



St. Luke Lutheran Church  
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# St. Luke Lutheran Church

## Parish Times May 2008



### *Thoughts from Pastor Dave:*

“Ask, and it will be given you; search, and you will find; knock, and the door will be opened for you.” Matthew 7:7

Every day at church I take time for morning prayers in the sanctuary. During that time I lift up people by name and pray for them individually. At the end of this prayer time, I lift my eyes up to the cross in our sanctuary and pray that St. Luke and I, as the pastor, may follow Jesus’ will for St. Luke. I pray for guidance for us as a church. God has blessed St. Luke in so many ways. How is God leading us now? On Saturday, May 3 our church council will meet for a mini-retreat. One of the things we will be doing is looking at the strengths of St. Luke and how to continue to build on those strengths. We will also be asking ourselves how we can become more effective in our ministry. I would like us to begin some long-range planning as we claim the strengths we have through Christ, then expand on those strengths as we continue to reach out in mission. We need to do this in a very prayerful manner. We also need to be very deliberate in our planning, trusting in God’s guidance as we move forward.

I invite you to join us in praying about this. I invite your input. What do you see as the strengths of St. Luke? How can we build on those strengths? Let us join together in asking the Lord for his guidance with the assurance that God will indeed continue to lead and bless St. Luke in mission. It is good to be in ministry with you. See you in worship! --Pastor Dave



### May Readers:

- 4: Katy Eggert
- 11: Barb Jensen
- 18: Alex Grzywinski
- 25: Jill Burchill

### *May Communion Assistants*



- 4: Katy Eggert
- 18: Alex Grzywinski



### Usher Notes...

Many thanks to our ushers for April: Roger Diestler, Doug Klein, Abby Klein, Alex Klein, Audrey McNamara, Bruce Magnuson, George Heriot and Al Baird  
Our ushers for May will be: Lee Johnson, Carl Goers, Gwen and Steve Brummund, Mike and Nancy Hegdahl, Linda Funkhouser and Tom Gaarder.



### 1st Quarter of 2008

Adopted Budget - \$40,149.20  
 2008 Pledges - \$27,959.23  
 2008 Offering Received - \$29,452.00  
 Loose Offering - \$1,815.31



### Micro-lending Group

We have some people signed up for the micro-lending group so I will be inviting a guest to come speak to us about how this is done. This person is a member of St. Michael's Lutheran Church in Roseville and is one of the central members of their micro-lending group. Stay tuned for this informational meeting! – Pastor Dave



### Canoe Trips

Sign up sheets are up for both youth and adult canoe trips. The youth dates are set, but adult dates are not set yet. Please sign up if you are interested, and we adults can talk about when we wish to go.

**Our heartfelt appreciation to our Bun Run Volunteers for April:**

**Nancy Hegdhal  
 Mark McGough  
 Jeff Kingsley  
 Ken McGrew**



**Hey Youth...be sure to join us on Friday, May 2 at 5:00 p.m. We will participate in a Feed My Starving Children session, then enjoy dinner together...watch your email inbox for details!**



### Notes from Conie:

- The Worship Band leads our Sunday morning worship on May 18, the last day of Sunday School. Bring a friend to worship on this day!
- The Worship and Music committee selected all of the hymns for the summer a few weeks ago and we used the list of favorite hymns to help us. Thank to all who shared their favorite! Here's the G-I section of the list: Gather us In; Give me Jesus; Great is Thy Faithfulness; Halle, Halle; Hark, the Glad Sound; He Touched Me; Healer of our Every Ill; Here I Am; How Can I Keep from Singing; How Great Thou Art; I am so Glad Each Christmas Eve; I am the Bread; I Know that my Redeemer Lives; I Love to Tell the Story; I want Jesus to Walk With Me; I Want to Walk as a Child; I was There to Hear Your Borne Cry; I, the Lord of Sea and Sky; In the Bleak Midwinter; In the Garden. The next meeting to select hymns is scheduled for August 3.
- Post-Easter Praise go to Sue McNeill, Dorothy Zitterow, Audrey McNamara, Christine Olson, and Jo Klein for donning chef hats for a day and concocting yummy vittles for hungry confirmation kids, choir members and other congregants who stop by on Super Soup Supper Wednesdays. Thank you!
- Summer is nearly here and we need to fill the special music gap while the choirs are on vacation. Want to sing or play an instrument? Let me know!

#### Notes for the music groups:

- Special choir dates: Potluck party is Wednesday, May 7. Choir music filing night is Wednesday, May 21. Stay tuned for more details...
- Remaining Worship Band rehearsals are Wed., May 14, 7 p.m.; Sat., May 17, 10 a.m.; Sun., May 18, 7:30 a.m.



## President's Blog

May 2008

I love the Easter holiday. I love the resurrection story of life overcoming of death, and the promise of new life. I am overwhelmed each year at how beautiful the altar looks on Easter morning. And how about that breakfast? Yum. However, having Easter in March has created a problem for me. When Easter comes late in April, spring is just around the corner. There is a warmth in the air. The sun shines. The birds sing sweetly in the morning as I walk to my garage. This year.....not so much. I'm kind of crabby. The least little snowflake and I'm on a rant about MN weather!!!! All because of this early Easter. But guess what? I found a sign of spring coming that can't be denied. Every evening when I sit on my couch and look out my patio door, just before darkness comes, a robin sits on my fence and looks at me. Head cocked, clearly facing me, he locks eyes with me. And I stop complaining and see that he is my spring. He believes it is coming and has returned to start looking for Mrs. Robin to set up a "nest" and begin that life cycle. I think he was a gift to me as a reminder that even though it might still snow...spring will come. Grass will be green again. Flowers will bloom. The sun will feel warm on my face. I really appreciate this little gift. May you all find a robin on your fence.

## India Trip

Several people have asked me about going to India in 2009 or 2010. I will be giving a presentation on that subject in the near future. I will be sharing information about the Comprehensive Rural Health Project (CRHP) and the founder, Dr. Raj Arole. Dr. Arole and CRHP have been a great inspiration in my life. I hope to be able to share some of the excitement and inspiration I have received from that work. Stay tuned! - Pastor Dave



## May Birthdays:

- 1 - HELEN LYONS
- 3 - DOROTHEA MIELKE
- 4 - MICHAEL AMUNDSON
- 6 - PAULA SILTBERG
- 9 - KENT PETERSON, SARA FABIE
- 11 - IAN HOLMLY
- 12 - CONIE BORCHARDT, JULIE ELLINGSON
- 17 - HELEN KLEIN
- 18 - KATY EGGERT, LARRY LITZKOW
- 19 - JEAN KLOTZ, STEVE BRUMMUND
- 21 - DAN VIGDAL, MARYJO BRANDT
- 23 - STELLA DREHMEL
- 25 - DOROTHY ZITTEROW
- 26 - KAYLA STADEM
- 28 - PATRICIA STADEM, SUE PALM
- 29 - CRAIG DREHMEL



## May Anniversaries:

- 11 - ROBERT AND LOIS PORTER: 1968
- 22 - DAN AND DEBORAH VIGDAL: 1971
- 30 - TOM AND JULIE GAARDER: 1992



A big thanks to all of you who provided your best smile for the new church directory this year. The new directory will be available in a few weeks. --Mike Hegdahl and Sue McNeill



## Spotlight on...



***Nahoko Person***

I was born on September 25, 1956 in Kumamoto, Japan, a city about the size of Minneapolis on the southern island of Kyushu. I have an older brother who lives with his family in Kumamoto and a younger sister who lives in Austin, Texas with her family. I went to school in Kumamoto, including the Lutheran junior and senior high school in Kumamoto. It was through this school that I became a Christian. Less than 1% of the people in Japan are Christian, so at first my parents were against me becoming a Christian, but they finally agreed and I was baptized on Christmas Day at Oe Lutheran Church in Kumamoto. I met Dave not too long after that, who was in Kumamoto as a short-term lay missionary and we were married about three years later.

I went to junior college in Kumamoto, and later, went to the College of St. Benedict near St. Cloud when we lived in Zimmerman, Minnesota. I received my BSN degree from St. Bens and presently work as an RN at North Memorial Hospital in Robbinsdale. During my time at St. Bens I enjoyed taking voice lessons, and sang in the choir at St. John Lutheran Church in Zimmerman. During our time in Japan I also took piano lessons, Taiko (Japanese drum) lessons, and Shamisen (a Japanese stringed instrument) lessons. I enjoy music. I also enjoy reading murder mysteries and watching mysteries on T.V.

I have enjoyed the fellowship and family-like atmosphere at St. Luke. I look forward to getting to know you all better!



### Play Ball!

It's time for summer softball again! This year we will be starting Sunday, July 13<sup>th</sup> at 5:30 p.m. There is a possibility we will have an additional church playing this year, which will make it six churches participating.

A short history: a few summers ago Pastor Jack assembled an informal softball "league" in which churches in the area gathered to play casual games of softball with no umpires. The tradition is going strong today!

This is a co-ed league. Players entering 9<sup>th</sup> grade in the fall or older may participate. We play every Sunday starting July 13 at 5:30 pm. If you are interested in playing, or have any questions, please contact Mike Hegdahl at 651-699-0499.

### ***May Acolytes:***



Acolytes

- 4 – Olivia Peterson
- 11 – Sam Nodler
- 18 – Riley Miller
- 25 – Peter Klein

**South Ramsey County Chapter,  
Let's "Join Hands" and generations  
Be a part of a national volunteer day!**

**Thrivent Extends Goodwill at the Living Green Expo!**  
Saturday, May 3<sup>rd</sup> 10:00 a.m. – 5:00 p.m.  
Minnesota State Fair Grounds  
2<sup>nd</sup> Floor Grand Stand Area

**USED**



**NEW**



**Volunteer**

- Learn to repurpose used jeans into cool grocery totes which will be donated with food pantry items to a local food shelf
- Assist with on-site recycling efforts for the Living Green Expo

**Donate**

- Used jeans (any color), men's ties and women's scarves
- Food pantry items

**Sign up**

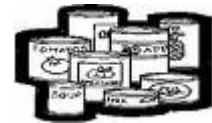
- Contact Beth Mammenga at 651-379-5937 or e-mail [bmammenga@goodwilleasterseals.org](mailto:bmammenga@goodwilleasterseals.org)

*JOIN HANDS DAY is sponsored by America's 76 fraternal benefit societies, including Thrivent Financial for Lutherans, the nation's largest fraternal benefit society. Proudly sponsored by the South Ramsey County Thrivent Chapter.*



98 Hungry people were served supper on March 24th at the Loaves and Fishes program. Many thanks to our workers: Larry Litzkow, Sandy Berger, Helen Bye, Ann Verschoyle and Eva Mac Niven. Thanks also to Audrey Rongstad and Donna Paulson for baking cookies.

Thanks to all of you who donated to the Minnesota March Foodshare Drive. St. Francis Basket will be happy to receive the 658 pounds of food you have donated (including both food and monetary donations). The generosity of St. Luke's members always amazes me! --Wendy Bjorklund



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