

Rule of Love
St. Lukes Lutheran Church

Love is patient; love is kind; love is not envious; or boastful or arrogant or rude. It does not insist on its own way; It is not irritable or resentful; it does not rejoice in wrongdoing but rejoices in the truth. It bears all things, believes all things, hopes all things, endures all things.

(1 Corinthians 13:4-7)

Called by God in our baptism and filled with the presence of Christ through the Lord's Supper, we believe love should show itself through our individual lives:

In thought by **before acting, our thoughts should reflect kindness, grace and acceptance.**

In word by **hearing, respecting, praying for you with kindness, love and care.**

In deed by **putting others before oneself, being obedient to our faith in God and by acting in a God caring way towards others.**

As members of the body of Christ and citizens of the kingdom of heaven, we will show this love in our life together at St. Luke's Lutheran church:

In what we do by **listening in kindness and acceptance. Seeking common ground, learning and adjusting. If necessary, we disagree with love and respect.**

In responding to unloving and disrespectful behavior by **respectfully listening and clarifying your reasoning. We will strive to find a mutual solution through love and kindness. If necessary we will part ways with grace.**

We will value The Rule of Love as leaders of St. Lukes Lutheran Church through the concept of listen, learn and adjust. By seeking input from all, listening and being willing to consider all points of view. We will seek education as leaders on how to listen to and seek input. We will model this rule of love as leaders. We will use and lift this rule of love in congregational communication and activities. We will also add a rule of love reflection in the agenda of each council meeting.

As we follow The Rule of Love, we will delight in God's will and walk in His ways to the Glory of His holy name. *AMEN*