

St. Luke's Lutheran Church Congregational Meeting September 26, 2021

The Call Committee invites you to join them on Sunday, September 26th as Pastor Michael Galica leads St. Luke's in worship. Pastor Galica is the candidate selected by the Call Committee for congregational consideration to fill our pastoral vacancy. He will preach at both services (8:15 and 10:45 am). The 10:45 am service will be livestreamed. Visit stlks.com for the livestream link.

Meet and Greet Koinonia Café

Following each worship service.

There will be a meet and greet following each worship service in the Koinonia Café. Light refreshments will be provided.

Congregational Meeting Centennial Hall

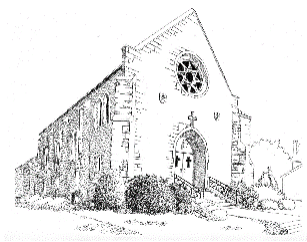
12:30 pm

A congregational meeting will be held at 12:30 pm in Centennial Hall. At this time a congregational vote will be taken as to extend a call or not to Pastor Galica.

As the coronavirus still plagues our daily lives, we understand the want and need to keep all of our parishioners safe. If you are not able to attend in person, the congregational meeting will be livestreamed with voting conducted virtually.

If you are planning to join the meeting **either in person or remotely**, please notify the church office (email - stlukessaxonburg@gmail.com or phone - 724-352-2333), sign up in the café or register online (stlks.com) by September 21, 2021. For those who will be attending virtually a direct link to the meeting will be sent via email to those who register.

A letter to the congregation from Pastor Galica is on the following page.



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Dear St. Luke's,

Greetings! I am Pastor Mike Galica, and your Call Committee asked me to write a brief introduction so you can get to know me a bit before I meet you in person. It's always an interesting proposition to try and summarize myself in the span of a page, but I hope this letter will give you an idea of who I am and what my vision is for ministry.

I was born in Connecticut and baptized at First Lutheran Church of Rockville. My parents always brought me with them to church, and one of their favorite stories to tell is from when I was 3 or so years old. I would stand behind a Fisher-Price table and exclaim with passion, "Da dor be did oo!" Hearing this, my parents would look at me, confused; and wonder what I was saying. It took some time, and much annoyance on my part, for them to realize the proper response: "And also with you!" (Apparently, God had a call on my life to pastoral ministry before I even realized it!)

When I was in 7th grade, my dad's job moved our family to Utah, where we were active at Good Shepherd Lutheran. Through confirmation, and my own involvement in the work of the church, I grew to understand better who God is and what it means to have faith and follow Jesus. After graduating high school, I went to the University of Tulsa, studying Electrical Engineering and intending to work in the music industry. But a series of "coincidences" (that would take too long to share in this introduction) meant those plans changed and I ended up enrolling in Salt Lake Theological Seminary for preparation for pastoral ministry. Since then, I have served a congregation in northern Utah for the past 12 years. During this call, I met and married my wife, Michelle (a proud Presbyterian!), who also brought into my life a delightful bit of chaos in the form of a now-8-year-old Black Lab mix dog named Izzy.

I view my role as a pastor to not be the "professional Christian", but instead to empower a congregation to *be* the church, something I think is especially important as we find ourselves living in a "post-Christendom" world. It is the call of all followers of Jesus to not just be Christian on Sunday mornings, but to proclaim our faith in every aspect of our lives, both in word and deed.

To accomplish this goal, our Lutheran heritage is especially helpful! Our worship services are designed around being strengthened in Word and Sacrament to go out into the world in service to our Lord. Our theology of vocation, that all are called to do ministry as part of the priesthood of all believers, embraces a holistic and consistent view of faith and life that is much needed. We are all meant to be "little Christs" in the world, and my goal as a pastor is to help us all show the world who God is through who we are, as we follow Jesus together.

Outside of pastoral ministry, I have some hobbies and "side-gigs" that I enjoy. I'm a musician; primarily a drummer, but I also sing and play guitar, bass, and piano. I've done consulting for churches looking to improve their live sound systems. I enjoy teaching, and have been known to annoy Michelle by going on long tangents about obscure passages of Scripture.

I hope this brief introduction gives you some better idea of who I am, and I'm looking forward to getting to know you as you also get to know me!

In Christ,

Pastor Mike Galica