



Holidays Together
November 15, 2023
Lisa Heckman

Dear friends,

I love the holidays! What a great time to connect with family and friends.

Thanksgiving has always been special in my family, with more than 20 of us gathering every year, originally at my aunt’s farm, then my parent’s house, then at a church camp in NE Pennsylvania, and finally at a lodge in western PA. Covid sadly put an end to the larger group getting together, but I still join my sister’s family for a few days. I’m also eagerly anticipating traveling back east over the Christmas holidays and perhaps even going up to the Binghamton NY area for the weekly breakfast with my clergy cohort.

Looking ahead to December, **how do your congregations celebrate Advent and Christmas?** I know of the Alternate Christmas Market happening at Wauwatosa this Sunday (11/26) and Christ Church’s very popular Toy Store on December 16th. What other special events are taking place? Concerts? Bazaars? Community meals?

I would love to connect with congregations at these happenings. If you have something going on outside of Sunday morning worship, please send me the details. I will join in as many of these as I can fit on my calendar. Hopefully I will get to be with many of you in locations all around the presbytery.

In the meantime, I look forward to my first Presbytery Gathering with you all this Saturday, 11/18, at Wauwatosa. I’ll be singing with the choir and checking out all the Marks of Congregational Vitality happening at the Vitality Fair. I hope you will, too.

Grace and Peace.

Lisa

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