



St. Luke Lutheran Church
 1807 Field Avenue
 St. Paul, MN 55116
 Phone: 651-698-9443
www.saintlukechurch.us

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Parish Times

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Thoughts From Pastor Juli...

I sometimes think that September is a better month for New Year's than January. Everyone comes off the summer schedule and gets back into the regular yearly swing of things, school and Sunday school start up, and everyone seems to be starting new projects, new programs and new activities.

In the Bible, the New Year is Rosh Hashannah, the Head of the Year. I like this phrasing, because it is a good reminder that everything starts in the head. Every event, program and activity started out as an idea in someone's head. Everything that we participate in starts with thinking that it would be a good thing to do. The outcomes of all these things depend on the quality of thinking that goes into them, from both sides.

The Bible also specifies that for Rosh Hashannah, we should take the time to make ourselves right with God and with others. For the Hebrews, this involved having the scapegoat take on the sins of the people. Modern Jews observe a period of fasting and repentance.

As Christians, we need only accept the righteousness that Christ has won for us. However, it is a good idea to take a few minutes and look at our schedules. Does where we put our time match our priorities? What are we thinking about as we approach these activities? Are we entering them with enthusiasm and best intentions, or with resentment, or with a half-hearted attitude that will drain the energy from all the participants? Are there negative (even sinful) things that we should drop? What about the people? Are the ones we love represented? Is there someone who should be there but isn't?

Everyone has parts of their schedule controlled by others - parents, children, employers, etc. But a little time now spent thinking about what we do control will make a big difference in how the year goes.



September Readers:

- 2 – Shantel Steen
- 9 – Barb Jensen
- 16 – Katy Eggert
- 23 – Sandi Gordon
- 30 – Cathy Erickson



Usher Notes...

Many thanks to our ushers for August: Lee Johnson, Carl Goers, Gwen and Steve Brummund, Mike and Nancy Hegdahl, Linda Funkhouser and Tom Gaarder

Our ushers for September will be:

Eva Mac Niven, Grant Mongin, Carl Elliott, Wanda Mathison, Larry and Carol Vigdal, Dwight Paulson and Katy Eggert



Come one, come all to our first Game Day of the season on Friday, Sept. 7 at 12:30 p.m. at church. Bring a snack to share, and your favorite game, and settle down to an afternoon of fun and games...join us!

September Birthdays:





Mission Profile Committee Update

The Mission Profile is complete and has been turned into the Synod. I'd like to thank Margaret Vigdal, Nancy Hegdal, Mike Hegdal, Doug Klein, Wendy Bjorklund, Sue McNeil and Pastor Juli Thompson for the efforts they all put in to complete this.

Copies are available on the table to the left of the sanctuary doors for any congregational member who would like one.



I will once again be signing up volunteers for coffee fellowship on the last two Sundays of September. I will be taking volunteers for the months of October, November and December. If you have any special occasions you wish to share in celebration please let me know ahead of time. This will be holiday time and many of you like to do some special baking for the holidays. I am finding that I am having to ask some people to serve a little more often than once every six months. So please consider volunteering again even if you have served 4 to 6 months ago. This is a very important hour we spend each Sunday with fellow members of St Luke. Thank you one and all for all of your support. –Dianne Diestler



Wakanheza is a Dakota word for child or "sacred being." Last fall, members of St. Luke and its surrounding community met with representatives of the St. Paul Area Council of Churches and Ramsey County to learn the Wakanheza Project principles for treating our children as sacred beings. We have an opportunity to meet with them again in September for a workshop focused specifically on creating a welcoming space at St. Luke for our teens and treating them as sacred beings. This is a workshop directed to parents, grandparents, teachers, community members or any other adults who regularly interact with teens. Watch your bulletin or see Wendy Bjorklund for more details.

Date: Sunday, September 30

Time: 11am-1pm with light lunch to follow

There will be a sign up sheet for lunch in the Social Hall



Spotlight... Jeff Faust

I was born in St. Cloud, Minnesota in 1957 and moved to White Bear Lake, Minnesota when I was 2, and grew up there. My father was a junior high school teacher and my mother worked at home. I have 2 sisters and 3 brothers. When I was young I played football, hockey, and baseball through high school and hockey in college.

I attended the United States Air Force Academy and went on to active duty as a Missile Launch Officer at Ellsworth Air Force Base in South Dakota. Generally, my past occupations were as a financial analyst and currently I am an IT business analyst at Land O' Lakes.

Being Lutheran, we joined St. Luke in 1987 because of the proximity and our first welcoming visits from the members of the congregation. After growing up in a large congregation St. Luke was quite different. We really enjoy the smaller congregation, and for most of our time, Pastor Jack had been a wonderful reason to stay at St. Luke. Our children, Kira and Garrett, attended Sunday School and were confirmed here. During my time at St. Luke I have served as a church council member, a Sunday School teacher and Superintendent, and I started the annual Sunday School/Family trip to Camp Onomia. Mary was the church secretary for a couple of years.

I would hope that the St. Luke congregation could continue to be a strong center of faith for our area of St. Paul and carry on the proud traditions of our founding members.



We have another great year planned for our Youth Group!

Watch for details in future bulletins.

2007/08 Youth Group Schedule

September 23:	Mini Golf
October 14:	Lunch and CROP Walk
November:	Attend play at local theater
December:	Parents' Shopping Night Out and Overnight for Youth
January:	Vertical Endeavors
February:	Camp Onomia
March:	Feed My Starving Children
April:	St. Paul Park Clean-Up
May:	Pizza Fund-raiser
June:	Oxford Pool or Shoreview Pool
July:	Assist VBS



Notes From Conie...

Singers, unite! Choir rehearsal begins on Wed, Sept 12 with a potluck fellowship at 6 p.m. and rehearsal at 7 p.m. New voices are welcome. Come and make a joyful noise!



Fall Bazaar Update
Joyce Bluel

This year's CROPWalk will be Sunday, October 14. Mark your calendars and watch the newsletter and bulletin for more details.



