Meeting	22 1:00 PM Communications Team	23 2:00 PM Challenge Deadline 7:00 PM ACA 7:00 PM Depression, Anxiety & Grief Support	24 4:00 PM People Serving People	25
26 9:00 AM Infant/Toddler Play Date 9:15 AM Adult Education 10:30 AM Worship 10:45 AM Sunday School 11:45 AM Dementia Friends	27 7:00 PM Choir Rehearsal 7:00 PM One World Community Choir 7:30 PM AA	28	29	30 7:00 PM ACA 7:00 PM Depression, Anxiety & Grief Support	31 4:00 PM People Serving People	1

St. Luke Staff and Communications

Every member and friend, Ministers

Rev. Brennan Blue (he/him/his), **Senior Pastor**

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612-518-7737 cell

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801-556-1881 cell

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david@stluke.mn

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will@stluke.mn

Darla Monson, Finance Secretary

952-473-7378, darla@stluke.mn or finance@stluke.mn

Anne Deuring (she/her/hers), **Secretary**

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Randy Lofgren, Custodian/Sexton

952-473-7378

Jill Engeswick, Dementia Friendly Coordinator

952-426-2831, jillengeswick@gmail.com

Mary Lou Hoff & Ginny Larson, BeFriender Coordinators

952-920-1976 and 952-210-8388

Joe Anderson & Brenda Davis, Sunday Morning Custodians

Solveig Lee (she/her/hers), **Childcare Worker**

St. Luke Presbyterian Church
3121 Groveland School Road
Minnetonka, MN 55391

OFFICE HOURS

Monday-Thursday
8:30 am-4:00 pm

MAILING ADDRESS

3121 Groveland School Road
Minnetonka, MN 55391

WEB ADDRESS

www.stluke.mn

NEWSLETTER SCHEDULE

"The Challenge" is published monthly.
The deadline for submitting articles
for the February newsletter is:
2:00 pm, January 23
to office@stluke.mn

St. Luke is a joyful, inclusive and compassionate community on a spiritual journey
seeking to do justice, make peace, act mercifully, and walk humbly with God.