

## Happy Holidays!

During this special time of year, we're reminded of the power of kindness and the many forms it takes. The holiday season restores hope and connection, while reminding us that goodness and generosity are all around.

Celebrating these acts of kindness and generosity was the motivation behind our digital newsletter, which was introduced almost one year ago. We wanted to keep you informed about the incredible acts of generosity taking place across our organization.

We hope you enjoy this retrospective look-back on 2019. So many good things happened during the past year. We are St. Luke's Proud of all that has been accomplished—and we hope you are, too. If you are inspired by what you read, we invite you to [make a special gift](#) and help continue these good works during the coming year.

Best wishes for a warm and wonderful holiday season.



*Patrick J. Bower  
Vice President for  
Development and External Affairs  
St. Luke's University Health Network*

## A New Ride



The holidays came early for a group of local children whose physical challenges prevented them from enjoying one of the simple joys of childhood: a bike ride. Thankfully, a dedicated group of St. Luke's physical therapists and community volunteers stepped in to provide more than 20 specially modified bikes and toy cars—and our friends from Worth & Company provided the needed funding. Now, these children can feel the wind in their hair as they ride along with their friends.

[Watch the Assembly](#)

## Night of Heroes

Nearly 800 people attended the annual Night of Heroes to celebrate the lifesaving work of the St. Luke's trauma team and its brave patients. One of the evening's highlights was the story of Kyle Lauck, a young man severely injured in a car accident. In an emotional video, Kyle's mother Karen recalls the



words of hope she received from surgeon Brian Hoey, MD: “Your son is going to make it.”

### Meet the Heroes



## From NICU Patient to NICU Nurse

After spending the first four months of her life in the St. Luke's NICU, Abigail Rakos grew up with a passion to help children—which drove her to apply to nursing school. She was excited to receive a scholarship to fund a portion of her education, but St. Luke's Miners Campus was thrilled to offer something even better.

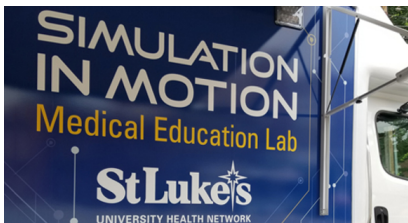
### Abigail's Surprise



## Just Keep Moving

“Anyone who knows me knows that I do not sit well,” says Ric Baxter, MD, a national leader in hospice and palliative care. Dr. Baxter recently completed his epic bicycle tour across the state of Pennsylvania as part of an ongoing effort to promote awareness and acceptance of end-of-life care. His well-documented journey is an inspiration to all.

### Dr. Baxter's Blog



## Popular in Education

This summer, St. Luke's unveiled a mobile simulation center that travels to various campuses, educating healthcare providers on new technologies and processes. This new lab was generously



## Popular in Tech & Innovation

St. Luke's is now home to multiple da Vinci robots, allowing us to perform the most innovative procedures in a number of specialties. We continue to be at the forefront of robotic surgery, and we are

funded by the estate of Gloria DeChristopher—a former St. Luke's staff member—and the Auxiliary of St. Luke's. It includes a pretty unique patient...

[See What's Inside](#)

proud to be the first provider in the Lehigh Valley region to offer the leading-edge LINX procedure for patients suffering from GERD.

[The LINX Procedure](#)



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](#)

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