

The Ripple



ReconcilingWorks Welcomes
DIAMOND LAKE LUTHERAN!



A Note From Pastor Andrea

Dear Members and Friends Here at Diamond Lake Lutheran,

We did it! By an overwhelming majority vote, we are now a Reconciling in Christ congregation, explicitly open to and affirming of God's beloveds of all sexual orientations and gender identities and expressions.

We did it. And, we're not done yet!

One of the very first things I noticed when I walked into the Sanctuary, when I was still in the interview process for this call, was the chancel window – the big one straight ahead as you walk in – where a brown Jesus stands on a rainbow.



I wondered if you knew how lucky you were, to have this historically accurate depiction of a Palestinian man standing high and tall in the midst of a country so rife with white supremacy, while so many congregations explore costly fixes to the white stained-glass Jesuses in their sanctuaries.

I wondered if it was reflective of who you were already, or if it was an aspirational window in that regard, both the brown Jesus and the rainbow.

I soon came to realize what one of our newer members shared with me recently – that in many ways, we seemed more like an RIC congregation than so many RIC congregations she had already tried on for size, only to end up at Diamond Lake Lutheran, which felt to her more open and welcoming than anyplace else, even without the official designation.

Kudos to the RIC team, for leading us so carefully through this faith-filled process. Kudos to the entire congregation, for your willingness and determination to create the widest welcome possible, and for understanding why “all are welcome” doesn't quite cut it. And kudos to the LGBTQIA+ members of our community who have been here all along, living out your faith as a testimony to the full lives God wants for every last one of us.

And. Now that the vote is behind us, now that we can put the RIC logo on our website and in our bulletins, now that we can post our welcome statement in the Commons for everyone to see...now we continue to live like we mean it.

We continue to live like the church that's had a brown Jesus standing on a rainbow in their chancel window since 1952, we continue to live like the church that felt more welcoming even before this designation than some that have had it for decades, we continue to live with the humility and wonder and questions of a community always looking to learn more about how to make more and better space for God's beloveds.

What good news, dear friends. What a privilege it is to serve among you.

Pastor Andrea

Diamond Lake Events

Times are listed inside publication. Dates subject to change. Please visit dllc.org/calendar for current information. We have much more going on than what is listed here. Watch for weekly announcements in your email or check the website for service opportunities and more activities.

Looking Ahead December

- 3 Holden Advent Worship
- 6 Luther Park Carols for Camp Gala & Fundraiser
- 7 Advent Music Sunday; New Frontier Lutheran Radio Hour; Confirmation Class
- 8–12 Meals on Wheels Drive Week
- 9 Health Screenings
- 10 Blood Drive; Holden Advent Worship
- 13 Progressive Dinner
- 14 Children's Christmas Program; Welcome Home Gift Wrapping; Ignite Youth Group
- 17 Holden Advent Worship
- 20 Safe Hands Rescue Adoption Event; Blue Christmas Worship
- 21 Sunday Supper with the Holiday Radio Show
- 24 Christmas Eve Worship

Diamond Lake Lutheran Church
5760 Portland Ave. S.
Minneapolis, MN 55417
612-866-2579 | www.dllc.org
dllc.office@dllc.org
Worship is every Sunday at 9:30 am.



We are a Reconciling in
Christ congregation.



@dllcelca



@dllcelca



@diamondlakelutheranchurch898

The work we do is made possible by the generosity of the congregation and the wider community. Please scan to give.



November Calendar

1

Luther Park Clean-Up Day

2

Reformation Sunday/Affirmation of Baptism

4

Election Day; All-Committee Night

5

Lakeview Forum A Safe Haven for All: Best Practices for Welcoming All God's Children

8

Safe Hands Rescue Adoptable Dog Meet & Greet

9

All Saints Sunday; Confirmation Class

12

Lakeview Forum Journey Toward Justice: Learning and Working for Change

19

Lakeview Forum The New Frontier Lutheran Radio Hour

21–23

Congregational Getaway at Luther Park

23

TRUST Inc. Friendsgiving

25

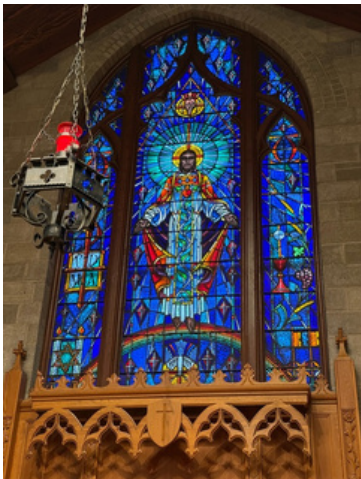
All Nations Wopila Gathering

27

Thanksgiving

30

First Sunday of Advent; Holly Jolly Decorating Party and Advent Celebration



A Letter from Erik Bowall, VÄSTGÖTA NATIONS MANSKÖR First Tenor, Swedish Men's Choir KORGÖSSARNA

Thank you again for making our first day such a grand opening of the tour. Our director Rebecka mentioned the Sunday service at DLLC as one of her highlights of the tour. Your warm welcome gave us a lot of energy that stayed with us through the week. Andrea created an atmosphere in that church that we have not seen the likes of anywhere else. It was an experience that our singers will carry with them for a long time.

I hope our paths cross again in the future. We wish you a lovely fall season and good luck on your endeavours.



2026 Pledging is Almost Here

Join us in worship on November 9 to hear some good news about pledging for 2026, and to both look back and to dream forward about the future of the church. Look for pledging forms later this month, and make plans to bring yours back no later than Sunday, November 30!

*justice
and
joy*

2025 Executive Team

Sean Laird (President)
Leslie Pitt (Vice President)
Jack Buan (Treasurer)
James Powell (Secretary)

2025 Council

Scott Benson
Adelaide Brent (youth member)
Jon Brunsberg
Lisa Johannes
Gary Milne
Sue Nelson
Adam Podratz
Jim Teurman
Melanie Zaelich
Rev. Andrea Roske-Metcalf

PROGRAM STAFF

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John Pedersen
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Lacy Tooker-Kirkevold
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Parish Nurse
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Kristine Spanier
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Beya Leora
Facility Manager
beya.leora@dllc.org

Mission of the Month: New Creations Food Ministry



Pastor Darrick, Kirk Gallup, and First Lady Brenda

The New Creations Food Ministry, led by First Lady Brenda Granison and Pastor Darrick Granison, addresses food insecurity in our community. Each Monday evening, individuals and families are welcomed at New Creations to receive nutritious groceries and essential supplies in a caring and respectful environment. With grocery costs continuing to rise, this ministry plays a critical role in ensuring that families have consistent access to healthy food.

New Creations relies on the generosity of volunteers and donors to sustain its mission. **Your financial gifts this month will help purchase holiday turkeys and fund needed van repairs, ensuring the ministry can continue picking up food donations from area grocery stores.**



Scan to Give

Give to the Mission of the Month

To make a gift to New Creations, you may write a check payable to Diamond Lake Lutheran Church with "Mission of the Month" in the memo line and drop in an offering plate. Alternatively, you may visit the "GIVE BACK" page at www.dllc.org or scan the QR code and choose "Mission of the Month" from the drop-down menu.



Scan to Volunteer for a Monday Shift

New Creations is always eager for more help on Monday afternoons during two shifts, 3–5 pm, and 5–7 pm. This work includes sorting food donations, filling boxes, and distributing boxes to people. Sign up using the QR code here, or talk to John Pedersen, Director of Community Outreach.

How To Support the Work of Every Meal

Every Meal works to combat the weekend food gap, when children facing food insecurity aren't able to receive school meals. At the end of each week, Every Meal provides children with 4–5 pounds of substantive, nutritious food. Families may choose from five food bag options tailored to various cultural dietary preferences or situational needs.

We expect approximately 40–45 students at Barton Elementary School will register to receive Every Meal food bags this year. A contribution of \$440 provides one student with enough filled food bags for the entire school year. Any donation, regardless of size, is welcome.

Another important way to get involved is delivering the food bags at the end of the school week. Sign up using the QR code below, or reach out to Every Meal Coordinator Kathi Gallup.



EVERY MEAL
FIGHTING CHILD HUNGER

Learn more about the work of Every Meal at www.everymeal.org. If you have questions or need assistance signing up, please contact the Every Meal Coordinator, Kathi Gallup, at kathigallup@gmail.com.



Scan to Give



Scan to Volunteer

Congregational Vote on Welcome Statement Overwhelmingly Passed

Diamond Lake Lutheran is Now A Reconciling in Christ Congregation

We are delighted to report that after two years of hard work by the RIC team and the entire church, we are officially a Reconciling in Christ congregation! The vote passed at the special congregational meeting on October 12, with 96 yes votes out of 97—an overwhelming 99% approval, well above the 80% goal we had set. As part of this vote, we formally adopted the Welcome Statement printed on this page. A special thank you goes out to the team for guiding the congregation in this process: Lisa Bass, Stacy Klage, Sean Laird, Russ Michaletz, Karen Minge, and John Pedersen. The work has just begun as we now purposefully live out the words of the Welcome Statement for all we meet, both inside and outside of the church walls.



WELCOME STATEMENT

You are welcome at Diamond Lake Lutheran Church, a Reconciling in Christ congregation. Your presence makes your journey part of our journey—one we share with people of all ages and abilities, family structures, sexual orientations, gender identities and expressions, races and ethnic backgrounds, and financial circumstances. We affirm that every individual is a member of God's family, uniquely created and worthy of belonging. We are joyfully committed to hearing your stories, engaging your gifts, and working alongside you to strive for racial equity, promote social and economic justice, and heal our broken world. This congregation, like all congregations, is fallible and flawed. We make mistakes. But we are dedicated to building relationships with all who believe, doubt, question, seek, and wonder.

Align Mpls Addressing the Working Homeless

by Norma Williams

Katie Dillon, Executive Director of Align, appeared at the Lakeview Forum in September to talk about the various ways Align is working to end homelessness in Minneapolis. Diamond Lake Lutheran is among 19 congregations and individuals with lived experience exploring ways to serve and support the unhoused.

For its Fall Guide (<https://www.alignmpls.org/organizingguide>), Align placed a special focus on the working homeless, which is a growing concern for our community, as wages are not keeping pace with escalating housing costs. For more insight on this subject, check out a recent MPR interview with Brian Goldstone, author of *There is No Place for Us: Working and Homeless in America* (scan the QR code here to access the interview).

In the upcoming local elections, homelessness and encampments are in the spotlight. You can prepare for the elections by researching the candidates you will be voting for. Find local candidate forums through your neighborhood/ward or the League of Women Voters at www.lwvmn.org.



Scan for MPR
Interview with
Brian Goldstone

Reformation Sunday and Affirmation of Baptism

November 2

9:30 am Worship

10:45 am Congregational Confirmation Reception

Reformation Sunday commemorates the beginning of the Protestant Reformation, which was sparked by Martin Luther's historic act of posting his 95 Theses on the door of the Wittenberg Castle Church in 1517. At Diamond Lake Lutheran, one of the ways we celebrate Reformation is by confirming our youth through the Affirmation of Baptism. Following worship, you'll have the chance to see confirmand faith projects on display at the Confirmation reception. Join us for cake, and enjoy some fun Reformation-themed activities as we celebrate this special occasion together! **(Remember to wear red, the liturgical color of Reformation Sunday!)**



All Saints Sunday

November 9

During All Saints Sunday worship we will give thanks for the Diamond Lake Lutheran members who entered eternal life over the past year, and reflect on all the saints both long-gone and here in our midst. Additionally, the small chapel will be open before and after worship for candle lighting and quiet reflection.

Register By November 7 for the Congregational Getaway

November 21-23

All members and friends of Diamond Lake Lutheran are invited to our Congregational Getaway at Luther Park Camping and Retreat Center in Danbury, Wisconsin. Come enjoy Lake 26, nature trails, delicious meals, and the fellowship of both old and new friends. This fun weekend welcomes individuals, couples, grandparents, extended family, and friends. If you're new to the church, the getaway is a great way to build connections! This year we'll help paint a mural designed by Christine McKigney in the Game Room to brighten and beautify the space.

Sleeping spaces and cabin preferences are assigned on a first-come, first-served basis, so register early to secure your preferred spot! Camperships are available for those who need them. Register at www.dllc.org or by scanning the QR code above.



Scan to Register
Today!



Congratulations to the 2025 Confirmands!

Eloise Miller

Rachel Craig



Eloise Miller experiences her faith through her relationships with family and friends and in the beauty of nature around her. Lacy Tooker-Kirkevold has played an important role in her faith journey, guiding her through meaningful education and experiences. Some of Eloise's favorite church memories include participating in the cabaret and youth musical—she loves how everyone who wants a speaking part gets one, and how much fun it is to perform together. She also enjoys the Sermon on the Steps, especially the funny and honest things the younger kids say. For her faith project, Eloise is creating a Blessing Box (also known as a Little Free Pantry) with her grandparents—her grandfather is helping her build it, and her grandmother will help her paint it. Once complete, the box will be placed on the church lawn and filled with shelf-stable food, water, and other necessities for those in need.



Rachel Craig's favorite thing about Diamond Lake Lutheran is the sense of community she's found here. She loves meeting new people, building friendships, and feels her faith strengthened through these connections. Iris M. and Nora K. have been a valuable part of this community, and she's enjoyed being in the musicals with the "older" kids, Avery K., Claire T., and John T. Fond memories include running around as a younger child during Sunday School when the teacher didn't show up, playing Kahoot in confirmation, and participating in performances. Graydon Royce and Bob Kresse have had a meaningful impact on her faith journey through their collaboration with her on musicals and performances. Rachel's favorite parts of worship are the sermon from the pulpit, singing hymns, and participating in Holy Communion. Her faith project will be an oral faith statement on Nov. 2.

What is a Faith Project?

A faith project is a creative and personal milestone for each confirmation student, inviting them to reflect on their individual faith journey. Each project serves as an expression of who they are, what they believe, and how they experience God in their lives. No two projects are alike—some take the form of service work, music, writing, or visual art, while others explore storytelling or community engagement. Through this process, students consider the people and experiences that have shaped their faith and how they hope to live it out in the future. Together, these projects offer a meaningful glimpse into how the youth at Diamond Lake Lutheran Church live out their faith. Please attend the reception following the Affirmation of Baptism on November 2 to view the projects and ask the confirmands curious questions about them!

Iris McKigney



Throughout her faith journey so far, prayer is an important practice for Iris McKigney—it helps her reflect and think through everyday decisions. Her faith shows up in her life frequently: she attends church as often as she can, prays often, and uses her faith to guide her choices. Friends have been a meaningful part of her journey as well, and she enjoys the church trips and youth activities they share together. Mary Teurman, the nursery director, played an important role in Iris's early faith development. Her favorite part of worship is communion, when she can see everyone come forward. For her faith project, Iris is keeping a journal where she writes Bible verses, prayers, moments from her day, and reminders of God's presence in her life.

Leo Zuckweiler



Leo Zuckweiler is inspired by his faith to do what's right each day. One of his main goals is to help people who are less fortunate, a value that shaped his faith project. He researched the needs of Simpson Housing Services—an organization that provides shelter and support for those experiencing homelessness—then purchased and delivered items such as toiletries and household goods to the shelter. Lacy has been an important influence at Diamond Lake Lutheran, and he admires the kindness and helpfulness she shows to everyone. A favorite memory for Leo is participating in the Christmas play, and his favorite part of worship is listening to the choir and enjoying the music.



Left to right: Lacy Tooker-Kirkevold, Director of Children, Youth & Family Ministries; Iris McKigney, Eloise Miller, Rachel Craig, Leo Zuckweiler, and Pastor Andrea Roske-Metcalf.

All Nations Wopila Gathering Dinner Church and Fundraiser

Tuesday, November 25

6–8 pm

**All Nations Indian Church, 1515 E 23rd Street
Minneapolis, MN 55404**

At this multi-church event, attendees will share a meal, hear stories from All Nations members, tour the building, sing, and pray together. Gifts will support All Nations and lift up ways to continue to journey in relationship together. In the weeks before the gathering, All Nations Pastors Joann Conroy and Kelly Sherman-Conroy will host a three-week study of Robin Wall Kimmerer's essay *The Serviceberry*, with a conversation guide provided for congregations to use. Because guests will be seated at tables, registration will be required. Please watch the weekly announcements for more information.



It's Time to Feast! Ignite Youth Group's Charlie Brown Thanksgiving

Sunday, November 23

5–7 pm

**House of Prayer Lutheran Church
7625 Chicago Ave. South**

All 9th–12th graders are welcome at the November monthly gathering of Ignite, the multi-church youth group. This month the group is meeting at House of Prayer to celebrate the season with a Charlie Brown-style Thanksgiving meal, play games, watch the movie, and celebrate the end of fall! Friends are welcome!



Friendsgiving Sunday Supper

Sunday, November 23

**4 pm Crosstown Community Band's Holiday Pops Concert
5 pm Supper**

Enjoy a meal of turkey and all the trimmings with friends, old and new! Free and all are welcome. To help in planning for the right amount of food, please RSVP by emailing trust@trustinc.org or calling 612-827-6159. Happy to help serve or clean up? Contact John Pedersen at john.pedersen@dlc.org.



LAKEVIEW FORUM

Lakeview Forums take place most Wednesdays from September to May (except when Minneapolis Schools are closed). A community meal is served at 5:30 pm and programming runs 6:30–7:30 pm. Kids Club runs concurrently with programming. Please notify the church office at dllc.office@dllc.org if you need nursery care to attend. Events are free and all are welcome!

NOTE: THERE IS NO PROGRAMMING ON WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 26, DUE TO THE MPS SCHOOL CLOSURE FOR THE THANKSGIVING HOLIDAY.

WED.
NOV. 5
6:30–7:30 PM

A SAFE HAVEN FOR ALL: BEST PRACTICES FOR WELCOMING ALL GOD'S CHILDREN

Diamond Lake Lutheran has a new Safe Environment Policy, designed to keep everyone safe, but especially children and vulnerable adults. Join us to learn about what's included, and about your role in this effort!

WED.
NOV. 12
6:30–7:30 PM

JOURNEY TOWARD JUSTICE: LEARNING AND WORKING FOR CHANGE

Come hear powerful stories of transformation from members of Diamond Lake Lutheran's Journey Toward Justice group. Together, we'll reflect on the past five years of this ministry, celebrate what we've learned, and dream about the future. There will be time to reflect on your own journey and how we, as a congregation, can take the next faithful steps in our racial justice ministries.

WED.
NOV. 19
6:30–7:30 PM



The New Frontier Lutheran Radio Hour is back with a new name and format! It's The **New** New Frontier Lutheran Radio Hour, a reboot of the show that has charmed and delighted audiences for more than ten years. Performed live, the show celebrates church life in all its big and small ways.

Special Events

TRUST, Inc. Starlight Gala and Silent Auction

Saturday, November 1

5–10 pm

Avidor Edina, 5220 Eden Ave., Edina, MN 55436

Parking available in ramp across from main entrance

Tickets: \$50 per person

Dress in celebration style and join TRUST, Inc. for a fundraiser featuring the magic of Parker William. The evening includes cocktail hour with hors d'oeuvres, dinner, dessert, and magical entertainment. The evening will also feature a silent auction and fun games of chance. This is a limited seating venue so purchase your tickets today by calling 612-827-6159 or scanning the QR code above.



Purchase Tickets Here

Minneapolis Area Synod's EcoFaith Network Presents

EcoFaith Coffee and Conversation

Saturday, November 15

9:30–11:30 am

Mt. Olivet (Plymouth)

12235 Old Rockford Rd, Plymouth, 55441

Join the EcoFaith Network for a morning of coffee, pastries, and conversation as they welcome different creation care partners of the Minneapolis Area Synod. Hear about their work and how you can get involved.



EcoFaith Network

**Minneapolis Area Synod
of the ELCA**

Hope For Home, an Open House Fundraiser for Align Mpls

Thursday, November 20

4–7 pm

Plymouth Congregational Church, 1900 Nicollet Ave, Mpls

Jones Commons

Attend this open-house style fundraiser to learn more about Align and Street Voices of Change, hear the vibrant and inspiring voices of the StreetSong choir, enjoy some good food, and give to support this organization's work. No tickets or advance purchase needed, but please come ready to be generous in heart and dollars. Appetizers, small desserts, coffee, tea, and water will be served. For more information on this event, please scan the QR code.



More Info Here

3,000 Acts of Kindness

Hosted by Coated in Love

Sunday, December 8

9 am–3 pm

Minneapolis Convention Center

Each year, guests who attend the 3,000 Acts of Kindness event are treated to lunch, haircuts, new coats, hats, boots, toiletry kits, and access to more than 80 social service agencies offering resources for housing, employment, and rehabilitation.

How You Can Be Involved:

- **Volunteer:** Sign up to prepare for or serve at the event using the QR code here.
- **Donate Items (Drop in the Collection Box at Diamond Lake Lutheran):** Winter jackets (all genders/sizes), winter boots, sleeping bags, long underwear (all genders/sizes), regular underwear (all genders/sizes), gloves/mittens, washcloths.



COATED IN LOVE
"Do everything in love"



Scan to Volunteer

Holly Jolly Decorating Party and Advent Celebration

Sunday, November 30

Congregational Fellowship Hour following worship

Break out the wreaths, the lights, and the doughnut ornaments!

We're decorating the church during the Congregational Fellowship Hour following worship on the first Sunday of Advent. We'll have decorating tasks for all ages and abilities, advent activities and crafts, and Christmas cookies and a hot cocoa bar for all!



Holden Worship Services During Advent

Fans of Holden Evening Prayer, rejoice! This December we'll be gathering in the Sanctuary after dinner on Wednesdays for a time of song, candlelight, poetry, and stillness in the midst of a busy season. Together we'll sing through the Holden service, including Mary's Magnificat, as we wait for the coming of Emmanuel, God-With-Us. A signup sheet for lead singers will be available in the Commons beginning November 1.

Worship will begin at 6:30 pm. All ages are invited to attend; Kids Club will not be running concurrently during these services.



Lutheran Social Service Welcome Home Giving Tree

As the holiday season approaches, we have another opportunity to share the joy of Christmas with the residents of the LSS apartments we support with our Welcome Home ministry.



Beginning November 23 (just before Black Friday), the Giving Tree will be set up in the Narthex. The tree will be decorated with ornaments, each representing a wish list item for children and adults.

All members and friends of Diamond Lake Lutheran are invited to take as many ornaments as you'd like and shop for the gifts. Please return your not-yet-wrapped gifts—with the ornament tags attached—by December 10, placing them under the tree.

Then, join us for a festive gift-wrapping party immediately following worship on December 14 during the Congregational Fellowship Hour. We'll enjoy cocoa, cookies, Christmas music, and good cheer as we wrap gifts for our neighbors.



A Week in the Life of the Parish Nurse

By Parker Webster

The work of a parish nurse blends pastoral care, health education, and community support into one holistic ministry. Every day is different and shifts with the needs of the community. I spend some days preparing for a blood drive, vaccine clinic, or CPR training. Other times, I'm planning programs such as older adult wellness screenings, grief support groups, or health education workshops.

Much of the work extends beyond the church walls and into the lives of parishioners. I visit homebound members to provide check-ins, conversation, and practical health support. I also spend time in hospitals, sitting with patients, offering a listening ear, and providing encouragement during difficult moments. These visits help sustain the connection between Diamond Lake Lutheran and those unable to be physically present at the church.

The weekly rhythm of the church also creates natural spaces for connection. On Sundays and Wednesday evenings, I may assist with worship, help with programming, or simply greet people as they arrive. These everyday interactions often open space for health conversations and care that emerge naturally within community life.

Together, these elements reflect the heart of parish nursing: care grounded in relationships. The work adapts with the changing needs of the congregation, but the purpose remains the same—to nurture well-being in body, mind, and spirit.



Last month, the staff was certified in Adult and Pediatric First Aid/CPR/AED as a result of the work of Parish Nurse Parker!

Sign Up Now for a Free Health Screening on December 9



Scan to Sign Up For a Screening

Diamond Lake Lutheran Church will host Whole-Person Wellness Screenings in partnership with the Faith Community Nurse Network—an opportunity for older adults to take a deeper look at their health and well-being, all at no cost. In a 45-minute appointment, participants will meet with a University of Minnesota nursing student and a registered nurse to check blood pressure, oxygen levels, and body composition, and develop a personalized wellness plan. This unique screening takes a whole-person approach, inviting reflection on all areas of life that contribute to well-being. Open to individuals 65 and older. Appointments are required—sign up using the QR code or contact Parish Nurse Parker Webster at parker.webster@dllc.org.

Blood Drive Returns in December

Wednesday, December 10

11:30–5:30 pm

Diamond Lake Lutheran



Scan to Sign Up to Donate Blood

Donating blood can help save lives in our community—and it takes less than an hour of your day! Register now to reserve your time slot by scanning the QR code above. (You *are* eligible to donate again if you gave blood in September or recently traveled to Europe.) If you have questions or need assistance scheduling your reservation, please contact Parish Nurse Parker Webster at parker.webster@dllc.org.



Moments from the past month: Confirmation Retreat, the Lutheran Social Service Gala, the Blood Drive, rehearsal for the Affirmation of Baptism, and the Blessing of the Animals!





DIAMOND LAKE LUTHERAN CHURCH

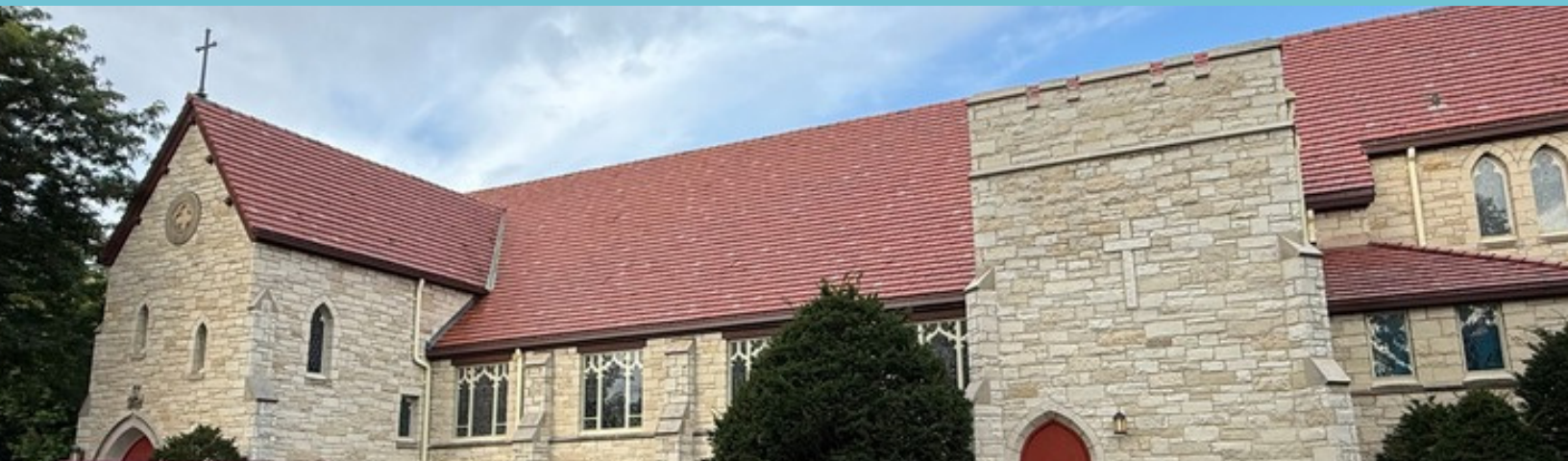
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612-866-2579 | www.dllc.org

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WELCOME STATEMENT



You are welcome at Diamond Lake Lutheran Church, a Reconciling in Christ congregation. Your presence makes your journey part of our journey—one we share with people of all ages and abilities, family structures, sexual orientations, gender identities and expressions, races and ethnic backgrounds, and financial circumstances. We affirm that every individual is a member of God's family, uniquely created and worthy of belonging. We are joyfully committed to hearing your stories, engaging your gifts, and working alongside you to strive for racial equity, promote social and economic justice, and heal our broken world. This congregation, like all congregations, is fallible and flawed. We make mistakes. But we are dedicated to building relationships with all who believe, doubt, question, seek, and wonder.



LAND ACKNOWLEDGMENT

We acknowledge that we gather as Diamond Lake Lutheran Church on the traditional land of the Wahpekute band of the Santee division of the Dakota people past and present. We further acknowledge that both the State of Minnesota and the United States Government carried out genocide, ethnic cleansing, forced removal, and broken promises against the Dakota as a way to acquire land. We honor with gratitude the land itself and the people who have stewarded it throughout the generations. This calls us to commit to continuing to learn how to be better stewards of the land we inhabit as well.