



## UNITED LUTHERAN CHURCH OF PROCTOR

October 2021



### Thoughts from Pastor Liz

Grace and peace to you, siblings in Christ!

When you think of God, what is the first thing you think? How do you feel? What do you see?

How did your image and relationship with God develop? Were there pictures in your home? Stories read and told? Practices of worship, singing, or prayer? Formative experiences?

October 31st is Reformation Day, when we commemorate the Reformation, a movement of church renewal in Europe in the 1500s. One leader of this movement was German monk, priest, and professor Martin Luther. Our congregation is in this tradition, which is why we are called “Lutheran.”

Early in his life, Martin Luther developed an image of God that was harsh and frightening. This image may have emerged from a mixture of a number of places: church teaching, demanding parents, a dangerous and uncertain world, and his own health struggles. Luther was plagued by a debilitating fear of God and sense of his own unworthiness. He never felt like he was enough. This changed through guidance from his spiritual advisor, who put him on a path that led him to encounter our loving God in renewed scriptural study.

Luther’s experience of God changed, and that shift changed him and the whole church! Luther came to discover that God is love, acting towards us with grace. Through Jesus, God comes towards us with gifts of forgiveness and life. No longer do we have to push ourselves to climb up to God through good works or right belief; we rest and rely on the work Jesus has already done for us. In faith, which itself is a gift of God, we cling to Jesus’ faithfulness: Jesus has done everything for us! Luther discovered that even in his sin, he is enough, he is worthy of God’s abundant love.

Luther’s shifting experience of God led him to preach and work against practices in the church that made people feel unworthy and structures that relied on a hierarchy of holiness among people. He worked to expand people’s access to the Bible so that they could follow his path of discovering a loving God for themselves. He encouraged ordinary people to see their lives as opportunities to live and share the gospel.

As your pastor, my hope is that I can help you to discover and claim an image of God that helps you to know God as loving and grace-filled, and know yourself as worthy and called to share the gospel. Centering ourselves in God’s love, we can act with love and grace towards others, and through us they will come to know God. I’d be happy to meet with you and talk about your image of God, where that image came from, and how you can grow in discovering and living in God’s love for you! You are beloved and worthy because Jesus has made you so!

God is with you!  
Pastor Liz

**Pastor Liz’s drop-in hours: Mondays 9-11; Wednesdays 2:45-4:45**

**Email: [pastorliz@proctorlutheran.org](mailto:pastorliz@proctorlutheran.org)**

**Cell (Sun-Thurs workday, or emergencies): 218-461-0933**

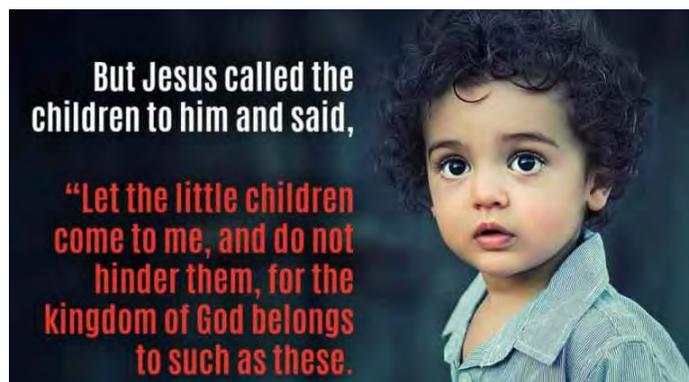
## Visioning: Community Interviews

What is God's purpose for us at United? How can we live into that purpose? The pandemic has disrupted our lives, but perhaps also given us greater clarity about what's important in life. Our church will be using this opportunity to gain clarity and cohesiveness around our life as a church. Part of our process will be interviewing members of the congregation and members of the surrounding community to better know the needs and gifts both within and outside our congregation. Our goal will be to hear how we as United are uniquely situated to live the gospel in partnership with others for the well-being of our wider Proctor community. If this sounds interesting to you, please contact Pastor Liz by Oct 5 as we prepare to launch this initiative



### Book Club

The book club is starting up again and we are welcoming more members, men and women. We meet on the 2nd Saturday of the month at 9:30 a.m. in the conference room. Books are chosen from the Duluth Library's "Book In A Bag" collection. Topics vary from historical, biography, mystery, etc. Members comment that some of these are books they wouldn't have selected to read except for the book club, but they do enjoy. Membership is limited to 10 (that's how many books are in the bag) but we could share and add more members. No pressure, just interesting conversation. Join us!!  
Karen Nolin



### Christian Education

Bible Study Wednesdays 2:15pm  
Now through Oct 20th, we're using Lutheran Social Services' "And Who is My Neighbor: Talking about Race and Racial Equity." Packets are on the table in the narthex. Join in whenever you can.

Please contact the office to register students for Sunday School and Confirmation.

[RodendorfMN@q.com](mailto:RodendorfMN@q.com) or 591-8587. Gordy Westendorf, Education Chair.



## Evangelism/Outreach

Duluth Harbor Mission focuses on adults experiencing homelessness and addiction. Located at 2910 W. 3<sup>rd</sup> Street, its mission presently has programs to meet basic needs of food, clothing and hygiene. Spiritual needs are also met through Bible studies, fellowship and street outreach. The mission also has a house for women. Their goal is to restore hope and see lives go from simply surviving to thriving in the anchor of faith in Christ.

The United Lutheran Church of Proctor council has chosen to support this mission. The Evangelism/Outreach Committee is spearheading a fund raiser beginning October 1. The congregation has a personal connection. Claudia Gannucci's daughter, Veronica Ciurleo, is the director. We hope to have her speak at an October Sunday service.

This endeavor is a Thrivent Action Project. The Evangelism/Outreach committee has received \$250 as seed money. This money will be used to purchase hygiene needs for the mission. Our congregation is being challenged to donate \$1,000 and at least 100 more hygiene items. Donations of money and items will be taken through the end of October.

Please make checks payable to United Lutheran Church (Harbor Mission on memo line) and deposit hygiene items in the baskets in the entryway of the church as you come to worship. Drop off your checks at the church or mail them in to United Lutheran Church, 701 3<sup>rd</sup> Ave., Proctor, 55810. It is United Lutheran's mission to serve the community and the world as we connect with each other and God.

Linda Southerton, Evangelism/Outreach Chair

### HYGIENE ITEM NEEDS

Shampoo	Razors
Conditioner	Men and women's
deodorant	
Absorbent socks	Feminine products
Adult body wash	Baby wipes
Baby diapers sizes 1-6	Children's bubble bath
Baby shampoo	Baby wash
Toothpaste/toothbrushes	Shave cream



## October Birthdays

1st	Grace Kmecik
3rd	Charmain Huberty
5th	Tyler Jorgenson
6th	Addie Dardis
7th	Shari Lutzka
9th	Amie Lockwood
10th	Cheryl Fleckenstein
16h	Stephanie Hagen
20th	Cheryl Dewall
22nd	Trevor Leach
25th	Dorie Liskiewicz
27th	Gladys Haugen
28th	Tim Jorgenson
30th	Pam Lonne



## Property

Questions? Ideas? Contact Larry Sommer at 952-232-7919.



## Worship

- Everyone (over age 2) must wear a mask covering nose and mouth at all times inside the building.
- Group conversations should be held outdoors.
- When you arrive, please go directly to an open pew, picking up communion elements and a bulletin as you enter.
- Sit with those in your household or pod/bubble. Some pews will be marked “closed” to facilitate physical distancing. Windows will be open for airflow, so dress accordingly.
- At the close of worship, remain seated and take turns departing to allow for distancing. You may place your offerings in the plate as you depart.
- Polka Music Worship Oct 17  
We'll pick up the beat as we worship with special polka music with accordions! Stay tuned for more information!

## “CHRIST IN OUR HOME” DAILY DEVOTIONAL

Pick up the latest copy (October, November, December) of *Christ in Our Home*, just inside the back door of the church on a little table.

Stop by during office hours:  
Monday through Thursday  
8:30 - 11:30 a.m.



## In Our Prayers

Military folks serving our country;  
Marge Thoreson; Amber Spillman;  
Alice Sommer's sister, Margaret;  
Sue Schwarz's mother, Clarice;  
Jan Bakke; Durrell Richard; Betty Merling;  
Family of Amanda Saarela; Jim Gannucci;  
Kaitlynn Jackson, daughter of Kathy Benson.

Gladys Haugen, born Oct 21, 1920, died on September 18. We commend her into God's care and pray for her family and friends, that God would comfort them in their grief.

All prayer requests can be called to Alice Halvorson-Rohweder at 218-464-0201 or submitted online: [proctorlutheran.org/prayer](http://proctorlutheran.org/prayer)

# Online Giving

## New and Improved Mobile App

For those of you that use the mobile app, GivePlus is being replaced with Vanco Mobile. After September 30, 2021 you will not be able to make new donations through GivePlus.

Remove GivePlus



Install Vanco Mobile Faith Engagement



We encourage you to download the free Vanco Mobile app today! And it's easy for you to use:

- Your GivePlus Mobile log-in credentials stay the same in Vanco Mobile. No need for a new user ID or password.
- If you have recurring gifts set up, they will continue to be made as scheduled.

Vanco Mobile is available in the [Google Play](#) store and the [Apple App](#) store now. Download it today.

Directions for using the app can be found following this article.

Thank you for using GivePlus Mobile, we know you'll enjoy the Vanco Mobile app even more. **Remember, download the Vanco Mobile app. Give Plus will no longer be available after September 30, 2021.** And this does NOT affect anyone who has set up recurring giving through an automated bank withdrawal.

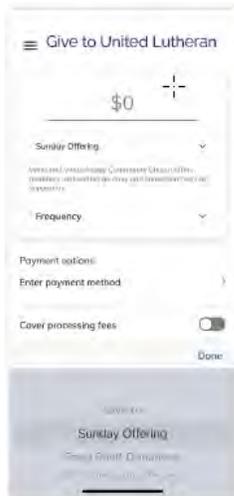
## HOW TO GIVE USING VANCO MOBILE

Support our ministries from anywhere. Go to the App Store or Google Play to download the Vanco Mobile app for free.



### 1. Search for Our Church

Enter your church's name or use the invite code and click **Search**. Then, select our church.



### 2. Select Your Fund and Amount

Select your fund and donation frequency, then select your payment method.



### 3. Enter Payment Method

Select a payment method and enter your credit card, debit card or bank account information. You can save this payment method for future donations.



### 4. Choose to Cover Processing Fees

You can choose to cover the donation processing fees by adding a small amount on top of your gift. Click the button to opt in.



### 5. Complete Your Donation

Review and complete your gift by clicking **Submit**.

## LETTER FROM THE EDITOR

### *The Story of the Goose – Lessons Learned*

Autumn is upon us. The geese are practicing “V” flying, which reminded me of a story I read when I was in seminary. It came from my bank’s newsletter. Here it is.



In the fall when you see geese heading south for the winter, flying in a “V” formation, think about what science has learned about why they fly that way. As each bird flaps its wings, it creates uplift for the bird immediately following it. By flying in a “V” formation, the whole flock can fly at least 71% farther than if each bird flew on its own.

**Lesson Learned:** People who share a common direction can get where they are going quicker and easier if they cooperate.

Whenever a goose falls out of formation, it feels the resistance of trying to go it alone and quickly gets back into formation to take advantage of flying with the flock. Also, the geese from behind honk to encourage those up front to keep up their speed.

**Lesson Learned:** If we have as much sense as a goose, we will work with others who are going in the same direction as we are.

When the lead goose gets tired, it rotates back in the wing and another goose flies on the point.

**Lesson Learned:** It pays to take turns doing the hard jobs.

When a goose weakens or is wounded and falls out of the formation, two geese fall out and follow down to help and protect it. They stay with it until it is either able to fly or until it dies, and only then do these two geese set out on their own or with another formation until they catch up with their own group.

**Lesson Learned:** If we had the sense of a goose, we would stand by each other like that.

Sounds like good sense for a church too, doesn't it?

Peace, Cheryl Fleckenstein

Please have newsletter submissions to me no later than the 20th of the month. Questions or suggestions? Call 608-495-3147, or email ([fleckensteincheryl@yahoo.com](mailto:fleckensteincheryl@yahoo.com))

# OCTOBER 2021

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
26	27	28	29	30	1	2
3 10 am Sunday school; 11 am worship	4 7 pm Boy Scouts	5 5 pm Girl Scouts; 7 pm Proctor AA	6 2:15 Bible Study; 4 pm confirmation	7 10 am Quilting	8	9 9:30 am Book Club, conf. room
10 11 am worship; noon Council	11 7 pm Boy Scouts	12 5 pm Girl Scouts; 7 pm Proctor AA	13 2:15 Bible Study; 4 pm confirmation	14 10 am Quilting	15	16
17 10 am Sunday School; 11 am Polka worship	18 6 pm Finance; 7 pm Boy Scouts	19 5 pm Girl Scouts; 7 pm Proctor AA	20 2:15 Bible Study; 4 pm confirmation	21 10 am Quilting	22	23
24 11 am worship	25	26 5 pm Girl Scouts; 7 pm Proctor AA	27 2:15 Bible Study; 4 pm confirmation	28 10 am Quilting	29	30
31 10 am Sunday School; 11 am worship	1	2	3	4	5	6

**The Church's Zoom Account Meeting ID and password are both the church phone number: 218-624-4255. The direct link to Zoom is <https://zoom.us/j/218-6244255>**  
**Please call Mary at the church office, 218-624-4255, Monday-Thursday mornings, to schedule a Zoom meeting for your group. She needs to place you on the calendar to make sure no one else has scheduled that time. Please don't assume you can meet without checking with her.**

**We welcome EVERYONE!**

United Lutheran Church of Proctor  
701 Third Avenue  
Proctor, MN 55810

Northeastern Minnesota Synod  
Evangelical Lutheran Church in America  
God's work: Our hands.

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**WELCOME TO OUR VISITORS**

Worship has resumed in the sanctuary at 11 a.m.! Please wear masks covering both nose and mouth in the church building, and maintain 6 feet physical distancing. See Worship Committee article for more details.

Within this newsletter are various events hosted by United during the month. You are invited to all. We look forward to seeing you.

**UNITED LUTHERAN CHURCH OF  
PROCTOR**

[www.proctorlutheran.org](http://www.proctorlutheran.org)

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