



St. Luke Lutheran Church
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St. Luke Lutheran Church

Parish Times March 2011

Now faith is the assurance of things hoped for, the conviction of things not seen. Hebrews 11:1

This year our Wednesday evening Lenten services will all take place at St. Luke under the title of "Faith T.R.I.P." The worship services will begin at 6:40 p.m. and end at 7:10 p.m. The overall theme is faith, as seen in biblical figures and in our own lives. We will also be practicing a way of prayer that Martin Luther taught his barber. This way of praying has been slightly modified to form the acronym "TRIP." After the reading of the lesson each Wednesday, we will have a short time of silent prayer, about 3-4 minutes. During that time you may use the TRIP method of prayer or your own way of praying. TRIP is:



- Thanks:** What in this verse makes me thankful?
- Regret:** What in this verse causes me regret?
- Intercession** (prayer): What does this text lead me to pray for?
- Purpose:** What action does this text encourage me to take today?

After this time of silent prayer, there will be a short message. I have asked some St. Luke members to share in giving these messages. The overall schedule, faith themes and speakers for the Lenten series are:

- March 16 - Christine Olson: "Like Noah, how do we have faith in things not yet seen?"
- March 23 - Kyle Zvejnieks: "Like Abraham, when faith means taking a risk, how do we respond?"
- March 30 - Julie Ellingson: "Like Moses, how does our faith affect the hard choices we must make?"
- April 6 - Jean Gilland: "Amid life's joys and difficulties, how do we persevere in faith?"
- April 13 - Pr. Dave: "How does the way of the cross define our faith?"

Come and worship as we deepen our own faith TRIPS. And don't forget Ash Wednesday on Wednesday, March 9 at 7 p.m. See you there.



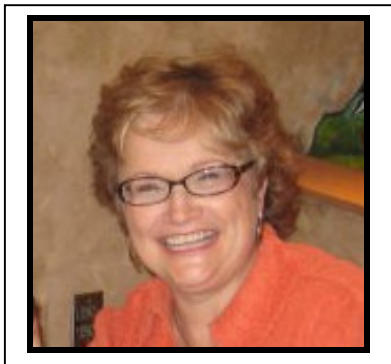
Stamping With Sue – March 26
 Sue McNeill announces her monthly Stampin' Up! technique classes on the last Saturday of the month (except for holidays) in the church library from 9:00 a.m.-11:00 a.m. For \$5, you will make 3 cards using different techniques and receive a collectible technique card. RSVP by 5:00 p.m. the Wednesday before class so a kit can be prepared for you. Email: ssmcneill@hotmail.com; work 612-596-4011; home 651-688-8176. No experience necessary. All are welcome!

Attention Group Workcamp Families: The Youth will be organizing the Easter Breakfast this year to benefit the forthcoming group workcamp mission. There will be a planning meeting for all parents and workcamp youths on Sunday, April 3 at 11:15. Your participation is needed and will be greatly appreciated!



On January 24th, 125 hungry people were served supper at St. Matthew's Catholic Church on the West Side for the Loaves and Fishes program. Workers were Pastor Dave, Kyle Zvejnieks, Larry Litzkow, Dwight Paulson, Ann Verschoyle, Joyce Bluel, Dorothy Paul and Eva Mac Niven. Audrey Rongstad and Donna Paulson also helped by baking cookies.

Spotlight on...Julie



I was raised in Wood Lake, a rural Minnesotan town of about 400 people. In that little town there were two Lutheran parochial schools, as well as a public school. I attended kindergarten through 8th grade at the Wisconsin Synod Lutheran school literally next door to the home in which I grew up with my sister, a year younger, and my brother who, at age two, became developmentally and emotionally disabled due to encephalitis. I graduated from Wood Lake High School (which is no longer), from Willmar Area Technical Institute for medical secretary in 1972, and then from Southwest State University, Marshall, MN, in 1993 with a degree in social work. Since I was a little girl, I used to visit the elderly, the disabled, and the sick, and now I am lucky to have a career doing much the same. I consider it an honor and a privilege for people to allow me to enter their homes, to listen to their stories and to help them through difficult times. I consider it God's work.

In parochial school, we were expected to recite Bible verses daily and every Friday was "Hymn Day" when we would recite all verses of a particular hymn. I have many favorite hymns, two of which are Lord of All Hopefulness and Lord Whose Love in Humble Service. To this day, I can still sing many of the old hymns by heart. I have sung in church choir most of my life, up until the past 3 years. I can remember practicing the scales in elementary school. My sister, cousins, and I sang often in church, at PTA meetings, Farmer's Union gatherings, bridal showers, and many other small town events.

I was brought up to have a very narrow view of God and of religion in general. There was only one way and it was our way. God was punishing and judgmental. I am considered a religious rebel in my family because I am the only one who left the Wisconsin Synod church. My father and I had to agree to disagree about whether or not women could or should be religious leaders or voting members of a congregation.

Although my marriage ended in divorce after 17 years, it was with my former spouse and his family where I learned a much broader view of religion and learned to believe in a loving and compassion God. I was active in Yellow Medicine Lutheran Church in Hanley Falls, MN, teaching Sunday School, leading devotions, singing in choir, and being youth counselor, especially during the years my son, Eric, was growing up.

At St. Luke I have been involved in the choir, was on the church council, have each year donated handmade items and worked at the Bazaar, occasionally read the lessons, assist with oil anointing and serving of coffee after services. I have attended Camp Onomia and have spoken to confirmation classes. This will be my fourth year of being a Bun Run volunteer.

My hobbies include cooking and baking, making soap and cards, gardening, reading and writing, traveling, dragon boat paddling, yoga and water exercise. I LOVE going to the Farmer's Markets during the growing season and am always open to a new adventure.

A series of life events and having a life threatening illness have brought me to the place where I am today---stronger spiritually than I have ever been, humble, and closer to God. I have been blessed in many unexpected ways. My spiritual life is full and alive and comes not only from St. Luke Church, but from the daily practice of a 12 step program, prayer and meditation, and from the people with whom I surround myself—authentic, loving people who are consciously working at letting God be in control of their lives, and who help me to see the areas in which I need improvement. I thank God for them every day! A couple of my favorite Bible passages include Romans 8:28, which states: All things work together for good to those who love Him and are called according to his purpose, as well as Phil. 4:6, which reminds us: Don't worry about anything; instead pray about everything. Tell God what you need and thank Him for all He has done.

Confirmation News



We will have class as usual on March 2. On March 9 come to Ash Wednesday worship in place of confirmation class. During the time of Lent (March 16, 23, 30) we will have class from 5:30-6:30.

**Our heartfelt appreciation to our Bun Run volunteers
February: Julie Ellingson,
Joan Wilson, Ken McGrew
and Nancy Hegdahl.**



March Acolytes:

6 – Thor Burchill-Riley
9 – (Ash Wed.) – Eddie McGrew
13 – Sheridan Moore
20 – Riley Miller
27 – Kirby Peterson

News From Council President Joyce Bluel



March marks the start of Lent in the church calendar. I remember as a child giving up certain things for Lent, such as gum or candy; I was never quite successful though, maybe if it had been vegetables! Instead of giving up something, why not try to mark the forty days of Lent by placing a quarter each day in a coin folder, which adds up to \$10. At the end of Lent you may then put it in the offering plate. This is an easy way to add to our general fund and also reinforce the practice of stewardship. The coin folders will be available at the Welcome Center in the social hall.

March is also Food Share Month; it is during tough economic times like this when the need for contributions to food shelves is at its highest. So, please contribute what you can, either in the form of nonperishable food items or dollars.

The results of the 2010 Fall Bazaar are in and we made \$4,067.56 after expenses. This is down from last year by approximately \$650.; not bad in this economy. Our volunteers met on Sunday, February 6th to set the date for 2011 and to decide on how to spend our proceeds. The 2011 Fall Bazaar will be held on Saturday, October 15th this year. Here are some of the decisions that were made as to how to spend the proceeds from 2010 and prior years; a 20% benevolence of \$1,000. will go to Camp Onomia; \$300. for a TV for the youth work camp spaghetti dinner raffle; \$100. to the airport ministry; up to \$600. in matching funds for the youth work camp; cleaning the carpet in the social hall and replacement of the kitchen freezer will be done sometime this year after council approval.

We have 30 new chairs in the social hall and are in the process of reupholstering the seats on existing torn chairs as part of the 2009 Fall Bazaar proceeds. This has been and continues to be a good fundraising event for St. Luke and is a great way for all to participate. The proceeds from this event have enabled us to purchase things that we would normally not have the budget for in the general fund. Thanks to all of our volunteers and your continued support.



March Birthdays

3 - ABIGAIL WINECKE
4 - CARL ELLIOTT
6 - CONNELL MCGOUGH, MARK STADEM
7 - JUDY SALABA, KEVIN BRANDT
10 - JOE LUTY, LOIS PORTER
12 - BETTY HOARD
13 - DAVID VERSCHOYLE
15 - DONALD ANNALA
16 - SUSAN LORENZ
18 - JACOB ARNDT, LISA VANDROVEC
19 - LUCY LIPSCOMB, SAM LIPSCOMB
22 - ALEX KLEIN
24 - MICHAEL FABIE
26 - SHERIDAN MOORE
27 - CAROLYN SCHMIDT
31 - JULIE GAARDER, ROBYN RONGSTAD, RALPH SKOE



March Anniversaries:

12 - MIKE AMUNDSON AND KIMBERLY TYL: 2004
19 - SUE AND DAN GRZYWINSKI: 1977



We need donations of new or gently used children's books for a service project. The participants of the family retreat plan to make children's book bags for a homeless shelter. Please place your book donations in the designated box in the Social Hall. Thank you!



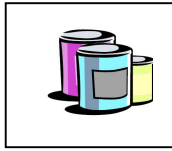
Usher Notes

Many thanks to our ushers for February: Carl Goers, Gwen and Steve Brummund, Lisa Vandrovec, Mike and Nancy Hegdahl, Linda Funkhouser and Tom Gaarder. Our ushers for March will be: Eva Mac Niven, Max Elliott, Sam Elliott, Wanda Mathison, Larry and Carol Vigdal, Dwight Paulson and Katy Eggert.

March Readers:

**6 - Al Baird
13 - Joyce Bluel
20 - Wendy Bjorklund
27 - Audrey Rongstad**





March is Minnesota FoodShare Month!

Each March, Minnesota FoodShare directs the March Campaign, the largest food drive in the state and restocks 300 food shelves across Minnesota. It recruits thousands of congregations, companies, schools and civic groups to run local food and fund drives to aid in the effort.

Minnesota FoodShare organizes a statewide media campaign to promote food shelf donations. It produces and distributes free promotional and educational resources for food drive organizers. It acts as a clearinghouse for cash donations and distributes the funds to participating Minnesota food shelves. Throughout the year, Minnesota FoodShare advocates on behalf of hungry Minnesota families with both state and federal lawmakers and educates the public about hunger in Minnesota.

So, during the month of March, we will be collecting donations of food and money for St. Francis Basket. There will be a table set up in the fellowship hall for food donations. Checks can be made out to St. Luke with a notation of "food drive" in the memo line. If you have any questions, please talk with Joan Wilson. Thanks for all of your help!



This soup was a big hit at our Souper Bowl Sunday fundraiser on Feb. 1. Many people asked for the recipe...here it is—enjoy!

St. John Bazaar Vegetable Beef Soup by Ruth Johnson

- 1 lb. hamburger, browned and drained
- 1 C. onion, chopped
- 1 C. rutabaga, diced
- 1 C. potatoes, diced
- 1 C. cabbage, shredded
- 1 C. celery, chopped
- 1 C. carrots, sliced
- 1 C. green beans
- 4 C. tomatoes (or 1 lb can whole tomatoes)
- 1/2 C. pearl barley

Bring to boil;

- 4 C. water
- 1 pkg. onion soup mix
- 1 T. beef bouillon
- 1 1/2 t. salt (or less)
- 1/2 t. pepper

Add remaining ingredients and simmer until vegetables and barley are tender, about 1 hour.



Ladies Night Out – Ladies Night Out in March will take place on Tuesday, March 15th at Green Mill – 50 South Hamline at 5:30 p.m. Please notify Joyce Bluel (651-690-4614) if you are planning on attending by Sunday, March 6th so we have an idea of how many for the reservation.



WE NEED DONATIONS for our March 12 silent auction!

Proceeds to raise funds for our youth group workcamp mission Hand-crafted, store purchased, or simply monetary: any and all auction donations will be GREATLY appreciated! Ready and willing to help? Contact Pastor Dave or the church office. Many thanks!



2011 Lent and Holy Week Schedule

► **Ash Wednesday Service, March 9, 7:00 p.m.**

► **Wednesday Lenten Services, 6:40 to 7:10 p.m.**

"Faith T.R.I.P." – Hebrews 11:1 - 12:2

March 16: How Do We Have Faith In Things Not Yet Seen?

March 23: When Faith Means Taking a Risk, How Do We Respond?

March 30: How Does Our Faith Affect the Hard Choices We Must Make?

April 6: Amid Joys And Difficulties, How do We Persevere In Our Faith?

April 13: How Does The Way of the Cross Define Our Faith?

► **Holy Week Services**

April 21, 7:00 p.m.: Maundy Thursday Worship

April 22, 7:00 p.m.: Good Friday Worship

April 24: Easter Sunday

7:00 a.m.: Worship

8:00 a.m.: Breakfast

9:00 a.m.: Egg Hunt

9:30 a.m.: Worship

Neighbors Together

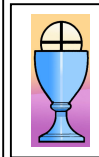
June 3, 4, 5... REMEMBER THESE DATES! We need YOU! We will be helping our Homecroft neighbors during this time, by doing some basic home repairs, free or at a minimal cost to the homeowners. The South Ramsey Branch of Thrivent has generously agreed to help sponsor this event by donating \$1,200.00 for materials! Also Humble Walk Lutheran Church on West 7th will be working with us on this project and they have funding also. Let's be a light to our neighbors, showing them the love of Christ! Come with your paintbrush and hammer, or come ready to make some good food for all to share. Let's ALL join together in reaching out in love and service. Save those dates, June 3, 4, 5.



Workcamp Spaghetti Dinner/Silent Auction

On Saturday, March 12 at 6:00 p.m. the workcamp youth will host a spaghetti dinner/silent auction as a fundraiser for workcamp. The money raised will help us go to camp, where we will join about 400 other youth in Barnesville, MN to fix up about 50-60 homes while growing in faith. It is a life changing experience. You can help youth by coming to the spaghetti dinner hungry and finding some great bargains at the silent auction. We will also auction off a flat screen TV so come and help out the youth. The South Ramsey County Chapter of Thrivent Financial for Lutherans will supplement the fundraiser at the rate of \$.50 for every \$1.00 raised, up to a maximum supplement of \$1200.00.

Please come and help us reach this goal so that we can help others!



Attention Parents: Early Communion Preparation Classes will be held in the next few weeks. St. Luke Church has a tradition that a child is eligible whenever the parents and the pastor believe that the child is ready. Pastor Dave will be leading first communion classes on Sunday mornings, March 13, 20 and 27 during Sunday School. (10:15 to 11:15) Upon completion of these classes the children will receive their first communion on Easter Sunday, April 24. Please talk with Pastor Dave if you are interested in this class.

*"The Lord bless thee, and keep thee."
-Numbers 6:24*