



# The Beacon Online

December 23, 2021 / Vol. 2 / No. 47

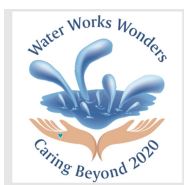
## The Beacon Online is the communication source for the SELC District.

If you are a first time visitor to the Beacon Online, we invite you to subscribe by emailing the District Office at [selc.lcms@gmail.com](mailto:selc.lcms@gmail.com). Please feel free to share the Beacon Online and encourage others to subscribe. Please send your articles, announcements, news, and pictures to [selc.lcms@gmail.com](mailto:selc.lcms@gmail.com). Please submit your articles in Word format and by Thursdays for inclusion in the next Beacon Online. We look forward to sharing your submissions!

A printed version of the newsletter is available on our website at [selc.lcms.org](http://selc.lcms.org) Please use the printed version from our website to post and/or share the newsletter with others.



This is a picture of St. Lucas Lutheran Church on Christmas Eve in St. Louis, MO the site of the 2022 SELC District Convention



## **Lutheran Haven gratefully receives a \$20,000 gift for the “Water Works Wonders” Campaign from the SELC plus a matching gift of \$50,000 from the John & Katherine Duda Foundation!**

It is with our deepest thanks and appreciation to District President, Rev. Vinovskis and the SELC for the tremendous gift of \$20,000 to Lutheran Haven’s “Water Works Wonders” Capital Campaign to construct an Aquatic Center that will serve the therapy, rehabilitative and fitness needs of the Haven community!

Who could have known when we kicked off our first capital campaign in 20 years, a pandemic would hit! In these less than ideal circumstances, we continued in faith

which makes this generous gift from the SELC all the more appreciated.

To add to this enormous blessing, the John & Katherine Duda Foundation recently gave the Haven a matching gift of fifty thousand dollars in loving memory of Mr. John L. Duda who went to be with the Lord on October 1, 2021. Lutheran Haven would simply not exist without the wonderful generosity and vision of the Duda family. It is because of this family and all the support of the SELC that the Haven has had the missional opportunity to bless so many for nearly 75 years.

All financial gifts applied to this matching gift will move us closer to achieving the vision of bringing aqua therapy, rehabilitation and fitness to our community! When completed, this pool will expand the Haven's ability to provide the necessary rehabilitative services for those who have musculoskeletal or cardiovascular challenges such as joint replacement, cardiac strengthening, balance issues, painful movement, etc. – all of which are easier in water!

If you would like to help "Meet the Match" by the end of January, it will make such a tremendous difference! If you would like more information, please contact Mary Ann at the Lutheran Haven Foundation at 407-706-1281.

OUR DEEPEST THANKS TO ALL OF YOU ON BEHALF OF LUTHERAN HAVEN!  
OUR SINCEREST WISHES FOR A BLESSED CHRISTMAS!



## Slovak Phrases for the Christmas Season

*Veselé Vianoce!* - Merry Christmas!

*Narodil se Kristus Pán* – Hymn *The Lord Christ Was Born...* the English version is *Be joyful, Earth and Starry Sky*

*Cas radosti, veselosti* - Hymn - *Let our Gladness Banish Sadness*





## **Are you extending a Call to a Seminary Student or applying for a Vicar?**

If your congregation is interested in extending a divine call to a seminary candidate or plans to apply for a vicar, please contact Patti Smith, at 610-965-3265, press 6 or by email at [selc.lcms@gmail.com](mailto:selc.lcms@gmail.com). A new version of the call documents is available (ver. 4.9.3). Do not use any older versions or the call documents will be returned for correction and resubmission. Call documents and vicarage applications must be received at the SELC District office no later than February 1, 2022.



## **Setting Your 2022 SELC Budget Goal**

Rev. Mark C. Larson, Stewardship Chair

As your congregation completes its budgeting process for 2022, please be sure to send in your SELC Budget Goal.

Christ calls us to be witnesses of the Gospel throughout the whole world. One way we do this together is through our partnership with district and Synod missions. These offerings are given in joyful response to the Gospel of Christ, trusting in its power with the prayer that new believers will be brought to saving faith in Christ.

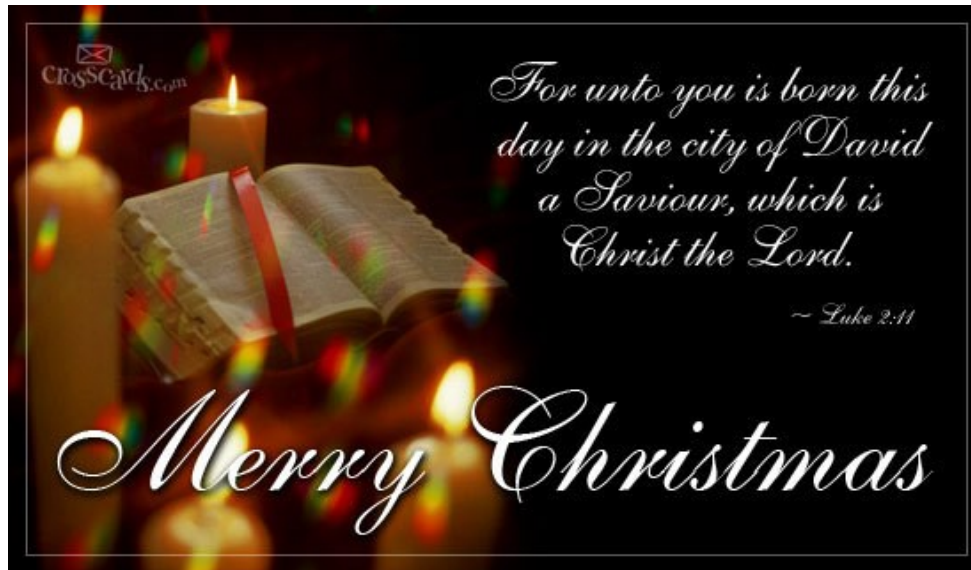
Due to inflationary pressures in our economy, the Board of Directors at its September meeting recommended congregations increase their contributions by four percent for 2022.

Your congregation should have received a letter in October for you to indicate your plans to support district and Synod missions. Please return this information by mail or email (preferred) by January 15 to:

Rev. Dr. Mark Larson, Stewardship Chair  
7100 Morganford Rd, St. Louis, MO 63116  
[markclarson0341@gmail.com](mailto:markclarson0341@gmail.com)

Please note that checks should be sent directly to the District Financial Secretary:

Larry Schultz 1566 Bushkill Center Rd. Bath, PA 18014



## **A Message from Tim and Michelle Miller**

Christmas 2021

Dear Friends in the SELC District,

Joyous Christmas greetings! may your hearts be filled with the joy and hope of knowing that the God who created the world and knows each heart has joined himself to the human race by sending His Son into the world. Jesus' incarnation and birth into a world where chaos, corruption, and death had reigned have opened new life and restoration to each of us and the whole human race. He is our hope and out light in a dark world!

We thank you for your partnership through your prayers and generous gifts to shine the Light of Christ into hearts in the villages and communities of the 'Khon' ethnic group in Southeast Asia! May you bask in, be guided by, and reflect Christ's light each day in your communion with Him!

We pray your hearts are filled with joy and hope this season! Indeed we deeply appreciate the district's partnership in our ministry through prayers and gifts over these many years. We've had an encouraging few months in the U.S., and look forward to returning to Laos in January.

Blessed Christmas!

In Christ's Love,  
Tim and Michelle

# MERRY CHRISTMAS AND HAPPY NEW YEAR

from all of us at Lutheran Church Extension Fund

We rejoice in the blessing of our Lord and Savior's birth during  
this special time of year.

We wish you joy and hope in this new year ahead.



 **Lutheran Church Extension Fund**  
> where investments build ministry

**DANIEL LEPLEY**

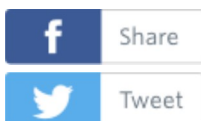
LCEF District Vice President | English and SELC  
317-402-9401 | Daniel.Lepley@lcef.org



## **SELC District Office and Beacon Online Holiday Schedule**

The SELC District office will be closed beginning December 24 and will reopen January 3, 2022. If you need immediate assistance, please email the SELC office at [selc.lcms@gmail.com](mailto:selc.lcms@gmail.com) (email will be monitored) or call Patti Smith at 610-392-4927.

The *next Beacon Online* will be issued on January 7, 2022.



**SELC District of LCMS**  
2623 Brookside Road  
Macungie, PA 18062  
610-965-3265

Contact Us  
[selc.lcms@gmail.com](mailto:selc.lcms@gmail.com)

SELC District of LCMS | 2623 Brookside Road, Macungie, PA 18062

[Unsubscribe {recipient's email}](#)

[Update Profile](#) | [Constant Contact Data Notice](#)

Sent by selc.lcms@gmail.com powered by



Try email marketing for free today!