



St. Luke Lutheran Church
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Parish Times May 2009



Go therefore and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, and teaching them to obey everything that I have commanded you. And remember, I am with you always to the end of the age. --Matthew 28:19-20

These are the words the risen Christ spoke to his disciples before his ascension into heaven. We are to baptize people of all nations. We are to obey all that Christ has commanded us. We are to remember that Jesus is with us always until the end of the age.

On Sunday, May 31 seven young St. Luke members will be confirmed during the worship service. In other words, they will affirm the words and promises spoken for them when they were baptized as babies. Do you remember the promises made at the affirmation of baptism service? They are promises you made too. They are:

- to live among God's faithful people
- to hear the word of God and share in the Lord's Supper
- to proclaim the good news of God in Christ through word and deed
- to serve all people, following the example of Jesus
- to strive for justice and peace in all the earth

Please join these young members of St. Luke as they affirm these promises. Join them by reaffirming your own baptism as they affirm their baptisms. Join them in remembering what God has done for you through baptism. And join them in living out those promises as a child of God.

See you in worship,
 Pr. Dave Person



Our heartfelt appreciation to our Bun Run Volunteers for April: Julie Ellingson, Nancy Hegdahl, Mark McGough, Ken McGrew.

Join us for
Spring Clean Up Day
 at St. Luke Lutheran Church on
Saturday, May 2, 9:30 a.m.

Please come with pails, sponges, rags, and lots of energy...
 and leave with a great feeling of accomplishment!
 Questions? Call Joan Wilson at 651-253-6111





Quarterly offering as of 3/31/09:

Adopted Budget - \$39,871.52
2009 Pledges - \$31,564.52
First Quarter 2009 Received -
\$30,414.00

The First Quarter Giving Statements
are now available in the Social Hall.
Please pick up your statement today.



May Readers:

- 3 – Julie Ellingson
- 10 – Al Baird
- 17 – Wanda Mathison
- 24 – Megan Jefferson
- 31 – Max Elliott



Acolytes

For May:

- 3 – Sheridan Moore
- 10 – Sam Lipscomb
- 17 – Colleen McGough
- 24 – Eddie McGrew
- 31 – Jacob Arndt



May 17 is a big day at St. Luke...we will be giving out Bibles to our fourth grade students, honoring our high school graduates and celebrating our Sunday school year end party...be sure to be a part of this special day!



We would like to thank the following for delivering Meals on Wheels for the month of March:
Al Baird, Ann Verschoyle, Eva Mac Niven, Bruce Magnuson, Audrey Rongstad, David Elliott, Jane McGrew

Micro-lending Group

The St. Luke Micro-lending group has met twice and made a total of ten loans to people in seven different countries around the world (check out the world map in fellowship hall)! Our meetings are very relaxed, starting with a prayer, and then a “catered” meal filled with great fellowship. Last time we each pitched in \$5.00 for a Chinese meal at church. We all ate our fill and still had some left over. We then moved into the sanctuary where a computer was hooked up to a projector so we could all see the Kiva web-site we use to make the micro-loans. We then looked through a list of about 20 people around the world who are requesting loans. There is a picture of each person, where they are from and a description of how they will use the money. Last time we made loans to six different people. We had previously made loans to four people, two of whom have already begun paying us back!



Each member of the micro-loan group has contributed some money for the loans. How much each person contributes is kept confidential; only that person and our treasurer know. You can contribute a dollar or a hundred dollars; that is up to you. Because they are loans, the money is eventually paid back. You can either choose to take it back or reinvest it. That is up to you too.

If you would like to join us, the more the merrier! If you wish, you can just check it out to see what goes on; no commitment is necessary. Our next meeting is on Monday, June 8 at 6:30 at church. Come hungry and ready to make a difference in some peoples’ lives. You will leave with a smile on your face and in your heart. –Pastor Dave



Congregational MEETING

Be sure to attend our semi-annual meeting on Sunday, May 3 after worship. Let your voices be heard!

Usher Notes...

Many thanks to our ushers for April: Roger Diestler, Doug Klein, Abby Klein, Peter Klein, Audrey McNamara, Bruce Magnuson, George Heriot and Al Baird.

Our ushers for May will be: Carl Goers, Gwen and Steve Brummund, Lisa Vandrovec, Mike and Nancy Hegdahl, Linda Funkhouser and Tom Gaarder.





Thanks to all St. Luke members who donated Food shelf items and/or money during the MN March Foodshare drive.

You contributed the equivalent of almost 800 pounds of food this March. That is fabulous, and I know St. Francis Basket will be happy to receive our donations. Thanks again!

-- Wendy Bjorklund

Help support women and children escaping abuse to start a new, violence-free life.



Most abused women fleeing for a shelter leave with little more than their children and the clothes on their backs. When it is time for them to move into a new, safe home, they are often starting from scratch. We can extend a hand of friendship by offering housewarming gifts in the form of everyday household items they will need.

Your donations will be given to domestic violence shelters in the East Metro Area. This "Kitchen Kits" drive is being coordinated by the St. Paul Area Council of Churches, and donations will be collected at St. Luke in the fellowship hall from Sunday, April 26 through Sunday, May 17. Watch the bulletin for a list of suggested gifts. Please see Wendy Bjorklund for more information.



130 Hungry people came out in the rain to partake of the Loaves and Fishes program at St. Matthew's church on March 23. Many thanks to our workers: Larry Litkzow, Samantha Smith, Dwight Paulson, Jean Gilland, Pastor Dave, Helen Bye, Ann Verschoyle and Eva Mac Niven. Thanks also to Audrey Rongstad and Donna Paulson for baking cookies.



The Bazaar Committee has agreed to pay for a folding ping-pong table for the youth of the church. If anyone knows of someone who is looking to sell a used one that is in good shape, please let Pastor Dave or Joyce Bluel know.



May Birthdays

- 3 - DOROTHEA MIELKE
- 4 - MICHAEL AMUNDSON
- 5 - AYELE HATTA
- 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



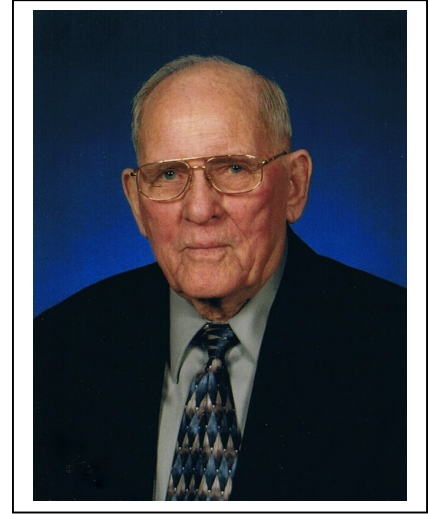
Ladies Night Out in May will be at LaFonda De Los Lobos on Highway 13 in Egan. The date will be Tuesday, May 19th at 5:30 p.m. Those who wish to carpool are to meet at church at 5:00 p.m. RSVP to Joyce Bluel at (651) 690-4614 by Sunday, May 10th so reservations can be made.

Spotlight on...Bill Klotz

I was born December 10, 1921 in St. Paul, Minnesota. My mother died when I was three years old. I had two half-sisters that I knew nothing about until later in my life.

My father traveled for employment so I was placed in an orphanage and was put up for adoption three times. My father's brother took me many places and taught me many things. His wife would not take me in.

At nine years old my mother's brother let me live with them until 12 years of age. They were Catholic so I went with their kids to Cathedral School and church, and I was an altar boy.



I then went to live with my father on Rice Street, and was confirmed as a Lutheran at North End Emmanuel Lutheran Church by Pastor George Thimell. I lived with my father until I was 15, when I left on my own. I went up North to a C.C.C. Camp at Ely, Minnesota. There I became a Leader and went to Mine School and got a Federal Dynamite License. I also learned to operate heavy equipment.

I came to the Homecroft area and lived with my sister for a short time; then I was on my own. I attended St. Luke Church and Luther League, where I met "My Girl", Jean. My good life starts here! We were engaged April 4, 1942 and I soon went into the Navy, Construction Battalion, where I operated heavy equipment.

I came home after the war and Jean and I were married November 24, 1945. We had three children. Craig Alan was born with a heart defect. He died at seven months. Then we had a daughter, Sandra, and a son, Martin.

I worked for the Postal Service for 33 years. After Jean and I retired we spent 14 winters in Mesa, Arizona, where I did lapidary work and silver smithing. We enjoy the company of our three wonderful grandchildren: Benjamin, Maleah and Andrew.

I was always interested in airplanes, and got a pilots license at age 56. I had left home at age 15 because that's what I wanted to do. I did fly for a number of years and loved it...and still do!

I love to read and have a large number of books on history, airplanes and religion. I do not like novels. I love the mind of Martin Luther.

In my 70th year I have another daughter, Kimberly Tyl, who has given me the trust and joy of being her "Minnesota Dad". Having this trust from Kimberly, and love from my family and my girl Jean: I value it above all things! I have been well loved.

At St. Luke I was Financial Secretary for many years. I also served as an usher and a Sunday School teacher, and have volunteered with Meals on Wheels and Fare For All.

God *does* take care of you whether you know it or not!



Notes from Conie:

Alleluia! Jesus lives! How did this season of Lenten observation and reflection change you? The Maundy Thursday story of Jesus washing the feet of his disciples humbles me every year. In Jesus' time, servants washed the feet of guests who were dirty for travel on roads. These hard-working peds took a beating standing and walking in ill-fitting shoes and being our primary contact to the ground. Here Jesus, who had the power to create the universe, took the time to attend to the needs of others. What an example of love!

Another moment was being outside at the beginning of the Easter Sunrise service. Seeing the sun rise over the neighborhood and watching the fires of creation being stoked and passed on was a revelation. Every day is a new creation and a gift that grows in abundance when shared with others. What did you notice? In the space for meditation after the sermon...in the reading of the creed...in the listening to the absolution of our sins...in the singing of text and melodies of hymns new and old: where and how does your heart leap to thank the Lord for His everlasting presence in your life?

Musical kudos: Our Palm Sunday worship was blessed by Emily Ireland's service from the organ, while Barb Jensen led the singing of the "Hosanna's" when we reenacted King Jesus' procession into Jerusalem. Easter morning praise filled our sanctuary with trumpets, bells, strings, and songs – thanks goes to Peter Klein and Connel McGough; Jo Klein, Wendy Bjorklund and Susan Lorenz; the Ethiopian Prayer Group who blessed us with adding special touches to our worship; and Jo Klein for accompanying the choir with her guitar. Songs of thanksgiving are dedicated to the choir and bell choir for bringing their beauty to all our worship opportunities during this Holy season and throughout the year.

Souper thanks: Our Wednesday night Soup Suppers returned for a couple weeks after our Lenten fast was over. We tip our hats to April chefs Conie Borchardt and Nancy McGough and remember all the cooks who concocted vittles this year: Ann Vershoyle, Dorothy Zitterow, Christine Olson, Jo Klein, Sue McNeill, Jeff Kingsley, Kyle Zvejnieks, and Pastor Dave Person.

Musicians unite! To all who have lent their voice in song, rung a bell, played a piano, guitar, trumpet, or percussion instrument or otherwise made a joyful noise and added to our worship expression throughout the last year: COME! You are invited to the annual End of Year Party on Wednesday, May 6 at 6:30. Bring a dish to share and gather with friends and family.

Share the beauty of God's love through music with others! Here are two opportunities:

- **Special music during summer worship:** When the choirs go into hibernation over the summer, small groups fill in. It's as easy as 1-2-3. First, find a buddy to sing or play with. Next, pick some music. Then talk to Conie about when you'd like to share it with others.
- **"Caroling" to shut-ins:** As a subset of the Ministry of Caring, I'd like to create and develop a group of people who share songs of hope and comfort with those who are struggling. A heart of compassion is the only prerequisite.

Softball season is here! Time for some fun and fellowship! If you are interested in playing softball this summer (July-August) against some local churches, please see Mike Hegdahl or call him at 651-699-0499. Watch bulletins for specifics.



Our heartfelt thanks to the Easter Breakfast organizers: Scott Diestler, Joyce Bluel, Nancy Hegdahl and Tom and Julie Gaarder. Thanks also to the helpers...not to miss any one, but to name a few: St. Luke youth, David Elliott, Alex Grzywinski, Sam Elliott, Max Elliott, Kyle and Shantel Zvejnieks, Barb Jensen, Doug Klein, Abby Klein and Alex Klein. And a VERY special thank you to Shirley Johnson and Junella and Larry Litzkow for donating the wonderful fruit trays. Thank you, one and all, for supporting our youth! Total funds raised to date: \$1100.00.



**President's Blog
May 2009**

The church council will be attending an all day retreat in May. It is our opportunity to set goals for the future and brainstorm on just how to accomplish our goals. And we will assess what we've done and how that worked (or didn't). Please feel free to speak to any council member about your concerns or your "wishes" for our church family and home. A list is on the kiosk in the Social Hall, and here is the same list of the people to contact: Sue McNeill, Nancy Hegdahl, Julie Gaarder, Jane McGrew, Joyce Bluel, Jeff Kingsley, Dianne Diestler, Alex Grzywinski, Penney Kelly, Joan Wilson, George Heriot, David Elliott or Wendy Bjorklund. The council is also asking you to be a part of making that "wish" come true. I'm sure we will have a list of wonderful ideas and we'll need people to help make them happen. Please consider getting involved in one more area of church life than you are now.

As a member of the Stewardship commission, I want to form a core committee that sets goals each year and makes them happen. There is more to stewardship than pledging money. How about sharing that talent or just your time to learn a new talent or just share your time to send a card to someone. Every commission we have is like that. Some are more organized but are always looking for people to move in and out of an activity. For example, serving cookies. That is a part of the Parish Life commission and every time you host, you are a member of the commission. The Property commission offers a Saturday in spring to clean-up the church property. The Worship commission needs assistance in choosing appropriate hymns, care of the altar, singing in the choir, ringing the bells....it just goes on and on. At the 2008 commission fair, we distributed a booklet that lists all the activities in each commission. Please review that booklet, or tell someone on the council what you would like to do for or with our church family and let's make it happen. *"...with God all things are possible."* -- Matthew 19:26
--Sue McNeill

Highlights from the April Council meeting:



- The Youth group has earned \$784. from the Easter breakfast! This includes expenses and matching gifts. Thank you to everyone involved for making this breakfast a huge success!
- Nova Classical Academy will not be entering into a rental agreement with St. Luke. They have made other plans.
- The 2009 softball season is in the planning stages!

Remember: Council meetings take place the second Monday of each month at 6:30. All are welcome!

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