



**October 14, 2021**

This past weekend, we celebrated **Native American Day** (or some states might call it Columbus Day). Since I had worked out at our Eagle Butte Campus for many years, I choose to call it Native American Day and think about all of our ancestors who had come before us here in South Dakota. The College here observes it as part of their Fall Break.

Early next week on October 18<sup>th</sup>, we will celebrate the feast of St. Luke. Many of you are aware that the name of our first hospital here in Aberdeen was named after Saint Luke, who wrote one of our four Gospels. That gospel is one of my favorites as it includes so many of the stories about the women in Jesus' life – Mary, the mother of Jesus, Martha and Mary the friends of Jesus, and some of our enduring Gospel texts: the Magnificat (Lk 1:46-55) and the Benedictus (Lk 1:68-79). It is probably not surprising then that the name of our **first hospital** here in Aberdeen was named after St. Luke, whom St. Paul refers to as '**the beloved physician**'. So, the next time you drive by Avera St. Luke's Hospital, take time to think about this special saint.

May God keep you safe and well!

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