

UNILU NEWS & EVENTS October 21, 2020



FROM PASTOR JON

So, I was in the sanctuary yesterday and came across this bulletin. Like a time capsule it reminded me that was our last Sunday together before we moved to online worship - - a mere week later.

Those were crazy, confusing days as we didn't know as

much about Covid-19 as we wanted or needed. Stories captured our attention from Washington State, then New York City and New Jersey; ICU's being overrun, refrigerator trucks called in to serve as temporary morgues.

We were relatively safe through mid April, some even hoped we could be together by Easter...or Pentecost Sunday...or All Saints Sunday...or Christmas Eve?

I can't thank you enough during this time as you've adapted to online worship and checked out the daily devotions. How you have remained faithful in your financial support for UniLu's ministries, as your current situation allows. For your enthusiasm for the yard signs, or appreciation for the note cards, or your ongoing response for local food pantries and the Homecoming Habitat Build. For your willingness to prioritize Lutheran Campus Ministry's use of the Education Building. From the beginning of the pandemic our Council said we would take both our faith and science seriously. And we still are. On Monday night we selected a Task Force to put together a concrete plan on how we can begin to safely regather for in person worship. PLEASE NOTE: We will continue to offer our worship online, not only for those who feel safer at home but also for the people we have reached across the state and around the country who tune in (a wonderful blessing of being catapulted online.)

For now, we are still worshiping exclusively online. For our All Saints Sunday service on 11/1, please contact either me or Pastor Josh with the name(s) of any loved ones you would like us to memorialize by lighting a votive candle in worship (we will already be lighting ones in memory of our siblings in Christ from UniLu who have died since last All Saints Sunday.) Please also consider lighting a candle at home as part of the service. We have extra votives in the narthex if you'd like to pick one up (and return the first time we are back together!)

God's peace & hope, Pastor Jon



THOUGHT FOR THE WEEK

Monday, October 19th in this church year celebrates Luke, the evangelist and writer of our third gospel and Acts. In *The Word in*

Season for Monday, Pastor John Honer-Ibler of Unity Lutheran Church in Brookfield, Wisconsin talks about two words that appear in Luke's gospel just twice, at the beginning and at the end of Jesus' life. These words are "great joy."

Luke 2:10

But the angel said to them, 'Do not be afraid. I bring you good news that will cause great joy for all the people.

Luke 24:51-52 While he was blessing them, he left them and was taken up into heaven. Then they worshiped him and returned to Jerusalem with great joy. I must admit that many times in the last 7 months great joy has not been my most prevalent emotion. But there have been times of great joy. Yesterday, our Tuesday bible study met via zoom. It is a great joy to hear from Nancy Guthrie and see, as well as hear, people share our faith. Each Sunday when Ed and I attend church virtually and each day when I start my day with either Pastor Jon or Pastor Josh, there is joy in my heart. Every time I get worried and pray to God and feel God's peace I experience joy. Seeing the beauty of God's creation in nature and realizing that God is with us brings great joy.

As we ended our Bible Study yesterday, I will end this devotion with Revelation 11:15 from Handel's Messiah.

The kingdom of this world has become the kingdom of our Lord and of his Christ, and he shall reign forever and ever.

What great joy! Thank you God!

Jean Mehlman

PARISH NEWS & UPDATES



PLEDGE, TIME, AND TALENT

We are using an online Pledge, Time and Talent form electronically this year for your convenience and safety in this time of the COVID-19 pandemic.

But, don't worry, if you would like to have a paper copy, we can provide one. Please email Marty High (<u>marty@martyhigh.com</u>) or Abi (<u>unilusecretary@gmail.com</u>) for a paper form.

To access the online form click on this <u>link</u>. You may use the link as many times as you like. For example, you can make a pledge for a family and a separate submission for Time and Talent pledge for an individual (child or adult). Every individual in the family can submit a time and talent form without the pledge form. Everyone in the family can participate in our Church.

STRATEGIC GIVING FOR



RETIREES

You may be wondering if you can still do a Qualified Charitable Distribution (QCD) for

2020 even though RMDs are waived. The answer is yes! QCDs from IRAs are still available in 2020 and still offer tax benefits. And, you can support University Lutheran!

QCDs allow IRA owners who are age 70 ½ or older to directly transfer up to \$100,000 annually from an IRA to a charity, tax-free. If you are married, you and your spouse may both transfer \$100,000 for a total of \$200,000. QCDs are also available to IRA beneficiaries over age 70 ½ but are not available from company plans or active SEP or SIMPLE IRAs. The QCD is paid directly from the IRA to University Lutheran.

After tax reform arrived in 2018, QCDs became more valuable than ever. Many taxpayers now take the standard deduction that eliminates the tax deduction for charitable gifts. QCDs add to the standard deduction by allowing the donations made from the IRA to be excluded from income. With a QCD, you get a tax break for your charitable contribution even if you are using the standard deduction.

If you would like to make a QCD contribution to University Lutheran, feel free to contact the Stewardship Committee (<u>marty@martyhigh.com</u>) for more information.



WEDNESDAY MORNING BIBLE STUDY

If you are in the mood for some wonderful Lutheran camaraderie and Bible Study on Wednesdays at 10:00 AM, please join us at this <u>link</u>. If you have technical questions, contact <u>Marty High</u>. If you have questions regarding the class, contact <u>John Wagner</u>.

We would love for you to join us!



ADULT SUNDAY SCHOOL

The adult Sunday school class that is meeting via Zoom would like to

encourage you to join in. We are all still getting used to the digital meeting space but we are connecting and learning together. The topic for this quarter is *Love for One Another* and this week's lesson is titled *Love Your Enemies*. There are some of the participant books available at the church, in the classroom (cry room) beside the sanctuary, if you'd like to pick one up. But, you do not have to prepare, just join in at 10 am on Sunday morning and let's share a bit of time exploring how our love is a response to God's love for us.

> Join Zoom Meeting at 10 am Sunday. <u>https://9zest.zoom.us/j/96273872837?</u> pwd=RoVobW14aC9EN3FscENaeGxaRU02Zz09

> > Meeting ID: 962 7387 2837 Passcode: 865931



CHILDREN'S SUNDAY SCHOOL

Mollie Barrow is inviting you to a scheduled Zoom meeting.

Topic: Sunday School K-12 Time: 10:00 am Eastern Time (US and Canada)

Every week on Sunday at 10 am until Dec 27th.

Join Zoom Meeting: https://us02web.zoom.us/j/81812001614? pwd=bmk5cEdmN1FkdGtONUtMQmpjeDJSQT09

Meeting ID: 818 1200 1614 Passcode: SSK-12

FROM THE STEWARDSHIP COMMITTEE



To give electronically, look for this icon on the lower right of the University Lutheran webpage at <u>http://uniluclemson.org/</u>. Click on "Give an Offering."

Or <u>CLICK HERE</u> to go directly to the giving page.

THINGS TO KEEP IN MIND AS WE NAVIGATE COVID-19 PUBLIC HEALTH EMERGENCY TOGETHER (Subject to Change as Circumstances Change)

- All worship services and church meetings will be conducted online until CDC/NIH give a declaration that people can gather in groups of more than 100. Sunday service livestreamed at 9 AM on Facebook <u>https://www.facebook.com/uniluclemson/</u> later posted to our website <u>www.uniluclemson.org</u> and YouTube <u>https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCQVMnXOXzFkX65vue_fONOg</u>.
- Council has requested that the pastors not have in-person pastoral visits, except in the case of life-threatening emergency.
- Pastors will use telecare or other methods for the duration of this public health emergency.
- Pastors can be reached via cell phone 24/7. Please DO NOT CALL THE CHURCH OFFICE. Pastor Jon: 843-304-5664; Pastor Josh: 919-744-1590.
- Church administrative assistant, Abi Donhauser will work remotely from her home office. She can be reached during normal office hours Monday Thursday, 7 am to 12 noon & 1 pm to 2:30 pm; Friday 8 am to 12 noon at 864-722-5504 or by email; <u>unilusecretary@gmail.com</u>.
- LCM meals will be provided as boxed/to-go meals rather than usual group meals. A small number of people will help with meal preparation.
- This public health emergency may leave people feeling isolated. To combat this, Council and others in the congregation, who desire to do so, (volunteers are welcome!) will be asked to contact others regularly to check in (lists will be provided).
- Church facilities remain available to congregation members, but we suggest that this be for INDIVIDUALS ONLY AND NOT FOR GATHERINGS/MEETINGS. Please thoroughly sanitize after use.
- Clemson Community Care will continue their regular schedule of operations. Donations can be made at the church (baskets in narthex) or can be brought directly to their facility. Online monetary donations are

also greatly appreciated

UNILU ONGOING EVENTS

SUNDAY:

Worship 9 am on Facebook Live https://www.facebook.com/uniluclemson/

Adult Bible Study 10 am

Linda Holt <u>lindaGTholt@bellsouth.net</u>

"Love for one another"

(Link to join at 10 am on Sunday in Adult Sunday School article above)

Youth Sunday School 10 am Mollie Barrow <u>mbarrowjr@aol.com</u>

(Link to join at 10 am on Sunday in Children's Sunday School article above)

First Sunday of Each Month 10:30 - 11 am Drive Up Communion In church upper parking lot

MONDAY - SATURDAY:

Morning Devotion "Jammies with Jesus" 7:30 am on Facebook Live
https://www.facebook.com/uniluclemson/

TUESDAY:

Bible Study 10 - 11:15 am Karen Dreher <u>jkdreher@att.net</u> "The Son of David"

WEDNESDAY:

Bible Study 10 am Marty High <u>marty@martyhigh.com</u> "The Book of Acts"

FRIDAY:

Zoom Drop in with Renee & Pastor Jon 5 - 6 pm Drop in for a few minutes or hangout for the full hour. Contact Pastor Jon <u>pastorjon12@gmail.com</u> for the Zoom link.

UNILU CONCERNS & CELEBRATIONS

UNILU PRAYER CONCERNS

PRAYER CONCERNS for University Lutheran Members, Family and Friends: Alton Fanning; Brenda Monn's mom, Betty Lighty; Stephen Sanders; Kenneth Cothran, Sr.; Sarah Heyer's family; Gregg Dupree; Kenneth Cheek's family; Marty Copenhaver & family; Jimmie Pletta & family; Gail Paul; Pat Wagner; Rosalyn Flanigan; George Harris; Tony Quesada; Randy Gilchrist; Larry Bock; Joyce Lillehamer.

UNILU CELEBRATIONS

Celebrating Birthdays this Coming Week: Ed Mehlman; Katherine Pelfrey; Jean Taras; Josh Summers; Susan Boatwright.

Celebrating Wedding Anniversaries this Week: Harold & Linda Holt; Nick & Addy Willis.

PARISH INFORMATION

Click <u>HERE</u> for UniLu Calendar Click <u>HERE</u> for Prayer Fellowship List

LINKS

SC LUTHERAN MAGAZINE

UNILU WEBSITE • LECTIONARY/READINGS

LUTHERAN CAMPUS MINISTRY • SC SYNOD

ELCA GOOD GIFTS

MISS A SERVICE?

The recorded church sermons, audio and video, are posted weekly to the website: <u>www.uniluclemson.org</u> and to the University Lutheran Facebook page: <u>https://www.facebook.com/uniluclemson/</u>

REMOTE CHURCH OFFICE HOURS:

Monday–Thursday 7 am–12 pm; 1 pm–2:30 pm

Fridays 8 am - 12 Noon

Abi can be reached during the above hours at: 864-722-5504 or unilusectetary@gmail.com

UNIVERSITY LUTHERAN CHURCH MISSION STATEMENT

University Lutheran is a family of faith, called by the Holy Spirit to be one ministry serving both our community and university. The Spirit calls us to make known, by word and deed, the story of God's love in Jesus. Our worship together empowers us to grow as disciples as we receive, celebrate, and share God's gifts with all of God's creation and created ones.