



St. Luke Lutheran Church
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St. Luke Lutheran Church

Connect, Grow and Serve.

Parish Times July 2019



The Pastor's Perspective...

Calling, Not Hiring, a Pastor | Pr. John Keller

Lutherans believe in paradox. We believe we are sinners and saints simultaneously – sinners in that we rebel against God's way for us and saints in that we are saved by God's grace along. We believe that God is both infinite and intimate: as infinite as the creator of the entire universe and intimate as a baby in Bethlehem. We believe in both/and.

Another paradox is that Lutherans CALL a pastor while we use many of the same tools that companies use in hiring a new employee. The councils and leaders of St. Luke and St. Mark worked hard to write a job description of what this shared ministry hopes to become. The call committees were selected to interview and select a pastoral candidate for the job of being pastor to St. Mark and St. Luke. They will do reference and background checks to see about the integrity and competency of the candidate as would any other public institution. Yet there is something else: the power and guidance of the Holy Spirit.

The call committee has been instructed that the most significant task they have is to seek through prayer and conversation the guidance of the Holy Spirit. Together they want to discover which candidate God wants to serve at St. Luke and St. Mark. Who is God CALLING to serve? This broadens and deepens their work. It is not just finding a candidate that they think has the needed skills and experience (though that remains part of their task). It is about learning to trust that God will guide this process, because God has a plan and love for St. Mark and St. Luke. Without God's participation in the call process, the new pastor will fail.

About 500 years before Jesus' birth, the prophet Jeremiah wrote to the people of Israel who had been captured by the Babylonians and sent into exile. These exiles were hoping for a quick release from captivity and return to Jerusalem. Jeremiah said that God had different plans for them, plans that included an extended stay of decades in the foreign capital of Babylon. Yet Jeremiah assured these people that God's plan will prosper them, *For I know the plans I have for you," declares the LORD, "plans to prosper you and not to harm you, plans to give you hope and a future. Then you will call on me and come and pray to me, and I will listen to you. You will seek me and find me when you seek me with all your heart. (Jeremiah 29:11-13).*

God has a plan for St. Luke and St. Mark and a big part of that plan is learning to trust God in all circumstances. Just as the call committee is praying and seeking God's wise and compassionate guidance in calling a pastor, so too are we all to pray for God's guidance in this process. God seeks only the best for St. Mark and St. Luke. Together let us seek God in calling a new pastor.



Ladies Night Out in July

will take place on Tuesday, July 16th at Degidio's, 425 W. 7th St., St. Paul at 5:30 p.m. If you are interested in car pooling, please meet at church at 5:00 p.m. Please notify Joyce Bluel (651-690-4614) by July 14th if you are planning on attending so we have an idea of how many for the reservation.



We are looking for volunteers to help out at the National Night Out event being hosted by St. Luke on August 6th. The event begins at 6:00 p.m., so we need people to set up tables and chairs between 5:00 and 5:30. We will also need helpers to take down and put away the tables and chairs after the event is over (this would be sometime after 8:30 p.m.)

If your neighborhood does not celebrate National Night Out, why not come to church and help us welcome and get to know our church neighbors? We will be providing water and hot dogs/sloppy joes; all we ask is that each participant bring a dish to share. Live entertainment will once again be provided by a talented group of musicians.

Come join the fun. If you are able to help in set up and/or clean up, please contact Joyce Bluel (690-4614) or Judy Salaba (698-8572). Thanks!



July Birthdays

- 7 Ruth Carlson, Ian Walter
- 8 Joyce Bluel
- 11 Dave Grzywinski
- 15 Doug Wasko, Madison Munos
- 16 Wendy Bjorklund
- 17 Bob and Pam Ballis
- 20 Peter Klein
- 23 Jo Klein
- 24 Dick Plagens
- 26 Jill Burchill, Tatum Herrmann
- 28 Dan Grzywinski
- 30 Jason Woodford



July Anniversaries

- 6 Kevin and MaryJo Brandt: 1991
- 13 Larry and Bev Eckstrom: 2001
- 26 Dave and Sandy Grzywinski: 1980

Our heartfelt thanks to the Farmers' Market volunteers for July:

- 7/6 Sue McNeill, Kay Reich
- 7/13 David NedreLOW, Joyce Bluel
- 7/20 Volker and Alek Landenberger, Larry Litzkow, Laurie Smith
- 7/27 Tracy Arndt



A big thank you to our July Bun Run volunteers: Larry Litzkow, Julie Ellingson, Mike Hegdahl, David Tews.

July WORSHIP ASSISTANTS

Readers

- 7 Christine Olson
- 14 Sue McNeill
- 21 Laurie Herrmann
- 28 Wendy Bjorklund

Communion

- 7 July Salaba
- 21 Joyce Bluel

Salad season is here!

Try this scrumptious recipe from the 2005 St. Luke cookbook:

Rotini Supremi

- 1/2 box tri-color rotini pasta
- 1 can green beans, sliced
- 1 can wax beans, sliced
- 1 can kidney beans
- 1/2 c. chopped sweet onion
- 1 c. chopped celery
- 1/2 c. chopped green, red, yellow pepper
- 8 oz. Havarti cheese, cubed
- 25 pieces of pepperoni
- 1 1/2 bottle Kraft Italian dressing



Cook pasta according to box directions. Run under cold water and drain. Drain the cans of beans. Add all the ingredients and mix. Pour over 1/2 bottle of dressing. Chill. If pasta soaks up dressing, you can add a little more before you serve the salad. Makes a lot! Great potluck dish. -Sue McNeill



July Acolytes

- 7 Ava Herrmann
- 21 Victor Landenberger



Fall Bazaar 2019

Do you know any crafters or vendors who would be interested in renting out a table at our Fall Bazaar this year? The date is Saturday, October 26th from 9:00 to 3:00 and the fee for an 8-foot table is \$40.

If you know of anyone, please have them contact either Judy Salaba (651) 698-8572 or Joyce Bluel (651) 690-4614 for a vendor registration form. Space will be considered reserved at the time of submission of registration form and payment.



LOAVES AND FISHES

50 Hungry men, women and children were served a warm dinner on May 27th at the Loaves and Fishes program at St. Matthew's Church. Workers were Bev Eckstrom, Junella Litzkow, Larry Litzkow, Pastor Keller and Joyce Bluel.



Usher Notes

Many thanks to our ushers for July: Alek and Volker Landenberger, Doug Klein, Ben Pilgrim, Joan Wilson, Bruce Magnuson, Ava and Rob Herrmann.

Announcing MAKERSPACE!

St. Luke and St. Mark are hosting a Makerspace at St. Luke on the 4th Saturdays of June through August - a space open to the community to come and be creative! The second session will be July 27, 10am to 1pm. The Makerspace is open from 10:00 until 1:00 - so you can make your art and get your veggies at the Farmers Market, too!

Info and sign-up sheets are posted at each church - let us know you're interested by signing up or replying on Facebook. We are also looking for donations for the Makerspace - so if you've done your spring cleaning and have creative supplies, empty plastic containers, fabric, paper, flattened cardboard, staplers, beads, twine - feel free to donate to our Makerspace! Ideas for supplies are posted next to the sign-up sheets. Further questions can be sent to Rebecca Ruiz, bunkamade@gmail.com



Our Fifth Annual Farmers Market is now in full swing...Saturdays, 8am to 1pm through Oct. 5...come along, invite your friends!



UPDATE

The Parish Board met on Monday June 10th at Saint Mark.

We discussed the next Shared Worship Service, to be held on Sunday, June 30th at Saint Luke with a theme of Care for Creation. Communion Service at 9:30 (out of doors); Cleanup of the neighborhood at 10:30 and a potluck lunch at 11:20.

Nancy provided an update from the Call Committee

We discussed VBS which will be held at Saint Luke on Monday and Tuesday August 12th and 13th. Becca will lead the music, Pastor Keller will lead the lessons and Eric will lead recreation. The theme will also be Care for Creation. A meal will be served and that portion will begin at 5:30 with the end time to be 7:30 PM. We will need volunteers.

Becca provided a brief update on MakerSpace.

Each council will also engage in a discussion regarding the future of technology in both of our churches as we prepare to welcome a new pastor.

The Parish Board will meet twice in the month of July and not in the month of August.

--Pastor Keller, Nancy Redlin, Eric Michelson, Wendy Bjorklund, Jackie Brueggemann, Ruth Carlson, Becca Ruiz, Mary Miller and Laurie Buss



Spotlight on...Al Fredrickson

I am Alan Fredrickson, born 12/31/1954 at Fairview Hospital00. I am 100% Swedish. I still have immediate relatives in Sweden which I have never met. I have an older brother, an older sister, a younger brother, as well as 17 foster brothers and sisters that were a member of my household, but not all at the same time. We seldom had a household fewer than 8 people. I still stay in touch with a number of foster siblings and am in touch with all my family.

I graduated from Park Center High School in 1973, participating in music, sports and reading. I have also been a member of the work force since junior high school. After graduating from PCHS, I went on to study at Bemidji State University, Oxford University in England (Magdalen College), and the Vienna International School of Music in Austria. I earned my Bachelor of Science degree from Bemidji State University in 1979. I majored in Music and Education, with concentrations in Language and Psychology. After graduation, I went on to a teaching career, retiring in 2018. I spent 20 years teaching in K-12 public school and spent my last 20 teaching preschool.

Growing up, I participated in choir, individual and team sports, and was also an avid outdoor sportsman. My family was very involved in membership and activities in Cross of Glory Lutheran Church. I spent a great deal of time, on and off, at the farm that my mother grew up on, in Cambridge, MN. I find watching baseball and going fly fishing very relaxing.

My wife, Jen, and I feel blessed being members at St. Luke, and are very thankful for the friendly and traditional atmosphere there. We have been active in special music, coffee fellowship, and with the farmer's market.

We are both avid readers, and as teachers and readers, our condo is full of books and reading material, and I mean REALLY full. We enjoy reading the Bible daily, and I am currently re-reading the works of Herman Hesse, and I enjoy reading comics of all kinds. I also enjoy watching videos and DVDs, choosing quality TEEVEE over much of what is currently found on the television. Two of my favorite shows are HOUSE MD and the West Wing. (My wife has gifted me with the DVD collections of both of those now off-the-air series.)

One of my major regrets, due to hereditarily ailing joints, as well as age (none of us are as young as we once were), is the inability to bicycle any longer, which I was avidly involved in when younger, even to the point of riding competitively.

We are thankful that God has been at work in our lives; specifically, in my case, of my teaching career and our life together, as well as my surviving a few life-threatening situations, which would not have been possible without God's intervention (the good stuff, not the bad).