



UNILU NEWS & EVENTS

November 25, 2020



FROM PASTOR JON

The season of Advent begins this Sunday, November 29. Advent is a season of waiting, of anticipation, of preparing. Sounds a whole lot like much of 2020!

But this waiting is different. This anticipation will give birth to hope. This preparation recalls our daily call to return to our baptism; to consciously focus on God our creator, redeemer and sustainer. The alpha and omega, the beginning and the end.

I invite you to join in our **special Wednesday night 7 PM Advent services on December 2, 9, 16 and 23.** (These will be on Facebook live, then available for future viewing on UniLu's Facebook Page or UniLu's YouTube channel.) We will light the Advent wreath as the choir sings "Light One Candle to Watch for Messiah". Pastor Josh or I will offer a short meditation and we will join in singing (or listening!) to *Holden Evening Prayer*, a beautiful, reflective worship to close the day.

The new church calendar year begins this Sunday bringing with it new hopes for the coming year.

Please continue to be diligent in wearing your masks, in physically distancing

whenever feasible, enjoying some outdoor fresh air as much as possible, and keeping those hands washed! Please be safe with your Thanksgiving plans so that we can all be reunited in the coming year!

God's peace, justice & hope,

Pastor Jon

(P.S. The reason the Advent wreath has two candles lit is that this is a photo from last year. I forgot my phone/camera at home this morning so improvising once again!)



THOUGHT FOR THE WEEK

Sarah Young in her devotion for Monday (November 23) in *Jesus Calling* uses one of my favorite Bible verses, Romans 8:38-39.

Romans 8:38-39:

For I am convinced that neither death nor life, neither angels nor demons, neither the present nor the future, nor any powers, neither height nor depth, nor anything else in all creation, will be able to separate us from the love of God that is in Christ Jesus our Lord.

In this Thanksgiving week that is different from many such weeks I have known, giving thanks to God for the gift of his son Jesus is at the top of the list along with giving thanks for almost 50 years of marriage to Ed, two wonderful daughters and their families, and friends both old and new.

I need constant reminders of God's love. It is too easy for me to try and "do it myself" and forget that I have God on my side. But God provides wonderful reminders throughout the day, starting with *Jammies with Jesus* and ending with the possibility of a beautiful sunset. Bible Study on Tuesdays and Wednesdays (join us for our 4 week Tuesday Advent Study described in the newsletter below) and enjoying God's creation throughout the day reminds me that God is in charge. Watching the ducks who seem to have made our cove their home for the winter, laughing at the squirrels, who try to outwit Ed and get food from the "squirrel-proof" bird feeder, and marveling at the night sky with Orion in it provide an amazing and varied picture of God's creation.

Thank you God for your creation and your love for us. May each of you find

many reminders that God's love is always with you as you go through this week.

Jean Mehlman

LUTHERAN CAMPUS MINISTRY



THANKSGIVING BLESSINGS

Blessings this Thanksgiving as you find ways to celebrate safely with people you love - whether that's virtually, outdoors, etc. Last week LCM put out an electronic newsletter for October and November to keep people up to date. It includes a nice tribute to Rev. Gene Copenhaver by LCM alum, Dan Shonka.

Check it out here:

<https://lp.constantcontactpages.com/cu/88Civ4F/lcmoctobernovember>

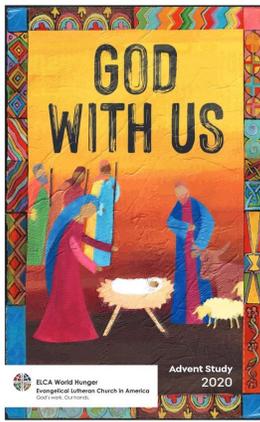
PARISH NEWS & UPDATES



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 (marty@martyhigh.com) or Abi (unilusecretary@gmail.com) for a paper form.

To access the online form click on this [link](#). 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.



"GOD WITH US" ADVENT STUDY 2020

4 Weeks - via Zoom - Tuesdays – 10 am

Dec. 1 st - *Keep Awake*

Dec. 8 th - *Prepare*

Dec. 15 th - *Comfort*

Dec. 22 nd – *Presence*

“GOD WITH US” booklet is available in the Narthex or download at:

<https://download.elca.org/ELCA%20Resource%20Repository/ELCA-AdventStudy2020.pdf>

ZOOM SIGN UP or questions: Karen Dreher 864 888 2828 - jkdreher@att.net

Jean Mehlmen 864 944 5205 - jmehlman43@gmail.com



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 [link](#). If you have technical questions, contact [Marty High](#). If you have questions regarding the class, contact [John Wagner](#).

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.

<https://9zest.zoom.us/j/96273872837?>

[pwd=RoVobW14aC9EN3FscENaeGxaRUo2Zz09](https://9zest.zoom.us/j/96273872837?pwd=RoVobW14aC9EN3FscENaeGxaRUo2Zz09)

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](https://us02web.zoom.us/j/81812001614?pwd=bmk5cEdmN1FkdGtONUtMQmpjeDJSQT09)

Meeting ID: 818 1200 1614

Passcode: SSK-12



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 (marty@martyhigh.com) for more information.



FROM THE STEWARDSHIP COMMITTEE

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

Or [CLICK HERE](#) 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 <https://www.facebook.com/uniluclemson/> later posted to our website www.uniluclemson.org and YouTube https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCQVMnXOXzFkX65vue_fONog.
- 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; unilusecretary@gmail.com.
- 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

WIDER COMMUNITY OUTREACH



SANTA SHOPPE - THE DREAM CENTER, EASLEY

Please bring unwrapped toys or books to the Narthex by **MONDAY, NOV. 30TH**. Home pick-up is available for gifts, just give us a call. You can also make **cash donations to University Lutheran, mark memo: Santa Shoppe**. Please make monetary donations by **NOVEMBER 24TH**.

The good news: Parents will be able to select gifts for their children at the Santa Shoppe. Parents can also earn credit money by taking classes or supporting the Dream Center.

Thank you for your support, the need may be even greater this year!

Questions or comments: Karen Dreher; jkdreher@att.net or 864-888-2828.

UNILU ONGOING EVENTS

SUNDAY

Worship at 9 am on Facebook Live

<https://www.facebook.com/uniluclemson/>

Adult Bible Study, 10 am

Linda Holt lindaGTholt@bellsouth.net

"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 mbarrowjr@aol.com

(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" at 7:30 am on Facebook Live

<https://www.facebook.com/uniluclemson/>

TUESDAY

Bible Study, 10 - 11:15 am

Karen Dreher jkdreher@att.net

"The Son of David"

WEDNESDAY

Bible Study, 10 am

Marty High marty@martyhigh.com

"The Book of Isaiah"

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 pastorjon12@gmail.com for the Zoom link.

UNILU CONCERNS & CELEBRATIONS

UNILU PRAYER CONCERNS

PRAYER CONCERNS for University Lutheran Members, Family and Friends:
Mike Strand, Alton Fanning; Brenda Monn's mom, Betty Lighty; Kenneth Cothran, Sr.; Sarah Heyer's family; Gregg Dupree; 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: Farrell Brown; James Bartsch; Laura Black; Bill Neary; Aija Seflic.
Celebrating Wedding Anniversaries this Coming Week: Kevin & Molly Parkhill.

PARISH INFORMATION

Click [HERE](#) for UniLu Calendar
Click [HERE](#) 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: www.uniluclemson.org and to the
University Lutheran Facebook page:
<https://www.facebook.com/uniluclemson/>

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](tel: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.*