



A Season of Gratitude

When I meet donors, I often ask what led to their generosity. What connects them to St. Luke's University Health Network? What inspired them to give?

The answer is frequently, "I was a patient, and I'm forever thankful for the care I received." Their gratitude reminds me how fortunate I am to work amongst such a dedicated group of caregivers.

Whether they are delivering a lifesaving treatment or giving a warm welcome at a routine office visit, the entire St. Luke's team is focused on providing the best possible care for our patients and their loved ones. That level of care clearly resonated with Jenn, Melissa, and Bobbie—three people I'd like to introduce you to below.

Through volunteering, supporting events, and establishing long-lasting gifts, our patients are expressing their gratitude for the wonderful care they and their families have received. **I am honored to know that St. Luke's has touched the lives of so many families—** and that, through their generosity, we can continue to ensure the health of our community.

With gratitude,



Patrick J. Bower

Vice President for Development and External Affairs
St. Luke's University Health Network

“
Everyone was just incredibly caring.
Even when we couldn't be there, they called with updates
and always kept us connected.
”

The Smallest Patients, the Biggest Miracles

Twenty years ago, Jenn experienced major complications during her first pregnancy and delivered her son at 30 weeks. Weighing in at about two pounds, he spent four weeks in the NICU before heading home. “The staff was phenomenal—both for me with my pregnancy and also supporting my husband as a first-time parent,” remembers Jenn.

Four years later, when Jenn's daughter was born, she insisted on returning to St. Luke's Allentown Campus, even though the family had moved half an hour away to Nazareth. Several of the nurses who were there for her son's birth greeted Jenn by name, offering congratulations and hugs. Jenn now serves on the Development Committee for St. Luke's Allentown Campus—and her employer, GOLD Credit Union, supports the annual *Dinner by Starlight* event. “I can't say enough how grateful I am for St. Luke's!”

“
They brought joy to a dying woman and to our family
as we prepared to say goodbye.
We are beyond grateful.
”

Serving Lunch—and Compassion

Following a terminal diagnosis, Melissa's 95-year-old grandmother was admitted to Geisinger St. Luke's for a few days while awaiting transfer to a skilled nursing facility. When the nutrition staff asked Grammie her meal preferences, Melissa recalls that she jokingly responded, “Do you have lobster tail on the menu?” Everyone had a good laugh before Grammie settled in for the night.

The following day, family and loved ones came to visit—some delivering final hugs and kisses. Much to everyone's surprise, the nutrition and nursing staff delivered a lobster tail and (virgin) piña colada. Grateful for such a thoughtful act of kindness, the entire family was thrilled to enjoy a very special lunch together.

“
St. Luke’s came to my rescue in my time of need.
I will forever be indebted to the hospital and physicians for
making the correct diagnosis and treating it appropriately.
”

No Place Like Home

Barbara "Bobbie" Spilman is deeply connected to St. Luke’s, through a relationship that began with years of volunteering for *Boutique at the Rink*, which led her to become president of the Auxiliary, then a trustee on the Board of Directors. Bobbie has also been a patient at St. Luke’s—and one with an exceptional story.

Years ago while wintering in Florida, Bobbie received a stage IV cancer diagnosis. Stunned and scared, she flew home to St. Luke’s for a second opinion, where she received even more staggering news: she didn’t have cancer at all. The tumors in her lungs were caused by pneumonia. With some antibiotics, she received a clean bill of health just a few weeks later—but her gratitude stays with her, even after 25 years.

Do You Have a Story to Tell?

We know that when you receive exceptional care, the impact—the connection with caregivers, the feeling of gratitude—can stay close to the heart for years. If you have a St. Luke’s experience to share, we’d love to express your message of thanks to your care team.

[Share Your Experience](#)

A Record Year for Dinner by Starlight

Dinner by Starlight brought us together virtually last month to celebrate St. Luke’s Allentown Campus. Frontline workers were honored for their heroic pandemic efforts, and more than \$150,000 was donated to support Emergency Department renovations. Special thanks to Countess Communications for producing the event; all the generous event sponsors; and co-hosts Lauren Sokolski, director of marketing and public relations for

Caring for Our Community

Caring for Our Community is a free, virtual event taking place this winter that features six weekly emails from St. Luke’s experts, providing healthy living tips to help you reduce stress, eat better, and improve your overall fitness. Sign up for the email series to help you navigate the holidays and start the new year with a healthy mindset—or even better, consider becoming a sponsor! Proceeds will benefit the ongoing development of the St. Luke’s Upper

St. Luke's, and Ashley Russo, president of ASR Media Productions.

Bucks Campus and the *Building for our Future* capital campaign.

About the Special Evening

Start the New Year Right



St. Luke's Development Office helps advance the network's mission through philanthropy. Your support allows us to deliver personalized care that makes a difference every day for every patient.

Make a Gift to St. Luke's

St. Luke's University Health Network Development Office
801 Ostrum Street
Bethlehem, PA 18015
sluhn.org/development | [484-526-3067](tel:484-526-3067)



© 2021 St. Luke's University Health Network

Share this email:



[Manage](#) your preferences | [Opt out](#) using TrueRemove®

Got this as a forward? [Sign up](#) to receive our future emails.

View this email [online](#).

801 Ostrum Street
Bethlehem, PA | 18015 US

This email was sent to allison@bethinteractive.com.

To continue receiving our emails, add us to your address book.