

WINTER 2021

Making the Best of *Right Now*

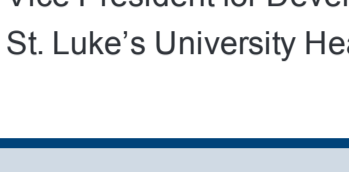
Mother Nature keeps throwing curve balls—with more than 40 inches of snow so far—but the St. Luke's COVID-19 vaccine team is hitting them out of the park. With almost 120,000 vaccine doses administered, St. Luke's is the leading COVID-19 vaccinator in central-eastern Pennsylvania. That is certainly something to celebrate.

As a community benefit healthcare Network, St. Luke's is administering the vaccine free of charge. We have made a significant investment and are prepared to do what it takes to continue to safeguard your health and well-being.

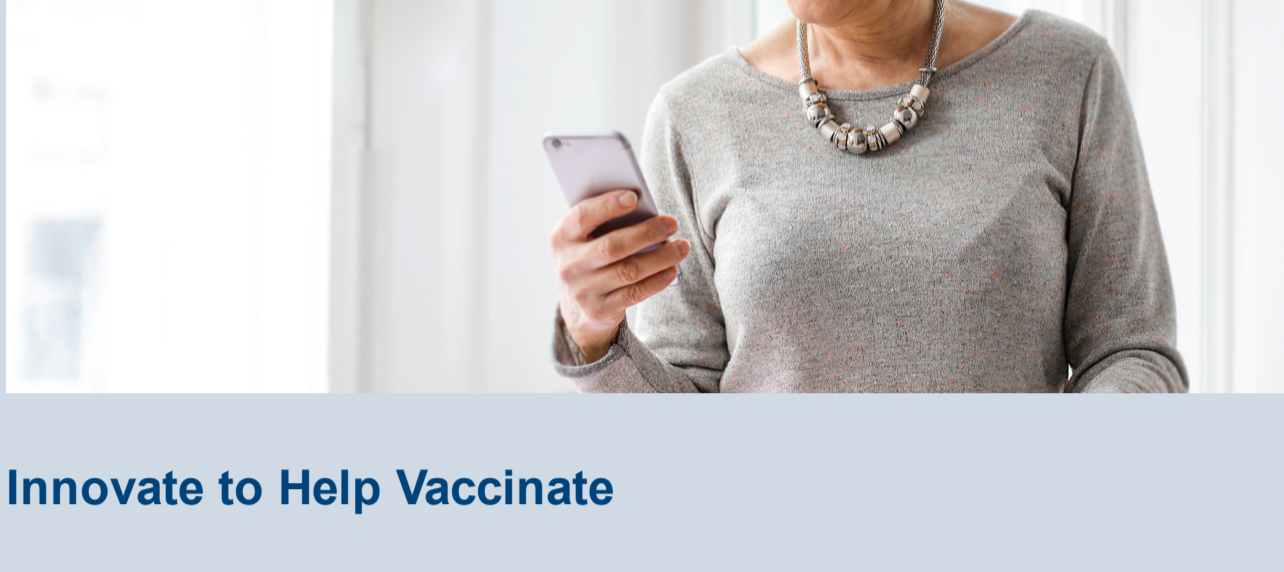
Every day, we challenge ourselves and our partners to find new ways to use technology and the expertise of our team to distribute the vaccine as quickly as possible, even as we wait for the supply of vaccines to increase.

Your steadfast support and encouragement is appreciated more than you know. Every contribution, every note of encouragement, and every letter of thanks helps inspire hope and innovation—bringing us one step closer to putting this pandemic in the rearview mirror.

Warmly,



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



Innovate to Help Vaccinate

We're sure you've heard the term "hot-line," but have you ever heard of a "shot-line?" This new vaccine scheduling process is yet another way that our teams continue to innovate and leverage new technology to improve patient care. This homegrown, automated system will make it easier for those who are 75 years of age or older to schedule their vaccinations from home over the phone.

[The Shot-Line](#)



A Calling to Serve

Sam Miranda recalls an eerie premonition from his first year as a nursing student at Sacred Heart Hospital many years ago. His instructor told the class: "Before you retire, you all will be involved in a pandemic."

Today, 64-year-old Miranda, having previously retired from his nursing career, knew it was his calling to step forward and help administer the COVID-19 vaccine to our community. His motivation? A desire to do the right thing and honor the memory of a loved one.

[Meet Sam Miranda](#)



Collaboration in Easton

Easton Area School District and St. Luke's University Health Network are no strangers. For several years, they have engaged in a partnership that provided resources and services to the district. We are pleased to announce a significant expansion to that partnership, which will provide the district with substantial in-kind services and donations—plus comprehensive healthcare services for Easton's students and employees.

[A Shared Commitment](#)



"Like a New Man"

A year ago, Tom Brugger and his wife, Joanne, never could have imagined the nightmare that they would face in just a few weeks. Tom, a healthy and athletic 74-year-old, was one of the first patients admitted to the ICU at St. Luke's for COVID-19. It was a rollercoaster of emotions for him and his family as he battled the virus and his condition worsened. But his care team never gave up hope. Today, Tom is back home—and preparing to celebrate his 50th wedding anniversary this summer!

[Tom's Journey](#)



Boutique at the Rink

For decades, Boutique at the Rink has brought community members together for a week of shopping for a good cause. It has been a challenging time for everyone in our community, and the difficult decision was made to cancel the event this year to keep volunteers and shoppers safe. We can't wait to see you in person again in 2022!

Though we will not be gathering at the ice rink, we are still committed to doing all we can to advance the work being done by the Cancer Support Community, St. Luke's Cancer Center, and St. Luke's Hospice. Register to attend one of our fun *virtual* events taking place this spring!

[Learn More and Register](#)



Ski-a-thon and Family Fun Weekend at Blue Mountain Resort

Ski-a-thon and Family Fun Weekend at Blue Mountain Resort is taking place this weekend (February 26-28)! If you haven't gotten your discounted lift ticket yet, there's still time! You can also test your luck in our online silent auction (live now) for a chance to win an amazing prize, sponsor a skier, and more.

[Join the Fun](#)

COVID-19 Resources and Vaccine Updates

As the COVID-19 vaccine becomes available to the public, there are steps you can take to receive all the latest information straight from St. Luke's.

We created a COVID-19 online resource center that we encourage you to bookmark and reference with any of your questions about the virus or the availability of the vaccine. If you sign up for a free St. Luke's MyChart account, you will receive a notification as soon as it is your turn to schedule a vaccination.

[Find Resources](#)

Make a Tax-Free Gift from Your IRA

The pandemic has made us realize how important it is for health care organizations to be able to respond quickly and effectively to any challenge. There is a simple but significant way for you to help ensure our Network can continue to provide compassionate care for our patients.

If you are 70-1/2 years old or older, you can make yearly gifts to St. Luke's University Health Network through a direct transfer from your IRA without paying taxes on the amount you donate.

[Here's How](#)